



The Buffalo Soldier

NEWSLETTER



October - December 2017

9th & 10th (Horse) Cavalry
Association Buffalo Soldiers
(The Official Army Unit Association)

Volume II, Issue 37

From the Editors' Desk

Hello Troopers,

I hope and pray that all is well with each of you this new year. Our 2018 Reunion is heading to San Diego, CA. This was a short notice for this chapter, so negotiations are still in progress and events and agenda are being explored and approved. Please be patient with the chapter for stepping up to the task at our last reunion.

Meanwhile we need each member to focus on making this year a re-commitment to our mission and purpose, to educate the country and the world, of our forefathers contributions to these United States and the World.

"We Can And We Will"

Trooper Don L. Johnson
Newsletter Editor



Welcome to the 152nd Anniversary Reunion San Diego, CA 2018

Our San Diego, CA chapter has accepted the privilege of hosting the 2018 Anniversary Reunion and are still making plans for this historic event. The host hotel is the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel 8110 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA The Rate is \$139.00/night
Trooper Rachel Hilliard



Trooper Spotlight: Clarence Beavers



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Don L. Johnson
8275 Jennifer Lane
Seminole, FL 33777 -2802



October - December 2017

www.910hcav.org





National Presidents Pen



Greetings Troopers, Ladies Auxiliary, Family and Friends, I trust your holidays were pleasant, enjoyable, but most of all safe! I would like to wish each and every one of you a Happy and Prosperous Year in 2018.

It has been nearly six months since I was elected to serve as the National President and I am honored to have been given this privilege which I do not take lightly. I made a promise that I would do the best of my ability to continue to lead our Association in a positive direction and I certainly intend to keep that promise. With that said, I would like to take this opportunity to present my Vision Statement of how I plan to

accomplish my obligation to implement a strategic plan towards a “way ahead” in order to keep our Association moving forward.

First, it is important that I reiterate the Mission of the 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association. Our mission is to preserve, promote, and perpetuate the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers of the Cavalry and Infantry Regiments serving from 1866-1944 in the defense of our country. Additionally, we strive to stimulate patriotism in the minds of our youth by encouraging the study of the rich history of African-American Heroes. We do an excellent job at this already; however, as we know, there is always room for improvement.

My vision is to incorporate a strategic focus that is based on the “SMART” framework objectives in order to be successful with future endeavors that the National Association undertake. What do I mean by the term SMART framework? In short, SMART is simply an acronym that layout the meaning of my vision within itself. **S-Specific** (*clear and concise undertakings*); **M-Measurable** (*methods to assess and record the action of which the objectives focuses on the quality of the outcome*); **A-Achievable** (*objectives must be sufficiently challenging, but not so complex that it cannot be accomplished*); **R-Relevant** (*objectives must be relevant to the overall mission of the Association*); **T-Time-bound** (*every objective must have a start/end period in order to meet set expectations*). I am confident my vision will continue to carry this Great Association of ours in a positive direction. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Andre Q. Williams

Trooper Andre Q. Williams

National President

9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association

Buffalo Soldiers

“We Can, We Will”



Clarence Beavers, Last of a Black Paratroop Unit, Dies at 96

Clarence Beavers, the last surviving member of a groundbreaking group of black paratroopers deployed during World War II against what were described as the world's first intercontinental-range airborne weapons — giant bomb-laden balloons launched from Japan and aimed at North America - died on Dec. 4 at his home in Huntington, N.Y. He was 96.

His daughter Charlotta Beavers said the cause was heart failure.

Mr. Beavers was one of 17 soldiers who formed what became the Army's first all-black paratroop unit, the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion.

The unit, which began training in 1944, was never as famous as the Tuskegee Airmen, the all-black Army Air Forces group from Alabama, but it was pioneering nonetheless. The paratroopers were nicknamed the Triple Nickels (the 555th conjured up the five-cent coin), but they also became known as the Smoke Jumpers after being dispatched to the American Northwest to be on hand to extinguish forest fires should the balloon bombs ignite fires.

The unit's mission, under the name Operation Firefly, was hidden from the public during the war to prevent panic over the balloons' ability to reach the United States.

The so-called Fu-Go balloons, 33 feet in diameter and buoyed by hydrogen, floated on the jet stream and could travel the 5,000 miles from the Japanese mainland to the Pacific Northwest in three or four days.

