



The Straphanger Gazette



Volume 7 Issue 4

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“Aerial Rocket Artillery”....when called on by those who were in danger, our units were there laying it on the line.

We were proud of our Aerial Rocket Artillery Team then and still proud of it now.

The Straphanger Gazette is a quarterly publication of the Aerial Rocket Artillery Association. Issues will be published on or about the 1st of January, April, July and October. Members who have e-mail will receive a copy as an pdf.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ARA FIFTY YEARS AND STILL THE BEST



President's Corner

COLUMBUS—HERE WE COME

Make your reservations, send in your registration, and pack your bags for the 18th annual reunion in Columbus, Georgia, 6-10 May 2015 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of 2/20th ARA and 1st Cavalry Division deployment to Vietnam. A lot of work and planning by Jesse/ Gloria Hobby and Bruce/ Patti Wilder has gone into making this an event which I believe you will certainly enjoy. Reservations can be made for the Hilton Garden Inn, 1500 Bradley Lakes Blvd, Columbus, Ga. 31904 by calling 706-660-1000 or by accessing their website at www.columbus.gardeninn.com. Be sure to use the group code “ARAA” when making reservations to insure that you receive the group rates. More information on planned activities can be found in the January issue of the Straphanger Gazette. Be sure to bring your old pictures, slides, newspaper articles, and recordings of missions for others in the group to enjoy. Also, we can all laugh at how young and slender we were in our early days.

Last week, 7 March, I tracked down a former platoon member who I last saw in 1969. I gave him a call and told him about the association and the upcoming reunion. He indicated that he may join the association and may be able to join us in Columbus. I hope he can make it. I encourage each of you to reach out to someone in your past, and ask them to join us. If you have a name for a possible contact, but, no other information, contact Jesse Hobby or me, as we may have information on the individual in the data base.

Remember, annual dues are payable in January of each year. If you have a change of phone number, address or e-mail address, please, provide us with that information.

I am pleased to say that we have had five former members of 4/77th renew their membership and four new members from 4/77th join our ranks, with two of the four signing up for life membership. Thanks to all of you.

Keep the greasy side down
ARA 6

REUNION NEWS YOU CAN USE

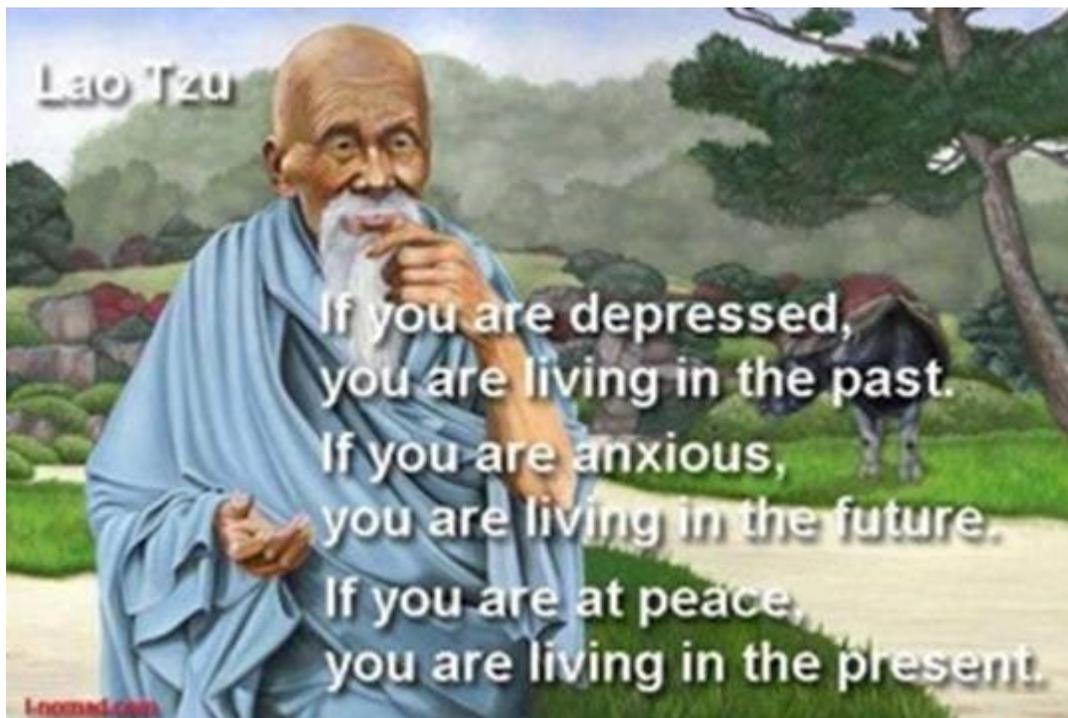
As of March 29 the following members of the Association are signed up to attend the 18th Annual Reunion and are listed in the order that registrations were received.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Rodger McAlister - A/2/20 | Bruce Wilder – A/2/20 |
| Huey M. O'Dell, Jr. – B/2/20 | Calvin W. Hyatt – HB/2/20 |
| Larry Mobley – B/2/20 | John Nilles – B/2/20 |
| Johnny Grice – B/2/20 | Ed Miller – C/2/20 & C/4/77 |
| Michael O'Keefe – A/B/2/20 & F/79 | Jerry Sommers – B/2/20 |
| Jesse Hobby – A/3/377 & A/2/20 | Alan Klinker – A/2/20 |
| Glenn Brown – A/C/2/20 | Tilman flowers |
| Gary White – B/2/20 | Claude Gomez – C/2/20 |
| Gerald Hipp – A/2/20 | Dennis Martinez – F/79 |
| Lynn McKinnie – B/2/20 | Herb Hirst – A/2/20 |
| Asa Talbot – HHB/2/20 | Dee Rounkles – B/2/20 |
| Ray Hatfield – A/B/2/20 | Jim Giles – B/2/20 |
| Dave Borgeson – A/2/20 | Harold Cladwell – A/B/2/20 |
| Richard Tokar – HB/2/20 | Wallace Titchenell – B/2/20 |
| George Wachs – C/3/377 & C/2/20 | Joe Pullano – HHB/3/377 & A/2/20 |
| James Flemming – A/3/377 & A/2/20 | Jule Szabo – F/79 |

