



Vinh Long Outlaws Association (VLOA)

"www.vinhlongoutlaws.com"

Vinh Long Outlaws Summer/Fall 2024 Newsletter

May-August.

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

2nd.-3rd. Quarter 2024

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National Director's Corner

By- **Bob Allen**



Wow! This summer is flying by and fall is fast approaching. I trust each of you had a spirited remembrance of our national day of independence, and were able to relax and enjoy the company of family and friends during that time.

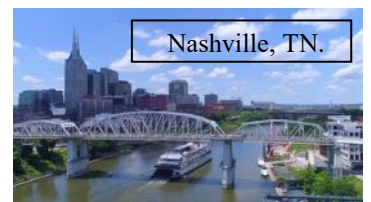
The reunion is just two months away, and the registrations are fairly slow to date. We still need at least 10 more registrants to reach our room guarantee for the Inn at Opry Land, and I encourage those of you who are still planning to come to sign up at your earliest convenience. The 60th year reunion of our combat unit promises to be an exciting and rewarding time for all.

Shari and I are very much looking forward to seeing old and new friends in Nashville. The list of those attending so far is included in another article within the newsletter and there have been a number of inquiries about signing up in the near future. I know we have other things going on in our lives, and some are concerned about health or finances, and that is understandable. Some have attended a national organization get together of pilots or crewmembers this year for the sole purpose of seeing those with whom they served in Vietnam. This gathering in Nashville is about all those who served our unit, from inception to stand down. We are a last man standing organization, and each year provides fewer opportunities to once again maintain the face-to-face bond that rewards and refreshes our lives with each contact.

In two months, my role as your National Director will be handed off to my successor. I am committed to finishing strong and to maintain the foundation of purpose which I inherited under Bert Rice. Between now and our reunion I will be attending two different family reunions; one in Michigan, and the other in Minnesota. Both promise to be enjoyable, but my mind and heart will be focused on final touches, registrations, and final details to make Celebrate 60 the success it deserves. Please join me in doing the same!

Bob Allen, National Director.

Vinh Long Outlaws Association.



OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Bob Allen, - National Director
Columbus, Ohio.

Ivan White- Deputy Director
French Village, MO.

James Donnelly, -Secretary
Virginia Beach, Virginia.

James Donnelly-Treasurer
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Bob Sharp, -Newsletter Editor.
Albert Lea, MN.

Phil Van Alst, -Web Master
Hau'ula, HI.

Ernest Isbell, -Chaplain
Denton, TX..

Doug Wilson, -Historian
Cosa Mesa, CA.

Ernie Isbell -Mem-At-Lge. (64-65)
Denton, TX.

Walter Cieslak- Mem-At-Lge (66-67)
Darian, WI.

Eric Ragsdale, Mem-At-Lge (68-69)
Mesa, AZ.

Pos.Open, Mem-At-Lge (70-71)

Fred Rosenberg, Mem-At-Lge (72-75)
Leesburg, FL.

Lorie Hausenfluke M-At-Lge (03-08)
Hedenheimer, TX.

Terry Khachadourian, Distaff Adv.
Lilburn, GA.

Frank Estes. Permanent Advisor
Ozark, AL.

Tom Anderson, -Perm.Adv.
1998-2023) (Deceased)

Al Iller -Ex. Officio (2000-2002)
Fayetteville, AR.

Ernie Isbell, -Ex Officio(2002-2004)
Denton, TX.

Tim Bisch, -Ex Officio (2004-2006)
Huntsville, AL

Joe Clelan, -Ex Officio (2006-2008)
Mechanicsburg, PA. (deceased)

Frank Estes,-Ex Officio (2008-2010)
Ozark, AL.

Bob Koonce, -Ex Officio (2010-2012)
Tacoma, WA.

Angelo Spelios, -Ex Officio (2012-2014)
Weatherford, TX.

Larry Jackson, -Ex Officio (2014-2016)
Hilton Head Island, SC.

