

The Thoroughbred

2003 ORLANDO REUNION



COLONELS of the REGIMENT (From left to right) Robert E. Wagner (60th Col.) Frank B. Clay (51st Col.), Thomas M. Molino (67th Col.) and John C. Eberle (66th Col.). Photo by William Belcher.

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ORLANDO 2003: AS GOOD AS IT GETS

The biennial reunion of the 2nd Cavalry Association was held in Orlando, Florida, October 1-5, 2003. The reunion committee (Lonnie Davidson, John Eberle, and Phil Redman) did an outstanding job in organizing and orchestrating the numerous activities at the reunion and were commended by all attendees. Visits to the Arabian Nights and Splendid China attractions and a daylong trip to the Kennedy Space Center provided excellent recreational opportunities – Orlando must be the tourist capital of the world with an enormous number of attractions. We could have spent a month there!

On Friday, the Board of Governors met to attend to Association business, and on Saturday the General Membership meeting was held. The Financial Statement was presented and approved (see elsewhere in this issue). The Association's new Constitution, four years in the making, was adopted, bringing our association in line with the appropriate IRS regulations to give us tax exempt (and tax deductibility for contributions) status and to fulfill the incorporation requirements in the state of Florida. An election was conducted for three Board positions; Tom Molino and Tom Stewart were reelected and Glen Bank from Michigan was elected to replace Lonnie (see next page)



THE NATION'S FIRST and OLDEST UNIT-RELATED VETERAN'S ORGANIZATION



Colonels of the Regiment Don Holder (65th), Eberle (66th), Wagner (60th), and Molino (67th), with Captain Todd Clark, Commander of Troop L, recently returned from Iraq. Photo by William Belcher

ORLANDO 2003:

Davidson. Thank you Lonnie for your fine work as Vice President for Committees and for the super reunion. The Scholarship committee will publish the program for the award of the next scholarship. The final item on the agenda was a discussion of locations for the 2005 reunion. Proposed sites were discussed, specifically Branson, Missouri and Las Vegas, Nevada, but the final selection was deferred to the new Board of Governors.

Immediately following the adjournment of the General Membership meeting the new Board convened. Don Holder, Tom Molino and Bill Heidner were elected to continue in their previous positions, Tom Wilson was elected to the additional position of Secretary, and Steve Robinette was elected to be Vice President for Committees. The 2005 reunion sites were discussed but the decision was left to President Molino to make after he contacted potential reunion committee chairmen.

“Sandwiched” between a dinner on Thursday, two cocktail hours hosted by the Board, and the departing day breakfast, the main Reunion Dinner was held on Saturday night. The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and actual 60th Colonel, Major General (Ret) Robert Wagner, introduced the Association Chairman, Lieutenant General (Ret) Don Holder (65th Colonel). Don informed the assembled members and guests that both the Association and the Regiment were doing well. Of primary significance to us, he stated that “serving in the Regiment affected all of our lives, all of our lives”, and that the Association is a company of friends that provides a special bond between us.

The main speaker of the evening was Captain Todd Clark (see page 3)

NATIONAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- CHAIRMAN**
L. Don Holder
- PRESIDENT**
Thomas M Molino
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Isaac Golding

ORLANDO 2003:

the L Troop Commander, who returned with his troop in September after one year in Kuwait and Iraq. He said his missions varied, from escorting Wayne Newton to the full range of cavalry operations. CPT Clark then ran two audio-video programs. The first was a welcoming address to the Association from Colonel Bradley May, the new Regimental Commander. That was followed by a montage photos taken in Iraq, the most impressive one of which was of three attack helicopters flying over the road from Baghdad to its airport. As they approached the massive Arch of Sabers, helicopters appear on each side of the Arch and the third appears to be flying under it! These three presentations were outstanding, and were an apt ending to our formal reunion



The Youngest and Oldest at Orlando: Captain Clark and Henry Carmona.
Photo by William Belcher.



2d Regiment of Dragoons
COL BRADLEY W. MAY
72nd COLONEL OF THE
REGIMENT

Colonel Bradley W. May was born in Roswell, New Mexico and was reared in Florida and Louisiana. He graduated from Northeast Louisiana University as a Distinguished Military Graduate and holds a Master of Military Arts and Sciences Degree from the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Commissioned in Armor in 1981, his troop assignments include Tank platoon Leader, HHC Executive Officer, Battalion S4, and Tank Company Commander with the 3d Battalion, 70th Armor; Regimental Adjutant with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Regimental Executive Officer, 3d Squadron Commander, and Deputy Commander of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment. COL May assumed command of the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment 18 June 2003.

