

River Currents

A PUBLICATION OF
THE MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 4
WINTER 2015

From the Galley

First of all I want to thank the association's Officers and Board of Director members from our Vice President on down for the hard work and effort they put in to making the 2015 reunion such a great success. Most of all I want to thank you the member and your spouse and guests as well. Without your continuing support, these reunions would not be as successful as they have become.



Al Moore

Although I was unable to attend, I was kept updated with e-mails and pictures and some from you the members as well three or four times a day by the Board. Everything that was sent was greatly appreciated. As for my health, it's much better. I want to thank each and everyone who have asked about how I was doing. I hope and plan on being at our 2017 reunion.

Frank Jones did a great job for us setting the reunion up and we could not have asked for better service then the Marriott gave us. We are all set to be back at the Marriott in 2017. Nowadays when you find a hotel, such as the Marriott, you better hold on to it as long as they give good service, good food, clean rooms, a clean hotel, and a friendly staff.

I have received a number of e-mails on how much the Officers and Board Members made everyone feel so welcome. In this edition of *River Currents*, we did something a little different. We added more pictures of the reunion, although we could not fit all the pictures that were taken at the reunion.

If you are an AOL user, you may not be receiving my e-mails when I send out my weekly History of the Vietnam War and other information. It seems all my AOL user's e-mail come back as they have been blocked by AOL as spam.

I hope and wish for each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Albert

The Officers and Board Members of the MRFA wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thanks for all your support.



Veterans Day 2015 Washington, DC

ARTICLE AND MORE VETERANS DAY PHOTOS ON PAGE 7

2015 Reunion A-91-3 Crew Reunites

The last time these four sailors were together was during an intense firefight that occurred while leading a column of RivRon 9 boats to a landing zone in the Mekong Delta.

On May 8, 1968, ASPB-91-3 was part of a group of boats conducting strike operations on the Song Ba Lai, in support of Army units. As the assault craft was proceeding to the beaching area, a large Viet Cong unit opened fire with rocket, recoilless rifle, automatic weapons and small arms fire from bunkered positions at the water line. ASPB 91-3 was hit by the initial volley of enemy fire that disabled the control panel, steering, and engine throttles. The uncontrollable engines revved and gained speed, as the alpha boat made an arcing turn and crashed into the beach just meters from the enemy position. After hitting the beach, the crew was able to kill the engines and assess their situation. Multiple hits from enemy rockets and RPGs had wounded the entire crew and there was smoke and fire emitting from the forward hull, coxswain's flat, and 20-mm canon mount. An enemy rocket had made a direct hit on the coxswain's flat and the boat captain was in serious condition with multiple deep shrapnel wounds.

A couple crewmembers moved the boat captain to the stern and began administering first aid as he laid on the engine covers while



Radioman Ed "The Greek" Gorczyk, Boat Captain Glenn Fitro, Twin 0.50 cal. Gunner Jim "Rapid Fire Rosie" Rozema, and Engineman Art Mann

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MORE REUNION PHOTOS ON PAGES 3-6

ANTHONY L PEREZ

Edgewood/Couch Bat (05 yr) CWO 4 USMCR Bat (20 yr) Vietnam '69 Desert Storm '91 Enduring Freedom '01

September 21, 2015

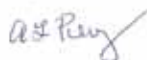
Mobile Riverine Forces Association
C/O Charlie Ardinger
1857 Country Rd. A14
Decorah, IA 52101-7448

Dear Charlie:

I attended my first ever MRFA Reunion held in Indianapolis. I cannot say enough of how organized everything was especially being picked up at the airport. Everyone was so friendly and made my wife and I feel so relaxed. We plan to attend the next one providing our health will allow us. One word describes the reunion; GREAT! The entire association officers should be commended for a job well done.

The reason I've written this is because I am making a donation to the Association, I plan on trying to donate monthly to the MRFA when possible. My Membership number is #C99061036. Don't let the USMCR thing throw you off. I was part of the Brown Water Navy back in 1969. Long story short, I went back into the Navy Reserve Seabee's since there were no boat units. I switched because the Navy would not commission me, so going over to the other side I made rank quickly thus becoming a Chief Warrant Officer. My roots however are Proudly being a 'Brown Water Sailor'. Please accept this donation, thank you.

Respectfully,



Anthony L. Perez

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U.S.S. Colleton (APB-36) at anchor on the Mekong River

To all my new friends and old shipmates,
This was my first MRFA reunion. I guarantee you it will not be my last (God willing). I am so proud to have served with each of you in one way or another whether a member of my ship, USS Colleton, a member of a sister ship, as a member of the River Divisions and other craft, or embarked troops of the 9th Infantry Division. I was impressed with your loyalty to the MRF and all present and past shipmates. I was impressed with the lives each of you have lived since our days together in South Vietnam. I was impressed with the expertise and diligence with which many of you have engaged the VA in obtaining the services you needed for yourselves and for other veterans. I was gratified with your hearty acceptance of me as a former junior officer. As I now know (and most of you have always known), most junior officers are "works in progress". It meant a lot to me that you accepted me at this reunion as a valued member of our MRFA

THANK YOU, ALL SENT, ranks. Thank you.
FOR YOUR TIMELESS
EFFORT FOR MRFA.
GET WELL, SEE YOU AT THE 15TH

Lost on the Boats

I was and still am lost on the boats. I was technically a Naval Advisor. Having served at Nha Trang (Camp McDermott) at a communications station called Tay Ket from November 1969 until sometime around late April or early March 1970. Jim Miller and I ran a small vehicle garage that was not our rate but we were good at it. We did get the VNs to order parts through a supply chain. Then I was transferred to Vung Tau for about 4 weeks and on to Saigon for assignment to Tango Boat 53. A couple of us rode PBRs all the way to the YRBM-21, which was located close to An Long and just downstream from Cambodia. I picked up Tango Boat 53 there. We too were not attached to any big unit. We spent all our time day and night on the Grand Canal mostly tied up at Tan Chau. In the day time we set ambush up and down the Grand Canal looking at the Plain of Reeds. We supported the ARVN ambush teams with Sea Wolves off the YRBM-21 and also Binh Thuy who had Black Ponies and Hueys. Cobras came out of Can Tho along with what I think are F-14s. We did go through turnover and I spent some time with eight Vietnamese and two Americans on the boat.

Our operation changed to convoy support and the boats followed convoy to Phnom Penh, Cambodia. We once again furnished air support operating from op base Tan Chau. We were around 153 and I want to say a Riv Div 55 was involved.

Are you aware of patrols on the Grand Canal and maybe past Tram Chim to Phouc Xuyen? Phouc Xuyen was an ATSB on ammies (flat barges). You turned off the Mekong at An Long.

