

# NATIONAL DUSTERS, QUADS & SEARCHLIGHTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER # 1 – MARCH 2022

**39<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion  
“Operation Eagle II”  
Oklahoma City, OK  
July 5-10, 2022**

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**



HAPPY NEW YEAR !

I hope this finds you all in good health and spirits?

Given the see/saw situation with the pandemic, I am still urging all to exercise caution and good sense with respect to masks, vaccinations and social gatherings.

The the long awaited OKC/Fort Sill reunion is finally happening in July. I want to thank Dave McCray for acquiring the hotel venue and planning of the banquet and subsequent party. Also thanks go to Col. Tedesco for his effort in organizing the trip to Fort Sill. Their combined effort will make this reunion a success.

Let me remind you the two year term is up for 5 of the executive officers of the board of directors. Nominations are open for president, first and second vice president, secretary and treasurer. Anyone that is interested in putting their name on the ballot may do so. Please contact the nominating committee (myself, John Huelsenbeck or Garry Severin). Or any of the standing board of directors listed in this newsletter by way of e-mail.

This may or may not be my last message to you as president, in any case the highlight of my membership in this fine organization has been the privilege and pleasure of serving as your president the last four years. I am confident the new leadership team will continue to take us into the future.

Be well and be safe. Bob Cuce President NDQSA

## **FEATURED STORIES:**

4/60<sup>th</sup> Reactivation 1971-2021  
2022 Reunion News  
Letters Home from the field 1967 Pt.3

## **NEW MEMBERS/CONTACTS**

[Robert Molepske C-1/44 '68-69 VA](#)

**Send an email to welcome them!**

## **MEMBERS THAT HAVE PASSED**

Pat Monahan, A-1/44 '66-'67 2/23/22 FL  
Wallace Owens, C-1/44 '68-69 7/4/21 NJ  
Dale Peters, D-1/44 '68-'69 8/31/21 IN  
Donald Saba, D-5/2 '66-67 2/2/22 MN

They will be missed, and we give honor to their service and to their families.

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## **DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?**

Two pieces of contact information that frequently change are cell phone numbers and email addresses. Typically there are about a half dozen emails sent out each year to every member with a valid (current) email address on record with the Historian. **If you (or a spouse) have an email address and you have not received any emails from the dqshistorian@cox.net, it is time for you to record your email address with him.** Simply [click here](#) and identify yourself clearly (full name). Please confirm your telephone numbers in the same email. When an email is sent to a bad email address, the Historian tries to contact the member by phone to determine their status. This is a time consuming effort, but it does give him a chance to talk to members.

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# REMEMBER

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c) (19) non-profit veterans organization so if you are of means and in a giving state of mind, know that you can put NDQSA in your estate plans for when you leave this “mortal plane.” Also, NDQSA has several vehicle restoration projects we are still trying to complete: the Widow Maker gun-truck still needs to pay off the loan of the Quad 50 gun mount (\$20K), and we are still looking for an appropriate Mutt M151 jeep (\$10K) for the Xenon SLT we have at the Tank Farm. We continue to accept donations for the maintenance of the ADA Memorial at Fort Sill (Project Eagle) and general “Good Works” projects. There is also a new Memorial Brick program, see more information in this newsletter.

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## FIND & PHONE A FRIEND!

If you remember the name and home town of a buddy, there is now a real web site that will let you search for him with a good chance of locating him if he is still alive. Go to [truepeoplesearch.com](http://truepeoplesearch.com) and type in the full name and his home town. Look for guys that are 70 years old and see if there are any hits. If you have an old address look down the relevant info that pops up, and it might be there confirming that you located him. Try the phone numbers listed and see if you found him. If not, no harm done. If yes...well you got a lot to talk about. Be sure to let me know how it turns out.

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### Results of the 2021 NDQSA elections and appointments:

The 2022-2024 directors elected are: Bruce Geiger, Paul Hanson, George Nagelschmidt, Alphonse Martin, Garry Severin. George Walko,

However with the sudden passing of Al Hansen, Rick Liebendorfer, who garnered the next highest vote count was tasked with filling the vacant director position.

Former directors Joseph Belardo and Bob Lauver are now in Advisor Positions.

Richard Burmood has volunteered to hold the secretary position earlier in 2021, replacing Garry Severin.

The NDQSA board of directors and executive officers met in a 2 hour teleconference session on January 27, 2022. This was a special meeting with the primary agenda of working on the upcoming reunion and the various tasks needed to make it a success.

## NDQSA BOD Conference Call

The board reviewed worksheet information tracking the 2022 reunion’s planned itinerary and schedule as well as member costs against a reunion expenses workup. Projected activities and timeline for the Fort Sill visit day were reviewed and revised to fit the reunion objectives of a memorial ceremony at the NDQSA monument, visit to the ADA Learning Center, time for the gift shop, and a meal with speakers. Coordination is ongoing with the ADA Learning Center, officer’s Club, and ADA Association. Board discussion included when and how we could meet with ADA student officers and NCOs to share our Vietnam experience since there is no time during the Fort Sill visit day. Board directors will coordinate with the Fort Sill military units and the Oklahoma City Dodgers baseball team about using that venue as a social to get together with soldiers and the requirements to make that happen.

The board approved having the Memorial Bricks Project be the 2022 reunion Good Works Project. During the November 13, 2021 reunion’s annual business meeting, it was discussed and approved by the membership that NDQSA would pursue a fund raising program to buy and have installed a memorial brick at the ADA Learning Center for each of our 211 brothers who were KIA and lost their lives in Vietnam. A donation fund was approved and started at the reunion by attending members. By making this year’s Good Works Project be the Memorial Brick Project, along with continued individual member donations, we can meet the current goal of \$21,000 much quicker.

## 2022-2024 OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Nominations by any active member of NDQSA are open for any of the following positions for the years 2022-2024:

President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The other position changing hands is the Past President position. Current president Robert Cuce will move into that position and former past-president John Hulsenbeck will likely continue as a non-voting advisor.

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions you can nominate yourself as long as you are in Active Status in the organization. If you want to nominate someone else, you must coordinate with that person ahead of time to confirm their interest in serving and that they are in active status. Nominations must be finalized and bios received by March 24<sup>th</sup> in order to get the ballots produced and sent out to active members (along with the 2022 rosters).

