



FAC NEWS



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July 2016



Brad Wright

PRESIDENT'S CORNER
Brad Wright
Covey 251, DaNang,
May 1970-1971

www.fac-assoc.org

1849 Southlawn Drive
Fairborn, OH 45324

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Officers and Committee Chairmen:

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Vice Pres: Dale Hill, NAIL49, 770-367-7154

Secretary: Joseph "Jay" Barnes, JAKE26, 973-325-6107

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Reunion Advisory: Cal Anderson,
HOUNDDOG21, 252-437-0550

Immediate Past President/Director, Phil Litts,
JAKE26, 209-329-6970

Reunion Updates are being posted on the FACNET

President's Corner Sumer 2016

As I struggle with what words to put together for the newsletter, I realize that another Memorial Day has come and gone. Each year we pause to remember those who gave their all in service to our country. And I am grateful that the attitude of people today don't, in the words of General Ed Eberhart at the 2006 reunion, "blame the warrior for the war". The honor and respect given to our service men and women is truly heart-warming.

As we near the halfway point of this year and our 2016 reunion is just around the corner I want to let everyone know that Jay Barnes and his team are working diligently putting together a unique experience in Colonial Williamsburg, VA. This year's gathering will provide us the chance to step back in time and view the people of the colonies that would become the United States of America. Jay's article on the reunion can be found in this edition of the newsletter, so take the time to read it and then make your travel plans to be there in October. Stay tuned for more specific details about events and registration.

What else has been going on with the FAC Association? Well, did you know that Cleared Hot III has been released? NO!! Well you can go to Lulu.com and get these -book or hard copy. And while you are there, you can order CH I and CH II if you don't already have them. Also, plug into the search block 'Forward Air Controllers' and see what else is out there that tells the tales of our war. You will recognize several author's names.

I want to wish all of you a safe and wonderful summer and true enjoyment in whatever your activities will be in the upcoming months. I know that Mary and I will enjoy our children and grandchildren at every opportunity that we are given. And then we will pack up the car and head up I-85/95 to the FAC Reunion in early October. Every two years I look forward to the chance to see you all and catch up with all of your latest happenings. And then

there is the hope to see a familiar face or two of guys who are either making their first appearance at a reunion or coming back after a long absence. I haven't been to all the reunions, but for each one I have attended I always get to see a new "old" face. What a treat!!!

So, in closing, all I can say is "See you in Williamsburg!" Cleared Hot, Hit My Smoke

Brad Wright
Covey 251
Da Nang 70 - 71

TREASURER'S REPORT

June, 2016

As of the end of May, 2016, our financial worth was \$ 135,296:

Checking Balance - \$ 5,259
Savings Balance - \$ 29,273
CD Balance - \$ 65,332
Brokerage Balance - \$35,432

During the first half of 2016, we received 16 new life members and 52 annual renewals.

We completed the funding of our third \$ 25,000 scholarship through MOAA. We continue to work through some administrative roadblocks to provide the Hurlburt Field Airpark with the approved \$ 1,000 FAC Association donation. We should complete this donation by the end of the year.

To help the association save money, if you haven't already done so, consider switching your newsletter delivery to email. Just let me know and I'll make it happen.

You can also help by keeping track of your membership by noting your status on the first line of your address on this newsletter. The first number is the last year of your membership. If your membership is due for renewal, consider becoming a life member. In either case, make your check to FACA, Inc and send to me at PO Box 222, Polson, MT 59860.

Thanks for your support.

Trey Moran, Nail 13

The March 2016 **American Legion Magazine** reported that there are about 50 Laotians killed a year or seriously wounded by ordnance left over from the Vietnam War. The US is considering increasing aid to help the communist-run country clear its land of unexploded bombs, up from \$19.5 million in 2015.

A short video about two American P-40 pilots who were able to get off the ground at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. <https://www.youtube.com/embed/zS8HWFwqa4>



Who is this FAC when he was a young stud-A TAC trained killer? Win a surprise gift from the 99 cent Store for the first one to name him correctly

A brotherhood of a war long past,
Friends from the beginning,
Friends to the last.

