



Walking Point

The newsletter for D Co. 2/8 Vietnam 1965—1972

Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Articles & Bylaws Ratified



At the regular business meeting, held at 9:00 a.m. on May 20, 2006, the membership unanimously approved the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (see summary of minutes on page 5). This was the final step in assuring ASA, Inc.' legal status. You will find the inception documents for ASA, Inc. at the <http://www.angriskypperassociation.org> website, where it sits permanently for members to review, to satisfy Federal and certain State regulatory requirements and to assist when dealing with vendors. Other corporate documents will be available as we are able to place them there for you, and as they are received/created. The business meeting minutes for the past 3 years are now posted on the website. A DVD of this years business meeting will be sent to all members who attended the reunion, along with a DVD of the reunion events.

At the regular business meeting, the members voted to hold the next two reunions in **Washington, D.C. in 2007** and **Salt Lake City, Utah in 2008**. Accordingly, the Board of Governors will begin processing for tax-exemption in those states.

This year, there were 2 new members who are the survivors of Robert Recendes, Skull 70-71. Tessa Recendes and Nancy Leathead, his daughters, both attended the Orlando reunion. This year, there were 4 company commanders (Skipper 6) attend the reunion: MG James Guest (retired) (66-67); MG Edison E. Scholes (retired) (67-68); William Neal (70-71) and Wolf Kutter (71-72).

The membership committee will accelerate finding our members and each of you should use the roster to encourage the guys you served with to join us next year in D.C. There is no better group to visit the Wall with, than those you served with. **Never Forget!**



The Angry Skipper Association, Inc. now owns it own domain on the internet. <http://www.angriskypperassociation.org>. On January 18, 2006, Rich O'Brien, our President, appointed Garry Buckner, and Garry has accepted, the position of webmaster for the corporate website. Members on-line, and a list of all members is available, as well. The Newsletters will be available, including past issues. The first Angry Skipper Newsletter was written by Ed Regan, our Founder, in 1988. You will see how Ed spent an incredible amount of time researching and finding most of you and how it all started. Visit the site and see if members you served with, may already be found. Pictures of Vietnam, by era, and of our KIA's, linked to the Honor Roll, are posted. All members are encourage to submit pictures from their era to our webmaster.

Note: the eagle logo above created by 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters. Used with permission.

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Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Board of Governors

- President: Richard O'Brien (Cat, 67)
richardobrien@msn.com
- Vice President: Chuck Hustedt (Skull, 69)
chuckins@garlic.com
- Treasurer: Ed Regan (Range, 68-69)
smilez4747@yahoo.com
- Secretary: Robin Woo (Skull, 71-72)
rwoo@surewest.net



ASA, Inc. 2006 Group Photograph - Orlando, Florida



Group Photograph at the Kennedy Space Center Tour



L-R: O'Brien, Ryals, Williams & Regan at cvb table paying for group photograph.



Groups outside the Hospitality Suites



Groups outside the Hospitality Suites

11th Airborne Assault — 1st Air Cavalry— Airmobile *By Ed Kotch, Cat 66-67*

In a discussion over the CIB, CMB and Jump Wings, Ed Kotch wrote:

“First of all, I can’t believe that any one that was in the 1st AIR CAVALRY, didn’t know We were all Airborne from the conception of the Airmobile in those little green Huey’s, the 11th Airborne Assault was the beginning of Airmobile and the Air Cavalry. I suggest you go and see We Were Soldiers Once and Young. Don’t miss the very Beginning. Thank Allan for the JUMP WINGS correction (Allan Jousa corrected Robin Woo who referred to those as “little parachutes”) The CIB goes on top of the JUMP WINGS on all uniforms. The Airborne Tap goes over the 1st Cav patch, for the Airborne Guys just like the screaming eagles 101st. Same color. Yellow on Black. Just for the guys from I believe 63-67 & some of 68 maybe you can help me on this Allan, Rich O’Brien and Jim Taylor were the First Damn LEG’S in the Air Cavalry in 67. They took a lot of shit from us for not being Airborne, they made it easier for the rest of you. In spite of it all, they were dam good hard working, fast learning troopers that could be trusted And could depend on covering your Ass. Thanks guys, that was the ending of the Airborne in The Air Cavalry. It will always be the 1st Air Cavalry to us Airborne Guys. I hope this was some help to you all. Need any help on this just ask. Thanks Ed Kotch 66-67 Rich yes I will take the job of Airborne liaison. I also vote for the WINGS & AIRBORNE on all news letters, banners, etc.”



Allan Jousma, Skull 66-67. Note: airborne tap above the Cav patch.

I received a phone call from Al Deyo, (1966), out of New York. He had served with Robert Johnson, KIA 1-Mar-67 and Al told me there is a monument of Robert Johnson in Marlboro, NY on the Hudson River, overlooking the river, just above West Point. He wanted anyone who knew Robert, to know that this monument was put up. Al happened to stumble on a pool guy working across the street and found out that this guy was in the parade, when he was in high school, for the monument in Marlboro, NY. We'll try to obtain a picture of that monument and publish it here and place it on the association website, linked to Robert's name on the Honor Roll.