James Donnelly,-Ex Officio (2016-2019)
Virginia Beach, VA..

Bert Rice-Ex-Officio (2019-2022)
Odenton, MD.

Nashville Reunion Update

Our reunion is coming up soon, and plans and preparations have been put in place to ensure its success! Our registration total is 63 persons as of this writing, and the following members have registered:

Bob Allen

Eric Ragsdale

Emilio Alvarado

Chris Reuter

Josiah Austin

Bert Rice

Dennis Baker

David Rogers

Gina Chaffee

Peter Sawyer

Walt Cieslak

Neil Schmit

John Diamond

Bob Sharp

Jim Donnelly

Bob Smith

Frank Estes

Rick Spradlin

Daniel Greve

Bill Sturtevant

Ernie Hunter

Michael Vernet

Ernie Isbell

Ivan White

Bob Kelly

Joe Wisneski

Sheila Kendall

Phil Wright-Van Alst

Harry Khachadourian

Geo. Korkendorffer

Richard Kimble

Hans-Peter Naegle

Glenn Klutz

Larry Mcahren

Bert Rice

John Scott

John Diamond

Gary Roulier

Ted Opiola



**VINH LONG OUTLAWS ASSOCIATION (VLOA) Financial
Statement - 04/01/2024 to 06/30/2024**

Balance effective 04/01/2024 \$41,000.26

REVENUES:

Dues - Annual, Life and Patriot Life	\$700.00
Reunion Sign-ups (PayPal & Checks)	\$11,027.18
Bank Intrest	\$0.73
Reunion Shirt Orders	\$285.00
Sub-Total	<u>\$12,012.91</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Newsletter,printing and mailing #1011	\$890.81
Military Reunion Payment #1009	\$500.00
Reunion Challenge Coins & Banners #1008	\$780.00
Reunion sign up refund - Gary Bradford #1010	\$978.12
TOTAL:	<u>\$3,148.93</u>

CASH BALANCE - as of 06/30/2024 \$49,864.24

Details: 03 months period ending 06/30/2024

Revenues Detail

Reunion sign-ups this Quarter Only

George Kokendoffer (single)	\$507.00
Bert Rice (double)	\$1,014.00
Ivan White (double)	\$1,014.00
Joe Wisneski (double)	\$1,014.00
Eric Ragsdale (double)	\$978.12
Daniel Greve (double)	\$978.12
Peter Sawyer (single)	\$488.82
Larry Ahern (double)	\$977.12
Michael Vernet (single)	\$507.00
Frank Estes (double)	<u>\$1,014.00</u>

William Sturtevant (double) \$1,014.00

John Scott (single)	\$507.00
Harry Khachadourian (double)	\$1,014.00
Reunion Sign-Up Total	<u>\$11,027.18</u>

Cont. on pg. 4

Cont. from pg. 3.

Dues: - 2024**Annual Memberships (AM): - 2024**

Patrica Smith, 2 renewals

Sub-Total \$0.00**Lifetime Memberships (LM): - 2024**

David A.Rogers

\$100.00

Richard Spradlin

\$100.00

Sub-Total \$200.00**Patriot Lifetime Membership (PLM) - 2024**

Chuck Howard

\$500.00

Sub-Total \$500.00**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP REVENUES \$700.00****TOTAL REVENUES - 3 months period 2024 \$12,012.18****Expenses Details**

Bob Sharp - 2nd Qtr 2024 - Newsletter CK#1011

\$890.81

The Inn at Opryland, 2 payments CK#1006

Refund of reunion sign-up Gary Bradford CK#1010

\$978.12

Military Reunion Network, 2 payments CK#1009

\$500.00

Challenge Coins & 2 Reunion Banners CK#1008

\$780.00

Refund of reunion sign-up Bill Quin CK#1007

TOTAL EXPENSES - 2nd Quarter 2024 \$3,148.93**INCOME (LOSS) - 3 months period ending 03/31/2024****\$3,148.93**

Vinh Long Outlaws 60th. Reunion in Nashville, Tennessee.