Last check with the hotel indicated that we had people registered there that had not registered for the reunion and there are still some people registered for the reunion that do not have a hotel room yet. This about normal and we hope that everyone will get it done so that we can finalize head counts for scheduled events. Also need to remind everyone that the room hold and contract price is only good until April 15.

P.S. "Please bring your ARA lanyard if you still have it."

See You in Columbus!



A REMINDER THAT WE WERE SOLDIERS ONCE!

Contributed by Johnny Grice



[The reservation form for the 18th Reunion follows for those who have yet to sign up for this gala celebration.](#)

...And You Thought Army Helicopters Pilots Were Crazy...

During World War 2, like most red-blooded Americans, the Piper J-3 Cub was called to serve in the military. Classified as the L-4 by the Army but most commonly called "Grasshoppers," more than 4900 were used to help spot and correct the fall of artillery shells over enemy lines and otherwise help coordinate troops.

Well, it turned out that the Army needed these planes in some pretty inaccessible places, and that's where the Navy came in.



The problem

During the first part of World War 2, the Allies were on the defense, falling back and not able to use their local airfields to house and feed their planes of all types. Then in 1943, the tide soon turned as the Allied forces in the Pacific, starting at Guadalcanal, as well as in the European theater, with the invasion of Sicily, started taking the war to the Germans, Japanese, and Italians.

It was in these invasions, however, that the Army soon realized that their fleet of small, fixed wing L-4 Pipers and L-5 Stinsons were out of service until airfields could be captured or built in these new areas. This put the generals on the ground blind and reliant on long-range reconnaissance aircraft and Navy planes to provide their eyes.

However, there soon became a fix for this in place.

The solution

In late 1943, an Army Transportation Corps Captain by the name of [James H Brodie](#) was busy with a solution. Stationed in New Orleans and detailed to work supervising the loading of cargo ships with war materials, he sketched out a design for a boom and line system with a release that could hold a small aircraft fitted with a corresponding hook along the top of the wing roots.

With the boom, a small plane (Cub!) could be lifted into the air, then the engine worked up, and, when rpms were high enough to be reasonably sure of lift, released to fly away. To land, the system worked in reverse, capturing a passing hook-equipped Grasshopper by wire and allowing it to spin down.

