

# FOX FAX

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Journal of the 199<sup>th</sup> Recon Airplane Company RVN 1967-70 Vol. 8, Issue 12 Dec 2011

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WEB SITE [www.SwampFox199thRAC.com](http://www.SwampFox199thRAC.com)

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*Goals:*

*To find as many of our old friends as possible and get them talking to each other again.*

*To build as complete a history of the unit as possible and make it available to all the members.*

*To perpetrate reunions.*



bumper sticker from [www.uswings.com/welcomehome.asp](http://www.uswings.com/welcomehome.asp)



**We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;  
For he to-day that sheds his blood with me  
Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile,**

**This day shall gentle his condition;  
And gentlemen now a-bed  
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,  
And hold their manhoods cheap while any speaks  
That fought with us upon St. Crispin's Day.**

\*

*Henry V* is a [history play](#) by [William Shakespeare](#), believed to be written in approximately 1599.

The *St. Crispin's Day Speech* is a famous [motivational](#) speech from the play, delivered by Henry V before the battle ([act IV scene iii](#)). It is so called because 25 October is the feast day of [Saints Crispin and Crispinian](#). The speech itself names the day *Crispin Crispian*, in the passage



November 2011

Dear Swamp Fox Brothers in Arms –

The purpose of this note is to let you all know that I have the honor to serve the next Swamp Fox Coordinator to represent and be your focal point for our Swamp Fox interests. By way of a short introduction to those of you who don't remember me or don't know me, I served in the 199<sup>th</sup> RAC from March, 1967 when we organized at Ft. Hood, TX until July, 1968. After spending what I recall as being a couple of months at unit HQ in Vinh Long, I was redeployed to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon in My Tho as a Section Leader. I remained in My Tho until I rotated back to the U.S after completing a one year tour of duty. I returned to RVN after completing the helicopter Q-Course and U-21 transition for another assignment in Da Nang where I served as Maintenance Office and XO in the 62<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Company (Corps) from October 1970 – October 1971. I completed a 22-year Army career in 1986 proudly serving as an Army Aviator my entire career.

As many of you know that the latest reunion of the Delta Bird Dog Companies was held in San Antonio, TX October 14-17, 2011. Ably hosted by 221<sup>st</sup> RAC (Shotguns) Don Smith, Shotgun 8-A and assisted by 199<sup>th</sup> RAC Gary Simon, Fox 16 and the rest of the organizing team, I think I can speak for all of the Swamp Fox alumni in attendance, by saying it was an outstanding event by every measure. The gathering of old friends and brothers in arms was truly a sobering and fun experience. The stories were superb (many of them much more embellished than the real occurrences, I'm sure) and old memories and recollections were brought to life just being in the presence of former colleagues (note the omission of the word "old"!!). A highlight of the reunion was a showing by our friends from the IBDA. They arrived with seven Birddogs, one for static display and six for a limited number of rides that were given to wives of the attendees. Eighteen ladies held down the back seat of a Birddog long enough to become became Honorary Crew Members. Doc Jennings, webmaster of our Swamp Fox website and Monte Caylor, webmaster of the 221<sup>st</sup> website have posted (or plan to post) some reunion photos submitted by folks from our respective units. I encourage you to take a look at these websites and accompanying photos to get a flavor of the camaraderie everyone experienced.

As your coordinator I will assist in organizing the next reunion that is planned 2 years from now in October 2013. The final location is still under consideration so be sure to keep checking back to our Swamp Fox website for more information as it develops. For those of you who attended, we are still soliciting your comments/suggestions on the San Antonio reunion. Comments received so far are mostly favorable with only a couple of negative ones, mostly about the hotel. To parrot Don Smith's plea, if you have something to say let me know. We can't correct things for the next reunion that we don't know about. I will do my best to represent your views and interests within our greater Swamp Fox community as well as with our sister Bird Dog companies. Please communicate any comments, suggestions or recommendations concerning the next reunion to me at [nwood5143@comcast.net](mailto:nwood5143@comcast.net).