Of the estimated 9,000 that were launched, about 1,000 reached the West Coast, where they potentially threatened crops and the country's strategic lumber supply.



(Right - Clarence Beavers, second from right, in a transport plane with other members of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion during a training exercise in 1944. Credit National Archives) (Left - Mr. Beavers in 1941. In the racially segregated wartime military, members of his black unit were "heartbroken" at being denied combat duty -Credit Beavers Family.)



One airborne bomb damaged a generator at the Hanford Engineer Works reactor in Washington State, where plutonium was being processed for the first atomic bombs.

An antipersonnel fragmentation bomb exploded on the ground in southern Oregon, killing a pregnant woman and five children in what were believed to be the only fatalities resulting from the low-tech attacks.

But because 1945 was rainy in the Northwest, the threat of wildfires kindled by the balloons' incendiary bombs was minimized. Instead, the paratroopers were specially trained by the United States Forest Service to jump from C-47 transport planes and be deployed to fight fires ignited by lightning and other causes. The training helped modernize how fires in remote forests could be contained and extinguished.

Clarence Hylan Beavers was born in Harlem on June 12, 1921, the 15th of 16 children. (His middle name was given in honor of John F. Hylan, who was New York's mayor at the time and also his godfather.) His maternal grandparents had been escaped slaves, and his maternal grandfather served in the Union Army during the Civil War.

His father, Tipp Garfield Beavers Sr., was a commercial artist who worked for Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. The elder Mr. Beavers had moved the family north from Alabama after being arrested there for opposing segregation and sentenced to a chain gang.

Clarence's mother was the former Mary E. Martin.

After graduating from George Washington High School in Manhattan, Mr. Beavers enlisted in the National Guard. Drafted by the Army, he was assigned to a maintenance unit.

Blacks in the Army were typically relegated to menial roles, but in late 1943 an order barring them from serving as front-line paratroopers was rescinded.

Mr. Beavers was the first to volunteer for parachute training and was assigned to an all-black barracks at Fort Benning in Georgia, a segregated state.



Black Paratrooper (Continued)

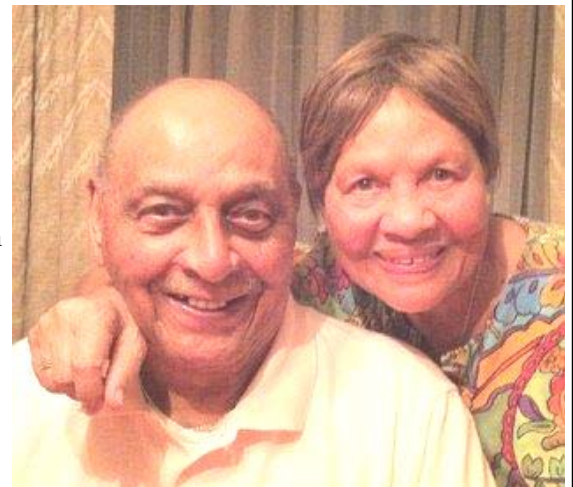
“Riding to parachute school,” he recalled on the 555th Parachute Infantry Association website, “the driver of the Jeep sent to pick me up kept looking at me as we passed each streetlight. Under the fear of him having an accident, I told him I was a Negro and requested that he keep his eyes on the road and his mind on driving.” But without an all-black unit to take him, his parachute training was delayed, until Mr. Beavers appealed to the Department of the Army.

Finally, in late 1943, an all-black unit was constituted as an experiment. Of 20 original volunteers, 17 completed training and formed a prototype platoon that became the core of the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion. Mr. Beavers was the only surviving member of those 17.

“Both officers and enlisted men were making bets that we wouldn’t jump — we’d be too afraid,” Walter J. Morris, another trainee, was quoted as saying in the book “Courage Has No Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickles, America’s First Black Paratroopers” (2013), by Tanya Lee Stone. Mr. Beavers had a similar recollection.

“Those that wanted to see us make it put forth their full effort; equally, those who didn’t want to see us make it did everything they could to see that we didn’t,” he was quoted on the association’s website. “While other trainees came through the front door and went to the counter for their food, we had to come in by the side.”