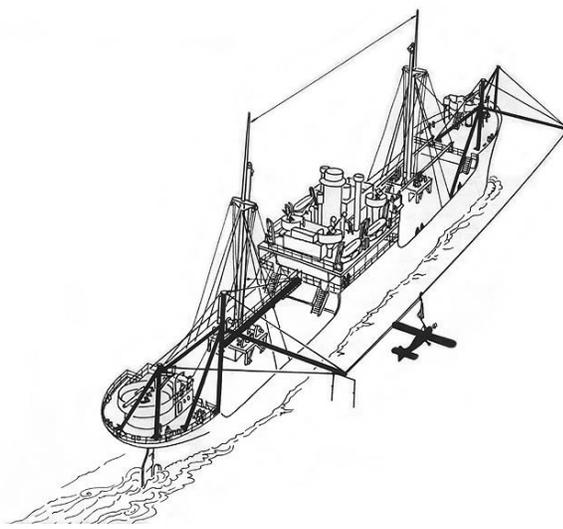
Of course, we all know that the Cub is a tail-dragger and to make that three point landing pilots pull the stick into their belly. However, doing this on the hook just north of that 38-ish knot stall speed took some getting used too. And if the stick was pressed forward at the stall, but not on the hook, then the pilot is going to eat dirt. So don't try this at home, kids!



In this picture, a Piper L-4, engine running, is ready for take-off while suspended from its cable.

Image Credit: National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution Image Number: SI83-16835

The Brodie System was invented during World War II. A pilot could take off or land with the aircraft hooked to a trolley that ran along a cable. On landing, the trolley provided braking for a smooth stop. The cable and trolley could be rigged on very short jungle fields, or even on ships. This picture shows how a light aircraft could take off or land on a ship using the cable. Image Credit: National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution NASM-9A001183



Use

The Navy had by early 1944, several hundred ships they classified as "Landing Ship, Tank." These purpose-built vessels were built to carry several hundred tons of cargo, as well as vehicles and up to 160 or so soldiers or marines into combat, landing them on the beach where giant doors would open up and spit them out on to the sand.

The Navy built so many of these ships, so fast, that they didn't even bother to name them although they were some 328-feet long and crewed by a 7 officers and 104 sailors. As such, they just had numbers, such as USS LST-16, etc.

Big blue had enough of these LSTs around that they agreed to allow the Army to use a few of them in 1944 as tiny aircraft carriers. While L4s and L5s had flown off big deck Navy carriers earlier in the war, the Navy really didn't like Army planes on their flattops, so the arrangement worked out nicely.

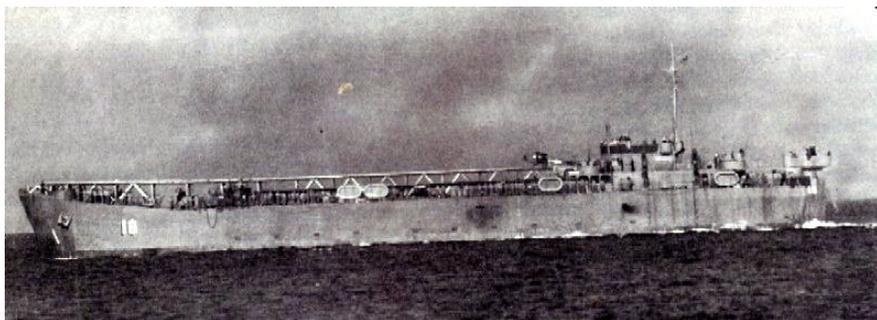
The idea would be that 6-10 small Cubs or Stinsons would be loaded on an LST, modified with a 220' x 16' flight deck. From the top of this tiny ersatz carrier, they would take to the sky over an invasion beach, scout out enemy locations, and call artillery strikes in on said bad guys. Once the GIs moved inland and acquired access to more real estate, especially airfields, the grasshoppers could leave their LST behind and relocate to drier accommodations.

One ship, LST-906 was ready for the invasion of southern France in September 1944, Operation Dragoon.



"Here is the photo of LST-906 with Capt. Alfred Dutch Schultz as pilot of 'Janey' the L4B Piper Cub artillery spotting plane. This information comes from Dutch Schultz's book Janey: A Little Plane in a Big War." Dutch was the Pilot of the plane that my Dad flew in and took pictures for the 3rd Division. I met him last year and he remembered my Dad from more than 55 years ago. The Seabees converted the LST-906 into a homemade aircraft carrier, which was used in the Invasion of Southern France at St. Tropez."

Image credit: Rich Heller, Webmaster The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, U.S. Army



USS LST-16 underway in the Mediterranean area. Note the USAAF L-4 Grasshopper on the 220ft x 16ft flight deck ready for take-off.

US Navy photo from Aircraft Carriers by Norman Polmar.