THE LAST FIGHTER PILOT by Lee Downer, Major General, USAF (ret) It's awesome and paints a picture that we all fear, the death of the warrior culture in our military. It describes a ceremony that takes place in the future recognizing the last living fighter pilot. <http://www.fighterpilotuniversity.com/wtfo/last-fighter-pilot>

Capt Fred Platt, Walt 43, Raven 47/70/31, Sheriff 43, one of our most colorful FAC member died on May, 2016. He was known to come to reunions in a hearse in a casket and famous for his cigars, whiskey and stories. His colorful bio is at <http://www.muleorations.com/blog/48-2> and <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/houstonchronicle/obituary.aspx?pid=179960570>

IN MEMORIAM

LTC Randall A. Roberts.		Jan 1 2016.
Cpt Fred Platt	Raven 47/70/31,	17 May 2016
Wayne Powell	Nile FAC	14 May
Ken Syanoe		2 June
David L. Yoakum	Tum FAC	25 Jun 72

[Al Matheson](#), Nail 213, citabriair@yahoo.com

Last flight out of Da Nang. 1975—Baby Lift--<http://www.panam.org/video/426-last-flight-from-da-nang>
Anyone out there in FAC land fly Operation Baby Lift? 4 April 1975 I had 374 persons on board for one flight, with only 73 seats available---on a Chuckle 5. Ford's Goal was to lift 10,000 children. We loaded them like a bucket brigade after Bernie's plane went down (the pressure door pins sheared) on the first flight. I recall the number as 139 children killed, including about 30 crewmembers, mostly nurses who didn't make it back.

[Darrel](#). This is an interesting video listening to an American and Russian pilot talked about the difference both countries use in designing their military aircraft.

<http://www.chonday.com/Videos/jetcolwar4>

[Gary Willis](#), Red Marker 18: Thank you for the post of the story of our classmates Jim Gilmore and Ken Svanoe. Ken was in my squadron at the Zoo, and 23rd Sqdn pauses each June 2nd to remember his loss. Ken was a remarkable free spirit. As a fourth classman he engaged in counter-harassment of the firsties. He was a fine athlete on the soccer team. Ken wrote for publication in the squadron newsletter that he was headed to Vietnam as an "A" FAC having gone through instant fighter pilot school. In his words, he was the only one he knew that jettisoned his tip tanks instead of his bombs on his first pass on the bombing range. He also said he had time to write the letter because he had missed his flight from Travis to Vietnam. And he ended his letter that he was still going steady with Emily back home.

I shall never forget him. He was our first squadron mate lost.

In [Felix Baumgartner](#) famous jump in space from 128,000 ft. they used 6 Go-Pro cameras to record this 5 minute video in his descent. Our Col Joe Kittinger, the first one to leap from Space, was there to help Felix break his 50 year old record jumping from 102,000. Joe was the first. There are very different definition of space but his jump will suffice as from space. First-Person-View Of Felix Baumgartner's Space Jump

<http://www.flixy.com/first-person-view-of-felix-baumgartners-space-jump.htm>

What a guy Joe was to help Baumgartner break his record.

[Ken Hinks](#), Picture of the Randy Roberts OV-10 at the Hill AFB museum.



<http://www.vgbimages.com/AirMuseums/Hill-Aerospace-Museum-Hill-afb-U-i-5VCNgTz>

rushforth@aol.com, **FAC MONUMENT – HONOLULU.**

Audrey had a great idea! A little Memorial Day reminder from Honolulu. Many of you will remember the Memorial the FAC Association placed at the "Punchbowl Observation Point" overlooking Honolulu, during the 2002 Reunion. (Bud Day attended that one.) For the services here tomorrow at the "[Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific](#)" -- Several hundred volunteers produced leis and placed tens of thousands of flags on every grave in the Cemetery.

