



Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA)

Vinh Long Outlaws Spring Newsletter

January-March .

The VLOA is a 501(c)(19) nonprofit, tax exempt war veterans' organization.

Ist. Quarter 2016

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National Director's Corner

By- Larry Jackson

Greetings to all Outlaws, Mavericks, Roadrunners, 28th Avionics Sig Det, 175th Bushwhackers and B Troop 1-158th Outlaw Aviation members.

*First off, I want to welcome you to spring with all of the glorious colors of blooming azaleas, dogwoods, daffodils and cherry blossoms and very little snow. It is a pleasure that I can play golf without having to wear long underwear to keep from freezing. It is less than 6 months before we will be at our Return to Branson Reunion. Time seems to fly by as we get older so before we know it we will have to send in our registration form and a check or credit card information. **The deadline for the down payment is June 10th.** We have a fun filled week planned for you. All the details of the activities are listed in the attached Itinerary and the registration form with the pricing and other details are in the newsletter. I hope that you will plan on attending this reunion and get the chance to connect with old friends and share the bonds we formed in Vietnam. We already have 30 members that have indicated that they are planning to attend. Don't miss out on this opportunity. I had been corresponding with a friend and my Maverick mentor for several years about planning to get together to play some golf and reminisce about our time in Vinh Long and then found out that he had passed away early this year. You just never know what will happen so if you want to do something like that, do it while you can.*

I had my cataracts removed from both eyes in February. It is amazing how little time it takes for the surgery anymore. I had a local anesthetic and the anesthesiologist told me that he was giving me the happy juice and about 15 minutes later I was coming out of it and it was over. I just had the mono lens put in and I now have 20/25 distance vision but need reading glasses. I've certainly received my moneys worth from Medicare and Tricare for Life this last year so hope that's the end of surgeries.

Cont. from pg.1

We took a couple of short trips this winter. We went to Florida in February to celebrate Polly's birthday. We drove to Tampa with our next door neighbors and played golf at the South Course on McDill AFB. What beautiful views. About half the holes are along Tampa Bay or have a view of the Bay. Mack is also retired from the Army and we both retired on the same day. He retired at Fort McPherson, GA after 30 years and I retired at Fort Meyers, VA after 20 years and 18 years later we moved next door to them. Small world sometimes. From there we went to Marco Island, which is as far south as you can go along the Gulf Coast. We did some sightseeing and walking on the beaches and celebrated Polly's birthday and Valentines Day there.

We also spent a weekend in Atlanta with friends that we have known for 36 years. We lived across the street from each other when we moved to Stafford, VA in 1980. Peter is a retired NCIS agent who spent a year in Vietnam and his wife is another Polly whose birthday we were celebrating there.

We visited the Coca Cola museum, which is located in the heart of old town, next to the Centennial Olympic Park. The exhibits were really something as they displayed the development of the equipment used to make and bottle Coke from the beginning in the 1800's to present day technologies. Everyone received a small bottle of Coke and there was an area where you could sample over 150 varieties of drinks that they make.

We also spent several hours visiting the Aquarium, which is touted as one of the finest in the world. The architect visited all of the top Aquariums in the world and picked their best features from each of them to incorporate into the Georgia Aquarium. They have a very large dolphin pool where they put on shows and demonstrate how they train them to perform. The whole facility is quite impressive. They also have several areas where youngsters can get hands on interactions with various creatures and things like a dive facility. It would be a great place to bring your grandchildren for a day.

I'm looking forward to seeing old friends and making new friends from our large group of Outlaws that Jim Donnelly and Doug Wilson have been able to locate. I guarantee you will be glad that you will be at the reunion. Have a great Spring and Summer.

Larry Jackson, National Director, VLOA

From the Editor.



On the right is the new Vietnam War Veterans Commemorative Lapel Pin presented at a 50th Anniversary Event in Minneapolis, Mn. 29 March, 2016. On the front is The Eagle representing the US and six stars recognizing the Nations that supported South Vietnam. On the back is "A grateful nation thanks and honors you." There will be two events held in 2016 and two in 2017 around the country to honor you Vietnam veterans. Please try and attend one.



VINH LONG OUTLAWS ASSOCIATION

Branson, Missouri Reunion

September 15-19, 2016

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
 <p>Check into THE RADISSON HOTEL</p> <p>1:00-6:00 pm Arrival and Registration</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>  <p>7:00-9:00 pm CASH BAR and WELCOME BUFFET DINNER</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>  <p>2:00 pm #1 HITS OF THE 60's AND 50's, TOO SHOW</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>  <p>7:30 p.m. THE CLAY COOPER SHOW</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p> <p>8:00 am STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING</p>  <p>9:00 am VLOA GENERAL MEETING</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>  <p>4:00 pm THE SHOWBOAT BRANSON BELLE DINNER, SHOW AND CRUISE</p> <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p>  <p>9:00 am CHAPEL SERVICE</p>  <p>Hospitality Room Open</p>  <p>6:00 pm CASH BAR, MISSING COMRADES CEREMONY & FAREWELL BANQUET with Entertainment</p>	<p>Hot Buffet Breakfast</p> <hr/> <p>INCLUDES: Lodging x 4 Nights Hot Breakfast Hospitality Room Welcome Dinner Hits of the 60's Show Clay Cooper Show Showboat Branson Belle Chapel Service Farewell Banquet with Entertainment Transportation to Group Activities Reunion Website All Taxes and Gratuities</p>

May I have everyone's attention please!!!! --After reading this information hopefully you will have decided to attend the reunion so would you Please email the Reunion coordinator at pamb@gatheringsplus.com or the National Director, Larry Jackson at jackson3605@roadrunner.com and give them a head count of how many will be attending to help them both establish a closer estimate of how many plan on attending. This will be a great help to them and may help the VLOA save an unknown amount of expense. Thank you all in advance for your helpful consideration!!!

We hope to see you all in Branson in September!!!!



VINH LONG OUTLAWS ASSOCIATION
OUTLAWS RETURN TO BRANSON
September 15-19, 2016



NAME _____ NAME TAG NAME _____
 GUEST/SPOUSE _____ NAME TAG NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____
 Any Physical Disabilities? _____
 Any Dietary Restrictions? _____

HOST HOTEL: RADISSON HOTEL
120 S. Wildwood Drive, Branson, MO

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____
 _____ King Bed _____ Two Queen Beds

Special Requests and Additional Guests _____

- 1 person single: \$675.00 (check) or \$702.00 (credit card) = \$ _____
- 2 persons double: \$930.00 (check) or \$967.00 (credit card) = \$ _____
- 3 persons triple: \$1247.00 (check) or \$1297.00 (credit card) = \$ _____
- 4 persons quad: \$1520.00 (check) or \$1581.00 (credit card) = \$ _____

(includes hotel x 4 nights, welcome packet, hospitality room w/refreshments, breakfast, and all meals and activities listed on itinerary)

Banquet Meal Choice : _____ Beef _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian

_____ # of Additional Nights at Hotel x \$105.00 per night including tax and breakfast = \$ _____

Payment by _____ Check _____ Credit Card *AE, Visa, MC, Discover credit cards only.*

Card Number _____ Expiration Date: _____

GRAND TOTAL DUE : \$ _____

A 50% deposit is required by June 10 with final payment due by September 8. *No refunds on cancellations after September 8, 2016.* If you have questions please contact us at 417-338-4048 or pamb@gatheringsplus.com. **MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO:**

GATHERINGS PLUS
P. O. BOX 1023
BRANSON WEST, MO. 65737

Go to: www.reunionpro.com, click on "reunions" link, type in "Vinh Long Outlaws," & hit "enter" to go to the Gatherings Plus (reunion planner's) website.

