



THE IVY LEAVES

"Since 1919"

VOLUME XCVI NUMBER 2

Official Publication of the National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

2025 National Reunion - Colorado Springs, CO

The keynote address at the 107th National Reunion was delivered by Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Ellis, the 66th Commanding General of the 4th Infantry Division, having assumed command of the 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson on June 18, 2025.



MG Ellis speaking at the dinner

Senior leaders of the 4th Infantry (IVY) Division and Fort Carson, Colorado, Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Ellis and the Division Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Waylon D. Petty are pictured with Veterans and guests of the 107th National Reunion of the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association, in front of McNerney Hall the Divisions Headquarters, August 14, 2025.



During his remarks the General mentioned several informative comments about the future of the Division, such as: "the 4ID will be reassigned from III Corps to I Corps focusing on the Pacific under Corps Commanding General LTG Matthew McFarlane, a former 4ID-CG"; "The I Corps is headquartered at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, providing oversight of army units in the Asia-Pacific region, including the Pacific Pathways program.;" "the 4ID Soldier's

assigned to the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, are currently training with Republic of Korea Army soldiers, in the Republic of Korea.;" "MG Patrick Ellis & CSM Waylon Petty had just returned from a visit with the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, on their mission at the Southern Border of the US;" "The 3rd Armored Brigade will convert to a Striker Brigade next year, with the 4ID being the first Division to have three Striker Brigades.;" and that "The whole Division would deploy sometime next year to the National Training Center, the first time since the WWII era that the entire Division would make such a maneuver."

Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Ellis and the Division Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Waylon D. Petty and their wives were our special guests at the banquet and MG Ellis and CSM Petty helped present the newly designed Ralph E. Lingert Service Award Medallions to the past recipients in attendance.

2025 Ralph E. Lingert Service Award

Richard A. Blackaby, President of the Ivy Division Chapter receives the 2025 Ralph E. Lingert Service Award from Executive Director, Don Kelby. Rich has been our man-on-the-ground at Fort Carson and Colorado Springs for many years. He has worked tirelessly establishing the Ivy Division Chapter, from the former Ironhorse Chapter.

Rich regularly maintains contact with the Division, attending ceremonies, distributing Association materials, and volunteering to serve the larger Colorado Springs Veterans community. Rich is a Past President of the California Chapter, and former Treasurer of the Ironhorse Chapter. Rich served from 1976-1985, with the 2/20 FA (DIVARTY) in Weisbaden, Germany and Fort Carson as a 13F, fire support specialist.



Richard A. Blackaby, President of the Ivy Division Chapter receives the 2025 Ralph E. Lingert Service Award from Executive Director, Don Kelby.

Help the Association Grow

Sign up a New Member!
Give a Membership !



FROM THE EDITOR...

John Harris



Welcome to the 2025 Fall / Winter Edition of the *Ivy Leaves*.

This issue features stories, pictures, and business conducted at the 2025 National Reunion held in Colorado Springs and Fort Carson in August. It also has the latest updates for your Officers, Committees, and Chapters. You'll want to save it as a good reference.

This issue also marks the end of an Era, as Jerry Wadley of Finisterre Publishing who has been the publisher of the Official Ivy Leaves Magazine for several decades has decided to retire and close his newsletter business. This will be the last issue he will publish for us. We appreciate all Jerry has done for our Association over these many years and are grateful for all of his many efforts.

MG Ellis announced several major changes and events for the 4th Infantry Division. First, the 3rd Brigade will be converting from an armor/mechanized infantry brigade to a Stryker brigade, making the 4th Infantry the first all Stryker Division in the United States Army. Second, the entire division will be going to the National Training Center as full division. The Division headquarters, all maneuver brigades, Division Artillery, and the Support Command. This will be the first time since World War II, that the entire division has been on a division size training event. It should be challenging to everyone.

Feel free to contact me at johncarol-harris@gmail.com / 636-390-3863.

Steadfast & Loyal

John Harris

HHB/5-16 - Vietnam

'Ivy Leaves' Deadline

Deadline for submission of copy for the next (2026 Spring/Summer) edition of *The Ivy Leaves* is February 15, 2026.



National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association



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GEN James D. Thurman (Ret)
Salado, TX
Commander 4th Inf. Div. 2004-2007

MG Jeffery W. Hammond (Ret)
Hattiesburg, MS
Commander 4th Inf. Div. 2007-2009

SMA Daniel A. Bailey (Ret)
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Written suggestions are welcome and should be sent to John Harris, Ivy Leaves Editor, 3 Rustic Hills Estate, Washington, MO 63090, or lvyleaveseditor@gmail.com. Send monetary contributions to the Executive Director.

ANY CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR AT <LVYLEAVESEDITOR@GMAIL.COM>

National 4th Infantry Division webpage
www.4thinfantry.org



Dear Members and Friends,

The much anticipated 2025 National Reunion back with the Ivy Division at Fort Carson and Colorado Springs, Colorado provided many wonderful memories.

We owe a great deal of thanks to so many people who made the 2025 National Reunion so special. The Antlers Hotel and their staff proved to be a perfect venue for our events. We offered group tours on Tuesday and Wednesday that were exceptional and included stops at the Garden of Gods Park and the Dragonman's museum.

Thursday our on-post day could not have been better. Thanks to the staff in the Fort Carson Protocol Office for arranging to sponsor the group buses for easy post access. Then, having a copy of the group photo taken at McNerney Hall for each Veteran at the end of the tour just capped off a perfect day.

Learning about the Soldiers' new and improved equipment, the command brief, seeing all the places where our troops are serving, the EST training simulators were especially fun and both static displays by DIVARTY Division Artillery and the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team were outstanding and the troops who joined us for lunch could not have been more welcoming and engaging.

The senior leaders of the 4th Infantry (IVY) Division and Fort Carson, Colorado, Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Ellis and the Division Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Waylon D. Petty and their wives were so gracious with their time and making the Banquet on Friday so memorable and our visit to Fort Carson extra special. Special thanks to MG Ellis and CSM Petty who helped present the newly designed Ralph E. Lingert Service Award Medallions to past recipients in attendance.

Congratulations to Richard A. Blackaby, a Cold War Veteran and the 2025 recipient of the Ralph E. Lingert Service Award. Rich has been an avid supporter of the Association, a longtime

We have two important National Officer Positions to fill to complete the full executive staff; the National Vice President-War on Terror and the National Secretary. We are looking for individuals who want to take ownership of these positions and see this organization prosper and expand. If that's you, contact me.

leader of the Ivy Division chapter and a community volunteer.

The 4ID Band who performed at the Banquet was amazing as always, and thanks go to Sgt. Morgan who coordinated their participation. The Color Guard was so professional and precise in their handling of the colors at the Banquet. Thanks go to SSG Worrell who led the sharp looking group. They made the Friday evening event one to remember.

Save the dates for the 108th National Reunion which will be held August 2-8, 2026 at The Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, Iowa. The hotel is scenically situated on the Mighty Mississippi River in the Quad Cities. The Sleeping Room rate is \$99/night (\$126.55 inclusive of fees & tax) and a "Thank you for your service" 20% discount at all Isle Hotel food outlets. Watch for more details on the website and in the next Ivy Leaves.

The 2026 Ivy Calendar fund raising project will soon be in your mailbox. This year's calendar donations will again benefit the Educational Scholarship Fund. If you would like to sponsor a Memorial Wreath to be placed on one of our Monuments in France on Veterans Day or D-Day, a \$150 Donation will cover the cost of one wreath, or you may sponsor a Memorial Wreath for the 4ID Arlington National Cemetery Monument for a \$250 donation. Thank you for all your generosity. Send donations money to the Executive Director, Don Kelby, and specify the project to apply your donation.

As we have been reporting and planning, we will be transitioning to all-digital communications over the next one to two years. The printed Ivy Leaves magazine will become available by digital PDF on the website, in the E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter's 'Resources Section', or by email request starting in the 2026-2027

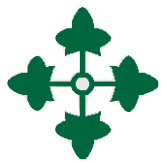
timeframe. So, collecting accurate email addresses from the remaining 200 members that we do not have good emails for in their profile will be a priority in 2026.

If you are not receiving the E-Ivy Leaf Newsletters, or the AUSA's Soldier Today and ARMY magazine by email, we probably don't have a good email address for you and you're not making full use of your benefits of membership. You can help us out tremendously by making sure the Executive Director Don Kelby has your current email address. Don began a mailing campaign to members that do not have an email address in their record. Please respond to Don and "Stay in the Loop".

As I enter the final year of my two-year term as your President, which will complete my third term as President, there's important work still to be done, but I'm pleased with where we are as we get this Association ready for the next generation of Ivy Veterans; because, we have two key players now in place who will ensure a smooth transition; they are Senior Vice President, Ray Rocho and the new Vice President of Communications, Gary Ladd. These two guys with over sixty-years of military experience added to our already great staff of elected and appointed officers will get us where we need to be in the future.

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As always, I remain Steadfast & Loyal,
Rick Adams, National President
RJAdams90@charter.net



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Don Kelby



Fellow Ivymen,

The 107th 4th Infantry Division Association reunion is over, and to say it was a success is a gross understatement. We were smaller in numbers, but big on pride and admiration for our troops.

Although there were numerous tours set up, I felt that the best one was the tour of Fort Carson. To see the pride and ownership that our young troopers showed was well worth the cost. They are our future, not only of our Association, but of our Country as well. Our Ivymen and women are led this year by General Ellis and Command Sergeant Major Petty. These two Gentlemen are to be commended for their leadership.

It was my honor to once again be the Master of Ceremonies for this event. I would like to continue doing this in the future. General Ellis was a hard act to follow. The pride he showed in not only our troops, but we the Veterans as well was evident.

The past recipients of the Lingert award who were in attendance and wanted one were presented with a Lingert award medallion to go with the plaque they had received. The medallions for those who were not in attendance were mailed to them.

Our website is up and running and doing well. So, if you are coming to the new website for the first time, you must set your password with your email address and follow the instructions. The new site has the added convenience of Auto-Renewal. No more trying to remember your expiration date. Visit the FAQ page for more information. If your email address has changed, you will need to contact the Executive Director or Webmaster to have your membership records updated.

If you change your physical address, you must send an update to me so I can update your record. Every time mail is forwarded by the printer, we are subject to an extra charge by the U.S.P.S. In our current mailing of the calendar, there were 92 changed addresses and 7 bad addresses. Please keep your snail mail and email addresses updated.

The 108th reunion will be in the Quad Cities area. The host hotel will be the Isle Casino Hotel The Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, Iowa, August 2-8, 2026. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone.

Please remember that donations to one of our programs are always greatly appreciated, as well as donations for our calendar. Please renew your membership when it comes due. I hate to drop anyone for non-payment of dues.

