



281st Assault Helicopter Company Association

"INTRUDERS"

NHA TRANG
1965 - 1970

NEWSLETTER
NUMBER 40

Fall
2009

**THE 281ST AHC HOSTED
VAGABOND REUNION
2009
PROVES TO BE A
RESOUNDING
SUCCESS!**

Veterans of the 10th Combat Aviation Battalion, 48th AHC, 92nd AHC, 192nd AHC and the 281st AHC enjoy three days of camaraderie, chow, BS sessions and generally have a grand 'ol time!

And we're gonna do it again next year!!

Office of the Prez....

(Note from the Editor: Our glorious leader, Jim "Mom" Torbert, is on vacation traipsing around Alaska and unable to contribute to this Fall newsletter. Look for him in the Winter Edition)

"Veep Peep"....

As the incoming Vice President (VP) of the 281st AHC Association, I have been tasked, as is tradition, by the new President, Jim "Mom" Torbert, to be chairman of the 2010 Reunion. The Reunion plans are well underway; more about that in a moment.

I want to first salute and recognize the effort that Mom did as VP and Reunion Chair for the 2009 Reunion, along with the outstanding work of the standing Reunion Committee Members. I don't want to steal the 2009 Reunion Committee's thunder by giving you all the details; they can do that. Of note though is the effort of our Membership Chairman, Gary Stagman did with a little help from Jack Mayhew and many others on the 2009 Reunion Committee for bringing the 10th Aviation Battalion and several of the companies including the 92nd AHC and the 192nd AHC to join us in St. Louis. I don't know all the details, but I do know from talking to the catering manager at the hotel that it is the first time we have met our minimum alcohol consumption which covers the cost of all those rooms we used. Again my hat's off and my eyes right salute go to the entire group that pulled off the 2009 281st Reunion. It is a tall mission to follow.

The first bit of news about the 2010 Reunion is that it will be held starting Wednesday August 4th and ending on Sunday August 8th 2010. As I announced at the 2009 Reunion Banquet the room rates will be reduced to \$60.00 per night. The official name of the reunion for hotel booking purposes is as follows:

281st Vagabond Reunion

The booking code for making your reservations at the hotel is: **VAG**

Gary Stagman and Jack Mayhew have reported to me that there has been a lot of interest from other AHCs in the 10th Battalion

like the 155th. I have been exchanging emails with Jim Godfrey of the 192nd AHC, and they definitely want to return with more of their members in attendance. All those that attended from the 10th, 92nd and the 192nd have expressed how well organized we are, how much fun they had and their intent to return in 2010. Our attendance goal for 2010 is 300. With that many people we are able to easily cover our commitment to the hotel and it opens up the opportunity to offer more events. It is my goal to make the 281st Vagabond 2010 Reunion a memorable and fun event. You can help by your continued interest and plan to attend the event. It is your organization and only you can make it work.

Ken Smith
Vice-President

The Senior Member@Large....

My last official duty as your Junior Member @ Large (before I moved up to the "exalted position" of Senior Member @ Large) was to certify to the President the results of the 2009 Executive Board Elections so he could introduce your new EB at the annual General Membership Meeting on August 1, 2009. For those of you who missed it, the new EB is:

President – Jim Torbert
Immediate Past President – Frank Little
Vice President – Ken Smith *
Treasurer – Jerry Beck
Secretary – Jeff Murray*
Senior Member @ Large – Ed Haas
Junior Member @ Large – Frank Becker*

(*"*" Indicates election this year either by plurality or acclamation; all others advanced in accordance with the association by-laws*)

Well, as you probably have already guessed by now from the subject matter of this Newsletter, the 2009 Annual Reunion is in the record books and one for the record books it was. By all accounts (some of which you can read here) it was a roaring success with a great time being had by all. Intruders, not being ones to sit on our "laurels" or "duffs" (**choose one**) for very long, next year's (2010) Reunion Committee Chairman and new Association VP,

Ken Smith, called the first Planning Meeting for the 2010 Reunion Committee immediately after the Saturday Banquet. (The Prime Rib gravy stain on my shirt didn't even have time to set before we were discussing how to make next year's reunion even better.)