(Mr. Beavers on his 90th birthday in 2011 with his wife, Lena, at their home in Huntington, N.Y. Credit Beavers Family)



But, he said, “we were hopeful that if we did a damn good job, things for the African-Americans would improve after the war had ended.” By late 1944, with the war ebbing and the unit’s ranks still limited in numbers, the paratroopers were assigned to Pendleton Field, Ore., and Chico, Calif., as part of Operation Firefly. They saw a racial motivation behind the orders.

“Major commanders in Europe were leery of having highly trained colored paratroopers coming into contact with racist white elements of the time,” according to the association’s history.

The decision to keep them stateside was a setback for the paratroopers.

“They were very heartsick after all their training, that they had done everything and passed everything they had to do, that they were not able to go overseas to join the rest of the fighting men,” Mr. Beavers’ wife, the former Edolene Davis, told the Long Island newspaper Newsday. “This was a way for them to serve.”

In addition to his wife and his daughter Charlotta, Mr. Beavers is survived by four other daughters, Dawn Hargrove, Patricia Merritt, Charis Beavers and Charlayne Beavers; a son, Clarence II; 18 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

During the summer and fall of 1945, the Army parachutists made 1,200 individual jumps to fight more than a dozen fires. They suffered only one fatality: a medic who fell from a tree.

After the war, Mr. Beavers was discharged as a staff sergeant, and the battalion was incorporated into the 82nd Airborne Division. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman banned racial discrimination in the military under an executive order that led to full desegregation of the armed forces.

Mr. Beavers later worked on computer systems for the Veterans Administration and for the Defense Department in Germany and Washington. After he retired in 1978, and before moving to Long Island, he lived in upstate New York, where he served as a volunteer firefighter.

By SAM ROBERTS DEC. 13, 2017 - Submitted by Trooper Maree Rogers



Troopers Transferred To Fiddler's Green Since Last Reunion

You are urged to report the death of a member, family member and Ladies Auxiliary to the National President, National Chaplain and National 2nd Vice President for dissemination to the membership.



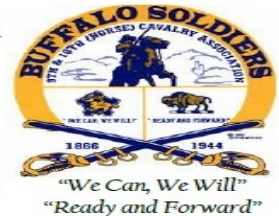
When a cavalrymen dies he begins a long march to his ultimate destination. About half-way along the road he enters a broad meadow dotted with trees and crossed by many streams, known as **"Fiddler's Green"**. As he crosses The Green he finds an old canteen, a single spur, and a carbine sling. Continuing on the road he comes to a field camp where he finds all the troopers who have gone before him, with their campfires, tents and pickets lines neatly laid out. All other branches of the military must continue to march without pause. Cavalry though are authorized to dismount, unsaddle and stay in Fiddler's Green ...their canteens ever full...the grass always green and enjoy the companionship and reminisce with old friends.

- * **Trooper Mary E. Brown**
Greater Washington DC Area Chapter
- * **Trooper Andrew Issacs'**
Greater Los Angles Chapter
- * **Trooper Velmar Polk Morris**
Thomas E. Polk, Sr. Chapter
- * **Trooper Jerry Prentice, Sr.**
Henry Vinton Plummer Chapter

- Relatives of Troopers:**
- Trooper Rachel Hilliard'**
Father Amuel Hilliard
 - Trooper Bettye Greene Johnson's**
Uncles - Apostle Isreal Blake and
Uncle Robert Tillman

- Trooper Eddie Sumbler's**
Brother-In-Law Donald Ray Solomon
- Trooper Tameiko Prentice's**
Father Mr. Winzell Steele, Sr.
- Trooper Sammy Armstrong's**
Sister Ms. Velma Armstrong

9th & 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association
 (An Official Army Unit)
 National Headquarters
 3816 Caroline Street
 Houston, TX 77004



POCKET BADGE HOLDER & NAME TAG
 Order Form (PLEASE PRINT)

CHAPTER NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 PHONE #: _____
 TROOPER NAME (FIRST & LAST): _____
 TROOPER NAME (FIRST & LAST): _____

Name Tag (black background with white letters)	\$6.00 x _____	= _____
Pocket Badge Holder (with Patch)	\$19.00 x _____	= _____
	Shipping	\$3.00
	Donation for Headquarters	\$5.00
	TOTAL ORDER	\$ _____



Please make check payable to:
 Trooper Rachel Hilliard
 P. O. Box 740178
 San Diego, CA 92174-0178
 Email: rachelhilliard@aol.com
 Telephone: (619) 251-0214



A Brief History Update – Buffalo Soldiers

Camp Lockett's site was chosen for a cavalry camp as far back as 1878 when sixteen troopers wearing the blue uniform of The US Cavalry bivouacked for several months in this small Mexican border valley. At that time, it took a week to get from Camp Lockett to San Diego, the choicest acres of bottom land sold for five dollars (\$5.00) an acre. The military units stationed at Camp Lockett faced smugglers and belligerent, "Indians".