As I have said many times before, this is YOUR Association; it is up to us to ensure we remain Steadfast and Loyal not only to ourselves, but to your families, our Veterans, and our country in general.

The 108th reunion will be in the Quad Cities area. The host hotel will be the Isle Casino Hotel The Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, Iowa, August 2-8, 2026. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone. Please try to attend. You never know who you might run into.

I had set up a meeting of the Army Divisions Association in that area a few years ago, and I can tell you that it was an amazing place to visit. The tours will be great, and I am sure that everyone will enjoy it.

If you receive word that a member has passed away, please notify me so I can recognize them and set my records straight. I have just finished another push to make sure my records are up to date with our WWII members, and I am anxiously awaiting their responses to the letters I sent.

As I have said before, we are at an age where you never know when your time will come. As we are reaching that inevitable time, I encourage everyone to reserve their spot in our national Cemetery if that is where you wish to be buried. The cemeteries are filling up, and they predict that in the future, some will be unable to accept more residents. I was granted my reservation on May 8, 2017. It is free so do it while you can and save your loved ones the hassle of making those final plans themselves. It is one thing less they will have to worry about. Go to www.cem.va.gov.

Look at the Obituary section of this issue to see how many of our fellow members have passed away.

However, no matter what happens in the future, as Ivymen and Ivy women, we will always remain STEADFAST AND LOYAL. Be steadfast in knowing we have been through tough times before and we will support and defend our fellow soldiers, past, present, and future.

As I have said many times before, your Executive Board is made up strictly of Volunteers. If you have suggestions or problems, please feel free to contact us. Please do not let a problem or concern fester; bring it to our attention. We may not be able to solve every problem; however, we will do our best. Additionally, if you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, please feel free to do so. We are always willing to let our up-and-coming Ivymen and Ivy Women charge forward with the Association. Whether you are a Male or Female member, you will be welcomed with open arms.

I am in my 19th year as Executive Director and once again, I want to thank everyone for their continued support not only of me, but also of your Chapter Officers as well as the National Officers. It is through our love of the 4th Infantry Division that we do these jobs. If I can be of any help, please feel free to email me at 4thidaed@swbell.net. If you call and I don't answer, leave a message, or I will not call you back.

I know it sounds cliché, but we are all in this together. We have been through tough times before and we can get through this together also. WE WILL NOT BE DEFEATED.

Keep our troops in your thoughts and prayers.

Humbly submitted,

Don Kelby

4thidaed@swbell.net



Since becoming the 4IDA's webmaster in 2009, we have had two major redesigns and launches of our website www.4thinfantry.org. The most recent launch was in September 2023. This new website uses your email address to establish and maintain full access to the site. This is an important change from the old site as we validate your email addresses in this process, as we move to more digital communications with members through email in the future. In these two years since the most recent website launch, it is surprising that less than one-half of our members have actually made full use of the website.

In 2020 we began the E-Ivy Leaf Newsletters and E-Ivy Extra Bulletins distributed by email to provide timely updates and information to members on a more regular basis. To-date we have

We have begun a campaign to gather email addresses from our members who we do not have a current email address for in our database. You can help us out tremendously by making sure the Executive Director Don Kelby has your current email address.

issued more than 115 E-Ivy's that each go out to over one-thousand members. In addition to providing timely updates, the E-Ivy's are a precursor to our plans of transitioning to all-digital communications over the next one to two years, as we have been reporting. If you know of a topic, an issue or an event that would be appropriate to be included in a future E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter or E-Ivy Extra, send the information to admin@4thinfantry.org for consideration.

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We understand there may be many reasons that you don't want to share your email address with the Association. Most people, including myself, have multiple email addresses: for work, for personal use, for internet purchases, and making on-line reservations. Why not have one for use with the Association, if that's an issue for you. "Stay in the Loop".

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2025-2026

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – Ray Rocho - rrocho59@gmail.com
HEALTH & WELLNESS COMMITTEE – John Harris - johncarolharris@gmail.com
FINANCE COMMITTEE – Jim McCarthy - jimmac.mccarthy@gmail.com
NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Jerry Bumpus - ivyvet69@yahoo.com
RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE – Ray Rocho - rrocho59@gmail.com
MEMORIAL COMMITTEE – Bert Nicholson - bcnicholson@hotmail.com
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MANAGER REUNION OPERATIONS – Linda Dufek - lad3697@icloud.com
MEDIA ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Gary Ladd - laddg65@gmail.com
AUDITING COMMITTEE – Bill Redmond - billredmond6@aol.com
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE – Rick Adams - RJAdams90@charter.net
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE SECRETARY – Phil Menendez - Pmenendez6@comcast.net

As we have been reporting and planning, we will be transitioning to all-digital communications over the next one to two years. The Ivy Leaves magazine will become available by digital PDF on the website, in the E-Ivy Leaf Newsletter's 'Resources Section', or by email request starting in the 2026-2027 timeframe. So, collecting accurate email addresses from members that we do not have good emails for will be a priority in 2025. You can help us out tremendously by making sure the Executive Director Don Kelby has your current email address. Don recently sent over 350 individual letters to those members without an email address in our records or their email addresses bounced back as a bad address. Please respond to Don and "Stay in the Loop". Your email address is required to make full use of the website and receive the Ivy Leaves in the future as we move to digital communications.

If you responded to Don's letter with your email address and would like to take full advantage of the features of the new website, we can send you instructions on how to set up your online account without having to re-purchase a membership. Contact the Executive Director for the details.

If you are having trouble with your Login or need any other assistance, use the 'Contact Us' link on the Home page – choose the 'Webmaster' or 'Executive Director' category and send your request or problem, include your name, address and chapter to expedite your request, we will respond shortly.

Minutes of National Association Annual Business

Friday – August 15, 2025

National President Rick Adams called the 2025 Annual Business Meetings to Order at 9:00 AM.

Chaplain Jim McCarthy gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

Sgt. At arms, Joe Carter placed the MIA/POW Flag in the place of honor. With 32 Members were in attendance for this meeting. National President Rick Adams gave some opening comments and welcomed the members assembled. He recognized the National Officers in attendance.

First Timers were asked to introduce themselves and their service details. There was only one in attendance:

Ralph Nagel - Ivy Dragoons Chapter - B / 3-8 Infantry - Vietnam 1968-1969

A motion was approved to waive the reading of the last Business Meeting Minutes held September 17, 2024, in San Antonio Texas, as the minutes were published in the Ivy Leaves.

Nominations Committee - Chairman, Jerry Bumpus, gave his report stating that National President – Rick Adams, and National Senior Vice President – Ray Rocho will be serving the second year of their two-year term of office.

We have two recurring one- year offices are up for election this year, the Vice President- Communications and the Vice President–Finance. He gave First call for 2025-2026 Elected Officer Nominations.

James McCarthy has agreed to seek re-election to Vice President of Finance, and Gary Ladd is seeking election as Vice President – Communications.

Jerry asked for any additional nominations, and there were none.

Executive Director Don Kelby gave his membership trends and chapter status reports. As of June 30, 2025, the end of our fiscal year, we have 1,541 active members. Last year we received 79 new member applications. Membership has decreased by 13 members over the past year, with 63 deaths contributing to the decline. We dropped 96 members for non-payment of dues, which is up by 12 from last year. We have several chapter mergers and closures during the year. We continue to look for ways to strengthen our chapters or close those that have become inactive.

The new and updated 4th Infantry Division Association website is performing very well, with only a few minor hiccups. Please login and give it a chance. In the long run, we believe you will find that it is a worthwhile, up-to-date website. Remember that anything we do today will be old and outdated tomorrow. I sent 353 notices to those members who did not provide an email address. Out of these 353, I received fifty-six email updates, twenty-seven “Don’t have one and won’t get one”, fifteen had died, fourteen showed bad mailing addresses, and envelopes were returned, and 241 did not respond.

The Communication and Media Management report was sub-

mitted by President Adams. Rick talked about decreasing the number of printed Ivy Leaves from 4 to 3 and now to 2 per year for the 2026-2027 timeframe. The E-Ivy Newsletters and the website will keep everyone informed of anything urgent or updating information. We currently have 1,000 members that receive the E-Ivy’s but not all open them.

Rick discussed the new Digital Mini-Ivy Leaves that will debut next year. This will have a similar format to the AUSA publications we currently receive.

Ivy Leaves Editor John Harris talked about the deadline for the printed *Ivy Leaves*, which is 1 October this year. President Adams thanked John for assuming the reins of publishing the Ivy Leaves and mentioned how pleased He and everyone else were with the publication. There is a backup plan in case the current publisher decided to not continue publishing any more.

Vice President – Vietnam & Cold War Cliff Amos spoke about the new Flickr account the Association has purchased. This account is a repository for photos taken by himself of the reunions and any other photos that the members would like to have put on there. All photos will be submitted to Cliff who would monitor the content before putting them on the account. Gary Ladd talked about his project to expand our ability to disseminate information to various other platforms on the World Wide Web that our younger 4ID Soldiers/Veterans utilize. There will be more information to come.

Scholarship Committee Secretary, Phil Menendez reported we received (1) One E. R. Smith Memorial Scholarship Application and (11) Eleven Legacy Educational Scholarship Applications and Essays. This year’s Patriotic theme was “What makes me proud to be an American?”

The one **Memorial Scholarship** applicant was Connor Reese (who was 7 years old) at the time he lost his father in Iraq. He will receive \$2,000.

The Legacy Scholarships are awarded through blind judging process of Patriotic themed essays submitted by the applicants and are limited to a maximum of 10% of the Scholarship Trust fund value each year. The current balance (6/30/2025) is \$90,845.54. So, we recommend a total of

(9) Nine Educational Scholarships. The 2025 Judges were: Don Kelby, John Harris, and Jerry Bumpus. Since this year’s reunion was later in the year, all funds have already been sent to the universities.

New Business – Steve Edmunds (Ivy Dragoons Chapter) mentioned that a group of his fellow members were making a trip to the Pikes Peak Cemetery at 11 AM to honor the grave of a former Commander Ernie (Pappy) Harris.

Cliff Amos talked about the new Vietnam Museum in Weatherby, Texas, and mentioned donating items to the museum from Vietnam Veterans.

A question was asked regarding the warehouse that was supposed to house items that were left at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Nobody knew what happened to

Meeting - Antlers Hotel - Colorado Springs, CO

this warehouse.

At this time (10:10), we are taking a restroom break and will resume the Business Meeting shortly.