Although some 25 "L-Bird carriers" were to be created from the teaming of Navy LST's and Army L-4s and L-5s, just eight ships received the conversion. This included USS LST-16, USS LST-337, USS LST-386, USS LST-525, LST-776, and USS LST-906. Not all of these did so and not all of these used the Brodie system.



On some ships, the Grasshoppers would take off once and land ashore at a location that had been captured and designated. While this was not ideal, it did get the small planes ashore and ready to operate rather than land them in boxes and reassemble them on the ground.

One early ship, [USS LST-386](#), had only a small 210x10 deck with a 1-foot step-board around it and no Brodie system, and was the first of the "L-Bird carriers" to see operational service.

Moreover, we thank them for their sea-going service as the Army's unsung fleet of carrier-based airplanes.



USS LST-906, with US Army Air Force L-4 Grasshopper on her flight deck being prepared for take-off. Note additional L-4 type aircraft stowed alongside the deck. How would you like to take off on that flight deck? Talk about get it right the first time.

Image credit: US Army Signal Corps photo.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

At our Reunion in Branson and in subsequent conversations and emails the issue of BOD representation has come up and it has been proposed that the following Articles be amended. These proposals will be brought up at the next business meeting of the Association in 2015.

ARTICLE IV – Board of Directors

Section 1. The Association Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the BOD, shall be composed of the President, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor of the Association Newsletter (collectively “The Officers”). In addition to the Officers of the BOD there shall be one (1) OFF/WO representative and one (1) NCO/EM representative from each of the following: 3rd Battalion, 377th Artillery, 2nd Battalion, 20th Artillery, 4th Battalion, 77th Artillery and one (1) representative from “F” Battery, 79th Artillery serving on the BOD.

It is proposed that the first line of ARTICLE IV – Board of Directors be amended to read as follows: The Association Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the BOD, shall be composed of the President, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Web Site Manager, and the Editor of the Association Newsletter (Collectively “The Officers”).

Reason for proposed change is to include the Chaplain and Web Site Manager as members of the BOD.

It has also been proposed that the last line of this ARTICLE, which reads as follows - “In addition to the Officers of the BOD there shall be one (1) OFF/WO representative and one (1) NCO/EM representative from each of the following: 3rd Battalion, 377th Artillery, 2nd Battalion, 20th Artillery, 4th Battalion, 77th Artillery and one (1) representative from “F” Battery, 79th Artillery serving on the BOD” be deleted.

Reason for deletion is that while this seemed like a good idea when the By-Laws were re-written in 2008 and was actually put into practice for a short time it has proven to be impractical and leads to confusion in interpreting the composition of the BOD.

If/When approved these changes will also require that ARTICLE V – Officer, Duties, and Terms of Office be amended as follows:

Section 1. , which currently reads: “The Association Officers, also known collectively as the Board of Directors, are the President, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor, with their primary duties as indicated below” shall be amended to include the Chaplain and Web Site Manager and shall read as follows “The Association Officers, also known collectively as the Board of Directors are the President, Immediate Past President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Web Site Manager, and the Editor of the Association Newsletter”.

The sub-paragraphs of ARTICLE V, Section 1. Will also require amendment as follows:

Current sub-paragraph G shall become sub-paragraph I.

New sub-paragraph G. shall read: The Chaplain shall be responsible for all religious matters pertaining to the Association.

New sub-paragraph H shall read: The Web Site Manager shall be responsible for updating, posting and/or removing material and renewing web site with approval from BOD. The Web Site Manager may also act as Liaison Officer if/when the Association engages an external web site management agent.

New sub-paragraph I shall read: All Officers of the Association shall actively promote membership in the Association and maintain contact with members of the Association.

Reasons for change to this ARTICLE are to maintain compliance with ARTICLE IV Section 1 and to add job descriptions for the Chaplain and Web Site Manager and to maintain sub-paragraph order.

These changes will also require that ARTICLE VII – Elections be amended as follows:

Section 3. which reads: “Unit Representatives may be filled by elections from among and by the members in good standing or by volunteers” shall be deleted.