Here is a preview of our VLOA 2016 Reunion Shirts!



Branson



2016

Here is your chance to get your shirts ordered before the reunion and get them included in your welcome bag that will be waiting for you at the VLOA registration table when you check in. As in the past they will be an attractive and comfortable shirt with our Outlaw logo attached.

Fill out the shirt order form on the next page (6) and mail to Larry Jackson and make the check to the VLOA please—not Larry. Good luck and enjoy!

*Branson***RETURN TO BRANSON 2016 OUTLAW ROUNDUP***2016***SHIRT ORDER FORM**

The Men's and Women's shirts are Carolina Blue. The shirts are Posicharge Micro-Mesh Polos which are snag-resistant, moisture-wicking, odor resistant, and tag free for comfortable wear! Made by Sport-Tek, all shirts will feature the Outlaw logo embroidered on the left breast.

Cost for each shirt is \$32. NOTE: Added cost for sizes 2XL, 3XL, 4XL as shown below men's or women's. Please pre-order your shirt(s) on the form below. Shirt orders for Reunion attendees will be in the welcome bag at the VLOA registration desk. If you are not attending the Reunion, see info below. A limited quantity of additional shirts may be available for sale at the Reunion.

Please Indicate Quantity Desired by Size**MENS' SHIRT SIZES:**

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL*	3XL*	4XL*	TOTAL#	COST
	32-34	35-37	38-40	41-43	44-46	47-49	50-53	54-67		
Qty	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

LADIES' SHIRT SIZES

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL*	TOTAL#	COST
	0-2	4/6	8/10	12/14	16/18	20/22		
Qty	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Note: Cost for sizes 2XL = \$33.00 3XL = \$34.00 4XL = \$35.00 Men's or Women's

For Reunion attendees, please indicate name(s) and sizes needed, below:

Name: _____ Size: _____

Name: _____ Size: _____

Name: _____ Size: _____

Name: _____ Size: _____

(Use the reverse side of this form for any additional information or comments)

If you are not attending the Reunion, please add \$5.00 for shipping costs and provide the following information:

Your name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

(Phone #) _____

ALL ORDERS ARE PRE-PAID AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 15, 2016.

Send this shirt Order Form, with payment – made payable to VLOA, to :

Larry Jackson

7 Fort Walker Drive

Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Make checks or money orders payable to: VLOA not to Larry !

The Back Pew

By: Paul L. Martin



Doing the right thing



I went back and reread what I had written last time. I had mentioned Rahab. she is the one who helped the spies. She hid them, lied to save them, that allowed them to escape. Sometimes some people think the Bible is so old or the stories so ancient they do not have any connection to us today. But look at this. There are two things here that could lead off into very deep thought. (I don't do deep thought very well. Being a true "son of the South", when someone says deep I think of frying.) Almost every day somewhere in national politics, someone thinks someone else is lying or is being lied about. The commandment is, we are not to bear false witness. But most people do, sometimes. We all see the wisdom of that, not lying. We want to each be believed when we say anything.

The second thing is a much greater rarity. Treason. She was a traitor to her town. No doubt about that. The question today is, are you a traitor if the values you hold dear are no longer the values of most of people around you? I know I am almost old. (You couldn't have been in Vietnam with the Outlaws and still be very young.) I see the values I was raised on being rejected and a different set of values being accepted. Let me back up and tell you where I am coming from. I try to be a Christian. I may not be very good at it, but I believe in Jesus Christ and I try to follow his teachings. Involved in that is the aspect that I accept the Judo-Christian world view. Part of which is contained in this statement:

"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among there are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness,-- That to secure these rights , Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,--"

Let me also elaborate on a couple of words, the "all men", I view this as all mankind, not just male, but all people. Next notice the idea that governments are to secure our rights but the rights belonged to us , the people to start with and governments get their power from the people, not the other way around. Some may say that quote is almost 240 years old and now, in the internet age, has no bearing and beside it is not part of our law and we should forget it, throw it away. If we can't subscribe to this, which I think you all know, is from the second paragraph of The Declaration of Independence, we are letting something slip from our foundation as Americans. In some ways the Declaration is more fundamental than the Constitution which came over ten years later. So George Washington and his army were fighting for those ideas of the Declaration.

Here is where Rahab comes back in. If one is going to be called a traitor, let it be because they were like Rahab. She saw that her people were not doing what the Lord God wanted and she went with what God wanted, not the world around her. Our Creator has given us certain rights, let us use our gifts to help others and do the things that are pleasing to Him.

Looking forward to the reunion.
God bless,
Paul L. Martin (the Arkie)

SILENT AUCTION

SPRING EDITION 2016



✧ BRANSON ✧
September 15-19, 2016

We are six months away from our VLOA Reunion in Branson. It is time to start thinking about your contributions to the Silent Auction.

The Silent Auction is always one of the most popular features of our reunions, not only because it provides an opportunity to buy some interesting, different and often eclectic items, but also because it helps keep our VLOA treasury solvent.

We started our email alerts on St. Patrick's Day. If you did not receive this email, PLEASE contact Chuck Wren with your exact email address.

no.1buckeyefan@yahoo.com



We had many email addresses rejected.....so it is imperative that we have your CORRECT email address.

Approximately two weeks before the reunion we will be emailing the catalogue to our members so you can review it and make your choices before you come to Branson.

Once you have your items to contribute, remember to take a photo, write a description and a starting bid of the items. Then email that information

to Jack Konopka jkonopka624@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you in Branson!

Silent Auction Coordinators:

Fran & Jack Konopka

7 Foxboro Lane

Old Brookville, NY 11545

jkonopka624@gmail.com

(516) 676-4313



VLOA Future Will Need New Leadership

Or

It's Your Time to Step Up !



In the past couple years, articles have begun to appear in some Viet Nam veteran units Newsletters or magazines which talk about the incontrovertible fact that groups such as theirs, and ours, the Outlaws, are, without question, "last man" organizations.

Yes, at some time in the future (hopefully not in the near-term) all of us old Outlaws will have reached our maximum number of years on our "times-between-overhaul" and our names will be PCS'd to Outlaw history. It's also nice to imagine that, at some point in the future, the last living Outlaw might even take down from his Viet Nam shelf that long-saved bottle of aging Cognac, raise his glass in a toast to all his former Outlaw comrades, and savor a final swallow in their honor. It probably won't happen quite that way but military tradition says it should.

However, reading these articles got me to thinking about the future of the Vinh Long Outlaw Association (VLOA) and the need for members to continue to step up and volunteer for the many and varied functions to keep the VLOA up and running for many years into the future..

The 50th Anniversary reunion in Washington in 2014 was a sobering reminder of the years since we shared our lives together so very long ago. We realized that those vibrant, energetic 19 and 20 year olds in the maintenance hanger, on the flight line, motor pool, ammo supply, crew chiefs and even some aviators are now in their 70's! (With some of us in our 80's). There's no question that, although we have an aging membership, our VLOA will live on for many years.

The VLOA was formed to be a living-link between our shared past and our current lives. It should continue to provide that link for many years to come. But, we will need new member volunteers to step up, and offer their talents and time to keep that link intact. New members are joining every month and are a great resource for keeping the organization alive and prospering well into the future.

