

DRAGONFLIGHT



Unit Contacts
Executive Director
Vern Gano
HHC 52D CAB

This Newsletter is dedicated to those who served in the 52d Combat Av. Bn. and/or at that plot of red mud, clay and PSP we called home. Camp Holloway, Pleiku, RVN

Pathfinder Det.
Larry Fuhr
52d Security Det
Ralph Williams
117th AHC

119th AHC

57th ATC
Steve Hayduk
125th ATC

155th AHC
David Nelson
170th AHC
Paul Wilson
179th ASHC
Don Joyce
189th AHC
Gerald Sandlin
219 AV CO

361st Escort Co
Jack Jordan

VOLUME 2/99 12 July 1999

Reunions

52d CAB non- reunion Reunion fishing and relaxing Alhonna Resort Lake Ozark, MO 23-26 Sep 99 [redacted] for reservations, call Vern for info [redacted]

57th AHC Embassy Suites, Nashville, TN 15-17 Oct 99 Call Steve Hayduk [redacted] for info.

52D CAB 1st weekend Oct 2000 Reno ,NV
52D CAB 1st weekend Oct 2001 St Louis, MO
I wish you would all consider the year 2000 "the year to bring the battalion together again", Its been thirty plus years now , its time for everyone, cooks, pilots, crew chiefs, Commanders, clerks, 1SG's and Pvts, its time to get together, drink some coffee, or something stronger, meet old friends , make new ones. Lets remember old friends, tell war stories, heal old wounds, and recharge our batteries.

We need contact folks for 117th, 119th, 125th. and 219th, contact Vern if you want job.

HATPINS

The hatpins are finally in and all who ordered them should have them by now. If you did not receive one and are due one let me know the mail does get screwed up some times.

If you would like to order one or more of the Battalion pins, send \$4.00 for each pin and \$1.50 shipping and handling using the sheet on the back page.

HATPINS II

Several of you have asked about getting hat pins for the units. I have a idea as to how to accomplish this. We now have a reliable manufacturer and can get the them within a reasonable time. The problem in the past has always been which units should we order. "Sooo" I have a suggestion instead of individual pins, we have sets made up of all the aviation units in the Battalion. 57th, 117th, 119th, 155th, 170th, 179th, 189th, 219th, and 361st. You would spend around \$32.00 plus postage and receive all nine pins.

PINS II

Then next year we could do the same for HHC, and the support companies and detachments who had patches etc. we could make into pins.

This would allow you to cover a hat, jacket, memento board, plaque, or whatever with the symbols of those who you served and worked with during your tour.

So here is what I am proposing, I am asking you to answer the question do we order the set of pins, if at least 70 of you say yes, I will notify those of you who want them to send the money and we will order them. We will not order them with out at least that minimum order though or like with so much of this stuff we will get stuck with material and no one to buy it.

For those of you who are wondering about the new order of T-shirts, the reason we did not get them yet is not enough folks have displayed an interest in getting them we need to order 96 to get a decent price and only 22 folks have shown any interest.

So the idea is if you want to display your pride, get on the list so we can order the material in.

Stories

We are in desperate need of stories. Remember that one of the reasons we exist is to make sure our story is told. We can't do this without your help. So please pick up a pen or sit down behind the ole PC and tell us what you want remembered. It does not need to be blood and guts, funny stuff, R & R stories, the Chaplain stories, donut dollies, going home, arriving at 90th

Dear Vernon,

I wonder if you can help me with something. I have the unit history of the 170th from the 52nd CAB Assoc. The history states that the 170th received the RVN Cross of Gallantry W/Palm for a third time from April through June 26, 1970.

I was with the unit from April 10, 1970 to June 1970, then I returned to the states. My question is would I be able to wear the Gallantry Cross unit citation for the period of time I was with the 170th?

I wrote to the Department of the Army, and they said the unit did not receive any unit citation when I was with them,

Are they looking at the same history that I sent them on the 170th? I hope you can help Me with this matter.