Second Business Meeting - 28 members returned for the Second Business Meeting The Second Business meeting was called to order at 10:17 by President Adams

Memorial Committee – Chairman, Bert Nicholson reported that all the Association's monuments in France are in very good condition. All of our caretakers are now required to be businesses that are properly licensed with the French government, with the legal and tax implications that are required. Our previous caretakers were freelance contractors. The Trust Fund administered by PNC Institutional Investments had a value on June 30, 2025, of \$40,536 Memorial Committee Reserve checking account balance on June 30, 2025, was \$ 13,117.55. The combined value of the Trust Fund and the checking account was \$ 53,653.81 on June 30, 2025. Our Memorial fund is managed by PNC Bank and we work through the (ABMC) American Battle Monuments Commission. We have a new representative in ABMC's Paris office, Adam Leigland, who is doing a good job for us.

Finance Committee - The National Treasurer's Report was given by Rick Adams – copies of the Financial Statement were circulated.

Balance - Checking and Savings - \$ 172,443.78

Balance - Paid for Life Fund - \$ 173,922.67

6/30/2025 Fund Balances

Green In the Ivy Fund*- \$103,457.00

Monument Memorial Committee Reserve*- \$13,117.55

PNC**4125 - Monument Memorial Fund - \$40,536.26

PNC**4117 - Scholarship Fund - \$90,845.55

National's checking, savings and chapter financial reports will be used for the Consolidated Financial Report which will be used to file the Association's IRS-990EZ form for fiscal 2024.

Vice President Finance, Jim McCarthy outlined the recent changes made with our savings and Paid-For-Life funds. We have established a Working Capital Management Account with Merrill / Bank of America. These changes have resulted in significant increases in investment income for the Association. Savings previously sitting in low-interest accounts were moved to a Working Capital Management Account, generating approximately \$3,500 with a projection for \$5,000 in interest.

The following Annual Donations requests were approved by the E-Board.

\$1,000 Donation to the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum, continuing our support for the CGJM

Audit Committee - Audit Committee has reviewed the financial records of the National 4th Infantry Division Association, to include the National Treasurers Books and records and certify the reports to be true and accurate.

National President Rick Adams asked for a motion to approve

all reports and recommendations from the officers and committees. All were unanimously approved.

Nominations Committee Chairman, Jerry Bumpus gave a second Reading of Nominations for National Elected Officers and asked for any other nominations to the Slate of National Officers. There were none and the following officers were elected by acclamation.

National Elected Positions: (One-Year Terms of Office)

Vice President–Communications – Gary Ladd Vice President–Finance – Jim McCarthy

National President Rick Adams made the following appointments:

National Appointed Positions Executive Director – Don Kelby

National Secretary – Open

Parliamentarian/Judge Advocate – Mike May

Ivy Leaves Editor – John Harris

Chaplain – Jim McCarthy

Scholarship Secretary – Phil Menendez

Chief Archivist/Historian – Bob Babcock

Sergeant at Arms – Joe Carter

Webmaster / E-Ivy Leaf Newsletters – Rick Adams

Liaison's to Active-Duty Fourth Infantry Division – Ray Rocho

National Committee Appointments

MEMBERSHIP – Ray Rocho

HEALTH & WELLNESS – John Harris

FINANCE – Jim McCarthy

NOMINATING – Jerry Bumpus

RESOLUTIONS – Ray Rocho

MEMORIAL – Bert Nicholson

REUNION ADVISORY – Rick Adams

MANAGER REUNION OPERATIONS – Linda Dufek

MEDIA ADVISORY – Gary Ladd

AUDITING – Bill Redmond

SCHOLARSHIP – Rick Adams

SCHOLARSHIP SECRETARY – Phil Menendez

The **2026 National Reunion** will be held in the Quad Cities, August 2-8, 2026, at The Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, a multi-faceted destination located at 1800 Isle Parkway, Bettendorf, IA, 52722, easily accessible via I-80, I-74, I-88 and several major state highways and Quad Cities International Airport (MLI). Sleeping room rate \$99/ night (\$126.55 inclusive of fees & tax) "Thank you for your service" 20% discount at all Isle food outlets

Sgt. At Arms Joe Carter retired the MIA/POW Flag. Chaplain Jim McCarthy gave the closing Benediction.

National President Rick Adams adjourned Business Meeting until next year.



Scholarships Recipients 2025

It's with great pleasure that I announce the 2025 recipients of this year's scholarships. This year's scholarship committee consisted of National President Rick Adams, Chairman, with essay judges Past National President Jerry Bumpus, Executive Director Don Kelby, and Ivy Leaves Editor John Harris and me as administrator. Adhering to the guidelines established it was decided to give eight \$1,000 Legacy Educational Scholarships with this year's theme being "What makes me proud to be an American". We further awarded one \$2,000 Scholarship to our sole E. R. Smith Memorial applicant.

I want to thank all of you who donated this year to the scholarship fund and I hope others will think about giving so we can continue this worthwhile program.

Phil Menendez, Scholarship Committee Secretary

2025 E.R. SMITH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Conner Reese

Stepson of David Paul Nowaczyk, KIA April 15 2012, Afghanistan

Conner is attending the University of Central Florida pursuing a bachelor's degree in Finance. He is currently an intern at EMCOR Group in Orlando doing a number of jobs within the company. Some of his spare time is spent with the Young Investors Club he's also attending the Financial Knights Club outside of work and school. He is currently working on a project to build a algorithmic trading bot using machine learning and AI models to find out how Wall Street works. He is an avid golfer and also likes to play Basketball. Time spent with his family and lovely girlfriend Sadie, whom he hopes to marry within the next two or three years are most important to him.

2025 LEGACY EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

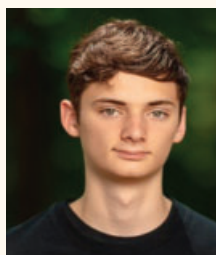


Micah Cash

Sponsor: William Cash, National Chapter

"America was not built on fear. America was built on courage"

Micah will be attending Trinity Bible College in the fall with plans to major in Psychology while graduating, with at least a 3.8 GPA and also continuing on to get his masters in counseling. He enjoys playing percussion instruments and has been doing so since he was ten years old. In his off time he enjoys board and video games with friends.



William Fricks

Sponsor: Samuel Fricks, Ivy Division Chapter

"American pride is not something you inherit, it is something you earn"

William will be attending the University of Missouri in the fall majoring in History with future plans of attaining a Master's degree and working in some sort of Military museum as a Curator, Archivist, or Historian. Being part of a military family he has lived in 7 different homes and attended 7 different schools, while keeping a 3.8 GPA. He enjoys sports of all kind and will be participating in ROTC at Mizzou in the fall.

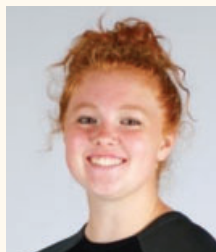


Joshua Grunwald

Sponsor: Roy Grunwald, Wisconsin Chapter

“Being an American means having freedom, opportunity and not being judged by your difference”

Joshua will be attending Lakeland University in the fall majoring in Secondary Education, with the goal of teaching after graduating. His dyslexia and epilepsy have made things difficult but he hopes to help guide students who are struggling in a similar way. In his spare time he has participated in the Appalachia Service Project, which helps in remodeling homes for families in need while still having time to play soccer, which is his passion.



Lindsay Jacob

Sponsor: Richard Jacob, Redlegs Chapter

“I am proud about the American spirit which combines innovative thinking with unwavering determination”

Lindsay will be attending Northwood University in the fall as a senior, majoring in Accounting with a minor in Sports Management, with future plans of staying on for her MBA. She enjoys sports of all kind and is part of Northwood's soccer team as a goaltender. She is also currently working at Kids Town USA an early childhood center. In her spare time she enjoys reading and spending time with her family and friends. She says that in the future she would like to become a part of a sports organization like the Detroit Tigers or Lions.

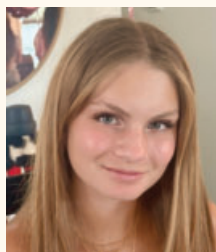


Alice Pickett

Sponsor: Jeffrey Pickett, National Chapter

“Americans consistently do the “impossible” through their fervent passion and unwavering belief in their ideals and dreams”

Alice is a junior attending Purdue University pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. She recently was the recipient of the 2025 Nurse Bee Award for her enthusiastic desire to help fellow nursing students and patients. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with family and friends, hiking and camping as well as getting in painting and crafting.



Ellie Sandifer

Sponsor: Greg Sandifer, National Chapter

“I’m proud to be an American when I hit with the resilience and strength of the American people in the face of both disaster and oppression”

Ellie will be attending the University of South Florida majoring in Biomedical Engineering or Biochemistry depending on the research she plans on pursuing. She comes from a military family and has learned so much from the people and experiences she has had, with the help of those who pushed her toward the path she is on today. She also plays tennis, loves to read and crafting things.



David Sayour

Sponsor: Joseph Pappone, National Chapter

“I’m proud to be an American because here I’m not defined by struggles and have the opportunities to succeed”

David will be attending Pennsylvania College of Technology studying HVAC/Plumbing in the fall. He has a strong commitment for health and fitness and enjoys time in the gym. He has a passion for cooking and enjoys ice and roller hockey with his friends. His future is to one day start and built a successful plumbing company of his own.



Joseph Sepanic

Sponsor: Jason Sepanic, Wisconsin Chapter

To quote Robert Frost “Freedom lies in being bold”

Joseph will be attending Michigan Technological University in the fall majoring in Construction and Business Management. With goals of learning the necessary skills to manage commercial projects and to eventually start his own business? He has played soccer most of his life and also enjoys tennis and basketball. He took up snowboarding this past winter and is starting to dabble in photography and after all this he enjoys reading and spends as much time as he can becoming lost in a book to the point he becomes oblivious to the outside world.



Scholarships Recipients 2026

Two types of Educational Scholarships are available from the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association Scholarship Trust: the **E.R. Smith Memorial Scholarship** and the **Legacy Educational Scholarships**. By applying for Educational Scholarships, you agree to the terms and conditions of the Scholarship Trust. The number of scholarships and the dollar amount awarded each year will be determined by the committee based on the Scholarship Trust Fund balance. Applications for both types of Educational Scholarship may also be downloaded from the 4IDA Website.

E. R. Smith Memorial Scholarship - shall be awarded to the child, children, stepchildren or legally adopted child or children of those soldiers of the Fourth Infantry Division who died while serving with the Fourth Infantry Division in Iraq, Afghanistan and/or the War against Terror since September 11, 2001. Membership in this Association is not a condition precedent for application for a Memorial Scholarship. Eligibility to receive a Memorial Scholarship ends at age twenty-five (25). **Requests for Memorial Scholarships may be submitted at any time annually using the E. R. Smith Memorial Scholarship Application request form and attach documents that confirm your eligibility.** The E.R. Smith Memorial Scholarship Application may be downloaded from the 4IDA Website's Scholarship page.