Thanks. Steve Rouse T-53 call sign Bogus

REUNION

Continued from page 1

the remaining crew began returning fire to the embanked enemy. Ignoring their wounds, the determined crew pounded the enemy position with 0.30 cal. machine guns, M-16 rifles, M-79 grenade launcher, and 12-gauge shotgun fire. The first rounds from the M-79 landed at the enemy position but failed to detonate because the round hadn't traveled far enough to arm itself. Pointing the M-79 nearly straight up and using it much like a mortar provided the distance necessary for the HE rounds to arm and explode on the enemy just a few meters

away. Meanwhile, other alpha boats were making close-in gun runs with their 0.50 cal. and 20-mm canons providing cover fire to keep the enemy from advancing on the beached boat. Their effort resulted in more rocket hits to the assisting Alphas and additional casualties. Finally, a daring rescue of the craft was conducted by M-92-1, despite continuous rocket and automatic weapons fire received at almost point blank range.

Alpha 91-3 was secured alongside the monitor with heavy rope, dragged off the beach, and towed out of the kill zone.

Further down the canal at a safer distance a Dust-off chopper was able to land on a Tango

boat so that the more seriously wounded crewmen could be flown back to the MRF ships for immediate medical attention.

That day saw 17 personnel casualties including Alpha 91-3's boat captain, who was later flown to Japan for additional treatment and did not return to Vietnam.

Now, 47 years later four of the original five who trained and fought together were thrilled to see each other at the 2015 Mobile Riverine Force Association Reunion. The fifth crewmember, 20-mm gunner Henry "Hank" Dotson hopes to attend with his crew in 2017. ★

Ed Gorczyk, edgorczyk@gmail.com

2015 MRFA Reunion, Indianapolis, IN

I personally want to thank all our Officers and Board Members and our spouses and all the volunteers who helped make the reunion a success, but most of all you the members without your help and support over the years the reunions would not be what they are today. Special thanks to my wife Linda and Georgie who kept me on a straight and narrow path.

Memorial Service Participants: Dave, you always make me cry when you do the Missing Man Ceremony. You do it with the members with nothing but class and dignity. You and the others involved with the Memorial Service help make this reunion one to remember and not forget.

Thanks to the hotel staff at the Marriott East, especially Christine Noggle, for their outstanding service and hospitality.

One last shout out to Chris Noel for attending our reunion. It was great that you took the time to grace us with your attendance and your singing of *Amazing Grace* was outstanding. Thanks from us all. Chris you were a class act in Vietnam and still are today.

It was a fantastic reunion!! Contrary to many rumors, the 2017 reunion will be held at the Marriott East in Indianapolis. Hope to see you there.

Frank Jones (Secretary and Reunion Coordinator) MRFA

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

At the 2015 reunion, a plaque was presented to the CCB crew. Tom Matyn accepted the plaque for them. The working party does an outstanding job. *In Reflections*, a newsletter put out by the Vietnam Unit Monument Memorial, mentioned they had received positive comments from attendees at two recent ceremonies about how beautiful the CCB looked as well as the PCF 104 and the PBR. I like to take the time to thank Captain Paul Murphy USN (Ret.) (VUMM President) and their Board Members for an excellent job they all do with the VUMM; boat crews included. I can't forget Captain Ken McGhee USN (Ret.) who put up with me for a number of years for what started off as a rocky relationship (on my part) became one of a great friendship. I have much admiration for Captain McGhee who did an outstanding job with the VUMM. **Albert**

Also the Association honored our own Georgie "the Energizer Bunny" Ardinger for all of her hard work she puts in for the Association. Georgie was presented with a gift card and a plaque by Gunner Chet Stanley. Thanks for all you do Georgie. ★

Paul Erasmus: This was a big model of the boat someone made.

Albert Moore: The models were done by Member Paul Kasper 15th Combat Eng. Paul also did the APC that was on display. He did these at no cost to the MRFA. Paul has been and is a very dedicated Vietnam Veteran who has helped many of his Brothers who were having problems with the VA doing so while having many health issues himself. Paul's health is still giving him issues.



Tom Matyn Board Member and Harry Hahn



Gunner Chet Stanley and Georgie Ardinger



2015 Reunion Feedback

Dear Albert,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you and the many others involved with the MRFA Reunion this past weekend. My sons and I found the experience to be wonderful. It meant a lot for my boys to learn more about their Dad's military service and time in Vietnam. They were only 10 and 12 when he died.

The flag and certificate will find a place of honor in our home. Also, I heard from many how they missed you. I hope that your health will improve with time.

Thanks again and best wishes, Ellen Bergman (Lt. Henry Bergman II)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Albert, Sorry you missed the reunion; it was one of the best ever. Take care of yourself and hope to see you next time.

Thank you, Robert Bush B 3/47 9th Inf Div

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Al: All the speakers did very well, and Chris was a big hit with *Amazing Grace*, it was very good. Her voice was very clear and sharp, well done. Glad to hear you're planning on the next one. Still lots of favorable comments on the hotel and the staff seemed to go out of their way, checking on meals and asking if everything is going OK.

Emily Strange did not make it either. The day before she was to leave, her doctor pulled the plug. Pneumonia but she is doing better now. I was to take her out to dinner. I told her I wasn't happy with her breaking our date but would give her a rain check for the next reunion. She said "Great!" I talked to her friend, the Gold Star Mother. She drove out there by herself from Wisconsin, at 88 years old. Amazing! All the boys are looking forward to the next reunion and are already making plans!

Take care and we'll see Ya in '17. Darrell, A-3-60, Class of '68-69

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Well we made it home from another MRFA reunion; this might have been the best one yet. Love all those men and women. Our Memorial Service was fantastic. The hotel is just great too, they treated us royally. MRFA you out did yourself, outstanding job, and a big thanks to all. Can't wait till November 11 when we gather in DC.

Harry David Schoenian

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

We just arrived back tonight in Texas. I thoroughly enjoyed the reunion. Adrianne and I and everyone I talked with had a great time. Tremendous coordination by all of MRFA's staff and support. It was well done and well executed.

Take care and all the best, Jack Kitchura

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I just wanted to thank all of you and all others for organizing the reunion. I had a great time!!

I have been reluctant to attend as I do not like to listen to "one better Bob war stories" BUT in 3 days I never heard one—just a lot of stories about memories and places long forgotten!!!

"I'll be back." Kip Bonds

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Remembering Rich Corrick

Rich L. Corrick will never be forgotten. Notice the cap Rich always wore. Rich was the best of the best. Rich served on R-112-1 (1966-1968). Rich was an Officer and Board Member from our beginning and one of the nicest people you would ever want to meet. The Mobile Museum was Rich's idea from the beginning, and he did a great job with it until he was taken away from us by Agent Orange.

Renee Smith Novesteras: I will be forever thankful for the sacrifices made by my Uncle Rich (Rich Corrick). I always looked up to him and enlisted in the Navy myself in 2007. Uncle Rich never had any children of his own so I proudly passed his name down to my own—Camden Richard was born on July 2, 2013, 16 months after his passing.



Check out the MRFA website
www.mrfa.org



Speaker Jack Kitchura



Janice Dahlke Gold Star Mother and Kathryn Goudelock Gold Star Wife



Master Chief Chet Stanley and Chris Noel



Elaine Greer receiving flag for her husband Larry Greer USS White River LSMR-536



Fran Divilbiss receiving flag for her husband CDR Dave Divebliss CDR USN (Ret.)



