



4 JULY 2006

### What's New

I must apologize this is a little late getting out. Lots of exciting things have happened in the last couple of months.

I received an updated roster from the 57th and the names have been added and corrections made to the Bn Contact Roster.

The 170th is having a Reunion in Reno, NV 11 to 14 August at the Circus Circus Hotel. You can get more information by going to their web site:  
[www.170th.org](http://www.170th.org) or by e-mail

They are going to be making a video documentary in conjunction with Circle K Media so if you can make it please plan to attend.

### 52d CAB Reunion

Things are going along as planned but it is time to start making those reservations. If you are coming or even thinking of coming we need you to make reservations now. Its extremely hard to plan when you don't know how many are coming. So take the time over the next couple of days to call the hotel make your reservations and send me your registration form.

### What the Future Holds?

As many of you know I have been doing the Battalion Newsletter and sponsoring Battalion reunions now for over 12 years. Don't get me wrong I love doing it. As I age I find doing this helps keep the old pump going, but I need to ask you some questions.

Reunions are fun. Getting together with old friends and making new ones, being able to talk with folks who shared the same experiences breathed the same dust, ducked the same bullets, ate the same canned eggs and drank reconstituted milk and Carlings Black Label is is to me one of the things that I love to do. But I wonder what your reactions are to these same things

The back page of this news letter consists of two things this time. The first is the Registration form for the reunion. If you are coming please fill it out and send it to me so we get a better idea on numbers. The second section is a series of questions on the future of this organization, and reunions, The Dragonfire Chronicles, the Contact Roster, and the newsletter.

I would really like all of you who read this to fill please it out and return it to me whether you are coming to this reunion or not.

Some of the things to consider as you fill out the questionnaire are our ages, the aviation companies separate reunions, information security, distances and costs of attending reunions.

You know if a bunch of you got together and said Vern we want to schedule a Battalion reunion every 6 months for the next thirty years and the last man to show up will drink a toast to those who went before him and turn the lights out and go home that's fine with me. But if the company reunions are enough well reluctantly we can do that too.

### Reunion Schedule

5 October

2:00PM Registration Begins  
Hospitality Room Opens  
(Note: it stays open until  
9:00AM 8 October)

6 October

9:30AM Business Meeting  
Gather in Hospitality Suite  
all day ( unit mini can be  
arraigned during this time.)

7 October

10:30 AM to 4:00 PM Visit St Charles  
Octoberfest and or the  
Casino in old St Charles,  
MO. Missouri's first state  
capital.

6:00 PM Pictures

7:00 PM until Midnite Dinner and  
Dancing

MIDNITE until ? Hospitality Suite

8 October

9:00AM So long until next time.

Please note if you want to stick around St Louis for a day or two either before or after the reunion you can get the same rates if you ask for them at the time of making your reservation.

### How do I get to St Louis?

Well flying is one of the easiest ways of getting there. The hotel is right next to the Airport a phone call will dispatch the hospitality to pick you up.

AMTRAK is not a bad choice if you have a little time and are coming from Texas, Chicago or Kansas City. Take the train to ST Louis, ask about and catch the Metro Link from about a block from the train station to the Airport and then call for the hotel courtesy van.

Of course you can drive, the hotel is on Intrastate 70 across from St Louis Lambert Field, use the south bound Lindbergh Blvd exit.

I was in the 52nd CAB in 1972. HHC was the company I was assigned to. My name SP4 Joseph Bouffard. I did my tour at Camp Holloway first with the 52nd CAB which stood down in April 1972 with a F4 doing a fly over. The 1st Aviation Brigade took over the command.

Joseph Bouffard

*Thanks for writing Joe and I entered you in the contact Roster  
Dragon-11*

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I was a Helicopter pilot for A Co, 4th AVN Bn, 4th ID at Camp Enari about 4 miles south of your base at Camp Holloway. This was in RVN from July 66 to July 67.

We were shot down on April 1 1967 and a slick helicopter from the 52nd CAB picked up 2 of our wounded crew.

what I want to know is if you had any aviation unit nicknamed Falcons or were you always "Flying Dragons"? Was there some unit at Camp Holloway nicknamed "Falcons"

Thanks

Bernie Paez

*Hey we breathed the red dust at the same time. Falcons were one of our companies the 155th AHC. They operated out of Ban Me Thuot most of the time. During the time frame you indicated our compliment of aviation units consisted of;*

*119th AHC Croc's and Gators*

*155th AHC Falcon's and Stagecoach*

*170th AHC Buccaneer's and Bikini's*

*189th AHC Avenger's and Ghost rider's*

*179th AHSC Shrimpboat's*

*Just HHC 52d CAB used the call sign Dragon or Flying Dragon.*

Evidently we did breathe the same red dust. I always wanted to give credit and thanks to that Falcon ship that did not hesitate to come in for our wounded. I always thought it was the 119th but now know it was the 155th. Thanks for clearing up a fuzzy memory.

By the way I am in communications with a 1st LT PLT LDR who was in the 1/22d Inf 5th ID and he mentions the 170th AHC Buccaneers and Bikini's with many fond memories.

Thanks Again

Bernie

*Always glad to help*

*Dragon-11*

Dear Vern,

We just had a Car Show and Motorcycle Show at the National Vietnam War Museum. end of April. Had a pretty good showing of people and Nam Vets.