Ladies of the Association

Andy Rooney, 60 minutes correspondent once wrote:

As I grow in age, I value women over 40 most of all. Here are just a few reasons why: A woman over 40 will never wake you in the middle of the night and ask, "What are you thinking?" She doesn't care what you think. If a woman over 40 doesn't want to watch the game, she doesn't sit around whining about it. She does something she wants to do and it's usually more interesting. Women over 40 are dignified. They seldom have a screaming match with you at the opera or in the middle of an expensive restaurant. Of course, if you deserve it they won't hesitate to shoot you if they think they can get away with it. Older women are generous with praise, often undeserved. They know what it's like to be unappreciated. Women get psychic as they age. You never have to confess your sins to a woman over 40. Once you get past a wrinkle of two, a woman over 40 is far sexier than her younger counterpart. Older women are forthright and honest. They'll tell you right off if you are a jerk if you are acting like one. You don't ever have to wonder where you stand with her. Yes, we praise women over 40 for a multitude of reasons. Unfortunately, it's not reciprocal. For every stunning, smart, well-coiffed, hot woman over 40, there is a bald, paunchy relic in yellow pants making a fool of himself with some 22 year old waitress.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: THINGS TO DO TODAY

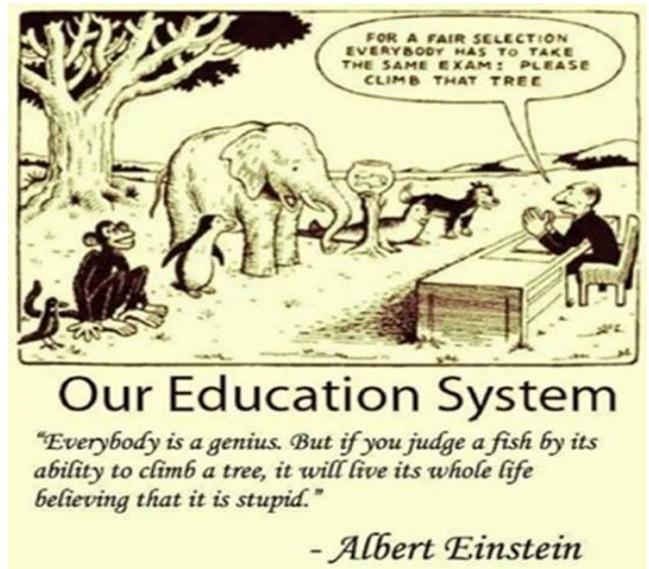
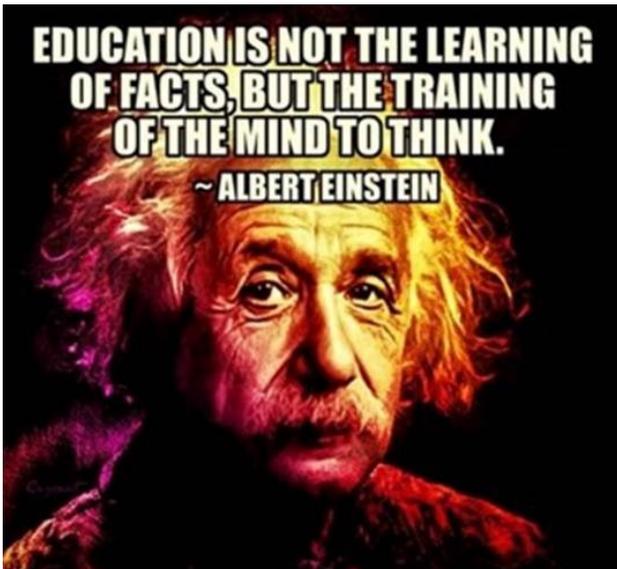
- Pay someone back for a favor owed.
- Run through a field that's just been mowed.
- Pick up a mess that's not your own
- Call someone lonely on the phone.
- Give someone a hug you haven't hugged in a while.
- And, remember God loves you. Remember and smile.