Best wishes,

Bob Hettiger

All right out there who can help Bob out with this problem. Dragon-11

Hi Vern

You weren't the guy who dropped some short rounds on OP 98, were you? I remember quit a few section members, but usually by last name or nick name only. Let me think on it a while and get you a list. I stayed in after VN, went to OCS and retired in 1988 after 21 years as a Major. Currently I am a real estate investor and developer hope to hear from you soon.

John Arbeeney

Yes John I was in charge of the section the night we dropped a round

right on top of the ambush patrol that was getting ready to depart. I was responsible for hurting a lot of people that night. It hurts me even now especially when I see folks doing stupid things. Dragon 11

Dear Vernon

It was great to hear from some guys that spent some time at Camp Holloway. I served in the 170th from Nov. 65, when it was formed at Ft Benning, GA. The 170 and 161st left Ft Benning on 28 NOV, flew to Oakland, CA. and then crossed the Pacific on the USNS John Pope, a troop ship. We arrived in Qui Nhon, Vietnam, 4 days before Christmas 1965.

The 170th worked out of what I'm calling a mud pit for the 30 days, before we went to Cp Holloway. The 161 stayed in the Qui Nhon area.

We arrived at Cp Holloway toward the end of January 66. I worked a Helicopter repairman in the 4 hanger buildings just across from the control tower. I was also a crewchief for about 5-6 months, in August I was transferred to the 119th AHC and was there until I left RVN in Dec 66.

I also have to mention the Wetsu Inn, the little Cp Holloway club where we all had many great buddies to buddies B.S. sessions talking about friends, where they were and what they were doing, over a few beers.

I have many photos of Cp Holloway and the central Highlands area, and also of guys in the company. I am enclosing a list of all the guys I can think of, but 33 years have gone by and this is not going to be easy. Plt Sgt was Sgt Blamey from AR. Mail clerk was SP4 Pesky, Motor pool Sgt

Sydec, Co. Maint Off was Jim Croother guys in general, Jim Nowak, Roy Strawer, Bob Smith, Terry Shawassay Hubert Herest, Tom Tulo, Don Raines, SP6 MCGehee, Gary Sawyer, SP5 Judge, Gary Jones, S. Garrison Jr, SSG Mills, SGT Anderson, John McAda, PFC Stefka, PFC Hotchkiss, PFC Mendoza, I can't think of anymore, I thought they might interest you somewhat. I read in a newsletter that the 170th moved to Kontum can you tell me when they did this?

As ever

Dennis Kedrowski

Thank you Dennis for the interesting information. We hope to meet you soon. Dragon 11

Vern

Recieved the hat pin and now it is proudly displayed with the other unit emblems on my Cav Hat. Thank you very much

Chuck

I'm sorry it took so long.

Dragon-11

I was in the 189th Apr 70-71period. I as crew chief in 1st silver and then later on Avenger flight. I have a yearbook that was made up of the 52d Flying Dragons Battalion, pictures of everyone and the area. It often brings back memories to me when I look at it. I would like to share it with others but only on a (one on one) basis the binding is not that good (it was done in country). It might even have a history of the time period in it. It also contains the other units that were attached to the Battalion. I still have my old flying hat and some Montinyard blankets. To think we use to fly all day without seat belts and now can't go to store without one.

Stephen Huffman

Subj: Flying Dragons

Date: 5/4/1999 10:11:43 AMI 1:32 Central Daylight Time

From: [REDACTED] (Drumm Jr., Robert H, LTCIODCSOPS)

To: [REDACTED]

Vern,

Found the homepage for the Battalion and I'm impressed. 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment is alive and well at K-16 (Seoul Air Base) Korea. It was my honor to command the battalion from July 96 to July 98. Since then I'e been assigned as a Systems Integrator working the Kiowa Wanior and Comanche here in DCSOPS. I'D be leaving this assignment to attend the National War College in August.