"If possible, please pay by check to offset the PayPal charges applied to all credit card payments.

Send checks directly to the V.L.O.A. Treasurer, at the address below:"

Jim Donnelly

(Jims personal cell number is-1-757-469-8168.)

2413 General Longstreet Dr,

Virginia Beach, VA 23454-2611

Hotel Room Reservations:

Please reach out to The Inn at Opryland by calling (877) 382-7299 prior to August 9th, 2024. Mention the Vinh Long Outlaws Reunion in order to receive a discounted rate of \$149 per night plus tax for Exterior Rooms, and \$159 per night plus tax for Standard Atrium Guest Rooms. Note! You must book and pay for your own rooms. The Reunion planners do not book the rooms!

Sunday September 22, 2024

Arrival Day and reception.
Hospitality Space Open.
Reunion Welcome Dinner.
Silent Auction open.

Monday September 23, 2024

Breakfast Buffet.

9:00am - 4:00pm Ole Hickory Hermitage Tour and Memorial.

Step back in time to the 1830s as you explore President Andrew Jackson's Hermitage:

Home of the Seventh President of the United States. The Hermitage is the most accurately preserved early presidential home in the country! The group tour includes an interpreter-led tour of The Hermitage Mansion, Andrew Jackson: Born for a Storm Exhibit, along with self-guided tours of the grounds, cabins, gardens and tombs of President Andrew Jackson and his wife, Rachel.

Hospitality Space open.

Silent Auction open.

Tuesday September 24, 2024

Breakfast Buffet.

11:00am - 3:00pm General Jackson Lunch Cruise

Join us for a glorious daytime cruise on the General Jackson Showboat, as we celebrate and salute the music of world-famous "TENNESSEE LEGENDS". Listen to some of Nashville's finest musicians and singers sharing the stories and songs from the pride of Tennessee. From East Tennessee to Nashville's Music City to the soulful sounds from Memphis, many of the top musical entertainers of all time call Tennessee home. Hear Smoky Mountain stories to the sounds of Nashville's legendary Grand Ole Opry stars to the classics from one of the greatest artists of all time, Memphis' own Elvis Presley. With guitars, fiddles and voices ringing, TENNESSEE LEGENDS is a can't-miss musical treat.

6:00pm - 10:00pm Opry Buffet Dinner Show.

Experience the "Lyrical Legends" at a private venue with a Buffet dinner of great food and entertainment for our group in a private setting for our groups entertainment only.

Wednesday September 25, 2024

Breakfast Buffet.

8:00am Executive Meeting.

9:00am Association Meeting/ Everyone welcome to attend /Free time.

5:00pm Farewell Banquet and Closing Ceremony.

Thursday September 26, 2024

Breakfast at your leisure.

Farewell/good byes. Depart for Home. Travel safe!

Welcome!
To the VLOA 60th.
Anniversary
Reunion!



VLOA— 60th. Reunion.

Sunday, Sept.22, 2024 —thru—

Thursday, Sept.26, 2024.

Held at the —Inn At Opryland

2401 Music Valley Drive

Nashville, TN. 37214, US.



Anderson Auction Nashville, 2024

Coordinated by:
Mr. Ivan White.



Our next reunion is finally about to happen and is 1 month away in beautiful and historic Nashville. It promises to be a delightful time of renewing friendships, making new friends, remembering those not with us, and strengthening the bond which has made the VLOA a very special organization.

I have been given the opportunity to coordinate the silent auction this year. Bob Allen did a great job last time and it should help me transition to a successful auction with everyone's help.

