

Company B, 2nd Battalion, 12th Special Forces Group



Semi-Annual NEWSLETTER

4th Edition

March 1, 2009

2009, 5th Annual B/2/12 Special Forces Reunion

The 2009 B/2/12 Special Forces Reunion will be our 5th and will still meet during the last weekend in April. The early arrivals will get to Ruidoso on Thursday afternoon, April 23. The bulk of the troops will be in on Friday morning, April 24. As usual we plan to visit and have photo slide shows on Friday, with no format or formal presentations. Bring your photos, slide shows on CD and memorabilia to share.

Saturday we again will plan to spend the day shooting up all the ammo in sight. If you can't or don't bring your own weapons, you can bring ammo and borrow a weapon. We have always got guys who are willing to loan their

weapons. Most common calibers of pistols and rifles are always present. As the event draws closer, Mike Querner will lock in the range and it will hopefully be the same range as in 2008.

The one major change for 2009 is that we will move the reunion from the Best Western Ruidoso to the Best Western Pine Springs, located on the mountainside directly across the highway from the Ruidoso Downs Racetrack (about three miles east of our previous site). Since late 2007, both hotels are under a single ownership. Since there is now a new owner, rising costs of fuel and other rising costs in the economy...our room rate is also going up slightly.

Our rooms will now cost us **\$75.00 per night** (plus tax). Also we will have to pay **\$100.00**

*Best West-
ern Pine
Springs,
Ruidoso
Downs,
NM*



per day for the Conference Room. In order to cover the cost of the Conference Room, we are now being forced to charge a small registration fee of **\$5.00** per adult (no registration fee for children under the age of 18).



Pine Springs center courtyard & Gazebo

Our Company Dinner on Saturday evening will be served buffet style by the caterer, Lynn Crawford, owner of Dream Catcher Café in downtown Ruidoso. Our meal will cost us **\$20.00** per plate. You are strongly encouraged to prepay, both your registration fee and dinner

prior to your arrival in Ruidoso. Lynn must have a firm headcount for the dinner by the morning of April 13 to order in enough food for us.

The room contract is a done deal therefore, you can make your reservations anytime. Call **Best Western Pine Springs** at **575-378-8100** to make reservations for the **12th Special Forces** group rate. Room availability dates for the reunion are (for three nights) beginning April 23, 2009, with a checkout on Sunday April 26. Those who put their name on the reservation list at the end of last year's reunion would be wise to confirm their reservation and get a confirmation number.

Checks for prepaid registrations and Company dinner can be made payable to Gary Cook, with a memo "Dinner/ registration 2009 12SF Reunion". Mail your registration check to me at 1601 E. Cardwell St, Brownfield, TX 79316.

*You may also pay Cash at the door, however I must turn in a **FINAL HEADCOUNT** to the caterer on **April 13, 2009**, so that the caterer can order the appropriate number of entrees (steak and chicken). If I don't have your reservation prior to April 13 there will not be a meal available.*

Registration fee - Adults 18 & over \$5.00

Children under 18 \$0

Company Dinner - All Plates \$20.00

The menu will consist of:

Entrée - (your choice of flat iron steak or chicken, selected prior to April 13)

Vegetable

Salad

Bread

Desert

Tea or Water

Bring your own sodas, beer or other beverages

Where are they now?



Sergeant Major Steve Overman's 30 man Special Operations Detachment (Special Operations

Detachment-Korea, Colorado Army National Guard), is being mobilized again for the 2nd time in 2 years. USSOCOM pulled the rug out from under the team and DX'ed their deployment to Afghanistan. For this upcoming deployment they will be spending a year in Stuttgart, Germany,

manning and running the new Special Operations Command-Africa (SOC-A) which stood up on 1 October, 2008.

Steve would have preferred to deploy to Afghanistan, but he thinks he can sacrifice and suffer through a year in Germany; hmmm lets see, skiing on the Swiss Alps, skiing in Bavaria, driving thru Europe!! It will be tough duty, BUT!! Even though they're headquartered in Stuttgart, there will be plenty of missions down range in Djibouti and the entire African Continent (JCETs, JCS exercises (Flintlock), etc). Keep an eye in the news for Yemen, Somalia, and Sudan. These are the new hot spots for terrorist training camps and SOC-As mission is to be proactive and do something to them along the lines of the Tom Clancy book/movie, "Clear and Present Danger" or maybe "Patriot Games", if you catch the drift. (*if not...watch the movies, I'm sure you'll get it then*)

Even though Steve won't be able to attend this reunion; he'll only have 7 months left till he finally retires from the military, once he gets back from this deployment (40yrs of service), so maybe then he can get to a reunion.

Health & Wellness update

Thankfully, I have not received any new reports of ill health from anyone. The last I knew, even Fitz is doing well.

However, on February 20th Jon Ker's mother, Mrs. Beth Ker passed away at the age of 94. On behalf of the Company, I wish to express our condolences to Jon and his family.

TAPS:

As of this writing, B Company, fortunately, has not received any reports of a loss from among our ranks this year.

IN THE NEWS

I guess that all of our downrange personnel are either too busy to send news items for this edition, which is alright. I hope the reason I did not get any news releases from our guys is not because they aren't doing anything worth reporting.

If you are doing something of interest to the rest of us, which can be released in an unclassified publication, please let me know so, your story can be included in our semi-annual newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS & Such

John Folkner formerly of ODA 224, B/2/12 is now a Team Sergeant (*!Can you believe it?!*) for ODA 9521, of the 5th Bn, 19th Group. John along with CSM Ben Bitonel and several other former B/2/12 members returned home before our last newsletter. However, we've just now learned that John is not only a Team Sergeant but has finally been selected for promotion to Master Sergeant. Congratulations John! You can hold your promotion party at our next reunion!

ODDS & ENDS:

If you haven't ordered your T-Shirts, Caps, Etc - Don't despair! There are some new items available this year. There will again be a limited quantity for sale at Ruidoso and there are plans to submit another order following the reunion.



This newsletter is produced for the men of Company B, 2nd Bn, 12th SFG(A). It is compiled from information supplied by you, written and or quoted (with credit given to the original sources) by:

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[Send submissions for the newsletter to Gary Cook](#)

******Our newsletter spans Company members and guests from a broad spectrum of years. Not everyone who receives the newsletter by e-mail wants to receive e-mail banter between old friends. They may not even know you or the target of your quips. PLEASE RESPECT OTHERS. Focus your e-mail replies to select individuals or groups rather than a "Reply to All" e-mail option. Thank you for your consideration of others.******