The Outlaw organization began as a one-time get-together in 1998 of some of the original unit members. The 2000 reunion was remarkably successful and from that initial reunion the VLOA has become a link of friendship between Outlaws from all year groups from 1964 to 1972 and later in Germany and Iraq/Fort Hood.

For 18 years, volunteers have contributed their considerable talents and leadership to the VLOA. The future will need the collective (no pun intended) efforts of other Outlaw volunteers to keep the blades turning and to maintain forward flight. That, in NO way implies that the people currently filling the critical VLOA roles are on their final approach to that big runway in the sky. However, now is the time for the VLOA to look to other members to offer their support to keep the organization alive.

Let's look at a brief summary of some of the people in those key, volunteer, positions and why it is important for others to step up.

Our top official, **National Director Larry Jackson**, has been involved with VLOA issues for a number of years. This year, in addition to serving as our top official, he has also taken on the formidable task of putting on the **Branson reunion** as well.

Our **Treasurer, Chester Voisin**, has been absolutely indispensable in handling, with ease, the many financial issues which arise every month. Chester also ensures that the necessary, and critical, annual IRS report is filed so the VLOA can continue its status as a 501c19 tax exempt organization.

Cont. on pg.10

From pg. 9 **Secretary Chuck Wren** maintains the meeting minutes but, more importantly, maintains the ever-expanding roster of Outlaws. Our VLOA roster reflects the names of Outlaws who served from 1964 to 1972 as well as later year Outlaws from Iraq and Germany.

Newsletter Editor Bob Sharp who, not only publishes the newsletter, but also generates the hundreds of mailing labels and mails a quarterly newsletter to every Outlaw on the roster.

Jim Donnelly and Doug Wilson work closely together and do an unbelievable job of locating and contacting several hundred previously lost Outlaws. **Doug Wilson** has spent more than a decade collecting and compiling Outlaw historical records.

Jim and Doug forward all these names to Chuck to include in the roster. **Jim** not only serves as the VLOA **Deputy National Director** but also holds the position of **VLOA historian**. In this role he has compiled an unimaginable photographic history of every year the unit served in Viet Nam. His project now totals over 22,475 items with 14,000 of these as pictures, all of which are stored and catalogued!

John Doyle, a three-Viet-Nam-tour Outlaw, served 15 years as the VLOA chaplain. **Paul Martin** has now volunteered to continue this inspirational role for the organization.

It's safe to say that no one has put more volunteer time into the VLOA than **Frank Estes**. **Frank** has served as the **National Director**, editor of the **Newsletter** on several occasions, **Webmaster** for the VLOA website, **Reunion Coordinator** for two Outlaw reunions, **Roster manager**, obtained **IRS 501c19 approval** for our tax exempt status as well as various other vital volunteer functions

Then there are the member positions on the **Steering Committee**. Steering Committee **Members-at-Large** serve primarily as a sounding board for the National Director, providing opinions, suggestions, and approvals regarding VLOA issues throughout the year. At the Branson General Membership meeting, a Constitution change will be made to the membership, which will expand the Steering Committee to include members from every year group of Outlaws from 1964 to 1972 and onward. If adopted by the membership, the Members-at-Large will include three new volunteer positions.

An Outlaw reunion, every two years, is the primary reason the VLOA exists. Putting one on is a HUGE job and someone has to be in charge of the Outlaw reunion every two years. Over the years several Outlaws have volunteered to take on this demanding and critical role and have made each reunion better than the previous. Outlaws **Al Iller**, **Dale Sherrod (deceased)**, **Frank Estes (2)**, **Joe Clelan**, **Tom Anderson (2)**, **Bob Koonce** and **Larry Jackson** have all volunteered to take on the job of Reunion Coordinator.

So, **where** in the world, you might ask, am I going with this wordy dialogue? What I'm hoping to point out is that there are dozens of Outlaws out there who can help maintain the level of excellence that the VLOA has attained. This can happen by your volunteering to serve in any of the positions cited above. Tom Anderson is assembling a slate of candidates for an expanded Steering Committee. He is also open to hear from any volunteer who would like to volunteer to take on any of the roles within the organization. The pay is lousy but the gratitude of members is beyond measure!

I started out this piece by talking about the future of the Vinh Long Outlaws Association, and how it has the potential to last well into future. That is a fact!

However, when the VLOA cannot continue to exist, it will be dissolved and the remaining members will be asked to pay off any bills and then liquidate all financial obligations.

Memorabilia, historical records, photos and other such documents belonging to the Association will be donated, as appropriate, to both the U.S. Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker, Alabama as well as to the Vietnam Center and Archives at Texas Tech University. Any remaining assets are to be donated to a recognized charity as determined by the Steering Committee, but under no circumstances shall any member of the Association receive any benefit from said assets.

Cont. from pg. 10

We have far too many dedicated Outlaw members today to keep any thought of ending the Association far into the future. Now is the time to step up and be a part of the steering group of your Association. Elective office requires active (dues paying) membership.

To submit your own nomination, or that of someone else, for the Steering Committee please contact Tom Anderson at teander@cox.net or 703-451-4015 or mail to 7880 Rolling Woods Ct. #308 Springfield, VA 22152.



Submitted by : Ernest Isbell.



“I’M SICK”

So you’re sick of the way the country’s run,
And you’re sick of the way the rationing’s done.
You’re sick of standing around in line,
You’re sick, you say---well, that’s fine!!

I’m sick of the sun and the blistering heat,
I’m sick of the feel of my aching feet,
I’m sick of the mud and the jungle flies,
I’m sick of the stench when the night mist rises.

I’m sick of the siren’s wailing shriek, weak,
I’m sick of the sound of the bomber’s dive,
I’m sick of seeing the dead alive.

I’m sick of the roar and the noise and the din,
I’m sick of the taste of food from a tin,
I’m sick of the slaughter...I’m sick to my soul,
And I’m sick of playing this killing role.

But sicker still of the tyrant’s rule,
And conquered lands where wild beasts drool,
And I’m cured damn quick when I think of the day,
When all this hell’s over and out of the way.

When none of this mess will have been in vain,
And the lights of the world will blasé again,
And things will be as they were before,
And kids will laugh in the streets once more.

Anonymous.

“Don’t overlook the obvious things in life”

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with a bag of potato chips and a six-pack of root beer and started his journey.

When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old man. He was sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old man looked hungry, so he offered him some chips. He gratefully accepted it and smiled at him.

His smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a root beer. Again, he smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As twilight approached, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave; but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old man, and gave him a hug. He gave him his biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "what did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied, "I had lunch with God." But before his mother could respond, he added, "you know what, He’s got the most beautiful smile I’ve ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, "dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied "I ate potato chips in the park with God." However, before his son responded, he added, "you know, He’s much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime!

Embrace all equally!

Nashville
Sept. 2010.



Savannah
Sept. 2012.





A Little Bit More History!

By Frank Estes



From time to time, we need to be reminded of our Vietnam Conflict history or we will forget it, someone will abuse it, or someone will change it. Thanks to Doug Wilson, Jim Donnelly, and Bill Kelley, we continue getting snippets of Outlaw history via emails, Face Book, finding lost Outlaws, and other media sources.

