

DRAGONFLIGHT

52dcab.com

8 FEB 2004

MY COLUMN

Well it has not been that long since we last talked, but I have a lot of information I want to get out to you and I wanted you to hear some exciting news. The last time we talked I told you I was looking for a home for the materials you have been allowing me to hold for you over the years. Well I have found a home for it. If you will turn to page two the 2d column you can read some of the correspondence I went through finding and asking others opinions about the The Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University.

Since this material was donated by you I wanted to let you in on how I arrived at this decision. As any of you who have ever met me face to face know the deaths of our fellow veterans really bothers me. We are not the immortals we thought we were 30 years ago and our history is disappearing.

I will need all of your support. Starting immediately I want to start collecting any and everthing you want to donate. I'll take originals now if you no longer want or need them. Just make sure to mark each item with your name and any information you have on the donated material. The material will be part of the battalion collection but each company will have a seperate section and your materials will be collected in such a manner so that when you want to research or display something from your company or detachment you can go right to it with out searching through the entire battalions materials.

We are going to start a oral history portion of this also, there will be more of that as we get that site set up.

I am asking those of you who work with the 119TH, 155th, 57th, 170th, and 189th organizations to work with us on this. As I get more information I will pass it to you in the newsletter and later there will be information on the website also.

FAMILIES INCLUDED

At our very first reunion I was asked about the families of our dead and missing members. At that time all in attendance agreed that family members were to be considered a part of this organization. The wives and children of those who have left us behind are members of this organization and are welcome to attend any and all of our functions. They are more than welcome and if you know of any please extend our invitation and if you get me their address and who they were related to, I will send them a invitation.

DUES

I wanted to remind everyone about why the dues are so important to us, in April we will do the battalion mailing in postage alone the cost will be close to \$750.00 and to this we must add the printing and envelopes, etc. For those who don't know about this, in preparation for the reunion we send everyone on our contact roster a invitation/newsletter. We all agreed to this when the organization was formed. It is expensive, but it helps us keep our contact roster up to date and to announce the reunion to all our members. So dues and donations are important to keeping us running. If you want to help in this effort or live close to St Louis and can spend a Saturday licking and pasting please let me know.

CONTACT ROSTER

I am working on three separate lists of names. Our up to date contact roster, our kia/mia listing, and our ever growing list of brothers who have passed away since coming home. If you have someone's name and address and they are not on our contact roster please send it to me. If you have a unit kia/mia list please send it to me, if you know of someone who was a member and passed away please let me know along with the when and where if possible. This information is needed as soon as it is available.

ATTENTION 52D SECURITY

I now have a good address on Lt Baker and he is coming to St Louis, so make your plans accordingly.



Huey Cobra

From:

Subject: Plei Me Dear Vern:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and Yours. Chuck Oualline has been in touch with me about the 119th and the Plei Me battle. I am still in the process of writing a book about Plei Me and it is about 50% complete. However I would like to find some info about the 52nd: 1965-66 after-action reports, operations summaries, rosters, awards, casualties so that folks get mentioned for their part.

Tried to get on the 52CAB web site but wouldn't open. Any leads or contacts you can provide will be helpful. Best wishes.

Sol
S. Vaughn Binzer
The Plei Me Society

Sol has been at this a long time we first talked about ten years ago, if any of you can help him out please give him a call.

Dragon-11

Name: Danny Houk

Dates in unit Oct 1970-Nov. 1971

Comments Have visited site several times Gerry and Vern you are doing a great job. I am looking for anyone that may have known Michael Lautzenheiser that was with the 68th Chinook Co. That went down off Hon Tre Island and is still MIA. *Can anyone help Danny out?*

T-shirts

I have gotten a lot of calls about the battaion t-shirts. We have not ordered any in about two years now. These are our 5 color shirts with our logo on the front and the unit call signs on the back. That makes them expensive to print. Also for us big fellows the extra large sizes are more expensive than the smaller ones are. We have to order a minimum of 36, pay a set up fee and get a feeling for how many we need of each size

If you want me to order some for you send me a copy of the form on the back page, with with the sizes you need and the quantity you want when I see what the quantities are I will get us a price and put it out in the next newsletter then we will collect the money and order the shirts, so that they are here before Memorial Day which is what a lot of folks want them for.