Contact Bob Cuce, Garry Severin or John Hulsenbeck if you have any questions or want to run or make a nomination.

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### Reactivation of the 4/60<sup>th</sup> ADA Battalion

Members of the 4/60<sup>th</sup> and attached batteries were on hand for a multi-day event for the reactivation of the

4/60<sup>th</sup> ADA Battalion after 50 years of “retirement”.

Veterans showed up WED 02MAR22 and joined in a dinner off post. On THUR 03MAR they participated in several events like a walkthrough of the museum, unit brief with the new equipment, and "cresting ceremony" at the house of the new battalion commander LTC Alex Corby and family. In the evening, the 60th regimental crest was officially unveiled at the commander's house, and there was the formal ceremony and celebration.



The new active 4/60<sup>th</sup> is training on the newest antiaircraft weapon system, the M-SHORAD. As mentioned before, it has a combination of weapons very similar to our ADA units from Vietnam. It is armored, mobile, crew-manned, and can deploy direct and indirect fire munitions including explosive projectiles and surface to air/surface missiles. It will even be getting a real laser based weapon in the near future.

From the press release: An air defense artillery battalion, which can trace its lineage back to World War I, II and Vietnam, reactivated March 4, 2022 in an uncasing

ceremony on the Old Post Quadrangle at Ft. Sill. Known as the Fighting Aces, 4th Battalion, 60th Air Defense Artillery Regiment (ADAR), uncased the colors 50 years after the unit last saw action during the Vietnam War in 1972. Fourteen veterans who were with the unit in Vietnam, attended the ceremony to witness the uncasing.



According to Lt. Col. Alex Corby, battalion commander, the unit is the first Maneuver -Short Range Air Defense or M-SHORAD, unit in the continental United States and only the second activated by the U.S. Army. (5/4<sup>th</sup> is the other. Too bad they did not honor the Vietnam era 5/2d similarly.)

“We’ll be the first and only, for the time being, **directed energy**, or laser weapon battalion that is out there,” said Corby. “We are the first M-SHORAD unit to start integrating this capability here at Fort Sill. We will begin the proof-of-concept demonstration this coming fall and we’re very excited for that opportunity.”

The U.S. Army identified the short-range air defense fires unit as a necessity. “With the changing environment, the new threats or the current threats or realities, the need for maneuver short-range air defense artillery specifically for the newer force was identified,” Corby said. “And that’s the reason why this type of formation was brought back and this unit was reactivated.”

“This unit has always been there when the going gets tough. We’re proud of our history and our Soldiers understand that history and carry it forward with them,” said Corby.

Retired veterans of the battalion during the Vietnam War were at Fort Sill to see the uncasing of the colors of their former unit. Paul Hanson said “It’s wonderful to see them reorganize a unit that we never thought we’d see again. I would tell these young soldiers to just be proud. They are in an organization that came up all the way through World War I, World War II and Vietnam. Be proud.”

COELIS IMPERAMUS **“We rule the heavens!”**

## LETTERS HOME FROM THE MOTOR POOL 1967-68

SP4 [Phillip McGuire](#), D-4/60 '67-68 Part 3



*Here is the third and final installment of Phil McGuire's letters he sent home during his tour as a track mechanic with D-4/60<sup>th</sup> in 1967-68.*

**Tuesday 29 Nov 67** I stayed real busy today. I cleaned out the back of the maintenance truck. I filled up the gas tank. When Sgt. Oxendine got in yesterday

afternoon it had a flat on it. I took that off and mounted the spare last night. After noon chow I took the brake shoes for the emergency brake off of the truck. The lining was wore off. It makes one hell of a racket. Then I got underneath the truck (again) and tightened up all the nuts and bolts from front to rear. Then I took the sand bags out of the floor board of the cab and cleaned it up. I couldn't find any to put back in. I just hope we don't hit a mine tomorrow. These trucks have a low range to engage low range there is a lever sticking out of the floor at an angle. It is right against the front seat in high. This lever has to be pushed flat against the floor. It is kind of hard to see out the windshield with your right hand on the floor, even if it is for a few seconds. So I got a shifting lever out of a Jeep cut it off bent it to 90 degree angle and fastened it to the lever with two clamps. Now my hand travels about 8 in. It looks better with two shift knobs sticking out of the floor (knobs on the shifting levers). Two tracks came in from Bam Bleck yesterday afternoon. One of them broke down. Brousseau, Day and Sgt. Oxendine went out in the VTR to pull them in. Two quads went along to escort them. A new pack (engine) also came in for the track at Bam Bleck. We are going with it tomorrow we will probably be staying for a few days. By the way I am on CQ tonight. The aid man is going to relieve me at 10:30 so I can get to bed early. By cracky I am starting on a second page that is kind of unusual. You'll caused me to have to buy Sennett a coke. I bet him I would get a letter today. I didn't. I have just ran out of anything to say.

**Saturday 9 Dec 67** We got back from Bam Bleck late this afternoon. We used the VTR to pull the pack with. The lock out cylinder on it sprung a leak. It lost most of the hydraulic fluid. We couldn't fix it so we had to get a wrecker to finish the job. After we got the transmission on and pack put back in. I started the engine to check the transmission.

Lanier and Sgt. Barnes were standing in front of the track. I had it in neutral/park and my foot on the brakes. The track shouldn't go anywhere. I revved up the engine the track lunged forward and went up the embankment in front of it. Barnes got over the top of the embankment. Lanier was hanging on the gun tubes with his hands his legs were pinned under the track when I got it stopped at the top of the embankment. Lucky it was soft dirt. Lanier just got a skinned leg. When we got back today I got a letter from Doyne and Imogene. I wrote four letters last night. One to you'll Phyllis and Mike, Doyne and Imogene and Ritchey. You'll want be getting a money order this month. I sent it to Phyllis and Mike to buy Christmas presents. I sent \$180.00 told them to spend it all if they can. Imogene said Grandmother and Granddad enjoyed the letter I wrote. I will try to write another one tomorrow also one to Dude and Grandma. There are some negatives inside you'll can get developed.