As I racked my brain (no easy task these days) to think of ways to do just that and not being very creative all I could come up with was there simply wasn't enough Intruders present. Health reasons kept many, including several regular attendees, away this year as did family commitments, and traveling concerns. As I see it, we just have to get you Intruders with health problems to concentrate better on getting well (the rest of us will do what we can in the Prayer Department) all you have to do is "Get Well Quickly" so you can join us next year in St. Louis (better yet in Fayetteville, NC on October 17, 2009 for the 281st AHC Memorial dedication). As for those with prior family commitments either plan around them or take a page from Bob Ohm's book and bring them along – they are guaranteed to have a great time. If you don't believe me ask them or ask Rich Schlerer whose daughter hovered that TH-55 better after 15 minutes than I ever did after 500 IP hours. (She failed, however, to "bring in the wood for winter" as Intruders were often known to do.)

As for Ellen and I, we are all set for next year in St. Louis. Thanks to Karen Mentzer (Fred's better half) we already have our 2010 Reunion name tags and Ellen scheduled her vacation time the Monday we returned from St. Louis. So all you fellow Intruders who haven't been to an Intruder Reunion in quite some time, make those plans now!! And if we don't see you in Fayetteville on October 17th, we will see you next year in St. Louis. (Remember the Target is 300.)

Ed Haas
Senior Member@Large

Our hard working Membership Chair...

In 9 years we are at member #360!!! This past year 2009 dues have come in very slow. If it wasn't for them being included with the reunion registration it would be worse. It could also be better too.

Now it's that time of the year again. Yes this year's Annual Dues are due. Starting 1 Aug 2009 was the start of the NEW dues year for 2010. I was happy to see the amount of 2010 dues that came in with the reunion registrations. Please do send them as soon as possible. If you are experiencing money problems, let me know...

I will gladly accept any and all new member applications. I normally process the new applications on the same day of receipt. (Unless I happen to be out of town, camping etc.)

The by-laws state that dues could be sent using reunion registration form. Of course the person receiving the reunion registration forms must keep me up-to-date, then I will have a straight roster of members in good standing, for the voting of Association Officers on the ballots. Thanks! I really enjoyed seeing all the people attending the first 281st Vagabond Reunion. I feel that it was a success.

All **NEW** applications for membership and **RENEWAL DUES** will come to me (unless sent in with reunion registration form) at the address on the membership form. If you need a renewal form or application, email me at: cooter@charter.net you can also get the application off the 281st web site at www.281st.com

I want to thank everyone who have been sending me their new information to update the master roster, this saves postage and you get your newsletters faster. If for some reason that you do not receive your newsletter by email or snail mail, go to www.281st.com and click on newsletters and you can print it off. **PLEASE** keep your information on the master roster up to date then you should receive your newsletters as they come out. If you have a good email, then it saves postage in mailing.

Thank you for your continuing support, to the 281st AHC Association!! This allows me the extra time to try to help others thru information to pursue their claims within the VA system.

The actual dues year is: 1 Aug 2009 to 31 Jul 2010. Next year it will be 1 Aug 2010 to 31 Jul 2011.

Again thank you for your support and have a very safe Fall season and also during the upcoming Holidays.

Gary L. Stagman
Membership Chairman

The Bean Counter....

Another enjoyable reunion has come and gone. The process of writing the final checks and presenting the financial results to the Executive Board is nearing completion. The latter will also be provided to the Reunion Committee for their analysis and planning next year's reunion.

The following is my wife's remarks reflecting on her attendance at the reunion.

Reflections on 281st AHC Reunion in St. Louis

I'm Margie Beck, Jerry (Fred) Beck's wife. I would like to give you my observations and impressions from coming to the Reunions the last 2 years. I have met so many of you from all over the country.

I was inspired and enthused to hear many of your stories. Both you veterans and your lovely wives all have your own wonderful stories to share. It was enlightening and sometimes even disheartening to hear of your total commitment in service to our country, but coming home to a country without debriefing that just expected you, after all you had endured, to just adjust to civilian life.

I heard stories of your heroism in defending our country in Southeast Asia and your struggles in coming home and readjusting without the helps and benefits available to today's returning military. Some of you even used this as an opportunity to help organize such aid organizations yourselves for returning veterans.

It was a joy to meet so many wives as well. Each of you has your own special charm and charisma. You are all wonderful spouses for our heroes.

