

Bravo Regulars



B Company 3/22



Vietnam Service

www.bravoregulars.com

December, 2020



Page 2—President's Message
Page 3—Reunion Update
Page 4—Reunion Itinerary
Page 5—Registration Form
Page 6—Registered Attendees
Association Business
Page 7—Editor's Notes
Page 8—Bulletin Board
Page 9—Bulletin Board
Page 10—Bulletin Board



President's Message

Art Gormley
President
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Greetings Bravo Brothers,

I hope you found Veterans Day to be a great source of pride. Being in the middle of a pandemic or any other serious challenge should never diminish your sense of personal satisfaction for having served the nation.

Speaking personally, it was a very different Veterans Day this year. Our local annual parade amounted to a drive-by. Here in the New York metro area, state and local officials have limited how many may attend a religious service or the number of family members we can host for Thanksgiving dinner. It is unlikely our Christmas celebration will be much different. Once the pandemic passes, let's pray the politicians return America to one we can all still recognize.

On a much more optimistic note, let's all look forward to 2021 and seeing one another at our June 9-12 reunion in Goldsboro, NC. Thanks to all our Bravo brothers who allowed their registration for our postponed reunion to roll over into 2021. We appreciate your generosity and warmly commend your confidence in the future.

For those of you who have not yet registered for Goldsboro, this newsletter includes a 2021 Registration Form. Our host, Brother Bob Best, has provided information about hotel accommodations and an outline of what he has in store for us in Goldsboro. Knowing how many guests to expect is an important part of planning activities and events. So please let me urge all of you to register for Goldsboro without delay. For many of us who have been reluctant to travel for health reasons, this may be one of first real vacations we get to take in 2021.

I also wish to thank Pam Adams, who along with husband Jim, hosted our highly successful and enjoyable 2018 reunion in Branson, MO. Pam has agreed to help Bob Best organize our 2021 get-together. I'm confident Pam's advice and assistance will help Bob make Goldsboro 2021 a great success.

As you know, we have reinstated annual dues of \$35 as a precautionary measure ahead of the reunion. Always remember that no member will be penalized for non-payment of dues. Times are difficult, and if dues pose a financial hardship, please take care of your family's needs first.

Do your best to enjoy the coming Christmas Holiday Season safely with family and friends. Don't let the pandemic prevent you from sharing the Season's generous spirit with loved ones and strangers alike. Be mindful too of those less fortunate. Christmas is the season of giving and that is the spirit that puts the joy in Christmas.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Art Gormley', written in a cursive style.



Reunion Update

Robert Best
Reunion Host
(919) 631-0179
solveaprob@aol.com

As we hustle and bustle making plans for Christmas, also please make plans to attend the June 9-12, 2021 Bravo Regulars Reunion in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Along with this article is the Registration Form for the reunion. Pam Adams has been helping with this reunion to make sure that every hat, shirt and meal, as well as a name tag is taken care of. Please send your registration form and money to Pam. Pam and I have been working closely organizing Bravo Reunion 2021 and we are looking forward to seeing you, one and all.

We are going to have professional recording of discussion groups covering all major battles and other experiences in-country. We have added a line on the Registration Form to list the battle or battles that you participated in, so we are sure to have a seat for all when recording. This is part of our nation's history and these accounts need to be contributed.

There has been some interest in a golf outing. Please note on the registration form if you would be interested in a golf outing one afternoon and I will take care of the scheduling. We have two very nice golf courses in Goldsboro for you to play.

We are also looking into local fishing. If I remember correctly, we had some fisherman attend the reunion in Branson. If anyone is interested in fishing, please let myself or Pam know, and we will make sure to find you water to fish.

Your hotel reservations need to be made by April 1, 2021. If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to contact me. The Holiday Inn Express and Suites phone number is 1-919-778-0007 for Reservations. Please be sure to use **Code BRC** when calling to ensure the Bravo Rate.

We are asking that your Registration Form with Registration Fee of \$100.00 per person be sent to Pam by May 1, 2021 to make sure that you have hats, shirts, and a name tag. There will be no one left behind should this deadline slip by.

Please consider donating a basket for the raffle. A quilt will be available for raffle, provided by Lisa Young.