Colonel May has also served as a Small Group Instructor for the Armor Officer Advance Course, The Captains' Assignment Officer, Armor Branch and most recently was the Armor Branch Chief for two years. He is a graduate of CGSC and the Air Force War College. His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab and seven Meritorious Service Medals



2D CAVALRY ASSOCIATION VETERANS DAY 2003



DEAR FELLOW DRAGOONS:

Our 2003 Reunion conducted last month in Orlando, Florida, was a huge success. The Committee, chaired by Lonnie Davidson, put together a magnificent package complete with business meetings, hospitality events, and several exciting optional excursions. We had Troopers in attendance from every era from WWII through the current Operation Iraqi Freedom as well as five former Colonels of the Regiment. This issue of *The Thoroughbred* will focus on that great event.

Currently operating out of Baghdad, in U.S. occupied Iraq, the oldest Regiment on continuous active duty once again has been called upon by the nation to serve in hostile territory. The General Membership was briefed on current operations at our reunion's concluding dinner, which was highlighted by a sound-and-light show of the Regiment and personal remarks from its commander, Colonel Brad May. Please keep Colonel May and all the Troopers of the 2d Cavalry in your thoughts and prayers as they go about a very dangerous and complex mission. We hope each and every one of them returns home safely. In this edition, our editor has provided addresses for the deployed units. Please take a moment to add a Trooper in Iraq to your holiday card list. Such a simple act of camaraderie may make the drudgery and tension of the daily life more bearable.

I would like to take just a few lines to publicly thank Lonnie Davidson for his service to this organization and its Board. Lonnie declined re-nomination to the Board and will be missed. His chairmanship of the past reunion was a magnificent final act of duty for this superb cavalryman. That is a smooth transition to the next item on my agenda, and that is the next reunion in 2005. We have not settled on a site or date but have two finalists: Branson, Missouri, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Many members have suggested we move the reunion from early fall (October) to late spring (Later part of June). We would like to hear from you on this issue. Please drop me a note or email (dragoon@erols.com) and let me know how you feel. We want to make this event attractive to every segment and age group across our widely diverse membership population. It's not too early to plan to attend so that you might share some stories, enjoy the camaraderie, greet old buddies, and show support for our glorious Regiment and its wonderful troopers.

Toujours Pret,

Tom Molino
President and
Chief Operating Officer



Tom Wilson
Treasurer, 2nd Cavalry Association
87 Overall Phillips Road
Elizabethtown, Kentucky
42701



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

19 September 2003

SUBJECT: 2nd Cavalry Association Treasurer's Report, Year to Date

1. The Associations assets net worth on 1 January 2003 totaled \$41,369.32. As of 19 September 2003 the Associations net worth totaled \$45,033.19.

General fund cash on hand	\$21,847.41
Scholarship fund cash on hand	28,124.08
Liabilities	6,707.00
Accounts receivable	1,768.70
Net worth	\$45,033.19

2. Income for the year to date totaled \$12,147.47 from the following:

Dues	\$3,665.00
Donations	1,250.00
Reunion	6,820.70
General fund interest	233.01
Scholarship fund interest	178.76
TOTAL	\$12,147.47

3. Expenses for the year to date totaled \$2,771.75. Expenses fall into the following categories:

Reunion	\$1,832.40
Supplies	394.44
Memorial	100.00
Bank Fee	4.00
Corporate Fee	62.25
Web hosting	107.00
IRS Fee	150.00
Printing	796.21
TOTAL	\$3,446.30

4. Reunion

Cost	\$7,877.00
Paid	1,170.00
Liability	6,707.00
Accounts Receivable	1,768.70

REMEMBER YOUR REGIMENT: GYROSCOPE BACK TO GERMANY: 1957

From: Colonel John E. Brier, US Army (Retired): In July 1957 I was Acting Commander of 1st Battalion, 2 ACR, then was Executive Officer of 1st Battalion in August, and then became the Regimental S-3 from September 1957 to August 1958. During the summer of 1957 we rebuilt the Regiment, filling it with draftees. That Fall and Winter we conducted Basic and Advanced Unit Training at Fort Meade, Maryland, Camp A.P. Hill, Virginia, and Camp Stewart (Georgia?). The Regiment "Gyroed" to Germany and conducted Border Operations in early 1958. In September 1958 I became 1st Battalion Commander at Christiansen Barracks. As Bn CO I led the Battalion through its ATT (Annual Training Test) at Grafenwohr. The battalion received the highest rating for reconnaissance battalions/squadrons in VII Corps. We also passed the annual IG (Inspector General) Inspection, several CMMIs (Command Maintenance Management Inspection) and had one "Berlin Crisis" during my command.