The Battalion is Korea is currently oragnized:\

HHC (Crusaders) with two UH-60 CINCHAWK

A Company (Dragon Flight) with 8 UH-60s

B Company (Red Barons) with 15 enhanced UH-60s

C Company (Tomahawks) with 8 UH-60s

D Company (White Horse) Aviatiopn Maintenance

A Company, 6th Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment (Wildcats) attached with 6 C-12s and 2 UC-35 jets

The battalion's mission is General Support throughout the theater. in fact, a platoon of the fixed wing (1 C-12 and the 2 jets) are attached to the General Support Battalion in Japan.

I hope we upheld the proud traditions of the 52d CAB - we worked hard at it. You set a high standard of excellence and performance and today's Flying Dragons I'm sure would make you proud.

V/R

Bob Drumm

ROBERT H. DRUMM, JR.

LTC, AV

DAM 0-F D V

Thanks for the up date Bob , we sweated and bled to give you that history to live up to.

Dragon11

Vern

I saw your work on the 52nd CAB on the Camp Holloway website. I was Headhunter 61 from Aug 68 -Feb 69, when I transferred to Kontum and our 2nd platoon and became Headhunter 29. I was the Platoon Operations Officer for both Platoons and the Platoon IP in Kontum. Looking for any Headhunters or Chopper Pilots that I flew with who remember me. Keep up the good work and welcome Back to the real world.

Thanks, Jim Dempsey

Some of you folks out there remember Jim?? Dragon 11

Vern

Hi my name is Arthur Lee, from a small town in the most western end of TN. Finley is the town, but I live next to the Mississippi river. After almost 30 years I started looking for this unit of the 52d Aviation Battalion. I know the battalion is very large so I know you guys have been working hard to get us all together. God bless you guys for working so hard. I look forward to meeting you guys in Sep 99 at Lake of the Ozarks. I have my Brochure it looks great I can't wait.

I was a door gunner for the 189th in 1970. I was called "Rebel" I would like to meet anyone from the 189th or 52d, I know I would not be among strangers.

God Bless

Arthur Lee

I can't wait to meet you Dragon 11

Dear Vernon,

Here is the poem.

To all the soldiers that died, flying with me, for me, before and after me.

Boys when young, thinking war is fun, share dreams of glory for all,

Not knowing that blood, is the price they must pay, as brave boys heed the flags urgent call.

Across the sea, a long way from home, blood was being paid for glory,

Young boys from our land, in a torrent of dreams, would live the soldiers old story

Young boys dream of defending our flag, a flag drenched in hero's blood honor,

Blood that spilled, as honor filled, blood debts from soldiers lore.

To pay the debt, boy soldiers fly, sleek war birds prowling the skies,

Birds that growl, as they prowl, fields of death that lay on high.

Birds that sing a song of death, for friend and foe alike;

Birds that flock, with other birds, flowr by boys in a desperate plight.

Boys in a dream, hiding silent screams, ride shotgun in self-defense,

Blood debts unpaid, fear proudly shared, in the midst of their descent.

A shot unheard has awoke one boy, destroying his mothers dreams,

And soldiers dreaming, silently grieving for comrades with deeds untold,

Are holding the hands, that a mother loved, growing limp and eerily cold.

While soldiers struggle, with a boy in need, of God's redeeming grace,

A war bird turns toward a hospital near, trying not to lose a race.

As the boy's eyes grow dim, distant and grim, clouded by fear from within,

his debt is paid, with blood and pain, as grieving soldiers hold and comfort him.

On the bird of death that has all boys scared,

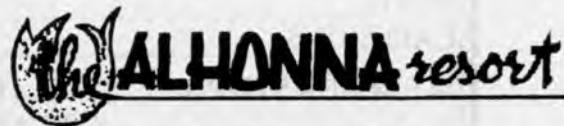
A small boy cries to no one there;

Mommy, please turn on the lights.