Hi Vern,

Good to hear from you and glad to know you don't have to shovel snow all the time.

Several years ago I attended a pitch that this college presented at a VHPA convention. I, like you, have no idea of what to do with a lot of "treasures" that have been given to me by 170th men. However the clincher was when the tail rotor of #262 was recovered from 30 years in the Cambodian jungle. Those crazy Bikini's planned to give the thing to me to haul to gatherings. I have too much stuff to fly with now, have to drive. But a tail rotor.

Also several years ago, Fort Rucker celebrated a POW/MIA Day, invited Bikini's to attend and about six of us did. I talked to the Civil Servant that runs the Fort Rucker Museum, and he was not interested in any donations. I didn't generate any interest outside the 1st Aviation Brigade there for RVN stuff. They do have the tail section of #262 on display, some other items to include the nose panel door I had in St Louis one year with a Bikini gal on it. Bikini 26.

I think the Texas Tech plan is great. I like the interest and enthusiasm they exhibit. And you can link into there for research. I am all for them, would be delighted to listen their presentation again. I think it is an excellent repository, and perhaps the only one. See you folks in October.

GeorgeCrawford

Dear Mr. Gano:

Thank you for your message to the Vietnam Archive. I greatly appreciate your consideration of the Vietnam Archive as a potential future home for the 52nd Combat Aviation Battalion and Camp Holloway Association Collection. I agree that the 52nd CAB and Camp Holloway are two very important facets of the American military experience in Vietnam. We would be honored to be the repository of your collection. I have added your reunion to our calendar and I will plan on attending.

I would like to arrange a time at the reunion when I could make a presentation to the members present - perhaps at a business meeting. I

I will bring my own equipment allowing me to make a presentation showing the 52nd CAB/CH Association members what we do here and the services we could provide your association and its members. In order to conduct a decent briefing, I would need at least 20 minutes. Do you think that would be possible?

Of course, I also agree with your assessment regarding oral history interviews they need to be captured as soon as possible. We need not wait to start that process until the reunion.

If you have a newsletter or other means of getting word to your members, we could start interviewing association members now.

Please let me know what you think and how you would like to proceed. I am excited about the potential for this project and look forward to meeting you and the men from the 52nd CAB and CP Holloway Association and to learning more about your service in Southeast Asia.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Maxner, Archivist Associate Director, The Vietnam Archive

The Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University collects all documents and memorabilia related to the Vietnam War and the collective experience of those involved in the war and its aftermath. The archive preserves this archival material in a state-of-the-art facility located on the campus of Texas Tech University. The Archive, along with the Vietnam Center, encourages the dissemination of information from the archive to all who are interested in learning more about this critical time in United States history, and promotes the study and understanding of the Vietnam War, the nation of Vietnam, and the history of Southeast Asia.

The Archive accepts donations as small as a single item or as large as hundreds of boxes. Donations do not have to be organized, and do not have to pertain to a famous person, event, or organization. We accept all forms of material, including papers, books, films, audio and video tape, photographs, slides, negatives, artifacts, maps, and computer media. Material that is donated to the Archive does not circulate. This insures that the materials can be preserved for future generations.

Upon arriving at the archive, the materials will be accessioned, and you will receive a letter and a deed of gift. The materials will then be processed, which includes removing all metal from documents, housing the materials in acid-free sleeves, folders, and boxes, as well as any necessary conservation work required to extend the life of the material. After the collection is processed a finding aid will be created. This finding aid is a listing of the contents of the collection, and usually includes a brief overview of the collection and information about the donor. The finding aid is used to help researchers find information that may be located within your materials. The materials are then housed in a climate controlled environment designed to extend the life of the materials. Researchers are then able to view the materials in our secure Reading Room. No materials leave the building after they arrive. If you desire, all of the noncopyright items in your collection can be scanned and added to our Virtual Vietnam Archive. Access to the Virtual Archive is free-of-charge and allows anyone with internet access to search and view material in the Vietnam Archive.