Here is a listing of former Outlaw/Roadrunner Maintenance Officers, Maintenance Tech/Test Pilots, Service Platoon Leaders, 28th Signal Detachment Leaders, Flight Surgeons, Dentists, and Chaplains, and their time in position (*=Deceased; **=KIA):

Maintenance Officers:

Tim Bisch, 1964-65
 Arthur J. Poole, 1965*
 M.R. Brashiers, 1965-66
 Robert "Bob" Millward, 1967*
 Jerry Green, 1968
 Xxxxx Otis, 1969
 Bruce Simcoe, 1969-70
 Xxxxx Toney, 1971
 Tom Reichert, 1971-72*

Maintenance Tech/Test Pilots:

John C. Moodt, 1964-65*
 Jimmie J. Kirkley, 8/64-4/65
 Maurice G. Myers, 4/65-8/65
 Paul Lassiter, 1965-66
 Doug Raper, 1967
 Wesley Taylor, 1968-69
 Augus Desveaux, 1968-69
 Mike Haley, 1969*
 Joe Gossum, 1969
 Lance Sutter, 1969-70

Service Platoon Leaders:

Jerry F. Wade, 1964-65
 Bobby G. Briggs
 Arthur J. Poole*
 Edward Brashears
 Milton J. McGee, 1/66-3/66
 Richard A. Rosbeck, 3/66-5/66**
 Leonard T. Brown, 5/66-8/66
 Robert I. Harbuck, 1/67-1/67
 Robert H. Millward, 8/66-6/67*
 Arthur J. Hall, 6/67-10/67
 James M. Vrba, Jr., 10/67-1/68**

28th Signal Detachment Leaders:

Joseph R. Clelan, 1964-65
 Joseph C. Tirre, unknown
 Robert W. Stephens, 1/66-4/66
 Robert W. Cannefax, 6/66-7/66
 George L. Klopp, 7/66-1/67
 Xxxxx Hall, 9/66-1/67
 Thomas H. Wingfield, 2/67-5/67

Glenn R. Love, 6/67-8/68

Robert Brogdon, 8/68-8/69

Flight Surgeons:

Phillip Keating, xxx-2/66
 Thomas J. Rose, 2/66-6/67
 J. R. Hilegas, 2/67-6/67
 E. M. Malone, 6/67-12/67

Dentists:

Gary I. Anderson, 6/65-6/66
 R. D. Brooks, 6/66-5/67
 R. J. Jayott, 6/67-12/67

Chaplains:

Alfred E. Brough, Protestant 1965
 Joseph Nosser, Catholic 1965
 Charles R. Gibbs, Protestant 1966
 Harry Paul, Catholic 1966
 Nathaniel C. Giannattasio, Catholic 1967
 Lawrence Haworth, Protestant 1967
 K. R. Jackson, 1969
 Daniel J. Donahue 1969

If you know of any information that can fill in some of the "unknown" areas (names, ranks, dates in position, etc.), please forward them to Frank Estes at estesf@troycable.net.

In future *Outlaw Newsletters*, we will try to provide names and dates of other positions of Outlaw, Maverick, Roadrunner, Bushwhacker, and attached unit leaders and key personnel.

Thanks again goes to Doug Wilson, Jim Donnelly and Jim Kelley for keeping the effort alive to find lost Outlaws and recover some of our history, and to Tom Anderson, Al Iller, and Tim Bisch for assistance in filling out this listing.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU IN BRANSON, MISSOURI
 DURING SEPTEMBER 15-19, 2016 FOR
 OUR OUTLAWS' ROUNDUP!!!!!!**

Food for thought!! Don't forget your contribution to the Silent Auction! It is one of the most important things that you can do for the VLOA. Please donate something of interest as it is a great fund raiser. **Give it a little thought and I'm sure** you can think of something of interest to contribute. Thank you for your generosity. -----
 Contact Jack and Fran Knopka.



Welcome to Newcomers! Roster Additions

By Frank Estes

The good news continues. Jim Donnelly and Doug Wilson have been at it again and have found the following lost Outlaws. The following names are the latest additions to our Outlaw Roster. Welcome aboard!

Vern R. Ashbrook, Maryville, TN
 Keith D. Bancroft, Kewaunee, WI
 Tim Bliss, Bradenton, FL
 David L. Bright, Milliken CO
 Alan E. Campbell, North Chesterfield, VA
 Fredrick L. Cappel, Colorado Springs, CO
 Ralph Cella, Palm Harbor, FL
 William D. Chambers, Essex, IA
 Thomas J. Clark, Memphis, TN
 Robert C. "OB" Codney, Phoenix, AZ
 Robert A. Commerford, Peachtree City, GA
 Ronald M. "Ron" Corb, New Orleans, LA
 Tim Cox, Lake Isabella, CA
 Roger W. Day, Colorado Springs, CO
 Daniel J. Donovan, Harrisburg, PA**
 Harold J. "Jim" Dress, Anchor Point AK**
 Alan R. "AL" Duquette, Jasper, TX
 Richard M. "Rick" Dyer, Knoxville, TN
 Frank Effenberger, Rapid City, SD
 Paul D. Elmore, Temple, TX
 Harold E. Feathers, Jay, OK
 Pette Floess, Mills River, NC
 William L. "Bill" Fryant, Phoenix, AZ
 Jerry Gaines, Surprise, AZ
 Gary J. Gibson, Huntsville, AL
 Steven E. Goolsby, Newport News, VA
 James V. Hardbeck, Sunset Beach, NC
 Sam Haynes, Massillon, OH
 Dennis Heimstra, Otsego, MI
 John M. Henry, South Haven, MI
 Andrew O. Hober, Redlands, CA
 Otto Hopp, Cicero, IL
 John Horn, Lake Charles, LA
 Paul R. Horton, Clovis, CA
 Charles H. "Chuck" Howard, Nontvale, NJ
 Garry Howell, Elkhart, IN
 Edmund "Ned" Hubard, Williamsburg, VA
 John William Hughes, Midlothian, VA
 Sidney L. Hulett, Jr., Sulphur, LA

Douglas Huspek, Deerwood, MN
 Andrew "Andy" Keeney, Dewitt, MI
 Henry D. "Beau" Lockhart,
 Fredericksburg, VA
 Ralph Luffman, Pittsville, MD
 Donald Manlove, Fullerton, CA
 Archie Marron, Tecate, CA
 Joseph L. Maxsom, El Paso, TX
 William J. "Bill" Meehan, Georgetown, TX
 Rene A. Morrell, Parksley, VA
 Dusty Moseness, Kathleen, GA
 Frank L. Nauseda, Andover, MN
 John R. O'Neil, Binghamton, NY
 Joseph J. O'Neill, Dublin, PA
 Cecil Ortiz, San Leandro, CA
 Dave Osborn, Marysville, WA
 Edward F. Otten, San Francisco, CA
 Thomas R. Overeynder, Arlington, TX
 James R. Parrott, Tampa, FL
 Larry Parsley, Noblesville, IN
 Ron Petty, Prescott, AZ
 Frank S. Potts, Leesville, SC
 John B. Pratt II, Arlington, VA
 Thomas C. "Clay" Pratt, Custer, SD*
 Raymond Prycz, Goshen, NY
 Harry Racine, Rising Sun, MD
 James A. "Spanky" Reece, Columbia
 Heights, MN
 Rodney R. Rodie, Wetumpka, AL
 Fred K. Rosenberg, Leesburg, FL
 Daniel F. Schaible, Decatur, TX
 Fred C. Schattauer, Olathe, KS
 Vernon "Vern" Shannon, Saint Clair, MN
 William E. "Bill" Sharpe, Spring Mills, PA
 Carl Sievers, Pensacola, FL
 Melvin L. Simpson, Mount Ida, AR
 Barry E. Smith, Cantonment, FL
 Randall P. Smith Jr., Point Comfort, TX
 Steve Smith, Tampa Bay, FL
 Terry Smith, Fresno, CA
 Paul R. Stevens, Ventura, CA**
 Charles W. "Chuck" Struemke,
 River Falls, WI
 John Swygert, Bristol, VA
 Anthony Talone, Manalapan, NJ
 James M. Thomas, Lake Villa, IL
 Edward R. Timmers, Saint Cloud, MN
 William J. Tomik, Rainbow City, AL
 Joseph "Joe" Torre, Wilton, NH