The 1st Battalion was equipped with ¼ ton trucks (peeps), M48A1 tanks, M59 Armored Personnel Carriers that also were our Mortar Squad vehicles, one L-5 fixed wing airplane and an H-13 two-seat helicopter. The Howitzer Company was equipped with self-propelled 105mm cannons, model M109 ?).



Photos by Colonel Brier: M48A1 Tank on the left (then Major Brier front left and Captain Wallace Nutting, CO, Company A far right). M59 Personnel Carrier on the right.

From: Vernon E. Faris: I served in the Regiment from September 1950 to November 1960, being promoted from PFC through SFC. Activities included Border patrols, tank gunnery, and Company/Battalion, Squadron annual tests for 10 years in tank and scout sections in 3rd Squadron. (Trooper Faris saw first-hand the evolution of weapons and vehicles over this period of time, such as the M-24 tank with 75mm gun to the M-41 with 76mm gun and probably then to the M-48 series tanks with its 90mm gun. The same evolution occurred with the Infantry and Mortar Carriers and with individual and crew-served weapons such as the .30 cal BAR, the .30 cal water-cooled machinegun and the .30 caliber air-cooled machinegun.)

SEND A COMMANDER/TROOPER A LETTER OR CHRISTMAS CARD

During the First Gulf War Deployment, members of the Association were encouraged to send a letter or Valentine's Day Card to members of the Regiment. It is only appropriate that we do the same now that the Regiment is once again in Harm's Way. Here are the Zip Codes for the units currently serving in Iraq. Please write to Commander/Any Trooper, Squadron/Troop/Company/Battery. APO AE 09322-xxxx.

Regimental Commander or All Regimental Staff/RGT HHT: APO AE 09322-2401

1 st Sqdn or Sqdn Staff/Sqdn HHT: 09322-2368	2 nd Sqdn or Sqdn Staff/Sqdn HHT: 09322-2375
A Troop: 09322-2369	E Troop: 09322-2376
B Troop: 09322-2370	F Troop: 09322-2377
C Troop: 09322-2371	G Troop: 09322-2378
D Company: 09322-2372	H Company: 09322-2379
How Battery: 09322-2373	How Battery: 09322-2380
ADA Battery: 09322-2374	84 th Engr Company: 09322-2381

3 rd Sqdn or Sqdn Staff/HHT: 09322-2382	4 th Sqdn or Sqdn Staff/Sqdn HHT: 09322-2389
I Troop: 09322-2383	N Troop: 09322-2390
K Troop: 09322-2384	O Troop: 09322-2391
M Company: 09322-2386	P Troop: 09322-2392
How Battery: 09322-2387	R Troop: 09322-2393
502 nd MI Company: 09322-2388	S Troop: 09322-2394
	87 th Chem Company: 09322-2395

Regimental Support Sqdn or Sqdn Staff/Sqdn HHT: 09322-2396

Maint Troop: 09322-2397

Med Troop: 09322-2398

S&T Troop: 09322-2399

AVIM Troop: 09322-2400

TAPS

Sam Sortino (August 3, 2003). Sam served in H&S Troop, 42nd Sqdn in WW II, and served on the Association's Board of Governors for 24 years, for many of which he was the Treasurer.

Art Weber (August 16, 2003) Life Member of the Association.

While Serving in the Regiment in Iraq:

Spc Zeferino E. Colunga, 4th Sqdn, 2nd ACR

Spc Levi B Kinchen, 2nd ACR

SSG Christopher W. Swisher, E Troop, 2/2 ACR KIA October 10, 2003.

PFC Sean A Silva, E Troop, 2/2 ACR KIA October 10, 2003.