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

by Robin Woo

Angry Skipper Association, Inc. ("ASA") takes it to the next level. By legally organizing, our efficiency and effectiveness has enabled ASA to help more troopers attend this reunion, provide affordable costs to our members, negotiate more effectively with vendors, and provide timely and transparent financial information to our members. The purpose of this transparency is to empower any of you, our members, to step up and take the reins, as we evolve and grow. We are all owners of this association and your voice counts and your participation is encouraged.

During the registration process, 22 members made donations/contributions which enabled the association to help many members to and at the reunion. There were 103 membership cards printed. 13 were mailed to members who were not attending the reunion in Orlando, but wanted the card. A few had shirts/caps mailed to them with their cards. Approximately 90 members attended the reunion in Orlando. 53 persons signed up for the Kennedy Space Center tour. The Friday evening pool gathering included a 5 piece band (led by Steve Homan) and the Saturday evening banquet included a 6 piece band. Francesca Homan sang the National Anthem at the banquet and the band did an outstanding job! The Saturday banquet consisted of 158+ plates. There were 18 1st time attendee's in Orlando. Special acknowledgement was given to 6 airborne members who were in-country 65-66. This year there were 8 children of members in attendance (who hung together and enjoyed the offerings of Orlando' sights), and one grandchild. Our Association President, Rich O'Brien brought his daughter, Jill, making her the first "1st Daughter" to attend a reunion.

Thanks to MG James Guest (retired) (Skipper 6, 66-67) (*3rd Company Commander of D Company, 2/8th in-country*) for speaking to our group. George Mauldin introduced MG James Guest to the banquet attendees. We acknowledged Alvin Seal, who had served in Vietnam with D 2/8 and Iraq last year. Thanks to Ken Baker (Range, 68-69) and Robert Johnson (President, 1st Cav Division Association) for helping with the Color Guards, Guardians of the Wall and POW/MIA Tableau and joining us at our banquet. The Color and Honor guard programs did not leave a dry eye in the room. The 1st Cav soldier at the end of the program yelled, "**If you aint Cav, you aint shit!!**" resulted in a roar from our members. The JROTC Color Guard members were from Winter Springs High School. Michael Crume and his sister, Mavis Tortorice displayed the Honor Roll needlepoint for members to see. Thanks to James "Top Gun" Dotson for the D 2/8 Guidon & POW/MIA flag. Thanks to Larry Hemphling for facilitating the donation of approximately 50 cases of beer from Anheiser-Busch, which were completely consumed by Saturday evening.. Also, thanks to Larry Hemphling for providing the shirts and caps this year, as he has done for all previous years. The Orlando/Orange County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. staff were professional, effective and provided accurate reports in a timely manner. The process worked like a finely greased machine.

ASA, Inc. Liability Insurance

Angry Skipper Association, Inc. has obtained a liability insurance policy from State Farm Insurance. Our insurance agent is Ken Moser (also a Vietnam veteran) of Edward B. Mahn, CLU, ChFC in Flemington, NJ.

The Policy Description is as follows:

Liability:	
Comprehensive General Liability-Per Occurrence	\$1,000,000.
Aggregate (Products & Completed Operations Only)	2,000,000.
Fire Legal Liability	300,000.
Medical Payments	5,000.
Host Liquor Law Liability	Included
Personal Injury Liability	Included
Non-owned Auto Liability	Included
Plus Other Additional Liability Coverage Per Policy	
Total Annual Premiums	\$360.00

The policy was obtained to indemnify the hotel, where a reunion may be held, from liability resulting from the Association hosting liquor to its members.

Washington, D.C. Reunion Committee Planning, by Ed Regan, Reunion Committee Chairman

Chuck Hustedt (Skull 69) and I (Range 68-69) are planning a trip to D.C. sometime in the next few months. Our purpose is for site selection. Any member interested in joining the reunion committee is encouraged to contact Chuck or me. The membership at the Orlando business meeting gave the Orlando/Orange County Visitors & Convention Bureau, Inc. a thumbs-up for their help in the planning and implementation of the reunion.

The Orlando reunion enabled us to reach out to first time attendees, but regional "minis" may be the best way to encourage Troopers to attend their initial reunion, as suggested by Ed Scholes. He also suggested that we look for a person with reunion organizational skills to head a Special Events (Mini's) Committee. Any volunteers?

Finally, Larry Hemphling has done an outstanding job securing donated beverages from Anheuser-Busch, but we non-drinkers are left to our own resources regarding soft drinks. Is there anybody out there with a connection to a soft drink company who can, like Anheuser-Busch, donate products for non-drinkers like me, as I trudge the Road of Happy Destiny? I'm open to Suggestions.

MEDAL(S) REQUEST

submitted by Kirk Davis, Range 70-71

If you were never issued your medals (as was the case of a friend of mine), or if they were lost in a fire, storm, flood, hurricane, or for some other reason - you may request replacements from the government at no expense to you.

You must fill out the "Standard Form SF-180" and send all documentation requested (plus additional material if you have any) to help speed the process. Go to the website listed below and follow the instructions.