In the meantime and until we meet again in 2013,

Best Regards,

Norm Wood  
Swamp Fox 11

## 2011 Delta Bird Dog Reunion News

### From The Blast

#### After action report:

- “My wife and I have meds that need to be kept in a fridge. Our room had none and the hotel said none was available. Later we were talking with our maid who said she would get us one and, by golly, she delivered.”
  - “San Antonio as a venue was a great choice. Loved having a day (Friday) with nothing scheduled so we could do our own thing.”
  - “It was OUTSTANDING in every respect, we really enjoyed ourselves.”
  - “Only problems were with the Hotel Food Service and non fixing of elevator.”
  - “Really a great reunion and my wife felt very comfortable in the crowd of Shotgunners.”
  - “Reunion was over the top. I feel that I could have done more to help you out if asked. Keep that in mind for the next one.”
  - “The reunion was great. I enjoyed meeting those with whom I served and meeting new persons, all of whom were just terrific.” “In the nice to have category a better arrangement for the speakers at the meetings to help those of us with hearing impairment would be a help.”
  - “The hospitality room was far too small.”
  - “I had no idea what to expect after 4+ decades. It was memorable!”
  - “There must be a lot of names but if we could have two or three guys each read, in turn, a name, until the list is complete we could honor all our members in a reasonable amount of time.”
  - “I don’t like mariachi music, but that’s just me.”
  - “My suggestion is to not have entertainment for the first night’s get together so folks can mix, chat and not drown out the entertainers.”
- “The organization and activities were excellent, especially the awards dinner with DJ.”
  - “My only „somewhat negative“ comment was that some of the „times“ didn’t agree between what was in the Schedule of Events and then the actual program times.”

## *Next Delta Birddog Reunion 2013*

The IBDA Bark is attached. **Everybody gets the Bark. If you belong to IBDA you get an extra one for free.**

*Jump in and hang on. We're goin' for a ride.  
Anybody barfs in my airplane gets to clean it up.*

*Crew Chief*

### Letters to the editor



*“Assured Victory..A 09-11-2001 & War On Terrorism Memorial”*

George L. Skypeck Reg™  
Copyright 2001-DTBD

Artist & Combat Wounded Vietnam veteran  
[www.skypeck.com](http://www.skypeck.com)

Ray---Tim Davenport got back to me and was at Ben-Tre Tet 68---yes, please put me on the SF mailing list and if you like, you can add and even print a few copies on your printer of the "Assured Victory...A 09-11-2001 And War On Terrorism Memorial" painting that I have loaned to Arlington National Cemetery Visitors Center and continuously updated over these 10 years since for our military today....our sons, daughters, family and friends..."De Oppresso Liber".. "SKY"

P.S. I use to do small pen and ink and pencil sketches in Ben-Tre for some of my team mates as a morale factor...I did Andy 75's O-1 and I think I did a SW L-19 w/siren...don't know what happened to those sketches but they are worth \$\$\$ today...even the CPT Nurse that took care of me in the 3rd Field Hosp. in saigon when I was medevaced to it in 68 later saved the pencil one I did of her( a bit risqué at the time!). I will stay in touch with Tim..Thanks again...

[George Skypeck MACV](#)

Hi Doc, .I have a new Name for our update which I just received

He was with us for part of the Vinh Long experience. Transferred when he made Major. Was XO for some of the time. Saved my behind when he warned me that a captured mini gun we were searching for just opened up on me. I was relieving him on a night patrol and we discussed, on the radio, the area he had covered, and where I should start. As he departed he saw the first burst of fire and told me to break left. I did and a wall of tracers just missed my right wing. Been looking for him ever since we started looking for old friends on the web. Great to see you in Texas. Keep em flying:  
Dan

[Dan Aldridge](#)

### MISC.

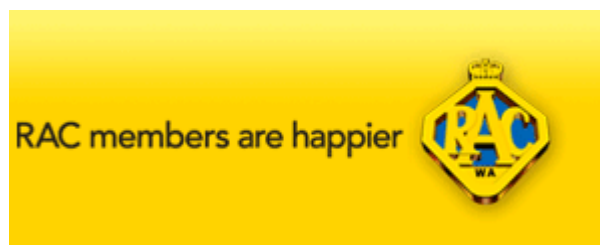
Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.—Mark Twain

199<sup>th</sup> RAC Camp Out, Ft. Hood 1967



**Just when you thought you had seen it all!  
Picture of the moon from a B26!  
See attached**

*My bad, sorry about that. I do try to keep it interesting!*



### Other RACs

21<sup>st</sup> RAC      Web Site No Longer Available  
73<sup>rd</sup> RAC      see 74<sup>th</sup> RAC

74<sup>th</sup> RAC [www.aloft74th.org](http://www.aloft74th.org)  
119<sup>th</sup> RAC [www.219headhunters.com](http://www.219headhunters.com)  
183<sup>rd</sup> RAC [www.183seahorse.org](http://www.183seahorse.org)  
184<sup>th</sup> RAC [www.184rac.com](http://www.184rac.com)  
  
185<sup>th</sup> RAC [www.angelfire.com/tx4/Pteradactyl185/index.html](http://www.angelfire.com/tx4/Pteradactyl185/index.html) no info  
199<sup>th</sup> RAC [www.SwampFox199thRAC.com](http://www.SwampFox199thRAC.com) - San Antonio Oct 2011  
203<sup>rd</sup> RAC no web site  
220<sup>th</sup> RAC [www.220raccatkiller.us.com](http://www.220raccatkiller.us.com) new Home page [www.catkillers.org](http://www.catkillers.org) -  
2010

Mark your calendars!