**Wednesday 10 Dec 67** Well I found out where I will be stationed. Would you believe Alaska? Let me tell you I am as happy as a pup with an old shoe. So I kind of doubt if I will buy a truck when I get home. Everybody got in from Bam Bleck this afternoon. We have four tracks in the motor pool that want run. One at ordnance one out at the Oasis. That is 6 dead-lined. One of them is the VTR. One of them has a bad transmission. We will replace it tomorrow. It is late so I have to make it short. I will be with the 171st mechanized infantry battalion. I don't know exactly where it is in Alaska all I know is APO Seattle.

This is a short letter I wrote my sister.

**Thursday 19 Dec 67** Well how things are going with you two. Phyllis I got your letter today. Sounds like you are going to give all of us a big present for Christmas. Also sounds like you and mom did a good job of Christmas shopping. I haven't wrote much but I have already ran out of words. Yesterday afternoon Brousseau and I went to Artillery Hill to fix one of our tracks. We had it fixed at 9:00 last night. We spent the night at B battery. They have a real nice set up. I got to sleep on a state side bunk with springs and new mattress. It sure was nice. I am enclosing some clippings.

**Thursday 11 or 12 Dec** Well today was a real busy day. We pulled three packs. We pulled one this morning and changed the transmission. We turned a track into ordnance (#232) a few months ago and got a new one. An M88 pulled #121 to ordnance unit yesterday. The Ordnance

unit is at Artillery Hill. We went over there this afternoon and took the engine & transmission out of 232 and put it in 121. The pack in 121 we put into 232. We had to change the starter motor mounts and a few fuel lines around. It was 4:00 when we got through. We got back here at 5:30. Let me tell you we were dirty. We ate chow without washing. Then I laid down on my bunk. Farron brought me four letters. At 7:30 Billings and I took a jeep and went to the shower point and took a nice hot shower. I have spent the rest of the night talking and reading a book. Some of the men are cooking hamburgers in the floor. They are burning C-4 in a C rations can holding the meat over the fire with forks. The meat was packed in a can it has grease all over it. The grease is melting and falling in the floor. Making quite a mess. Who cares? By the way C-4 is an explosive. It burns real good is just dandy for making and starting fires. What do you'll think of me going to Alaska? Sgt. Clark served there before he came to this unit. He says it is a real nice your of duty. I can't wait till I get there. This is the truth. Sgt. Benjiman told me he thought he was bringing me bad news. You'll should have heard the whoop I let out and the jig I dine in the Motor Pool. That is one place I have always wanted to go to. Now I have the chance nothing is going to stop me. 31 days to go. 30 tomorrow. Tell Mac he owes me \$5.00 when I get home. If he thinks hard he will remember a bet we made.

Note: Phyllis is my twin sister. She was pregnant and baby due soon. In fact Michelle was born on the 20th of Dec.



**Tuesday 26 Dec 67** I got off of CQ at 7:30 this morning. I crawled into bed and went right to sleep. I slept until about 10 after 11. Then I got up and took a shower. That water sure was cold. I got in the chow hall about 10 till 12. They had quit serving chow early so the cooks could go to the Bob Hope show. They had some sweet potatoes left that I could eat. I just didn't feel like eating sweet potatoes by their self. The Bob Hope show was held at the Ivy Bowl. It is just an outside theater. Wolf drove a bunch of us over in the jeep. We got there at about 1:15 had to wait until 3:15 before the show started. It was pretty good. There was Bob Hope, Miss World, Rachel Welch, and Barbra Stanwick. Bob Crosby, a newspaper correspondent and another good looking woman. It lasted until 5:00. I just had one roll of black and white film. I used

it up. Could have used another roll. If you'll had sent me some color film I would have some nice pictures. We are listening to TV on a radio. We can't watch TV because the generator isn't putting out enough juice.



Back to Bob Hope. He said his show will be on TV January 18th He will have portions from his show here. When they mention either Plei Ku, Dragon Mountain, or Camp Enari you know they are here. Look close you might see me. Lanier say's the camera went over us two times. I think I have run out of words so I will close.

**Friday 29 Dec 67** I just got through fixing three packages to send home. I have to wrap them yet. I will try to get them off as soon as I can after payday. Don't look for to big of a money order again this month if any at all. I got a letter today dated the 22nd that Phyllis and the baby were doing fine. I am glad to hear this. I want to know when it was born. Where at what time? I know she is 18in long has dark blue eyes. I what to know what color hair and how much she weighs? Also what is her middle name? Just tell me everything you can about her. This morning I had to fix a automatic loader on one of the guns. Lanier and I replaced another Titan pump on the track here. It has been getting gas in the oil. Titan pump can cause it. This is the third one we have put on it. It still gets gas in the oil. So that means bad rings. I pulled a compression check on it this afternoon. Just on one bank. One cylinder had 75lbs that is average, another 50lbs bad, another 25lbs real bad, Sgt. Oxendine called into battalion for another engine. They didn't have any so it will be a while before it gets here. Well Grandma and Granddad I guess I will close now. Tell Uncle Mac to jump in a creek the next time he goes Coon hunting. I had better drop Mike and Phyllis a line.

(Continued later in newsletter)

# OKC Area Attractions

1. Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum



2. National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum



3. Oklahoma City Zoo



4. Science Museum Oklahoma



6. Bricktown



5. Frontier City



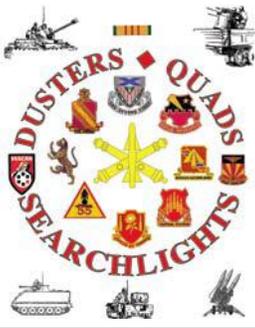
8. Oklahoma City Museum of Art



11. Oklahoma History Center



**FAM**  
First Americans Museum  
OKLAHOMA



# 39<sup>th</sup> Annual NDQSA Reunion

## “Operation Eagle II”

Oklahoma City, OK

July 5-10<sup>th</sup>, 2022



**The Skirvin Hilton Oklahoma City**  
One Park Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
phone +1 405-272-3040

**Room Rate: \$119 + tax King or 2 Queens**  
**Book Your Hotel Reservations ASAP!**

The reservation web site for the NDQSA reunion in July 2022 is up and running and ready for guests to start making reservations. To receive the discounted rate, you may either call the reservations line at 1-800-HILTONS and mention NDQSA reunion (or group code NDQSA), or you may use the link below to easily book online: [NDQSA Reunion Hotel Reservations](#)  
Daily Parking \$13 local lot or \$17 valet  
Breakfast Buffet \$16

### Wednesday 7/7/22 Free time all day

Local attractions which include the OKC Science Center, Zoo, Casino, FAM, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Myriad Botanical Gardens and Bricktown (are a few blocks from the hotel) and the Oklahoma City Memorial -Murrah Building, etc.