Speaker Ed Eaton



Nicole McKean receiving flag for her father Lee Tex McKean USS White River LSMR-536



Ellen Bergman receiving flag for her husband Lt Henry 'Hank' Bergman 3rd/34th Arty and 3rd/60th Inf

Missing Man Ceremony



Dave Schoenian



Don Blankenship



David Lull



Richard McLeod



Roy Moseman



Chet Stanley



BG Barbara Holcomb



Don Blankenship, Dave Schoenian, and Charlie Taylor reading names of departed Army & Navy



Dave Schoenian & Chaplain Jim Johnson

2015 INDY REUNION



Barry & Janine Baron



John Weiss & Doc Bob Pries



Frank Springer, Rodney Walker, Sue Walker, Raffle Queen Mable (Thelma) Springer, Esther Lightwine, Ralph Bigelow, and Madelynn Peat

MRFA Mobile Memorial Museum Notes

Good Morning Veterans

Well we have tucked the MRFA Memorial/Museum away for the coming winter. We took it out for some showings at five different places. We picked up some new members and got a lot of exposure.

First we went to Decorah, IA, to a Thunder Rode event. It was designed to help veterans with different needs. There were workshops, speeches, and horse rides for those who wanted. *Iowa Public Television* covered it also and we were on TV.

Then it was off to Camp Ripley for their 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War display. We were there over the weekend and a lot of people viewed our museum.

Next was Forest City, IA, for Operation LZ for the Vietnam Veterans 50th Anniversary. This was a great event with an estimated 1,500 people going through the Memorial/Museum. We were there 4 days. The weather did take our tent one night so we had to replace that but everything else went well.

Then it was off to Indy for our Reunion. All was good there and it was a great get together. Thanks to all who helped make it a good reunion.

Last was a trip to Fountain, MN, for their 50th celebration of Vietnam. Harry Hahn came over to help Charlie, Georgie, and myself. It was a little cold but we managed to make it a good time.

We are looking into putting in a couple monitors (TV screens) so we can play some continuous movies/documentary films inside the trailer so people get a better idea of what it was like in Vietnam. We will see how that proceeds.

There is nothing else for now. Hope everyone has a good year and hope to see you again in Indy.

Your driver, Bruce ★

*Your membership
expiration date
is printed on your
River Currents
just above your
name and address.*

Memorial Service



*Rufus Campbell
Bag Piper*



*Chaplain Richard &
Marcia MacCullagh*



*Fran Divelbiss at Mobile
Trailer at 2015 Reunion*



Looking For Trouble



Shout out for Albert



*Robert Tolbert & grand-
daughter Dakota*



*Chaplain Jim Johnson &
Kristine Kittelson*



*Registration: Linda Jones, Sandy
Marthenze, Lyn Blankenship, and Sue
Timmerman*



15 Combat Engineers Group



USS Askari (ARL-30) Group



Don Blankenship & George Marthenze



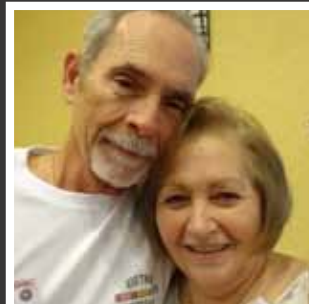
*Sue Walker & Raffle Queen Mabel
"Thelma" Springer*



Speaks for itself



VP Roy & Lynne Moseman



Barton & Martha Karoll



Homer Brown, Loren Salzman, & Dave Withers



Paul Erasmus



*Cleve Chick, Ron Pease, Ron Anderson, David Cowley,
Max Holcomb, & Larry R. McCormick*



Greer Family



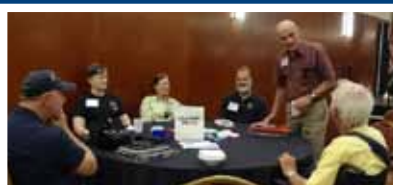
Members together again



River Division 153



Cook Out Patio



USS Mark Group



*Quilt made and donated by Esther
Lightwine*



*Rifle winner Elbon Cobb. Noelle
O'Dowd picked the lucky tickets. The
other rifle winner was Jerry Frazier
(Webster City, IA)*



Relaxing at the Patio



*Christine Noggle
Sales Marriott*



*Products Table
We Did Good on Sales!*



Quilt Winner: Robert Phelps



*50/50 raffle winners: Richard
Hauner and David Young*



Veterans Day, Washington, DC, November 11, 2015

This year kicked off the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War and the MRFA and 9th Infantry Division had a very good turnout to honor our fellow Veterans and our Brothers and Sisters on the Wall. Fifty-five Veterans and 17 family members participated in

our laying of wreaths at The Wall on Veterans Day.

Harry Hahn presented every Veteran with a 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemorative Label Pin and a proclamation from the President.

Harry Hahn and Frank Jones placed the MRFA—9th Infantry Division wreath at the apex of The Wall in honor of all those we lost in Vietnam. Harry shared some comments on the 50th Anniversary of



Patrick Hughes shared his thoughts on Veterans Day and the wonderful Brotherhood we have in the MRFA.



Charles Elder



First timers Henry Gregory and Charles Rousey, along with Roy Moseman, Dave Schoenian, and Ron Albee placed the 9th Infantry Division wreath at Panel 48 W in honor of their 15 Brothers from the 4/47 on this panel.



MRFA—9th ID

the Vietnam War and his thoughts of those we lost from our joint Navy and Army Team long ago.

First timers Dave Pearson and Dick Brown placed a wreath for the 47th Infantry at Panel 26 E and shared some thoughts regarding those we lost long ago and

what an honor it was to be at The Wall on Veterans Day.

A prayer was offered by Charles Elder followed by some remarks by Doug Smith on how wonderful it was to see so many present to honor our Brothers. Doug also mentioned that some



The MRFA—9th Infantry Division stood together and honored our Brothers and Sisters on The Wall as well as our fellow Veterans.



Doug Smith mentioned that some could not be with us today, but who are with us just the same.

could not be with us today due to illness or other reasons, but who are with us just the same. Once again, the MRFA—9th Infantry Division stood together and honored our Brothers and Sisters on The Wall, as well as our fellow Veterans. Bravo Zulu!

We hope to have more of you join us next year on this very special occasion.

In brotherhood, Doc Pries
Note: All photos by Howard Chernikoff.

PS: FYI, All of Howard's pictures are available on our Facebook group page.

★



Harry Hahn and Frank Jones

MRFA Partners with the Dept. of Defense for 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War

The Mobile Riverine Force Association is proud to announce a partnership with the Department of Defense for the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. Harry Hahn is the contact person for this partnership, and Frank Jones is the assistant.

The 2008 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War and "in conducting the commemorative program, the Secretary shall coordinate, support, and facilitate other programs and activities of the Federal Government, State and local governments, and other persons and organizations in commemoration of the Vietnam War."

The Secretary of Defense determines the schedule of major events and priority of efforts for the commemorative program, in order to ensure achievement of the objectives specified in Law.