Legacy Educational Scholarships – Legacy Educational Scholarships shall be awarded based on Patriotic themed essays submitted by the applicants. The Scholarship Committee will use a blind judging process to select the top essays from all entries. **Applications for Legacy Educational Scholarships must be emailed prior to the June 15th dead-**

line each year using the current years' application form and attaching your Patriotic themed essay in 250-to-500-words in Microsoft Word format to the Scholarship Committee Secretary, Philip Menendez at pmenendez6@comcast.net. The current year's Legacy Educational Scholarship Applications may be downloaded from the 4IDA website Scholarship page or may be found in The Ivy Leaves.

The Patriotic theme for the 2026 Essay is:

"What does being a citizen of the United States mean to me?"

Legacy Educational Scholarships - a) A regular member of this Association in good standing may apply for a scholarship for his or her child, children or stepchildren, legally adopted child, or children and/or grandchild, grandchildren, or step-grandchildren. b.) To be eligible to receive a Legacy Educational Scholarship, applicants must be a high school graduate and enrolled full-time as an undergraduate student to an accredited college, university, or postsecondary vocational/technical schools within the United States. c.) Regular members submitting winning applications must provide written proof, from the applicable institution, of the student's acceptance or current enrollment to the Scholarship Committee secretary by December 15th of the year the scholarship was awarded. Failure to submit such written proof in timely fashion shall result in withdrawal of the scholarship. **All Applications for Legacy Educational Scholarships must follow the Scholarship Committee's guidelines. Incomplete Legacy Educational Scholarship Applications will not be considered.**

Home From Hell

Stand tall , stand proud.
For you will never be one of the crowd.
There you stood !
There!
Others fell
Amongst the ashes ,
Those cinders from hell.
Home now?

Safe and sound?
Never....
Heros are you!
Echoes of great renown!
Who can see what we are?
Matters not.
Our brotherhood shines .
Brighter than any star!



A Combat Assault into a Cold LZ, and an Unplanned Change of Command, November 14, 1968

Just another day in Vietnam – Story compiled by Mark Coonrad, a Memorial Life Member of the 4IDA. See more from Mark at <https://abraveservice.org/about-us/>



57 years ago on November 14th, 1968, elements of Alpha & Bravo Companies, 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division along with men from the battalion Recon and Mortar platoons of the 3/12 Infantry received orders to combat assault into separate landing zones (LZ) southeast of the battalion firebase on Hill 1338. Alpha

Company, the Recon Platoon and two 81mm mortar crews are up first. The landing, accomplished by at least 12 sorties of Huey aircraft from the 119th Assault Helicopter Battalion, was uneventful. Alpha Company, under the command of Captain Donald Androsky, begins to move through pre-designated checkpoints around the southern slope of Hill 770. Recon Platoon establishes a small perimeter near the LZ, and the mortar crews set up their 81mm tubes, ready to deliver fire support if needed.

Following the successful insertion of Alpha Company, the 119th AHC flight lead, callsign Gator 523, leads his helicopters to Fire Support Base #6, where Bravo Company, under the command of Captain Matteson, waits for their own combat assault. The company will be joined by three Montagnard guides and a US Army dog tracker team. The first Bravo troops land in another cold LZ at 0949 hours.

Although the landing zone is cold, the gunners are taking no chances, and sweep the area around the LZ with a heavy volley of fire from their M-60 machine guns. Staff Sergeant Jose Ortiz, on board one of the first Huey's in to the LZ, is startled by the unexpected cacophony, and initially believes the company is under enemy fire. Quickly realizing the machine gun fire is all outgoing, he disembarks the Huey and begins to gather his platoon.

Soon after, the Huey helicopter Captain Matteson is riding on settles into the LZ. He gauges the distance from skid to ground, and leaps off. His leap is ill timed, and the distance is far greater than he expected. He hits the ground hard, and immediately crumples to the ground. His leg is broken. His men gather him and his gear up, throw him back on the helicopter he just exited, and continue their mission.

1LT Ralph Parker, the senior platoon leader on the ground, assumes command of the element on the ground. Lieutenant Colonel Richard X Larkin, who had assumed command of the battalion less than a month prior, names Captain Bardon Blizzard as Captain Matteson's permanent replacement. He will join the company in the coming days, but for now, it's 1LT Parker's company to run.

Bravo Company, its impromptu and unplanned change of command out of the way, continues its patrol route, crossing

several small rivers and discovering two recently used trails. The two companies eventually link up, and the Hueys of the 119th under the lead of Gator 523 arrive to lift them back to their respective firebases. By 1812 hours, the lift is complete, and aside from the unfortunate Captain Matteson, no one is the worse for wear. All in all, it was just another day in Vietnam.

Authors note - all names, dates and unit designators were found in the S-3 Daily Journal for November 16, 1968, which can be found in its entirety here at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dompQDkLqzAEHq7D82-C9Ky3F7ucBwBK/view?usp=drive_link



All My Love, Elwood

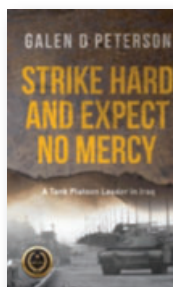


This intimate, firsthand chronicle captures the World War II experience through the deeply personal letters of Elwood A. Turner, a medic in the U.S. Army's 377th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion. Spanning training camps in the American South to the war-torn fields of Europe, Elwood's prolific correspondence with his family offers an honest, often humorous, and profoundly human window into military life, love, fear, and resilience during wartime. Rich with historical details and familial warmth, *All My Love, Elwood* not only documents one soldier's journey, it honors the voices of the countless families who waited, hoped, and wrote back home. Perfect for readers of WWII history, military memoirs, and American heritage.

Available from <https://www.deedspublishing>



Strike Hard and Expect No Mercy



By Galen D. Peterson, author and 4IDA Life Member

Strike Hard and Expect No Mercy is the story of boots on the ground in Iraq, as seen through the eyes of a tank platoon leader. Baqubah, on the eve of the Surge, and Sadr City, during the spring uprising of 2008, saw some of the darkest hours of the war. A tough dragon, the M1A2 Abrams tank and its crews were often called to crack the toughest nuts on the battlefield, and victory, even survival, was not guaranteed. It is a gritty and visceral dive into the combat experience, flavored with the anguish of loss, the exhilaration of victories, the frustrations of defeats, and the humor required to survive. Along the way, the story shares rarely told insights into the duties and expectations of an Army junior officer. - <https://galendpeterson.com/>

Remembrances of the Last Months of 4th ID in RVN

By Joseph Bartek, formerly Captain CmlC USAR

I served in the 4th ID DivArty HHB at Camp Radcliff, An Khe, RVN, from mid-September 1970 to December 4, 1970, when the 4th ID departed Vietnam. I was promoted to Captain (AUS) while I was assigned as the DivArty Chemical Officer in Operations (S3). My actual duties involved Base Defense of Camp Radcliff, assisting Captain Walter Guilotte, who ran that section, under the Operations Officer (S3), LTC Ralph Tomberg. I was inducted into the "Order of St. Barbara" on December 4, 1970 at Qui Nhon, RVN, by COL L. R. Forney FA. On "C Day", currency conversion day, in October 1970, I passed the secret message to COL Forney, after my stint as Night Base Defense Officer. BG Forney passed away in Fernandina Beach, FL, a few years ago. Ralph Tomberg passed away in Tacoma, WA, in 2024.

VC Actions Against Camp Radcliff

Camp Radcliff came under a few ineffectual attacks using 122 mm "Katyusha" rockets, made in USSR. (I saw notations in Cyrillic alphabet on the motors) while I was there. The HHB area was hit by 82 mm mortar rounds on a Friday night early in November, 1970, not long after the HHB Officers celebrated a "Steak and Wine" night. Most of the rounds impacted the road toward the "Golf Course" and perforated some helicopters parked there. One round hit a barracks roof in an adjacent Battery area (5/16 FA, I think), exploding on a roof truss. A member of that unit, with a large wound dressing on his back, was repairing the roof the next day. Another round hit the hard laterite soil a few feet away from the parked M151 assigned to the Base Defense section. The shell fragments flattened the vehicle's tires. The soldier who repaired the tires spent lots of time finding all the holes to patch in the tubes.

According to the 4th ID Operational Summary submitted Nov. 20, 1970, Camp Radcliff received a sapper attack on 7 August resulting in one sapper KIA, one friendly KIA and light damage to several buildings. Memories of that attack carried over to a false alarm or two in October. The Summary

reported that Camp Radcliff received seven rounds of 122 mm rocket fire on the night of 4-5 October. Unfortunately, the report had no paragraph for November 1970.

4th ID DivArty Response

The Base Defense Night Duty Officer was responsible for fires at "Suspected Enemy Locations", designating targets for roughly 300 rounds from the various batteries under DivArty control. This task was assigned by the S3, who knew about the need to reduce ammo inventory before the 4th ID's return to CONUS. Better to ride in an empty 5 ton Ammo truck on the road to Qui Nhon, than a full one.



4th DivArty HHB Officer's Mess



4th DivArty, HHB Captain's Billets



4th DivArty, Patio Dining

Life at Camp Radcliff

Camp Radcliff had weather in October and November that did not follow the stereotypical RVN pattern. One Monsoonal storm carried away a Bailey bridge over the Song Ba River, cutting off the fixed wing air strip. Nights were cool, and rains could be hard, but on a sunny day a game of volleyball in the evening could be pleasant.

The HHB area of Camp Radcliff was better constructed than many company areas in RVN. It was originally built as a Special Forces base camp with much help from local labor. The blast wall around the Mess Hall was not made of casually laid sandbags, but of fieldstone with mortared joints. There was an unauthorized latrine fitted with flush toilets for junior officers.



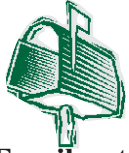
4th DivArty Tactical Op. Center



4th DivArty M151 Tires flattened by Mortar



Roof Repair 5/16 - Mortared 11/07/70



MAIL BAG

Email note from Victor Garland to Rusty Armstrong, Dated March 7, 2025



Hi Rusty, as it is a very special year for us (The Royal British Legion Tiverton Branch) this year we are celebrating our 100 year anniversary so will be holding a bigger memorial service at the Memorial Stone your Arizona chapter erected in our People's Park. It

would be great if there could be an American presence, I believe our town council will be contacting you, I hope something can be arranged. I will of course send you a report and photos of the event September 13, 2025 for the *Ivy leaves* magazine.

Regards Victor

Garland (<https://www.devongardenstrust.org.uk/gardens/peoples-park>)

Editor's Note: Dick Taylor, former *Ivy Leaves* Editor and Arizona Chapter Treasurer was primarily responsible for erecting this monument at the People's Park in Tiverton, UK where the 4th Infantry Division trained for the D-Day invasion. Dick and his family traveled to Tiverton several times to complete this project.