Regina
ARA Mistress

Email addresses for Ladies of the ARA Association

Baird, Marlene -- flytiger@cableone.net Borgeson, Pat -- pbogson@lalique.com or pborg12@yahoo.com Brown, Linda lindawbrown@juno.com Cooper, Roberta rangerover53@yahoo.com Dauley, Donna dnurdgd@comcast.net Doty, Maureen DotyMaureen@yahoo.com Fleming, Gloria --- gwhz@hotmail.com Giles, Rose --- r.c.giles41@gmail.com Gomez, Milly --- chcogomez@aol.com Grice, Kathy--- Kalgrice@gmail.com Hengeveld, Peggy --- awings72@verizon.net Hirst, Cindy --- hirst@q.com Hobby, Gloria gloriahobby@yahoo.com Klinker, Kay --- kayklinker@gmail.com Mahoney, Melba skyqueen1@slo.rr.com McAlister, Marilyn - 5starmcalister@att.net O'Dell, Kathy - i_am_kathy@hotmail.com O'Keefe, Maryetta --- maryetta4@cox.net Padilla, Mary Jane --- mary_jane_padilla@hotmail.com Pullano, Arlene --- joseph.pullano@att.net Quesada, Isabel-- isaubra@hotmail.com or sapriisa44@hotmail.com Retterath, Carol --- rranch@westriv.com Roberson, Linda -- snshinede@aol.com Sanchez, Susie -- sksdsigns1@verizon.net Szabo, Joan --- sailboatjs1@verizon.net Talbot, Jean --- asatalbot@juno.com Toepel, Mildred -- mbtoepel@msn.com Tokar, Barbara -- BarbTokar@SBC.Global.net Voeltz, Jean -- cav2_20th@hotmail.com Wilder, Patti -- pattenmom05@yahoo.com Williams, Dale -- barbierule@aol.com Wilson, Ellie -- geneandellie@comcast.net
Peg Zolonowski pegZ48@aol.com

WISDOM FROM LARRY



Thought you might want to know.... The aviation units were the sole combat element of the United States Army that didn't come apart under the stress of the war in Vietnam. Nearly 6,000 helicopter pilots and crewmembers perished, but the Army airmen never cracked. Whether it was the oneness of man and the acrobatic flying machine, whether it was the equally shared risk of officer pilot and enlisted crew member, whatever the reason, the men of the helicopters kept their discipline and their spirit.
Quote from Neil Sheehan in his book "The Bright Shining Lie"

Some thoughts on Chris Kyle and "The American Sniper"

All this is true. For your info the movie "American Sniper" directed by Clint Eastwood premiered on January 16, 2015. Everyone except anyone connected to the Obama administration should see it.

TEXAS* *GOODBYE

This is why America will remain strong. We take care of our own as well as others who may not deserve taking care of. I just wanted to share with you all that out of a horrible tragedy we were blessed by so many people.

Chris Kyle was Derek's teammate through 10 years of training and battle. They both suffer/suffered from PTSD to some extent and took great care of each other because of it.

2006 in Ramadi was horrible for young men that never had any more aggressive physical contact with another human than on a Texas football field.

They lost many friends. Chris became the armed services number #1 sniper of all time. Not something he was happy about, other than the fact that in so doing, he saved a lot of American lives.

Three years ago, his wife Taya asked him to leave the SEAL teams as he had a huge bounty on his head by Al Qaeda. He did and wrote the book "The American Sniper." 100% of the proceeds from the book went to two of the SEAL families who had lost their sons in Iraq.

That was the kind of guy Chris was. He formed a company in Dallas to train military, police and I think firemen as far as protecting themselves in difficult situations. He also formed a foundation to work with military people suffering from PTSD. Chris was a giver not a taker.

He, along with a friend and neighbor, Chad Littlefield, were murdered trying to help a young man that had served six months in Iraq and claimed to have PTSD.

Now I need to tell you about all of the blessings.

Southwest Airlines flew in any SEAL and their family from any airport they flew into ...free of charge.

The employees donated buddy passes and one lady worked for four days without much of a break to see that it happened.

Volunteers were at both airports in Dallas to drive them to the hotel. The Marriott Hotel reduced their rates to \$45 a night and cleared the hotel for only SEALs and family.

The Midlothian, TX Police Department paid the \$45 a night for each room.

I would guess there were about 200 people staying at the hotel, 100 of them were SEALs. Two large buses were chartered (an unknown donor paid the bill) to transport people to the different events and they also had a few rental cars (donated). The police and secret service were on duty 24 hours during the stay at our hotel.

At the Kyle house, the Texas DPS parked a large motor home in front to block the view from reporters. It remained there the entire five days for the SEALs to congregate in and all to use the restroom so as not to have to go in the house. Taya, their two small children and both sets of parents were staying in the home.

Only a hand full of SEALs went into the home as they had different duties and meetings were held sometimes on a hourly basis. It was a huge coordination of many different events and security. Derek was assigned to be a Pall Bearer, to escort Chris' body when it was transferred from the Midlothian Funeral Home to the Arlington Funeral Home, and to be with Taya. A tough job.

Taya seldom came out of her bedroom. The house was full with people from the church and other family members that would come each day to help. I spent one morning in a bedroom with Chris' mom and the next morning with Chad Littlefield's parents (the other man murdered with Chris). A tough job.

