



March 2016

From The President

Rich Miller president@chpa-us.org

Previous leadership, including Jay Brown as Executive Director handling many administrative duties, worked diligently to bring CHPA to where we are. Standing on their shoulders, we have some new ideas and projects to take the next steps in 2016.

That process has begun. We have short, medium, and long term goals - or in military jargon crawl, walk, run. In order to help CHPA grow and be a benefit to our members, we are currently pursuing several projects with other fraternal aviation groups and some outside companies. We want to enhance our ability to let everyone know why CHPA exists and further the legacy of those warriors known as combat helicopter pilots and flight crewmembers.

As a result of these goals we are currently making some initial changes to the way we do business. Amidst the work going on behind the scenes, our newsletter was pushed back and we just named it March, so no, you did not miss one in February.

We are pursuing an opportunity that can enhance the marketing and sale of CHPA store products. As part of a normal inventory process, and a good opportunity to do some affiliate marketing, the CHPA website store page has been deactivated for a short period. We do envision that as a very temporary step toward enhancing the E-commerce side of CHPA and appreciate your patience. You will see some other changes, and some work-in-progress, as we make improvements to the website.

It would be remiss of me not to respectfully remind you that you can help CHPA succeed by recommending membership to your qualified friends and colleagues. And, as always, volunteers are needed to serve. Contact us at www.hq@chpa-us.org



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Have you got Patches?



Several of you have graciously donated patches to CHPA that have been featured in the Newsletter and at such events like HAI and Quad A. Please dig through your old patches and consider donating one or two so that we can share them with others. Send them to: CHPA, POX 2585, Peachtree, GA 30269

Reunions and Gatherings

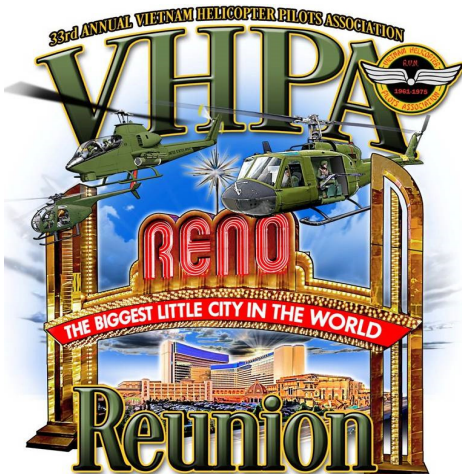


Big 50th for the Golden Hawks!

The Golden Anniversary of the largest and most lethal Army Aviation unit ever devised in the history of modern warfare, the 1st Aviation Brigade celebration & reunion is planned for May 12-15, 2016. This celebration will include post tours, a look at the training facilities, briefings on current Army aviation equipment, training displays, a little simulator time on the new stuff, static aircraft displays, and a memorial service. For more details and registration, email: goldenhawkes.1stavnbn50th@gmail.com

Or check the website at:

<https://13thdeltacombataviationbattalion.shutterfly.com>



VHPA Reunion

The 33rd Annual VHPA reunion will be held in Reno, NV July 5-10, 2016 at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino. Local tours, a golf outing, sighting, speakers, mini reunions, and a host of other scheduled events are on the agenda. For further details: <http://www.vhpa.org/news.htm>



Combat Helicopter Pilots Association is an all services, fraternal, aviation organization. Is your like-group planning a reunion or event that may be of interest to our members? Let us help you get the word out and support aviation veterans groups of all sizes and locations. Just send a message with the information to HQ@chpa-us.org. If you have a logo, send that along, as well. Be sure to include accurate contact and registration information and we'll take care of the rest.

SHARE THE SWASH PLATE

Please feel free to forward this edition to your colleagues, friends, brothers in arms, and potential members.

Recipe Request Sue Prescott



CHPA is still hard at work, trying to pull together enough recipes for a cookbook worthy of our audience. We would still need MORE of your stories and recipes. If you have already submitted one then feel free to do so again. Recipes with a story about learning/cooking when overseas or when a service member returned from a deployment are even better. When I started this project, it was my intent to put the recipes in a common format with common words for the methods to make the recipes consistent; my engineering background coming through. The preferred format is a Word document with ingredients first, in the order used, then instructions. That's not absolutely true anymore. I've received a couple of recipes that are so engaging, though not in my format and words, that I will be including them as written. Also, please remember, if you want to submit a recipe you copied from a website or book, change up the directions (they're the copyrightable content). Or let us know that they need to be changed; and please give attribution to the author. (This just keeps us safe.) Submit recipes to: RecipesCHPA@yahoo.com

Pucker Factor Moments



Years ago, one of our members, Terry Garlock, started a group of Vietnam combat veterans in his home town of Peachtree City, GA, called it the Pucker Factor Club, and arranged for golf shirts with this logo.