Many of you are also involved in various kinds of good works. Thank you members of the 281st for your strong dedication and commitment to the protection of our country and her allies. You are all heroes. I'm looking forward to seeing and meeting even more of you next year.

Jerry (Fred) & Margie Beck
Treasurer

Ramblings from the JML

This is my first try at this newsletter stuff. Hope all those who made it to St. Louis this summer had a good time. The reunion is one of the things my wife and I look forward to and it is kind of at the end of the summer for us, as she is a school teacher. It's the 281st reunion, then back to school.

For all who were not able to go, or wondered if you would have a good time, just four years ago we felt the same way. We only went for Friday and Saturday just in case it was something we were not comfortable with. Well now, you can tell that it is something that is enjoyed by all. In fact, I think Cheryl looks forward to it as much or more than I do as she has met so many new friends in the group. In fact this summer a couple we had made friends with were on a trip and stopping by for a visit. They were already on the road and we needed to get in touch for some last minute changes so Cheryl pulled out a list of cell phone numbers from the "shop till your drop group" and there was the number we needed. I know several people who came for the first time last year who we saw on Friday and who this year we saw on Wednesday or Thursday!

Ken Smith, our VP, is already on the stick for next year and has some great ideas that he has the reunion committee working on. It will be a great reunion for sure.

The 281st Monument Dedication Ceremony in October sounds like the boots in the East are doing quite a job for all that are able to attend. All those present will know the 281st was a class act in Viet Nam and still is today.

Now a little on my job. This Spring I will need nominations for the Association Vice President and Junior Member at Large. If you have a name you would like to submit, that would be great. Just make sure your dues are paid up.

Enough from me. Hope you can make it to the Dedication and, if not, to St Louis in August 2009. Be sure to nominate some names for officers. Your Association is only as good as you make it.

Frank Becker
Junior Member@Large

And now from the Sec'y....

It's been 2 months now since the reunion, which in my opinion was one of the best we have had. There was much to do, lots of friends to see I haven't seen in quite a while, and the itinerary was packed.

With the dedication of the memorial on the near horizon we even have stuff to do before hooking up next year. But I did something yesterday that put things in perspective. I went to a farewell party for two female Army doctors. Actually the party was for one, a niece of mine who is on her way to Korea. She has been in the Army for about 3 years now, serving at Walter Reed and just recently completing her Army Officer Basic training at Fort Sam. Leave it to the Army to let someone wear captain's bars for 3 years before giving them training. She said the best part of the training was shooting her M9, whatever the heck that is. Doctor's shooting any type of weapon scares the heck out of me.

Anyway, the only reason my niece is headed to Korea instead of going the other way is because she is an OB/GYN and I suppose the call for that profession in the Middle East is not great. Her friend who came to the party, however, is an internist, currently at Ft Hood, and is on her way to Afghanistan. Does anyone remember ever running into a female doc in Vietnam? I spent 20 years in the Army and never ran into a female doc, period, although I heard there was one posing as a flight surgeon at Rucker but I never saw her.

Now I'm all for equality in the ranks but if that were my daughter I'd be concerned. Medical facilities in a combat zone are normally relatively safe but this is someone's daughter. Oh well, I guess I'm showing my age, we've had 281st daughter's returning from Iraq attend our reunions before, and our VP's daughter is in the USAF, she may very well head that-a-way soon for all I know.

The service has come a long way since our time. Remember them in your prayers and drop a card or a small package at Christmas time.

Jeff Murray
Secretary

The PX Chairman.....

I want to personally thank all reunion attendees for supporting PX reunion sales. Mom and the reunion planning committee were also a great help. My right hand "sales gal" Kelly was certainly missed by all. My thanks go out to Jim Wolf and others for picking up much of the work.

Brian Paine donated 281st mugs and shot glasses. 100% of these sales went to the Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$180.00. Thanks BP!

The committee approved two outside vendors who each donated a product to the reunion. A "Heliplaque" was donated by Paul Barlett of Custom Helicopter Rotor Blade Plaques which was used as a door prize for the membership meeting. Special thanks to Paul for his help with the PX. The other donation a remote control Helicopter was received after the membership meeting and will be used at the 2010 Reunion.

We ran short on crew ball caps as well as selling out of a couple pins. The reunion shirts were well received. The committee is making plans to better serve our quest units with 10th CAB items.