Evening activity is an AAA semi-pro baseball game ADAA crewmen from Ft. Sill are invited to spend time with our group. Local amusement park.

\$15 pp at the gate for BB game  
Evening: Hospitality Room

### Thursday 7/8/22

Bus Trip to Fort Sill for tour of new Learning Center. \$40 pp for buses

Memorial Service at NDQSA Eagle Memorial

Lunch on base. \$TBD

Return Bus Trip  
Evening Hospitality Room Open

### Friday 7/9/22

Free time during the day. Evening Awards Banquet and live entertainment by “Tin Man Band” Cash Bar  
Evening: Hospitality Room

### Saturday 7/9/22 All Day

Annual Business Meeting  
Ladies Breakfast  
Afternoon free  
Evening Auction  
Hospitality Room open



Dues: Total \$

/ /22 Ck#

Donations: Q- S- B- GW-

Mailing Label ->

Cut out and tape to envelope

**NDQSA**

**1613 Congressional Way  
Champaign, IL. 61822**

**NDQSA- MEMBERSHIP INVOICE / ROSTER UPDATE FORM**

(Tear off this page and mail it in with your up to date contact information and unit history)  
This version supersedes any previous forms as certain options are not available.

**Roster Contact Information (Please Print)**

Are you a new or existing NDQSA contact?

(New) (Existing) circle one

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) -

Cell Phone: ( ) -

**Service Information (Viet Nam) (fill out even if on file)**

Dates of 1<sup>st</sup> tour (m/yr): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Addtn'l tour (m/yr): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Primary MOS: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Battery/Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Attached To: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of bases:

Names/hometowns of buddies you knew:

Rank (highest grade while in Viet Nam)

Grade: Officer: \_\_\_\_ NCO: \_\_\_\_ EM: \_\_\_\_

Valor Awards

PH ( ) DSC ( ) SS ( ) BS/V ( ) ACM/V ( )

If you want to get the newsletter only by email and forego the paper mailed copy, please check this box. ( ) ←

If you want to switch back from email to paper mail, please check this box. ( ) ←

**DUES - DONATIONS**

Make check/MO payable to NDQSA

Dues: circle payment(s) for (2022) (2023) (2024) (2024)

**DUES ARE \$25 PER YEAR** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations: Quad 50 restoration \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Searchlight restoration \$ \_\_\_\_\_

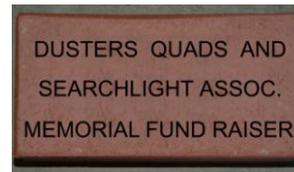
New => Memorial Bricks \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2022 Good Works \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If paying dues presents a hardship for you but you still want to be an Active Member, check this box [ ]. ←

Some members have made donations to assist you.



**New Memorial Brick Program**

NDQSA has committed to purchase memorial bricks to honor the 211+ names on our ADA Memorial at the new ADA Association Learning Center (Museum). We figure that we will need about \$14,000 to complete the project. We have already received about half the needed funds from generous NDQSA members at the last reunion. If you would like to contribute to this fund please enter your amount in the Donations section above.

If you would like to order a brick for yourself, a buddy, or family member, see the ADA Association Brick Order Form on a separate page in this newsletter.

Excess donations received under this line item will possibly be directed to other donation programs as deemed appropriate by the BOD.

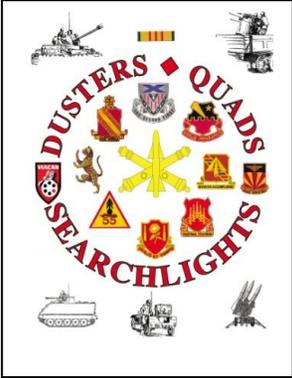


## 2022 NDQSA REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

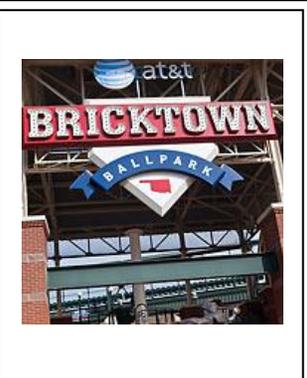
PLEASE READ EVERYTHING CAREFULLY AND MAIL THIS FORM TO THE TREASURER – SEE ADDRESS LABEL BELOW  
**39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NDQSA REUNION, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK July 5<sup>th</sup> – 10th 2022**

**The Skirvin Hilton  
Oklahoma City**  
 One Park Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK  
 +1 405-272-3040  
 Hotel Online Reservation link:  
[Hotel Link](#)

**Daily Room Rate: \$119 + tax King or 2 Queens**  
**NDQSA Group Rate valid 3 days pre & 3 days post above dates**  
**(Based on hotel availability)**  
**Phone & Online Reservations Must Mention:**  
**NDQSA Reunion**



Name(print): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse/other attendees: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Which days are you planning to attend the reunion? (circle)  
 Jul 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12  
 Su M Tu W Th F S Su M Tu  
 Remember to make your hotel reservations ASAP to insure room availability.  
**If you have already made your reservations, check this box [  ].**  
**If you are local or not staying at the reunion hotel, check this box [  ].**



**To help planning reunion activities for buses & meals, please pre-register now and send fees for the following activities.**  
 As always, should unforeseen circumstances occur and you are unable to attend the reunion, you will receive a full refund.  
 Activity times are tentative and subject to change as plans are finalized.