That club name strikes close to home, since every one of you CHPA members have had your own pucker factor moments flying helicopters in combat.

Have you contributed at least one of your **Pucker Factor** moments to The Swashplate? If not, why haven't you pulled pitch and done so? That moment your rear-end took a big bite out of the cockpit seat is something your fellow CHPA members will instantly find familiar. And, we're standing by if you want help to put it into "smoother" words.

Every month we try to bring you articles and notices that interest all members. Of course that entails gathering news items and articles from various sources and varying topics, from the humorous to serious news. And, that includes member written articles. We hope we're meeting your needs and providing entertainment. We'd love to hear from you on whether we're meeting those goals. HQ@chpa-us.org or give us a call at 800-832-5144 and let us know.

Goldie Fund Scholarship Project



CHPA has had a scholarship program since 2008. It is known as the Goldie Fund Scholarship. The Board of Directors considers and awards scholarships of up to \$1,500 each. CHPA is pleased to announce the launch of our 2016-2017 Academic Year Goldie Fund Scholarship Program for certain family members of active CHPA members. You can't receive a scholarship award unless you apply. More information, an application form, and details about Eligibility Requirements and Rules for the scholarship can be obtained at our website page: http://www.chpa-us.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47

The Fallen Night Stalker's Memorial **Jimmy Moore**

Last year I was honored by the Combat Helicopter Pilots Association (CHPA) as a lifetime member of their organization. Not because I am a pilot but due to the hundreds of hours I have spent in rotary wing aircraft in my contract work over the years. Since then I have worked with them in fund raisers for the families of the fallen pilots and scholarships for their children.

In conversations with the 160th Night Stalkers at Fort Campbell, KY and after sending them a copy of my signature photograph, there were several discussions concerning a link between the two units. Following the change of command at Fort Campbell, we were invited to take part in their ceremony for the Fallen Night Stalkers on 19 and 20 May 2015. The CHPA President, two board members and I were asked to present a large framed photograph of 'Goin' Home' to the Fallen during the ceremony.

The Night Stalkers are an elite Special Operations Soldiers of the United States. Their missions are at night, classified as secret and most highly effective. The dinner that evening was held at Valor Hall and the guests of honor were the families and friends of the fallen Night Stalkers. The Commander welcomed everyone followed by a prayer. He then introduced several CHPA leaders, each of us, our wives and Margaret Lane Johnson. I had been asked by the Commander to speak to the families of the Fallen; over 150 members.

As I walked up to the podium, the Commander whispered, "Tell the story of your reason for creating the 'Goin' Home' photograph; I read your resume." I replied, "Sir, my President asked me to keep my comments to around three minutes." He looked me in the eye and said with a stern voice, "I am the Commander . . . tell the story!" "Yes, Sir," I replied.

I told the story of my friend, Commander John A. Feldhaus, a Navy Pilot and childhood friend from Lawrenceburg, who had become a training officer for pilots of the A-1H Skyraider, a low level fighter-bomber being used in Vietnam. He told me he had asked to be deployed from Corpus Christi, TX to Vietnam. He

felt he had trained hundreds of pilots and he should be allowed to fly combat missions in Vietnam; he also explained if they refused him, he would retire from the Navy. They deployed him shortly thereafter.

He said, "If anything happens to me, please take care of my family and I wish to be carried to my grave as they did in the old days, in a horse drawn wagon." I promised him I would do that but reminded him this was something he did not have to do. He had made up his mind and that's the way he was. On 8-October-1966 he was shot down in the Thanh Hoa Province of North Vietnam. Jackie was MIA for 35 years.

During the time he was MIA, I shot a commercial in Long Branch, TN, near Lawrenceburg for a fork lift company on the way things were hauled now compare to how they were hauled in the old days. Mr. Markus, a gentleman farmer I had known for years agreed to use his old wagon and his mule to help do the commercial. As we planned this, I thought of what Jackie had asked me to do in case something happened to him. I thought this was a great opportunity to make a photographic dedication and remembrance to him but still with some hope of his return. I carried an old shipping casket and my dad's burial flag with me just in case Mr. Markus agreed, and he did. Even his dogs took part in the shooting of the photograph. It was first dedicated to Jackie but later, because it was so touching to many soldiers, veterans and their families, the dedication was changed to the following: "To honor and remember those who loved it, fought for it, and died for it. . . America." The photograph became widespread throughout the nation.



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