



JUMPING MUSTANG BUGLE

1ST Battalion 8th Cavalry

1965 Airborne - Air Assault - Air Mobile 1971

Jumping Mustang Chapter of the 1st Cavalry Division



**8th Cavalry
Regiment**

Volume Number 19

June 2001

Issue Number 2

The object of this chapter is to preserve in patriotic reverence the memory of those who served in the **JUMPING MUSTANG BATTALION** of the First Cavalry Division and it's associates of the Vietnam War from 1965 - 1971; to support and enhance the fame and glory of the Battalion; to maintain and strengthen the bonds of comradeship which distinguished the men of the Battalion; to provide for the gathering and dissemination of information concerning these men; to provide for the patriotic assembly in local and national reunions, and to perpetuate the "**JUMPING MUSTANGS Drive On All The Way**" spirit as to heritage and tradition for future generations. Last but not the least, "**JUMPING MUSTANGS**" gather each year in reunion to participate in a memorial to those who have died and to the one man still listed as missing in action.

Without distinction as to creed or heritage we offer our united prayers in their behalf to our maker. We pray that their sacrifice may not have been in vain. We grieve for their loss as we would for our own sons and brothers.

James Knafel
5510 E 500 South
Columbia City, Indiana 46725-9263

JUMPING MUSTANG BUGLE

1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division

June, 2001



JUMPING MUSTANG 6

All thought should be towards our Sixteenth Reunion in Spokane, 18-22 July. The last issue of the BUGLE provides all of the details, including pay sheet to send in to Jim Knafel, our Treasurer with your money and registration. Deadline for Registration is 30 June. Please do so now and book your hotel directly with the hotel now. Hotel Dead-line is June 16. The last page of the Bugle has the layout of Spokane. SO, PLAN NOW TO ATTEND.

The Home Page on the internet at <http://sites.netscape.net/jumpingmustangs/homepage> has similar information.

You may print out the registration form and sent in by snail mail to Jim Knafel.

Our hosts, RANDY and YVONNE HOWARD, and BOB and CHARLOTTE HAMBLIN, promise a great Reunion, lots of fellowship, sightseeing and just plain good time.

The Executive Board approved the revised By Laws. Copies were mailed to all 276 Active Members. Only three were returned due to defective address.

We shall vote on acceptance of the By Laws at the Reunion. You must be there to vote and you must be an active member, that is you have paid your yearly donation of \$10.00 and are current.

The Jumping Mustang Association continues to grow with new members located and joining, thanks to the efforts of Stan Buckmaster and many others.

The Jumping Mustang Internet is growing with over 375 members. If you do not receive a weekly Up Date, you may not have sent me your correct address or a change. There are numerous rejections for "user unknown".

The Jumping Mustang Home Page is growing great guns. There were 999 hits the month of April alone. Sponsors, keep up the good work. All of you, please contribute pictures, ideas, news, etc to the sponsors of your Company Home Page. If in doubt send to me, I shall pass on. Keep Chargin..

See you at the Reunion.

Jumping Mustang 6

REUNION GOLF GAME:

Jesse Lopez needs to hear from our golfers so he can get the golf game put together. You can reach him at 972-264-8182.

REUNION INFO:

The 16th annual reunion is almost here. Be sure to make your reservations as soon as possible in order to get the Mustang rate, including breakfast with each night's stay. The hotel reservation cut off is June 16, 2001.

Be sure to check out making connections with Southwest airlines. For discount use the ID code-A8092.

Arrangements have also been made for a discount with Avis Car Rental using the code - J659429.

If we can answer any questions contact either: Randy & Yvonne Howard 509-535-7470, e-mail 11b4prh@home.com or Bob & Charlotte Hamblen 208-773-4466, e-mail rhamblen@hotmail.com.

TOP'S MAIL CALL

Heard from Plummer and Mozey. Seems they are well. Dave Wright, Mary, Jeane and I had dinner together last week in the Mall at Fayetteville. They both seemed to be fine and looking good. Gerry Plummer wrote from Maryland to say he agrees with me on the making of the movie that is being planned: "We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young." I don't agree with the making of that movie since it was a serious loss of men of the Cavalry and shouldn't be shown. I am sure they will present it as a heroic movie but the truth will not be shown. Anyone that was there knows the real truth about that battle. It was a failure of leadership and shouldn't be advertised or shown in a movie. This is my opinion and mine only. Others may see it different but I was with the policing of the battlefield and saw what happened. It was a disgrace in my way of understanding. If you were there to see those men that we took out of the field after the battle was over, you too would agree that no movie should be made about that battle. I have written Mel Gibson to let him know about the investigation after the battle where it was called "A Massacre" by people who investigated the after-effects of that battle.