ACTIVITIES				
<p><b>Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup></b>                      Setup/Registration                      ~11:00 AM in                      Hospitality Room</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Open Day Sightseeing On Your Own</b></p> <p>Native American                      Museum                      Cowboy HOF                      Casinos, etc</p> <p><b>Evening Activities Hospitality Room</b></p>	<p><b>Wednesday July 6<sup>th</sup></b>                      Registration 9:00 AM                      Hospitality Room</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Open Day Sightseeing On Your Own</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Evening AAA Baseball game at the Brickyard with 4/60<sup>th</sup> soldiers from Ft. Sill \$15@venue Amusement Park</b></p> <p><b>Late Evening Activities Hospitality Room closes at ~12 midnight</b></p>	<p><b>Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup></b>                      Registration                      Hospitality Room                      Closed</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:00 AM  <b>(Board Buses to Ft. Sill)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Trip to Ft. Sill New ADA Museum Lunch not included Eagle Memorial \$40 pp Buses return to hotel</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Evening Activities Hospitality Room closes at ~12 midnight</b></p>	<p><b>Friday July 8<sup>th</sup></b>                      Registration 9:00 AM                      Hospitality Room</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Morning / Afternoon on Your Own</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:00 PM-10:30 PM  <b>Annual NDQSA Dinner Banquet</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Awards &amp; Presentations</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cash Bar \$55 pp</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup></b>                      9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  <b>Annual Membership Business Mtg.</b>                      *Members required to attend</p> <p>9:00 AM to 11:00 AM  <b>Ladies Continental Breakfast</b>                      in Hospitality Room</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Afternoon                      On Your Own</p> <p><b>7pm Evening Activities, Auctions &amp; Raffles Hospitality Room</b></p>
				<p><b>Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00AM Chaplain's Farewell Svc.</b></p>

<u>Select &amp; Pay for Activities</u>	<u>No.of Persons</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wed, July 6 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm AAA Baseball game at the Brickyard w/ Ft. Sill ADA soldiers		\$15 pp at the ballpark
Thurs. July 7 <sup>th</sup> 8am-6pm Field trip to Ft. Sill , Eagle Memorial, lunch, ADA Museum	<b>(\$40)</b> x _____ = \$ _____	
Friday, July 8 <sup>th</sup> 5:00pm-10:30pm NDQSA Dinner Banquet & President's Party with Band	<b>(\$55)</b> x _____ = \$ _____	
<b>Voluntary donation to 2022 NDQSA Good Works Project: (Memorial Bricks)</b>	(any amount welcome)	\$ _____
<b>Reunion Registration Fee: <u>Make sure you add it into your total.</u></b>	<b>(\$30 individual or family)</b>	\$ _____ 30 _____
<b>Total &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

**Allan Penwell  
1613 Congressional Way  
Champaign, IL. 61822**

Make your pre-registration check payable to **NDQSA**  
 and mail to NDQSA Treasurer:  
**← Cut out this address label and tape it to your envelope.**

**Tear off this  
page, fill it  
out and mail**

(Continued from page 5) I got the letter telling about the arrival of the baby the day we went out to the Oasis. I read it while we were waiting at CP 31 (check point 31). I wrote a letter last night, You'll will probably get this one before it. This morning I worked on a gun. I also got paid \$245.00. I might be able to get a \$100.00 home this month. You'll know what I am going to buy when it gets home. We came back into base camp this afternoon. I helped work on the captain's jeep. He is unhappy because another jeep runs better than his. Sgt Oxendine and I are driving up to Dak To in the morning. They are having trouble with one of the guns up there. I didn't stay up and watch the new year in last night. I was in bed by 9:00 last night. Sgt. Moseley woke us up at 6:00. Brown and I didn't get up until 7:00. I ate breakfast for the first time in quite a while. The mess hall served breakfast from 8 till 10 this morning. They have a pretty good breakfast so I decided I would par take of it. I have to get up early in the morning so I am going to bed now.

**2 Jan 68** (54 year old memory) I don't remember much about the drive to Dak To, rutted roads and one or two water crossings. There had been some heavy fighting up there. This was first convoy in after the road was declared secure. As always when on the road a round was in chamber of rifle and safety on. I do remember Sgt. Oxendine was at Artillery Hill and I was at Camp Enari. To pick him up and get to convoy point in time I had to leave way before the main gates to Camp Enari were opened up. I had to drive through Pleiku by myself around 4:00am. Windows of truck were rolled up so no one could throw a grenade in the cab. The rifle (M16 Ser no 578304) was in my lap round in chamber don't remember if safety was on or off. When I went out the gate the MP asked if I was by myself. When I said yes, he replied "Good Luck! " That was a real morale booster.

**Wed 3 Jan 68** Well here I am on CQ again. I also have the last shift again. We got back from Dak To at 7:00 last night. It was a pretty nice trip 140 miles of it. The country up there is real nice looking. Dak Toe itself is a beautiful spot. The track we worked on was located on a ridge above a river. They got fed good food and a lot of it. Things are quiet up there now. I wouldn't mind staying there for a while. By the time we got back I was bushed. Sgt. Oxendine gave me this morning off. I spent it sleeping. Brousseau and Billings got in from Bam Bleck yesterday afternoon. They had been there for the last five days. I got three letters today. Two from you'll, one with the pictures and one from Mike and Phyllis. That niece sounds like a dandy. There is a good

chance I may leave country on the 10th of Feb. This afternoon when I got down to the motor pool I checked out the truck. You guessed it! I had a flat. Thank God it was one of the outside duels instead of inside. I also straightened up the cab and the back of the truck. Then I went to the POL dump and fueled it up. Came back hooked a trailer to it, put a 55 gal drum of oil on the trailer. We were going to take it to Kontum tomorrow. The tracks up there moved out near check point 92 on highway 19. So we are not going tomorrow.

**Saturday 6 Jan 68** Well I kind of figured it is about time I wrote you'll another letter. Thursday morning I slept till 11:30 because I had CQ the night before. I spent the afternoon helping Day put hydraulic fluid in the VTR. It broke a lock out cylinder a while back. We replaced it Wednesday afternoon. The VTR holds 140 gallons of fluid. We had one gallon cans. Had to pour it in a can at a time. We poured all afternoon and ran out of fluid way before it could fill up. Yesterday Sgt. Oxendine and I went out to a firebase the other side of check point 92. It was about 10 miles back in the boonies. I got to see some more beautiful country. The road out to 92 is paved. I got to run the truck wide open. When we got back I had to fix a flat. No I didn't I was thinking of the one I had to fix after we went to Dak To. I fix so many flats I can't keep them straight. I changed the oil in the truck and cleaned the air filter. Today Billings and I made two trips to Artillery Hill to pick up road wheels, track pad's and track sections. We made one trip this morning another this afternoon. That just about covers the activities of the last few days.