George W Bush and his wife Laura met and talked to everyone on the Seal Team one on one. They went behind closed doors with Taya for quite a while. They had prayer with us all. You can tell when people were sincere and caring

Nolan Ryan sent his cooking team, a huge grill and lots of steaks, chicken and hamburgers. They set up in the front yard and fed people all day long including the 200 SEALs and their families. The next day a local BBQ restaurant set up a buffet in front of the house and fed all once again. Food was plentiful and all were taken care of. The family's church kept those inside the house well fed.

Jerry Jones, the man everyone loves to hate, was a rock star. He made sure that we all were taken care of. His wife and he were just making sure everyone was taken care of. Class... He donated the use of Cowboy Stadium for the services as it was determined that so many wanted to attend.

The charter buses transported us to the stadium on Monday at 10:30 am. Every car, bus, motorcycle was searched with bomb dogs and police. I am not sure if kooks were making threats trying to make a name for themselves or if so many SEALs in one place was a security risk, I don't know. We willingly obliged. No purses went into the stadium!

We were taken to The Legends room high up and a large buffet was available. That was for about 300 people. We were growing. A Medal of Honor recipient was there, lots of secret service and police and Sarah Palin and her husband. She looked nice, this was a very formal military service.

The service started at 1:00 pm and when we were escorted onto the field I was shocked. We heard that about 10,000 people had come to attend also. They were seated in the stadium seats behind us. It was a beautiful and emotional service. The Bagpipe and drum corps were wonderful and the Texas A&M men's choir stood through the entire service and sang right at the end. We were all in tears.

The next day was the 200-mile procession from Midlothian, TX to Austin for burial. It was a cold, drizzly, windy day, but the people were out. We had dozens of police motorcycles riders, freedom riders, five chartered buses and lots of cars. You had to have a pass to be in the procession and still it was huge. Two helicopters circled the procession with snipers sitting out the side door for protection. It was the longest funeral procession ever in the

state of Texas. People were everywhere. The entire route was shut down ahead of us, the people were lined up on the side of the road the entire way. Firemen were down on one knee, police officers were holding their hats over their hearts, children waving flags, veterans saluting as we went by. Every bridge had fire trucks with large flags displayed from their tall ladders, people all along the entire 200 miles were standing in the cold weather. It was so heartwarming. Taya rode in the hearse with Chris' body so Derek rode the route with us. I was so grateful to have that time with him.

The service was at Texas National Cemetery. Very few are buried there and you have to apply to get in. It is like people from the Civil War, Medal of Honor winners, a few from the Alamo and all the historical people of Texas. It was a nice service and the Freedom Riders surrounded the outside of the entire cemetery to keep the crazy church people from Kansas that protest at military funerals away from us.

Each SEAL put his Trident (metal SEAL badge) on the top of Chris' casket, one at a time. A lot hit it in with one blow. Derek was the only one to take four taps to put his in and it was almost like he was caressing it as he did it. Another tearful moment.

After the service Governor Rick Perry and his wife, Anita, invited us to the governor's mansion. She stood at the door, greeted each of us individually, and gave each of the SEALs a coin of Texas. She was a sincere, compassionate, and gracious hostess. We were able to tour the ground floor and then went into the garden for beverages and BBQ. So many of the Seal team guys said that after they get out they are moving to Texas. They remarked that they had never felt so much love and hospitality.

The charter buses then took the guys to the airport to catch their returning flights. Derek just now called and after a 20 hours flight he is back in his spot, in a dangerous land on the other side of the world, protecting America.

We just wanted to share with you, the events of a quite emotional, but blessed week.

Punch-line:

To this day, no one in the White House has ever acknowledged Chris Kyle.

*However, the President can call some sport person and congratulate him on announcing to the world that he is gay? What the hell is happening to our society, our honor and our pride?? *

Michael B. Burrow

Contributed by Jesse Hobby.

Editor's Note: I am now in the process of reading Chris Kyle's autobiography "An American Sniper ". It is raw recital of the life of an American fighting man; unpolished and direct. He is a combat hardened, highly trained, SEAL and reminiscent to me of the hundreds of young men and women who I have known in thirty years of soldiering. He makes no apologies for doing what he did, at the same time he is not neither heartless not proud of the cost that war levied on him and thousands like him. At the bottom line he is an American, a patriot, a hero and what makes our nation free for all regardless of their political position. Like so many of our friends, fellow veterans and all those who are currently guarding our liberties he is an American Fighting Man, doing his duty to God and Country. He died doing what he lived to do, May he finds rest in the arms of a loving Savior who will say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter now into the reward that has been prepared for you from the foundations of the world".