[Zot Barazzotto](#), zot250@ameritech.net. I was co-pilot of an RC-135U and we were in the Kara Sea (off the Arctic Ocean on top of the Soviet Union.) We were supposed to be all alone when I saw a TU-128 flying perfect, tight (10-15') wingtip formation. A TU-128 is as big as a B-58 and to say it was a surprise was an understatement because we were supposed to know when we were being shadowed and he wasn't supposed to be within 5 km of us (his ROE.) When I reached for the camera and came up without a Playboy centerfold he decided that was all the fun he could stand. When he rolled I got a perfect picture of his belly. Picture was classified but leaked to Aviation Week in 1975 and eventually declassified.

'Roy Brewer' rbrewer794@earthlink.net [FACNET]
The Gold Star Families Memorial Monument is coming to Port St. Lucie, Florida.

The 2016 FAC Reunion.....A different Experience



Our 2016 Reunion will be held in Williamsburg, VA in early October. The dates are set for Oct 4-8, with the 3rd and 9th as travel days - the dates and hotel details are now set in concrete. The Holiday Inn Patriot hotel, [\(757-565-2600\)](tel:757-565-2600) is located at 3032 Richmond Rd. Williamsburg, VA 23185. When booking your room, be sure to book under the Group Name **FAC Group**. Our FAC rates are \$89 + tax, S/D, which includes a daily hot breakfast buffet. Specify Smoking or Non-Smoking. Rooms are equipped with mini-fridge, microwave, hair dryer, iron & board. On a Space-A basis, you may get the group rate for up to 3 days before and/or after. You may cancel your reservations up to 72 hours prior to check-in time with NO penalty. Reservations are available under the room block until 23 Sept 2016.

This is going to be an event you will never forget (just like that first night solo landing). Be prepared to meet the townspeople, trades people, shopkeepers, political figures, women, and the enslaved who call Williamsburg home—and learn of their hopes, struggles, and fears in those uncertain times. As you explore the challenges of daily life set against the backdrop of revolution, look for the many opportunities to play your role as a citizen of the Revolutionary City. Take part as American colonists make the life-altering choice of whether to remain loyal to the British king or to fight for a free and independent nation. Join an angry mob as it storms the Governor’s Palace to demand the return of the colony’s gunpowder. Get caught up in the stories of struggle and hardship. Witness the arrival of news of the Declaration of Independence and join the debate over the meaning of “All men are created equal.” Be there as Benedict Arnold occupies the town and imposes martial law on its people.

When you're thinking about food and drink, don't despair, you can find it everywhere. Click on the image below to find the location, menu, serving time and make your reservation.



The 2016 Reunion Williamsburg, VA October 4-8

Overview of the schedule: Oct 3 = travel to W'burg. 4-7 (Tue-Wed-Thur-Fri) focus mostly on the Revolutionary City (9-5 daily). One morning (Wed or Fri?) will be affordably-priced golf. The FAC Assn. BOD will hold its annual meeting on Thursday morning in the hotel's "Board Room". Thursday evening an (optional) catered casual buffet dinner is planned at the hotel, possibly with entertainment. Our own Combat Crew Chief Bob ("C3B" has confirmed that his "Fall Line Bluegrass Band" will provide entertainment during the dinner. Group tours of the Army Transportation Museum are available at nearby Ft. Eustis (conveniently across the road from the Deer Run golf course). For others, esp. the gals, options include visits to the Outlet Malls, Yankee Candle Factory, Williamsburg Pottery Factory complex, and exploring.



Saturday the 8th will include a morning ceremony in the W'burg Memorial Park, Membership meeting & elections, reception, and banquet, with guest speaker TBD. Fellow FAC Roger Dodd, who has entertained us with his DJ skills at past reunions, has confirmed that he will drive up with his keyboard and sound system to provide (subdued) entertainment during the reception, and after the formalities of the Grand Banquet. FACs can make advance group reservations for lunch or dinner at one of the Historic Taverns, with authentic Colonial entertainment; details provided in the Hooch. Tavern reservations are a must!



