

The CF 24th Vets

The Newsletter of the Central Florida 24th Infantry Division Veterans, Initiated 2009.

Vol. 1, No.1, July 1, 2009

24th Infantry Division Association



FIRST TO FIGHT

Central Florida 24th Taro Leafers



Photo from left: Bob and Carolyn Peters, Woodie and Dottie Woods, Bill Simunek, Ken and Barbara Bradshaw, Jim and Frances Landrum (seated), Ted and Marilyn Jansen, Ed and Clara Browne, Tom Thiel (seated), Jim and Zelma Reid, Don and Julie Van Beck (rear), John Hanusek, Billy and Zillah Gaston, Emily Allard (seated), Lester Norman, Gene Allard, Flossie Kespert and Paul Miller, and Bill Stokes.

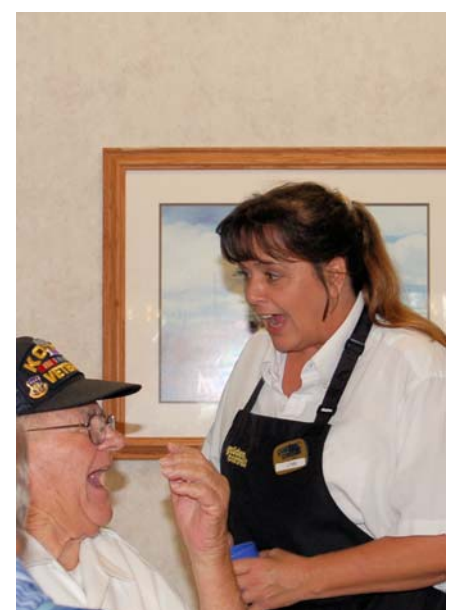
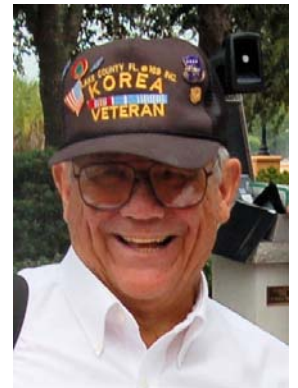


Clockwise from left: Billy and Zillah Gaston, Gene and Emily Allard, Ed and Clara Browne, Ken and Barbara Bradshaw, and Bob and Carolyn Peters.





Clockwise from left: Bill Stokes, Don and Julia Van Beck, Paul Miller and Flossie Kespart, John Hanusek, Jim and Zelma Reid, Woodie and Dottie Wood, Tom Thiel, Lynn and Woodie, Bill Simunek, and Lynn and the Van Becks. Sincerest of apologies to those we missed!



Hello Folks and Welcome!

by Tom Thiel

Welcome, welcome! Thank you for coming on Wednesday. Bill and I both thank you.

We have been meeting for lunch usually the third Saturday, and the last time we said "why not see if there are some more Taro Leafers in Central Florida who might also want to get together." We contacted 23, and heard positively from 19 of you! We also heard of one deceased!

It was really great meeting you all and we intend to keep it going from here. Here's what I believe all of us said Wednesday:

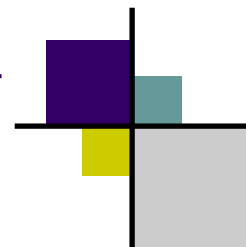
- ◆ Yes, let's keep getting together; maybe say once every quarter,

- ◆ Why not at the Golden Corral, they are the only restaurant that gives Vets a free meal, and
- ◆ Yes, let's hold an annual Mini-Reunion in Central Florida and invite all our 24th brothers from throughout the state, and maybe the U.S., just like our colleagues do on the West Coast!

Those were some of our thoughts as we came to that first meeting. I guess you all had similar thoughts because we all seemed to come together as one; somewhat like we did back there when we were in the 24th for real.

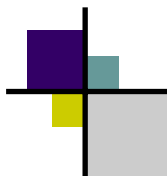
Thanks again.

Tom



"This issue is a bit rushed and might have errors. Please forgive. And let us know about especially names, etc., that we have wrong."

"The Taro Leaf will go to printer next Wednesday with the photo on page 1 on the inside back cover."



Thanks; send me your story

by Bill Stokes

A personal "thank you" to all who joined us for luncheon, fellowship and mini-reunion planning at the Golden Corral on July first.

We thank especially those who came from longer distances to be with us; a true sign of dedication. It was good to see the patch on hats and shirts!

Let us try to locate other veterans of the 24th or their subordinate units; I'm sure there are others in our service area who would like to know about us.

I'm delighted to have met another vet-

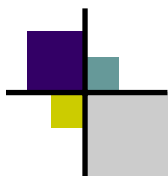
eran in my own residential community, and others with whom I have a connection, albeit years ago.

Ideas will be welcome, of course, and I'm going to request: send me a short story of one of your funny or not-so-funny service experiences and I'll create a cartoon for a future Newsletter issue.

I'm in cyberspace (so my wife tells me) at wsswriter@netzero.com."

Cordially

Bill



Sick Call

We will hold this column open for anyone of us who may be under the weather. So be sure to let the Editor know so we can make everyone else aware.

