

**7th Armored
Squadron**

**1st Air
Cavalry**

HAWK TALK

Winter 1996

Newsletter Editor: Mike O'Reilly

CHRISTMAS TIME IN VIETNAM
D TROOP
1968



Happy Holidays!

Fellow Blackhawks:

By the time you receive this newsletter it will be 1997, So if there is a "96" above your name on your mailing label your dues are **overdue**. We now have 850 names on our Roster and less than 400 have paid their dues. I recently sent out 492 postcards to people who are several years behind or have never paid at all, lets hope some of them respond. When you send in yours dues you will receive an up to date Roster and membership card.

Reunion "97" July 31-August 3 in Louisville, Kentucky

The 1997 reunion will be the 30th Anniversary of our activation for service in RVN and we are expecting a very large turn out for this reunion. As usual we will have a early-bird reception, banquet and so far one tour has been decided on, a Riverboat Cruise. It will either be a lunch or dinner cruise. We will also take a tour of Ft. Knox and hold a memorial service either at Ft. Knox or at the Banquet. Full details will be in the next newsletter.

I will be getting together with or discussing with other members what other activities we should have. If anyone has an idea please let me know.

We will be staying at the Holiday Inn Downtown, our room rate is \$69.00 per night double occupancy. This rate is good a week before and a week after the reunion. The cut-off date for this rate is July 17, 1997. After this date you will not receive this rate and might not get a room, so reserve early! Even if you are not sure you can make the reunion, you should reserve a room anyway. You can cancel up to 24 hours prior to your reservation date. At every reunion a handful of guys come solo, If you guys let me know that you are coming stag, I will put you in touch with each other and you can share a room. This will cut your cost in half. As always we will be having a Early-bird drawing, if you win your room at the hotel is free. However you must register with the hotel by May 15th to be in the drawing.

The Hotel's address and phone number are:

Holiday Inn Louisville Downtown
120 West Broadway
Louisville, KY 40202
1-800-626-1558

So pick up the phone and make your reservation! Make sure you tell them you will be attending the 7th Squadron/1st Cavalry Blackhawk reunion.

I will be spending January, February and March in Florida. My address there is: 109 Halfmoon Circle, D-3, Hypoluxo, Fl 33462. Phone number is 561-547-2756. My mail will be forwarded from New York, but if you want to get it to me quicker please send it to the Fl address.

After this reunion Pat and I are planning on doing a lot of traveling. This means the Association needs someone to take over the publishing of this newsletter. Anyone interested in doing this please let me know. Pat and I will give you all the help you need. There is probably a member of this Association who could do a better job. Pat and I wish everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year! Stay warm. (Ha-Ha)

Animo et Fide

Mike O'Reilly
C/67-68

Flash-Back

“Sandpipers” C Troop

Free 27 Prisoners

August 1968

The sighting of several bunkers and recently traveled trails by 1st LT Robert Hearing of Burlington, WI, an LOH pilot with the “Sandpipers”, “C” Troop, 7th Sqdn, 1st Air Cav, led to the freeing of twenty seven Vietnamese prisoners held by the Viet Cong. Under the direction of Major Albert Rodriguez of Douglas, AZ, Commanding Officer of the “Sandpipers” an air lift of a unit from the 407th “Mike Force”, was inserted southeast of the suspected VC basecamp.

Although the “Mike Force” met little opposition upon initial entrance into the complex, they soon found themselves pinned down by VC automatic weapons fire. A call was made for “Sandpiper” gunships and few moments lapsed before the aerial might of “Sandpiper” Troop was brought to bear. “Cobras” destroyed several bunkers, sending rockets right on target.

WO James Jiggins of South Lyon, MI spotted 3 VC north of the complex area and managed to annihilate one before he crawled into his bunker. Meanwhile WO William Lacasse of NYC, NY aircraft commander of the lead ship brought 3 UH-1H craft into the complex area to pick up a “Mike” blocking force. The blocking force was inserted north of the primary insurgent positions. Immediately the ground troops came upon a VC sign which translated read, “This is the way.” Following the trail they came upon 20 Vietnamese men handcuffed together. An airlift of the men to Moc Hoa was initiated promptly by WO Richard Melis of Garden City, NY. Five more prisoners were spotted by the C and C ship who then directed the ground elements to the area where another two were found bringing the total to twenty-seven. Two LOHs medivaced the personnel to Moc Hoa where they received immediate medical attention. With the weather deteriorating, visibility nearly zero, Major Rodriguez made the decision to regroup and move out.