Cont. from pg.13

Greg Trulock, Glide, OR

Sanford T. "Sam" Wade, Newport, NC**

Greg Wardman, Ramsey, MI

Ivan White, French Village, MO

Emron A. Yancy, Hurrigan, UT

We owe Jim and Doug a great deal of gratitude for finding these Outlaws and getting in touch with them. Some of these listed have also joined the VLOA by paying Regular (*) and Life Member (**) dues. Thanks to all who did. Your dues help keep the quarterly *Outlaws Newsletter* alive and distributed, and the Outlaws website in operation. If you know of anyone who served with the Outlaws, Mavericks, Roadrunners, Bushwhackers, and attached units, please ask them to visit our website: www.vinhloungoutlaws.com, complete a membership form, and submit it with their appropriate dues to our Treasurer. ***AND, join us in Branson, MO for our September 15-19, 2016 Outlaw Roundup.***



Outlaw Commemorative Coins

Every male who attended the Washington DC Outlaw reunion received one of the colorful and artistically crafted Outlaw Commemorative Coins. The remainder of that initial order of 100 (approximately 30) were sold during and shortly after the reunion. More requests for coins required an additional order for 50 more. Those, too, have also now been sold.

A few requests the coins continue to be received but not enough to justify another order at this time. A minimum order of 50 is required for another order. Also, at that level, the follow-on cost-per-coin would be slightly higher than earlier orders.

At this time, there is no plan to order more unless there is an indication that a commitment of at least 50 more could be sold. If you would commit to purchasing one or more additional coins, please contact Tom Anderson. Tom will maintain a list of all requests and, if there are a sufficient number of commitments, an additional Commemorative Coin order will be placed. No money would be required until a sufficient number of commitments are obtained. At that time, you would be contacted and asked to forward a check. If you are interested, contact Tom Andersons by email at teander@cox.net. Or by mail at 7880 Rolling Woods Ct #308. Springfield, VA 22152.

Slower – Older and Smarter

Even though this is an Air Force story, I think most of us can relate to the moral of the story.

An Air Force C-130 was lumbering along when a cocky F-16 flashed by.

The jet jockey decided to show off. The fighter jock told the C-130 pilot, 'watch this!' and promptly went into a barrel roll followed by a steep climb. He then finished with a sonic boom as he broke the sound barrier. The F-16 pilot asked the C-130 pilot what he thought of that?

The C-130 pilot said, 'That was impressive, but watch this!' The C-130 droned along for about 5 minutes and then the C-130 pilot came back on and said: 'What did you think of that?'

Puzzled, the F-16 pilot asked, 'What the heck did you do?'

The C-130 pilot chuckled. 'I stood up, stretched my legs, walked to the back, then got a cup of coffee and a cinnamon roll.'

When you're young & foolish - speed & flash may seem a good thing!

When you get older & smarter - comfort & dull is not such a bad thing!

Us older folks understand this one, it's called S.O.S.— **Slower, Older and Smarter....!**

Group picture-Washington DC reunion -September 2014.



62nd. Avn. Co.
Air Mob. Lt.
11th.AAD Ft
Benning, Ga.

The making of an OUTLAW.

Submitted by: Carl Hess



As many of you know, I may not qualify as a bona fide Outlaw as I was in the original company brought to Vietnam by then-Major Tom Anderson and infused shortly after arrival into the 114th Aviation Company. That was a great disappointment at the time as I had great respect for Major Anderson and fellow members of the unit. However, my time with the 114th was rewarding and we did some operations with the Outlaws. Other than being away from my family and the U.S. for a year and occasionally getting shot at, it was an enjoyable tour.

The recent loss of two Marine helicopters in Hawaii reminded us that military training is hazardous. Despite the tragedy, there is some good news. These accidents are now so rare they stay in the news for days. I'm not that familiar with Marine training and safety, but know the Army has come a long way since I first began my flying career with the 11th Air Assault Division (Test) in 1963. I believe many Army aviators today would be shocked to learn of the kind of training, equipment, and regulations that were in use 52 years ago. A retired colonel told me in 1964 more people were dying at Fort Benning in 1964 than were being killed in Vietnam. I had only been assigned to the 11th Air Assault Division for 5 months when I experienced my first fatal aviation mishap while practicing for a dog and pony show.

Fort Benning also brings some pleasant memories. Shortly after arrival, I met the senior chaplain at the Division Artillery chapel and told him I would be getting married in two months. He shared with me that the chapels were in desperate need of an organist and I told him my future wife was currently employed in that capacity in a Baptist church in Ozark, AL. A couple of months later, when we returned from our short honeymoon, the first visitor in our mobile home in the Harmony Church Trailer Park was Chaplain (Maj.) Charles Nichols. During the 10 months we were there, my wife played the organ for two chapels each Sunday morning and one chapel on Sunday nights. When it was time to leave in September, 1964, Chaplain Nichols shared with the congregation how I had gone "above and beyond the call of duty". He said that when I learned of the need for an organist, I went and married one so they could have music!

When I returned from Vietnam in Sept, 1964, I had orders for Ft. McClellan, AL. However, DA contacted me at my leave address in Mesquite, TX and told me to report to Ft. Rucker. I arrived at Fort Rucker and encountered a mild state of confusion and/or chaos. They were launching the tactical instrument program and were in need of instructor pilots for the course. The big problem was there were few instrument qualified helicopter pilots in the Army at that time. Other instrument qualified pilots and I were issued two aircraft and 4 contact instructor pilots each day and told to train them to be instrument qualified and instrument instructors in 3 weeks and 3 days. You can imagine the "quality" of training this resulted in, but we "filled the slots". Then, I went on to instruct initial entry students in the advanced instrument phase in the TH-13T.

Meanwhile, my wife who had only been around the military two years (since our marriage), was 23 and had a 6 month old baby, volunteered us to be sponsors of an initial entry warrant officer candidate class. Her duties were to gather the wives of the students and teach them the customs of the service and how to be a good wife of an Army aviator. She had the bulk of the work and my part was to give the students one class on customs of the service and attend the graduation. A couple of humorous incidents happened during the graduation. In one case, the CG congratulated me on completing the course and the other was when the WOC company commander, a Captain, tore the seat out of his uniform and I was asked to stand in for him.