Commemoration Objectives

1. To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.

2. To highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of

Federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.

3. To pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.

4. To highlight the advances in technology, science, and medicine related to military research conducted during the Vietnam War.

5. To recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by the allies of the United States during the Vietnam War.

MRFA events qualify as an official event. Two such events just took place, the wreath laying ceremony on Veterans Day at The Wall in Washington DC, and the Veterans Day Parade in San Diego. At both events, participants were given materials commemorating the 50th anniversary. Vietnam Veteran's and anyone serving during the Vietnam War period received a bronze lapel



Veterans Day Parade in San Diego

pin, a special commemoration device. Lapel pins were given to 65 veterans in DC and a number were given in San Diego by Tom Matyn.

Any future MRFA events would qualify for this commemoration. Harry Hahn (RivRon 13) needs to be made aware of the event so he can co-ordinate the materials and

a ceremony for the lapel pin recipients. Harry's email is SparksRivRon13@AOL.com

More information on this commemoration can be found on the website <http://www.vietnam-war50th.com> ★



Harry Hahn and Frank Jones handing out pins and certificates along with others—Bart Karoll, Ed Frank, Pete Bernier, and MRFA members

My Tho, Tet 1968

Taken from the Army Records of the Battle

The VC 261st, 263d, and 514th Bns pinned the 32d ARVN Ranger Bn outside My Tho and entered the city. There they fought to within 200 yards of the 7th ARVN Div command post before being beaten back. The US Navy TF 117 landed the 3/47th and 3/60th Infantry battalions of the Mobile Riverine Force, 9th Inf Div on the southern edge of My Tho on the morning of Feb 1. The ARVN attacked in conjunction with the 3/47th Inf. The house-to-house fighting was very difficult as the enemy used intense machine-gun and rocket fire. By nightfall, the western half of the city had been cleared to the main canal. During one point in the battle, the VC used an armored sampan cruising up and down the river to fire at government force. Navy SEALs attacked this sampan with LAWs and put it out of action. On 2 Feb, the 3/47th and the 3/60th attacked north astride the city reservoir. At 1800 H they linked up with the ARVN forces and My Tho was once again in allied hands. These MRF actions were part of CORONADO X.

On 31 January My Tho, Ben Tre, Cai Lay, Cai Be, and Vinh Long were attacked by the Viet Cong. The Viet Cong units involved included at My Tho, the 261st, 263rd, and 514th Battalions; at Vinh Long, the 308th, 306th, 587th Battalions, and local forces; at Cai Be and Cai Lay, the 261st Main Force Battalion, supported by the 540th and 530rd District Companies and local forces. The Mobile Riverine Force, however, had not found any Viet Cong in the populated area along the Rack Ruong. When the force moved from this area, a lot of guerrillas made an effort to delay its return movement to the My Tho River. Although planning and coordination were evident in the enemy attempt to prevent movement of the Mobile Riverine Force to the scene of the major battles, the boats and their embarked battalions were able to reach the Mobile Riverine Base by 0220 on 1 February. After less than 4 hours rest, the Army and Navy elements were ordered to conduct operations in the vicinity of Cai Be. Before the landing could be executed, however, orders were changed by the senior adviser of IV Corps Tactical Zone and the river assault divisions were diverted to My Tho where allied forces were still heavily engaged. Elements of the two battalions were landed by water craft in My Tho at 1520, 1 February. The five major ships



My Tho, Vietnam. A Viet Cong base camp. In the foreground is PFC Raymond Rumpa, St. Paul, MN, C Company, 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division, with a 45 pound 90-mm recoil-less rifle. Photograph courtesy of the National Archives & Records Administration

of the Mobile Riverine Base moved from Vinh Long to Dong Tam in order to be in a better position to support operations.

After landing unopposed in My Tho, Company B, 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, secured landing sites on the southwestern edge of the city for its parent battalion and was joined by Companies A and C. As the troops began to move north into the city, they met heavy fire. With the 3d Battalion, 60th Infantry, moving on the west, both battalions advanced north through the western portion of the city, receiving small arms, automatic rifle, and rocket fire. Fighting was intense and continuous and of a kind new to the riverine battalions. The city had to be cleared slowly and systematically; pockets of enemy resistance had to be wiped out to prevent the Viet Cong from closing in behind allied troops.

While advancing through the city, Company A 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry met heavy fire at 1615 and Company E was ordered to reinforce. On the way, the lead elements of Company E also met intense fire and were eventually pinned down at the western edge of My Tho. At this time, both maneuver battalions were involved in pitched battles and were taking casualties. The 3d Battalion, 60th Infantry, continued its movement north, advancing under heavy enemy fire, and air strikes were requested at 1740 to assist the battalion's forward elements. Troops moved in and out of doorways, from house to house, and from street to street. Artillery was used against enemy troops who were fleeing the city. At 1955 a group of Viet Cong who had been in a previous engagement with troops of



the Vietnam Army 7th Division attempted to enter the streets where Company B, 3d Battalion, was fighting, but by 2100 Company B had eliminated them.

Company A, 3d Battalion, 47th Infantry, requested a light fire team to support its point element, which had met intense resistance from small arms and rocket fire and had suffered several casualties. At 1825 the light fire team arrived and was used to relieve the pressure on Companies A and E by firing on Viet Cong positions. The team made runs directly over Company A and placed fire within 25 meters of the company's lead elements. To evacuate the wounded, a platoon leader sprinted through enemy fire, jumped into a Vietnam Army jeep parked in the street, and drove to the wounded. Ignoring the fire directed against him, he helped the wounded men aboard the jeep and drove back to his company lines. By 2100 most of the firing had ceased and the enemy began to withdraw under cover of darkness. Throughout the night sporadic sniper fire and occasional grenade attacks were directed against the Americans and Vietnamese but no major engagements developed.

On 2 February the 2d Brigade continued to attack strongholds within the city, which was encircled by U.S. and Vietnamese units. At 0630 both U.S. battalions continued a sweep to the north in the western portion of the city, encountering only light resistance. At 0915 a Viet Cong force was engaged on the northern edge of the city. Tactical air strikes with napalm were called in and dislodged Viet Cong troops holding a guard tower near a highway bridge. The resulting damage to the bridge was repaired under fire by the Mobile Riverine Force's supporting engineer platoon. Upon completion of the sweep, the city was cleared of enemy units and the Mobile Riverine Force battalions loaded onto