WILLIAMSBURG FAC REUNION, 3-8 October 2016 REGISTRATION FORM

THIS IS HOW YOUR / GUESTS' NAMES WILL APPEAR ON YOUR NAME TAGS

Date/Time Field

First Name Last Name Call Sign

A/C Flown Tour Dates Locations

Address City State Zip Code

Home Phone (10#s) Cell Phone (10#s) E Mail

I am The FAC The Spouse The Child The Grandchild Other Your FAC 's Name

Primary Emergency Contact Phone Number (10#s)

GUEST NAMES (If needed, please list additional guests on a separate sheet.)

Full Name The Spouse Child/Other

I will arrive on: Mon. 3 Oct Tues. 4 Oct Wed. 5 Oct Thurs. 6 Oct Fri 7 Oct Sat. 8 Oct Arrival

Approx. time of day: Coming by: POV Rental Car Air I'm flying into: Newport

News/W'burg (PHF) Richmond (RIC) Norfolk (ORF) DCA IAD BWI If unaccompanied, would you

be interested in sharing a room/expenses with another FAC? Yes No Reserve a seat for me at the AUTHOR'S

table. Evenings. 6pm Name of Book

Do you require any special assistance while at the reunion? Please Specify:

I'm bringing memorabilia for display in the FAC Hooch. YES

Item#	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
1	REUNION REGISTRATION - FAC	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
2	REUNION REGISTRATION - GUEST		\$75.00	\$0.00
3	Paid-up Annual/Life Member Discount (Member Only)		\$-20.00	\$0.00
4	5 Day Length of stay Tourist Ticket		\$38.00	\$0.00
5	Wednesday Golf @ 1000 (Greens Fees , Cart & Prizes)		\$32.00	\$0.00
6	Army Transportation Museum (Ft. Eustis)		\$0.00	\$0.00
7	Thursday Casual Dinner Buffet w/Entertainment		\$25.00	\$0.00
8	Friday Golf @ 0830 (3 tee times available)		\$28.50	\$0.00
9	Saturday Memorial Service		\$0.00	\$0.00
10	Saturday Banquet		\$55.00	\$0.00
			Total	\$75.00

Embroidered navy blue reunion polo shirts with FAC Reunion logo may be custom ordered, if order & full payment is received by **10 Aug 2016**. Please pay for shirts with a separate check, with memo indicating "Polo Shirt". Circle SML MED LRG XLRG for \$28; 2XLRG for \$29; 3XLRG for \$30. Circle your NAME, CALLSIGN, or BOTH to choose additional embroidery. NO EXCHANGES

Name: _____ Callsign: _____

Indicate size and embroidery choice on your check.

**MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO:
FAC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Mail your check to:
Terry English,
2016 FAC Reunion Treasurer,
2309 Sherrod Av,
Florence, AL 35630-1236

Must be received NLT 10 Sept 2016

MY CHECK #

Signature:

Golfers:

See FAC website for club rental information and shipping information, if needed. If you have questions, contact our golf guru, Denny Crouch, at denniscrouch@earthlink.net, or 937-426-6246.

Print Form

My Father was a Nail/ Hammer Fac in late 70 /71 He was Nail 79 / Hammer 79. I know he usually flew 0-2's I don't know exactly when he was done in 1971 but he can be reached via email at jbutler1218@charter.net

First African-American fighter pilot in history. His name is Eugene Jacques Bullard, and he is the first African-American fighter pilot in history.