Letter from Col. Mertel with an updating of the by-laws. Heard from Gerry Plummer again and he sent me a reading list again. He keeps me updated on what is going on in D.C. and sends many articles with news that is very interesting. Received a happy birthday card from Gerry Plummer and Betty. Also one from Bill Mozey. Received a letter from my Congressman and Senator about the Bill S 170 which will give all of the retired disabled veterans their disability pay along with their retirement pay if passed by the Senate and signed by the President. I have been writing to my Congressman and Senator now for over 15 years about that bill along with the bill that will give spouses of retired veterans their social security along with their SBP that we payed for. At present if a retiree is paying SBP (Survivor Benefit

Plan) and he dies, the spouse will get the SBP, but will have her SOCIAL SECURITY PAY STOPPED. A bill that would prevent this is also being looked at in the White House to prevent this offset. What really hurts the veteran is that the government workers that retire from their job get their disability pay along with their retirement pay where the veteran is deprived of his disability pay. He gets only tax relief for the disability pay at present.

A good birthday present from my boys who paid my way down to Port Aransas, Texas for four days. We had a place on the beach and enjoyed the ocean and swam in the salt waters of South Port Aransas beaches. Only thing that was wrong was the sea food got to us and all had some stomach problems after returning home. In all it was a wonderful 4 days and I enjoyed it.

Letter from Roy Martin concerned with the state of our services today. As old retirees we should get involved in the conditions of our military and try to do something about improving it as we can have influence on our youth who are joining the services in today's world. Seems that our leaders of today just don't know what is needed for the morale of the services and with the softened needs of the feminists, we will continue to have problems as time goes on.

Not many calls from Mustangs as I have been back and forth to my farm and haven't been close to the phone.

TOP

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL DIRECTORY OF NAMES

If anyone wants this official publication, which provides a complete listing of the names on the Memorial Wall, it can be ordered at the following address: **Lincoln Memorial Gift Shop, 3055 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA. 22031.**

The cost is \$31.00 plus \$8.65 shipping and handling, for a total of \$39.65. **Bill Wilson**

JUST A COMMON SOLDIER

He was getting old and paunchy, and his hair was falling fast,

And he sat around the Legion telling stories of his past.

Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done.

In his exploits with his buddies - they were heroes, every one.

And though sometimes to his neighbors, his tales became a joke.

All his Legion buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer, for old Bill has passed away.

And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He was just a common soldier, and his ranks are growing thin.

But his presence should remind us as we may need his likes again.

For when countries are in conflict, then we find the soldier's part

Is to clean up all the troubles that others often start.

If we cannot give him honor, while he's here to hear the praise.

Then at least let's give him homage, at the ending of his days.

Perhaps a simple notice in a paper that would say,

"Our Country is in mourning, 'cause a Soldier passed away."

2001 REUNION T-SHIRTS

Mike Price has 2001 Reunion T-shirts available for sale now. 100% cotton preshrunk...med, lg, xl & xxl. Full embroidered left chest. Colors - Olive and Storm Gray. Olive/od-black lettering. Storm Gray/in color..CIB and CAV patch. \$20 includes shipping and handling. Make checks to Jumping Mustangs. Contact Mike Price at mp11b40@pacbel.net or call (949) 722-3546.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

I Chronicles 4: 9-10

Verse 9 "Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. and his mother called his name Jabez. (*interpreted as he will cause pain*), saying "Because I bore him in pain."

Verse 10 "And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, 'Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and

enlarge my territory (*or border*). that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!"

So God granted him what he requested. "When you or I pray this specific prayer several times through-out the day, our hearts will yearn not to bring pain to our Lord, to those in authority, to our fellow comrades in arms, to our neighbors, to our families and to ourselves!

The Scripture shows us that God is not a respecter of persons. His love towards each of us is not influenced by anyone's social status, prestige, education, cultural heritage, looks or behaviors. The Lord views each of us as His unique creation whom He adores. His goodness can never be earned nor driven away.