I have already received phone calls from Bravo Brothers who will be attending this reunion. The City of Goldsboro is stirring and excited that we will be coming to their city and I receive daily the question: "How Can I Help?".

Please make your hotel reservations and send your registration form with a check to Pam Adams (17278 Highway HH, Mexico, Missouri 65265) as we continue to make plans for your visit to Goldsboro.

Bob

Bravo Regulars

ITINERARY

June 9, 2021 (Wednesday)	Registration and accepting raffle items in Hospitality Room all day 5:00 p.m. – Reunion welcome with drinks and snacks
June 10, 2021 (Thursday)	Hotel breakfast included in room fee Morning is open for your own fun Lunch Provided Afternoon Plans Discussion of key Bravo battles, videotaped at hotel 6:00 p.m. – Dinner Provided Evening Fellowship
June 11, 2021 (Friday)	Hotel breakfast included in room fee Morning is open for your own fun Lunch Provided Afternoon Plans Discussion of key Bravo battles, videotaped at hotel Golf available for those that sign up 6:00 p.m. – Dinner Provided Evening Fellowship
June 12, 2021 (Saturday)	Hotel breakfast included in room fee Morning is open for your own fun Lunch – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Hospitality Room 1:00 p.m. – Board Meeting followed by General Meeting Memorial Service following meetings Group pictures to follow Memorial Service Drawing for raffle baskets, quilt and 50/50 6:00 p.m. – Dinner Provided Entertainment following dinner
June 13, 2021 (Sunday)	Hotel breakfast included in room fee Good-byes before departure

BRAVO REGULAR 2021 REUNION**JUNE 9-12, 2021****GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA****REGISTRATION FORM AND NEEDED INFORMATION**

Registration Fee: \$100.00 per Person

Full Name: _____

Guest/Spouse Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Phone Number: _____ Number Guest: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Vietnam Unit: _____

Date of Service: _____

Battle(s) Participated In: _____

Arrival Date Reunion: _____ Depart Reunion: _____

Interested in Golf Outing: _____ Number of Persons: _____

Email Address: _____ :

REUNION Shirts: \$25.00 each SIZE: S M L XL XXL XXXL (Circle Size) Number ordered: _____

REUNION Hats: \$15.00 Number ordered: _____

Lodging information: HOLIDAY EXPRESS and SUITES: KING BED ROOM: \$92.00 PLUS TAX AND QUEEN BED ROOM \$102.00 PLUS TAX per/room per/night, QUEEN SUITES \$112.00 PLUS TAX per/room/per/ night.**Phone number 919-778-0007. Please use Code BRC when making reservations for group rate.**Room Reservation need to be made by April 1, 2021 to make sure can receive Bravo Reunion Room Rate**Please complete this form, make checks payable to Bravo Reunion 2021 and mail to: Pam Adams 17278 HWY HH, Mexico, Missouri 65265. By May 1, 2021.**Information can also be emailed to pammyanny@msn.com. Pam's cell phone: 573-253-597

Host Contact Phone Number: Bob Best: 919-631-0179

REGISTERED BRAVO ATTENDEES SO FAR

Eugene (Slim) Trame and wife Theresa (Tess)
 Paul E. Dell, Jr.
 James A. Howton and wife Thelma
 Robert (Sonny) Rasmussen and wife Joanne
 Ted Silbereis and wife Judi
 Kenneth Paul Neveaux and wife Sue
 William E. (Bill) Turnpaugh and wife Laura
 Dee Anderson and wife Cheryl
 Robert (Bob) Garland
 Billy Brown with guests Ralph and Marsha
 Gordon Garnett and guest Tracy Orkins
 Clifford Weese and wife Bette

Paul F. Angers and wife Linda
 Don Schulte and wife Mary
 David W. Lowell and wife Dee
 John M. Turco
 Art Gormley and wife Denise
 James K. Adams and wife Pam
 Mike Detmer and wife Margie
 Jerome Mondt and wife Ann
 Larry Robinson and wife Connie
 Carl Lammers and wife Helen
 Glenn Perkins and wife Sandra



Association Business

John Otte
 Treasurer/Locator
 (310) 539-0886
 bravo6xray@aol.com

John

Financial Report Income and Expense			
Sept. 1, 2020 Balance			\$ 8,040.09
<u>Income</u>			
Dues	\$4,550.00		
Donations			
Total Income	\$4,550.00		\$12,590.09
<u>Expenses</u>			
Bank Fees	\$ 15.00		
Newsletter	374.60		
Website Change	55.00		
Hosting Services	63.21		
Total Expenses	\$ 507.81		
Nov. 31, 2020 Balance			\$12,082.28



Editor's Notes

David W. Lowell
Editor
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Welcome Back Bravo Brothers! I hope this finds all of you well, or at least hanging in there with the rest of us.

