THE UGLY ANGEL Memorial Foundation Newsletter



Vol. I April 1996

Fifty-one former Ugly Angels plus wives and guests are now scheduled to rendezvous in Las Vegas on 21 June. The recent check-ins (from all sources) include former CO Jim Aldworth, Lew Barnes, Roger Cook, Mike Carley Jr., Brad Jealous, Mike Severson, and John Sigman. Also, Ed Hunneyman has ambled out of the ready room and is climbing aboard. And with help from a few more of you maybes, we can probably make it to sixty. The Ugly Angels live on!

I am still hopeful that some of you remembered to dial up that old hooch-mate and urged him to join us. In that connection, if anybody knows the whereabouts of Jim Barfield, Bill Lelash, Nick Kapetan, Harry Makeever, Herb Roberts, or Curt Ryan, please send me their addresses.

Overheard at Tet 68: "If the mess hall is out of peanut butter, we ain't winning this f***ing war!"

Remember, at noon on Saturday 22 June we are holding a Memorial Luncheon to honor the Ugly Angels who were lost in Vietnam. We have reserved a private dining room with a capacity of 100 + on the twenty-sixth floor of the hotel for the occasion. Please plan to attend. So far, only sixteen post cards have been returned.

Menu Fruit cup Baked Chinook Salmon Steak or Chicken Breast Piccata Parsley Potatoes • String Beans • Rolls & Butter Exquisite Dessert • Coffee & Tea

The total cost: \$25, tax and tip included. We are not planning a bar because of the additional expense required for the bartender. The lunch will be followed by a simple, dignified tribute to our fallen comrades. Gunny Sachs will act as MC and an old retired Col. will deliver a brief eulogy.

3 The only lost Angels we have thus far identified are the ten pictured in the 1966-1967 Ugly Angel cruise book. I know there are others, and would appreciate former Angels from other year groups sending me their lost Angel's full name and rank, (e.g. Cpl. George Allison Bird). The names will be read at the Memorial Luncheon and we don't want to overlook anyone.

Read & Initial

Luncheon attendees: Please mail your checks and menu choice (Seagull or Sardine) to Gunny NLT 1 June. His real name is: Ernest P. Sachs P.O. Box 1360 Norwich, VT 05055

If we don't hear from you by 1 June, you're going to have to eat salmon and be hounded by our large grunt bill collector who will be told it was you who laughingly inserted his recon team into the middle of a VC cadre. Many thanks to Bill Duffy, Ken Logue, Burt Palmer, McSouth, and Muddy Waters for their generous contributions to the newsletter fund. We are now sending it to 70 + guys, and I have had to switch to Thunderbird. Still can't decide whether it goes better with meat or fish.

Muddy H2Os was kind enough to point out an unforgivable error in the March newsletter. It was MAG-36 embarked in Princeton, not that other group. While I confess that a letter of reprimand is better than no mail at all (and that's what I've been getting lately), my excuse is that Muddy apparently spent so much time west of the 180th meridian he writes in what looks like Tagalog.

Learned the hard way: "If your recon insert is going really well, it's an ambush"

We are looking for a West Coast volunteer who owns a slide projector, 16 mm movie projector, and screen (and who is driving to the reunion) to bring them to Las Vegas so we can show in-country flicks. These will not, I hasten to add, be of the "Max Gross" variety.

Willie Sproule has sent me a picture of the 7'x 2' Ugly Angel banner he made for the reunion- and it's some sharp. Set on a yellow vinyl background, it has HMM-362, The Ugly Angels, gold Pilot and silver Aircrew Wings, the RVN Service Ribbon, and a green H-34 (head-on view) hand painted on it - all flanked by inboard facing Ugly Angels. You're gonna love it!

Where are they now?

Burt Palmer, an Ugly SNCO in 66-67, returned to Conus and won a commission. Then in 1969-70 he served another Vietnam tour with HMMs-265 & 165 as Ground Maint. Off. While serving as OIC of a tech school at MAD Memphis

Burt retired and joined the Memphis Police as the AMO of their Helicopter Section. Recognizing that he had flown with the best, the MPD sent him through their flight school where he added a Helo rating to his Commercial Pilots License. For the next ten years he flew helo's, including the turbine powered H-34 and S-61, until his "hearing went south." He worked in general aviation until 1995 when he fully retired to serious crappie fishing. He and his wife Glenda live at: 8920 Black Panther Cove Hernando, MS 38632.

I say again

The Ugly Angel soft goods are ready for shipping. Order now! Look cool! Make a fashion statement on your arrival in Las Vegas!

• Baseball Caps - Dark Green with embroidered Ugly Angel Logo and HMM-362 on front About \$15.00. Name and Nam date on sides, \$3.00 additional for each.

- Golf shirts Black Forest Green with small embroidered Ugly Angel logo on left front. Two grades - \$20.00 & \$35.00
- Change 1
 T-shirts White with gold pilot & aircrew wings and motto "Semper Fi" on front. Ugly Angel logo & USMC/Vietnam vertically on back. About \$8.00

If you want your stuff before you leave for Las Vegas, write or call our non-profit (that's a no-shitter) soft

goods guru: Norm "Frenchy" LaFountaine 57 Long Plain Road Mattapoisett, MA 02739 Tel: (508) 758-2314.

Remember, I am not using the post card info to order for you, only to set an inventory level for

Frenchy.

Do you remember Grid Coord.022288?

A free cool one to first Angel who correctly (and not profanely) identifies this exciting location. Status Board

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1. Yes, Carol, I did remember.

NOTAM: The squadron share (50%) of the pipe & drape ready room described in last months newsletter will be \$150.00. Your pro-rata share, assuming fifty guys show up, will be a whole \$3.00. Apply now for your Navy Relief Society loan and avoid the rush. We will try to collect from you in Las Vegas.

S-2 (remember the Secret Sergeant & Confidential Corporal?) reports the following squadrons will also be active us Las Vegas: HMMs-163, 165, 262, 361, 363, 364, HMH-461, and VMOs-2 & 3. I judge the reliability of this report to be as good as the intelligence on where the mortars were around Dong Ha.

FYI: Roger Herman (#1 good guy and Pres. of the USMC/VP&AR inc.) informed me in early March that Bally's has no more rooms for Fri. & Sat nights, and damn few for Sun. He also says 1300 will be attending the reunion - about 700 members and 600 spouses/guests. Don't give up if you can't find room at the inn, you can still attend. If you haven't booked a room yet, check with your

travel agent. My Sunday paper lists tocsan Airline/Hotel deals at reasonable rates.

Would you like to replace the Ugly Angel patch you lost when you were rolled in Olongapo? If the answer is yes, contact Marc Sohm 450 Ruggles St. Fond du Lac WI 54935. He has talked a hooch maid into reproducing the embroidered original for only \$8.00/copy.

Clip Clop 6 guidance to a young XO: "Tom, don't f--- it up"

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