Everyone who has attended an Outlaw reunion has generally agreed that the Anderson Auction has been one of the most popular features of the reunion. The Auction tables, which fill the walls around the Hospitality Room, have featured a variety of interesting and curious attractions which have drawn us to purchase items and take them home. To all those who contributed items for our San Antonio Anderson Auction, I thank you for your support! And, a big Thank You to all our members who purchased the many great items we had up for bid. We had the most successful Silent Auction ever – 49 donors, 140+ items, 136 bids out of 80 bidders, and a total of \$4,956.28 contributed to the VLOA treasury!

Of course, we would like to beat those totals of our last auction and we have set higher goals for Nashville. The Anderson Auction has become a prominent part of income revenue for the VLOA. Many of our expenses, including those special touches of each reunion, are covered by the proceeds from the auction. So, let's make the next Anderson Auction both fun as well as a financial success.

Your association needs you to provide one or more items for Nashville. And, even if you can't come to our 60th anniversary celebration in September, you can still show your support for the VLOA. If you have something you would like to donate, please contact me and we can discuss how to get it there. Our goal is to have at least 145 items up for bid in Nashville. Based on what we experienced in San Antonio, this next reunion will continue to have more attendees and potential bidders.

The only criteria for auction items are that they be things you would like to take home, plus things that have a quality that will stimulate others to bid for the right to take that item home. When you have items to contribute, please take a picture of each item, write a brief description of each, and what you think the opening bid should be for each item. Then, send the information to me at the following address:

Ivan White guitarmansblues@gmail.com 314-541-5356—Hello!

It is getting lonely here! Since I last talked to you I have had only a couple of auction items and no award nominee's.

Someone out there has some good thoughts so please let me know!

Thank YOU in advance for your support!



Vinh Long Outlaw Association Awards



Nominations Open!

The Vinh Long 60th Military Reunion is just around the corner, and we're excited to recognize the exceptional individuals who have made a difference.

Do you know someone whose service or contributions stand out?

Nominate them for one of our prestigious awards.

From valor on the battlefield to dedication to the community, we want to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our fellow veterans.

Take a moment to honor those who have made an impact.

Your nominations will ensure that their legacy is remembered.

Together, let's make this reunion an opportunity to express our gratitude and admiration.

Do not miss this chance to recognize the best among us. Nominate today!

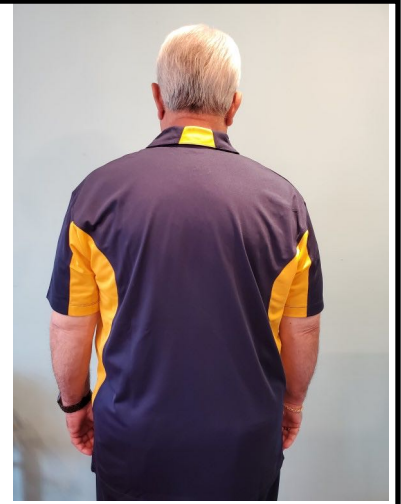
September in Nashville is just around the corner.

Contact Ivan White:

guitarmansblues@gmail.com

314-541-5356

Nashville 2024 Reunion Shirt.



The official **2024 Outlaw Roundup** shirt is likely to be one of the most appealing reunion shirts we have ever had. The colors were selected to match the authorized Army Aviation branch colors, ultramarine blue and golden orange. The polo shirt is a polyester micro-pique sport-wick. To accentuate our 60th anniversary, the Outlaw patch will also be trimmed in silver.

Cost for each shirt again starts at \$30. (NOTE: Additional cost * for sizes 2XL = \$32 3XL = \$34 4XL = \$36 men's or women's.) Please pre-order your shirt(s) on the form below. Shirts ordered by Reunion attendees will be in each welcome bag at the VLOA registration desk. If you cannot attend the reunion, but would like a shirt, see info below **. **Please Indicate Quantity Desired by Size**

MENS' SHIRT SIZES:

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

LADIES' SHIRT SIZES

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

* Note: Cost for sizes **2XL - \$32** **3XL - \$34** **4XL - \$36** Men's or Women's