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

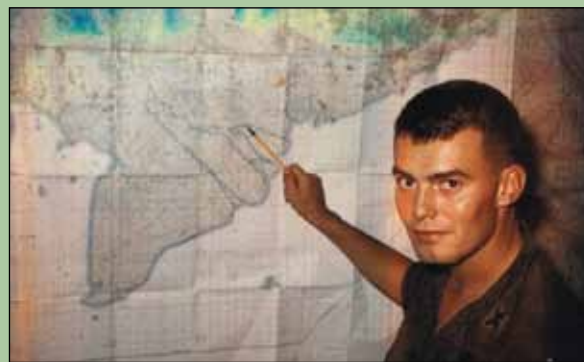
Battle at My Tho, Tet '68

by 1st Lt Charles Howe Bravo Co. 3rd/60th Infantry

I have been requested by a number of friends to relay my experiences at My Tho during Tet, 1968. Col. John Hill, CO of the 3/60th, informed me that the 3/47th Infantry Bn. had been pinned down in My Tho for over a day and that we needed to get control. Bravo Company's CO, Jim MacDonald, had been wounded and I was made Bravo Company's acting CO. We were being transported in an LCM Navy boat that dropped us off on the beach on the south side of town. Hill gave me the authority to commandeer a vehicle, get positioned at the highest point, and direct

artillery and airstrikes. I commandeered a Dodge pickup from the My Tho Chief of Police; I remember it had a three on a tree tranny. I took four M-60 machine gunners, my RTO, all from Bravo Co 3/60th, and headed for the tallest building in town. We fought our way to the top of the building without any casualties. I received a radio transmission from Hungry Dragon 8, who I found out later was General Westmoreland. He asked what I needed for support. I requested a battery of 8-inch howitzers and five jets. The General said he was having the artillery picked up by CH-47

helicopters in Bien Hoa and would position them in Dong Tam. We had the jets in less than 30 minutes. The Viet Cong had captured an American M113 armored personnel carrier and was driving up and down the streets really raising hell with the 50 cal. machine gun. They had already beheaded roughly 100 children from an orphanage prior to our arrival. On about the fifth attempt, one of the F-105's hit the personnel carrier with a 250 lb. bomb. It was quite a feat as the M113 was moving. The 8-inch howitzers arrived in Dong Tam, came down on my net, and requested a fire



1st Lt Charles Howe B Co. 3rd/60th

mission. Within an hour, the enemy was leaving My Tho to the northeast. It was like shooting fish in a barrel as they ran across the open fields. In less than 2½ hours from the time we arrived, we had My Tho secured. The following day I put the

machine gunners in for the Silver Star, which they received, and I got my ass chewed out by Col Hill for making support requests to General Westmoreland, Commander of all Allied Forces, Vietnam. ★

MY THO

Continued from previous page

armored troop carriers at 1201 for redeployment to Cai Lay District in Dinh Tuong Province.

By this time, the Viet Cong offensive had lost much of its original intensity in Dinh Tuong Province and the enemy appeared to be withdrawing to the north and west. Base Area 470, where the Mobile Riverine Force had taken up positions before Tet, was thought to be a likely location for the Viet Cong to regroup. The Mobile Riverine Force therefore moved the 25 km from My Tho to the Cai Lay area to cut off enemy escape routes from eastern Dinh Tuong Province. There were no significant engagements during the following two days as the Viet Cong apparently remained close to My Tho and did not immediately withdraw to their normal base areas.

Member's recollection of TET 1968 at My Tho

From: Alfred Griffith Co E & D Co.
3rd/60th Inf [mailto:agriffith@igc.org]

The details that I can recall, we were on the ships and about 1 a.m. we were sent to eat breakfast, then around 2:30 a.m. we were loaded onto the landing craft. Around noon the landing craft were anchored near land and Lt McDougall told us we were going to My Tho because a South Vietnamese Army regiment had been destroyed by the enemy. About 10 minutes before we landed, you could hear the artillery shells exploding and machine gun fire. Lt

McDougall then asked the Navy personnel if they would give us some of their ammunition, which they did.

Once we landed around 3 p.m. on the bank of the My Tho River, we reached a road that paralleled the My Tho River and we moved east half the company on each side of the road single file, we were receiving machine gun fire at this time. We saw remnants of the South Vietnamese Army as we moved into My Tho. We turned north and reached a Catholic school complex with a Catholic Church in the courtyard. The Church was full and the Priest was at the altar praying. We stayed at the Church that night; there was heavy machine gun fire and artillery all night.

The next morning we formed on a road in front of the Catholic school, at 6 a.m. the Captain walked over to Lt McDougall and said, "Move your platoon out first." We advanced through the suburbs and reached an intersection. I saw Lt McDougall move out into the street. This is when he was shot and I saw him spin around and fall backwards. I was one of Lt Dennis McDougall's squad leaders and when I went over to help him, he had a blank stare and didn't recognize me. His eyes were glazed and we all thought he was dying (It was a shock to see him several months later back in the 3/60). The medic and Chaplain Johnson came running up and they helped carry him to safety. A few minutes later, we suffered more wounded from artillery. I believe there were five more wounded including me. The medevac helicopter took us to the Benewah. There was a helicopter landing pad right over

the medical station; they had iron pipe saw horses so they just laid the canvas litters on the saw horses and started operating. No anesthesiologist the surgeons were using syringes of xylocaine like water pistols. There were four surgeons operating, every 15 minutes. One of the doctors would say, "Frank, it's your turn." He would wash his hands, go behind a green curtain, and 5 minutes later he would come back wash his hands and continue operating. Fifteen minutes later, the doctor would say, "Jim, it's your turn." Then the same thing happens again. He would wash his hands, go through the green curtain, and return 5 minutes later. He washes his hands and continues operating. This same routine continued over and over. A few days later I found out why—they were bringing the wounded in on one side and the dead on the other side. A doctor has to sign a death certificate before they can take the body to graves registration.

Thomas Urban T-92-11

Albert: During TET I was the radio man on T-92-11. We loaded troops from one of the ships anchored in the river at Dong Tam and landed them at My Tho. I remember a wall in front of us that the guys used for cover. We were at battle stations with all guns manned but with strict orders not to fire under any circumstances.

We pulled out and spent the next 2 weeks landing and picking up troops and replenishing the guys in various locations. We only tied up to the ship to refuel and reload ammo, water, and c-rations. ★

"Here's Your Platoon-Size Sump," Sergeant!

Submitted by Tony Puglisi 5th/60th B Co 3rd Plt. 9th Inf Div Bear Cat (11/66-04/67)

There was one thing while in the 9th Inf Div 5th/60th that was kind of funny (at least I thought so). I was being sort of punished by the same Platoon Sgt. who infused me (a long story) and he decided on a punishment for me. He ordered me to dig a platoon-size sump. I obeyed and started digging and the hard rice paddy and the entrenching tool made the palms of my hands start bleeding. So being a Demolition Man, I got a block of C4 and a blasting cap, set it up in the hole I started, called out fire in the hole three times and pressed the plunger. Everyone started running to see what blew up and when the Sgt. (he hated my guts) got to the scene, I said to the Sgt., "Here's your Platoon-size sump Sgt!"

I thought that was humorous because he did not say "How" to dig the Platoon-size sump.

I do not have any photos, but at one time I did have 24 rolls of undeveloped film I had taken of all kinds of things during my tour with the 9th Inf. They were destroyed by fire (our PC took three hits by a 75 mm and it melted on the road along with my film. I was bringing them to base camp (Xuan Loc) so they would be safe and I could sell them to *LOOK Magazine* and *National Geographic* but they did not make it.