1. Go to the following website for info on "Requesting Replacement Medals, Awards, and Decorations": the web address is:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/replacement-medals.html>

2. Then, download "Standard Form SF-180" - print it out, fill it out, and mail it to the St. Louis address listed on the website along with your cover letter and all the other necessary documentation. Here is the address:

National Personnel Records Center
Medals Section (NRPMA-M)
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Form SF-180 and form cover letter also located at <http://www.angryskipperassociation.org>

New Members since the January, 2006 Newsletter:

Jerry Stevens, Skull, 69-70	Arthur Soper, Range, 68	Barton Earl Davidson, Range, 68
Philip Hart, Skull, 67-68	Eugene R. Griffiths, 68-69	Neil Thomas, Cat, 67-68
Joseph G. Brown, Weapons, 66	Chuck Kline, Weapons, 65-66	Jim "Lurch" Harriman, Weapons, 65-66
Ken Weaver, Cat, 70-71	Clyde Mulholland-Kenyon, Range 67-68	
Conrad Hoffman, HQ Medic, 66-67	Joe Everitt, Cat, 67-68	James Staloch, Weapons, 67
John "Rebel" Malone, Cat, 67	Robert Smock, Range, 67-68	Davis McCroskey, Cat 68-69
Henry "Marty" Martinez, Range 68-69	Daniel Doyle, III, Skull, 67-68	Larry L Hamilton, Skull, 69-70
Shannon Bunner (Eskridge), Cat, 68-69	Pablo Ortiz, Weapons, 65-66	Fred L. Boykin, Jr., Recon, 65-66
Johnny Wilson, Range, 66-67	Vincent Jones, Recon, 66-67	Ronald Paigen, Cat, 71-72
Russell Ryals, Skull, 71-72	John King, Range, 71-72	Dale Tincher, 70-71
Ruben Roca, Skull, 68-69	Nancy Leathead, Skull, 70-71 (survivor)	
Tessa Recendes, Skull 70-71 (survivor)		

Deceased Member/s:

Ronald A. Pavlik, 65-66

Member Count:

Active : 686
Online : 221



Ronald A. Pavlik retired from the military on Nov 1986 after 26 years. Died on June 12th 2005 from natural causes. He had been working for the main post office in Manhattan for 17 years when he died at the age of 69. Ronald never married and died alone. . . . Ronald's brother Warren(72 yrs old) is receiving the newsletter and would like to keep receiving it. I located Mark Pavlik, Ronald's nephew, Mark lives in Freehold, NJ. Mark gave me all the info on his uncle. Can we send Mark a shirt, Cap, or patch for being so helpful? I hope this information gives closure to those who may have served with him. *By Henry Cruz, (Skull, 70-71), Chairman of the Membership Committee.*
Note: shirt and cap were mailed to Mark by the cvb staff.

Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Treasurers Report

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.
Profit & Loss (unaudited)
January 1 through May 25, 2006

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.
Balance Sheet (unaudited)
May 25, 2006

Ordinary Income & Expense Income

Banquet	\$ 5,355.00
Donations	13,065.33
Membership Dues	1,345.00
Registration Fees	845.00
Fund raising, Auctions, Tickets	750.00
Tours	4,364.50
Shirts, Hats, Patches	<u>3,835.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 29,559.83

Expenses

ASA Website	\$ 209.48
Bank Service Charges	87.00
Banquet—Fri Event	4,834.80
Banquet—Saturday Event	4,873.28
Tours	4,434.50
Corporate	125.00
Entertainment—Reunion	5,475.00
Hospitality Room	1,466.27
Insurance	343.00
License and Permits	25.00
Member Assistance	2,247.87
Merchant Account	652.02
Postage & Delivery	297.90
Printing & Reproduction	954.67
Professional Services—Reunion	1,850.00
Refunds	210.00
Shirts, Hats & Patches	<u>2,855.50</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 30,941.29

Net Income (Loss) (\$ 1,381.46)

ASSETS

Current Assets:

Checking	\$ 3,902.02
Accounts Receivable	<u>115.80</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 4,017.82</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	<u>850.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$ 850.00</u>

Equity

Opening Bal Equity	3,316.97
Retained Earnings	1,232.31
Net Income	(1,381.46)

Total Equity \$ 3,167.82

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$ 4,017.82

Notes: Prior period adjusting journal entry was posted to reverse outstanding items against retained earnings. \$750 Anheiser-Busch donation lost/missing and a \$500 donation that was NSF.

Accounts Payable: \$850 represent an accrual of costs associated with the Orlando/Orange County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. that has not yet been paid.

Summary of Business Meeting held May 20, 2006, 9:00am in Orlando, FL.