All items donated to the archive are placed in a collection in your name (or, if you wish, in the name of someone who served during the war.) The Vietnam Archive is working with veteran associations to help preserve their records as well as the individuals within the association. For Associations that have made The Vietnam Archive their official repository, individuals who donate their materials will have them identified in their name as well as part of the association. Additionally, upon your request, after the items are scanned, we will burn the digital copies onto a CD-ROM and send this to you free of charge.

From: Jane Simmons

Subject: Update on Ty

I just wanted to let all of you know that Ty has made it back to Kuwait. He called today around noon and said that the return trip was uneventful. The temperature was 67 when he got off of the plane (One nice thing).

He had a wonderful time at home and he thanks you again for your support!!! His visit, though short very relaxing.

His address is the same and regular mail is still best way to communicate with Ty, but he recently has been afforded better email access, so for those that just can't get the letter in the mail box, a short message to him now and then would be great. Because the technology is not quite what we have he said to tell everyone no forwards or pictures, just too slow downloading and he doesn't have the time.

His email address is

ty.simmons@us.army.mil

I just wanted to let everyone know how much I appreciate all the support that you have given to Andy, Briana and myself. It's been great to have you reach out to us and help us to fill up the hours. truly the most meaningful expressions have been directed to Ty. Your love, prayers and support to has overwhelmed me, at times and I don't know how express to you how much it means to me. THANK YOU

My life seems too comfortable and it just doesn't fair. Ty is the one making all of the sacrifices and as I have said before, he is my patriotic hero. He loves America and if you have heard the recent country song

American soldier' it could have been written about Ty because it says who he is and what he stands for. I don't always agree with what he says (those of you have seen us together know that) but am always amazed by the intensity of his convictions.

I ask that you continue to keep our soldiers in your prayers, we will pray them home. Thank you again. We are looking forward to Ty's return and some quality time with all of you. Jane

wanted you to keep up on Ty, I know we are all keeping him in our thoughts.
Dragon-11

On a more personal note, this old mortarman has a nephew in the 82d and guess what he is a mortarman too, damn it must be in the blood or something. Anyway his unit just finished a tour in Afganistan in September and they arrived just north of Bagdad the first week in January that's a short turn around time. I think we had better say some prayers for all these kids and the families who support and love them. Dragon-11

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT THIS REUNION

1. COME TO THE REUNION.
2. BRING YOUR WIFE TO THE REUNION.
3. BRING A FRIEND TO THE REUNION
4. LET EVERYONE YOU KNOW WHO WAS IN THE BATTALION OR ON CP HOLLOWAY KNOW ABOUT THE REUNION AND INVITE THEM TO ATTEND.
5. INVITED THE FAMILIES OF OUR DECEASED AND MISSING MEMBERS TO ATTEND.
6. GO THROUGH YOUR OLD FOOTLOCKERS, SHOEBOXES, ALBUMS, FILES AND OLD DRESSER DRAWERS, FIND ANY AND EVERYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO BE TRASHED WHEN "THE OLD COOT DIES", YOU WILL NOW HAVE THE ABILITY TO PRESERVE A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF THAT YOUR GREAT GRANDCHILDREN CAN SEE JUST BY LOOKING UP YOUR NAME ON THE INTERNET. EITHER SEND IT TO ME OR BETTER YET BRING IT TO THE REUNION.
7. LASTLY COME TO THE REUNION