In 1942, the 10th Cavalry Regiment (the famed Buffalo Soldiers) moved into Camp Lockett to replace the 11th Cavalry Regiment which had been converted into an armored unit. In 1943 The 28th Cavalry Regiment made up of inductees joined the 10th to form the 4th Cavalry Brigade of the 2nd Cavalry Division (Horse)

At the same time the 27th Cavalry Regiment, also made up of inductees, joined the 9th Cavalry Regiment to form the 5th Cavalry Brigade. This brigade was stationed in Fort Clark, Texas. Their duty was to guard the Texas-Mexican Border. While the 10th and 28th guarded the California-Mexican Border. These troopers also guarded the many installations along the border such as, trestles, bridges, dams, railroad tunnels and would be the first line of defense in case Germany or Japan attempted an invasion of the United States through Mexico.

In 1944, the 9th, 10th, 27th and 28th were dismounted and sent to North Africa. The 28th through an error was not officially inactive until 1951. This make camp Lockett the last home of the last horse cavalry in the U.S. Army.

It has long been a dream of Trooper Fred Jones and Mountain Empire Historian Roger Challberg to have Camp Lockett recognized as a State Park. It was voted to recognize Camp Lockett as historical site by erection of a memorial. I was therefore requested and assigned the task of designing a memorial to the troopers by family members of Roger Challberg.

On 21 October 2017 at approximately 1300, a ceremony was conducted at Campo in front of the famed Catskill Stone Store which house a Buffalo Soldier Museum in honor of the African American troopers of the 10th and 28th Cavalry.



Assisted by Troopers Leslie Keown Trooper Rachel Hilliard (also pictured Trooper Bobby McDonald, not in attendance), a memorial bench was unveiled next to the staircase leading the Museum above the Buffalo Soldier Store.



I recognized Troopers Fred Jones, Valley Coleman, Bruce Dennis, and Waldo Henderson whom had served at Camp Lokett . As the dusty wind blew through the ceremony, you could feel the presence of the Not Forgotten Troopers smiling a Well Done!





"WE CAN: WE WILL"



NINTH & TENTH (HORSE) CAVALRY ASSOCIATION
(An Official Army Unit Association)



"READY AND FORWARD"

BUFFALO SOLDIERS
Membership Renewal

Annual dues are \$50 per year and shall be payable upon joining the Association and thereafter on the first (1st) day of January, each year.

Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Chapter Affiliation: _____

- () **Regular Member** – Served in the 9th or 10th Cavalry
- () **Allied Member** – Serviced in the 27th or 28th Cavalry
- () **Associate Member** – Military Service or Community Service.

Military Service

9th Cavalry _____ 10th Cavalry _____

Other: Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Coast Guard, Air Force _____

National Committees with which you would like serve... please number in order of preference.

- Constitution and Bylaws _____
- Ways and Means _____
- Public relation _____
- Historical Research _____

Make Checks Payable To: 9th & 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association

Send completed applications and membership dues to

Trooper Frank Bell, Jr.

11302 Misty Isle Lane, Riverview, Florida 33579

813/886-1375 or 813/760-2723

frankbell49@msn.com

Life Membership... Payable in One (1) Year

\$300 – Age 62 years or older

\$400 – Age 61 years or younger



"WE CAN; WE WILL"



NINTH & TENTH (HORSE) CAVALRY ASSOCIATION
 (An Official Army Unit Association)
BUFFALO SOLDIERS



"READY AND FORWARD"

Official Membership Application

Purpose: To perpetuate the memory of comrades who have passed on and the history of the many accomplishments of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry Regiments in defense of our country.