Rich O'Brien: introduced the Board of Directors: Stan Dillon, Chairman of the Board; Bob Burke, Tom Vollmar; Robin Woo; Ed Regan; Chuck Hustedt and Rich O'Brien. Mike McGhie has resigned from the Board of Directors. **Robin Woo read the minutes from the last business meeting in Las Vegas, May 21, 2005 which was accepted by the membership unanimously.** Chuck Hustedt discussed the membership committee effort in finding new members. Focus on earlier members with RA service numbers, which is harder than those later members with Social Security numbers as service numbers. Currently working on finding those whose Newsletter came back undeliverable. Rich O'Brien discussed the ASA, Inc. website and the wonderful job our webmaster, Garry Brucker, is doing. **Ed Regan read the Treasurer's report which was accepted unanimously.** Gene Willis (Director of Claims) explained how he will help members file claims with the VA. Info to be provided in next Newsletter with phone number. Everett Tolbert discussed CRS (Combat Related Services) which require minimum 20-yr active service and 40% disable rating to qualify. Rich O'Brien discussed membership cards and annual dues. Discussion over annual membership cards and Life membership cards. **Ken Baker brought motion to leave it up to the Board of Directors to figure a cost and design for the cards. Passed unanimously.** **Claud Davenport brought a motion to accept and ratify the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Passed unanimously.** By a process of multiple votes, **the membership voted to visit Washington, D.C. in 2007 and Salt Lake City, Utah in 2008.** Cities for 2007/2008 were Puerto Rico; San Diego, CA; Columbus, Georgia; Atlantic City, NJ; San Francisco, CA; Seattle, WA; Orlando, Florida and Salt Lake City, Utah. Chuck Hustedt discussed the **Honor Guard committee for our members.** **Stan Dillon volunteered to be its Chairman.** 7 volunteers stood up to be added to the list at the meeting. Rich O'Brien notified the membership of the Kentucky Campout. James "Top Gun" Dotson told members it started 6—7 years ago with 5—6 guys in campers. Last year there were 35 troopers at the Campout. Brothers Only. Rich O'Brien notified members that the Association will publish notice of mini reunions in the Newsletter. Let the Board know. Robin Woo asked the membership what they thought of the Orlando/Orange County Convention and Visitor's Bureau help and whether they like to continue using them. By clap, a vote of confidence. **Claud Davenport moved to adjourn till next year. Unanimously passed. Adjourned.**

FROZEN IN TIME

The following analysis applies to all Vietnam veterans, and especially to those men of the 1st Cavalry Division and the 9th Infantry division with whom I served in Vietnam in 1966 and 1968/1969, respectively.

Before I proceed farther, let me explain that I was a career officer; therefore, my perspective of events of yesteryear is markedly different from the junior enlisted men, non-commissioned officers, and junior commissioned officers who fulfilled their military obligations and separated from the military service immediately following their combat tours. Besides, persons in positions of authority were insulated from much of the day-to-day routine in the “trenches.” I am resigned to the fact that in the minds of my fellow veterans of the 1st Cav Div, that I will forever be Lieutenant Mauldin, Company XO. Our commanding officer, who retired as a major general, will always be remembered as Captain Guest. To those men, who served under my authority as commander, Company, “C”, 6th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 9th infantry Division, I will always be Captain Mauldin.

I attended a reunion of Delta Company, 2d Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile), in Orlando, FL, May 18-21, 2006. Just as I have for previous reunions with my fellow Vietnam Veterans, I came away filled with the usual renewed spirit and euphoria. However, I am an introspective person, who tends to analyze far too many issues; therefore, I could not escape analyzing the matter of what is so special about these reunions. I have heard the adage from fellow veterans, “when we speak to each other about events in the war, there is no need to explain anything”; “one never wonders if the listener believes what I am explaining—he was there, he knows and understands”. After analyzing these explanations, I think that I finally understand at least one of the key factors among the many, which make our present relationships so special. I alluded to some of these factors in my book “Your Sons-My Soldiers-Our War.” We are all frozen in time.

The images that we have of each other are fixed in time from the last contact we had with each other until we are reunited in some way many years later. In many instances, this last contact was either in the combat zone or at a discharge point in the U.S. Therefore, we have preserved the images of youthful soldiers, with youthful skin, lots of hair, slim waistlines, and sparkling eyes that signal vitality and a propensity for youthful frivolity. For many of us, however, the last images of our fellow soldiers is of placing them on a MEDEVAC helicopter, all covered with blood, bandages, and mud. Unfortunately, for many of our fellow soldiers, our last images of them were seeing the plastic body bag zipped shut on a lifeless body. In many circumstances, we did not know if our wounded comrades even survived the flight to the first level of triage in the evacuation hospital. Even in instances where we knew that they survived and were evacuated to hospitals for long-term treatment and therapy, we did not hear from them, or about them. These images, too, were frozen in time.

Then, for reasons that are all too familiar to each of us, the war became unpopular, and instead of placing the blame where it belonged, which was on the heads of bungling politicians, many of our fellow Americans blamed the military. The rejection and condemnation heaped upon Vietnam veterans resulted in psychological injury to many thousands of true patriots. They (we) went into denial; with many of our fellow veterans isolating themselves from society, to include their loved ones, at a time when they were in dire need of help, acceptance and reassurance. The helping hands and encouraging words were not forthcoming; thus the injurious effects of our wartime experiences were magnified many times. Each of us dealt with our nightmares and the ghosts in our closets as best we could, but we know now that we needed professional help. Even a simple “welcome home soldier” or “thank you for your service to our country” would have gone a million miles toward our healing process, but our reception in too many cases was just the opposite. These images, too, are frozen in time.