**Monday 8 Jan 68** Well I am on CQ again and the second shift again. I am getting tired of this stuff. I am thinking seeing if I can't go to the Oasis for a few weeks.

(Note: The reason Sgt. Oxendine moved part of maintenance section to the Oasis the first time was because of all the details we had to pull in base camp. We could not do our jobs. Personally I felt like slave labor for the 4th Infantry Division) Brousseau and Day took the VTR to Bam Bleck yesterday and blew the engine. We had a quad 50 to hit a mine out there a few days ago. One of the men was injured he is OK now. We had yesterday afternoon off. I just laid around and took it easy. This morning Sgt. Oxendine and Barkly drove the maintenance truck to Bam Bleck. Farron, Billings and I took a oil cooler off of the bad engine we have here and gave it to them. They took off and left it. So Billings and I piled into a jeep and chased them down. They were almost to checkpoint 31 before we caught them. (Note: What I refer to as Jeep is the M-151, some people call it the Mutt) This afternoon we fixed two flat tires. The wind had been blowing sand all day. We got tired of trying to work with sand blowing in our faces. So Billings and I borrowed the 5/16 trailer they had made to sprinkle diesel fuel on the ground to keep the dust down. We hooked it behind a 2 1/2 ton filled it with diesel and wet down the area in front of the maintenance tent real good. (Note: this was a single axle trailer with 600 gallon? tank in it. There was a pipe 6 or 8 ft long hooked to the tank with a ball valve. The pipe ran parallel to rear of trailer it had holes in it about 6in apart. We would use it to put diesel fuel on ground to settle the dust). You can tell Mrs. Stitt that the area around Qui Nhon is real quiet. There is not much going on down there. Pop it sounds like you are kind of taking things easy. Every time mom writes you are lying on the couch I hope you are feeling better. Enclosed are two pictures one of me and one of McIlroy he is home now. I haven't got the money order or packages mailed yet.

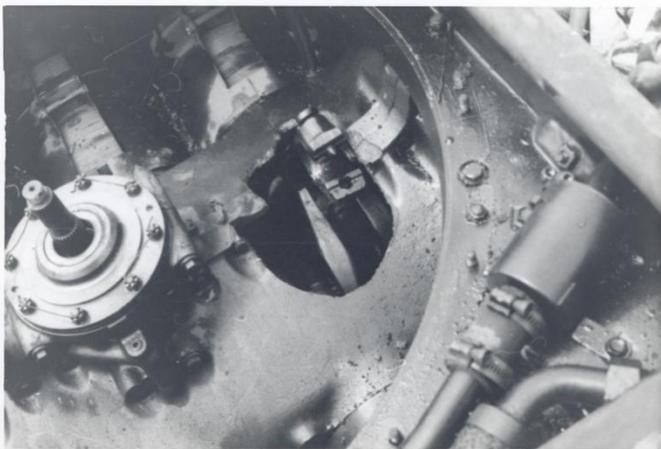
**Saturday 13 Jan 68** Well I am at the Oasis now. Sgt. Oxendine and I came out late yesterday afternoon. I slept till 8:00 this morning. It sure was nice. We changed the plugs in one of the tracks this morning. It took most of the morning because some of the spark plug wires didn't want to go back on. (Note: These plug wires are not like your common plug wire with rubber boots that push on. These wires were shielded by heavy wire outer shield with threaded ends that screwed on to the spark plugs and at magneto.) This afternoon I slept a lot. Out here I can catch up on the sleep I lost in base camp pulling CQ. Also besides getting to sleep a lot the mess hall here serves good chow. Also I can get a hot shower out here. We can in base camp if things work out right which they usually don't. The Chaplain told us yesterday the General was thinking about keeping those that were on the advance party until the 23 of February. I sure hope not (Note: I was in the advance party).

**Tuesday 16 Jan 68** The reason Lanier is going home is because his discharge date was coming up. Right now he is in Georgia with his wife enjoying civilian life. More than half the battery has left. They are all being discharged. Tell Mac not to join the Army. If it is at all possible stay in school and stick it out. If he doesn't want to stay in school he has three choices. Get married the Army will still get him. Get a job wait to get drafted or volunteer for the draft. Just go to the draft board tell the lady he wants to be drafted. If he wants to join so he can get special training. Tell him to write or wait till I get home. I can give him some information. Tell him not to dread it. It is a lot of fun. I got a letter from Polly and Clyde yesterday. (Note: My father's sister and her husband) I will answer as soon as I feel like writing. Right now I don't want to write a letter. Since I didn't write last night figured I had better do it. We came back into base camp yesterday afternoon. Yesterday morning Anderson and I hooked a spray paint gun to the air tank on his 2-1/2 painted the shower and out house and some post. Today I had done some work on the maintenance truck. I was able to keep busy. I also had to work on a gun. Sgt. Oxendine's replacement came in yesterday. Barkley's has been here for a long time. They brought Mayhew back into the maintenance section so I can train him for my replacement. Say hello to Mike, Phyllis, Michelle and Mac for me.





**Friday 19 Jan 68** I was laying here in bed and realized I haven't wrote in a few days. The last few days haven't been hard kind of easy. We have had several replacements come into the maintenance section one E-6, Three E-5's two E-3's. Anderson, Farron, Hap, Woodcock. will be here when we leave. Jurklovanic is going to be put back to work as a mechanic; Mayhew will be taking my place. So there want be a shortage of mechanic's. Jurklovnic and Woodcock extended over here for another 6 months. They are rather Woodcock is at home now. Jurk is in Japan. I bet he is having a time. Clark and Weber looked at my orders. They have served in Alaska. They said I was going to Fort Wainwright outside of Fairbanks. This isn't much of a letter. It is late and we have a track to work on. So I had better close. Say hello to Mike, Phyllis and the little cowgirl for me also Mac.