The day was a complete success. Twenty-seven Vietnamese nationals freed, one who had been captured in July 1967, ten Viet Cong liquidated,

one light machine gun and one bolt action rifle captured, several sampans, four bunkers and six hooch’s destroyed, one of which was a claymore mine factory.

The “Sandpipers” lived up to their name, probing the area for their prey, fighting and destroying the enemy of South Vietnamese freedom

Editor’s note:

Robert H. Hearing was killed in action 8/19/68.

Letters to the Editor

Rob Nelson A/69-70 writes:

Sorry to have missed this reunion, but the summer months are our busiest of the year. I have made about 20 trips to Europe and back hauling tour groups. This L1011 will sure haul a lot of folks and fuel but I sure miss flying fling wing aircraft. What I wouldn’t give to strap a Cobra on again! Flew the first load of Ft. Hood troops over to the Mideast. Do not envy them at all but wish them the best of luck and a safe trip home.

Hope to see everyone at the next reunion if I can get away.

Wade Britt A/70 writes:

I am very sorry that I could not make the last reunion. Because I did not make it like I intended I am in arrears with my dues. I don’t have the last newsletter, so I am not sure where to send my dues to. Would you please accept my check and forward it to the proper person.

Even though I could not make it out west, I did attend a reunion with 3/17 Air Cav. I spent my second tour in Vietnam with them. They are also having a reunion in Ft. Knox next year. They normally hold their reunions on Labor Day weekend.

I wonder what the chances would be of coordinating several of the squadrons reunions together. I think several were formed about the same time and many early members trained together. Just a thought.

Well, I appreciate the efforts you guys put out to keep the association running.

Editor’s note:

Next years reunion is being held in Louisville the same time the 114th “Knights of the Air” is having their reunion. Some of the senior officers served

their second tours with the 7/1. I am trying to coordinate a joint tour of some kind with them.

Jim Jarrett HHT/C 69 writes:

Just a few lines to say hello and pay my dues. I was not in the squadron, when Nick Rowe was rescued but arrived the first week or so in January 69. Like, Jim Popplewell, I can not be absolutely sure, but I seem to recall that Major Dave Thompson, Dutchmaster 6, was flying C and C that day, not Bob Clover. Of course that rescue was the talk of the squadron for quite awhile and facts get confused after many re-tellings and this was almost thirty years ago. Sorry I missed the Vegas Reunion but I was at Freshman Orientation with my son at Auburn University. I hope to make Ft. Knox in 97. I will quit for now and get this in the mail. Keep up the good work, both of you,

Dick Slowik 22 TASS/68 writes:

Enjoyed reading your latest newsletter. In it, you asked about the helo rescue of General Fogleman. On the reverse of this letter is a Xerox copy of a page that appeared in the AIR FORCE Magazine in March 1995. When I saw it last year, I attempted to check it out as best as I could to determine whether or not a helo from Vinh Long unit was involved in the rescue. From what I was able to determine, the helo unit was from Soc Trang and he was taken to CaMau after rescue. Don't recall where I got that information, or even if it was accurate, but I will let you know when I do.

Second item is a copy of Vietnamese award orders that I came across recently. Made a copy for you when, after reading the latest newsletter, the name Curt Childree was mentioned therein. As you can see, the fifth name on the front of these orders is a William C. Childree. May or may not be your Curt. Guess because he flew a helo, they thought he was in the Air Force. Might not be so. The serial number has a couple of "1" in it that should be read as "1".

Apparently he had something to do with DELTA FALCON. The information contained in the write-up may be of some historical note and may be of interest to you and the Blackhawks. Then too, the other names may be of some Blackhawks as well. I can tell you that Billy Staton and Richard Crooks were navy guys. Not sure about

any of the other, but suspect they were all army guys. We didn't have SP4's in the Air Force. If this does any good, let me know. The other is about 10 pages long, and has the same first page as this one. If you think this is hard to read in spots, you ought to see the other. Always glad to help the Blackhawk Association. After all, I went to the same high school as Carl Hill did.

Editor's note:

George Young of the 114th ASC also believes General Fogleman's rescue was a Soc-Trang unit. Curt Childree that appears on those orders is the same Curt Childree mentioned in the last newsletter. Hey Curt, do you know anything about DELTA FALCON?

