



**NATIONAL RAKKASAN ASSOCIATION /187<sup>TH</sup> AIRBORNE INFANTRY REGIMENT  
44th ANNIVERSARY AND REUNION  
SPONSORED BY WELDON F. HONEYCUTT / HAMBURGER HILL CHAPTER  
RAKKASANS  
MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> – 16<sup>TH</sup> 2025**

January, 2025

Hello Fellow Rakkasan: This letter is the official notification and registration information for the upcoming 44<sup>th</sup> National Rakkasan Association Reunion. This event will be sponsored by the Weldon F. Honeycutt /Hamburger Hill Chapter of the 187<sup>th</sup> Regiment Association. This event will be held in Clarksville, TN and Ft. Campbell, KY. The dates for the Anniversary/Reunion are Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Important to understand that we will officially start with arrival on Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, and organized activities will begin on the Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of May. We will continue to work details in the months to come. You will receive updates by email and on social media: [www.facebook.com/nationalrakkasan](http://www.facebook.com/nationalrakkasan) , [www.HamburgerHill.org](http://www.HamburgerHill.org) and the association website [www.rakkasanassociation.org](http://www.rakkasanassociation.org) .

This Rakkasan Reunion/Anniversary is very significant to all Rakkasans and to the entire U.S. Army. The combat actions of the 187<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment as gliders soldiers, paratroopers, and air assault troopers have always been significant. This Reunion/Anniversary will celebrate the actions of the entire Regiment throughout all conflicts. I am writing to ask that you join all of your brothers and sisters for the celebration of the Rakkasans. We will celebrate the 56th Reunion / Anniversary of the Regimental action on Dong Ap Bia/Hill 937/Hamburger Hill. In May of 1969 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion 187<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment ventured forth to a significant “rendezvous with destiny”. We also honor WWII, Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, Iraq, and all other conflicts where Rakkasans fought to make our country free. With each passing year we get older, our health changes, and unfortunately, we lose a few comrades. I am asking that you come join us and renew old friendships forged on the field of battle. I believe that we have put together a program in both Clarksville and FT. Campbell that will honor our comrades and renew our friendship.

This letter contains the most recent schedule of events at the 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Reunion. It is also important to note that we are working with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mobile Brigade Combat Team (187<sup>th</sup> Regiment). This letter gives you a summary of the activities, registration details, and the cost of the events. I hope that each of you will be able to join us and bring a friend to experience our bonding. Look forward to seeing you.

**Rakkasan!  
Let Valor Not Fail!**

**Bob Harkins  
President, Alpha 6**



## LOCATION

Country Inn and Suites  
3075 Wilma Rudolph Blvd, Clarksville, TN 37040  
(931) 444-6623

A block of rooms has been reserved in the name of the Hamburger Hill/Rakkasans. Please contact the hotel directly by telephone for your room reservations. You cannot do it online. When you call mention that you are part of the Hamburger Hill /Rakkasan group. Our group room rate is \$92.00 per night, double occupancy, plus any taxes. Please make your reservations early and remember to let them know you are with our group. Make your room reservations on your own, they are separate from our reunion costs.

## REUNION COSTS

This year we have been fundraising to lower the registration cost. Special thanks to all our sponsors. We will charge \$50 Per Person. The cost includes: Hamburger Hill Chapter Dues, Tuesday BBQ, Wednesday Range Lunch, Wednesday Ladies luncheon, Wednesday Informal Reception, Thursday Memorial Dinner and room fees. Note: Funds are NOT included for the purchase of refreshments for the hospitality room. Please earmark any donations for its operation to Bob Harkins or Mike Smith. Additionally, Mike Smith will be collecting contributions to sponsor enlisted soldiers to attend the informal reception and memorial dinner (\$55 to sponsor a soldier). Certainly, any additional contribution will be greatly appreciated. Need your help please!!!!

It is very important to all of us that each and every vet of the Rakkasans be present at the reunion. We want to see you. If there are financial constraints that may prohibit your attendance, let me know and we will try to arrange assistance. Please let us help.

## REUNION REGISTRATION

There are two options for registration and sponsorship: by mail or online.

By Mail: Submit registration form and check to Mike Smith. PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS. FORWARD REGISTRATION FORM & PAYMENT TO Mike Smith, OUR TREASURER, AT THE BELOW LISTED ADDRESS. Checks should be made payable to *Weldon F. Honeycutt /Hamburger Hill Chapter.*

Mike Smith  
Treasurer, Weldon F. Honeycutt /Hamburger Hill Chapter  
630 Waverly Avenue  
Washington Court House, Ohio 43160

Online: The Second option is to register or send funds for sponsorship by the web. Go to [www.rakkasanassociation.org](http://www.rakkasanassociation.org) and follow the instructions.