I have my reservations made at the Crowne Plaza for the 2010 Reunion. Don't delay "Get R Done"!

Looking forward to seeing many of you in Fayetteville for the monument dedication, don't forget to bring your challenge coin.

Jay Hays
Chairman, PX Committee

R&R Australia Night



Pictured here with daughter and son-in-law, CSM Bob Ohmes does it again, this time as a "Swagman" on R&R Australia night at the Reunion.

2009 - 2010 Scholarship Award



Scholarship Awards Co-Chairman Buck Sorem, CSM Ohmes and

Ms Helen Ohmes

The 281st AHC Association is pleased to announce that Ms. Helen Ohmes, granddaughter of Command Sergeant Major Bob Ohmes and his charming wife Bonnie, has been selected as the 2009/10 Scholarship award winner, Helen carried a 4.0 GPA during high school and has been accepted as a pre-medical student at Ave Maria University in Texas.

Continuing scholarship awards were also made to our three students that will be going back to school. Jessica and Jeremiah Barker earned GPA averages OF 3.68 and Elena Casey earned a GPA average of 4.0 in her first year of college. Each of the three continuing students is returning to collage this year.

Now is the time to get the student in your family working on his or her application for scholarship assistance for next year. For applications or information call or email the scholarship board secretary at 410-562-6791 or at intruder06@comcast.net.

Intruder of the Year

2009-2010

Don Torrini



Fred Mentzer – Ken Smith – Don Torrini – Jim “Mom” Torbert

NOTES & COMMENTS

From Past Prez Jay Hays.....

On Saturday, Nov 7, 2009 the Scottish Rite Valley of Youngstown, OH is having a Veteran Recognition Night. The dinner will be at 6pm with seating for 225 people. The program will follow at 7pm with seating for 400. Tom Ross, author of "Privileges of War", Honorary 281st AHC Association member, and guest speaker at our 2006 reunion will be the featured speaker. Tom would like as many 281st personnel as possible to be there. Norm Kaufman and I will be there with our spouses. I have 25 tickets for the 281st members and their spouse or guest. 20% of the tickets have already been purchased and the event has yet to be announced to either Scottish Rite body or the general public. The local news media, radio and TV will be promoting this and possibly a live talk show with Tom prior to Nov 7th. There will also be two World War II Pearl Harbor survivors present.

The meal for veterans is free, spouses and guests will be \$10. There is no charge for the program itself. Copies of 'Privileges of War' will be available for sale and Tom has agreed to make himself available for signatures.

We expect this event to sell out, so those that have an interest in attending please contact me ASAP, so that I can reserve your tickets.

Jay Hays

Tel: 330-392-2278

jhays@haysenterprises.com

Some post reunion "thoughts" from Jack Interstein (Opns 1969-71).....

Reunion thoughts, suggestions and complaints from the "peanut gallery!"

1. Please keep your 281st hats and reunion ID on Sunday, especially at the airport, on the way home! Hate to talk to someone I just met or know from previous reunions but can't remember the name.
2. Speaking purely as a "New Yawker," the hotel staff are too damn nice! They actually had the shuttle bus to the airport come back to pick me up, after I had just missed it.
3. Despite all the brass** attending, always glad to see Col Mayhew in the "background."
4. Winner of some type of contest prior to luncheon or dinner, should win the right of his table to eat first. No disrespect to the koala!
5. Table with BP, should eat last. He isnt hungry anyway.
6. I never feel taller or prouder than when I am amongst my Intruder brethren.
7. When is Norm finally going to write that best seller? A few title suggestions such as "Rockets from the Righteous," "Mini-Guns for Moses," "Heaven From Above," "Prepping the Eternal LZ" and of course "Seeing the Light, Fire Team!"
8. While attending reunions, I often remember the words spoken by Frederick March, in "The Bridges at Toko Ri" as the admiral, looking out over the windswept carrier deck, receiving confirmation that his "boy" would not be returning from a mission; "Where do we get such men?"
9. Any further organizational meetings involving computer technology should be split into 3 groups; beginners, advanced and those that don't give a hoot!
10. Did I get older or did Bob Ohmes get younger?
11. Where did all the 281st HHC and 10th CAB OPNS personnel disappear to?
12. JK sorely missed presence at reunion. Just ask the bar tenders!
13. Loved those leather 281st reunion ID tags from a few years ago. Anybody have any push with Coach?
14. Young Jeff Murray...young Phil Simms...brothers?
15. Looking forward to Fayetteville! Thx Ken and Walt and others for getting it done.
16. A really big thx and well done for Jerry Stansfield for all those pictures taken at the reunion. Perhaps next reunion, we could get BP to take the pictures (remember, he is not hungry) and let Jerry eat (too damn thin to be a current Intruder).
17. New attendees I would like to see at next reunion... Admiral Boyington, David Dean and Ron Lesonik.