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

Name: _____ Size: _____

Name: _____ Size: _____

** **Note:** If you cannot attend the Reunion and would like to order an Outlaw shirt, please fill in the information above, add **\$5.00 for postage and packaging** costs and provide the following information:

Your name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ (Phone #) _____

ALL ORDERS ARE PRE-PAID AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 31st, 2024! Send this shirt **Order Form, with pymt. – made payable to VLOA**, to : Mr. James Donnelly. 2413-General Longstreet, Virginia Beach, VA. 23454-2611

Here is a short list of the Reunion Shirts that are ordered and where you will be receiving them. Please make sure that if you would like one or two, check the list and make sure you get them ordered. (See the order form on page 8.) Thank you!

Reunion Shirt List:

(Picking up at reunion):

Neil Schmit, Men's XL

Bert Rice & Pat Hall, Men's L, Ladies XL

Daniel Greve, Men's XL

Bert Rice ML, Pat Hall LXL

Walter Cieslak ML & LXL

Emikio Alvarado MXL & LL

Allen "Frenchie" Theriot ML

John Diamond, ML & LL 7/31/2024

Harry Kachadourian MXL 8/5/2024

James Donnelly, M2XL

(Mailing To Them):

Bob Koonce, P.O. Box 44807, Tacoma, WA 98448

(253)537-4818 Men's L

Kenneth Bernowski, 1222 Martin Island Dr., Stevens Point, WI 54481

(715) 341-6876 Men's XL

William Tartaglia, 237 Wyatt Earp Loop, Nolanville, TX 76559 (254) 702-5565, Men's L

Tim Bisch, 331 Alexian Way #213, Signal Mountain, TN 3737, MXL

Advice from An Old Farmer



Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.

Keep skunks and bankers at a distance. ———Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled. ———Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge. ———You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles. ———When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good, honorable life... Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don 't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a Rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.



The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around..

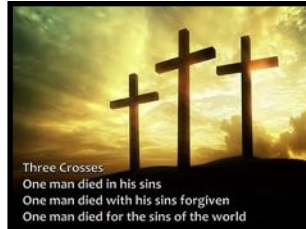
Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll just kill you.

Most times, it just gets down to common sense.



The Back Pew



While looking through my desk recently I came across a bundle of black and white photographs that were taken during my service with the Outlaws and Mavericks in 1964-1965. They brought back many memories and the most significant thought was how many of the pictures are of those who served and are no longer with us.

It is especially noteworthy when I think that I'm still alive and my wife of 64 years, Linda Minyard Isbell, passed away last Christmas Day. Knowing the risks that all of the Mavericks, Outlaws, maintenance personnel and door gunners plus others underwent during our service together in Vinh Long and other locations in Viet Nam gives reason to wonder just how different our lives are turning out to be. I'm sure that all who read this can agree that life has many crooks and turns that we never imagined would occur.

I am now 83 years old and I can assure you that I never thought that I would live this long, especially since I served two other tours in Viet Nam during 1967-68 and 1971-72. I'm certain that there are many among you that can cite their added service in Viet Nam and lived to tell their grandchildren the many tales about their service to our nation.

Other news. I plan to attend the Nashville meeting and I have arranged rooms at the hotel. I'm happy to be able to visit with those of you that plan to attend. I'm bringing my daughter Cheryl Isbell and I'm pleased to say that her stroke recovery process is coming along very well. I am her sole caretaker and we are living in her house in Denton, TX.

Anyone who finds time to stop by and visit should you be passing this way are welcome. My phone number is 214-529-3778. Bye the way, she has enrolled in the University Of Phoenix to complete a Doctoral Degree and that will keep her very busy.

Looking forward to seeing all of you that can make the upcoming meeting, May God bless you and keep you safe during your travels.

Ernie Isbell, Chaplain. VLOA.

Former Maverick Section Leader

Veterans Organization's and Membership.