MG Carl Schneider , POW Tap Code at the Hanoi Hilton. I just received this and it is a new video for me. This can bring tears to your eyes. Bud Day (another POW). **Tricare for Life established. Smitty Harris** explains his introducing the Tap Code to the POW population. He was heroic in keeping the communication capability in action. It had everything to do with whatever morale that could be above isolation. Tap code at the Hanoi Hilton. <https://www.facebook.com/VeteransAffairs/videos/10153460879658178/>

THE LAST FIGHTER PILOT by Lee Downer, Major General, USAF (ret) It's awesome and paints a picture that we all fear, the death of the warrior culture in our military. It describes a ceremony that takes place in the future recognizing the last living fighter pilot. <http://www.fighterpilotuniversity.com/wtfo/last-fighter-pilot>

Click on any of these museum pictures for a photo tour of each at <http://www.vgbimages.com/AirMuseums>

"Robert E Gorman bgjake44@gmail.com" Guys, by the time you read this newsletter, Cleared Hot III will be available for sale. Use your computer and go to the FAC website where under "Memorabilia" you will find a link to the Lulu book store. The paper version of the book is \$25 and or the electronic version is \$10. If you can't make it to the website, here is a direct link you can use....Jake 44 "

<http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/FAC>



This sites gives you about everything you ever wanted to know about our casualties in Vietnam from the **Vietnam Conflict Extract Data File of the Defense Casualty Analysis System (DCAS) Extract Files :**

<http://www.archives.gov/research/military/vietnam-war/casualty-statistics.html>

Gary Willis, Red Marker 18: As my mother used to say, "I don't care which one of you started it, you're both wrong. Now cut it out!"

Paul Windle Municipal Airport (FAA LID: 8K7) is closed and no longer used airport located east of the central business district of Greensburg, a city in Kiowa County, Kansas, United States. The airport was owned by the City of Greensburg and named in honor of FAC Capt. Paul R. "Windy" Windle (1934-1965) who learned to fly at this airport and was killed in action during the Vietnam War.

Bill Carruthers, billc114@gmail.com, Famous last words: Where I happened to meet my 1st wife, Chris, who was a supply officer. (She was at Ubon for 6 months before I knew her. (I almost forgot to mention that as of last week, I am still married to my 1st wife, 42 years now)

Peter Condon from Down Under. Tamale 15, Side-winder: The Australian FACs are getting together for a reunion in Canberra on Wednesday 17 August, 2016 for three days. The group agreed to be in Canberra for the 50th anniversary of the 'Battle of Long Tan', one of the major skirmishes the Australian Army was involved in during the war. The important day, the 18th, is primarily an 'Army' day. Forward Air Controllers were not involved because of the bad weather. There will be a Government reception in Parliament House on the Tuesday afternoon (limited numbers) and a Memorial Service on the morning of Wednesday 18th August near the Australian War Memorial. Other plans have not been decided because the official programme has not yet been published. A brief outline of what went on at Long Tan on 18 August, 1966 follows. <http://vietnam-war.commemoration.gov.au/combat/battle-of-long-tan.php>

OV-10 in Action again. This is a link to an article in Business Insider regarding the OV-10s in the Middle East and some of the ordinance they are using. <http://www.businessinsider.com/the-us-is-using-vietnam-era-warplanes-to-kill-isis-fighters-2016-5>

FAC Association

1849 Southlawn Drive
Fairborn, OH 45324

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Annual dues, \$20, Life membership dues depend on your age

55yrs and under—\$225
56 to 60 yrs —\$200
61 to 65 yrs —\$175
66 to 69 yrs —\$150
70 to 75 yrs —\$125
76 + yrs —\$100

Copy this page, fill in the table below, and mail it along
with your check to:

Trey Moran
PO Box 222
Polson, MT. 59860

FAC Association Membership and Annual Dues Form

Last Name :		First Name:		Initial:	
DOB (dd/mm/yyyy)		Spouse Name			
Address		Phone #			
City	State	Zip + 4	Cell #		
email					
A/C or Specialty		Call Sign			
Organization/Sqdn/TASS		FAC Tour Dates			
Locations					
Comments:					
Enclosed is my check # _____ for \$ _____ Make me a member of/continue my membership in the FAC Association. (Note: Your Dues Status can be found in the address block printed above.)					
Dues Status		Signature			