Anyway, I can tell you that before I was infused we were security on a bridge (around April or May 1967?). The engineers built so the nearby village people and we could have a connecting route (the village people used it to go to a Catholic Church nearby). Well we had one PC there on the far side of the bridge and it was my track. I was on Guard duty on the 50 cal. one morning when it was very foggy and we were pointed towards their village when I heard singing. I alerted the rest of the guys and we watched as two Vietnamese Catholic nuns were taking a group of children to the Catholic Church down the road past us. It was amazing, we heard singing in the heavy fog and then these nuns and children appeared from within it; it was great. Because we were there and the engineers rebuilt the bridge the VC blew up, they were able to go to church.

Now that bridge holds a personal meaning to me besides that. After years of being back home, I was chatting about war stories with a guy from home, at home, about the 9th Division 5th/60th Mech. He

Danang 1968

By Pete Weber Bravo Co. 2nd Plt. 3/47

Albert, Pete Weber here and I will give you my recollection of the "Battle of My Tho." We were on a fire support base (Jan. 28, '68, I believe). We were promised a 5-day guarding a fire support 155s (they were on Barges). We lasted one day and then got the word we were being airlifted just outside of My Tho to take the city back! We were dropped and assembled in a rice paddy about 2 mi. outside of My Tho. We received our sundry packets and after about 2 hours (dinner) we headed into My Tho on a main road. It was dark and we had a spotlight jeep spotting for us. At this point in time, troops started dropping out! They were throwing up, defecating, had no strength and couldn't even walk. They started piling them on

the jeeps and any other mobile vehicles we had. Things start to get foggy for me from here because I also came down with the same thing. I went to jump a small ditch and ended up in the ditch and couldn't function. I was tossed onto the spotlight jeep with about 12 other guys on it. It was a mess and awful. The next morning I found myself on a corner in My Tho with a couple of other guys. I asked the guy who was watching over us where my platoon was and he guided me to them. I got all my gear and grenade launcher and we were briefed on what we were going to do. We were going to take back My Tho and progressed north to a bridge that went over the main canal of My Tho where we immediately saw some NVA burning



Pete and Art Weber Marine Col (Ret.)

and piled in a pile (all were dead). We then progressed down alongside the canal (wide open from the other side) and started receiving fire from across the canal. We made it down to some cover and silenced the enemy fire. We started to do a store-to-store search looking for enemy soldiers. We found a lot of American liquor and a warehouse full of Honda motorbikes (we wanted to load them and resell them



Pete Weber Today

but that didn't happen). A lot of guys were emptying their canteens and filling up with good American liquor and whatever. We were walked to the river and got back on the boats and then went back to the troop ships and waited for the next operation. After some time it came back to us that the reason for the illness that night was bad tropical chocolate. A total of 23 troops became incapacitated that night but quickly recouped by the next day. Hope this helps a little Albert? ★

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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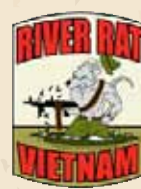
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Raddatz

Member **Leland Raddatz** passed away August 12, 2015. Leland served with A Co. 709 Maint. Bn., 9th Infantry Division. You may contact the family c/o Marjorie Raddatz, 809 Beaver St., Beaver Dam, WI 53916, lmraddatz@hotmail.com.

Correction in the 2015 Fall River Currents

Michael Pacholka C-112-1 passed away in 2009 and not in 2015.

Plankowner **Dennis N. O'Toole** passed away November 6, 2015. Dennis served with IUWG-1 (05/66-08/67). You may contact the family c/o Embury Mimi, 431 E 6th St, Chuluota, FL 32766-8624, 407-797-2735.



Cobb

Glenda S. Cobb, wife of member **Elbon Cobb**, passed away April 16, 2015. Elbon served in RivRon 9 T-92-2 (12/66-02/68). You may contact **Elbon Cobb**, HC

83 Box 69A, Gap Mills, WV 24941-9411, elbocobb@frontier.com.

Mary Fleming Bolduc, wife of member **Maj Gen Lucien Bolduc, Jr.**, passed away August 24, 2015. **Maj Gen Lucien** served in 3rd/47th Inf (02/67-01/68). You may contact the family c/o **Lucien Bolduc, Jr.**, 11111 Monmouth, San Antonio, TX 78239-3142, bolduc@texas.net.



Rambo

Joe B. Rambo passed away October 10, 2011. Joe served with E Co. 2nd/39th Inf. You may contact the family c/o **Lynn Craig Rambo**, 208 E Lincoln, Hamburg, AR 71646-3218.



Poindexter

Member **David Poindexter** passed away November 12, 2015. David served on Tango-92-10 (01/67-12/67) MRF

TF-117. You may contact the family c/o **Janis Poindexter**, 6 Delores Ct., Odessa, TX 79765-8544. David was very proud of his service to his Country, especially his time served in the Mobile Riverine Force. No More pain no more sorrow may our brother rest in peace.



Clay

Richard James Clay passed away July 7, 2015. Richard served with D Co. 3rd/47th Inf. He was residing in St. Paul, MN, at the time of his passing.



Snowden

Janet Snowden, wife of member **John Snowden**, passed away November 25, 2014. John served in B Co. 4th/47th Inf. (04/67-04/68). You may contact **John Snowden**, 12160 N 350 W, Wheatfield, IN 46392-7603,

SUMP!

Continued from page 9

told me that he was drafted and was sent to the same company and my same platoon (he was my replacement) and to the same squad and that same personnel carrier guarding that same bridge. Small world, huh?

He went on to tell me that he and two others were securing that bridge and two were killed by a VC attack and he was able to escape capture by going down a ravine and was found the next morning by reinforcements. He was the sole survivor.

Tony was transferred to the 11 Armored Cavalry Div. where he earned a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. ★

In Memory Of

This section is for members who wish to sponsor the MRFA by placing a notice in memory of one of their fallen comrades. In some instances, the name of the sponsor will precede the name of the person who was KIA, or has passed on since Vietnam. It's \$25 for four issues.

