

VOLUME 16  
OCTOBER 1999

# VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION



MISSILE! MISSILE! MISSILE!

## 1999 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY



## VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION

5530 Birdcage St., Suite 200  
Citrus Heights, CA 95610-7621  
800-505-VHPA  
hq@vhpa.org

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President.....	Bob Smith
Vice President.....	Charles Holley
Past President.....	Thomas Payne
Senior Member at Large (term expires 2000).....	David Rittman
Midterm Member at Large (term expires 2001).....	Joe Bilitzke
Junior Member at Large (term expires 2002).....	Don Joyce
Secretary/Treasurer.....	Dan Ferguson

### COMMITTEES & CHAIRMEN

Data Base.....	Gary Roush
Directory Editor Emeritus.....	Mike Law
Directory Editor.....	Ken Fritz
Historical.....	Mike Sloniker
Membership.....	"Pappy" Jones
Membership.....	Chip Brown
Newsletter.....	Jack Swickard
Public Relations.....	Ken Fritz
Reunion 2000.....	Jim Goldthorpe
Reunion Site Selection.....	Kenny Bunn
Reunion Site Selection.....	Joe Bilitzke

### PAST PRESIDENTS

Founder.....	Larry Clark
JUN 84-FEB 85.....	Don Hildebrand
FEB 85-OCT 85.....	Bill Ringer
OCT 85-JUL 87.....	Mike McDonald
JUL 87-JUL 88.....	C. David Owens
JUL 88-SEP 88.....	Jay Elliott
SEP 88-JUL 90.....	Roger Gould
JUL 90-JUL 91.....	Greg Ross
JUL 91-JUL 92.....	Gary Slaughter
JUL 92-JUL 93.....	Mike Law
JUL 93-JUL 94.....	Phil Marshall
JUL 94-JUL 95.....	Kenny Bunn
JUL 95-JUL 96.....	Ken Fritz
JUL 96-JUL 97.....	Charlie Rayl
JUL 97-JUL 98.....	Mike Hurley
JUL 98-JUL 99.....	Thomas Payne
JUL 99-PRESENT.....	Bob Smith

### THE VHPA DIRECTORY

The Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association (VHPA) Directory is distributed to members of the VHPA. The VHPA Directory is published annually by the VHPA and mailed in October to the members that are dues current as of AUG 15. Fourth-class postage paid at Rancho Cordova, CA.

VHPA membership is open to all helicopter pilots who flew in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam Era (1976-1975). Annual Membership is \$30.00 or Life Membership for \$450.00. Life Membership can be purchased on an installment plan. Contact VHPA.

## LETTER FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Dear VHPA Member,

Your 1999 Directory, the 16th edition, is another of the VHPA volunteer-produced items of which you can be justifiably proud. Our Newsletter Editor, Jack Swickard, has kept up the quality of the glossy full color covered 28 page magazine we all enjoy, the new contractor we engaged in December of 1997 has exceeded our expectations with good management and good service, and as a result our membership renewal rate is at an all time high. As this goes to publication, we have signed up member number 10,226 and in July, 1999, 110 new members joined! We don't have the data to prove it, but we believe that your VHPA is the fastest growing veterans organization in the country. Your efforts and enthusiasm for finding all of our old stick buddies never cease to amaze the world.

The late Ron Timberlake started the monumental task of assembling the historical section of the directory early last year. Unfortunately for all of us, Ron died as the result of an automobile running him down as he sat on his motorcycle at a stop sign. Fortunately for all of us, he had shared his work with your Historical Committee Chairman, Mike Sloniker. So it became Mike's task to finish the work. Mike did a wonderful job of continuing the research. We are certain Ron will be looking down on each of us with a smile as we read the finished product. Thanks from all of us go to Ron and to Mike for their tireless efforts. Your Executive Council and directory crew agreed with Mike Sloniker that this directory should be dedicated to one of the best helicopter pilots to fly Above The Finest: Ronald N. Timberlake. Inside you will find a short version of the history they put together. To give you the full version of the history we have added a new feature to the directory, a CD.

Gary Roush really outdid himself on this CD. It contains some of the indexed database material found in earlier directories plus newsletters and color photos from the past. The CD allowed us to contain costs of production and offer more information at the same time. Let us know what you think about this new idea.

Thankfully, Mike Law continues to provide technical assistance with the databases and desk top publishing for the directory.

The 2000 VHPA Calendar is now available, too. Look in the Newsletter for information on how to order it. We still have the VHPA Historical Reference Directories, back calendar issues (photos are collectible), and decals available from HQs. Just call (800) 505-VHPA. Your dues helped pay to produce these things. You owe it to yourself to look them over and share them with the public who still has grave misconceptions about what really went on during the "helicopter war".

The Mid-South Chapter did a fine job of southern hospitality with the Nashville Reunion and we are looking forward to being together in Washington, DC, July 4th for the 17th reunion of the finest helicopter pilots the world has ever known. Please invite all your stick buddies to attend with you.

It has been a good year for VHPA and we hope you approve of the new ideas we have put into action for you. Please let your Executive Council know what's on your mind.

Your Executive Council

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officers and Committee Chairmen .....	This Page
Photos and Graphics Credits .....	1
Constitution & Bylaws .....	2
I - Members & Potential Members .....	5
II - Honorary Members .....	157
Significant Contributors .....	157
III - Helicopter Pilot KIAs .....	158
Statistics for the Vietnam War Period .....	201 and 234
IV - Helicopter Crewmember KIAs by Date .....	202
V - Deceased Helicopter Pilots .....	235
VI - History of the 1972 Easter Offensive .....	249
Index - Geographical Membership .....	273
Index - Branch of Service .....	299
Index - Army Flight Class .....	CD
Index - Pilots by Combat Units .....	CD
Index - Unit Callsigns .....	CD
Complete 1972 Easter Offensive History .....	CD
Past VHPA Newsletters .....	CD
Instruction for VHPA Directory CD .....	302
Membership Statistics by State .....	Inside Rear Cover