Larry Brown A/71-72 writes:

What's Up? I have been home from Vietnam for nearly 25 years and on exactly the 25th Anniversary of being shot down the first time as an Aeroscout, I get your mail. Ominous! Strange but I have only had contact with one person since Nam that I was with. Major Russell McCoy back in 1976, the pilot, who was shot 8 days later in my second shootdown. Please accept my membership into the Blackhawk Association. Send me a T-shirt and two Blackhawk patches. Totally amazing that you could find me as I have moved several times and try to keep to myself.

Editor's note:

I found Larry through a Social Security search. I apologize to Larry for the delay in sending him the T-shirt he ordered. I had to have more shirts made up.

Lew Jennings C/69-70 and his wife Anneke write:

Hola from Mexico again! I hope this finds you doing well and also hope you received our last letter from down this way! You get two letters back-back!! Please write when you get a chance and plan on joining us! Until then the h-hum trip drags on: Part 2.....

After out 10 day non-stop passage from San Diego, we spent the next two weeks at the beautiful Marina Vallarta exploring Puerto Vallarta by bus, taxi and foot and sailing Unicorn to many of the wonderful anchorage's around the southern side of Banderas Bay.

The Picturesque marina has all the amenities for cruisers. Concrete docks with potable water, 110 volt electricity and cable TV at each slip. Telmex telephones a few steps away to call home. Mail and fax services at the office. Fuel dock and haul out facilities next door. And a nice shopping center with a huge super market just a few blocks away.

Surrounded by condominiums complexes, restaurants and shops, the marina has a flavor of the Mediterranean with wide walkways and beautiful landscaping. In the evening its fun to walk along the promenade looking at all the boats in the marina, listening to soft Latino sounds and licking your favorite ice cream cone or just sitting at one of the outdoor cafes enjoy fish tacos and chilled cervezas.

The city of Puerto Vallarta is just a short bus (1.50 pesos) or taxi (15 pesos) ride away (exchange rate =7.3 pesos to one dollar). Both can be thrilling depending on the age, mood and aggressiveness of the drivers. The buses actually compete for passengers because the drivers get a percentage of the take. They drag race between stops to see who can get the next one first and therefore get the most passengers on board. A crazy system you have to experience.

Once downtown (El Centro) there are hundreds of restaurants, shops and sights to explore along the narrow cobblestones streets that parallel the beach and meander up the hills behind the city. There is a beautiful river walk along Rio Cuale where the pricy but spectacular open-air French restaurant Le Bistro is located. It is reported to have been a favorite of Hollywood mogul and director John Houston and there is a striking bronze statue of him just outside the restaurant. Our close friend and business partner Colin Wallace took a break from the hectic pace and cold weather in Seattle to join us in PV> We rented a chauffeured Chevy Suburban for a day and struck out to find Chico's Paradise; a jungle hideaway we have heard about for years from cruising friends.

The drive along the south coast was spectacular. We stopped on a cliff above Mismaloya beach where scenes from Night of the Iguana had been filmed by John Houston so long ago. It is still beautiful although crowded with luxury hotel accommodations. After the obligatory picture with a huge Iguana lizard draped across our shoulders, we jumped back in the Suburban and headed into the interior.

A short drive from Mismaloya through jungle covered mountains brought us to Chico's and a paradise it was. The combination restaurant and bar sits atop huge boulders carved from centuries of rushing, jade green river water cascading down from surroundings mountains. We had a great lunch and drinks under the huge palapa (cone shaped roof of tightly woven palm fronds) then explored the water falls and beautiful pool's at rivers edge where children started gathering around Anneke.

Anneke is totally fluent in Spanish having grown up in the Canary Islands. Quickly surrounded by local children beguiled by this beautiful gringo lady with blond hair and green eyes who spoke their native language so well, she carried on animated conversations with lots of smiles and laughter. Two delightful Indian girls adopted her and, with one on each hand, guided her safely across the boulder strewn path and through the shallowest pools while telling her the stories of their family. It was an enchanting moment.

Back to the city for more touring, shopping, eating and a visit to the Cathedral. I was anxious to take Unicorn out and explore the coast we glimpsed from our trip out to Chico's. We set sail the next morning.

