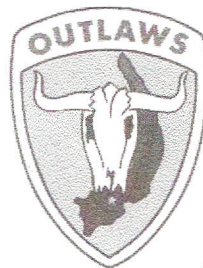




# VINH LONG

## OUTLAWS NEWS



Reunion 2002 (R2K+2)

March 2001

### WHOSE NEWSLETTER IS THIS ANYWAY?

Well, this is OUR newsletter—the Outlaws, Mavericks, Roadrunners, avionics guys, Shotguns, door gunners, and anyone else who was assigned to any of the units that comprised the original 62<sup>nd</sup> or A/502<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Companies during the time period August 1964 through September 1965!!!

The primary purpose is to bring together all those people who were part of our lives back then. And, to announce what's going on, not only in our lives, but also to keep your interest up in attending Reunion 2002 in San Antonio, Texas!!

We have volunteers who give lots of time trying to put together items that pertain to ANYONE who was with the unit. We're trying to make it personal, something that, when you read it, you may chuckle, recall something similar that happened to YOU during those days, or remember one of the other guys or incidents that still sticks in your memory. Reading it may even make you want to sit down and drop a note to Frank Estes and tell him about one of those incidents.

You don't have to be a "writer" to write a note that will be interesting to others! Just jot down some incident, send a photo, and tell what's happening in it, ask others for information about something that you've forgotten, tell about YOUR job, and let others know you're still out there.

Bottom line: Send in something! You may think it's boring, but it's NOT. It may even make someone else want to do the same thing, and then we'll have a continuing stream of "personal" items about the group. And it WAS a fantastic group! If you have received a copy of the Newsletter, you were part of it. C'mon...send a note to Frank Estes, either by e-mail – [estesf@snowhill.com](mailto:estesf@snowhill.com) – or 702 Country Club Drive, Ozark, AL 36360. Share some small thing you remember, or want others to know about you. It just takes a few minutes.

Tom Anderson

### ROSTER CHANGES

If you have anyone whose name is currently not reflected on the roster, please send their name, address, ZIP, and e-mail address to Larry Jackson, 7 Fort Walker Drive, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928, phone 843-682-2243, or e-mail [larry-pollvjackson@onebox.com](mailto:larry-pollvjackson@onebox.com).

### PRELIMINARY R2K+2 SAN ANTONIO

I am sure most of you are wondering what is going on with R2K+2 in San Antonio. Briefly, I have visited several hotels along with several tour agencies. Needless to say there are many to choose from with rates ranging from \$120 to \$160 along the River Walk, and \$85 to over \$100 near downtown. We are excited to find a great hotel within walking distance of the Mexican Market and the River Walk, and right on the trolley line for access to downtown areas and the Alamo. This is an all suite hotel that is only a year old, has free parking, including RV parking. We will have a free deluxe continental breakfast and free happy hour. All this for a great price of \$85 a night plus tax. We are planning some great tours and entertainment in the San Antonio area.

San Antonio's geographical appeal has spawned a wealth of attractions to include Sea World, Fiesta Texas, and many historical sites. The city's warm, sunny climate provides a great environment for year-round golf and tennis. The area's hills and rivers are great spots for hiking and water sports. For more sedate adventures, you can enjoy the city's museum, symphony performances and public gardens.

Once you arrive in San Antonio, the warmth you will feel is not just the sunny climate but the hearts of its residents. Proud of their city and heritage, they are always ready with the special brand of hospitality for which Texas is so famous.

Come! Feel our excitement and join the fun! Put October 4, 5, 6, 2002 on your calendars now. We can't wait for you to get to Texas.

See you in 2002! Viva OUTLAWS!

Dale Sherrod



### **HELP! HELP!**

#### **SEARCHING FOR OUTLAWS, MAVERICKS, AND ROADRUNNERS**

Through the combined efforts of our Outlaw roundup experts we have now identified 475 former members who served with, or were attached to the Outlaws during the period August 1964 through September 1965. Of those, 175 have been located and contacted with another 27 accounted for, regrettably, as either KIA or since deceased. We are confident that there may be more whom we have yet to identify and ultimately contact about our growing organization

In our combined search to identify former members of that period in VN, we have relied on number of sources; principally, unit activation and deployment orders, award orders, flight status orders, unit additional duty orders, crew chief and aircraft commander orders, etc. These documents, obtained through search by individuals of their own personal military records, have been the basis for identifying former members of that period and adding their names to the master roster. We are sincerely indebted to each of those who have contributed to this process.

