



# DRAGONFLIGHT

## A NEWSLETTER FOR THE

52D CAB AND ALL WHO CALLED THAT  
MUDDY RED PATCH OF GROUND CALLED  
CAMP HOLLOWAY HOME

### REUNION

I know, I know, I've caught all kinds of heck over the last news letter, for failing to include the reunion dates. But since we have been giving out these dates for more than six months now, it just slipped my mind. The rule we established for holding the reunion was the 1st full weekend in October, that way the weather is still good for travel and we are out of prime tourist season.

So to make it official the 6th reunion, "good grief are we up to 6 already" of the 52D CAB and all those who were assigned or attached plus any and all who were assigned to Camp Holloway, RVN are invited to attend a reunion in your honor. It will be held at the Henry the VIII Hotel, [REDACTED] St Louis, MO. the dates are 5 to 8 October 2000.

### SCHEDULE

#### Thursday 5 October

1500 - Hospitality Suite opens, note it closes at 1000 on Sunday. Registration starts

1830 - ??? Welcome and come on in to the WETSU INN.

#### Friday 6 October

0800 -til Hospitality Suite, Registration all day

1300 to 1700 Tour St Louis, guided tour of down town.

1900 til ? Wine and Cheese Welcome, Music By Arion join us for the party at pool side, also Unit Mini Reunions for those who want them.

#### Saturday 7 October

0930 to 1030 Business Meeting

1200 to 1700 Tour Old St Charles. Enjoy its Octoberfest and if you like stop by and visit the Casino Riverfront Station

1800 to 1900 Picture Taking

1900 to ? Dinner, Festivities, Speaker, and Music by Arion

#### Sunday 8 October

1000 Hospitality Room Closes until next time.

1 JULY 2000

### Dragonfire Chronicles

We are still looking for input for the unit Histories, so lets hear it from you historians. This includes personal memories/stories. Remember the unit history is your history and as members of the unit your story is important. So please get the material into me by the end of July latest.

### HOTEL ROOMS

ALMOST ALL THE ROOMS WE BLOCKED ARE BOOKED. THE HOTEL HAS INFORMED ME THAT THEY HAVE SEVERAL OTHER REUNIONS THAT WEEKEND AND THOSE ROOMS NOT BLOCKED ARE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS. THE RATES ARE LOCKED IN AS LONG AS YOU MENTION THE 52D CAB REUNION, BUT YOU NEED TO GET REGISTERED SO YOU HAVE A ROOM. SO IF THERE IS EVEN A SLIGHT CHANCE YOU ARE GOING TO COME. MAKE YOUR HOTEL REGISTRATION, IT COST YOU NOTHING AND YOU CAN CANCEL IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT. I do not want you to feel that if you wait until the end, there will be no room for you. We will find some place for you to stay, but it might not be as convient as the rooms around the pool that we want everyone in. So lets get going folks. PS the attendance contest, the 189th is in the lead, followed by 170th, HHC and then Pathfinders. If you want a unit roster to make some calls let me know, who knows you can pull off a upset!!!

## LETTERS

Vern,

I received your newsletter several weeks ago and promptly misplaced it, and finally found it last night. Another old Headhunter and I want to know when the reunion is and more info about other headhunters that you have been in contact with. He and I are definitely considering attending if it works with our schedule. I have a son who lives in Springfield, MO with his wife and her parents live in Osage Beach. the reunion last year was about six weeks after we were out there, and I couldn't get more time off. I appreciate any info and the newsletters, Thanks, Jim

*The information is on the way..Dragon 11*

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*Dear Vern*

*In the May/June 2000 DAV Magazine there's a reunion notice that the 170th Assault Helicopter Co RVN 1966-72 is having a reunion in Washington DC conjunction w/ VHPA July 2, 2000 or in conjunction w/52nd Combat Aviation 23 September 2000 in Reno NV.*