By: Bob Sharp

Hello! I do not know how many of you VLOA members belong to a Veterans group but I write an article every month for the American Legion Newsletter and I would like to share my June 2024 article to make you aware of how important it is for you veterans to have a vote in what you get for benefits and help at the VA. It may seem like a pain to have to join or pay membership's but read what it has to say. Thank you. Bob Sharp.

Hello Fellow Veterans:

6-21-24.

Hi and back again. I do believe that you veterans need your newsletter as it is a good way to keep abreast of the happenings in our organizations.

I would like to make you all aware of the things that other Veterans groups do also. As you know, I am the Cmdr. of VFW Post 447. I am also the Cmdr. of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 16 here in Albert Lea. Why I am bringing this to your attention is you need to know that if any one of you vets have a disability rating, no matter if it is 0 to 100%, you are eligible to belong to the DAV. Why am I telling you this is our Chapter, again this year will be sponsoring new members by paying your full membership cost. Lifetime membership is now \$325.00. The Chapter will pay for it 100%. (Over 80 is free!) We want you to join because your number counts at the State and National level. It makes a difference for widow's benefits and passing of legislation involving all veterans, tax relief and pensions.

You need to know what our Chapter did last year for the Veterans of Freeborn County. Our members collected clothing donations and provided them to the Department of Minnesota to fill a contract with the Savers Stores of Minnesota. Our last fiscal year, July 1st, 2023, to June 30th, 2024, we collected and delivered 230,000 lbs.! which brought the state total to 8.3 million lbs. That amount earned our Chapter 16 approximately \$55,500.00 that was returned to the Veterans and families of Freeborn County in various forms of help.

So, this is my plea to you, contact me with your DD-214 and a letter from the VA with your service-connected disability rating and I will get you signed up to join a great organization. I am so very proud of all our members. You are not required to do anything but, if you are able and want to participate you are more than welcome to do what you can, little or a lot, we would love to have you. It is great camaraderie, and the Lord knows our fellow Veterans need our help!

After work there is always time to have coffee and chat. Think about it and you are always welcome!

Bob Sharp, Cmdr.

VFW Post 447

DAV Chap.16

Avenue of Flags. Pres.



Disabled American Veterans, Dept. of Minnesota. (Outdoors Programs for Disabled Veterans.)

Hello! I would like to share with you what the Department of Minnesota has to share with veterans with their outdoors programs.

All you have to do is go online @DAVMN.ORG and look under Outdoors programs to see what you can sign up for. All year long they take veterans on adventures all over the state and the nation.

They offer white water rafting trips to Idaho, kayaking trips to the Apostle Islands, and numerous other wonderful getaways.

Aug. 26/24- Rainy Lake Houseboat Trip.

Sept.5/24-Glacier National Park, hike and explore.

Sept. 7/24.-Ontario, Canada. -Drive In Fishing Trip.

Oct. 1/24.-Adventures at Williams Narrows, Lake Winnibigoshish.

Oct. 8/24.-Camp Ripley Deer Hunt. On Military Reservation, No. MN.

Oct. 27/24.- Texas Wild Hog Hunt. Columbus, TX.

Mar. 17/24.- Long winter Getaway in Florida.

(Manatee watching/kayaking/fishing/ or just sunning on the dock.)

I am sharing this info with you to show you how important it is for our veterans, yourself included, to be a member of these groups as it is therapeutical for the mind and the body.

I was encouraged to sign up this past March for a Texas Wild Hog Hunt, so I did. I was notified that they were full, and would I care to get my name on the back-up list, so I said, "sure." Low and be-hold they called days later and had cancelations so my brother-in-law and I both got picked for a 5-day, all-expense paid hunt of a lifetime! So, I will share my story!

(Cont. from pg.13.) Well, there were 10 of us vet's, 2 women and 8 fellows. Some 100% and some partially disabled. One lady was still on active duty and the other was retired and had a Service Dog along. Sorry to say as I look at my photo's I neglected to take a picture of the dog. We were all combat vets of varying ages and wasn't long before we were all settled in.