So what do we have at this point in our lives? We have each other—again! Our fellow soldiers, friends, and comrades saw us in situations and conditions that were unique. We intimated to our fellow soldiers our dreams, aspirations, and ambitions. They saw us sweat, cry, bleed and even admit fear. We shared our food, water, accessory packs from C-rations, lines in our letters from home, contents from care packages, and cigarettes, and probably wore some of our clothes, too. We showed them photographs from home and told them about our families and the unique things about our hometowns. When our fellow soldiers were killed in action, no one in this universe knew better the circumstances of their deaths than us. No one but us saw their brave and selfless acts in combat, so there are no other persons better qualified to discuss or explain these events than us.

Therefore, my friends and fellow Vietnam veterans, my simple analysis is that the bond that brings us together in fellowship and holds us together as friends and brothers is unique and everlasting. Circumstances forced us to question our purpose; we were robbed of the honor and dignity that was rightfully ours; and the stigma remains. However, our bond is strong. I know of no other force or power that is capable of bolstering our pride and restoring our dignity like I have seen in our reunions. These are truly therapeutic events and should be continued. I know from personal observation that there are still many veterans in our communities who still keep their ghosts hidden away and suffer quietly. I am confident that they would benefit from a reunion with their fellow soldiers in arms.

This summary was inspired by the recent reunion in Orlando and also by the many memories and images associated with the approaching Memorial Day. All of us Americans owe the protection of our freedoms and the preservation of our way of life to our military veterans. I salute each and every one of you! God bless!

George Mauldin

Colonel, U.S. Army (retired)

May / June 2006 Silver Wings SABER Article

By: Hank Llewellyn, Correspondent/Saber, 1st Cav Div. Assoc. (printed with permission)

On 11 April, 1972, B/229th, First Cav was the....let me repeat this...THE first flight to go into the LZ at the Battle of An Loc, which was the soccer field. We carried South Vietnamese Army soldiers. On the first sortie in, we started taking heavy ground fire from radar controlled .51 cal, 20mm, and 30mm guns, rockets, and artillery...there were even NVA tanks in the city. But we went in fast and very low, we took a bunch of hits but our birds just kept flying. No movie could ever duplicate the amount of lead that was in the air around us that day. Matter of fact, we made at least 4 more trips in and out, before being joined by A/229th or any other unit. There were about 650 ARVN soldiers that were to be assaulted into this LZ. If I'm not mistaken, every crewmember in our flight figured "this was it"...that we probably would not come out of this one, so intense was the enemy ground forces and their radar controlled weapons. But we stuck together and returned pretty good fire back at the NVA and we had some pretty decent gun cover from 4/77th ARA; and, we just kept going in and coming out only to return again. It was a long day, one that I and probably every one of us in that first flight of five will never forget. I know that every year about this time, I remember back to about ...let's see now...about 34 years ago.... sometimes it seems just like yesterday, sometimes it seems like a century ago. But sports-fans, lets make no mistake about it, B/229th was the first unit in and out of that LZ at An Loc on 11 April 1972, and, us same flight of 5 went back again on 12 April 1972. Shortly after, most if not all of us in that original flight of five received orders to go home, return to The World, Get out of Dodge or however anyone wanted to phrase it. It was a happy time for us, but it was also a sad time.... because we knew it was going to be "down hill" for those remaining and for our Vietnamese allies. It was sad too, because many of us wearing Nomex did not make it through the Battle of An Loc and would not be going home. This was the last major battle of the Vietnam War." John HUBBS, <229th@hughes.net>, wrote, I was his doorgunner and we went through some hard times and close calls in April, 1972. We were all lucky to make it out of those LZ's. Now that's been 34 years for me I remember that we had a 10 ship flight heading back to pick up more ARVN's when our lead bird, high bird, was hit by a radar controlled .51 cal and our LTC. CASEY was hit in the hand. The flight went to 5,000' after that and headed on to our missions. Then if I remember that we were heading to get more ARVN's when we got a call from HQ's, that they wanted us to turn back and go back in the soccer field again, to pick up a Major who was an ex-pow who had escaped from the VC, 3 times. We went back in to pick him and his interrupter up and flew them back to the Generals pad at Long Bien. LTC (ret) Carle DUNN, author of: The Last Hookers sent in the following. "If my memory serves me, the 229th Aviation Battalion was part of Task Force Gary Owen. There had been a "down-sizing" from 3rd Brigade status as more folks were going home rather quickly. The 362nd Aviation Company remained intact throughout "The Spring Offensive of 1972." Another incident took place while evacuating 5th Division ARVN out of a small LZ northeast of An Loc. They couldn't get C-123s in there so we got the job. On climb out, the blades on a Hook got stitched rather badly with ground fire. The A/C flew it to Song Be where a Herculean effort to get the blades changed took place. The A/C was Tommy WALLACE my Operations Officer. Changing out blades in the blowing red dust of Song Be took some doing. Nevertheless, it got fixed and they brought it home after dark. To my knowledge, this is the only ship during the entire battle struck by enemy fire. The NOE paid dividends. We did have a mission to move an artillery battery into an area east of An Loc. Some of the external howitzers cut ruts through treetops along the way. The entire unit was grounded on 10 May '72 (SKULL, 71-72) when Hook 157 came apart in flight just outside of our Long Thanh North perimeter. Sadly, there were a considerable number of our troops aboard headed to Vung Tau for some much needed R & R. I had been flying that ship less than two hours before the rotor system threw a forward blade. All were lost. We owe a lot to the Cobras that flew escort cover on our missions. They stuck their necks way out so we could do our job. they were a brave bunch. General HOLLINGSWORTH gets credit for his heroic efforts coordinating air power during the battle. He was everywhere spending 16-18 hours at a stretch on station. General GIAP's effort to establish a new South Vietnam capitol city in Long Bien Province failed miserably with massive losses. He was relieved of command and never led NVA forces after the battle at An Loc. The 362nd kept the much-needed fuel, ammo, rockets, and other vital supplies flowing to that battle. They truly were the "workhorses" during the engagement." However, none of us, nor what still may be referred to as the 4th shift, ran into anything like Gen. MOORE and his people, as well as others, did. In the years prior to 1968, there were entire Regiments of VC openly hunting GI's. Stand-down was March 1971. I was there. Xuan Loc, was the last bastion of defense for what was left of Saigon. It was defended by what was left of the only reliable south Vietnamese forces in the Country. Casualties on both South and North hit 5,000 each. The North Vietnamese were stunned by the resistance, but threw 2, maybe 3 additional Regiments into the fight which finally overwhelmed the defenders and the rest is history. We produced captured documents showing that the Dinks were massing in III Corps, headed by elements of the 33rd NVA Regiment, the same that Gen. Moore had blown to pieces so many years before; obviously a deployment based on political ego. With that, I'll bring the Wings sortie to an end. If you have any comments please write. I'm always looking for photos to post on the "Silver Wings of the Cav" website. Please include details of all photo submissions for credit.