*I want to know where the 52nd is going to have their reunion and with whom and if it will be alone. I am very confused at this point. In my condition I don't have the time commit to something that confuses me, let alone invest money. I'd love to get together with comrades that shared some of the things I did over there.*

*I hope you can clear up my confusion. I am a residence of Nevada and Reno isn't as far as Washington DC from me.*

*I want to thank you for the roster you sent me recently of 219th Avn Co members. There is a limited amount of them.*

*I'm looking forward to hearing from some of the roster members in the near future. Welcome home Vernon G Gano Jr, and I send out a special Headhunter's Puff to you.*

*Jesse H. Becton*

*USA Ret.*

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**Vernon**

Enjoyed your newsletter. I know it takes a lot of work to put it together and get it mailed.

I was in the 219th from Sep.70- Sep.71 as a young lieutenant. Flew under call sign Headhunter 37.

Holloway was a great place. The Officer's Club was the best show in town but right outside its main door was the 219th's own club called "The Doghouse".

The Doghouse saw plenty of action too. We had a seat from a Birdog (0-1) cemented to the floor and "newbys" saw plenty of "action strapped in wearing full flight gear and attempting to drink flaming hookers without letting the flame go out. After five or six attempts the new Headhunter didn't know up from down..and didn't care! I saw several mustaches go up in flames while others looked like they had a terrible cold sore around their mouth the next day.

I have some great pictures of Holloway and the area around the O'Club that I will e-mail in the near future.

**Bob Brewster HH37**

*Whole lot of 219th folks out there, with several really good questions, the 170th is sponsoring a mini reunion at the VHPA reunion in July, and I've been informed that Gary Ott is having a 170th get together in Reno in late August. Contact George Crawford for more information. for those of you who want to share pictures, please go to someplace like kinko's and have large copies made pretty darn cheap and then send me the copies by regular mail. Make sure to write the who, what where when and why on the picture s back. We will place all this material in the note book histories we keep on each of the units.Dragon 11*

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**Dear Vernon**

I was on the road during Feb. And Mar and then was very ill in March. I am better now thanks to the VA MED Center in Denver. I've misplaced all the information on the Reunion of the 52d CAB. Please provide dates, time and place. and registration form. Thanks

**John C Hughes**

*The information is already in the mail Sir or you can use this newsletter. Dragon 11*

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**Vernon**

I am getting ready to send in the registration form. What is the schedule of activities. When is the banquet?  
S. Molkenbuhr

*The schedule of major events is posted on the front page. take care.. Dragon 11*

Vern

Glenn Hogan here, I wish I were able to participate more with the 52nd CAB, and the VHPA, .. but for the past 10 years, since the VHPA's inception (I'm ~45),,,I was a summer contract helicopter pilot flying on fire contracts with several Oregon area operators,,,,,just could not get away during the summer . I'm medically grounded because of a tumor , that was rapidly trying to take over the same space my brain was occupying ; its gone now, the tumor ,not the brain.

I think it will be a couple of more years before I can afford the trips back east to go to the functions....I started a new job with the state dept: of corrections 20 months ago,,,so not to much seniority on the time off lists. I'm also in the processes of becoming an Oregon State Police Trooper, they are doing my background investigation now...

Well,,Vernon, I've B/S long enough

Glenn Hogan

*I hope you pick up seniority in a hurry, maybe a lot of those above you will retire, and you can start gathering with us in the fall. Remember the Battalion always gathers in the first full weekend in October. Dragon 11*

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Vern

Received t-shirts & pin wednesday first chance I got to confirm order thanks for the fast service they look good I like them. I had to get one for the wife or I never see mine again, thanks again

Charlie McCoy

*We still have plenty of the Battallion t-shirts left. You can order now or pick up at reunion. Also let me know about "Dragonfire Chronicles" as soon as possible. Dragon 11*