**Sunday 21 Jan 68** I kind of figured I had better write while I have the time. We have been working all day. We pulled an engine out today. The super charger shaft was broke and the fan chewed up. A little while after we got

through checking the super charger out a truck came from Qui Nhon with a new engine. Hap came in from the Oasis with the bad engine out of 131. We tried to take the super charger off of 131's engine. The fan on it was chewed up to. We got everything but the fan. We couldn't get a wrecker. So we got the new engine ready to hook to the transmission and the old one ready to come off. That covers my day. The way things stand right now I will be here until close to the 23rd of Feb. According to my orders I am to be in Cam Ran Bay the 20th. That's the way it stands until my port call comes down. They can't hold me past the 23rd.

**Wednesday 24 Jan 68** I haven't got that money order in the mail yet. Well here I am at the Oasis again. Sgt. Oxendine and I came out yesterday afternoon. One of the tracks was having trouble with it's brakes. By the time we got here Hap had it squared away. We stayed here last night. A new engine for one of the track's came in yesterday. This morning I worked on a gun while Hap, Andy and Mac (McMurtrie) one of the new men hooked the new engine to the transmission. They weren't able to put the engine in the track because the fuel lines and cables we needed didn't come with the engine. Sgt. Oxendine went back to base camp with McMurtrie this afternoon. He left me here with the maintenance truck. He wants me to stay here a few days so I can help Hap and Andy and Sgt. Booth (Sgt. Oxendine's replacement) with this engine. I also have a few more guns to work on. I woke up with a sore throat this morning otherwise I am fine.

**Sat 27Jan68** Well I finally got that money order. I got it in the mail this morning it is for \$230.00. I know I wrote that I wasn't going to send that much. I had planned on ordering a shotgun. I happen to think if I got a shotgun I might not have quit enough for a truck. The truck comes first for me. I still have \$18 in my pocket. The month is almost gone. So I will be able to make it fine. This morning (I am still at the Oasis) I took it easy I finished fixing a flat I started on yesterday. I want be driving the maintenance truck anymore. I turned it over to Anderson a few minutes ago that is a big problem I want have to worry about. It has a flat tire on it. So Andy will be able to get off to a good start.

141 blew it's engine yesterday a new one got here late this afternoon. We will put it in tomorrow. I put an azimuth indicator in a track this afternoon. One of the tracks came in off of the road with a broken torsion bar. I also put a throttle cable in a track this afternoon. I had planned on being back to base camp this afternoon but it didn't work out that way. I

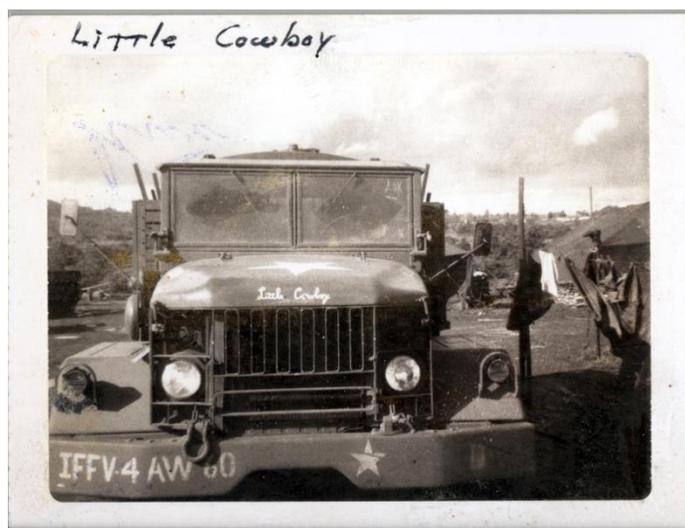
will help put the engine in 141 tomorrow and go back with Farron tomorrow afternoon. I got two letters today.



**Tuesday 30 Jan 68** Well here I am still at the Oasis. I haven't done much the last few days. Yesterday afternoon I checked out one of the guns. I am glad I did. There are new men on the track. After cleaning the left gun they put it back together wrong. If they had fired the gun the round would have exploded before it got into the chamber. Someone would have got hurt bad. Sgt. Oxendine called out he wanted Hap, Andy and I to go into base camp today to help him put in an engine. Since I had been trying to get into base camp for the last three days. I was glad to hear it. So this morning I rolled up my sleeping bag and packed my pack. About 9:00 Sgt. Oxendine came into the day room told us to forget about going into base camp. There would be no convoy going in today because Charlie fired some mortar rounds into Camp Enari last night. There were two NVA companies outside of Camp Enari trying to take Pleiku. The Vietnamese are celebrating their "Tet" Lunar New Year now. 50 cal and small arms fire woke me up last night. It sounded like it was coming from the Vietnamese compound just down the road. I looked out a hole in the tent saw tracer rounds going over head. It sounded like an attack. None of the other men had woken up. I figured I had better check into what was going on. I got into my clothes went over to the bunker and asked this fellow on radio watch if he knew what was going on. He told me they were celebrating their New Year. So I stood outside the bunker and watched for a while. Then I went back to bed. We spent most of today building a 3 man bunker at the edge of our area here. All in all I haven't been working to hard. I did work up a sweat on that bunker. The weather is getting hot, dry and mighty dusty. When I go home I will probably have a stop at Dallas. So I will call home from there. That would give you'll time to reach the airport. You all can quit writing any time after you get this letter. If

you want to keep writing don't put anything important in them. I got the newspaper and a letter from Ritchey yesterday.

**Note:** Looking back. The increase in Viet Cong activity at this time was the Tet offensive. The first time I heard of the Tet offensive was on return flight home. The plane landed on Okinawa a NCO pointed out my ribbons were on wrong. I asked what they were for. He said one was Vietnam Campaign ribbon the other was Vietnam defense ribbon. I ask about the two Oak leaf clusters on one of them. He said one was just for showing up the other was for the Tet Offensive. First time I heard of the Tet Offensive.