Membership In The Association shall be of four (4) types, without limit in number, open at all times to any qualified person who may apply, pay annual dues, and comply with the rules of conduct prescribed in the By-Laws, are as listed:

Regular Membership – Any person who has ever served with any unit of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry Regiments or Squadrons, provided such person shall continue to serve honorably or have an honorable discharge or separation from military service.

Allied Membership – Any person who has served with any unit of the Twenty Seventh or Twenty Eighth Cavalry Regiments or Squadrons, or any unit whose original cadre, structured with members of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry regiments... provided such person shall continue to serve honorably or have an honorable discharge or separation from military service.

Association Members – Any person who has rendered outstanding service to the Association or to the country through service in either the Armed Forces or his/her community. Such members shall have a vote on the floor after one (1) year of membership.

Family Membership – At age eighteen (18)... any person who is a descendent of a Regular, Allied or Associate Member, is eligible for membership in the Association as an associate member.

Honorary Membership – Any person who has performed distinguished service for the United States or for this Association may be accepted as an Honorary Member. Honorary members shall not pay annual dues and shall not have a vote from the floor at any time. Any person who served honorably in the War with Spain (Cuba) or the Punitive Expedition (Mexico) is automatically Honorary Members of the Association.

Annual Dues – Annual dues are \$50 per year and shall be payable upon joining the Association and thereafter on the first (1st) day of January, each year. Annual dues shall include membership in the Association and subscription to official publication. **Make checks payable to... 9th & 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association;** do not forward CASH in the mail.

Type of Membership – Check Appropriate Membership

- New Member Life Member
- Regular – Served in the 9th or 10th Cavalry
- Allied – Served in the 27th or 28th Cavalry
- Associate – Served in the military or community service.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____



"WE CAN, WE WILL"



NINTH & TENTH (HORSE) CAVALRY ASSOCIATION
(An Official Army Unit Association)



"READY AND FORWARD"

BUFFALO SOLDIERS

Official Membership Application
(Continued)

Date of Birth _____ Spouse's Name _____

Chapter Affiliation _____

Occupation _____ Title _____

Military Service

9th Cavalry _____ 10th Cavalry _____

Other: Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Coast Guard, Air Force _____

National Committees with which you like serve... please number in order of preference.

- Constitution and Bylaws _____
- Ways and Means _____
- Public Relation _____
- Historical Research _____

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11302 Misty Isle Lane, Riverview, Florida 33579

813/886-1375 or 813/760-2723
frankbell49@msn.com

Life Membership... Payable in One (1) Year

\$300 - Age 62 years or older
\$400 - Age 61 years or younger

Make checks payable to... 9th & 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association; do not forward CASH in the mail.



**THE NATIONAL BLACK VETERANS COALITION
 COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG PROMOTION CAMPAIGN**

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Coalition Chairman, Mr. Charles Blatcher, III, Former US Navy - Oakland, CA
 General Robert Cocroft, US Army, Ret. - Milwaukee, WI Major Howard D. Jackson, US Marine Corps, Ret. - Oakland, CA
 Chief Historian, Former LT Cmdr. Michael J. Clark, Ph.D., US Navy - Hayward, CA Treasurer, Cmd. Sgt. Holbert Maxey, US Air Force, Ret.

November 3rd, 2017

Dear Coalition Partners and Friends,

Enclosed is the publication titled, "Wee Pals - The Kid Power Gang Salutes African- Americans in the Military Past and Present." The publication is the creation of the legendary Cartoonist Morrie Turner (1923 – 2014).

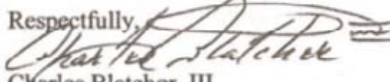
The Turner Family has granted me the authorization to produce, market and distribute the publication. For those of you unfamiliar with Morrie Turner's history, he is an icon in the cartoon industry. He integrated the comic strips with "Wee Pals" using his talent as a means to educate.

Black Military History was one of his favorite subjects. The publication features over two hundred hand drawn illustrations of African American servicemen and servicewomen along with their individual histories. If Morrie was with us today, I am sure there are others who would have found themselves in his book.

We are excited about the marketing potential of the publication. It is a vehicle to introduce elementary age children to history in an easy to read and entertaining manner. The book begins by asking the reader to write him/her self into the history by the signing of their name. The intent is to personalize the document as one to be revisited on occasion.

Our plan is to provide copies of the publication to public school districts at a no direct cost. We hope to achieve that objective by offering the publication to corporations, organizations, churches and individuals in unit counts of one hundred books to be donated to the school district of the donor's choice.