Today, however, we find we are in a position of somewhat "marking time" with but very few additions since R2K Branson. We would like to encourage all who have an interest to further our search for those not yet identified nor found to dig through those old footlockers and dust off your own "Personal Military Records" file and look for others who may have escaped our initial efforts. Through your help we can continue to build upon the information that we now have and bring more of our former Outlaws, Mavericks, and Roadrunners together again.

Please forward any information you may have on former members to: Larry Jackson, 7 Fort Walker Drive, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928  
(Email [larry-pollyjackson@onebox.com](mailto:larry-pollyjackson@onebox.com)).

### **THANK YOU!!!**

For the past two and one-half years, I have had the opportunity to collect, from many others, the names of former Outlaws and those from attached units, and produce our master and confirmed contact rosters. Those same individuals who contributed the names also spent untold hours on the computer, phone and writing letters to locate and contact former members who names are now reflected on the VLOA Confirmed Roster and Master Roster. Gathering these names, addresses and other data into these rosters has truly been a unique and memorable experience for me. As each name was forwarded, I knew it reflected hours of painstaking search and each was carefully posted on our rosters. Yes, there have been typos, etc. and hopefully most, if not all have been corrected. Each attempt to locate an individual was a journey in itself, many times striking out and sometimes hitting pay dirt. When we did locate an Outlaw, Maverick, or Roadrunner and the individual contacted it was, without question, a most personal rewarding experience for each of us involved in the search. As time goes by and our ranks slowly fade, I know these names will become even more dear to each of us as we recall times of long ago with our comrades in a far off land where we all so proudly served the calling of our country.

In turning over my past roster responsibilities to the new "Keeper of the Rosters," Larry Jackson, I know the rosters will be continue to be preserved, protected and added to under his able guidance and oversight.

It would be difficult for me to name all of the many who have contributed so very much of their personal time to identify and locate former Outlaws and to offer my personal sincere thanks to you for your contributions and efforts. There are, however, several I must single out for their significant involvement in this effort and who are still in the hunt for lost or strayed Outlaws, Mavericks, and Roadrunners. Specifically, John Doyle, Therman "Shorty" Farley, Doug Wilson, Tim Bisch, Tony Clemente, and Tom Anderson.

THANKS, GUYS, ONE AND ALL!

Al Iller



### MESSAGE FROM SISTER MARY

Dear Ernie and Linda,

January 4, 2001

Once again, many, many thanks for a nice donation safely arrived. You are so good. May God bless and reward you.

Although the New Year is already growing old, we wish you every joy and blessing.

The Outlaws and their loved ones are always remembered in our prayers.

Loving,

Sister Mary

(NOTE: The VLOA sent a donation to Sister Mary in Nongkhai, Thailand, from the funds raised in forming the VLOA and volunteer donations to the association.)

### **TREASURERS CORNER**

The account for the Treasurer has officially transitioned from Linda Isbell in Texas to me in New Jersey. We all owe Linda a deep debt of gratitude in the manner in which she handled the account through R2K. Needless to say I was in awe with the meticulous record keeping she maintained during this period. I am happy to say that the R2K committee left the account in good shape for the new committee (R2K+2) to begin operations. The balance as of January 31, 2001 is \$2,212-83. A statement will be provided to the Association on a quarterly basis beginning at the end of March and will be due to the committee not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of the following month (April 10). This will be in effect unless otherwise directed by the committee.

### **ANNUAL DUES**

**A REMINDER TO ALL:** Annual membership dues are now being collected. Members please remit your dues in the amount of \$10.00 to the address below. Dues are used to defray expenses incurred for the operation of the Association. If you are not a member and want to join the "Outlaws," the initial dues are \$10.00, which includes a membership card. For your information, "Outlaw" patches are available for \$5.00 per patch or 5 patches for \$20.00; hats are \$10.00. Make checks or money orders payable to "Vinh Long Outlaw Association", and submit payment to:

Vinh Long Outlaw Association (VLOA)  
C/o Charles C. Wren  
20 Roxbern Drive  
Eatontown, New Jersey 07724

### **150<sup>th</sup> Transportation Detachment (CHFM) "Roadrunners"**

Benefits of friendship and re-acquaintances resulting from the R2K turnout at Branson continue from last September. Exchanges of holiday greetings this Christmas season and interplay via e-mail messages on the Internet amongst fellow Outlaws, Mavericks, and Roadrunners are evidence of the genuine good comradeship we share with each other.

One of the many highlights during the Farewell Dinner at Branson, besides the visit of Elvis, was the disclosure of winning bids per a "silent auction" for unit patch signs that were on display during R2K. The highest bidder for the 150<sup>th</sup> Transportation Detachment (Roadrunner) sign was Sue Simpson, fiancée of George Prescott. Sue presented the sign that had been coveted by George to him when our talented Master of Ceremonies, Ernie Isbell, announced her winning bid of \$125. Subsequently, they mutually agreed to very generously return the very attractively framed sign, autographed by its artist, Robert Koonce, to the 150<sup>th</sup> Commander for safekeeping. God willing, you will all enjoy seeing it in San Antonio. Thank you George and Sue.