John Tompkins

Speaking of the get together in September. Remember this is not one of the big formal Reunions. The next of those is in the first week of Oct 2000 in Reno, NV. This is a gathering of those who don't want to wait that long. We are gathering at Lake of the Ozarks to share Comraderie, play golf, fish and do that old talking thing. It should be fun. Dragon 11

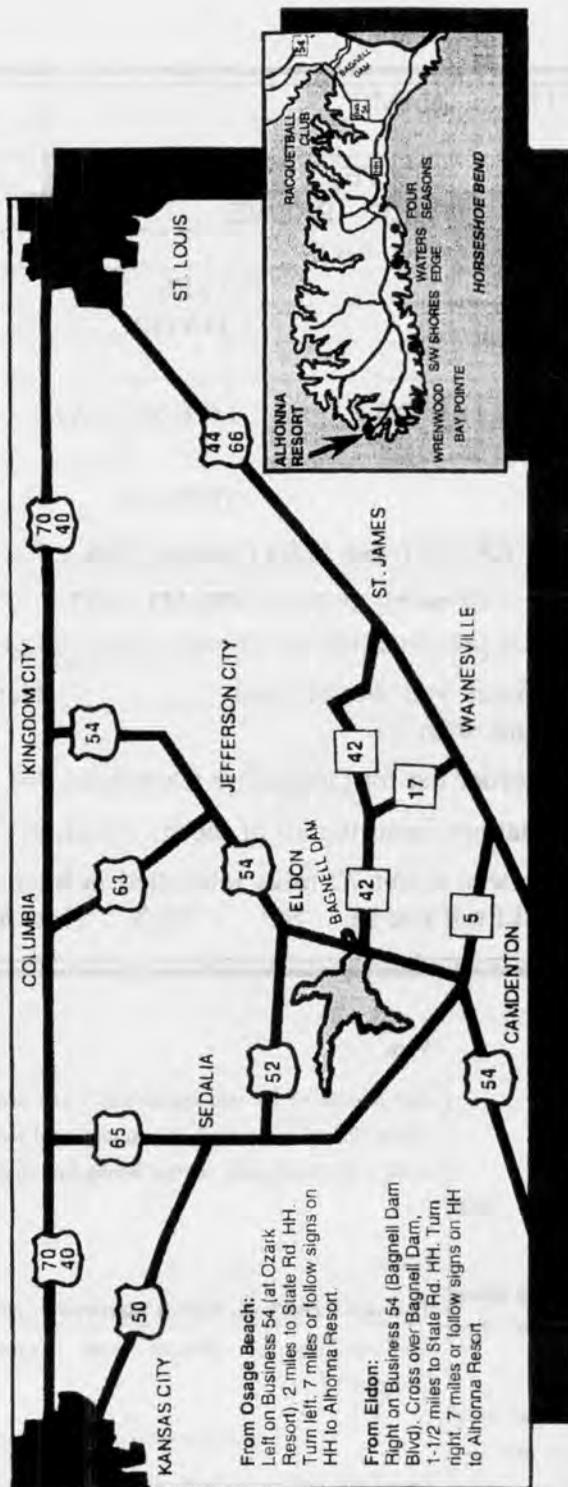
BOAT RENTAL



*On Beautiful
Horseshoe Bend*

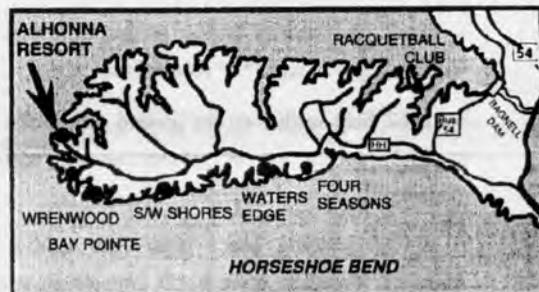
*5 minutes down HH from Southwood Shores,
Water's Edge, the Racquetball Club and
Lodge of the Four Seasons.*

- Pontoon Boats
- Deck Boats
- Ski Boats
- Bass Boats
- 30' Pontoons
- Fishing Boats



From Osage Beach:
Left on Business 54 (at Ozark Resort), 2 miles to State Rd. HH. Turn left. 7 miles or follow signs on HH to Alhonna Resort.