7 October 2025

Richard J. Adams
4th Infantry Division Association
109 Tournament PL.
Duncan, SC 29334-9265

Dear Mr. Adams,

Thank you so much for the Association's continued support of the Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum. Your donation will help us reach more of the public and tell the story of the 4th Infantry Division in WWII. We frequently get inquiries and visits from the descendants of division soldiers, and we are accumulating more history and more stories about this amazing group.

Please extend our gratitude to all the members of your association for their help! We continue to learn about the history of Camp Gordon Johnston and WWII. We are proud to preserve the stories of the Greatest Generation.

Sincerely yours,

Lisa
Lisa Keith-Lucas
Archivist
Camp Gordon Johnston WWII Museum

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We shall not forget...



Above left is 4th Infantry Division Veteran, Arthur Medeiros. He is a World War II Veteran and is 105 years old. He attended the Memorial services at Montebourg, France this past 19 June. On the right is the Honor Guard from the 4th Infantry Division and the deputy commanding general attending the same memorial service at Montebourg on the 81st anniversary of the 4th Division liberating the city from the Germans during World War II.

NATIONAL 4TH INFANTRY (IVY) DIVISION ASSOCIATION

107TH NATIONAL REUNION REPORT

The 107th National Reunion of the 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association was held August 11-16, 2025 at The Antlers Hotel located in downtown Colorado Springs for our Hospitality room, Meetings and Banquets. We owe a great deal of thanks to so many people who made the 2025 National Reunion so special. The Antlers Hotel proved to be a perfect venue for our events.

On Tuesday 8/12/2025 – we offered a visit to the 4th Infantry Division Museum and a tour of the Garden of Gods Park with a Deli Lunch at the Trading Post Café. We started the day with a visit to the 4th Infantry Division Museum and the Global War on Terrorism Memorial at Gate 1 ‘The Freedom Gate’ at Fort Carson and then boarded the bus for the Garden of the Gods Trading



Garden of the Gods Park

Post. We enjoyed assorted deli sandwiches lunch with sides and fountain drinks at the trading post and then had time to shop a little for the finest in authentic Indian arts, crafts, and jewelry, featuring the largest and most extensive giftshop and Art Gallery stop in the Pikes Peak region. Finally, we enjoyed a narrated driving tour through the Garden of the Gods Park with magnificent red stone formations that date back 300 million years before returning to the hotel.

On Wednesday 8/13/2025 – we did a tour of the Dragonman’s Museum, Lunch at the Airplane Restaurant and a stop at the 4th Infantry Division Museum. The Dragonman’s Museum is one of the most unique museums of military weapons you’ll ever see. After that tour, we had a



Dragonman's Museum

Western themed lunch buffet at the Airplane Restaurant. The tour concluded with a stop at the 4th Infantry Division Museum and the

Global War on Terrorism Memorial at Gate 1 ‘The Freedom Gate’ before returning to the hotel.

On Wednesday Evening 8/13/2025 – The Ivy Dragoons Chapter held a private chapter dinner and meeting with a reception and cash bar. Entertainment was provided by James Salestrom.

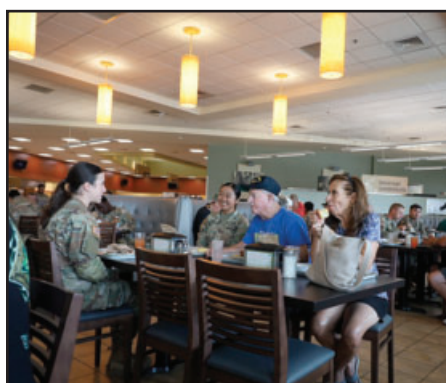
On Thursday 8/14/2025 – we spent the day on post at Fort Carson. We started visiting the HQ building and group picture at McNerney Hall, a command brief, then observing training and a brigade static equipment display, Lunch at a DFAC Dining Facility, and a stop at the PX.

Thursday Evening 8/14/2025 – we held our R & R Dinner and Dance, complete with a buffet dinner and a DJ with music and dancing. Friday morning 8/15/2025 – we held our Business Meetings, and the Ladies had a Brunch with Bunko games.

On Friday evening 8/15/2025 – we held our Flames of Remembrance Banquet and keynote address delivered by Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Ellis, the 66th Commanding General of the 4th Infantry Division. The recipient of the 2025 Ralph E Lingert Service Award was Richard A. Blackaby, President of the Ivy Division Chapter. Rich has been our man-on-the-ground at Fort Carson and Colorado Springs for many years. We also presented a newly designed neck hung medallion to past recipients of the Ralph E Lingert Service Award. This year’s beautiful quilt was won by Beth Utterback from the Ohio Chapter.



3rd Bde Dinning Hall Soldiers



3rd Bde Dinning Hall Vets with Soldiers



3rd Bde Dinning Hall Fort Carson



Scan this QR code to view all the Reunion Photos on your phone.



4 Duce Mortar



4ID Vets in McNerney Hall



Tankers of the Silver Lions



4ID Soldiers demonstrating Mortar



Don Kelby looking at an M-1A2 Arbrams



FIST Stryker from 2nd Bn 77th FA



4ID Veterans at the Simulation Range



4ID Vets being given briefing



A 4ID Vet firing on the range



M777 155mm Howizter at Fort Carson



SGT briefing on the FDC vehicle



Our guitarist at the dinner



Ray Rocho and Rich Blackaby lighting the Flames of Remembrance



The ladies with the quilt



SP4 Smith in the Dining Facility at Fort Carson. She is a food handling specialist



PVT Lomax, 1st Bn. 68th Armor, looking down inside the tank to see if the 4ID Vet needed help getting out of the tank.



CPT Garrick Harbison, his wife and daughter talking with Paul Bonsky and his wife, Tricia.



CPT Harbison, Paul Bonsky and John Harris standing in front of a restored M-101A1 105mm howitzer that is at the entrance to the 2nd BN, 77 FA motor pool in Fort Carson.



PVT Manang is the tank loader of the 1st BN, 68th Armor. He knows his tank well and explained everything to 4ID Vets that were willing to climb inside the M-1A2 Abrams tank.



Dave Dollner and Al Downs at the R&R Dinner.



3rd Bde Motor Pool



AI Downs being presented the Ralph E Lingert Award



MG Ellis Mac McCarty and CSM Petty



MG Ellis Jerry Bumpus and CSM Petty

Happy Birthday!

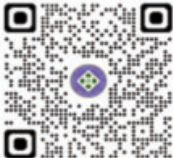
The Commanding General of the 4th Infantry Division and the newest Soldier in the Division jointly cutting the 4th Infantry Division cake on 14 June to celebrate the United States Army's 250th Birthday. The cake has a Stryker Vehicle on it, the Colorado mountains with the Fort Carson logo on the mountains.



4th Division celebration of 250 years



Army's birthday at 4th Division



Scan this QR code to view all the Reunion Photos on your phone.



REUNIONS & EVENTS

Reunions, Meetings & Gatherings

Carolinas Chapter 2026 Spring Mini-Reunion

The Carolinas Chapter will hold its 2026 Spring Mini-Reunion at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Spartanburg, South Carolina Friday and Saturday, April 24-25, 2026. The Four Points by Sheraton Hotel Spartanburg is located off Interstate I-26 Exit 19B and Business I-85 Exit 2C. All 4IDA members are welcome to join us at the Carolinas Chapter Mini-Reunions.

GUESTROOMS & RATES – Traditional King and (2) Queen Guestrooms are \$109.00/night (w/out Breakfast). Rates do not

include taxes (currently 13%). Self-Parking is complimentary. Last Day to Book: Wednesday, April 1, 2026.

Reservations may be made by individual attendees directly with Marriott reservations at 864-707-4700 or the direct booking link on the 4IDA website. All reservations must be accompanied by a first-night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. Mention: Carolinas Chapter 4th Infantry Division Association 2026 Reunion to receive our room rate. Registration Forms and Hotel Booking Link will be available in early 2026.

“CLUTCHING IN.....”

by 11BRAVO Bill Hodder Co B 1/22 Infantry 1969

**A combat veteran passed last week.
He passed peacefully while in his sleep.
His widow said, “Clutching in his hand so tight”, a CIB he earned,
On one of those dark nights.
The word was out, the day was set,
The Flag draped coffin,
Then he was laid to rest.**

**The cemetery was full of vets.
A lonely faded Huey happened by,
It landed oh so close.
Some say there were smoky figures inside,
Some saw a shadow board,
Some “OLD VET” was heard to say,
“They were headed off to see the Lord...”**

“I Am A Soldier”

I'm a lonely soldier in a far away land,
Fighting for causes I may not understand.
Sleepless nights, no pillow anywhere for a head,
That wet and hard cold ground is a soldier's bed.

These strangers here with me are more than friends,
They feel more like family maybe even kin.
Together we fight for our families back home,
To give them a right of freedom to roam.

I've fought through trenches rain, snow and mud,
Watched my comrades fall covered in blood.
Freedom doesn't come cheap for the USA,,
Lives are lost to the war each and every day.

I defend my stripes, the Red, White, and Blue,
Just as the rest of my comrades do.

I go to war never knowing if I'll be back,
I'm a soldier, it's my duty, and that's a fact.

It was my decision, to wear my military gear,
And travel thousands of miles away from here.
I choose to protect my country and give my life,
Maybe leaving a child fatherless, or widow my wife.

Maybe I'm a Mother, Daughter, Son or even a Dad,
It doesn't make it any easier on the family I had.
They grieve if they loose someone to war,
Whether close or far away on a distant shore.

I am a Soldier, I chose to fight to keep my country free,
Just like my comrades, should I fall, don't grieve for me.
And should you see my name upon the wall,,
Remember I died a Soldier, not for one, but all !!!!

Welcome Home!