So, it is incumbent on each of us to follow the Lord's example boldly by accepting one another just as we are. By deliberately driving out the spirit of judgment, we are totally free to care for those around us. Furthermore, divisiveness melts away along with hurt feelings, pent up anger or any barriers to cooperation. Friendships blossom, programs flourish, and everything becomes hunky dory. Now, that's extraordinary indeed!!

With a warm hug and a gentle thought -

ROGER S. TALMADGE

DEADLINE FOR BUGLE ARTICLES

is August 31, 2001. Mail or email (no attachments, please) any articles for the next Bugle to Bill Hawkinberry at hawki@cvn.net or 52 Ski Run Trail, Fairfield, PA 17320.

APOLOGY TO CHINA

I'm sorry, China.

I'm sorry so many Americans had to die to free your country from the oppressive Japanese during World War II.

I'm sorry the United States was the only reason the Soviet Union dared not attack your country for fear of an American response.

I'm sorry it was the United States who insisted China be granted a seat on the United Nations Security Council when the UN was formed.

I'm sorry for the massive food supplies sent to aide your people when they were starving.

I'm sorry that you are so scared of your own people that you stifle their freedom of speech. That you imprison those who disagree and kill those who dare protest. That you shield the truth out of fear.

Most of all, I am sorry for my own American Government officials who were blinded by greed and dollar signs. Yes, they believed that filling our stores and markets with your products would somehow change your repressive society. Alone, I will make little difference.

Together, all Americans who vow not to purchase any more "Made in China" products will make a huge difference.

ROY MARTIN/GLENN SHEATHELM

ADDRESS CHANGE?

Has your snail mail or email address changed? If so, be sure to notify Kevin Mynderup at 1054 Robin Ave, Hanford, CA 93230-5758. He continues to maintain the data base for all Jumping Mustangs.

MEN ARE PROUD OF THEMSELVES HERE'S WHY:

- We know a lot of stuff about tanks.
- A five-day trip requires only one suitcase.
- We can open all our own jars.
- We can go to the bathroom without a support group.
- We don't have to learn to spell a new last name.
- We can leave a motel bed unmade.
- We get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness.
- Wedding plans take care of themselves.
- Our underwear is \$10 a three-pack.
- If you are 34 and single, no one notices.
- Everything on our faces stays the original color.
- Three pair of shoes are more than enough.
- We don't have to clean the house if the meter reader is coming.

Same work - more pay.

If another guy shows up at a party in the same outfit, you just might become lifelong friends.

My pals will never trap me with : "so, notice anything different?"

We are not expected to know the names of more than five colors.

We almost never have a "strap problem" in public.

We are totally unable to see wrinkles in our clothes.

The same hairstyle lasts for years - maybe decades. Our belly usually hides our big hips.

One wallet, one pair of shoes, one color, all seasons.

We can do our nails with a pocketknife.

Anonymous

BUGLE MAILING LABELS

Is the mailing label on your current Bugle correct? Because of some system differences, it was necessary to retype all the labels. If there is an error, please advise Bill Hawkinberry at (717) 642-9345 or hawki@cvn.net.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

William Wilson, Robert Carriger, James Zack, Phillip Simmons, Jerry Bellerose, Richard Pharney, Bob Hargrove, Alvie Ashcraft, Johnnie Hairel, James Lake, Richard Sneden, Ray Hoggard, Lawrence Blanton, Robert Biggar, Ronald Barrett, Craig Meilke, Arthur Cassie, Raymond Akers, Terry Heintzman, Sherman Higginbottom, and last but not least, associate member Ellis Fitzwater who served with Gerry Plummer in the Golden Knights.

TREASURER'S NOTES

Have received payment from the following members for the Reunion in Spokane: Gerry Plummer, Pappy Loughran, Mike McDougall, James Knafel, Bill Jones, Bob Lynch, Don Gibson, David Bowman, Joe Griffin, Bill McCarron, David McCallum, Randy Howard, Bill Hawkinberry, Charles Schell, Kevan Mynderup, Harry Heater, Brad Moss, George Goswick, Ron Hall, Robert

Biggar, Phil Simmons, Frank Vavrek, Bob Hamblen, Maurice Waters, Mike Price, Jim Winandy, Jon Williams & Charles Osborne.