Until next time, Clear right! Hank

<http://hometown.aol.com/aircavnews/myhomepage/newsletter.html>

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.
2006—Orlando Reunion Attendance Roster
(sort by Year Served)

Last	First	Platoon	Year	Last	First	Platoon	Year
Wilson, Dave	"Doc"	Medic	1965	De La Garza, Ramiro		Skull	70-71
Garceau, David		Recon	65-66	Dillon, Stan		Rifle Range	70-71
Kline, Chuck	"The Cat"	Weapons/Recon	65-66	Galway, Mike		Cat	70-71
Pentz, John		Mortar	65-66	Guidara, Frank		Range	70-71
Rumppe, Donald		Wild Cat	65-66	Harrington, William		Rifle Range	70-71
Serrano, Jose		Heavy Weapons	65-66	Hilts, Douglas		Range	70-71
Mauldin, George		Mortar/ XO	1966	Langan, Jack		Skull	70-71
Diaz, Jorge	"Dee"	Weapons	66-67	Martin, Michael		Skull 6	70-71
Guest, James		Skipper 6	66-67	Mock, George		Skull	70-71
Jousma, Allan		White Skull	66-67	Odom, Eddie		Skull	70-71
Kotch, Ed		Wildcat	66-67	Schneck, Steven		Range	70-71
Labletta, Frank		Cat	66-67	Skidmore, Terry Gene		Skull	70-71
Lang, James		White Skull/HQ	66-67	Turner, Aaron	"Rocky"	Skull	70-71
Newby, Claude		Chaplain	66-67	Varnes, Johnny		Skull	70-71
Nieves, Miquel		White Skull	66-67	Vollmar, Tom		Skull	70-71
Taylor, Jim	"Wildman"	Wildcat	66-67	Wagner, Jim		Skull	70-71
Terrell, Robert		Wildcat	66-67	Recendes, Tessa	(survivor)	Skull	70-71
O'Brien, Richard	"OB"	Wildcat	1967	Leathhead, Nancy	(survivor)	Skull	70-71
Burris, Don		4th	67-68	Paigen, Ronald		Cat	1972
Crume, Michael		White Skull	67-68	Beese, Daniel		Skull	71-72
Davenport, Claud		Range & CP	67-68	Cooke, Peter		Wildcat	71-72
Davidson, Jay		White Skull	67-68	David, Richard		Wildcat	71-72
Hart, Philip		White Skull	67-68	Diaz, Tony	"Doc"	Skull/CP	71-72
Scholes, Edison		Skipper 6	67-68	Kuczaj, Chester		Skull	71-72
Tubaugh, Wayne		Range 6	67-68	Kutter, Wolf		Skipper 6	71-72
Dotson, James	"Top Gun"	Wild Cat	1968	Mesa, Pedro		Skull	71-72
Oley, Jr. Francis		C/02/08	1968	Mock, George		Skull	71-72
Beker, Ken	"Bake"	Rifle Range	68-69	Olson, Dirk		Skull	71-72
Hempfling, Lawrence		Cat	68-69	Ryals, Russell		Skull/Echo Recon	71-72
Lee, John		Rifle Range	68-69	Tibado, Ron		Skull	71-72
Regan, Edward		Range	68-69	Williams, Charlie		Skull/Echo Recon	71-72
Burke, Pierce	"Range 6"	Range	69-70	Woo, Robin		Skull	71-72
Flores, William	"Spooky"	Range	69-70				
Hustedt, Chuck		Skull	1969				
Hamilton, Larry		Skull	69-70				
Stevens, Jerry Lee		Skull	69-70				
Tolbert, Everett	"Corp"	Skull	69-70				
Williams, Mark		Cat	69-70				
Willis, Gene		Cat	69-70				
Lomker, Michael		White Skull	1970				
Williams, John		Skull	1970				
Davis, Kirk		Range	1971				
Neal, William		Skipper 6	1971				
Seal, Alvin	"Gator"	Range	1971				
Blais, Jean	"Diz"	Skull	70-71				
Burke, Robert		Skull	70-71				
Cheater, Tom		Skull	70-71				
Clark, Tom	"TC"	Skull	70-71				
Cruz, Henry		Skull	70-71				
Curtis, Eugene	"Tarheel"	Skull	70-71				



Left to Right: Michael Martin, Alvin Seal, Tom Vollmar, Juliette and Frank Guidara.