From Eldon:
Right on Business 54 (Bagnell Dam Blvd). Cross over Bagnell Dam. 1-1/2 miles to State Rd. HH. Turn right. 7 miles or follow signs on HH to Alhonna Resort.



This issue is our annual and is being sent to everyone on the Bn/Camp Holloway contact Roster(The Manifest). We only do this once a year, otherwise only members receive, The Dragonflight. I actually have 4 copies of the "Dragonfire Chronicles" left, folks ordered them but did not pay for them. If you want one call or fax first to reserve them, then send me a check for \$22.00. Please check your address on the envelope make sure it is correct as it will be listed in the manifest. If it has change or will change or you just want me to check it out fill out , info sheet and return it to me. The NEW edition of the "Dragofire Chronicles/The Manifest" will be ready in mid- November. I've no idea on cost yet but if you are not General or Life member this is the only chance you have to at least let me know to order one.

NAME	WIFES	NAME
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
HOME PHONE	WORK PHONE	
E-MAIL	FAX	
UNIT	DATES	
UNIT	DATES	
CALLSIGNS		
MEMBERSHIPS	(LIFE \$160.00)	(GENERAL \$15.00)
\$	52d CAB Hatpin/pin (\$5.50)	\$
TOTAL \$		
MAKE CHECKS OUT TO "52D CAB REUNION"		
Verns fax number 636-441-3590		
Please note Life membership fees can be paid in equal increments of \$40.00 per month.		
Are you interested in T-shirts (YES) (NO) Sizes you would need _____ Number _____		
Fax or mail this to me . Let me know if I should order???		
Would you like your name placed on the order list for Dragonfire Chronicles 99? YES NO		
Would you be interested in a set of (9) eight hatpins honoring all of the Bn Aviation Companies???		
Cost around \$32.00 plus postage. We would need about 70 folks interested in buying a set in order to get them made up so don't send money until I tell you to. NO YES How many sets _____		

From the Boeing grapevine

> 1702Z Serb soldier on the ground over strike freq says 'Go home Yankee dog or I will f*** your mother.

> 1706Z Serb soldier on the ground over strike freq says "I am going to f*** you in the a** American pig and then your wife and daughter!!

> 1710Z Nothing heard from Serb soldier on the ground after AGM-65 Maverick from A-10 impacts on comm jamming van And yes...it is all caught on. The A-10 pilots HUD tape. Now is that instant gratification or what!?!

Page two...

> F-15E drops AGM-130 on Serb barracks. As the bomb comes down and in the TV field of view a Serb VJIMUP guy shoots a MANPAD at the bomb 12 seconds before impact which of course, misses intended target. KABOOM... Bomb takes out barracks. The Strike Eagle community calls it the "Why die all tensed up" video...

>

Vern

Just a note to let you know that i can send pictures of some 361st Cobras via e-mail, if you can send me a email address. I think I have pictures of the bunkerline and down town Pleiku also

Frank

Thanks I don't do Email pictures very well , don't have the equipment. Please send copies by snail mail. Dragon 11

Found this site on the web, as I was looking for a reunion for my dad. I and a lot of others went to VN in Nov 65, with the 119th and the 170th, and were stationed at Pleiku, (titty Mtn" and then I went to the 155th at Ban Me Thout and DEROS'd back to the big PX in Nov 66. Flew UH-1s, C,D, & H Models and spent a lot of time with SF in Laos and Phoenix program in the latter part of 66. Send info on reunion and have there been other reunions?

Johnny Mccullough

Yes to both questions . will send info Dragon 11