More exciting news about George and Sue, the dancing couple in the Vinh Long Outlaw News, November, 2000 issue. They are to be married June 23, 2001 at the Congregational Church in New Franklin, NH. A reception will follow at the Lochmere Country Club in Tilton, NH. Honeymoon plans have not been finalized. They have fond memories of our first reunion and plan to attend our second reunion in San Antonio. Thank you George and Sue for sharing your good news. Congratulations and best wishes!

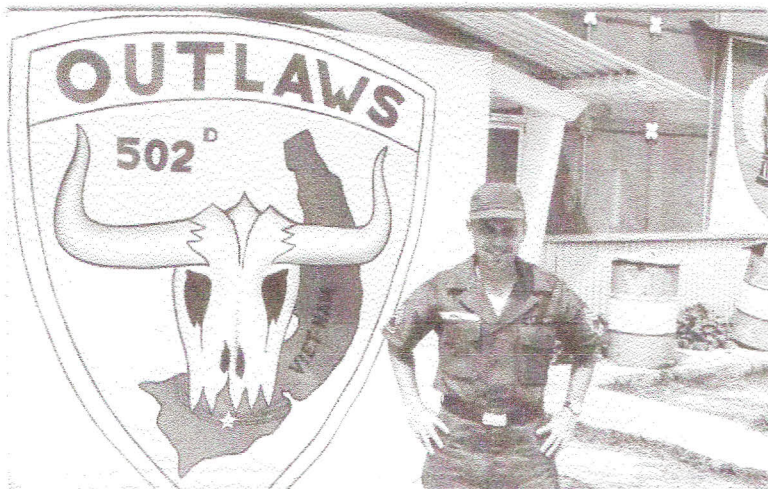
Therman (Shorty) Farley and Jack Lane combined to locate fellow Roadrunner Mike Schillaci. Mike was a charter member (Aircraft Electrician) of the 150<sup>th</sup> when it formed at Ft. Eustis, VA, and for a short period at Vinh Long. He now resides in New Jersey where he stays very busy as an emergency room nurse. Welcome aboard, Mike!

Shorty and Yvonne Farley were vacationing in Tennessee last October. During their trip to their home in Texas, we were pleased they took time to stop and visit with us. Had not seen Shorty since Vinh Long; he has withstood the time test of three and one-half decades very well. If it had not been for R2K, this opportunity to meet and greet each other again would not have occurred. I'm sure similar experiences have and are happening with others.

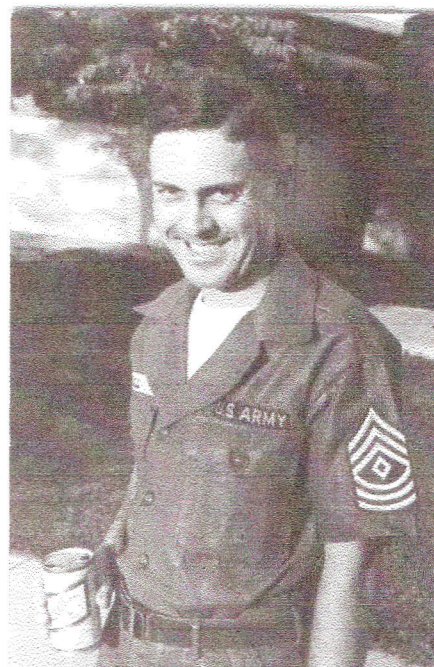
Let each of us reach out, looking for others that belong but have not yet been included with our group. If you know of anyone that we have not yet contacted, please let Jack Lane ([jacklane@peoplepc.com](mailto:jacklane@peoplepc.com)), Shorty Farley ([yatfarley@aol.com](mailto:yatfarley@aol.com)), or me know. We want to see you all in San Antonio in 2002.

[bischfr@aol.com](mailto:bischfr@aol.com)





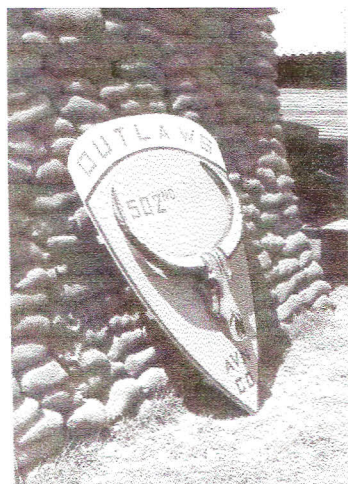
1SG RAYMOND HALL - THE REAL BOSS?