"Some email addresses are incorrect as they have bounced. Please send me an email so that I can get your correct address."



A few things I've learned about reunions, by TJT

First off, I'm no reunion expert, and I've little experience too. So, highlight the "few" above.

But from talking to Gene Spicer today I learned that the West Coast Reunion lasted three days, Sunday March 29 to Wednesday April 1.

And I also learned that their rooms were quite inexpensive—Gene got a deluxe river view for about \$45.00 a night! It was at a casino in Laughlin, NV, so that explains a lot.

And also today I learned from Woodie that the 19th and 34th Reunion for 2010 will be in Pigeon, Forge, TN on Monday April 26 to Wednesday April 28; again a Monday to Wednesday affair.

So, I suggest we consider Monday February 8 to Wednesday February 10. Why that week; the Daytona 500 will be the following weekend, and we likely can get some Yankee

24th Vets, including Spicer!

I don't know what our site options might be; Gene suggested we try to locate a Casino. But I know nothing of those!

How about you all help on this?

I know several of you said you wanted to help; unfortunately I didn't get your names.

So, this is an appeal for you to contact either Bill or me, and we will continue planning together.

And all of us need to put our thoughts together planning for our February reunion. What we need most is to find a place to meet.

Let's set some targets. We ought to plan on at least 100 attendees.

Maybe half of those or more will need rooms. We need a place for a banquet. And we need a room or

(Continued on page 5)

Mark Your Calendars

August 26 to 29, 24th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion and Business Meeting, Rapid City, South Dakota.

September 2, Wednesday, CF 24th Vets, Golden Corral in Leesburg.

October 5-9, 21st Gimlet Reunion, St. Louis, Phyllis Burke, 703-298-8529, swingin-gate@gmail.com

December 2, Wednesday, CF 24th Vets, Golden Corral in Leesburg.

February 8-11, 2010, Central Florida Mini-Reunion, TBD, Bill Stokes, Tom Thiel, and y'all.

March 3, 2010, Wednesday, CF 24th Vets, Golden Corral in Leesburg.

April 26-28, 2010, 19th and 34th Mini-Reunion, Pigeon Forge, TN, Bob Taylor, Tel: 828-884-9593, bobnjoan@citcom.net

September 26-29, 2010, 24th IDA Reunion, Buffalo, New York, Sal Schillaci, 716-837-1635, ssrecon24@roadrunner.com

The Central Florida 24th Infantry Vets, *by Tom Thiel*

Well, what do you think about our newsletter, *The CF 24th Vets*?

When we started I had no idea about a newsletter, but when confronted with a few good photos and some information, this seemed like the most logical way to do both.

I don't know if I like the name or not, why don't you all give it some thought too, and let me have your suggestions.

I actually reverse engineered another letter I do, *The Korean War Schuttlebutt*, so this went rather quickly and easily.

I had prints made of the photos and will bring them to the next meeting. Anyone that wants theirs by email let me know.

And we welcome your articles and notes too.

tthiel5@comcast.net

352-352-3943

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more to socialize. And maybe I've missed some things too.

So, take a look around where you are and see what you might locate. Please, all let me know by the first of August.

Just another note, the roster at right is the one I started with, and several told me of changes. Not sure I got them all. Tell me of any goofs I have made—anywhere.