Chaplain's Corner

Checking into the Net

It is strange how one remembers call signs. While in ARA in Vietnam we flew mortar patrol from late evening until daylight. On several occasions I had to check into the net with the artillery operations center and the call sign was Hard Anvil 32. I heard the same voice at least once a week for the tour in 1965-66. I never met the man on the other side of the radio. My next assignment was in the 2nd Avn Det at USMA, West Point. I joined the unit's bowling team and bowled once each month. The team on the lane to the left of us was from one of the departments in the school and I knew the officers by sight, but not by name. Later, when I started back to my seat after my second ball, I heard the voice of the bowler to my left who had just guttered the ball say, "I can't believe it!" I had heard that same voice say that same phrase and it was the voice of Hard Anvil 32 from Vietnam. I turned to him and said, "Hard Anvil 32," and he immediately replied, "Armed Falcon 28 Delta!" There must have been six months since we had heard each other's voice, yet we knew it instantly!

This story reminds me of an old southern gospel song we sang as kids in the hills of Kentucky, "Turn your Radio On," written in 1937 by Albert E. Brumley. One line reminds us to "Get in touch with God and listen to the Master's radio." What I found in this song was that God was always speaking to me, all I had to do was check into the net by turning on the radio. I can recognize God's voice and he certainly can recognize mine (even in a bowling alley after months, or sometimes years of silence).

To the soldier on the ground, it was comforting to hear a familiar voice when help was needed. It is the same with us. When we need help, it is always comforting to hear God's voice speaking to us through the spoken word in church, a song, or a prayer.

Turn Your Radio On!

Peace,
Bruce Wilder
Chaplain

FINAL FLIGHT

Charles D. Dorr, 74, died, December 13, 2014 at Emory L. Bennett Memorial Veterans Nursing Home, Daytona Beach, Florida. Services of Remembrance were held at a later date in Washington D.C. at the Arlington National Cemetery.

Charles was born March 30, 1940 in Cambridge, New York to Hugh and Avis (Dillant) Dorr. Charles was a retired military pilot in the United States Army, where he earned the rank of Lt. Colonel. Charles was a veteran of the Vietnam War, where he earned several medals, including the Silver Star and Bronze Star (V). And was an alumnus of Norwich University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering and a Masters degree in Business Administration.

After his military career, Charles went on to work for General Electric and was the proud owner of The Hotdog Express, a beach business. Besides hard work, Charles enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, hunting, fishing, and traveling the world.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Phyllis C. Dorr, by daughters, Shawna Brown, of Chelmsford, MA and Deidre Spangler, of Ormond Beach, FL, three grandchildren, and a sister, Barbara Filkins of Hoosick Falls, NY. His parents preceded Charles in death.

Memorial contributions may be made in Charles' memory to the Wounded Warrior Project at www.woundedwarriorproject.org.



AERIAL ROCKET ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

Membership Application

This form may be used for Applying for New Membership or for Renewing Existing Membership. Please circle that which is appropriate.

Name _____ Wife's Name _____

Rank _____ Membership Number _____
(At time of service in ARA) (If known)

Retired Rank (if applicable) _____ Service Number _____

List all ARA Units that you served in.

| <u>Battery/Battalion</u> | <u>Dates of Service</u> | <u>Call Sign</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| _____ | From mo/yr to mo/yr | _____ |
| _____ | From mo/yr to mo/yr | _____ |

Current Address: _____
Street or PO Box
City State Zip Code

Phone: _____
Home Work (if okay) Cell

E-Mail Address: _____

Association membership is on an annual basis (unless member opts for life membership) running from January 1 to December 31 and is past due on January 31.

Annual dues are **\$25.00** regardless of when submitting.

Life membership (if paid in full) is **\$250.00**. Life membership may also be paid in **\$50.00** installments on a quarterly basis until paid in full.

Total amount enclosed _____ (Please indicate in remarks section of check whether this is Initial Membership, Membership Renewal, Life Membership in full, Life Membership payment #.

Mail completed application to: Aerial Rocket Artillery Association
C/O Jule Szabo
5118 Brentwood Farm Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

For Office Use Only
Check # _____
Check Date _____
Amount _____
Date Rcvd _____

Web address – www.araassociation.com