18. Another line from " the bridges at Toko Ri" in reference to Korean conflict but even more appropriate for Vietnam war..."It's the wrong war, in the wrong place, at the wrong time, but it's the war we've got."

Email from MG Ben Harrison, former CO 10thCAB, reunion comments to Jack Mayhew

Hi Jack,

Thanks for the reunion. It was expertly planned, professionally executed and most enjoyable. I personally greatly appreciate the extra effort and expense provided by the Intruders. There was just enough formality to make it dignified.

Carolyn especially appreciated the Red Rose in the special container--greatly beats a corsage. We are amazed that the rose still looks fresh. She has added a few drops of water each day. Where did you get those containers?

Fred Spaulding will be checking out the Crowne Plaza for a possible location for our Ripcord (my 3rd Bde, 101st 1970) reunion in Oct a few years out.

Thanks to you and all the Intruders very much, and please pass my special thanks to Jay Hayes, Don Torrini, Jim Torbert, Paul Malaedy, Ken Smith and Gary Stagman.

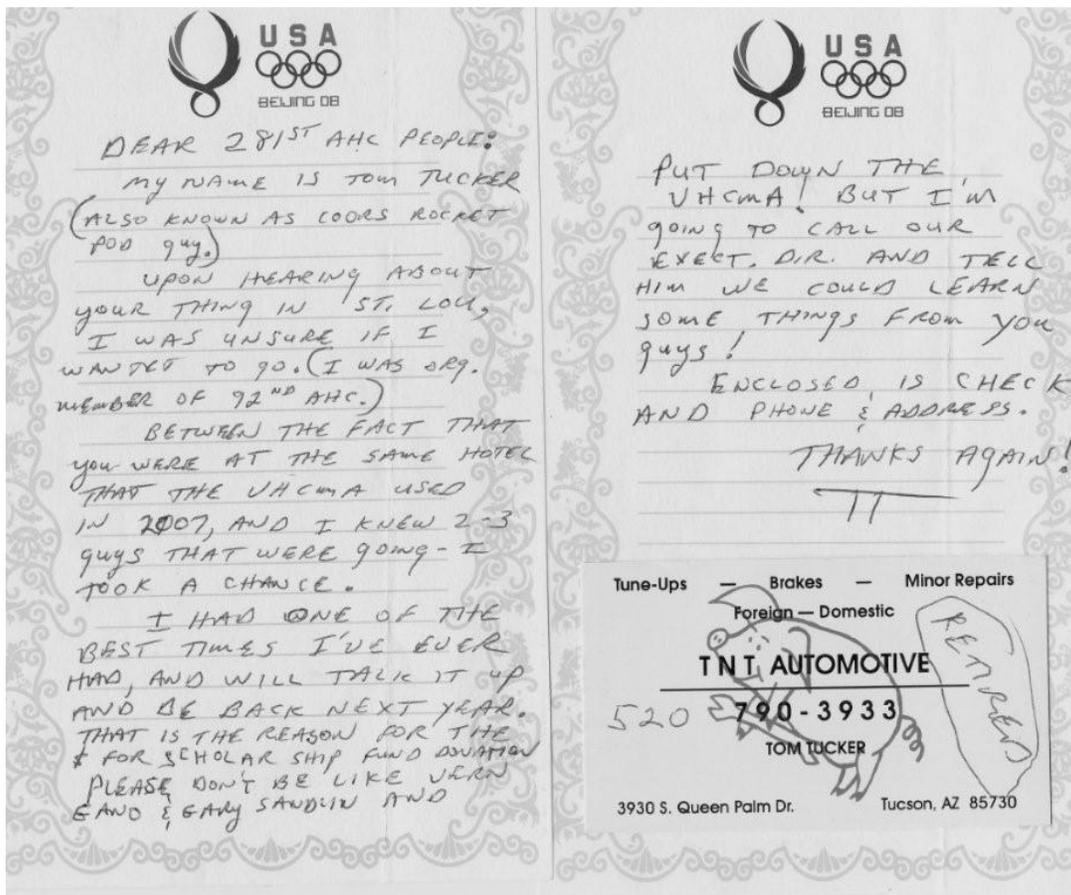
Looking forward to next year.