Letter from Robert D. Johnson, President of the 1st Cav Division Association.

Robin and members of the Angry Skipper Association, Doris and I were very cordially received at your banquet in Orlando, FL. Thank You. I am glad that I finally met the Angry Skipper in person. (editors note: Robert Johnson sat at the same table as MG Ed Scholes (retired), the original Angry Skipper)

We were also pleased to have been able to coordinate the Color Guard and Tableau, from the Winter Springs High School Army Jr. ROTC. Every year at the beginning of the school year, the cadets draw assignments, and then write the scripts for them as part of the Military Curriculum. The Florida Chapter has been able for several years to present a Certificate of Achievement and U. S. Savings Bond to one of their outstanding cadets annually. You may have noticed some CAV patches. The CAV patches and the uniforms were donated by former members of the JROTC unit who served in the 1st CAV.

I noticed that some of your troopers were casualties during the Ia Drang battles. Their families, if they have not been notified (children and grand children) are eligible for Ia Drang scholarships. Also anyone who was in the Ia Drang battles and is now rated 100% Disabled by the VA is also eligible for the scholarships. General Hal Moore reminds everyone of that when he gets a speaking opportunity.

As I stated the information is available at www.1cda.org and on your Angry Skipper Web site, there is a link to the 1st Cavalry Division Association. We hope to see many of you in Louisville or Riverside CA next year. Sign up now, if you are not already a member of the 1st Cavalry Division Association so that you can get the information first hand.

I will proudly hand the 1st Cavalry Division Association President's gavel over William J. "Bill" Richardson, Jr., 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, Korea, at the July reunion in Louisville. He was a POW in Korea, released and returned home and eventually retired as a Colonel. Later started up a family construction business. He has also served as President of the First CAV North Carolina Tarheel Chapter and President of the Ex American POWs. The Eight CAV and First CAV are in good hands.

Robert D. Johnson



Left picture: Guardians of the Wall & POW/MIA Honor Guards during rehearsals. Right picture: Color Guards present colors as the band perform the National Anthem. They all did an OUTSTANDING job!!! Robert Johnson (left picture wearing cap) watches during the rehearsals.

Purple Heart Hall of Honor

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is currently under construction in New York's Hudson River Valley at the New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site. Its mission is to collect and preserve the stories of Purple Heart recipients from all branches of the service and across the generations in an attempt to ensure that all recipients are represented. Their stories will be preserved and shared through exhibits, live and videotaped interviews with the veterans themselves, and the Roll of Honor, an interactive computer program preserving the stories of each individual. The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor the first in the nation to recognize the more than 800,000 Americans wounded or killed in action while serving in the United States Military. For more information or to have your story preserved as a Purple Heart recipient, contact Michael J. Clark, Project Coordinator, National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site, P.O. Box 207 (374 Temple Hill Road), Vails Gate, NY *info provided by Rich O'Brien*

Angry Skipper lives today . . . Humvee mounted to Tanks

Letter to Rich O'Brien

My name is CPT Mark Weaver, the current company commander for D Co, 2-8 Cav (DEMONS). I was doing some online research back in June when we re-flagged from B. Co and stood up D. Co as part of the Army's new redesign, and ran across your site.

While showing my XO the "Angry Skipper" call sign, I thought it would be a good idea to contact you and let you know that the Company you called home so long ago exists again. We are currently assigned to the 1st Brigade, 1st Cav Division and have just completed a transition from Dragoon Soldiers (our Soldiers were HMMWV mounted in Iraq in 2004/5) back to M1A2 SEP mounted Soldiers.

Since we are always trying to reinforce to our Soldiers that they are part of a bigger picture and greater cause, I thought that maybe having an informal link to your organization could help focus the Soldiers on one more aspect of what they are doing as we prepare for another deployment to Iraq later this year. v/r

Mark Weaver

CPT MARK C. WEAVER

"DEMON 6"

D CO, 2-8 CAV, 1st Cav Div

229th Aviation Company, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile)

"The aviators in the 1st Cavalry saved our butts, carried our wounded and KIA out, logged us as often as they could and always gave us the ride of a lifetime whenever we participated in Aerial Combat Assaults in and out of LZ's." by Robin Woo, Skull, 71-72