2nd ACR RAID IN IRAQ SUCCESSFUL DUE TO TRAINING

By 2nd Lt. JASON KENNICKELL Ghost Troop, 2nd ACR

Many demands are placed on the shoulders of the soldiers of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment currently serving in Baghdad, Iraq, ranging from local politics to military operations-both designed to promote stability and bring justice to a city suffering the aftershocks of war. Daily tasks follow a fluid training schedule that can change by the hour. On Sept. 19, the flexibility of the schedule and platoon were again tested. As with most missions, much of what is demanded depends on the task and the time allotted for preparation. By the nature of the environment soldiers have become adept at using limited time effectively. Close quarters combat rehearsals are essential for the evening's mission: a raid at a suspected candy factory, located in the tightly packed industrial sector of Jamilia, Baghdad, producing counterfeit Iraqi dinars. Unfortunately, the nature of rehearsing for such a mission also means accidents can happen that could throw off the balance within the platoon's leadership and confidence.

After only two hours of CQC rehearsals, the most experienced section sergeant, and leader of one of the breaching teams, suffered a knee injury. This was the opportunity for a younger NCO to prove he had the skill and courage to lead a breach team. By the time rehearsals were completed, the troops had the confidence and NCO leadership needed to execute the mission. Before conducting any mission, thorough planning is vital. Yielding to the experience of the platoon sergeant and other NCOs, every aspect of the evening's raid was examined and contingency preparation began. Such planning is invaluable when facing unknown obstacles; however, it is not only how you plan for a mission but also how you react to unforeseen situations.

After planning and coordination,

soldiers were prepared to carry out the raid. Upon reaching the objective, two breaching teams, key leaders and medical support were dismounted in the quiet of the night. The first obstacle: two steel doors locked from the outside. Preparation had been made for using C4 explosives, a picket pounder, a sledgehammer or bolt cutters to gain entry into the factory. After cutting the lock another unexpected obstacle was faced: the door had an unseen lock on the inside. The gate would not open and soldier presence was known. Before two Iraqi factory workers could escape via the roof, one of the young NCOs climbed the wall on an adjacent building and had them under gunpoint. Within seconds, one of the breaching teams climbed up and over with the other team stacked by the locked gate. Once the internal lock was removed, the gate opened and the rush began.

Speed and shock are essential to CQC, but by the time soldiers breached the locks shock was lost. Fast, furious, and under control, the two teams cleared the small factory within minutes. The excitement of the moment overwhelmed the three Iraqis present in the factory. Satisfaction was increased tenfold when the teams gazed at the stacks of half-finished Iraqi dinars. The printing press was still warm, the ink still drying, and that only amplified the feeling of success. More important, success was measured by the fact that no harm came to soldiers and the mission was completed in a professional manner.

Being a 2nd ACR soldier has been a privilege. The quality of leadership displayed by the NCO Corps, and the Officer Corps is of the highest standard. This has only been a glimpse of life in Baghdad; but it is a small testament to the soldiers of 2nd Squadron, 2nd ACR, and the regiment as a whole.

THE SECOND CAVALRY ASSOCIATION WANTS TO HELP YOU!



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

The Association is pleased to announce that sufficient funds are available in the Scholarship Trust to provide a minimum of one \$500.00 scholarship for the 2004-2005 school year.

PURPOSE: To provide funds to the selected recipient to attend any associate or bachelor degree producing school

ELIGIBILITY: Any active duty soldier in the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, their family members, and children or grandchildren of 2nd Cavalry Association members are eligible to complete for this scholarship. Applicants can be High School Seniors, members of the Regiment who will attend an appropriate school next year, or anyone meeting the eligibility criterion who is currently enrolled in an appropriate school.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Applicants should write a letter of consideration to:

2nd Cav Association
ATTN:Scholarship Committee
PO Box 3186
Fort Polk, LA 71459-0186

The letter should include the applicant's name, address, telephone number, and how he/she meets the eligibility requirements. The applicant must also submit a typed three page, double-spaced essay, using standard font size and style, explaining why he/she would benefit from receiving the scholarship. These documents are due by May 1, 2004.

EVALUATION AND AWARD: All applications will be independently and blindly evaluated by the Association's Scholarship Committee. The winner(s) will be announced by July 1, 2004. The scholarship funds will be deposited with the institution prior to the start of the academic year.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Second Cavalry Association

Please fill ALL blanks applicable to you; print carefully and make no abbreviations.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP Code _____

Telephone # _____

Dates of **ACTIVE** service in the armed forces: _____

2nd ACR Unit & dates assigned: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Do not send the Thoroughbred to me by e-mail.

