

# FOX FAX

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

## **M. Jeff "The Missouri Swamp Fox" Thompson**



Birth: Jan. 22, 1826 Death: Sep. 5, 1876

Civil War Confederate Brigadier General. Dubbed the "Missouri Swamp Fox", at the outset of the war, he raised and led a battalion of cavalry as Brigadier General of the Missouri Guard. He commanded as many as 5000 troops and had great success using guerilla tactics on the Mississippi River and into the wilderness. In August 1863, he was captured at Pocahontas, Arkansas and taken prisoner to Fort Delaware. He was prisoner exchanged in July 1864, went to Mississippi and again took up his command. He finally surrendered his brigade on May 11,

1865, after General Lee's surrender. After the war, he was involved the Pony Express, telegraphic communication and civil engineering. (bio by: [John "J-Cat" Griffith](#))

From: [www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=10502](http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=10502)

## 2011 Delta Bird Dog Reunion News

October 13 to October 16

### *Delta Birddog Reunion 2011*

*13 October 2011 – 16 October 2011*

*San Antonio, Texas*

OK Folks, we finally have the information we have been waiting for regarding registration at our reunion hotel, the Doubletree Hotel San Antonio Downtown. The hotel is located at 502 W. Durango Blvd, San Antonio, Texas 78207 approximately ten blocks from the Alamo and two blocks from Market Square.

The rate that we have negotiated is \$119.00 per night and this will include the following:

- Complimentary self-parking in the covered parking garage
- Complimentary high speed internet in the IT Oasis
- Complimentary use of the Fitness Center
- Group rate includes Full American Breakfast
- Group rate is available two days before and two days past event

Individual call in reservations can be made by calling hotel reservations at 1-800-HILTONS, or via the hotel directly at 210-224-7155 (between the hours of 0800 and 1600). Please ask for the Delta Birddog Reunion. You may also secure your room reservation by going to the website at [www.sanantionodowntown.doubletree.com](http://www.sanantionodowntown.doubletree.com) using the Group Code **DBD**, for

our group. The hotel will honor reservations received by 7 September 2011. For reservations received after this date, the rooms are subject to space availability and at prevailing room rates.

Don't wait to make your reservations, we have a limited number of rooms available at the special rate and we may not be able to negotiate the price for additional rooms. See you in San Antonio.

Reunion Committee

**The Blast is attached. Rather than retype Don Smith's Reunion Information.  
The IBDA Bark is also attached.**

**SAN ANTONIO BOOTS ON THE GROUND CREW:**

**199th**

Don Nicholson

Gary Simon (2011 Reunion coordinator 199th)

Jim Strye

Anyone else in the San Antonio area who wants to help. Drop me an e-mail.

**221<sup>st</sup>**

Don Smith

Amador Marcha

Roy Talley

Russ Duffin

*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

From: Sam Givhan

Greetings,

This talk with some veteran aviators is excellent. Please read, [A Fine Talk by Joe Galloway](#)

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Thank You,

Michael Yon

from Art Savard

To: [Val4Hawk@AOL.com](mailto:Val4Hawk@AOL.com)

Sent: Fri, Jul 15, 2011 9:58 pm

Subject: Check this

I found this while fooling around. Thought you might like.

<http://www.airspacemag.com/military-aviation/Legends-of-Vietnam-Broncos-Tale.html?c=y&page=6#>

Subject: [VAL-4] FW: [blackponies] Naval Aviation

Dave Stockley sends. From U.S. Naval Institute.

We get an honorable mention in the Cuba/Vietnam Photo Essay.

Winds, Bob (fwd fromArt)

It's a long URL, make sure you get cut & paste the whole thing.