E-mail from John Hubbs, 229th's—webmaster, <http://www.229thavbn.com>

We were all in it together, that's for sure. The Task Force Shows that below. I know we carried you guys. No way can a shithook get in to some of those "tight-ass" small LZ's that we had to land in. The 362nd put you on a fire support base or some bigger LZ's, but not any of those small jungle LZ's . . . We took you guys food/water/ammo, and took out your wounded and KIA's out of those places. I never want to forget that or can I ever. Not to take away anything from the 362nd Avn Co., but we were not the only ones helping you all. As of April, 1971 all of the units below were part of the 3rd Brigade (Separate), 1st Air Cav Div (Airmobile) . . . One of the biggest units that supported the grunts in the III corps AO . . . The largest AO to ever be assigned to any unit in the Vietnam War, 3,500 sq miles of AO. The 229th had 4 companies of Helicopters, they were A/co, B/co, C/co and D/co, Delta company were the gunships and all us others were slicks or combat assault ships to carry the grunts we served. We also had HHC 3rd Brigade (Separate), Battery F (Aerial Artillery), 79th Artillery Guns unit and Troop F (Air), 9th Cavalry under this tasks force, some great units.

362nd Avn Co—Website:

On June 30, 1971, at Camp Martin Cox (Bearcat, B Company, 228th Assault Support Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) was reorganized and designated the 362nd Aviation Company (ASH). It was assigned to the 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 3rd Brigade (Separate), 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile).



Members children at banquet: (Left to Right) Monica & Thomas Woo, Jill O'Brien, Anthony Williams and Sheldon Woo.



Honor Roll in background at banquet room. (L to R) Ken Baker and Albert Veal w/wife, both from Range 68-69; and children of our members.

Veterans Honor POW/MIA

by Nick Donvito, Cat, 68-69



L-R: Nick Donvito and Tony McKeen.

The idea sprang from an idea that I got talking to Mike McGhie at the KY reunion last October. We

were talking about Max and the '55 Chevy Pow/Mia car and I just mentioned that too bad that a combat Vietnam Veteran hasn't done a motorcycle tribute also. We all know that the Teutul's on American Chopper have done one, but I thought it would mean more coming from a Vet who was actually there and "did the walk." Nick Donvito



As with all things, an idea for a project begins with some specific reasons. I guess my reasons begin as far back as my time in Vietnam; watching my friends and brothers die within arms reach of me. Life takes on a whole new reason during wartime in the hotzones. Then I was injured myself. Again, life takes a turn and shows me more meaning. I've stayed in touch with many of my brothers in the CAV unit. I've attended reunions, I've wept at memories so painful of my fallen brothers, of the lives they might have had but didn't; of the reasons their lives were cut short and why the rest of us kept going on. It's a constant reminder, those that never came back with the rest of us. Some, because they were killed and although they did come home, it was in caskets. As for all Vietnam Veterans, I think we all are overwhelmed at the number of our brothers who didn't come home because they were POW/MIAs. Are they still alive today? I pray they are. Yet I don't wish them years and years of suffrage either. In our hearts, minds, and in our memories of the horror of war and of Vietnam, WE have NEVER FORGOTTEN those that never came home with us, those that were classified POW/MIAs. In viewing a car that a fellow brother built to honor the POW/MIA, I got the idea that I wanted to do the same with a motorcycle. I wanted to honor my brothers in some outstanding way. Too many Americans have forgotten these proud, courageous, strong fighters of right, liberty, freedom and justice. Those of us who were there NEVER WILL. So, the bike was found and stripped and is being re-created to honor those from ALL WARS that never came home. It is small homage to them, to Honor them and to remind one and all... THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN. Neither are the huge sacrifices they made. Sgt. Nick (Cat, 68-69)

The story and pictures are located at: <http://veteranshonorpowmia.tripod.com/index.html>

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*"Remember the bad times once,
Remember the good times forever"*

[We're on the web:
www.angrystickipperassociation.org]

WHERE TO GET HELP

source: Agent Orange Review www.VA.gov/AgentOrange Oct, 2005

Vietnam veterans with questions or concerns about Agent Orange—contact VA's Gulf War/Agent Orange Helpline. The national toll-free telephone number is 800.749-8387. A great deal of information is also available on the new Web page; <http://www.VA.gov/agentorange>.

Vietnam veterans who need medical treatment for conditions that may be related to their exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides used in Vietnam—contact the nearest VA medical center for eligibility information and possible medical treatment or call the following toll-free telephone number for information about eligibility and enrollment: **1-877.222-8387**.

Vietnam veterans with illness that they believe were incurred or aggravated by exposure to Agent Orange or other aspects of military service—contact the nearest VA medical center for eligibility information and possible medical treatment or call the following toll-free telephone number for information about eligibility and enrollment: 877.222-8387. To find where the nearest VA medical facilities are located see <http://www1.VA.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isFlash=1>.

Representatives of veterans service organizations, including The American Legion (**1-800-433-3318**), Paralyzed Veterans of America (**1-800.424-8200**), Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (**1-800.VFW-1899**), Disabled American Veterans (**1-877.426-2838**), Disabled American Veterans (**1-877-426-2838**), AMVETS (**1-877.726-8387**), Vietnam Veterans of America (**1-800.882-1316**), and others, have also been very helpful to Vietnam veterans seeking disability compensation. State and County Veteran Service Officers also have been of great help to many military veterans, including Vietnam veterans, seeking benefits they earned through their service to the Nation.

Lost DD214 can now be obtained online. Go to the Association website, and then to the Links page for a link to the online information. Or, go directly to <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>