Ben L. Harrison

221 E. 21st Ave, Belton, TX 76513 Tel: 254 939 0207

Note from Jack Mayhew.....

Here is a great letter from a non 281st guy with a check for \$100 for the scholarship fund. This says volumes as to the kind of association that you guys have built and support on a daily basis. Both of the Generals that attended the reunion have gone out of their way to also comment on the closeness and friendships that were obvious at the reunion. It is an honor and a pleasure to be a member of your organization. - Jack Mayhew



This made the rounds on the 281st HQ chat net last August. Posted by Bob Mitchell....

From: Bob Mitchell <bob.mitchell@mitchellsbodyshop.com>
Subject: Seeking Wolf Pack Pilot
Date: Monday, August 24, 2009

During the period of 4 March 1968 through 4 April 1968, the 281st supported B-52 Project Delta in Operation Samuri IV. The AO was the Ashau Valley and points beyond.

Tom Humphus was the US Advisor to the ARVN Ranger Battalion attached to B-52. He was on an operation with two Ranger Companies in the Valley. One company was on one side of a dirt road and the other company on the other side. There was an NVA Squad between the two companies. Neither company could engage the enemy due to the fact that the NVA was between them. Tom could not get the Ranger Company Commander to move from his location to flank the enemy, so he called on Wolf Pack.

His question to the Wolf Pack pilot in the Hog Frog was, "Can you paint a stripe down the middle of this road with the 40mm"? After the pilot questioned him about his and other friendly positions he replied in the affirmative and proceeded to place the 40mm right along the center line of the road wiping out the entire NVA Squad and saving the day for Tom Humphus and his Rangers.

The rub here is that an ARVN Ranger 1LT has remembered this story in a different manner, alleging that Wolf Pack fire injured several ARVN and killed two US troops. Tom is pretty upset about this story that is posted on the ARVN Ranger Website and wants to correct this erroneous account of the action that day.

Tom would love to know who the pilot was and promises to buy him a drink and kiss him in his ear. If anyone remembers this mission or has knowledge of it, please contact me by return email and I will get you hooked up with Tom. - Bob Mitchell

Follow up.....

Well, we may have this mystery solved. Doyle Creed and Dan DiGenova were the Crewchief and Door Gunner for the Hog-Frog during that time frame. Doyle says he remembers shooting up the convoy which happened after the 40mm on the NVA Squad according to Tom Humphus. Doyle also says Joe Anderson would have been the AC, but could not remember your name, Jim Fisher. He did remember your last name started with an "F." Doyle also said you guys scared the pee out of he and Dan DiGenova when you fired off the last pair of rockets, something about moving everything around on the inside of the aircraft to change the CG a little to get a better angle.

Tom told me that he remembered the convoy because he had to go in on the ground the next day and do the BDA on the trucks. He said it was a hornet's nest.

Joe and Jim would you guys please contact Tom Humphus. He is a great guy and loves the 281st. His contact info is: Thomas O. Humphus, 6328 Adams Park Drive, Columbus. GA 31909-3528. Tel: 706-321-1766

Email: THumphus@aol.com

I received this bit of email last June. Thought it would be of interest in the NL. - Editor....

From: Lundquist, Pat [mailto:pat.lundquist@lmco.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2009

I just had a copy of your newsletter forwarded to me. When I first got in country in 1970 I may have flown on one of your birds in transit from Long Binh to Nha Trang or from Nha Trang to Dong Ba Thin where I caught my flight out to Ban Me Thuot to serve in the 155th AHC until they stood down.