I can't tell you how very well planned the whole trip was. The man in charge was Mr. John Carson and he had 3 very good assistants to help with the driving, the cooking, the guiding, and the butchering of the hogs we shot.

The advance team drove two vehicles down from Minnesota and they picked up our gear and weapons and hauled a trailer with a side-by-side 4-wheeler, a freezer full of food, which also was space to bring back hog meat. The others drove a shuttlebus, and they met us at the airport in Houston, TX.

They flew us down, picked us up and drove us to a huge VRBO Ranch with a big house that slept 6 of us and a smaller house that slept the team of 4. This ranch had a pond where you could fish, a horse barn if you had animals, a huge building with anything you can think of to entertain yourself from 2 pool tables, tennis tables, card tables, couches and chairs to sit and visit and a huge, large screen TV.

They grilled outside and fed us inside at tables and there was never a want for more food! They cooked us a huge breakfast every day with a huge meal at noon and a great evening meal every day! There were snacks and beverages galore!

(Cont. on pg.15.)



(Cont. from pg. 14.) We mostly hunted at night, going out at 6:00pm and sitting in a blind, two of us and there were feeders in front of us that every ½ hour or so would spin and throw out corn. After dark the pigs would come out and were very leery! You could hear them out in the brush for a long-time snorting, grunting, and squealing. Almost gave you the idea that they were arguing and pushing to see who was going to be forced to step out in the lime light first! The small pigs came out first and lots of them before the big hogs made their appearance.



As I said, we mostly hunted after dark from 6:00pm to about 2:00am and then we had to butcher and grind the meat. There is very little meat on them as they are designed to be very fast and lean. We cut the back straps out and a little off the rears as they have no hams to speak of. Largest pig was 150#. (Cont. on pg. 16.)



(Cont. from pg.15.) Some of the crew went during the day, and it was very taxing as it was hard to flush them out. We were hunting in a depleted gravel pit and there were huge holes, lakes that the pigs swam across to get away from us and steep banks. Brush and trees so thick and gnarly you couldn't get through. Hidden holes to fall into and get hurt or drown. I would imagine it would be like the jungles of any Central American country or worse.



We took turns and hunted every other night and, on your night off, you could do whatever you liked to do. I had been in touch with one of our VLOA members, Mr. Hans-Peter Nagale since our last reunion and he was building a Barn-Dominium between Houston and San Antonio at a place called Weimer, TX.

I wondered how far that was from where we were staying so I called him and we talked and I gave him our address and he said, "You are right next door!" "I will come and get you!" It was only 15 miles away and he came and picked me up and we went to see his new, big house-garage-shed, All in one beautiful home! You would love to see the gate to his property. I will include it with some other pictures. Thank you so very much Hans for the tour and the visit. (Cont. on pg. 17.)





I thought that I would share my pictures of Hans's shed. He is afraid that he will not have enough room to store all of his toys. It will be close as you can see he doesn't have much room to spread out in! Notice his garage space, he has a drive through. He can come in and turn around and right back out the same door and with a trailer besides! The living quarters are going to be beautiful also.

It was a great experience. We shot 26 hogs, (I shot 2) and butchered them and ground and froze the meat. We each got I believe 3-5# bags of ground pork. What do you do with that you ask? Well, my son-in-law says he will mix some other pork and spices with it and make both bratwurst and breakfast sausage's. We will see how they turn out. Thanks again to John Carson, his crew, and MN. DAV.!



Michael Raymond Brady

OCTOBER 3, 1946 - MAY 16, 2024



On the morning of May 16, 2024, our loving Dad and devoted Husband, Michael Raymond Brady, passed away at his home in Pensacola, Florida at the age of 77 years old. Michael was born in Aurora, Illinois to James Oliver Brady Sr. and Jeanne Barbara Muench Brady. Growing up in a military family, he lived in various countries before settling in Pensacola.