In this issue we open up the registration for the June 9-12 reunion in Goldsboro. You will find a detailed report from host Bob Best, an itinerary, a Registration Form and a list of all those registered to date. Bob and the Board continue to explore options for more entertainment.

In Association Business, you'll find the results of our dues drive. Thank you to all who donated. It is your support that keeps our association going.

Honorary Member Joy Shipley wanted to share with us an update on the status of COVID-19. It can be found on the Bulletin Board.

We had two changes to our roster. James Dandles has been moved from Inactive to Active with the receipt of new contact information. Frederick Tarwater has been moved from Active to Inactive due to his contact information no longer being valid.

With great sadness I must report the passing of three of our brothers-in-arms—Joseph Stein, Jack Zuverink and Steven Orders. Available information is on our Bulletin Board. M C Toyer, who served with Steve, has also provided the eulogy that is on our Bulletin Board. Cards and honorary membership invitations were sent to the families of Joe Stein and Steve Orders. Jack Zuverink was not an active member and we did not have contact information for his family.

We are in receipt of a three page article from Chet Johnson (Co. XO—1/66-5/67) providing advice on dealing with the VA regarding benefits. We ran out of room in this issue, but will run it when space allows. If this information is timely for you, contact me and I'll send you a copy.

Dee and I wish you all a happy and safe holiday. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. Our next issue will be out in March and we will be accepting submissions through the end of February. Until then, may peace be with you.

Dave out

BULLETIN BOARD

Submitted by Joy Shipley (Honorary Member) - What Doctors Have Learned About COVID-19.

A professor of pharmacy at U of Toronto sent this clearly worded update to his family. For this pandemic, there's a greater chance of survival for those getting infected three months later like June 2020 than those who got infected three months earlier, say February 2020. The reason for this is that doctors and scientists know more about COVID-19 now than three months ago and hence are able to treat patients better. I will list five important things that we know now that we didn't know in February 2020 for your understanding.

- 1) COVID-19 was initially thought to cause deaths due to pneumonia—a lung infection—and so ventilators were thought to be the best way to treat sick patients who couldn't breathe. Now we are realizing that the virus causes blood clots in the blood vessels of the lungs and other parts of the body and this causes reduced oxygenation. Now we know that just providing oxygen by ventilators will not help. We have to prevent and dissolve the micro clots in the lungs. This is why we are using drugs like Aspirin and Heparin (blood thinners that prevent clotting) as a protocol in treatment regimens in October 2020.
- 2) Previously patients used to drop dead on the road before reaching a hospital due to reduced oxygen in their blood. This was called HAPPY HYPOXIA—where even though the oxygen saturation was gradually reducing, the COVID-19 patients did not have symptoms until it became critically less, like sometimes even 70%. Normally we become breathless if oxygen saturation reduces below 90%. This breathlessness is not triggered in COVID patients so we were late in getting sick patients to hospitals in February 2020. Now since knowing about happy hypoxia, we are monitoring oxygen saturation of all COVID patients with a simple home use pulse oximeter and getting them to the hospital if their oxygen saturation drops to 93% or less. This gives doctors time to correct the oxygen deficiency in the blood and there is a better survival chance in October 2020.
- 3) We did not have drugs to fight the coronavirus in February 2020. We were only treating the complications caused by it—hypoxia. Hence most patients became severely infected. Now we have two important medicines—FAVIPRAVIR & REMDESIVIR. These ANTIVIRALS can kill the coronavirus. By using these two medicines, we can prevent patients from becoming severely infected and therefore cure them BEFORE THEY GO TO HYPOXIA. This is knowledge that is available in October 2020—not in February 2020.
- 4) Many COVID-19 patients die not just because of the virus but also due to the patient's own immune system responding in an exaggerated manner called CYTOKINE STORM. This stormy immune response not only kills the virus but also can kill the patients. In February 2020, we didn't know how to prevent it from happening. Now in October 2020, we know that Steroids, that doctors around the world have been using for almost 80 years, can be used to prevent the cytokine storm in some patients.
- 5) Now we also know that people with hypoxia become better just by making them lie down on their belly—known as prone position. Apart from this, a few days ago Israeli scientists have discovered that a chemical known as Alpha Defensin produced by the patient's white blood cells can cause the micro clots in blood vessels of the lungs, and this can be treated with Colchicine which has been used over many decades in the treatment of gout. So now we know for sure that patients have a better chance at surviving the COVID-19 infection in October 2020 than in February 2020. Going forward there's nothing to panic about COVID-19 if we remember that a person who gets infected now has a better chance at survival than one who got infected early. Let's continue to follow precautions, wear masks and practice social distancing.