Please don't send any more pay sheets after July 4th, 2001, as I am leaving early for the reunion. Bring it with you, see you there!

JIM KNAFEL

MORE TRUTH THAN FICTION

The US Standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number. Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and the US railroads were built by English expatriates. Why did the English people build them like that? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used. Why did "they" use that gauge then? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing. Okay! Why did the wagons use that odd spacing? Well, if they tried to use any other spacing the wagons would break on some of the old, long distance roads, because that's the spacing of the old wheel ruts. So who built these old rutted roads?

The first long distance roads in Europe were built by Imperial Rome for the benefit of their legions. The roads have been used ever since. And the ruts? The initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagons, were first made by Roman war chariots. Since the chariots were made for or by Imperial Rome they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. Thus, we have the answer to the original questions. The United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches derives from the original specification for an Imperial Roman Army war chariot. Specs and Bureaucracies live forever.

So, the next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horse's ass came up with it, you

may be exactly right. Because the Imperial Roman chariots were made to be just wide enough to accommodate the backends of two war horses.

When we see a Space Shuttle sitting on the launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are the solid rocket boosters, or SRBs. The SRBs are made by Thiokol at a factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs might have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line to the factory runs through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than a railroad track, and the railroad track is about as wide as two horse's behinds. So a major design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined by the width of a horse's ass!

REUNION BOUND?

NO RESERVATIONS?

THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL

WILL ONLY PROVIDE

THE SPECIAL

JUMPING MUSTANGS

RATE IF YOU

MAKE

RESERVATIONS

BEFORE

JUNE 16TH

DO IT NOW!!!

JUMPING MUSTANGS' 16th REUNION

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

JULY 18, 2001 - JULY 22, 2001

PAY SHEET

Sign up now for the **SIXTEENTH ANNUAL JUMPING MUSTANGS' REUNION** to be held in Spokane, Washington from July 18-July 22, 2001. Deadline for pre-registration is **JUNE 30, 2001**. Send registration fees and names of your party to:

James Knafel, 5510 E. 500 South, Columbia City, IN 46725.

For hotel reservations Call the Double Tree Hotel at 1-800-222-8733 or 509-924-9000. Children 17 and under stay free. Rates plus 10.1% tax for:

Single or Double Occupancy	\$ 79.00
Triple Occupancy	89.00
Premium or Quad Occupancy	99.00

Room rate includes buffet breakfast for up to 2 Adults for each night stay. Deadline for hotel reservations is June 16, 2001. Make sure you identify yourself as a Jumping Mustang to receive the special rate.

Early registration simplifies the efforts of your Hosts and ensures that enough meals are ordered and ample space is available for our functions. Please register as early as possible to let us know you are coming and how many will be attending the Reunion.

Dues for 2001-2002 Year \$ 10.00 (Members Only)			\$ _____
Reunion Book at \$ 15.00 each	No. Ordered _____		\$ _____
Icebreaker Dinner Thursday Night			
Number of Adults _____	@ \$ 25.00		\$ _____
Youth (6 to 11) _____	@ \$ 12.50		\$ _____
Children (5 and under) _____	No Charge		
Dinner Dance Friday Night			
Number of Adults _____	@ \$ 35.00		\$ _____
Youth (6 to 11) _____	@ \$ 17.50		\$ _____
Children (5 and under) _____	No Charge		
Memorial Dinner Saturday Night			
Number of Adults _____	@ \$ 35.00		\$ _____
Youth (6 to 11) _____	@ \$ 17.50		\$ _____
Children (5 and under) _____	No Charge		
Prayer Breakfast Sunday	No Charge		
	Total		\$ _____

Make check payable to **Jumping Mustangs** and send check with this form to the Treasurer, **Jim Knafel, 5510 East 500 South, Columbia City, IN 46725.**