You are all invited to the 220th Catkiller Reunion

July 11-15, 2012, Seattle, Washington

Registration information will be available in September, 2011

<http://www.catkillers.org/catcom4-quarter10.htm#reunion2012>

Norm MacPhee, Reunion Committee, [catkiller2012@earthlink.net](mailto:catkiller2012@earthlink.net)

221<sup>st</sup> RAC [www.221st.org](http://www.221st.org) see above 199th

**The 1<sup>st</sup>. Avn Brgd and 13<sup>th</sup> CAB are still active at Ft. Rucker.**

13<sup>th</sup> CAB Reunion. 2012

18-20 MAY 2012 FT. RUCKER

NOTE :.....FOR THOSE OF YOU THAT ARE NOT A DELTA GROUP VIETNAM MEMBERS BUT ARE STILL ON THE ADDRESS LIST..... THIS IS YOUR WARNING ORDER, AND INVITE TO THE NEXT MEKONG DELTA REUNION AT FT RUCKER FROM THE 162ND AHC 13TH CAB VIETNAM... WE HOPE YOU ATTEND, VIET VET OR NOT YOU ARE OUR SPECIAL GUEST WE REQUEST AND WOULD BE HONORED BY YOUR ATTENDANCE.....

162ND VULTURES AND INVITES

**17-20 may 2012 our 13th Cab sponsored Mekong Delta reunion again in on 18-20 May 2012 ..... early sign in on the 17th lets have a strong showing we need to last time like this years VHPA the 162 was a disappointment compared to past years**

**we will have the free Hey rides again for all members and guest and their families and guest ...**

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**Remember you did not have to be a member of the units while they served in the Delta just a Member of the unit anytime while THE UNIT was in RVN that means all**

**you PHOC VIHNN and Dong TAM guys are included we have always had a good group of Phoc Vihn Vultures there from day one till the unit left PHOC VIHNN.... so I don't want to hear the excuse.. I did not serve in the Delta " IT DON'T MATTER BE THERE**

**I am working on the WEB SITE as we Speak with all the info and registration procedures**

**Vultures It looks like the 162nd is going to be staying at the Dothan National hotel and golf resort I am in negotiations with them now( OUR SPECIAL GUEST) are invited to stay and attend**

historically the fixed wing guy stayed and joined the 162 in the past we would like to see it again

**Dothan National is a 91 room hotel with restaurant, lounge, dining room , 104 degree mineral springs hot bath,, pool ,weight room and all it is located on and part of a 18 hole USGA golf course that has in the past been used on the Nike tour,.. Proams , and US collegiate amateurs championship . There will be two rates one with a round of Golf and one without (a round can be bought later if you do not sign in for a round) both will be at or less than \$60 a night . As in the past we will have our unit party there at the hotel They have a place for our Fri night unit party the hotel will supply the bar and can cater the finger food**

**I will be sending more info later**

**We may again may also be having our big Delta Reunion Saturday Dinner at a Dothan resort casino called "center stage" which in the past the dinner was held at the officers club or the museum The resort Casino is willing to provide us with the dining area free gratis and provide a band for entertainment later just for us bringing the people into the electronic Bingo casino and they will cater the dinner**

**What I need now is for some kind of head count as to who is attending to lock down rooms, and other support Because May Jun and Jul is the high season so please return mail me as soon as possible if your coming .....This not registration just a pre head count survey for me to provide numbers**

**Travel arrangements for those who fly in might consider flying into Panama city fl. airport instead of Dothan it will cost half as much or more ,, southwest flies into there now ...also consider Ft Walton Fl it has discount airlines now flying into there at much lower rates than Flying into Dothan which takes you thru Atlanta with Delta and is one of the highest rates in the country**

**example 3 weeks ago I flew Southwest round trip to Corpus Christie Tx from panama city fl. for \$486 round trip vs \$1860 thru Dothan price , on 3 days prior notice or advance reservations,, all I had to do was put up with the hour and thirty min drive from dothan to panama city ... all interstate Ft walton is 1+50 min**

**other locations that are with in 2 to -2.5 hrs are Montgomery al , Columbus Ga.( Columbus 1+20 min) especially if you can fly US Air along th east coast , Tallahassee fl , and Birmingham al. which BHAM has direct flight from all over the country southwest and all .....could save a ton of money just for a reasonably short drive in a rent a car**

**so please get the word out and respond if your coming lets get the enlisted crew members charged up and coming again it ain't right without them**

**Our quest speaker for theDelta reunion dinner is in negotiations right now and do do not wish to announce it as of yet, till schedule and confirmation is received but if it all works out it is BIG !!!!!!!!!!!!! I mean one of the Biggest for anyone, any where, any group and any event nationally, lets hope it comes thru.. will let you know as soon as I can.... keep your fingers crossed**