**Thursday 1 Feb 68** Well today started off just like any other day. I slept till 9:00 this morning. Hap went out on strong point with one of the tracks. Andy had to go and work on #111 it is out at the Rock Quarry. Charlie (Viet Cong) tried to hit the Oasis perimeter today but he got caught in between here and the Vietnamese compound in a little valley. The Vietnamese were the first to see him. They started firing. We all headed for our bunkers. I was in the new one we built yesterday with three other men. I only wish I had took my camera but I left it here in the tent. We stood in the bunker and watched the fireworks. It was really something. The Vietnamese were firing into the valley. The PC's (APCs) on our perimeter were firing. Helicopters were firing rockets and their mini guns. Then F-100's came in and dropped bombs. Then they brought in tanks and PCs from the left and right. Charlie was boxed in but he got out somehow. This lasted about 2 hours. We had to stay in the bunker because there was lead flying overhead. We had C-rations for lunch that we ate in our bunker. (Note: I can remember two things. One of the men in the bunker with me was new. He asked me if I would trade weapons with him. I

asked why. The people at battalion had sent him out with a M-14 and one magazine with 20 rounds of ammo [rest of us had M-16's]. I told him no. I did run over to one the Duster's and get a box of ammo with linked ammunition for the M-60. I gave it to him. Probably would not be much help but it did make him feel a little better. After a while someone mentioned they were hungry. I trotted over to the mess hall all the cook's looked at me over the top of a table they were behind. I asked if they had anything to eat one of them pointed to some C-rations so I grabbed enough for us and went back to the bunker.) We came out of the bunkers about 2:00 I drove the gas truck around the perimeter and filled up the tracks. Then came back here sat down and read a book. We tried to catch a convoy into base camp at 6:00 but the road was closed and wasn't able to leave. Alston got his Port Call, he leaves the 8th. He came on the advance party with me. There may be a chance I will leave early yet. I am hoping so. Because this shit is definitely getting flakey.

#### **This the last letter from Vietnam that I have.**

**Friday 2 Feb 68** Well I made it into base camp at 5:00 this afternoon. I was told I would be going in to Qui Nhon to battalion HQ to be shipped back to the states. I ate chow came back to the barracks and started packing. I was amazed at the stuff I had collected over here. I threw a lot away, gave some away. Finally got packed up. Then, I went to the mess hall at 8:00 to sign some papers. Then I was told I wouldn't be going. They also told Gilly he wasn't going after they told him he was. We both were pissed off. Everybody is going except Gilly and I. A chopper came up (the Colonel's chopper) and picked up Sgt. Oxendine this afternoon. Brousseau and Hanley are going in straight from the field. They aren't even coming in here to pick up their gear. I am thinking about going back to the Oasis.

**Note:** I did go back to the Oasis. Finally left out of Cam Ranh Bay on 17 Feb 68. Don't remember too much about it. Went to Artillery Hill to get a Chinook into Qui Nhon. At Artillery Hill I had a brand new in-country Lt. (He wore clean brand new fatigues with no dirt on him) tell me to carry his duffle bag to the Chinook. I wanted to tell him to carry his own bag but being brand new I knew he would make an issue out of it. I was afraid I would end up in a brig in-country and I wanted out. I picked up his bag and set right on the edge of the rear ramp then walked to very front and sat down, then watched him carry his bag into the Chinook. At Qui Nhon I turned my rifle and gear in. In Cam Ranh Bay my

last detail in country was burning the waste cans in the latrine. It must have been a 50 hole'r. Shortly after that plane took off it seemed like everybody on board let out a big sigh of relief at the same time.



Editor's note: This has been a very special project for me to work with Phil McGuire and present his original words, memories and photos from his tour in the Central Highlands with D-4/60<sup>th</sup> in 1967-68. While each of us has our own unique tour of duty and with some being 'more eventful' than others, it has been a pleasure to experience the milestones of the McGuire family and understand what it was like for someone from a different unit and timeframe and to learn what he did, who he impacted with and how he dealt with his duties and responsibilities. Responsibilities to his family, his unit, his crews, his buddies and to taking care of himself. A thankful "well done" Phillip.

I hope Phillip's letters brought back some similar memories to the group. Similar family milestones and day-to-day routines that define our own tours.

As always I look forward to hearing from anyone with a story to tell. Sure, it may not be an epic three newsletter diatribe, but any piece of story from you will add to the collective history of our units and the individual sacrifices we all made.

It is sobering to now think that 50+ years after we served in ADA battling communism in SE Asia, some of our grandsons and granddaughters might now be faced with again fighting in a foreign land as ADA combatants to protect our freedom. Brothers then...Brothers and Sisters FOREVER!!

National Dusters, Quads &  
Searchlights Association  
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## Forward Service Requested



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**39<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion 2022**  
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Issue 1 March 2022

Face Book : [Dqs historian](#)

Many of you have already paid for multiple years, so look carefully at the mailing label for the year which shows when you are paid up through. (2022 or beyond)

However, if you see the number 0000 or 2021 and below, we have not seen a dues payment from you in a while. If you can't afford the dues, we fully understand so do not worry about it. We only ask that you update your status and verify your contact information, **phone numbers and email address**. Just mail in the info using the multipurpose form or send an email.

Current rosters are printed out mid-year and will contain the most up to date information. So please make any updates or changes ASAP!

**If you have changed your phone number or email address recently**, send an email to Paul Kopsick at [dqshistorian@cox.net](mailto:dqshistorian@cox.net) or leave a test or message on (202) 262-9560.

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The National Dusters, Quads & Searchlights Association, Inc.™ (NDQSA™) is the original, official representative for ADA Veterans who served in Viet Nam. NDQSA is the **only** organization of Viet Nam ADA Veterans officially recognized by the Air Defense Artillery Association headquarters in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. As a tribute to the memory of over 200 ADA warriors who lost their lives during the war in Viet Nam, NDQSA members have funded, constructed and dedicated a magnificent monument in the Memorial Park at Fort Sill.

NDQSA was founded in 1981 by John Huelsenbeck et al, holds annual reunions and has grown to about 600 active members with a directory of over 2200 ADA Viet Nam Veterans and supporters.

NDQSA is an IRS 501(c) (19) non-profit veteran's organization and is incorporated in the State of Indiana.

We welcome and encourage all ADA Veterans who served in Viet Nam to join NDQSA and to share the fellowship, mutual support, and continued service to our nation on behalf of all military veterans and active duty personnel.