First stop was just six miles south at Los Arcos (The Arches). This large rock formation with arches created by the sea is a favorite snorkeling and dive spot with the locals. We anchored close in the lee of the largest rock in a path of sand in twenty feet of water. In minutes we were in the water ready to start our snorkeling adventure when two large fins appeared about fifty feet away. Sharks! Back to the boat!

Safely aboard the Unicorn we continued to watch the two-feet high fins meander back and forth along the surf surging on the far side of the rock. First a dark fin, then a light fin about 10 feet away. I found it peculiar the fins would flop over before disappearing beneath the surface. What kind of sharks are they? Nobody would get in the water to check them out. The locals would later confirm it was a harmless, giant manta ray who has been a resident there for years.

We departed to find a quiet cove with no sharks. Just another mile or so south we turned into a small, deep secluded bay at Tomatlan. Wow! This looks like a dream come true. Beautiful water, steep jungle covered cliffs, a white sand beach with fresh water stream, small ramadas on shore serving fresh fish and cold drinks, and besides

local fishing pangas on the beach we are the only boat here!

All along this southern coast the mountains plunge into the sea with water depths of 300 feet or more very close to shore like Catalina or the Northwest. At Tomatlan we drove to within 100 feet of the shore, dropped and secured the stem anchor in 10 feet of water, and turning back to sea were in 150 feet before going three boat lengths. No wonder there were not any other boats here.

We let go 250 feet of chain on our 66 lb. Bruce bow anchor and slowly backed down while taking in the slack on the 45 lb. Danforth stem anchor. It set like a charm at about 90 feet. We really did not have enough scope out on the anchors but the cover was well protected with little swell and only slight breeze, so we jumped in and swam ashore.

There on the beach we enjoyed our first taste of whole fish barbecued on a stick over an open fire and served up with corn tortillas, refried beans and cold beer for less than five dollars. We had arrived!

It was so beautiful at Tomatlan we decided (contrary to John Rain's advice in Boating Guide to Mexico) to spend the night and get an early start to our next destination at Yelapa the next morning. I was not comfortable with our anchor situation so Robin, who is like a son and crewing with us for a while, shared anchor watches with me. The diurnal breeze started coming down the mountains after dark and by 0300 was blowing 20 knots across the beach when I assumed the watch. At 0630 the stern anchor finally let go and we swung out to 160 feet of water. John was right on about this being a day anchorage only but the Bruce held us steady. I let everyone sleep in another half hour before cranking up the Perkins to get us underway.

The sun rose to another crystal clear day as we sailed south on a comfortable broad reach with light warm winds and shimmering blue water whose smooth surface was interrupted by boiling schools of yellowtail with smaller fish leaping clear of predators and dolphins racing up to greet us then taking off to feed and play.

We stayed close to gawk at the beauty ashore as we passed Las Animas and Quixmoto the turned into Yelapa's bay. We located a narrow underwater ridge extending from the beach in the Northwest corner allowing us to set bow and stern anchors with plenty of scope in 20 feet of

water while facing out to the incoming swells to keep us from rolling too much,

Everyone but the Captain was ready to go ashore and take in the sights and sounds of the rural village and water fall at Yelapa. I was paying my dues for the previous night's anchor watches, so I promptly erected the hammock on the foredeck and swinging gently in the warm sun was fast asleep.

The crew went ashore and had a wonderful late morning hike to the falls and fresh bolillos (sweet rolls) hot out of a brick oven in the primitive home of a local villager. I swam ashore that afternoon and joined then on the beach for another great meal of fresh fish under a small thatch-roofed ramada. With our stomachs full, we hailed a panga for a ride back out to the Unicorn. Instead of pesos they wanted to trade for rope which was needed for everything from securing boats and cargo to making bridles for the burros and horses (there are no roads in Yelapa and everything id brought in by boat). I gave them a nice 20 foot length of 1/4" braid. They smiled at the bargain and sped off as we readied Unicorn for the 3 hour sail back to Puerto Vallarta.

The sun was setting in the west, the wind had died and we were motoring on our approach to Puerto Vallarta. As the city lights came on and an orange glow spread across the water like a painting on a canvas, we were startled to see hundred of dolphins swimming slowly in unison as they skillfully maneuvered to corral small fish for dinner. We shut down the engine and drifted through this choreographed spectacle of nature in total silence. Once clear we resumed our course to the now visible harbor entrance buoy still mesmerized by the incredible beauty and life of Bandras Bay. A perfect ending to our introduction to the Gold Coast of Mexico.