**Copperhead 34  
Reunion Chairman**

**Please pass this information on any 13<sup>th</sup> CAB members -- Doc**

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**[Birddog Store](http://www.druid-consulting.com/bird_dog_store.htm) – [www.druid-consulting.com/bird\\_dog\\_store.htm](http://www.druid-consulting.com/bird_dog_store.htm)**

## **The Bird Dogs' Tale**

by Bobby Jack Woolley (Swamp Fox 26 – editor)

The author has presented the combat service of the Bird Dog aircraft in a comprehensive manner that covers the ten-year period, 1962-1972. The intent is for *The Bird Dogs' Tale* to serve as a record of how O-1's service contributed to the overall combat effort that occurred in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam era.

Research concerning the disposition of each O-1 that served with Army, Air Force and Marine aviation units is presented. Brief histories of each O-1 aviation unit are also included. Of significance, an accounting of each service member who lost his life participating in its combat service is also recorded. The accounting of each aircraft and those who lost their lives to O-1 operations is an important and unusual content of a combat related book. *The Bird Dogs' Tale* is that story.

## Distributor

### Feeder-Feeder Publications

[feeder-feederpubs@comcast.net](mailto:feeder-feederpubs@comcast.net)

(253) 874-3982

**24.95** (US)

Order via <http://feeder-feederpubs.com>

from Corky's -

[www.cafepress.com/corkysstudio/3000315](http://www.cafepress.com/corkysstudio/3000315)



307<sup>th</sup> CAB stuff from Corky's



13<sup>th</sup> CAB stuff too.

## WEB SITE OF INTEREST

Vinh Long Tet 2011

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aXcaUKX3-7I>

How about a little Manheim Steam Roller?

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68j6Ceof8QQ&feature=results\\_main&playnext=1&list=PL5FD40C17FB82197B](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68j6Ceof8QQ&feature=results_main&playnext=1&list=PL5FD40C17FB82197B)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E359DJ5eins&feature=related>

Are you guys awake out there?  
If not this one hit wonder by Creed should do it.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijnRVHDLEc4&feature=related>

### [EAA calendar](#)

<http://www.eaa.org/events>

<http://www.eaa.org/airventure/> OSHKOSH

### [IBDA](#)

The Bark is now in pdf format see attached.



**IBDA Olive Color Hat With Birddog Logo  
Adjustable Size**

**\$17.95 ea**

**[www.ibdaweb.com](http://www.ibdaweb.com)**

**Swamp Fox IBDA members**

Charley Baker  
Woody Barnes  
Brian Bowling  
Rich Burns  
Sam Givhan  
Larry French  
Curt Herrick  
Ray Jennings  
Jim McKee  
Don Nicholson  
Dan Oats  
Rick Shoup  
Gary Simon

**Let me know if you are a member and I will add you to the list.**

**[www.ibdaweb.com](http://www.ibdaweb.com)**

**IBDA has been very supportive of Birddog Unit Reunions and deserves our thanks. We can show it by joining up. It's only a few bucks (\$30). Well worth it**

## SWAMP FOX NETWORK



### Welcome Home

Geroge Skypeck – MACV – guest  
Ben Trae 1967-68  
Artist & Combat Wounded Vietnam veteran  
[www.skypeck.com](http://www.skypeck.com)  
[georgeskypeck@skypeck.com](mailto:georgeskypeck@skypeck.com)

Ron Fisburn Swamp Fox 5  
Vinh Long 1967-68  
[rpfish@peoplepc.com](mailto:rpfish@peoplepc.com)

**call sign Fox ?? means I don't have your call sign.  
Drop me an e-mail and I will fix that.**

**If you have a change of phone number, address or especially e-mail address.  
Let me know so we don't lose touch with you,**

**Thanks, editor**

## Site News

Note that the Fox Fax can be viewed in pdf format on the Swamp Fox web site. Adobe reader is required.

[http://www.druid-consulting.com/news\\_letter.htm](http://www.druid-consulting.com/news_letter.htm)

Adobe Reader is available as a free down load from Adobe.  
<http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

***Established June 6, 2002      D-Day!***

**THE FOX FAX WELCOMES CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE MEMBERS.**

**I try to keep it interesting. After going on ten years of the Fox Fax Bird Dog related articles are getting a little skinny.**

**If you have something to add to the Fox Fax, I need it before the fifth of the month. I try to publish the weekend following the fifth. Sometimes I am even on time.**

**Editor [r.jennings@KTIS.net](mailto:r.jennings@KTIS.net) , [r.jennings14@verizon.net](mailto:r.jennings14@verizon.net)  
And this one too. [SwampFox@Druid-Consulting.com](mailto:SwampFox@Druid-Consulting.com)**

**Cheers Y'all**

**(EOM)**