Michael graduated from Talawanda High School in Oxford, Ohio and attended Pensacola Junior College. He worked as a lifeguard at Pensacola Beach, Florida where he met his wife of 56 years, Ramona McManaman Brady. Michael went on to serve his country as a member of the United States Army where he attained the rank of Captain. He was a proud Vietnam Veteran and a helicopter pilot for the Outlaws 175th Assault Helicopter Company. Michael was also a flight instructor for the U.S. Army, OCS, U.S. Army Flight School. After completing his service in the Army, he worked as helicopter pilot for Petroleum Helicopters Inc. (PHI) until he retired from PHI after 32.5 years with the company. Michael had over 5,000 hours of accident and violation free flight hours during that time. Michael was an excellent cook, and enjoyed hunting, fishing, music, and coaching little league baseball. He was very creative and an engineer at heart. In his later years, he enjoyed growing and tending plumerias and blood orange trees. He was also an avid bird watcher and loved watching blue birds in his backyard.

(Cont. on pg.19.)

(Cont. from pg. 18.)

Michael was preceded in death by his parents: James Oliver Brady Sr. and Jeanne Barbara Muench Brady. Sister: Ellen Brady Deck (Sterling). Survivors include his spouse of 56 years, Ramona McManaman Brady; brother, James Oliver Brady Jr. and sister, Margaret Brady Gunter (Steve). Michael had five children: John Brady (Amy), Jennifer Belanger (Joe), Robert Brady (Theresa), Daniel Brady (Aimee) and Katherine Brady (Rodney). He also had thirteen grandchildren: Austin (Laura), Justin, Hope, Katie Joy, Joshua, Mariah, Madison, Collin, Lance, Sean, Brady, Jaykob, Aurora. One great-grandchild: Declan James (Austin/John). He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

The celebration of his life will be held on June 27th, 2024 at Oak Lawn Funeral Home, with visitation services from 11:00am to 1:00pm and interment at Barrancas National Cemetery immediately following. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Big Oak Ranch or St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Lanny McCormack, 74

Jan 29, 1950 to May 2, 2024



Lanny Whitman McCormack, 74 years old, of Colbert County, Alabama, passed away on May 2nd, 2024, in Giles County, Tennessee.

Lanny was born Jan 29, 1950, in Colbert County Ala. Lanny served in the U.S. Army as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam with the 175th Assault Helicopter Company in 1971 and later in the United States Air Force as a C-141 pilot. He later worked for NOAA.

He was a loving Grandfather and a farmer having retired from NOAA. He enjoyed fishing, reading and is preceded in death by parents Zollie Whitman and Evelyn Jenette McCormack.

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Summer/Fall-2024

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 “doorgunners.”

Active (with vote) or Associate (without vote) Membership is \$25 annually, payable each January. A Lifetime Membership (with vote) is \$100 one-time dues. A Lifetime Associate Membership (without vote) for spouses and relatives is available for a \$100 one-time donation. A Patriot Lifetime Membership (with vote) is available for a one-time \$500 or more dues. Current Lifetime Members may upgrade to a Patriot Lifetime Membership for a one-time \$400 or more dues. To pay initial or renewal membership dues for this calendar year, please complete and forward this form, with dues payment, to:

VLOA Treasurer: c/o Jim Donnelly, 2413 General Longstreet Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23454

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/platoon/section/position _____ Radio Call sign _____

- Please initiate _____ or renew _____ my Active _____ Associate _____ VLOA membership. **Make \$25 check payable to VLOA.**
- Please initiate my Lifetime _____ Lifetime Associate _____ VLOA membership. **Make \$100 check payable to VLOA.**
- Please initiate my Patriot Lifetime _____ membership. **Make \$500 or more check payable to VLOA. Current Lifetime Members make \$400 or more 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/Bushwhacker/Roadrunner or other affiliated unit member and have indicated his/her name, address, and phone number on this form.

Comments: _____