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Vern

*I've been "putzing" around the 'Net this evening. Found some new sites about helicopters and Pleiku that I haven't visited before. Found your site. I went to "Old Pleiku" joining the 81st in April 1963. It converted to the 119th Air Mobile and went to B model Hueys several months later. Later in '63, I transferred over to the 52nd and went up to DaNang to fly gun ship cover for the Marines. I'm interested in knowing if you are aware of any others that were at "Old Pleiku/Camp Holloway" during my assignment there 1963 - 1964*

*Jerry Righthouse*

Vern

*I look forward to learning if you know of others who were at "Old Pleiku" Camp Holloway during 1963-1964. I've corresponded with Jerry Simpson who lives up in Montana. He was there about the same time I was. He spent his tour first with the 81st, then with the 119th.*

*Please let me know if you have questions I might be able to answer. I'll give it a try.*

*Jerry*

*Jerry two things please send me your snail mail address and We will get you listed on the battalion contact roster and secondly remind me at that time and I will send you what information we have on folks from that time frame*

*Dragon 11*

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Vern: I don't know how much I may be able to assist regarding the history of the 361st, however, I am in contact with many past members, and we are having our mini-reunion at D.C. as I'm sure you know, come June. If I can be of assistance in collecting 361st data, I would consider it an honor to help in any way I can. Let me know what I can do, and feel free to "sign me up". About the Tee shirts you mentioned, is there any available anymore. I would be happy to pay whatever the price for an XL. Let me know what I can do.

*Joe Doyen*

*Joe thanks for getting back with us. Of course we are not forgetting the Pink Panthers. I personally have many fond memories of the unit, especially after they saved and entire squad from the Security platoon one foggy, rainy, night in 68. Unfortunately we need some folks from that organization to help us out collecting history and information for the "Dragonfire Chronicles" and The Manifest" which are our battalion history and contact roster. We have many members of the 361st listed but the history section could be worked on along with updating the contact roster also please contact me so we can get you listed. thanks. Dragon11*

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**It is nice to hear from new folks, the battallion is alive and well and everyday we run into someone new . Please all of you stay healthy and we will see all of you in October.**

**REGISTRATION AND ORDER FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ WIVES NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_  
 UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ DATES \_\_\_\_\_  
 UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ DATES \_\_\_\_\_  
 CALL SIGNS \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIPS      LIFE \$160.00      (CAN BE PAID IN 4, \$40.00 PAYMENTS)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

                                 GENERAL \$15.00 (PER YEAR)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

52D CAB HAT PINS \$5.50      (THIS INCLUDES POSTAGE)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

REUNION REGISTRATION      \$30.00 (MEMBERS ONLY)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

REUNION BANQUET      (\$30.00 EACH PERSON, THIS INCLUDE COST OF BAND)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-SHIRTS S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_ XXL \_\_\_\_\_ XXXL \_\_\_\_\_

COST PER SHIRT \$12.00 FOR MOST SIZES \$14.00 FOR XXL AND XXXL      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SHIPPING FOR T-SHIRTS \$4.00 FOR 1 SHIRT ADD \$1.00 FOR EACH  
 ADDITIONAL SHIRT.      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I need to get approximate numbers for the tours, The cost is around \$16.00 per person, per tour, but we don't need any money until you arrive. This is to order busses. So please let me know soonest.

Tour St louis, on Friday the 6th of october.      Number going \_\_\_\_\_

Tour old ST Charles, Octoberfest, Casno. Sat 7 October      Number going \_\_\_\_\_

If you want to pre-order the 2000 DRAGONFIRE CHRONICLES with the MANIFEST enclosed please use this form to tell us how many you need and whether you will pick it up at the Reunion or want it shipped. They will be ready for shipment the first week in October.      NUMBER WANTED \_\_\_\_\_      SHIP OR PICK-UP \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OUT TO "52d CAB REUNION"

SEND TO:



or phone \_\_\_\_\_

HOTEL RESERVATIONS \_\_\_\_\_