

## After Action Report Michigan Reunion May 2016

May 10, - 15, 2016, 25 Veterans from 14 states gathered in Traverse City, Michigan and Mackinaw City, MI. In attendance for some or all were the following: Art & Eva Cuellar, Dan & Marge Darcy, Jesse Duron & with his daughter in law, Brandy Fletcher and granddaughter Kaelin Fletcher, Chuck Emery, Bob & Betty Fonzino, James & Laurie Fort, Gary & Pamela Henry, George Hosso, Mike & Kathy Hughes, George & Alta Jones, Raymond Jones, Jim & Marianne Little, Tim Milligan, Jack & Janis Nelson (their first reunion!), Roy & Janet Pline, Monte Samson, Tom & Nancy Saumur, John & Fran Shaeffer, Ann Schiltz Mock (daughter of Brendan "*Herbie*" Schiltz, John Smith (*Smitty*) and Kathleen Zolow, John & Elaine Starkey, Pete & Margaret Weeks, Marv & Janet Weiss, Steve & Bobbi Wittenberg, Ron & Cindy Wulff.

We stayed at the West Bay Beach Resort...close to downtown Traverse City with an awesome view of the West Bay!! A day was spent at Sleeping Bear National Park and Boathouse Winery, a few golfers hit the links, some made the most of just sharing time talking, others spent time shopping in Traverse City, while others took the guided historic tour of the former mental asylum now the beautiful Village at Grand Traverse Commons with food, wine, art, boutiques and apartments. Dinners at great restaurants!! Thursday evening was our chapter meeting at Boones Long Lake Inn of Traverse City. Senator Mike Kowall 15<sup>th</sup> District Senate office was scheduled to be part of our evening program, (Senator was unable to attend due to a death in his family). Ms. Lynn O'Brien, the Director of District Affairs for Senator Mike Kowall was present to give each veteran the 50 year Commemorative Vietnam War Veteran lapel pin prior to the dinner and chapter meeting. At the meeting Art Cuellar was elected to Treasurer Position. Next chapter meeting for B 2/8 Chapter will be in Colorado Springs, Colorado in 2017. On Friday, those going on to Mackinaw City packed up and drove up to Shepler's ferry to take a ride over to Mackinac Island for the day. Cold weather settled in on the area as we bundled up to stay warm and enjoy the horse drawn carriage ride around the island, shop, eat again and walk through the Grand Hotel. Our stay for the 2 nights in Mackinaw City was at the Best Western Plus Dockside with a great view of Lake Huron. The next day we traveled to Sault Ste Marie to take the 2 hour boat ride through the Soo Locks. Once again we found great places to eat! It in an awesome thing to see how much these veterans share, encourage, support, and enjoy this time together and great to see the ladies coming and sharing this time together also!

Art Cuellar is the new Treasurer for the B Co 2/8 chapter replacing Andy Halverson.

Following the reunion, Roy Pline volunteered to be the Interim Secretary for the chapter until the 2017 reunion and the election can occur for the position of Secretary.

Looking forward to the 2017 reunion in Colorado Springs!