Cont. from pg.15

During the 22 months we were at Ft. Rucker before my second tour in Vietnam, we sponsored 3 classes. In each class, there was at least one fatal accident with multiple fatalities. My wife and I were involved with the families during these trying times and have some unpleasant memories. In one case, the wife of a student, not involved in the mishap (about 21 years old), was at the home of one of the casualties. She tried to get me to try to influence the Army to keep her husband from flying that night (as if I could). I explained to her the Army's philosophy of getting the students back in the air. She told me she couldn't bear to think about death and didn't even like to talk about life insurance. One month later, this same young lady died in an automobile accident. In another case, the WOC company commander and I called on the widow of one of those killed. She was furious with Army because they had told her she couldn't open the casket. After the young Captain tried patiently to reason with her for a long time with no result, he finally had to tell her there was nothing to see. There was a 13 month period where there was at least one fatal accident a month (mostly mid airs). One of these happened on 16 June 1967, the day our son was born. A TH-13T collided with another TH-13T on climb out at Shell Field. The two in the lower aircraft were both killed and the other aircraft lost the left skid and the IP lost a leg. It was a miracle, but the student was able to remove his hood and safely land the aircraft.

One day, I came home from flying the afternoon shift, tired and hungry. I opened the door to our trailer and saw my wife sitting in the living room all dressed up and no smell of anything cooking. She greeted me with, "What are you doing here?" I said, "I live here and where is my supper?" Turned out our neighbor, who was a State Trooper, had come up at a high rate of speed and told her that there had been a helicopter accident and wanted to know where I was flying. She then decided he knew more than he had told her so she cleaned up and got dressed and waited for the chaplain to arrive. As far as my supper, she told me she wasn't going to cook it and then have to throw it out!

I hope I haven't been too morbid, but I think we who are still here should be reminded how blessed we are, not only to have survived this long, but most of us don't have any disabling injuries. Another thing we should be thankful for is the medical care we are getting as retired members of the military. I shudder to think of the cost of all the doctor, hospital and drug expenses we have incurred. Remember also, the role our wives have played in our careers. My wife has really gone above and beyond the call of duty and I am grateful.

Carl L. Hess, CW4 (USA Retired)

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Ozark, AL

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From the Editor: Bob Sharp. This is how I keep myself busy in Minnesota during the winter. Gloria and I



participate in three sleigh and cutter parades each winter. Was -2 degrees on the right, at the longest running sleigh and cutter parade in the nation at Waseca, Mn. I had to put wheels on as there was no snow on the streets. On the left: I am driving Miss Sassy at home.



A Long-Forgotten Memory The Vinh Long Chapel

Pictures taken of the Vinh Long Army Airfield in recent years reveal that not one building remains on the site. Even the PSP from the runway has been taken up, and probably taken away. No maintenance hanger. No living quarters. No electric or water facilities. And, of interest to many Vinh Long veterans, no chapel.

From the time the Vinh Long base was dredged from the rice paddies of the Mekong Delta, religious services were conducted in the open air, or a swept-out movie theater or a curtained briefing room. Funds and support for construction of a chapel were not available with little hope of receiving any support from higher headquarters.

By early 1965, a large number of the approximately 1000 US personnel of the Vinh Long area felt they needed a nondenominational chapel in which to not only conduct Sunday services with local Delta area military chaplains, but also as a memorial for those who had, and would, give their lives in the service of their country. With the support of airfield leaders, IV Corp chaplains and Battalion concurrence, they actually took it upon themselves to both finance and provide support to the construction of a new chapel.

The result of the group effort was an unprecedented achievement. Equipment, furnishings and decorations were located and were gratefully accepted from any source and there were many. Donations from the usual offertory collections were retained to pay for some construction costs. When a little more than half of the projected funds needed had been collected, construction on the Vinh Long Memorial chapel began in the spring of 1965. A number of US service personnel assisted with the construction along with several hired Vietnamese laborers.

By coincidence, the Army Chief of Chaplains, Maj. Gen Charles E. Brown, was on a tour of Viet Nam. On a visit to Vinh Long, he dedicated the yet-unfinished chapel. Also assisting at the dedication were Chaplain (Capt) Joseph Nossier, IV Corp Chaplain (Catholic) and Chaplain (Capt) Alfred Brough, IV Corp Chaplain (Protestant).

A photo of the nearly completed chapel is shown here.





Outlaw DECCA system Tech Rep Passes By Tom Anderson



In early 1965 a British company began installing something called the DECCA Navigation system into Army helicopters in Viet Nam. The system could be looked at as an early predecessor to today's GPS systems. The Outlaw C&C aircraft had one of the first devices mounted in it.

Because I flew the C&C, I got to know the civilian tech rep fairly well. He was a delightful fellow named Mick Kiddall from Johannesburg, South Africa. Mick was good-natured, technically proficient and very professional. After I returned from my second tour in Viet Nam, Mick got in touch with me for some reason and we had a number of back-and-forth emails with each other reminiscing about the "good old days" in Vinh Long. I don't remember how long he stayed in Vinh Long but I suspect some of the other early Outlaws, crew chiefs or pilots, might also still remember Mick.

For a number of years I thought about him occasionally but had no particular reason to contact him. But, because I still had the old email address from about 15-18 years earlier, I recently decided to try to make contact again. I fired off a short "how are you" note, not knowing if I'd get a bounce-back saying no such address. No response was received for over a month. Then, in early April, I received the following note:

Dear Tom,

I am sorry to have to tell you Mick passed away on the 12th September 2015. I am slowly going through his emails and contacts and am sorry not getting to you sooner.

As his wife, it has all been very sad and traumatic but I can say that Mick spoke often of his Viet Nam days and especially of the Huey and would have been thrilled to hear from you. .

Best wishes

Pat Kiddall.

For any of you who might remember Mick, I pass this on for your information.

A little about the DECCA Navigation system. The Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) provided Army units in Vietnam with a wide number of test items designed to increase combat efficiency and safety. One of the interesting products tested by the Outlaws in early 1965 was a navigation system called DECCA.

The DECCA system consisted of a scrolling map of the area between home base and the area of operations. A stylus printed a trace of the track on the scroll, of the aircraft path over the ground. The system relied on at least three ground-based navigation transmitters which were used by the system to triangulate the direction from the three transmitters and record the location of the aircraft onto the scroll map.

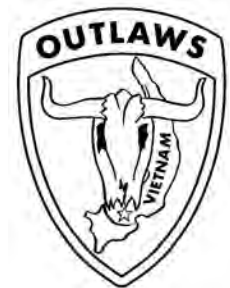
Cont. from pg.18

Several Outlaw aircraft were fitted with the DECCA system, one being the C&C aircraft. Its accuracy was very good but the system was limited by the width of the scroll map mounted on the console above the instrument panel. Each mission, in which the DECCA system would be used, had to have the flight route preplanned by the DECCA system technician and programmed into the system. If the pilot flew off the scroll map, the system was of no value. For that reason I don't recall ever using the system in a tactical situation.