[http://www.usni.org/navalaviation/cuba-and-vietnam?utm\\_source=Publicaster&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=August%202011%20USNI%20Newsletter&utm\\_term=Cuba+and+Vietnam+\(1962+-+1975\)](http://www.usni.org/navalaviation/cuba-and-vietnam?utm_source=Publicaster&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=August%202011%20USNI%20Newsletter&utm_term=Cuba+and+Vietnam+(1962+-+1975))

from: **Oliver, Thomas S SSG RET** <[thomas.oliver@us.army.mil](mailto:thomas.oliver@us.army.mil)>

Hello Birddogs:

As Vinh Long's ATC Chief from May '69 to March '70, I saw enough interesting events to probably write a book. One in particular that some of you may remember:

An Air Vietnam DC-3 landed at Vinh Long without a landing clearance or any communication with the tower. A UH-1 was sitting on the left side of the runway at flight idle. The left wing of the DC-3 passed through the main rotor blade of the Huey, causing damage to both aircraft. During the investigation, the Vietnamese pilots claimed that they had received landing clearance from the control tower. LTC Hannan, the airfield commander, instructed me to cue the tape covering the incident time. Unfortunately, the tape recorder had failed to automatically shift to the standby deck, and I was looking at a blank tape.

Just as things were heating up, LTC Hannan indicated that he was sure that the large wooden crate, located over in the dust bowl (where the Chinooks landed), contained a C-47 wing. No one knew how long it had been there, or why. As it turned out, it was the same (left) wing as the damaged DC-3. LTC Hannan said that the Vietnamese could have it. The Vietnamese mechanics installed it, and the bright silver DC-3 departed Vinh Long with an olive drab left wing.

Anyone remember this?

Tom Oliver (Guest)

346th ADD

Vinh Long

From: Alan Brubaker

This made my day.....

It just doesn't get any better than this!

Sometimes a knuckle sandwich is the only solution.

74 year old guys rule

WOW! Painful to watch Buzz endure all this Guy's CRAP, but I LOVE STORYBOOK HAPPY ENDINGS

Buzz Aldrin punches a heckler who says he never walked on moon.

<http://dailybail.com/home/must-see-video-74-year-old-former-astronaut-buzz-aldrin-punc.html>

From: Bill Poor



Delta Birddog Reunion 2009 DVDs are available from Bill Poor. These are very well done indeed. Well worth the five bucks for shipping and material.

Contact Bill Poor at [wtpoor@comcast.net](mailto:wtpoor@comcast.net)

**MISC.**

RAC members are happier



## 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)

**The Oct 2011 Reunion will be held in BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA**

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 ...**

**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, dinning 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 flys 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)

## Swamp Fox Bar and Grill

PUB GRUB, DINER CHOW STYLE STUFF.





The Swamp Fox bar and grill (pic1) is located in scenic old town Vinh Long near Long Chow's on the river (pic2). With a lovely view of the Mekong we offer the most eclectic cuisine on our "In Your Dreams" menu. The Vinh Long shuttle provides transportation service (in the picture) from Vinh Long AAF. Note the classic French architecture and marvelous renovation of this high class dive gin mill. Free drinks are provided by BYOB. Entertainment provided by Arty and The Swamp Fox Rock and Roll Band. Surrounded by controversy the Swamp Fox has been accused of putting some of the competition out of business. This is not true. This is propaganda put forth by a Ma Duce gunner on the Ban Me Thuot perimeter who was POed about the high gas prices at the Gas Station burger joint and bordello across the street. If this were true there would only be one great big hole in the ground (pic3).



## WEB SITE OF INTEREST

Download the Swamp Fox Song

[www.druid-consulting.com/swamp\\_fox\\_song1.htm](http://www.druid-consulting.com/swamp_fox_song1.htm)

### EAA calendar

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

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

### IBDA

The IBDA magazine has been discontinued.  
The Bark is now in pdf format see attached.



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

**\$17.95 ea**

[www.ibdaweb.com/merchandise.htm](http://www.ibdaweb.com/merchandise.htm)

### 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.ibdawebsite.com](http://www.ibdawebsite.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**

**[www.ibdawebsite.com/picture\\_gallery.htm](http://www.ibdawebsite.com/picture_gallery.htm)**

## **SWAMP FOX NETWORK**

**Welcome Home**

Tom Oliver (Guest)  
346th ADD  
Vinh Long

**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 download 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 eight 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.**

**NOTE: NEW e-mail address below**

**Editor [r.jennings@KTIS.net](mailto:r.jennings@KTIS.net)**

**O.K., so they both still work [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)**