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Bravo Charlie A 10 (04/69-04/70) for Terry Mason and Gil Reyna (Class NIOTC 2-69)
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John and Doris Chrzanoski in memory of SP4 Humberto Ruiz Santiago Jr. Grenadier A Co. 4th Bn 47th Inf. Rgt 9th Inf. Div. Died of wounds 06/27/69, Kien Hoa, South Vietnam (DC Wall Panel 21W Ln 025)
Mike Clark in memory of Larry Welk and Lydes Gardner 4th/39th 9th Inf Div (1967)
Janice Dahlke for son Randy Mueller D Co. 2nd/47th KIA 03/03/69
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Regina Gooden for Sgt Lloyd Earl Valentine B Co. 3rd/47th KIA 09/05/68
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Hayes for LTC Daniel P. Hayes HQ 3rd/34th Artillery (06/67-01/68)
Leo Haynes for my fellow plank owner and buddy Don Grier GM2 USS Benewah. He died in a car crash in 2003
James Henke, Dave Nelson, James Callan for Sgt Tony Spradling, Sgt Gerald Thurman, Spec James B. Johnson, and all our Brothers lost on June 19, 1967, from A Co. 4th/47th 9th in AP BAC, Long An Province
Gordon Hillesland for Pat Lawson NSA Dong Tam (1967-68)
Joe Hilliard for Joe Benack from Florida and Donald Hartzell from Pennsylvania
Bruce Jensen in memory of Frederic Peers Webb A-111-4 KIA 12/21/67
J. R. Johnson 3rd/47th 9th "Recon" (05/66-01/68) in memory of Walker, Gotch, Paradez, Nelson, and Hayes
Dave Justin for Robert "Bobby" Scharnick A Co 2nd Platoon 3rd/60th and Dennis McDougal A Co 3rd/60th
Bob Land, Rich Lierman, Jim Zervos, and Pete Oakander for Frank Dettmers, our boat captain on CCB-131-1 (May 69-May 70). We do this in his honor and remembrance.
Richard MacCullagh for John (Doc) Phillips, HMC, USN (Ret) RivRon 15
Richard MacCullagh for Chaplain Rene L. Petit, LT, CHC, RC, RivRon 13 and 15
H. Bruce McIver for HM1 Zeph Lane who was severely wounded 03/31/69 and unfortunately killed in a private plane crash 05/20/85
Adam Metts for Donald L. Bruckart T-111-2 KIA 03/31/69
A R "Monti" Montillo for William "Bulldog" McLaughlin B Co 3rd/60th KIA 10/03/68 and Barry "Butch" Copp B Co 3rd/60th KIA 10/28/68
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Luis Peraza for SSG Michael K. Lewis KIA 06/13/69, SGT Harold H. Hunter KIA 01/27/69, and brothers of D Co 3rd/60th KIA during 1968-69
John Smith for Paul D. Jose B Co. 3/60th KIA Westy 11/01/68
Aaron R. Spurway for Chief Ray
Chet "Gunner" Stanley for all the USN and USA KIA's of the MRF (1967-70)
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Robert Sutton for LT James F. Rost Jr. Vin Te Canal Chau Duc KIA 11/69
Robert Thacker for SFC Earl T. Pelhan, Jr., 15th Eng, 9th Inf Div, KIA in Delta Lo
Okey Toothman in memory of Sgt Dick Arnold A Co. 3rd/47th, Max Delacruz and G. P. Jones C Co. 3rd/47th
Steven Totcoff for my brother CPL Dennis S. Totcoff B Co 3rd/47th 9th Inf Div KIA 5/2/68
USS Benewah shipmates: John Long EN2, Craig Bronish MR3, and George Schnieder MR2
USS Guide MSO-447 for Shipmate and Brother Harold Foster
Henry Velez for my fallen brothers, B Co. 2nd/39th Inf
Ron and Judy Wallace for all those lost from 3rd/47th Inf
Gary Williams for Dale Winkler C Co. 3rd/60th 9th Inf (01/68-01/69)
CPT Steve Williams and MAJ Bob Bischoff in memory of 2LT David George Williams, Co A, 4/47th, KIA 9/21/67
David Wilson 2nd/60th KIA 08/05/69, Timothy Shelton 4th/39th KIA 06/25/69, Steven Murray 4th/39th KIA 05/26/69, Harvey Crabtree 2nd/4th Arty KIA 06/19/69, and Dennis Mattox 1st/501st 101st Abn KIA 08/23/69

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Robert Flaige E Co. 3rd/60th Inf (05/67-05/68)
Ronnie Fontenot YRBM-17 in Dong Tam (01/68-11/68)
Neil Fovel 3rd/47th Inf (11/67-03/68)
Dennis Frank D Co. CMDR 3rd/60th Inf (07/68-07/69)
William B. Fullerton USS Benewah APB-35 (1970)
Nan Fulton Associate Member
Richard Gallagher USS Mercer APB-39 (1968-69)
Gamewardens of Vietnam Mid-Atlantic Chapter
Jaime Garcia M-111-1 (03/67-12/67)
DonationInMemory
Tony Garvey for Wes Sade, Billy Olsen, and Staff Sgt.
James Williams C Co. 4th/47th 9th Inf
John N. Gavin USS Satyr ARL-23 (1971)
John W. Gerbing A&E Co. 4th/47th Inf (1966-68)
Regina Gooden Associate Member
George Grigorovich 1097 TC Medium Boat Company (03/68-04/69)
Roger "Grossie" Grossinger D Co. 3rd/47th 9th Inf (1968-69)
Frank Gubala A Co. 3rd/47th Inf (02/68-07/68)
Harry Hahn RivRon 13 M-131-1 (03/69-03/70)
William Halloran COMRIVFLOT ONE N2 (09/67-09/68)
Roger Hamilton, Jr. USS Mark AKL-12 (08/68-08/69)
Bob Hammond HQ 3rd/34th Arty (10/68-10/69)
Jeffie Hanks USS Benewah APB-35 (01/70-01/71)
SFC Michael Hammer RivRon 13 and 153 (07/69-02/71)
Alan G. Hyde 9th Signal (1966-67)
Truman Irving USS Mark AKL-12 (08/68-08/69)
Bill Issets RM2 USS Askari ARL-30 (07/66-08/67)
David Jarczewski C Co. 4th/47th Inf 9th Div (05/66-05/69)
MajGen Ira A. Hunt Jr. HHQ 9th Inf Div (05/68-07/69)
Bradley Jenkins HHQB 3rd/34th Arty & 2nd/47th Mech (09/68-10/69)
Bruce Jensen T-111-3 (1967-68)
Duane Johnson 15th Combat Engineers (06/67-06/68)
Gerald Johnston USS Nye County LST-1067 (01/66-01/67)
"Doc" Dale Jones B Co. 4th/47th Inf (09/68-07/69)
Everett Jones CCB-151-4 and CCB-152-5 (04/69-04/70)
Frank B. Jones RivRon 15 T-48
John L. Jones 1st Plt. A Batt 84th Arty (10/66-11/67)
Mackey Joyner USS Krishna ARL-38 (1946-49)
Dave Justin A Co. 3rd/60th Inf (12/66-11/67)
Anton "Tiny" Karkeno 9th Inf Div HHC 15th Eng Bn (02/68-02/69)
Harry & Judy Kawamura
Dane Keller RivDiv 532 PBR 121 (05/69-05/70)
Thomas Kelley USN (Ret) RivDiv 152 (09/68-06/69)
LTC Nick Laiacona USA (Ret.) C Co. 3rd/60th Inf (1968-69)
James Lanier 2nd/47th Inf (07/68-07/69)