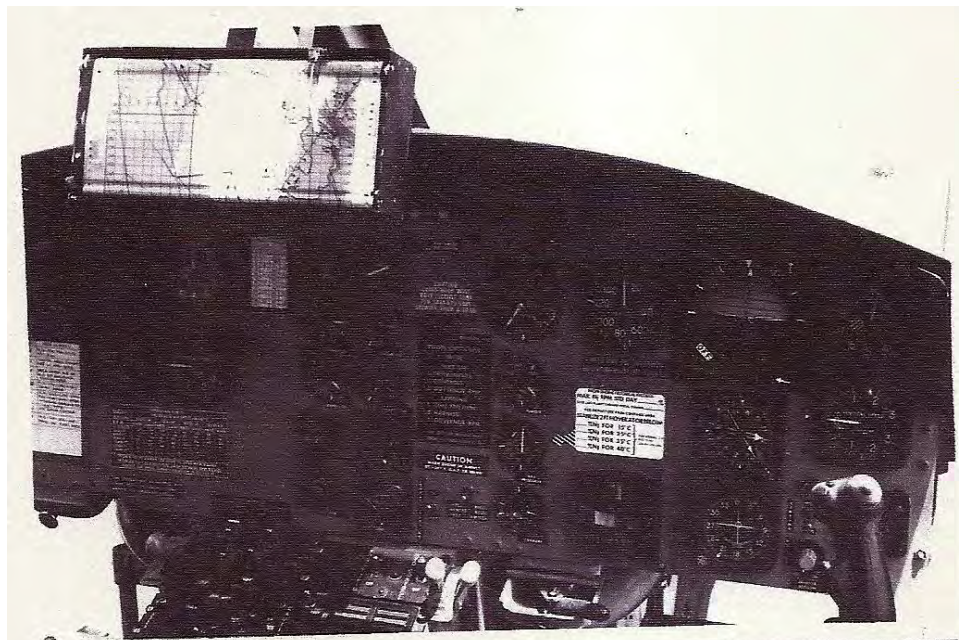
By 1968 the Army had abandoned its use of the DECCA system. Attached are a couple pictures of the DECCA system in Outlaw 1.



The cockpit of
OUTLAW- 1.



DECCA
System mounted
on instrument
panel.



Remembering Tommy Ivey

Submitted by: James Keitchen.

This article is not about me, I do not have any “war stories” to tell. It is about the first person I met, and the first friend I made in Vinh Long in April of 1970, Tommy Ivey.

I arrived in county on 20 April 1970, and after processing thru Long Binh, was put on a transport to Can Tho. We arrived late at night, and the S-1, (a Major that would later become Outlaw 6 after Bobby Adams) scrambled to find bunks for everyone late that night. In our group there was a captain, myself, a Staff Sergeant and several enlisted men. There were only three bunks available in the transit barracks, so with the exception of the E-6, the rest of the enlisted men had to sleep on the floor. I did not know it at the time but Tommy Ivey was one of those sleeping on the floor.

The next day four or five of us were put on an Ash and Trash chopper and flown into Vinh Long. The crew was from a unit in Can Tho or Soc Trang, so as soon as we touched down on the transit pad, we were out, and they were gone. When I say “we” it was Tommy and me. We stood there looking at each other for a minute, introduced ourselves, and then started walking down that main road past the flight line and control tower. I do not know who was more nervous, him or me, but there we were following each other, looking for the 214th Battalion HQ. I was a green First Lieutenant 24 years old, and Tommy a Spec Four just 19. When we found the battalion, we were split up, each going our separate ways. It was not until a few weeks later that I learned we were both assigned to the 175th.

I was assigned to the Operations Shack to replace the current Ops Officer Bob Wildman who was rotating home. Tommy was assigned to either the first or second platoon as a door gunner. We ended up on the same lift operation once or twice, and every now and then we would run into each other around the base. I learned that he was from a small town and had either a wife or sweetheart back home in Auburndale Florida. Each time we saw each other it was kind of an unspoken communication: “good to see all is well with you “.

And then came January 19, 1971. The Outlaws got into it that day, and we lost Tommy. I was not flying with them that day having been reassigned to Battalion several weeks prior. I heard about it that night or the next day, and knew I had lost the first friend I had made in Vinh Long.

Just a couple of years ago, Tommy’s sister contacted me via email. I do not know how she got hold of my name, but she wanted to know if I could tell her any thing about Tommy in Vietnam. I relayed the story about two nervous young men walking down that road the first day, and how much he meant to me as a friend ever after.

I know that several of folks that could be reading this story knew Tommy much better than I did. Those that flew with him on a regular basis, and socialized with him in the evening. For those of you that did, do what I do; every Veterans Day and every Memorial Day my wife and I raise a glass to Tommy, and remember a good man and a lost friend.

James “Kitch” Keitchen

Outlaw 3, 1970

teamkeitchen@mac.com

This is how we keep the Outlaw heritage alive on the west coast of Florida.





1st. Qtr.- 2016- VLOA Treasurers Report by Chester Voisin



Vinh Long Outlaws Association - (VLOA)

	Balance	
	\$	
Cash Balance - 01/01/2016	30,951.59	
	3 Months	
	3/31/2016	
Revenues:	\$	
Dues - Annual	325.00	
Dues - Lifetime	1,300.00	
Dues - Associates Lifetime	100.00	
Sale of Inventory Items	-	
Miscellaneous	-	
Total Revenues:	1,725.00	1,725.00
Expenditures:		
Newsletter Costs	539.27	
Inventory purchases & costs	-	
Administration	-	
Miscellaneous	-	
Total Expenditures:	539.27	539.27
Net Income (Loss) - 3 months 2016	1,185.73	1,185.73
Cash Balance - 03/31/2016		32,137.32

Details: 3 month period - 1/1/2016 thru 03/31/2016

Revenues		
Inventory Sales	None	None
Miscellaneous - Donations	None	None
Annual Dues (AD): - 2016		
John E. Doyle	25.00	
Dale A. Roland	25.00	
Harold E. Feathers	25.00	
Donald S. Palmer	25.00	
Frederick W. Jacobs	25.00	
Jon (NMN) Eisea	25.00	
William A. Gregoricus	25.00	
Richard M. Dyer	25.00	
Norris T. Marshall	25.00	
Randall P. Smith	25.00	
Joseph J. O'Neill	25.00	
Ivan W. White, Jr.	25.00	
John W. Hughes	25.00	
Total	325.00	325.00
Life Time Memberships (LTM): - 2016		
Harold J. Dress	100.00	
John C. Irwin	100.00	
Edmund W. Hubbard	100.00	
William J. Meehan	100.00	
Frederick C. Schattauer, Jr.	100.00	
Verdis D. Sharp	100.00	
Gary D. Williams	100.00	
Lyle E. Perry	100.00	
Friedrich K. Rosenberger	100.00	
William E. Sharpe	100.00	
Joseph F. Torre	100.00	
Robert W. Stephens	100.00	
Robert L. Fleming	100.00	
Total	1,300.00	1,300.00
Life Time Associate Membership (ALTM): - 2016		
Robert C. Madigan	100.00	
Total	100.00	100.00
Total Revenues - 3 month period 2016		1,725.00
Expenses		
Bob Sharp - 4th Qtr 2015 - Newsletter	539.27	
Total	539.27	539.27
Total Expenses		539.27
Income (loss) 3 month period ending 03/31/2016		1,185.73

Wearing of Military Awards With Civilian Clothes

It is permissible for veterans and retirees to wear military awards on civilian clothes for gatherings of a military theme. On significant holidays, veterans and retirees are encouraged to wear their awards and medals. The choice of either full-size medal or miniature is an individual one.

Retired personnel and former members of the military may wear all categories of medals on appropriate civilian clothing. This includes clothes designed for veteran and patriotic organizations. The medals may be worn on:

- Veteran's Day
- Memorial Day
- Armed Forces Day
- formal occasions of ceremony
- social functions of a military nature.

Personnel may wear either full-sized or miniature medals. Personnel who wear medals on civilian clothes should place the medals on the clothing in approximately the same location and in the same manner as for the uniform, so they look similar to medals worn on the uniform.

Hilton Head Island.

Submitted by Larry Jackson.