New / Reinstated Members National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

NAME	UNIT	ERA	CHAP	COMMENT
NEW MEMBERS 1ST IVY 2025				
CONNOR REESE	MEMORIAL		NAT	STEPSON OF SSG DAVID NOWACZYK KIA 4/15/2012 OEF
GAGE GEBUR	MEMORIAL		NAT	SON OF ARMY SPC RONALD W. GEBUR KIA 5/13/2006
WILLIAM SIPE	2ND BDE COMBAT TEAM	WT	WS	
MICHAEL SIEBOLD	US MARINES	ASSOCIATE	WI	
JOE ANDERSON	DIV HQ	WAR ON TERROR	NAT	DIV CG 11/2011 - 5/2013
ROBERT BROOKS	29 F/A	COLD WAR	IVY	
DANIEL DIERKHISING	2/8 MECHANIZED	VIETNAM	NAT	
STEVEN STANLEY	D/1/10 CAV	COLD WAR	NAT	
MICHAEL FOSTER	4TH S&T	VIETNAM	TX	REINSTATED 12/13/2024
ROY BOBER	3/8 INFANTRY	VIETNAM	NAT	REINSTATED 12/14/2024
LEON HOWARD	42ND F/A	VIETNAM	RL	
DOUG GUSH	B/3/12 INFANTRY	VIETNAM	LV	
CINDY GUSH	ASSOCIATE	ASSOCIATE	LV	
CAROL KUKITZ	ASSOCIATE	ASSOCIATE	LV	
JENNIFER FOSTER	MEMORIAL	MEMORIAL	LV	IN MEMORY OF DOUGLAS FOSTER
MARVIN KROPKE	C/2/8 INFANTRY	VIETNAM	B/8	
RONALD FLOYD	D/4/61 ADA	COLD WAR	RL	
ROBERT PAGNIELLO	A/1/12 INFANTRY	WAR ON TERROR	NAT	
THOMAS BOYTON	12TH INFANTRY REG	VIETNAM	NAT	
MAURY MORRIS	D/1/22 INFANTRY	VIETNAM	TX	
NEW MEMBERS 2ND IVY 2025				
ROBERT HALL	A/1/8 INF	VIETNAM	A/8	
STEVEN HOLDEN	DIV HQ	WAR ON TERROR	IVY	
RAYMOND ROJAS	1/22 INF	WAR ON TERROR	IVY	
GALEN PETERSON	"C/1-68 AR, D/1-8 IN"	WAR ON TERROR	IVY	
ALEX WERDEN	NORAD & NORTHERN COMMAND	ACTIVE DUTY	IVY	REINSTATED 7/20/2025
RYAN HUNT	HHB	ACTIVE DUTY	IVY	
SUSAN SANDERRSON	ASSOCIATE	ASSOCIATE	IVY	
DAVID HALTEMAN	A/6/29 ARTILLERY	VIETNAM	LV	
RICHARD SEIFFERT	2/9 ARTILLERY	VIETNAM	LV	
CLARE KNICKERBOCKER	4TH S&T	VIETNAM	MW	
EDWARD JONES	404TH AVIATION SUPPORT	WAR ON TERROR	MW	
AMANDA SMITH	HHC 4ID AID STN	COLDWAR	NAT	
MATTHEW DINKEL	ASSOCIATE	ASSOCIATE	NAT	IN MEMORY OF GREAT UNCLE CHARLES F. DINKEL WWI
SHAWN HRYSZKO	37th IBCT BSTB	WAR ON TERROR	NAT	
BILLY JOE WILSON	223 ENGINEER	WAR ON TERROR	NAT	
WILLIAM WORGULL	3/12 INF	VIETNAM	OH	
DOUGLAS BERRY	MEMORIAL	MEMORIAL	RL	IN MEMORY OF FATHER ROLLAND H BERRY 1968-1969
CSM JUAN LUZANO	DIVARTY CSM	ACTIVE DUTY	RL	
BECKY ROWE	ASSOCIATE	ASSOCIATE	SC	
MAURY MORRIS	D/1/22 INF	VIETNAM	TX	
MARK CHEADLE	4TH BCT	WAR ON TERROR	TX	
EUGENE SANCHEZ	B/3/12 INF	VIETNAM	TX	REINSTATED
JEREMIAH BLOCK	4BSB	WAR ON TERROR	TX	REINSTATED 7/26/2025
JACK ENRIGHT	29TH FA	VIETNAM	WS	

CHAPTER REPORTS

Business and News Reports

EDITOR'S NOTE TO CHAPTER PRESIDENTS: This section of your news magazine is primarily for your Chapter's news and business reports. The *Ivy Leaves* welcomes your input. Please limit text to short/brief reports. And please find someone in your chapter who will take over the responsibility of sending it to us via e-mail at: ivyleaveseditor@gmail.com –Thanks!

LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER

Submitted by John Kukitz

On Saturday, September 13th, the Lehigh Valley Chapter held its annual picnic, renamed as the First Annual Doug Foster Memorial Reunion, in honor of past Chapter President Doug Foster, who passed away last December. Chaplain Baron Cebrosky gave the opening invocation and prayer. The Flames of Remembrance candles were lit in honor of all those who served, followed by a moment of silence and Taps. Chapter President, John Kukitz, introduced the new officers for the Lehigh Valley Chapter, announced planning for a 2026 spring Chapter meeting, and expressed his desire to recruit new members from both the Vietnam War and the Global War on Terror. Three new Brothers joined the Chapter at the event. John also recognized Chapter member, Major Martin E. Hamer, U.S Army Infantry-Retired, who will be inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame on November 1st. The Reunion, held at DeSales University in Center Valley PA., was well attended by 28 Vietnam Veterans, their spouses and family members, for a total of 70 attendees.

IVY DRAGOONS CHAPTER

The revitalized Ivy Dragoons Chapter has built upon the 20+ years of Ivy Dragoons Chapter history and partnership fostered by Steve Edmunds and his "Brother" teams. The reinvigorated Ivy Dragoons Chapter Roster is now over 50 active members.

The Ivy Dragoons held a 2nd successful "Dragoons Banquet" in coordination with the 4th IDA National Meeting in Colorado Springs.

With near 40 attendees, and live entertainment by James Salestrom (performing special songs for veterans: i.e. "After the War", "They Gave Their Lives"), the evening was special. Coming out of hiding was Terry Faulkner, Charlie Company 68-69, who also picked up the guitar and provided some blues and country vibes. Working together with "the 4th IDA National Leadership" for a Dragoons Banquet, as part of the National Meeting week agenda, has proven very successful.

The Chapter Business meeting attendees endorsed an effort to hold monthly zoom meetings. In addition, an "Executive Committee" was created of representatives from each Company, to lead communication and recruit for Dragoons Chapter membership (currently at the 51-member mark),

The Dragoons are holding monthly Zoom meetings (computer video or telephone access) to bring our troops together on a regular basis to keep connected, provide support and keep alive some of our 4th IDA Vietnam history. Some monthly Zoom meeting topics will be devoted to various Company History, and other topics like Artillery support, Journey of The Boat People, VA claims processing suggestions, veterans court, etc.

The Dragoons Chapter has also initiated a project to resurrect the

Ivy Dragoons Website that has wealth of 4th IDA Vietnam history, pictures, After Action Reports etc. A new website platform and website monitor are needs.

4th IDA members who are interested in changing their Chapter membership to be part of the Active Ivy Dragoons Chapter, can do so by contacting Jim / Mac McCarthy or 4th IDA Executive Director, Don Kelby.

MIDWEST CHAPTER

Submitted by Teresa Carter

August 14, 2025

Our fall meeting was held at the Antler's Hotel in Colorado Springs. Those in attendance were Don and Chris Kelby, Jerry Bumpus, Joe and Teresa Carter. The meeting was called to order by President Joe Carter and after the Pledge of Alliance was completed the meeting began.

The first discussion was held to continue the support of our Veteran's Homes with our annual Christmas donations and was approved by all members in attendance. We then discussed Veterans week in Branson Nov 8-13th and holding a Midwest Chapter meeting on Nov 8th at 2:30 pm at the Grand Victorian Hotel. Hoping to see a lot of our members during this time. If you have never been to Veterans Week in Branson it is something to see. Branson does a great job welcoming and putting on the Veterans Parade.

We also discussed our Spring meeting location and was suggested by Jerry Bumpus to go to Jefferson Barrack in St. Louis April the 25th. After our meeting we will tour the Civil War Museum at a cost of \$7.00 per person, There are a few more museums within walking distance should you want to see. We will send out more information on this by email as the time gets closer.

REDLEGS CHAPTER

Submitted by Steve von Hagen, VP Communications

2025 has been a very active year for the Redlegs Chapter. By the time this is published the Redlegs will have been part of three different reunions. The first was the 4th Infantry Division August Reunion at Ft. Carson, Colorado Springs, CO., The second A Battery 4th 42nd FA Reunion (October) in Nashville, TN. and Military & Veterans Reunion in Branson, Missouri in November.

Our reunion at Fort Carson in August gave us an opportunity to enjoy time with active duty Field Artillery men and women of Division Artillery and the Field Artillery Battalion's. We started the week on Tuesday with a demonstration of the fire powers of 2-77 FA and 3-29 FA (2-12 FA is deployed overseas). After the fantastic tour of the howitzers and fire direction vehicle we met the officers and senior NCO's at Divarty HQ for an afternoon "meet and greet". Wednesday evening we joined Divarty for dinner at the Red Legs

Brewery for a fantastic evening.

We added two new members to our chapter while at the reunion. Juan Lozano and Drew Mitchell. Juan is currently serving as the Command Sergeant Major of the 4th ID Division Artillery and Andrew (Drew) Mitchell, LTC, recently assumed command of 2-12 Field Artillery, currently deployed overseas. Hopefully, we will all get a chance to welcome them into our group next summer when we attend IVY Week.

The A Battery 4th 42nd FA Reunion will take place in Nashville in mid October. We will stay at the Inn at Opryland and they provide us with a conference room for two days. The first day we will have breakfast and spend the day sharing memories and at the end of the day head to the Nashville Dinner Theater for food and entertainment. Day two Breakfast, 4 hour tour of Nashville, Dinner and an evening at the Grand Ole Opry. Day three breakfast and time to go home.

The "4thidredlegs.org" website serves as an important online hub dedicated to preserving, sharing, and expanding the history of the 4th Infantry Division Artillery ("Redlegs"). Our website provides unique value to our veterans, active duty military, military historians, and families seeking a deeper understanding of the 4th Infantry Division Artillery unit's service to our country. Our website highlights personal narratives, photographs, and unit stories, the site reinforces camaraderie among active duty and veterans. The 4th Infantry Division reunion at Ft. Carson, Colorado this past August is a excellent example.

Also this summer, a few families of deceased Vietnam veterans reached out to the Redlegs to gain context for their loved ones' service, we were able to help them understand locations and daily realities of the 4th ID Artillery (Redlegs) in Vietnam. In addition, we had a deceased veterans son who wanted to donate a graphite drawing by his Dad to the 4th Infantry Division Divarty at Ft. Carson. With the help and support of Captain Harbison, 4 ID Divarty ADO, this artwork of three soldiers in Vietnam resides at Divarty Headquarters at Ft. Carson.

We are always looking for new photos, stories, ideas and veterans /active duty military to become involved with the Redlegs and the website. Take a look at the website when you get a chance. (www.4thidredlegs.org).

WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Submitted by Linda Dufek

Wisconsin Hotel/ Wisconsin Dells

Meeting called to Order 10:10 am by President Ken Schmidt

Pledge and Moment of Silence

Introductions: Ken and Cam Schmidt, Dennis Portz, Tom and Min Mohar, John and Carole Mersinger, Rick and Joyce DeNomme, Fritz and Mary Montag, Phil and Sharon Schuman, Benny and Audrey Herioux, Don Delamore, Gary and Barb Powley, Gordon Weber, Don Stoffel, David and Ann Spindler, Jodi Larson, Linda Dueno Dufek.

Members in attendance at the Wisconsin Chapter meeting.



Also attending: Terry Weibel, Dale Schlehein, Edie Schlehein, Steve Deterding, Miko Schlehein, Liz Schlehein, Diane Nett, Sara n Alan Mercier, Adrian Bernard n Loren, Roger Rosin.

Minutes and treasurers reports read and approved. Treasurers report filed for audit.

No correspondence

No Bills submitted. Postage n newsletter bill will be sent to treasurer.

Old Business: Report on 2025 National and upcoming 2026 National reunion which will be held in Quad Cities August 2/8,2026. Linda will send out a spring newsletter which will include all info for the National reunion.

New Business: New Officer Election. The slate of officers nominated were elected by acclamation with motion made by Don Delamore, 2nd by Gary Powley.

President: John Mersinger

Vice: Gary Powley

Treasurer: Tom Mohar

Secretary: Linda D Dufek

Sgt at Arms: Don Delamore

Chaplin: Rick DeNomme



Wisconsin Chapter swearing in of officers

Next Years reunion will be held at the Wisconsin Hotel the 3rd weekend of September..rates will be \$144.

There will be two \$500 scholarships awarded at the evening banquet. Winners were: Miko Schlelein and Sullivan Weibel.

\$50 donation to scholarship fund by Phil Schuman.

Motion to adjourn by Don Delamore, 2nd by Gary Powley, approved at 10:45 am.

4th Infantry Division Association

RECENT ASSOCIATION DONATIONS

NAME	CHAP	SCHLSHIP	MON/MEM	GREEN	PFL	COMMENT
DAVID HALTEMAN	LV		10			
LAWRENCE TSCHAPPAT	MW			200		IN MEMORY OF SGT LLOYD BLACK C/3/12
JOHN HARRIS	MW			50		
MIDWEST CHAPTER	MW		100			
BRIDGET MCNAMARA	NAT			25		IN MEMORY OF PATRICK MCNAMARA
WILLIAM HOPPING	NAT	30	30			
GERALD BOULETTE	NAT			25		
SARAH LOPEZ	NAT	250		250		IN MEMORY OF VICTOR LOPEZ
CAROLINAS CHAPTER	NC		10			IN MEMORY OF JOHN NOBLE
RICK ADAMS	NC		25			IN MEMORY OF LARRY BRINKMAN
DONALD POCHOPIN	OH			100		
LINDA RODRIGUEZ	OH		10	10		
RANDOLPH MARTZ	RL	25				
ERNEST BANASAU	TX	400		400		
BEN SCHOEMAKER	TX			25		
TEXAS CHAPTER	TX		200			IN MEMORY OF DAVE HOUCK
TEXAS CHAPTER	TX	1000				
William Cash	ID	100				
Edward Skwira	ID		50			
WILLIAM CASH	ID	100				
EDWARD SKWIRA	ID		50			
DANIEL MILLER	ID	20				
SAMUEL FRICKS	IVY	50				
RON SEBRING	LV			100		
LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER	LV			100		
CONLEY BALLINGER	MW	20				
ALAN BAHL	MW	10	10	10		
ANTONIE ROZEBOOM	MW	30	10	20		
JOSEPH PAPPONE	NAT	20				
ROBERT PONZO	NAT	50	25			
DOLPH ARMSTRONG	NAT			20		
STANLEY BENNER	NAT	20	10	20	10	
PETER BAIARDI	NAT	10		10		
GEORGE MUCHER	NAT	30				
TONY CONTINO	NAT			50		
GERALD MANNING	NAT		25		25	
LAWRENCE SHELL	NC	5	5	5	5	
WILLIAM WAINSCOTT	NC	50				
JOHN EBNER	NC		30			
RICK ADAMS	NC		25			IN MEMORY OF GRANT WILKEN
RICK ADAMS	NC		25			
WILLIAM WAINSCOTT	NC	25				IN MEMORY OF ALEX COOKER
NE CHAPTER CLOSEOUT	NE			11670.11		
OHIO CHAPTER	OH	200	200			
OLAF OLSON	RL	20	10			
GEORGE ROCCO	RL	25				
ERNEST BANASAU	TX	200		200		
GARY HISAOKA	TX	100				
ERNEST BANASAU	TX	25		25		
ARLEN BLIEFERNICHT	WI			80		
DAVID HASSEMER	WI	15	15	10	10	
JASON SEPANIC	WI	50				
RON SODEN	WS	10	10	10	10	

National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association

USE THIS FORM FOR MEMBERSHIPS BY MAIL OR TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Personal Information	Membership Selection
<p>Date: _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Mailing Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____</p> <p>State: _____ Zip + 4 _____ - _____</p> <p>Phone Home: _____ Cell: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Spouses Name: _____</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Active Duty <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial <input type="checkbox"/> Associate </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> WWII <input type="checkbox"/> Cold War <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam War <input type="checkbox"/> War on Terror </div> </div> <p>Unit Details: _____</p> <p>Dates Served / Years: _____</p> <p>Memorial Membership In Memory of: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Request placement in _____ Chapter</p>
Regular Annual Memberships	Active-Duty Annual Memberships
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual Veteran \$20 - Served with or attached to the 4ID</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual Memorial \$20 - Family members of fallen Soldiers and deceased 4IDA Veterans.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual Associate \$20 - Friends of the 4ID</p> <p>Regular Memberships include a mailed printed copy of the Ivy Leaves Magazine and full access to the 4IDA website.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual Active-Duty \$10</p> <p>Active-Duty Membership includes full access to the 4IDA Website and the digital E-Ivy Leaves Magazine. To receive a Mailed printed copy of <i>The Ivy Leaves Magazine</i>, select an Annual Veteran Membership.</p> <p>See the Website for <i>E-Life Memberships</i> for Veterans and Active-Duty.</p>

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Annual Dues Renewal and Donations Mail-In Form

Veteran, Memorial, or Associate Member Annual Dues..... (\$20.00) \$ _____

Contribution to National 'Put the Green into the Ivy Fund'\$ _____

Contribution to your Chapter\$ _____

Contribution to Scholarship Fund\$ _____

Contribution to Paid for Life Fund\$ _____

Contribution to Memorial Monument Fund.....\$ _____

Contribution to Annual Calendar\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED\$ _____

Name _____ Chapter _____

Unit Details _____ Years Served _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Spouse _____ Home Phone _____

E-Mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Please return this completed form to the Executive Director, PO Box 1914, St Peters, MO 63376-0035

All members are encouraged to contribute to their Chapters and the various Association Funds.

Life and Honorary Members owe no dues. Additional Membership Options are available online.

You may also renew your membership and Donate online at www.4thInfantry.org.

National 4th Infantry (Ivy) Division Association Financial Statement July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

7-1-2024 opening cash balance	\$	163,564.61
Income	\$	76,596.24
Expenses	\$	67,717.07
6-30-2025 closing cash balance	\$	172,443.78
Net Change For Period	\$	8,879.17
Detail		
Income		
Dues - Regular Memberships	\$	7,628.77
Dues - PFL Memberships	\$	2,188.24
Donations - 'Put Green Into the Ivy'	\$	28,818.51
Donations - Annual Calendar Project	\$	18,043.06
Donations - Monument Memorial Fund	\$	1,830.00
Donations - Educational Scholarship Fund	\$	9,768.40
Donations - PFL Fund	\$	60.00
Donations - Chapters	\$	315.00
Meeting & Convention - Registration Fees	\$	2,069.58
Other Income / Interest / Refunds	\$	5,874.68
Total Income	\$	76,596.24
Expenses		
Cost Ivy Leaves Publication	\$	5,104.47
Cost Annual Calendar Publication	\$	7,648.35
Website / E-Ivy Newsletters	\$	805.40
PFL Fund - Life Memberships	\$	2,423.00
Dues Rebates to Chapters	\$	3,243.00
Donations to Scholarship Fund	\$	25,832.00
Donations to Chapters	\$	1,795.00
Donations - All Others	\$	2,400.00
Dues ADA - AUSA	\$	150.00
Insurance / Bonding	\$	296.00
Accounting - Tax Returns	\$	1,300.00
Meeting & Convention - Expense	\$	1,978.24
Office Expense - All Offices	\$	836.07
Printing - All Offices	\$	3,439.03
Postage - All Offices	\$	1,236.44
Repair & Maintenance	\$	642.83
Supplies	\$	6,339.61
E-Board Travel & Meeting Expenses	\$	1,636.82
President's Travel	\$	610.81
Total Expenses	\$	67,717.07
6/30/2025 Fund Balances		
Green In the Ivy Fund*	\$	103,457.00
Monument Memorial Committee Reserve*	\$	13,117.55
PNC - Monument Memorial Fund	\$	40,536.26
PNC - Scholarship Fund	\$	90,845.54
WCMA Fund 02027 - Paid For Life Fund	\$	173,922.67

Memorial Committee Report

The Memorial Committee represents the Association on all matters pertaining to the care and maintenance of the Association's monuments in Europe. During the period of January 2025 through September 2025, the Memorial Committee received the following donations to the Memorial Fund. The Committee would like to thank all the donors for their continued support.

If you would like to sponsor a Memorial Wreath to be placed on one of our Monuments in France on Veterans Day or D-Day, a \$150 Donation will cover the cost of one wreath. Thank you.

- Carolinas Chapter – In Memory of Thelma Worthington
- Texas / Oklahoma Chapter – In Memory of Dave Houck
- Rick Adams – In Memory of Larry Brinkman

Individual Contributors

- Linda Rodriguez
- Gerald Manning
- Carolinas Chapter
- Midwest Chapter
- Antoine Rozeboom
- William Hopping

Contributions to the Monument Memorial Fund may be sent to the National 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Association, PO Box 1914, St. Peters, MO 63376-0035. Note in Check Memo Line: Memorial Fund. Or you can use the following Link to make Donations by credit card on the Association's Website: <https://www.4thinfantry.org/funds/memorial-and-monument-fund>.



**Attention US Army Infantry or
Special Forces Veterans!!
Join the only organization
exclusively for**

Combat Infantrymen

You earned the badge, proudly wear it and be
part of the elite

Combat Infantrymen's Association

All applicants must have earned the Combat Infantry
Badge and provide documentation by submitting Form
DD-214, Official U.S. Army orders, or other official
documents. For more information visit our website @



Scan this QR code to view all the Reunion Photos on your phone.