## ITINERARY

### Monday May 12<sup>th</sup> - Arrival

0800	2400	Arrival
		Dinner on your own
		Hospitality room open

### Tuesday May 13<sup>th</sup>

0600	0800	Breakfast	Hotel
0800	1200	Golf Tournament	FT. Campbell
0900	1000	Hamburger Hill Chapter Meeting	Hospitality Room
1000	1100	Rakkasan Assoc Meeting	Hospitality Room
1100	1400	Lunch on your own	
1330	1400	Bus Transportation from Hotel	FT. C (Cole Park)
1400	1430	Command Briefing	FT. C (Cole Park)
1430	1530	View Oliver North "War Stories" Video	FT. C (Cole Park)
1530	1600	Move to Brigade Area	FT. C (Cole Park)
1600	1900	Brigade Open House & BBQ	FT. C (BDE Area)
1900	1930	Bus Transportation to Hotel	FT. C (BDE Area)
1800		Hospitality Room	Hotel
<u>Grand Ole Opry Info</u>			
1530	1600	Bus Transportation to Hotel for Opry	Hotel
1700	1800	Bus Transportation from Hotel to Opry	Hotel
1900	2200	Grand Ole Opry Show	Nashville, TN

### Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup>

0600	0800	Breakfast	Hotel
0900	1000	Bus Transport from Hotel	FT. Campbell
1000	1130	Range Firing	FT. Campbell
1200	1300	Lunch on the Range	FT. Campbell
1200	1330	Ladies Lunch	Hotel
1300	1530	Range Firing	FT. Campbell
1530	1600	Bus Transport to Hotel	Hotel
1830	2100	Informal Reception with Active Duty	Hotel
1830	2100	Silent Auction	Hotel
1830		Hospitality Room	Hotel

### Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup>

0600	0800	Breakfast	Hotel
1015	1100	Bus Transport from Hotel	FT. Campbell
1100	1200	Pylon Ceremony	Pylon
1200	1215	Bus Transport to DFAC	FT. C (BDE Area)
1200	1430	RAKK Sale	FT. C (BDE Area)



1430	1500	Bus Transportation to Hotel	FT. Campbell
1500	1730	Open Time	Hotel
1730	1800	Bus Transport to Bruce Center	Hotel
1830	2100	Memorial Dinner	Bruce Center
2100		Hospitality Room	

Friday      May 16<sup>th</sup>  
 Departure

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**PRIORITY REQUEST:**

This is the 44<sup>th</sup> National Rakkasan Association Reunion/ Anniversary of the battle for Dong Ap Bia! Please contact all Rakkasans! Beat the bushes, there are a lot of our former buddies who still don't know we exist or that we do this every year! If you know anyone who served alongside us, Artillery, Aviation, let them know they are welcome. Our contact list is dwindling due to people moving or not informing us of an e-mail change. If you are not getting emails from me, please send me an email at [bharkins6@utexas.edu](mailto:bharkins6@utexas.edu) . We need all the help we can get to have a large turnout!

**DRESS:**

Dress is always casual for all events except the Memorial Dinner. The active-duty group will be in Dress Blues, and it would be nice if we were in business attire (Coat and Tie). Not mandatory, but just because of the type of occasion.

**GOLF OUTING:**

Tuesday Morning 13<sup>th</sup> May, we will have a golf outing at the FT. Campbell Golf Course. It will be a scramble for those that want to Play. Cost is \$50 to be paid at reunion.

**GRAND OLE OPRY:**

On Tuesday evening May 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a bus to Nashville to attend the Grand Ole Opry. The details are still working but the cost will be \$100 per person for transportation and ticket to the event. Bus will leave Hotel at 1700. If you wish to attend, please add that cost to your registration.

**LADIES LUNCH: Wednesday, May 14, 2025:**

Each year we have a special lunch for those that do not want to go to the range. Cost is included in registration fee but we will need a count of attendees. Please note this during registration.



**SILENT AUCTION: Wednesday May 14, 2025 (at the Hotel)**

We ask that each attendee bring an item that we can include in a silent auction to help raise some funds for the Chapter. We are also exploring Shirts, Hats, Coins, and Belt Buckles for sale to the attendees. The items will be displayed at the Reception, Dinner and the Chapter Luncheon, as needed. Items can be "re-gifted" items that you have received that you might not "need", military items that you have duplicates of, and in case you forget, go over to Wal-Mart and get a gift certificate for example.