BULLETIN BOARD**Submitted by Editor—Obituaries****Joseph Leo Stein, Jr. (3rd Platoon—9/66-67 Original)**

To the people that knew him, Joe was a man with a big heart and a passion for life. For the last several years, Joe's heart and passion battled back from several illnesses but each bout left him a little weaker, but he kept on fighting. On Sunday, August 30, 2020, Joe's big heart was just too weary to carry on the fight. Joe was born in St. Louis County and was a longtime resident in Bridgeton, Missouri. After his retirement, Joe and Judy sold the Stein family home and moved to Wentzville, Missouri where he resided until his death. Joe and Judy would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on November 28th. Joe started working for General Motors directly out of high school and worked there for over 30 years, except for the time that he spent in the military. He was drafted into the Army where he served in Vietnam during 1966-1967 in Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry. Joe enjoyed wintering in Florida, spending time fishing with the grandkids, golfing and woodworking.

Jack Zuverink (F.O. RTO— 2/67-7/67—Reported by his daughter, Jessica Harper

My father, Jack Zuverink, passed away on August 22, 2020. The world lost another Vietnam veteran, his brothers lost a fallen brother-in-arms, his family lost a brother, father and a husband. My brothers and I lost our hero, our father and the man that raised us. Our father touched so many lives, fought for so many veterans to be recognized, or to get the benefits they deserved. Between American Legion, VVA, and DAV in the upstate, not one person can say they don't know who Jack Zuverink was. He was the man that got monuments placed in Walhalla, he was the man you went to for answers. My father was a proud Vietnam Veteran, he will be missed but never forgotten. Always loved and will be forever missed.

Steve Orders (1970)

Steven Paul Orders, 70, of Cleveland, Tennessee, passed away on 28 September, 2020 and was interred at Chattanooga National Cemetery with full military honors. He is survived by his wife, Penny Theresa Lawson-Orders.

Submitted by M C Toyer (C.O.—3/70-8/70)

SSG Steve Orders was an honor graduate of the Non Commissioned Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was assigned to Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry while we were in Cambodia, but was held in the rear until the Battalion returned in mid June, 1970. When I first met Steve, I was impressed by his calm demeanor and professional attitude, though he was only 20 years old. He did express to me his concern that he might somehow fail the men he would lead in combat. I tried to reassure him that although no one could predict the future, I felt that his training and instinct would sustain him.

Steve soon replaced SSG Roger Ponn as the 1st Platoon Sergeant and, in the absence of an officer, he was also the acting Platoon Leader. The 3/22nd relocated to Xuan Loc in late August. On August 31st Bravo Company was conducting a reconnaissance mission in the dense jungle east of Saigon. The 1st Platoon was in the lead. Steve recalled the events of that day.