Roy Lee D Co. 15th Combat Eng Bn (01/67-04/67)
Bob Lennon USS White River LSMR-536 (1966-68)
Walter F. Lineberger III XO RivDiv 91 (1968-69)
Arthur L. Lockhart NSA Det Dong Tam RVN (01/68-01/69)
James Long Sr. ComRivFLOT One Staff (11/67-11/68)
Steven Loomis Naval Advisory Group (VNNSY) (06/70-06/71)
Robert "Bob" Lord YTB-785 Winnemucca (02/71-12/71)
Richard Lorman T-152-6 (06/68-06/69)
Lucas Liliard Z-132-2 (06/68-06/69)
Corrado Lutz PCF-23 (03/68-03/69)
Stella Gayle Malone
Frank O. Martinovich D Co. 3rd/60th 9th Inf Div (09/68-07/69)
Terry Mason RM3 RivDiv 132
Larry McCallister C-2 4th/47th Infantry (12/67-12/69)
Lee "Tex" McKean GMG2 USS White River LSMR-536 (12/66-12/68)
Cratis McLaughlin D Co. 3rd/47th 9th Inf Div (09/68-07/69)
Phil McLaughlin USS Blanco County (LST-344) & USS
White River (LSMR-536) (08/67-09/69)
Sgt E-5 Ken McLean B Co. 4th/47th Inf 2nd Bde
USS Colleton (11/68-01/69)
Thomas L. "Mac" McLemore T-112-7 (12/66-12/67)
Philip Mercurio USS Colleton APB-36 (09/48-07/52)
Adam Metts T-111-2 (08/68-10/69)
Nick Miller COS RivDiv 152 (07/68-06/69)
MilSpec Tours Inc
Capt Lawrence K. Monahan USNR (Ret.) YRBM-20 (1970-71)
A. R. "Monti" Montillo B Co. 3rd/60th Inf (04/68-09/68)
Albert and Sarah Moore USS Benewah (APB-35)
J. Russell and Alice Moore A-91-5 (11/68-06/69)
Roy and Lynn Moseman 4th/47th Inf
Tom Muench Korea Era Vet SAC
Co Van My TF-115.3.7 Cat Lo
Naval Advisory Group
Edwin Newland A-111-7 (06/67-06/68)
Nha Trang (1967-68 and 1970-71)
MAJ Joseph D. Nichols III, CO Co. 3rd/60th 9th Inf Div (12/66-11/67)
Jasper Northcutt B Co. 2nd/47th Mech Inf (11/66-05/67)
James Noyes C Btry 3rd/34th Arty (06/67-06/68)
Gary O'Brien MM3 USS Mercer APB-39 (04/68-12/69)
George R. O'Connell USS Terrell City LST-1157
John C. Oxley Recon E Co. 3rd/47th Inf (11/65-11/67)
Capt Jerry Pape USN (Ret) Staff COMRIVFLOT ONE (01/68-12/68)
Rodney Peeler 2nd/60th Inf (04/69-08/69)
Luis F. Peraza D Co. 3rd/60th Inf (11/68-08/69)
Anthony Perez USS Iredell County LST-839 (11/69-07/70)
John "Ron" Perry T-132-11 (06/68-09/69)
Col Pete Petersen USA (Ret.) Cdr 3rd/60th Inf (11/68-08/69)
Michael Howard Phillips D Co. 15th Combat
Engineers 9th Inf (08/68-06/69)
BM1 W. R. Posey Craft Master YTB-785 (1967-68 1970-71)
William "Bill" Powell USS Askari ARL-30 (08/69-09/70)
LCDR Leonard Previto CTF-117 (08/67-08/68)
Bryan and Dolly Rasco USS Indira ARL-37 (06/67-01/69)
Paul Ray M-115 (06/69-07/70)

Donald and Marijo Robbins USS Benewah (APB-35)
William Robinson Jr. CO USS Mark AKL-12 (06/70-05/71)
Greg Rockow USS Harnett County LST-821 (1968-69)
Jerry Ross T-131-1 (08/69-08/70)
Durwood D. Rosser M-91-1 (10/67-08/68)
Robert Roth USS Benewah APB-35 (08/68-09/69)
Matthew F. Rowner USS Colleton (09/66-12/67)
Ronald Rulon D Co. 15th Combat Engr. Bn (03/6-10/67)
Billy Sanders RivRon 11 RAD 112 T-112-1 & CCB-112-1 (Vietnam 1967)
Norman Saunders B Co. 3rd/39th Inf (01/69-08/69)
Paul Schaut COMRIVFLOT ONE USS Benewah APB-35 (1967)
Dave Schell RivRon 15 Tango 49 (07/69-07/70)
Robert "Bob" Schrader D Co. 9th Med BN (07/68-07/69)
F. George Schuster LTJG USS Indira ARL-37 (1968-69)
Bob Shawen Friend of the Ardingers
Jerry Shearer C Co. 3rd/60th 9th Inf (04/67-04/68)
Clarence Shires Jr. C-1 4th/47th Inf (01/67-01/68)
Richard Simpson C Co. 3rd/47th Inf 9th Div (05/67-05/68)
John Smith B Co. 3/60th (05/68-06/69) for all Riverines
Thomas E. Smith 9th S and T Battalion (03/67-06/68)
Marc Spilberg 4th/47th Inf (01/68-01/69)
Aaron R. Spurway USS Vernon County LST-1161 (1966-68)
Chet "Gunner" Stanley C-111-1 and M-111-3 (1966-68)
John Swart T-132-1 (04/68-04/69)
Bryan Swisher USS Askari ARL-30 (07/67-05/68)
Jack Terry USS Colleton APB-36 (1966-68)
Thanks to 155 mm (Mech) Arty
Charles Thompson 9th Admin Co. (02/66-11/67)
Harley Timmerman T-132-10 (06/68-06/69)
Edward Toth USS Askari ARL-30 (1952-55)
Milton Turnage M-151-1 (07/68-06/69)
Erol Tuzco A Co. 3rd/60th Inf (1968-69)
USS Terrell City LST-1157
Roger Valentine USS Askari ARL-30 (07/67-05/68)
Bob and Nancy VanDruff T-91-5 and T-92-4
GMGI Ricky Vice USN (Ret.) T-131-7 (03/68-05/69) and NAG (01/71-06/72)
Ron Wallace B Co. 3rd Plt 3rd/47th Inf (05/68-08/67)
Hank and Becky Washburn USS Colleton APB-36 (01/67-09/68)
Bill Weidman T-111-12 (02/67-02/68)
Gary Weisz A-91-4 (10/67-07/68)
Captain Chaplain Lester Westling Jr. NSA Saigon
in IV Corps (05/69-05/70)
David H. White USN (Ret) USS Satyr ARL-23 (08/69-08/70)
BMCM Donald Witta USN (Ret.) T-111-13 (03/67-02/68)
Norm Wilkinson B Co. 4th/47th Inf (03/67-03/68)
Tom Wischman USS Indira ARL-37 (1967-70)
Rhett Wise A Co. 3rd/47th Inf (03/67-04/68)
Jeffrey L. Withers RivRon 11 A-112-8 and M-112-12 (06/68-06/69)
William H. Ziebarth 9th Signal, 34 Arty (1966-68)
James Zierninski EN2 Boat Captain RivDiv 153
ASPB 6854 XO USS Mercer
Robert Zimmer XO USS Mercer APB-39 (02/68-07/69)
Admiral Elmo Zumwalt ComNavForV