Several thousand years ago, small tribes of Native Americans lived and hunted on Hilton Head. In 1521, Spaniards, lead by Captain Pedro do Quexos, “discovered” the area and began building forts nearby. They initiated contact with the Natives, who eventually destroyed the Spanish forts. The French in 1562, also explored the area for three decades and briefly left their marks upon the land. Captain William Hilton, in 1663, sailed from Barbados to explore the island for British royalty. He liked what he saw and wrote a positive report that led to British colonization. He also named the island after himself and the headland that rose above the sea at the point where the Port Royal Sound meets the Atlantic Ocean. The island became known as Hilton Head.

In 1788, a small Episcopal church called the Zion Chapel of Ease was constructed for plantation owners. The chapel's old cemetery, located near the corner of William Hilton Parkway and Mathews Drive (Folly Field), is all that remains. Charles Davant, a prominent island planter during the Revolutionary War, is buried there. Davant was shot by Captain Martinangel of Daufuskie Island in 1781. This location is also home to the oldest intact structure on Hilton Head Island, the Baynard Mausoleum, which was built in 1846.

William Elliott II of Myrtle Bank Plantation grew the first crop of Sea Island Cotton in South Carolina on Hilton Head Island in 1790.

British navy privateers, in 1779, burned houses of residents believed to be Patriots. Again in 1813, British forces landed on Hilton Head Island and burned many houses along Skull Creek.

During the Civil War, Fort Walker was a Confederate fort in what is now Port Royal Plantation. The fort was a station for Confederate troops, and its guns helped protect the 2-mile wide (3 km) entrance to Port Royal Sound, which is fed by two slow-moving and navigable rivers, the Broad River and the Beaufort River. It was vital to the Sea Island Cotton trade and the southern economy.

The most important change of command directly affecting the forts took place on October 17, 1861, when Brigadier General Thomas F. Drayton was assigned to the Third Military District of the Department of South Carolina, which meant that the forts were in his jurisdiction. Drayton, who was a member of a prominent Charleston family and a graduate of the United States Military Academy, remained in command through the actions of November 7. Whether he could have hastened the preparations of the forts for battle is debatable; the fact is that he did not.

The choice having been made to attack the Confederacy in the deep South, a Union fleet of about 60 ships and 20,000 men sailed from Fortress Monroe at Hampton Roads, Virginia on October 29, 1861 and arrived off the coast of Beaufort, South Carolina on November 3rd through 5th. The naval forces were under the command of Admiral S.F. DuPont and the Expeditionary Corps troops were under the direction of General T.W. Sherman. The attack on the Confederate Forts Walker (on Hilton Head) and Beauregard (at Bay Point on St. Phillips Island) began about 10:00 a.m. on November 7.

The bombardment continued in this way until shortly after noon, when the Pocahontas, delayed by the storm, put in her appearance. Her captain, Commander Percival Drayton, a Naval Academy graduate, placed the ship in position to engage Fort Walker and joined the battle. Commander Drayton was the brother of Thomas F. Drayton, the Confederate general who commanded the forces ashore.

The Confederate gunboats put in a token appearance, but fled up a nearby creek when challenged. Early in the afternoon, most of the guns in the fort were out of action, and the soldiers manning them fled to the rear. By 3:00 that afternoon the Union fleet had fired nearly 3,000 shots at the two forts and the Confederate forces had retreated, leaving the Beaufort area to Union forces.

Cont. from pg. 22 A landing party from the flagship took possession of the fort. When Fort Walker fell, the commander of Fort Beauregard across the sound feared that his soldiers would soon be cut off with no way to escape, so he ordered them to abandon the fort. Another landing party took possession of the fort and raised the Union flag the next day.

Despite the heavy volume of fire, loss of life on both sides was low, at least by standards set later in the Civil War. Only eight were killed in the fleet and eleven on shore, with four other Southerners missing. Total casualties came to less than 100.

Hilton Head Island had tremendous significance in the Civil War and became an important base of operations for the Union blockade of the Southern ports, particularly Savannah and Charleston. The Union also built a military hospital on Hilton Head Island with a 1,200-foot frontage and a floor area of 60,000 square feet.

Origins of military expressions.

Ever wonder where some expressions originated? Here's a few.

Early aircraft throttles had a ball on the end of them for better grip. In order to go "full throttle", the pilot had to push the throttle all the way forward into the wall of the instrument panel. That's where the expression "balls to the wall" came about for going as fast as possible.

Another aviation-related expression came into being during WWII. Aircraft machine guns were armed with belts of ammunition for use during dogfights or on strafing runs. To feed the machine guns, these belts were folded into the wing compartments. The belts measured 27 feet and contained hundreds of rounds of bullets. When pilots returned from a mission, having expended all of their bullets on various targets, they would say, "I gave them the whole nine yards".

One more military-derived expression came during the heyday of sailing ships. All war ships carried iron cannons which fired round iron cannon balls. To be ready, it was necessary to keep a good supply of cannon balls near the cannon itself. To prevent the balls from rolling about the deck, a storage method was devised by using a square-based pyramid with one ball on top above layers below consisting of four resting on nine, then on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. The problem then was to keep the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others and on to the deck. The solution was a metal plate called a "monkey" which had 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron cannon balls would quickly rust to it. The rusting problem was then solved by making the "monkey" out of brass. However, when chilled, brass contracts much more and much faster than iron. When the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, "cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey."

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Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA)
Membership Application/Renewal Form

Memberships in the VLOA is open to any person of any rank who served with any lineage unit known as the “Outlaws” (and “Mavericks” and “Bushwhackers” armed platoons) or any affiliated unit at any time between August 1964 and the present. These units include the 62nd Aviation Company, A Company 502nd Aviation Battalion, 175th Aviation Company, B Troop 1-158th Aviation Regiment (Iraq), 150th Transportation Detachment (“Roadrunners”), 28th Signal Detachment, and 25th Infantry Division’s “door gunners.”

Active (with vote) or Associate (without vote) Membership is \$25.00 annually, payable each January. A Lifetime Membership (with vote) is a \$100.00 one-time fee. A Lifetime Associate Membership (without vote) for spouses and relatives is available for a \$100 one-time fee. Higher levels of Lifetime Memberships are available; contact the National Director at: jackson3605@roadrunner.com. To pay initial or renewal membership dues for this calendar year, please complete and forward this form, with dues payment, to:

VLOA; c/o Chester Voisin, 1657 Dr. Beatrous Road, Theriot, LA 70397.

First Name _____ MI ____ -- ____ Nickname _____ Last Name _____

Telephone # (home) _____ (work) _____ Spouse’s Name _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Rank (while assigned to unit) _____ E-Mail address _____

Dates assigned in Outlaws/attachments (Mo/Yr to Mo/Yr) _____ to _____

Unit/plt/sect/position _____ Radio Call sign _____

- Please initiate _____ or renew _____ my Active _____ Associate _____ VLOA membership. **Make \$25.00 check payable to VLOA.**
- Please initiate my Lifetime _____ Lifetime Associate _____ VLOA membership. **Make \$100.00 check payable to VLOA.**

_____ Please do not renew my VLOA membership, but keep my name on the VLOA roster. I understand I may not receive any future issues of the VLOA Newsletter unless I am a current dues paying VLOA member.

_____ I know a former Outlaw/Maverick/Roadrunner or other affiliated unit member and have indicated his/her name, address, and phone number on this form.

Comments: _____