Something in your newsletter caught my attention. We had been working around the clock repairing damage from flights that may or may not have been over the fence plus some incoming mortar rounds when we were told a famous actress, Martha Raye, would be coming out to visit us. Most of us had never heard of Martha Raye and didn't want to go. We just wanted to hit the rack. Being a newbie I was ordered to go to our outdoor movie area. There were about six or seven of us there. One guy had a Super 8 movie camera, he was the only one who knew who she was. A jeep flew up and slid to a stop and two Special Forces guys plus a loud woman in camouflage fatigues with bright red lipstick jumped out. She cracked a few jokes, some of them at the Special Forces guy's expense about playing cards. One of the

guys grinned and said they'd learned not to play cards with her. She realized we were a tough crowd and noticing our fatigue cracked a couple more jokes, told us to go get some shuteye then jumped into the jeep and off they went.

Years later while watching a W.C. Fields movie on late night TV a loudmouth actress started yelling WAAAAAAH! Suddenly the light came on, I dope slapped my forehead and shouted, "Holy Shit! That's the woman who came out to visit us!" It was only then that I appreciated that woman who had the guts to come visit us out in the middle of nowhere.

Pat Lundquist
Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company

From the Editor....

As you can readily tell by the preceding, this year's reunion was an outstanding event. There were many moments of significance especially on Friday and Saturday evenings. In addition to the Scholarship and IOTY awards, your Association recognized Mrs Shirley Wheeler, Managing Director St Louis Airport Plaza Hotel (Shirley was awarded an Honorary Membership); Patrick McGlasson, Director of Catering, for his always cheerful and unfaltering support; and our own Bill Purdy for faithful attendance.



Jay Hays-Shirley Wheeler- Mom Torbert Patrick McGlasson and Fred Lewis



Bill Purdy and Fred Mentzer

Shirley is shown with the Certificate of Honorary Membership. Patrick received a signed and framed Guide-On. It is of note that the frame and elaborate glasswork was crafted by Fred Lewis. Fred has prepared similar beautifully made presentations in the past, at little or no cost to the Association. Bill received a certificate recognizing his attending all the previous reunions. Usually on his trusty Hog.

So that's it for this newsletter of Fall 2009. As always, I want to remind you that this is YOUR newsletter. Send me your input, comments and criticisms. I hope to have the Winter edition reporting on the Monument Dedication published prior to Xmas, and, speaking of the ceremony, here is the last and latest...

From Jim Baker....

Monument Dedication Ceremony

The dedication ceremony for the Monument signifying our unit as "The First U S Army Special Operations Helicopter Company" is set to take place at the Airborne & Special Operations Museum (ASOM) in Fayetteville, NC at 5:00 PM on Saturday, October 17, 2009.

The ceremony will last from 5:00 till approximately 6:00. There will then be a private dinner reception in the lobby of the ASOM starting at 6:00 till approximately 7:00. The museum, which closes to the public at 5:00, will then be open for the exclusive use of the 281st until the last person leaves.

This occasion is an important event and, our ceremony will be a dignified one including the presentation of the colors by a local Army unit, and featuring several guest speakers. The speakers are Command Sgt. Major (retired) Don Taylor, who was a member of Project Delta, Mr. Tom Ross, a former Special Forces Officer and the author of the book "Privileges of War" which features the 281st, and Dr. Karen Heintz-Forcht, the widow of Ned Heintz, a 281st pilot. The dress for the festivities will be coat and tie or your dress blues if you have them.

A block of rooms for over night accommodations has been set up with a group rate for attendees. The location is the Holiday Inn Bordeaux, (800) 325-0211 or (910) 323-0111. When you call, give the group name "The 281st AHC Association" or use the code "AHC" to get the group rate. The rate is \$82.00 per night plus 13% tax. Cut off date for this rate is September 16, but we are trying to get that extended.

For those who arrive Friday or early Saturday, we are working on other group activities for Saturday morning and early afternoon. These activities may include tours to Ft. Bragg to the Special Forces Museum, or possibility to Simmons Army Airfield to view some of the current aircraft on base (unless they are all deployed overseas). None of these activities has been finalized yet, but we plan to have some activities of interest arranged for you during the day.

This is both an honor for our Association and for every one of you who ever served in the 281st or related units. We hope to see as many of you as can make it in Fayetteville on the 17th.

Jim Baker
Chairman
Monument Dedication Committee

"Sure the LZ is secure, I'm whispering because I have a cold. Trust me."

281ST AHC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Established 4 July 1999



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Vice President
Ken Smith
Secretary
Jeff Murray
Treasurer
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Senior Member@Large
Ed Hass
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Frank Becker
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