- Two year membership @ \$25/\$20 for A.D. Life membership @ \$150
- Three year membership @ \$35 Five year membership @ \$50
- Family life membership @ \$75; Check one: my late father husband was a Second Cavalryman:

_____ _____ _____
 (His Name) (His unit) (His Service Dates)

My latest 2d Cavalry Regimental service was prior to 7 December 1941, so I am eligible for a free two (2) year membership or renewal.

Dates of such service: _____ ; my 2d CAV Unit: _____

Contributions or gifts to the 2nd Cavalry Association are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal tax purposes.

DONATIONS: I also enclose \$ _____ earmarked for:

- General Fund (Unencumbered fund for normal operating expenses)
- Reunion Fund (Costs for next biennial membership meeting);
- Scholarship Fund (Annual Grants to qualified regimental or association offspring;
- Other. _____

Make checks **payable to 2d Cavalry Association** and mail to:

2d Cavalry Association Inc.
ATTN: Isaac Golding
PO Box 3186
Fort Polk Louisiana 71459

E-Mail address: webmaster@secondcavalry.com

2nd Cavalry Memorabilia From the Regimental Store

Gray Hanes Cotton T-shirt with logo on left front, sizes M, L, XL	12.00
Black Hanes Cotton T-shirt with logo on left front, on the back	
US 2d Dragoons guidon	15.00
Cotton Polo shirts no pockets Red, White, Blue, Green, sizes S, M, L, XL	20.00
Baseball hat tan with crest	15.00
Stetson Carson Hat, 4x beaver 3 1/2" brim	120.00
Stetson Cavalry Hat, 4x beaver 3" brim	100.00
Resistol Futurity Hat, 4x beaver 4" brim	100.00
Yellow, red, blue hat cords	6.00
Silver spurs with straps	10.00
Silver spurs with rowel and straps	18.00
Sabers 21"	21.00
41"	32.00
Zippo lighters with crest flat black or silver	20.00
Sterling Silver Spur earrings	12.00
Sterling Silver Spur Charm	7.00
Lapel Pin with crest	3.00
Dog Tag Key chain with crest	5.00
Spur with rowel key chain	7.00
Plastic coffee cup with crest red or white	5.00
Steel insulated coffee cup with crest	10.00
Books	
From Everglade to Canyon w/ 2d US Cav	20.00
100 yrs with the 2d Cav	30.00
The Fort in Fort Worth	20.00
Sheridan in the Shenandoah	8.00
Leadership The Warrior's Art	15.00

ORDER FROM:

Arnett Seeker
 6366-A Kucinski St
 Ft Polk, LA 71459
seeker.Arnett@polk.army.mil or arnettseek@aol.com

EDITOR'S BOX: As a result of the Orlando General Membership and Board of Governors' meetings, the Association has a New Constitution and IRS status that allows contributions to the Association to be tax deductible. If you are receiving this newsletter by mail and like the colored version as opposed to all black and white, why not contribute a few dollars so we can try to print it all in color?

Special thanks to SFC Arnett Seeker who still manages our Memorabilia sales even though he has more additional duties while the Regiment is in Iraq.

Please keep sending me your recollections of your service in the Regiment and any other comments you have on the Thoroughbred. Tom Stewart (253)845-8009, 10708 149th St Ct E, Puyallup, WA 98374, stewart2cav@worldnet.att.net.

WEBSITE FOR THE REGIMENT: www.jrtc-polk.army.mil/2acr/

WEBSITE FOR THE ASSOCIATION: www.secondcavalry.com

**WHAT YOU SHOULD DO WHEN YOU RECEIVE THIS
ISSUE OF THE *THOROUGHbred*:**

Write a card or letter to a member of the Regiment expressing your support and thanks for the job they are performing in Iraq.

Send President Molino suggestions on where and when the next reunion should be held.

Make a copy of this *Thoroughbred* and give to a fellow dragoon who is not yet a member of the Association and encourage him/her to apply for membership.

Send the Editor your memories or anecdotes about your service in the Regiment.

Contact the Association President, Tom Molino, to volunteer your Time, Talent, or Treasure.



2nd Cavalry Association
PO Box 3186
Fort Polk, LA 71459-0186