The American Red Cross ‘Donut Dollies,’ were our ‘connection to home.’

No one appreciated the presence of the Donut Dollies more than the troops in the remote firebases. Minutes spent talking about home or sports or music or wives and girlfriends with a fresh-faced American girl with a pony tail wearing a tinge of lipstick and a splash of perfume was a terrific morale boost.

At the invitation of the United States Army the "Donut Dollies" provided morale-boosting games to soldiers.

Over 600 Donut Dollies responded to the somewhat opaque Red Cross's ads seeking “qualified young women who were willing to serve one year overseas.”

Traveling by jeep, deuce-and-a-half, and helicopter, Vietnam Donut Dollies were able to visit troops in forwarding operating positions. They also visited hospitals to hand out activity books and spent time in evac hospitals with the wounded. As one Donut Dolly put it, “Our job was to smile and be bubbly for an entire year— no matter what the situation.”

Over 600 Donut Dollies responded to the somewhat opaque Red Cross's ads seeking “qualified young women who were willing to serve one year overseas.” They had to be at least 21, have a college education, and have that “girl next door” look. They usually traveled in pairs and dressed in their signature pale blue outfits, this time they brought smiles, songs, games, and a touch of back home to the guys who were in the bush counting the days down from 365.

And the fact that these young women had the guts to brave incoming mortars, sniper and ground- to-air fire, and other wartime hardships and dangers to visit the firebases earned them the unarguable respect they deserved.



Donut Dollies at LZ Oasis, home of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, located 15 miles southwest of Pleiku, Vietnam, circa 1967.



Donut Dollies at 4th Infantry Division Camp Enari, Pleiku June 1968. LR_Kay Brownfield, Frances Stewart, Wilma Rawls, Lois Hamilton, Cathy Knutson, Vicki Kohlman. Photo Courtesy of Cathy Knutson Brown, (2nd from the right)

Being in Combat

It's not that combat is a mess; it's chaos on steroids. Everything is cranked to eleven, sound, sight, perception. Time? It's a sick joke. You're moving through molasses one second; in the next, the hours are gone in a blur. When hyper-vigilance stirs up, you turn to the tightly wound spring, making you snap at the most inconsequential sign of danger.

In all the madness you witness the spectrum of human depavity. In one minute someone is risking everything to save a pal, the next you're watching violence so brutal, you question everything itself. But it's that stark contrast that burns into your brain, reminding you just how fragile (and fleeting) life is. But the bond with your brothers and sisters in arms is also something. It's not friendship, it's survival. It's them that can keep your feet on the ground when everything else is coming up.

But coming home? That's its own battlefield. You remember that world you left, and how it felt alien to you. As self preservationists, the brain will bury the most dreadful memories

deep, and then they will claw their way back into prominence at the most random times. A car backfires, and a certain smell wafts by; bam, your body believes the fight's not over, and you're back in the thick of it.

Civilian life is a cruel joke. You're haunted by the type of decisions that leave scars no one can see, where people worry over little inconveniences. Someone who's never been there will never understand that— it can never be communicated. There is something so isolating, a loneliness that feels so much worse than any wound.

It doesn't leave a mark, no. It changes you. You become those memories, goddamned hellish and heroic memories, and you become that man. You're in a club you don't want to join with the shared reality of combat. Reintegration is brutally painful, but you learn to cope and find a reason to exist in a world that will never be the same. It's not forgetting; it's a matter of carrying the weight and moving on anyways.

Day is done ... Gone the sun ... From the lakes ... From the hills ... From the sky ... All is well. Safely rest... God is nigh. Fading light... Dims the sight ... And a star ... Gems the sky ... Gleaming bright... from afar... Drawing nigh... Falls the night. Thanks and praise ... For our days. Neath the sun ... Neath the stars... Neath the sky... As we go this we know... God is nigh

BANKER, Walter F. (99), of Rush, New York, passed away on December 27, 2024. Walter was one of our World War 2 heroes who stormed the Beach on D-Day and earned the Purple Heart. He served with C/1/12 Infantry. He is survived by his wife of 78 years, Elsie, two Daughters, one Son, ten grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren, along with other family members and countless friends. He was a member of the National chapter.

BARBEAU, Robert (Moon) (80), of Jewett City, Connecticut, passed away on August 28, 2024. Bob proudly served with both the Marine Corps and the Army in Vietnam. He served with A/c 1/8th Infantry with the 4th Infantry Division in the mid-60s. He is survived by one son, two stepsons, 2 stepdaughters, and many friends and relatives. He was a member of the A/1/8 Infantry Chapter.

BOGDANSKI, Helen M. (99) Of West Palm Beach Florida, passed away on January 25, 2021. She was a Memorial member of the National Chapter.

BRINKMAN, Larry L. (77) of Napoleon Ohio, passed away on July 6, 2025 surrounded by family. He served with B-Troop 1/10 Cavalry in Vietnam in 1968 receiving the Purple Heart. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Janice, two children and seven grandchildren. He was a member of the Ohio chapter.

CORNS, Edgar (89) of Lowell, Indiana, passed away on January 3, 2025. Edgar served with the 4th Infantry Division HQ/2/4 Regiment in Fort Carson, Colorado, and Fort Lewis, Washington, from 1957 to 1958. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Darlene, nephews, nieces, great-nieces, and great-nephews. He was a Cold War-era member of the National chapter.

EVERETT, Herbert D. (70) of Battle Creek, Michigan, passed away on September 10, 2004. No obituary was found. He served with the 4th Infantry Division with C/1/8 Infantry during the Cold War Era. He was a member of the National chapter.

GRAGG, JAMES (77), OF Harrison, Pennsylvania, passed away on October 13, 2024. Mr. Gragg chose not to have an obituary written. He served with C/2/35 Infantry in Vietnam. He was a member of the National chapter.

HARRISON, Eddie of Kokomo, Indiana, passed away December 25, 2020. No obituary was found. He served with A/1/8 infantry in Vietnam. He was a member of the A/18 Infantry chapter.

HOUCK, David "Dave" M. (79), of Caldwell, Texas passed away January 23, 2025. He served with HHC-1/8 Infantry in Vietnam. He was the longtime treasurer of the Texas / Oklahoma Chapter. He is survived by his wife Linda.

JONES, CARL (79) OF Nixa, Missouri, passed away on August 23, 2025. He served with the 4th Engineer Group in Vietnam. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Jeanie, two Sons, six Grandchildren, 12 Great-grandchildren, and one on the way. He was instrumental in keeping his 4th Engineer group family together by co-coordinating their annual mini-reunion each year. He was one of the original members of the Midwest chapter.

KAYE, JOHN (87) of Blaine, Washington, passed away on December 10, 2020. He was an officer with the 29th Field Artillery with the 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam and Germany. He had attended the US Army War College and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. At the time of his death, he was survived by his wife of 37 years, Nancy, 3 sons, 1 daughter, 12 grandchildren, and 6 Great-grandchildren. He was a member of the Redleg Chapter.

MARTINO, Vincent (89) of Port Reading, New Jersey, passed away on April 21, 2023. He served with the 4th Infantry Division, 8th Infantry in Germany, 1954-1956. He was survived by his wife, Rose, and nieces and Nephews. He was a Cold War member of the National chapter.

MATZ, William (74), of Nashville, Tennessee, passed away on February 18, 2020. He served as a Combat Medic with HHC2/22 Infantry of the 4th Infantry Division from October 1966 to September 1967. He is survived by a Son and two grandchildren, as well as numerous cousins, nephews, and nieces. He was a member of the Midwest Chapter.

MCNAMARA, Patrick (Paddy) (87), of New City, New York, passed away on August 18, 2024. Paddy served with the CSU of the 39th Infantry during the Cold War Era, 1960-1962. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Bridget, his daughter, two sons, one granddaughter, three great-grandchildren, and many friends and relatives. He was a paid-for-life member of the National Chapter.

MILLER, Gary (82) of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, passed away on August 22, 2022. He is survived by one daughter, one stepson, two grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

He served with the 1/22 Infantry in Vietnam and was a paid-for-life member of the National Chapter.

NOBLE, John A., (87) (Colonel, Ret.) of Brookeville, Maryland, passed away on August 15, 2024. John graduated from The Citadel in South Carolina and, in 1965, began a military career that lasted over 28 years, serving with the 4th Infantry Division (B/2/8 INF) in Vietnam. Funeral services were held at Arlington National Cemetery. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Carole. He was a paid-for-life member of the Carolinas chapter.

POLLOK, CW2 Ray B., (79), passed away peacefully on September 21, 2025, at Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in Mission Hills, CA. Ray served in Vietnam with D-Troop 1/10 Cavalry Shamrock Guns in 1967. He is survived by his wife Elle.

ROSE, John D., (79), of Westland, Michigan, passed away September 13, 2025. He is survived by family and friends. He will be sorely missed by those who knew him. He served in Vietnam 1965-1966 with Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division. He was a member of the National Chapter.

UPP, Raymond, (94) (CSM, Ret.) of Copperas Cove, Texas, passed away November 13, 2020. He served in the Army for 35 years and was one of only 200 soldiers awarded a 3rd Combat Infantry badge for World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, and was a member of the Infantry Hall of Fame. He served with HQ 2/35th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam and was a Paid-for-Life member of the Texas Chapter.

WALLER, Darrell (91) (LTC. Ret.) of Sequim, Washington, passed away in 2022. He served in Vietnam in 1963 and with the 4th Infantry Division in 1969. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Sheila, his children, stepchildren, 10 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and many other family members and friends. He was a paid-for-life member of the Redlegs chapter.

WORTHINGTON, Thelma (98), Pink Hill, North Carolina, passed away on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025. She was the widow of WWII Veteran John A. Worthington, L/3/22 Infantry, a charter member of the Carolinas Chapter.



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www.4thinfantry.org

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- ◆ TET COUNTEROFFENSIVE (1968)
- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE IV & V (1968)
- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE VI (1968-'69)
- ◆ TET COUNTEROFFENSIVE (1969)
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- ◆ COUNTEROFFENSIVE, PHASE VII (1970-'71)

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

- ◆ LIBERATION OF IRAQ: 03/20/2003 - 05/01/2003
- ◆ TRANSITION OF IRAQ: 05/02/2003 - 06/28/2004
- ◆ IRAQI GOVERNANCE: 06/29/2004 - 12/15/2005
- ◆ NATIONAL RESOLUTION: 12/16/2005 - 01/09/2007
- ◆ IRAQI SURGE: 1/01/2007 - 12/31/2008 (OIF 07-09)
- ◆ IRAQI SOVEREIGNTY: 01/01/2009 - 08/31/2010
- ◆ OPERATION NEW DAWN: 9/1/2010 - 12/15/2011

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- ◆ TRANSITION II: 1/2015 - TBD