Name of Member _____ Guests _____

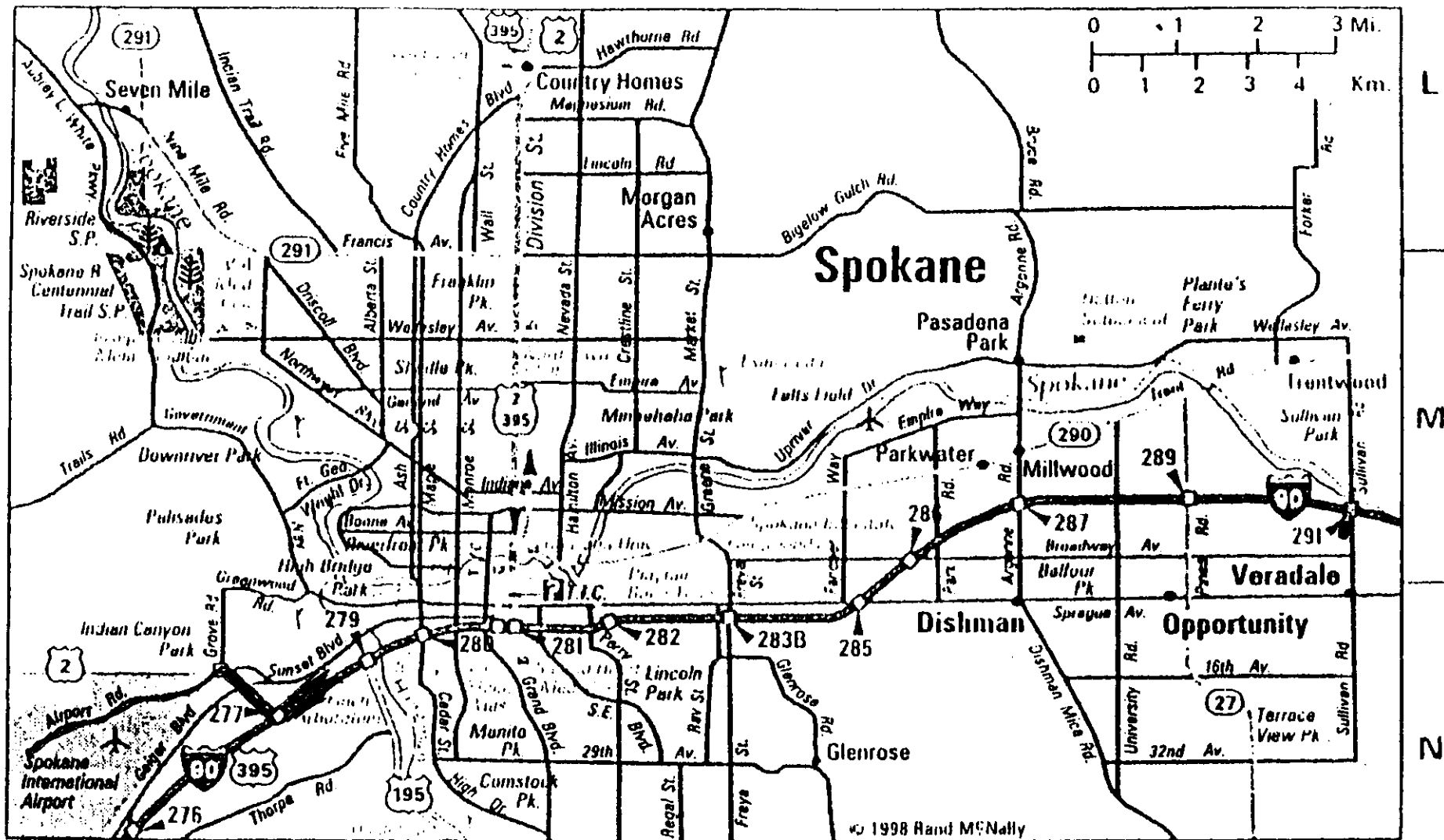
Names of Youth attending _____

Those wishing to play golf need to contact Jesse Lopez at 972-264-8182 as soon as possible.

For additional information contact:

Randy & Yvonne Howard at 509-535-7470, e-mail 11b4prh@home.com or

Bob & Charlotte Hamblen 208-773-4466, e-mail rchamblen@hotmail.com.



The Spokane International Airport is 17.9 miles from the DoubleTree Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan Road. Free shuttle service is provided by the hotel. If you are driving from the airport, follow exit signs out of the airport parking lot. Follow Airport Road to I-90 EAST.

EAST BOUND on I-90, take **Sullivan Road Exit 291** off I-90. At the stoplight, take a right and get into the left lane immediately. The hotel is immediately on the left.

WEST BOUND into Spokane on I-90, take **Sullivan Road Exit 291**. AT the stoplight, take a left. Stay in the left lane and go back over the freeway. The hotel is immediately on the left.