"The point element crossed a stream and saw signs of enemy activity. As we moved ahead, my platoon crossed the stream and the point element made contact. I lost radio contact with the CO (Captain George Baxter) so I decided to secure the area. I sent Gary Metz, James Duckworth and Fred Henriksen upstream and I took three men downstream. Small arms fire came from upstream but I could not discern if it was M-16 or AK-47. Instinctively I moved toward the gunfire. Fred Henriksen met me and was going into shock. He could not speak, only point in the direction of Metz and Duckworth. I came to a small clearing and saw Metz and Duckworth lying face down beside freshly dug bunkers. Not knowing their condition, I reacted ...moving toward them. I took one step headed to check on the closest man, then came another 3 round burst of AK-47 fire and I was shot. The next thing I remember was lying on the jungle floor trying to get my breath. A bullet went in the left side of my neck and severed my spinal cord; it exited at my right shoulder blade. Captain Baxter arrived and began laying down M-60 fire. Rockets were blasting the trees sending shrapnel like wooden bullets throughout the area. I was struck again in my left eye."

BULLETIN BOARD

Continuation of Steve Orders Eulogy

Tim Wuethrich and Medic Alexander Waters crawled forward under fire to assist Steve, and Tim was also wounded. They were able to pull him back to be medevac'd. A Jungle Penetrator was required due to the triple canopy. Steve was unable to hold on so Tom Romeo wrapped his body around him as they were hoisted skyward to safety. On hearing the reports of the contact (I was then the Battalion S-2), I went to the Evacuation Hospital but by the time I arrived Steve was lying unconscious on a gurney in the hallway. I did not know the extent of his injuries or the status of his treatment. I left Vietnam and the Army five weeks later and on the day I departed there was a helicopter crash that took 5 more men from Bravo Company. I went home not knowing their names. I also did not know if Steve had survived his wounds.

Fifteen years later I heard a public service announcement on the radio with the speaker identifying himself as Sergeant Steve Orders of the Disabled American Veterans. At first I thought that might just be a pseudonym like Sergeant Rock or Captain America, but it prompted me to try to determine if that really was Steve. The task took another 12 years. When I first called Steve in 1997, I asked how he was doing. He said he was okay but had to visit the VA Hospital in Chattanooga because of deterioration of cartilage in his neck. His exact words were, "I sneezed and broke three bones." So nonchalant—I could not even begin to imagine the challenges he had faced all those years. We met in Washington D.C. later that year at a Charlie 3/22 reunion. Fred Henriksen and Jerry Malone from 1st Platoon were also there, but Steve had driven himself alone. After we all visited in the lobby I asked Steve if we could meet in private and we did later that afternoon. I did not inquire about 31 August but he did share some details about his medical treatment and the transport back to the United States. My main concern was how he had managed to deal with the effects of his wounds and cope with living as a paraplegic. He said simply, "Sometimes it is a little inconvenient."

I have kept in touch with Steve over the years and I had made plans to visit on my way to the North Carolina reunion in 2020. Our last email exchange was just a few months ago. He told me then, "My post injury reentry was through the medical system and I was out of rehab in September 1971. It was only then that I learned that Metz and Duckworth were killed. I don't think I would have survived had I known they died under my direction that day. I do not have regrets regarding my service. I do regret the politics that got us all there. I have been relatively healthy until the last 4 years. Don't know how much longer I have. I'm not afraid of dying, but I hate the suffering until I do. If all goes well, I will see you when you get closer. Let me know of your plans to be in the area."

Steve Orders survived another 50 years after Vietnam and in his mid-50s, he and his wife, Theresa, adopted a premature infant who has grown into a fine young man under their love and guidance. Steve was paralyzed from the chest down, and lost a lung, an eye and partial use in one arm due to his wounds, but lived a full and productive life inspiring others by his faith and resilience.

His widow, Theresa, wrote me recently on coping with the loss. "Steve is the love of my life and since we first met all those years ago we have been inseparable. He is one of the finest people I've ever known. I have always called him my Angel on Wheels because that's exactly what he is. He would give you everything he has and has done this through the many years I've known him. Steve told me when he was wounded the Lord started revealing Himself to him. He said he remembers thinking that he sure hoped that the Jesus he learned about in Sunday School was real and the Lord took over. That was not the end of Steve's story but only the beginning. Miracle after miracle started happening to him. It was evident that God had a plan for him and the miracle of him being able to leave that jungle floor was only the beginning the testament his life took that day. Steve has lived for the Lord, not just words but actions. He has truly lived for God and everyone who knows him can attest to this as his truth. How could I not fall in love with this man?"