AAAHHH! IT'S MILLER TIME!!!



ROADRUNNER'S TO THE RESCUE!



CO'S BUNKER



CHUCK WREN, FLOYD PARKINSON  
& JERRY WADE



WAR AT ITS FINEST!



LEFT: TWO SLEEPY  
MAVERICKS

RIGHT: OUTLAWS  
REFUELING AT  
THON SAN NHUT



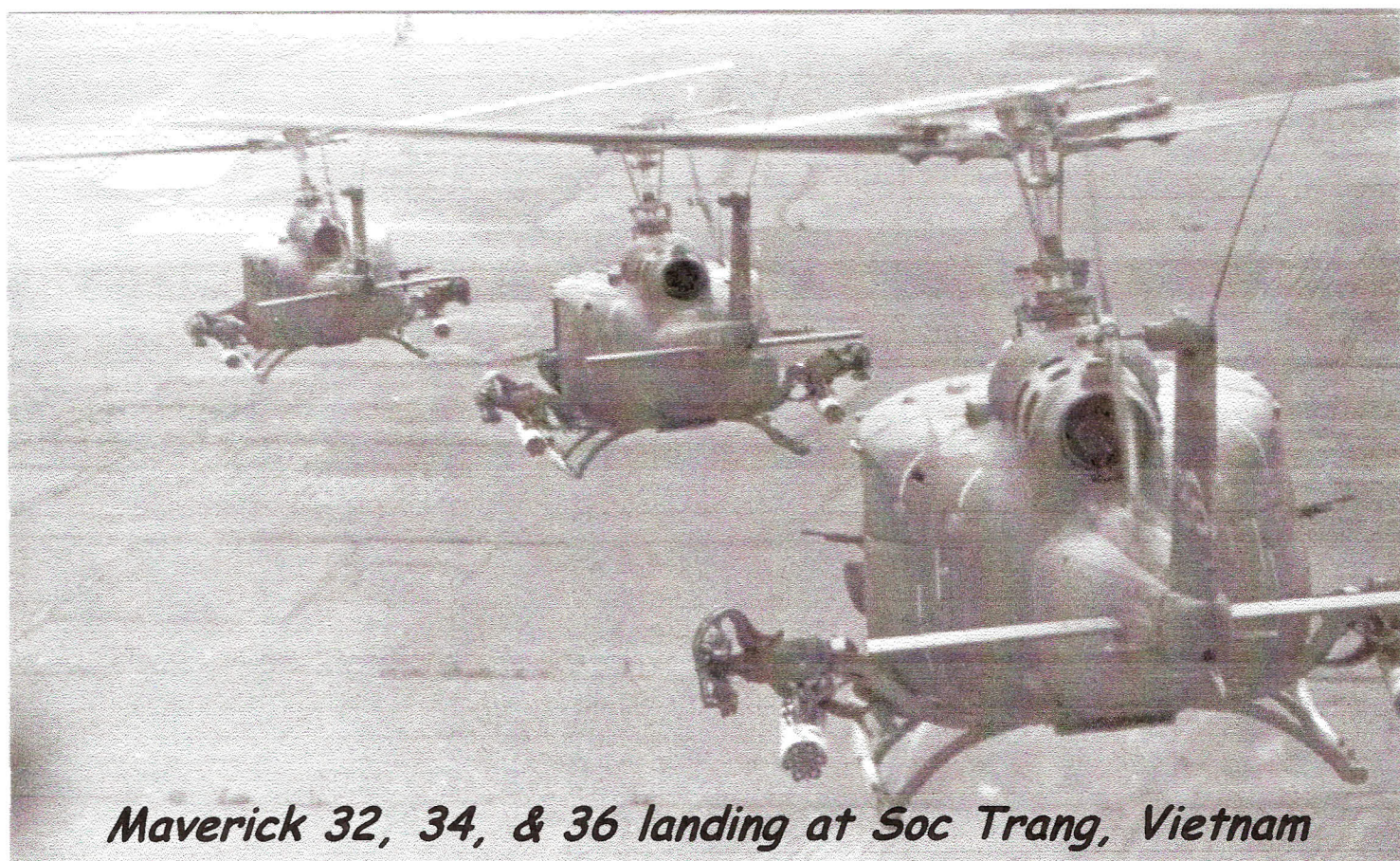


**VINH LONG OUTLAWS ASSOCIATION**

**C/o Charles C. Wren**

**20 Roxbern Drive**

**Eatontown, New Jersey 07724**



*Maverick 32, 34, & 36 landing at Soc Trang, Vietnam*