The adventure continues as we prepare to set sail on the next leg south to rendezvous with Bo Derrick and the stark white Moorish beauty of the Las Hadas resort at Manzanillo.

Editor's note:

I just received a Christmas greeting from Lew and Anneke it reads: We are now "boatless" in Seattle. Not to worry, after a wonderful season cruising the Gold Coast of Mexico, the Unicorn awaits patiently in Puerto Vallarta ready for her masters to hoist her sails and guide her safely to far away places and new adventures. Greed and the promises of a King's Ransom are responsible

for turning the tides back to whence we came, albeit temporarily. We are presently embarked on an entrepreneurs' voyage of capitalistic dreams like feather merchants and carpet baggers of days gone by. We hope to return to the sea in the fall of '97. In the meantime, please see fit to contact us at the Ship's address, PO Box 1400, Friday Harbor, Washington, 98250, on the horn at 206-324-5700 or via E-mail jenningslew@msn.com.

Erwin Hunter D/67-69 writes:

I guess I am a little late with my dues. I also forgot what the amount was so here is a check for \$40.00 for 96 and 97 dues. If I owe any more please let me know. If it is over put it in the kitty to help someone else with dues. I am planning (very hard) to be in KY in 1997. Hope to see everyone there.

Wayne Packard D/68-69 and his wife Brenda write:

Hope all is well with you. As usual your newsletter was terrific. Vegas sounded great sorry we missed it. Hopefully we will be able to make Kentucky. Wayne and I seem to be in a disagreement about his dues, he says there paid and I say there not. Can you help us out. We will abide by your decision. Oh by the way we changed our phone number and the new one is 617-826-6005.

Editor's note:

Waynes dues are current until 8/97. Thanks for the update on your new phone number.

Marquis Syler C/67-69 writes:

Thank you for sending me the "Hawk Talk" to say the least I was quite surprised when the newsletter came. When I saw the return address "Blackhawk Association it brought back memories and I couldn't wait to open the envelope. I enjoyed reading the newsletter.

I fired up my computer and searched American On Line for any name from the 7/1 and I found Paul Hanson's first, so I sent him an e-mail introduction. The newsletter came just a few days past veterans day when my thoughts were fresh with images from 1968. I saw the pictures from the reunion, and the Cav hats (I have no idea what became of mine). I can truthfully say I recognized no one.

I dropped my application in the mail today with the \$25.00. In the item call sign I couldn't remember what call sign I had, but Paul Hanson had sent me a e-mail with commanche 6 driver on it. Well this evening I got the urge to find some old photos that I haven't looked at for a long time. Sure enough there was a picture of C Troops CO tent and a big sign in front that read Sandpipers. I had completely forgotten that C troop was the Sandpipers. I also had a picture of 1SG Walker. Thanks again for sending me the Newsletter it has sparked an interest in the past that was ready to surface. I showed my 12 year old son a picture of me at nineteen and in Vinh Long City...he had a good hoot over that one.

Editor's note:

C troops name was Sandpipers and then was changed to Commanche. I found Marquis through a Social Security search.

Earl Shepherd HHT/67-69 and his wife Paula write:

The year of 1996 at the Earl and Paula Shepherd home was a relative uneventful one.

Paula has continued with her follow-up visits to her Heart doctor, Diabetic doctor, Eye doctor and Knee Doctor this year. Medications are keeping her as healthy as can be expected. She has also spent her homemaker days all year baby sitting a very lovable two year old boy.

Earl has continued to perform his government job with the Finance office at Fort Lee. At the age of 67, he has no date set for retirement. Seems like older guys are working longer these days. He has also had a busy year at our Church, as chairman of the Stewardship Committee.

We had to additions to our Shepherd family this year. Steve and Erika in California, gave us a new grandson Austin Michael, in May. Also in May this year, our first great-grandchild arrived. The grandson of ours in Columbus, Ohio (our oldest daughters son), and his wife, gave us the great grandson named Mark.

Our count is-four of our own, nine grandchildren and now one great grandchild.

For travels this year, we were limited on doing much air travel (actually none), due to Paula's heart attack on the return from Canada last Christmas. Her doctor strongly advised against any air travel for an indefinite period. This problem did cause us to miss getting to attend Earl's Vietnam unit reunion in Las Vegas in the month of August.