Tom

CF 24th Vet Roster

FirstMI	LastName	Spouse	Address	City	Zip4	Phone	email	Unit1	CoBat1
Gene	Allard, Jr.	Emily K.	761 Lagoon Drive	Oviedo	32765-8408	(407) 359-9950	g.e.allard@gmail.com	13th FA	Svc
James E.	Bradford	Rebecca "Becky"	1776 6th Street NW, Unit 308	Winter Haven	33881-2178	(863) 293-3055	jbradford15@tampabay.rr.com	21st Inf	C
Kenneth L.	Bradshaw, Jr.	Barbara	909 Columbia Ln.	Inverness	34452-6740	(352) 637-4234		19th Inf	E
Edward J.	Browne	Clara H.	1507 Cervantes Pl.	Lady Lake	32159-9164	(352) 753-5764	weteup1@comcast.net	21st Inf	D
Robert	Chalupa	unk	26932 Honeymoon Ave.	Leesburg	34748-9127	(352) 728-8672		21st Inf	
Billy C.	Gaston	Zillah	17738 SE 119th Ave Rd	Summerfield	34491-8000	(352) 347-4257		24th MP	
Gurley E.	Gillette	Dorothy W.	1407 39th St. W	Bradenton	34205-1550	(941) 746-4440	gilletteredman@aol.com	34th Inf	K
John	Hanussek	unk	978 Everest St.	Clermont	34711-5990	n/a		19th Inf	
James J.	Hird	Dorothy	10620 SW 27th Ave #A-31	Ocala	34476-8014	(352) 291-2028	jimmydavis63@yahoo.com	26th AAA	C
Theodore S.	Jansen	Marilyn L.	1507 W Lancaster Ave	Leesburg	34748-6936	(352) 787-7818	tedj29@aol.com	19th Inf	
William E.	Kramer	Vallaise	5421 Zinnia St.	Leesburg	34748-8980	(352) 787-0120		19th Inf	G
Jim	Landrum	Frances	10640 Kentucky Ave	Leesburg	34788-2518	(352) 728-6941	jlands@excite.com		
Paul B	Miller	Flossie Kespert	828 Lanark Dr	Inverness	34453-4415	(352) 344-8277	pbmiller33@embarqmail.com	21st Inf	
Lester	Norman	unk	4754 SW 74th Road	Bushnell	33513-8526	(352) 793-7910	lnorman@net.net		
Robert H.	Peters	Carolyn	1023 San Domingo Rd.	Orlando	32808-7127	(407) 298-4947	rpeters6@cfi.rr.com	24th Sig	
James K.	Reid	Zelma F.	102 Palm Dr. LOT #0117	Lady Lake	32159-3242	(352) 753-2010	jr2r2229@embarqmail.com	29th Inf	Svc
Theodore G.	Sharpe	Sue	677 East Ave.	Clermont	34711-2525	(352) 394-6234		24th QM	
William C.	Simunek	Janet	5024 Greenbriar Trail	Mt. Dora	32757-9102	(352) 385-0205	jpsimunek@embarqmail.com	3rd Eng	HQ
Bill J.	Smith, Sr.	unk	3220 Round Lake Rd.	Zellwood	32798-5403	n/a		26th AAA	
William S.	Stokes	Whitney	304 Balsam Circle	Lady Lake	32159-3201	(352) 750-6952	wsswriter@netzero.com	34th Inf	HHC
Thomas J.	Thiel	Jean Singer	19147 Park Place Blvd.	Eustis	32736-7262	(352) 357-3943	tthiel5@comcast.net	19th Inf	E
Donald L.	Van Beck	Julia	32004 Harris Rd	Tavares	32778-4630	(352) 343-1529	seafari.vb@juno.com	34th Inf	HHC
Warren J.	Weir	Rhea Lucille	105 Wild Cherry Cove	Leesburg	34748-8621	(352) 314-2328		19th Inf	L
Bryant	Wood, Jr.	Dottie	2201 NE 125th Terrace Rd.	Silver Springs	34488-2581	(904) 625-3305		19th Inf	
Albert M.	Yeakel	Sandra	9386 SW 89th Ter # B	Ocala	34481-7552	(352) 854-1969		24th Med	Amb Co



24th Infantry Division

“Victory Division”

“First to Fight”

Schofield Barracks

Pearl Harbor

World War II

Korean War

Korea DMZ

Lebanon

Berlin

Germany

Cold War

Grenada

El Salvador

Desert Shield

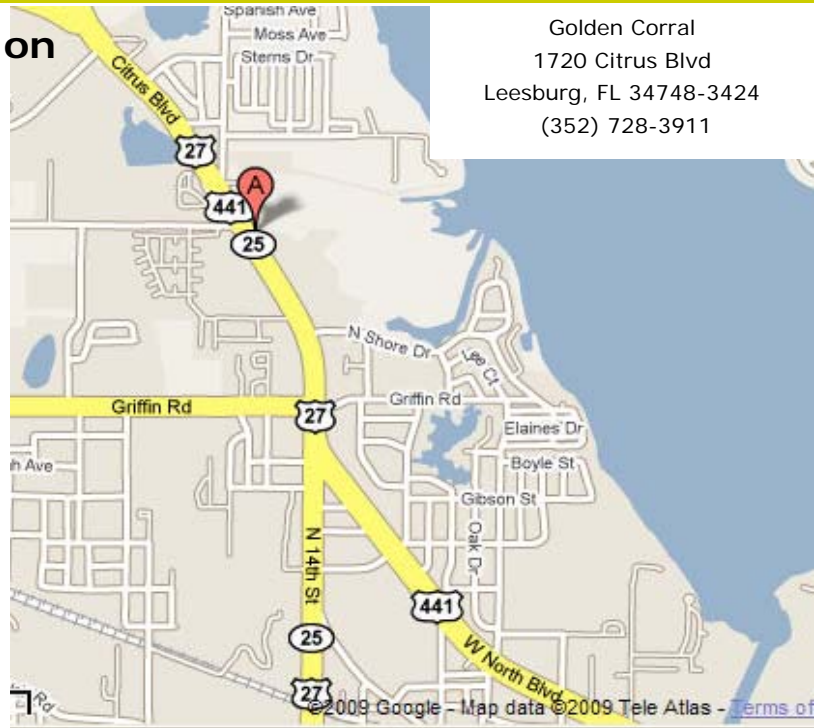
Desert Storm

Somalia

Kuwait

Fort Riley

Disbanded 2006



Golden Corral
1720 Citrus Blvd
Leesburg, FL 34748-3424
(352) 728-3911

Please help us cut mailing costs. Send an email to tthiel5@comcast.net if you have an email address, and are receiving this by US Mail.

The CF 24th Vets
Tom J. Thiel, Editor
19147 Park Place Blvd.
Eustis, FL 32736-7262