Jim Messinger is the curator of the museum. I believe he contacted you a while back. You had said at St Louis 2 years ago that you were looking for a Home place for the Camp Holloway Wall.

I recently talked to Jim Messinger and the memorial garden is being built this summer thru the spring. I was asked by Jim Messinger, former crane pilot, Jim Irwin, former I 19th pilot, Wayne Sanderson and the rest of the Staff of the Museum, to check on the status of this Camp Holloway Project. The last I heard from Gerry Sandlin, the where abouts of the brass plates was unknown. The museum is willing to build a replica of the wall. The Memorial garden layout has already been planned and work to soon start. Fort Wolters main gate is just 2 miles away. 90 % of the pilots learned to fly at Ft Wolters. This would be an ideal site for the Camp Holloway Wall.

I will be at the reunion in Oct. am trying to get a member of the Museum to make this reunion also. Perhaps Jim Irwin, Jim Messinger or Wayne Sanderson.

Several avionics people who attended the Wash DC 189th reunion will be at the reunion as well. (I HOPE) Avionics was a 52nd consolidated shop attached to 52nd Bn from the various Bn companies. 119th, 170th, 189th, 57th, 179th.

Perhaps this is the year we can get rolling.

Thanks

James Wood

*James thanks for the update and looking forward to seeing you in St Louis. Dragon-11*

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I have two more things, I need the current address of Robert W Hettiger 170th, He moved, sent me his new address, ordered a cap and it came back to me. (no such address) so I must have entered it wrong.

I received a message about Sgt Robert J Grimes a door gunner with the 119th, he is in a nursing home and would like to hear from some of you folks if you have the time. You can contact him through Gail at [REDACTED] This is the person who brought him to our attention.

SURVEY

- 1. Have you ever attended one of the Battalion Reunions? Yes No Please circle one
- 2. Have you ever attended one of the Company reunions? Yes No If yes which one \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Would you consider attending one again? Battalion Yes No Company Yes No
- 4. Should we continue having Battalion reunions? Yes No

Reasons \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 5. Should we consider combining reunions? Yes No
- 6. How many people in attendance would you feel makes a reunion worth attending? 20+ 40+ 60-100 100+ other \_\_\_\_\_

Comment \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 7. Does the reunion location make a difference? Yes No

Explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 8. Which of the following are important to you, when you attend a reunion.

- Hospitality Suite \_\_\_\_\_
- Tours \_\_\_\_\_
- Sit Down Dinner \_\_\_\_\_
- Guest Speaker \_\_\_\_\_
- Mini Reunions \_\_\_\_\_
- Golf or other sporting Activities. \_\_\_\_\_
- Time to visit with friends \_\_\_\_\_
- Group Pictures \_\_\_\_\_
- Entertainment/bands dinner \_\_\_\_\_

- 9. Your general comments on reunions past and present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 10. Should we do any of the following?

- Publish updated copy of the Dragonfire Chronicles? \_\_\_\_\_
- Purchase more Battalion Patches? \_\_\_\_\_
- Purchase other momentos? \_\_\_\_\_
- Publish the contact roster. ( in small numbers this is very expensive) \_\_\_\_\_

ORDER/REGISTRATION FORM  
TOGETHER AGAIN ONE MORE TIME REUNION 2006  
ST LOUIS MISSOURI

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ WIFES NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
RANK [if retired military] \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ DATES \_\_\_\_\_  
UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ DATES \_\_\_\_\_  
CALL SIGNS \_\_\_\_\_

DUES [\$20.00 1 yr] [\$35.00 2 yrs] [\$180.00 life] or four payments of \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
BATTALION COIN \$10.00ea. mailed \_\_\_\_\_  
IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A POLO SHIRT PLEASE CIRCLE THE SIZES YOU WOULD  
ORDER AND PLACE QUANTITIES TO THE RIGHT OF THE SIZE. SMALL \_\_\_ MED \_\_\_ LARGE \_\_\_  
2X LARGE \_\_\_\_\_ 3X LARGE \_\_\_\_\_ (cost will depend on total Count ordered)

Hats \$10.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_  
Postage (For up to 3 hats \$6.00) \_\_\_\_\_  
AB US Army Mugs \$21.00 including postage \_\_\_\_\_  
Reunion Registration \$45.00 per Couple or \$40.00 per member only \_\_\_\_\_  
Dinner Dance and Buffet \$36.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_  
Casino Visit or Old St Charles Octoberfest (\$10.00 Bus fee) \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL SENT** \_\_\_\_\_

We have 6 mugs left: please call or e-mail me if you want one.

**Make all checks payable to the {52d CAB Reunion}. Our next reunion is just in time for Octoberfest in St Charles, MO and we will be running a bus to the fest and to the casino for those who want to attend. To make your Hotel reservations contact the hotel at [REDACTED] and mention the 52d CAB to get our rates. The reunion hotel is the Crowne Plaza St Louis Airport. Please have all reservations made as soon as possible so we can track the rooms available. If you cancel before 20 August 2006 fees will be refunded.**

Send Form to:  
52d CAB & Cp Holloway Assoc.  
C/O Vernon G Gano Jr