The highlight of our road travel this year was a trip to Louisville Kentucky. In the month of May, we drove there to visit with our oldest daughter and family.

In August we spent a nice weekend over in Shenendoah Valley and the Ridge mountains. And in September , spent a day at the state fair in Richmond.

In June we had a guest at home to entertain. Our 15 year old granddaughter from Columbus, Ohio flew in for a 2 week visit. And then in June again, Paula's nephew and his wife flew in from California for a 1 week on their return trip to Germany.

On 12 December we will have two more holiday guests. Paula's sister and her husband are flying in from Germany for a three week visit.

Well, speaking of traveling. We are looking forward to attending Earl's next military unit reunion in Fort Knox, Kentucky, during August 1997.

From our Home to your Home
Paula and Earl

Wishes for each of you a Very Happy Holiday Season.

Wayne Bulvan C/68-70 writes:

I am enclosing a copy of some orders I found while going through my Army records. I also went through your roster and did not see some of the guys that I served with while in Vietnam.

Editor's note:

Unfortunately the names Wayne sent me did not have any Social Security numbers listed with them. I will try and do a phone disk search on the names.

Art Rogers D/68-69 and his wife Crystal write:

Just a note to say we had a great time at the reunion in Las Vegas. We are really looking forward to next years in Louisville and Fort Knox, KY. We all remember that John and Diana Stewart were married in Las Vegas this year. Well Diana's brother is a Medal of Honor winner and there is a building named after him at Ft. Knox. It is the weapons department main training facility known as Skidgel Hall. Sgt. Skidgel was a member of D Troop, 1st Squadron 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division. A unit not unlike our own, it had three Air Troops, a ground troop with jeeps (D Troop) and a Headquarters troop. Enclosed

please find a copy of his history. Just thought you might want to print something about him since we are going to be at Ft. Knox and they might want to stop by the building. Thank you. Looking forward to seeing you and Pat and everyone else at the 97 reunion. I hope to see a lot more D Troop guys attend the reunion. Wishing you and your a Happy Holiday.

Editor's note:

Diana's brother Donald Sidney Skidgel was a Sergeant and served as a Reconnaissance Section leader with D Troop, 1/9 Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division. He was killed in action on September 14, 1969 near Song Be. His family was presented his Medal of Honor by Vice Pres. Spiro T. Agnew on December 16, 1971. His Citation reads: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sgt. Skidgel distinguished himself while serving as a reconnaissance section leader in Troop D. On a road near Song Be in Binh Long Province, Sgt. Skidgel and his section with other elements of his troop were acting as a convoy security- and - screening force when contact occurred with an estimated enemy battalion concealed in tall grass and in bunkers bordering the road. Sgt. Skidgel maneuvered off the road and began placing effective machine gun fire on the enemy automatic weapons and rocket-propelled - grenade positions. After silencing at least one position, he ran with his machine gun across 60 meters of bullet-swept ground to another location from which he continued to rake the enemy positions. Running low on ammunitions, he returned to his vehicle over the same terrain. Moments later he was alerted that the command element was receiving intense automatic- weapons, rocket-propelled-grenade and mortar fire. Sgt. Skidgel calmly mounted his vehicle and with his driver advanced toward the command group in effort to draw the enemy fire onto himself. Despite the hostile fire concentrated on him, he succeeded in silencing several enemy positions with his machine gun. Moments later Sgt. Skidgel was knocked down onto the rear fender by the explosion of an enemy rocket-propelled grenade. Ignoring his extremely painful wounds, he staggered back to his feet and placed effective fire on several other enemy positions until he was mortally wounded by hostile small-arms fire. He selfless actions enabled the command group to withdraw to a better position

without casualties and inspired the rest of his fellow soldiers to gain fire superiority and defeat the enemy. Sgt. Skidgel's gallantry at the cost of his life were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

James Breisch B/67-68 writes:

Please not a change of address for James Briesch. Sorry this has not been sent sooner. You may have been receiving my newsletters back.