TENTATIVE REUNION SCHEDULE

7 OCTOBER

1200 HRS REGISTRATION STARTS
AND HOSPITALITY SUITE OPENS.

1900 HRS WELCOMING PARTY

8 OCTOBER

0001 TO 2400 HRS HOSPITALITY
SUITE OPEN

0930 HRS WINE COUNTRY AND
BOONE HOME TOUR

1900 TOGETHER AGAIN WE
WELCOME YOU

9 OCTOBER

0001 TO 1800 HRS HOSPITALITY
SUITE

1000 HRS BUSINESS MEETING

1038 HRS PRESENTATION BY TEXAS
TECH UNIVERSITY

1230 TO 1630 HRS GRANTS FARM
TOUR

1800 HRS PICTURES

1830 HRS CASH BAR OPENS

1900 DINNER, GAMES, DANCING

10 OCTOBER

0001 HRS HOSPITALITY SUITE
RE-OPENS

1000 HRS HOSPITALITY SUITE
CLOSES

SO LONG TILL NEXT TIME



I know a lot of you have been awaiting this information for a long time. According to this memo sent to Paul Wilson, notify and show some proof you were assigned to the 52nd Aviation Battalion between 29 October 67 and 30 November 67 and your records will be annotated that you received the Presidential Unit Citation. Please let us all congratulate Paul for getting this done.

Dragon-11

Paul Wilson

From: Lane, Benjamin, HRC-Alexandria
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2003 8:26 AM
To: Paul Wilson

RE:

I have "copy furnished" you a copy of the memo I sent to the National Personnel Records Center to correct the error. This is the text of it:

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Personnel Records Center,
ATTN: Management Systems Staff, [REDACTED] Missouri 63132-5100

SUBJECT: Award of the Presidential Unit Citation, 52nd Aviation Battalion

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information pertaining to an award of the Presidential Unit Citation to the 52d Aviation Battalion.
2. The Presidential Unit citation was announced for the 52nd Aviation Battalion in Department of the Army General Order Number 38 of 20 July 1971. A copy of the General Order is enclosed. The period of the award is from 29 October 1967 to 30 November 1967. However, Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-3 (Unit Citations and Campaign Participation Credit Register) dated 29 January 1988 erroneously shows only the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, as a recipient of the award.
3. Please annotate reference files used by the National Personnel Records Center Archives Technicians to correctly reflect this decoration to any veteran of the 52nd Aviation Battalion who may inquire about the award.

ORDER/REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ WIFES NAME _____
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 _____

REUNION REGISTRATION \$40.00 for member -\$45.00 for member and guest. _____

WINE TASTING TOUR Friday 8 Oct \$53.00 per person. _____

GRANTS FARM TOUR Saturday 9 Oct \$19.00 per person. _____

DINNER /FUN & GAMES/DANCING \$35.00 per person _____

BATTALION COIN

Available for purchase 7 Oct 2004 \$5.00ea. at reunion or \$10.00ea. if mailed _____

BATTALION PATCHES \$4.50ea. postage included _____

TOTALS _____

IF YOU WANT ME TO ORDER T-SHIRTS PLEASE CIRCLE THE SIZES YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER AND PLACE QUANTITIES TO THE RIGHT OF THE SIZE.

SMALL _____ MEDIUM _____ LARGE _____ X-LARGE _____ 2X LARGE _____

3X LARGE _____ 4X LARGE _____

There are no charges for the hospitality suite and all beverages, coffee and snacks are complimentary.

Registration includes a complimentary coin for each member. Because of our experience last time with so many late registrations, after 1 Sep 2004 and at the door registration will be \$50.00 for the member and \$55 for member and wife. We appreciate all who can to send the money when they register because meals and tours must be paid for in advance, if this is a problem send half when you register and the rest when you arrive.

I have changed the cost of the wine tour this is something really special.

October 8, 2004 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Spend the day discovering some of Missouri's loveliest spots as you travel over sections of old pioneer trails. The past beckons round each bend and over each hill.

Tucked away in the Femme Osage valley in a wooded hillside setting is the home that Daniel Boone helped build and where he spent his last years. You'll tour the house that rises four stories and is filled with period pieces, some of which were owned by the Boone family. Costumed interpreters will make Boonesville Village come alive as they describe the other 19th century buildings now reconstructed on the site.

Just a short trip away you'll enjoy a boxed lunch at Mount Pleasant Winery. The oldest in the area, it was founded in 1881 by Georg Munch and was revived by the Dressel family in 1966. A tour of the limestone cellars and some wine tasting is on the afternoon's agenda.

The cost of \$53.00 per person is based on a minimum of 35 people per motorcoach and includes an experienced guide, a 54-passenger motorcoach, admission at the Daniel Boone Home, boxed lunch, winery tour, arrangements and all reservation.