A portion of the proceeds will be made available to fund proposals to support Black Military History Projects through the National Minority Military Museum Foundation. We kindly ask for your consideration in funding or finding a sponsor to provide the publication to an elementary school(s) in your community. (See the attached Order Form.)

Respectfully,

 Charles Blatcher, III
 Charirman

Enclosure: (1)

National Planning Committee

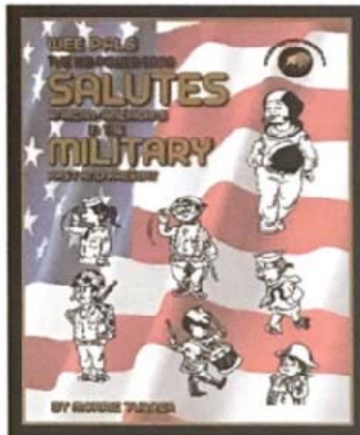
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- Former Captain Joseph Murchison
 US Army, Tampa, FL
- Cmd. Sgt. Major Herbert J. Allen
 US Army, Ret., Brooklyn, NY
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 The Colonel Charles Young Promotion Campaign Headquarters: 3548 May Court ~ Oakland, CA 94602
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Golden Buffalo Publication
 Present

**Morrie Turner's "Wee Pals - The Kid Power Gang "Salutes"
 African-Americans in the Military Past and Present."**



**"Knowledge Cultivates Pride"
 Help us spread the Word.**

During the lifetime of the legendary Cartoonist Morrie Turner, his focus was on youth and education. History was his passion and Wee Pals have been his Messengers of historical facts.

As the first syndicated African American Cartoonist, he brought diversity to the cartoon strips. African American Military History was among his many interests. The "Salute" publication highlights African Americans in the Military beginning with the fall of Crispus Attucks in 1770. The hand written and illustrated seventy-six pages presents history in an easy to read and entertaining manner. Designed especially for elementary school aged students.

Golden Buffalo Publication is committed to spreading the word that "Knowledge Cultivates Pride." Our goal is to make the knowledge available to students in the public education system nationwide.

We are seeking public and private sponsors to allow us to provide the publication to school districts at a no direct cost. To contribute visit our **GO FUND ME** page at "Salute to Black Military History" (or) send a Check or Money Order to "Golden Buffalo Publication...3548 May Court..Oakland, CA 94602

E-mail address: goldenbuffalo01@aol.com

Recommended for Elementary and Middle School Students 4th through 8th Grades.



The Publication will be shipped to the Education Institution of your choice in a minimum quantity of one hundred at four dollars and fifty cents per book. (Shipping and handling included.) Please provide the following information for shipping with your **Check or Money Order in the amount of \$ 500.00**; Please Print

Name of School _____

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A Portion of the proceeds will go to support the activities of the National Minority Military Museum Foundation.



BUFFALO SOLDIERS NATIONAL MUSEUM

SAVE THE DATE

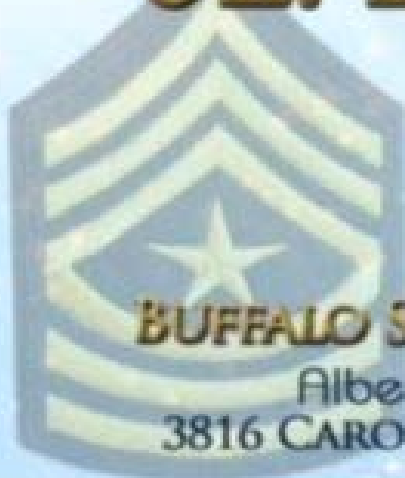
18TH ANNUAL

Gala



Honoring Our Sergeants Major

02. 23. 2018 | 6:30 PM



\$150
PER PERSON

AND/OR \$1,200.00
PER TABLE OF 8

BUFFALO SOLDIERS NATIONAL MUSEUM

Albert & Ethel Herzstein Gallery
3816 CAROLINE STREET | HOUSTON, TX 77004

For tickets, sponsorship, and more information...

Melanie Richard 2018 Gala Chair | 713-253-4203

melanie@buffalosoldiermuseum.com

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www.buffalosoldiermuseum.com

Captain Paul J. Matthews - Founder