New Address:

Dr. James Breisch
898 Deerhurst Drive
Vandalia, OH 45377-9406

Matt Serlectic C/HHT 67-69 and his wife Deanie write:

It was great to see you guys again at the Blackhawk reunion in Vegas. As usual you did a great job getting everything "Wired Together" to make it all happen. Deanie and I had a great time and enjoyed the reunion with so many Blackhawks who were with us in Nam. I will be in Louisville, KY in April '97 for the Army Aviation Convention. I wrote Curt Childree and suggested we all get together to begin planning the '97 Blackhawk reunion. Deanie and I remain busy. Our younger son Dean is a tour manager with the rock band "Matchbox20" and our older son Matthew is in Australia checking out a new band for Warner Brother records.

Don Sharp B/67-68 writes:

Holiday Greetings Mike and Pat.

I am sending you some fruit as a token of my appreciation for the work you two do for the Blackhawks.

I saw the extra effort put forth at the reunion, and the work you did for Ted.

Weather is warm as usual in Florida so I hope that the fruit holds up. If not maybe the thought will count for something.

Editor's note:

Pat and I really appreciated Don's gift. Hopefully we can get together with Don while we are wintering in Florida.

New Members of the Blackhawk Association

Larry Brown

965 NE 118th Avenue/Road
Silver Springs, FL 34488 Phone # 352-898-2947
A/ 71-72 SP4

Daniel Donahue

73 Neptune Lane
S. Yarmouth, MA 02664 Phone # 508-394-1780
Chaplain Col.

John Flack

PO Box 98
Shumway, IL 62461 Phone # 217-347-0736
D/ 69-71 E5

Donald Gower

15 Brentwood Circle Phone # 207-284-9500
Saco, ME 04072
B/69

Clark Hack

15 Litterer Road
Danville, PA 17821 Phone # 717-275-5120
A E5

Wayne Miller

1414 West 26th Ave. #116
Anchorage, AK 99503 Phone #907-258-5026
C/B 68-69 1LT/CPT

Jan Rzeszot

1296 Myrtle Street
Hillside, NJ 07205 Phone # 201-926-1930
C/ 69-70 SP5

Bradley Schultz

2947 Old McGregor Crawford Road
MC Gregor, TX 76657

John Smith

Box 186
Harvel, IL 62538 Phone # 217-229-3675
HHT/68-69 SP5

Marquis Syler

277 Norwood Street
Lenoir City, TN 37771 Phone # 423-986-8132
C/67-69 SP4

7/1 ACS Blackhawk Association

Financial Report

Richard Kloepfer, Treasurer

This financial report covers the period from 10/31/95 to 10/31/96

Balance as of 31 October 1995 \$3549.20

Deposits

Members Dues: \$4338.00

Donations: \$ 463.67

Fundraising: \$1588.00

Total Deposits \$6389.67 \$6389.67

Total \$9938.87

Expenditures

Postage \$1236.13

Printing \$2214.46

Merchandise \$ 253.00

Reunion Exp. \$ 592.80

SS Searches \$ 660.00

Software \$ 115.83

Bank Charges \$ 37.65

Photos \$ 125.00

Flowers \$ 111.00

Total \$5345.87 \$5345.87

Balance as of October 31, 1996 \$4593.00

As you can see by this Financial Report we need everyone to be current with their dues. Putting out the Quarterly Newsletter and searching for new members is not cheap. So send in your dues as soon as possible.

7/1 ACS Blackhawk Association

The Blackhawk Association is a non-profit, non-political, Fraternal organization. The principal objective is to preserve our history, to bring old friends together, to make new friends and to remember those fellow Blackhawks who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Have you Paid your Dues?

In order for to keep on receiving a edition of our newsletter "Hawk Talk" and a Membership Roster you must be current with your dues. If your mailing label has a **96** on it, it means your dues are now due. Please fill out the form below and mail it with your check payable to: Blackhawk Association, 14 Northern Avenue Apt. G-6, Cold Spring NY, 10516-2702.

Membership Application/Information Sheet

- Initial Renewal
- Change of Address
- Annual Dues Enclosed \$25.00
- Life Membership Enclosed \$250.00
- Associate Membership Enclosed \$25.00

Name:		

Spouses Name:		

Address:	E-mail	

City:	State:	Zip Code:

Home Phone Number ()	Work()	

Troop:	Rank:	Years Served:

Other Units Served with:	Social Security Number	

Call sign:	Current Occupation:	

7th Squadron 1st Air Cavalry Blackhawk Association

Michael J. O'Reilly
14 Northern Ave.
Cold Spring, NY 10516-2702
(914/265-2814)

ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED. POSTAGE GUARANTEED