**DIET RESTRICTIONS:**

If any attendees have dietary considerations, please indicate on your registration sent to Mike. We will need a final count a week prior to the event for any gluten free guests or other diet restrictions. We will do our best to see that and they receive a special pre-plated meal for the dinner.

**COINS, SHIRTS/ HATS/ BELT BUCKLES:**

Mike Smith still has HH Coins and Hats from previous reunions. Contact him by email at [michael\\_smith672@yahoo.com](mailto:michael_smith672@yahoo.com)

**HAMBURGER HILL SCHOLARSHIP:**

We have established a Hamburger Hill Scholarship. We will present three \$1,000 scholarships in May 2025. Forms to apply and further information is available at the Rakkasan Website. Contributions are needed.

**WEB SITE:**

Additionally, the 187<sup>th</sup> Regiment Association has established a presence on social media at [www.facebook.com/NationalRakkasan/](https://www.facebook.com/NationalRakkasan/) , and an Association website at [www.rakkasanassociation.org](http://www.rakkasanassociation.org) . Stay up with the ongoing activities of the Association

We have established a web site for all of the members of the Hamburger Hill Fight to share their pictures and experiences of the "Hill" and the reunions that we have had. Please go to (<http://hamburgerhill.org/members>) to gain access. Make sure to click on "Create an account" first on the member's page. See you there.

Stay up with the ongoing activities of the Association!

**A reminder, for traditional snail mail registration, please complete the Registration form below and RETURN with checks payable to:**

Mike Smith  
Treasurer, Weldon F. Honeycutt /Hamburger Hill Chapter  
630 Waverly Avenue  
Washington Court House, Ohio 43160

**\*If there are special requirements, please note on the back of the Registration Form.**



## HH CHAPTER INFORMATION

**REMINDER/IMPORTANT:** TO BE A VOTING MEMBER OF THE HAMBURGER CHAPTER YOU MUST BE CURRENT IN YOUR CHAPTER DUES AND A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION. CHAPTER DUES ARE \$10 PER YEAR, PLEASE INCLUDE WITH YOUR RESERVATION. **ALSO, IF YOU ARE NOT A LIFETIME MEMBER, MAKE SURE YOUR DUES ARE CURRENT WITH THE 187<sup>th</sup> REGIMENT NATIONAL ASSOCIATION! THEY ARE \$25 PER YEAR AND SHOULD BE SENT TO: ERIK LIND WITH THE NATIONAL CHAPTER ([www.rakkasanassociation.org](http://www.rakkasanassociation.org)).** MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE CHAPTER AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AT THE WELCOME TABLE WHEN YOU ARRIVE.

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP:** Below is the current makeup of the Hamburger Hill Board.

President	*Bob Harkins bharkins6@utexas.edu
Vice President	*Tom Martin tommartin9385@yahoo.com
Treasurer	*Mike Smith michael_smith672@yahoo.com
Secretary	*Greg West Westsurveyors@austin.rr.com
Non-Officer Director #1	*John Dewyse jpdewyse@sbcglobal.net
Non-Officer Director #2	OPEN

This year the office of Vice President (Tom Martin), Secretary (Greg West) and Non-Officer Director #2 (OPEN) are up for election. If there are others that want to join the Board, please contact me. We will vote during the Chapter Meeting Tuesday at the Hotel.



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 MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> – 16<sup>TH</sup> 2025  
 REGISTRATION FORM**

**SECTION 1: Registration Information**

Attendee/Veteran Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cost: \$50.00  
*Cost per guest is \$50.00*  
 Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost: \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE COST: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**SECTION 2: EVENTS**

Grand Ole Opry trip (\$100 per Ticket):  
 # of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL OPRY TICKET COST: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
 Ladies Lunch (No cost/Just need names)  
 Attendee Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attendee Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Golf Outing (\$50 each/Paid at reunion/please provide names:  
 Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 3: DONATIONS**

Sponsor a soldier for Memorial Dinner (\$55.00 per soldier) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation to Hospitality Suite \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL DONATION AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
**GRAND TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

More details to come regarding shirts, coins and other items. Please check website in near future with updates. Mike Smith still has some items from prior reunions so please contact him by e-mail if you are looking for something you have seen sold before.