



187th AHC Association Newsletter June 2019



This newsletter is provided to keep members informed of association activities and other topics of interest. If you have items you wish to have included in the next newsletter, please provide them to George Schulz at gschulzee@aol.com

Thanks for giving me the privilege to serve the 187th. AHC as President for 2019. With the support of Vice-President Bill Britt, Secretary Ron Scott, Treasurer Ray Root and Member at Large Board member Brian “Woody” Woodbury I hope we can continue the great leadership provided by our predecessors. Ron and Ray have been the “glue” that holds the organization together. Others behind the scenes also quietly volunteer their time and effort to keep your association running smoothly. Bob Calverley maintains and constantly updates the unit roster. Jim Gaffney and Frank Keyser keep our fantastic web site up to date. Ian Dawson manages the flower fund and reaches out to the families of members who have died or lost loved ones.

2019 Reunion - Jerry and Mary Ann Fine, our hosts for the 2019 Reunion in Austin Texas, have completed all of the planning and the registration and hotel information has been posted on our website (<http://www.187thahc.net>) Go to the website and complete your application, send it to Jerry and make your reservations at the hotel as soon as possible so that we can meet the minimum room reservation requirements stipulated in our contract with the Holiday Inn Midtown. If you or someone you know has concerns about the cost of the reunion, funds are available through the Steiger Fund on a totally confidential basis, just use the link on our website or contact Jimmy Strait (JLstrait@sbcglobal.com) who administers the Fund.

Volunteers manning the “Phone Bank” will be contacting you in the near future to encourage you to attend the 2019 reunion.

2020 Reunion – Jimmy and Michelle Strait have agreed to host the 2020 Reunion in San Antonio Texas and have already entered into a contract with the same Holiday Inn on the River Walk where we had a prior reunion.

Company Store – Since the Company Store has been discontinued, Ray Root, our treasurer, continues to work with our former vendors in an effort to assure that certain of the former inventory items, such as shirts and hats, etc. will be available for ordering at future reunions.

Proposed By-Law Change – For those of you in attendance at the 2018 reunion you may recall that Al Major had proposed a change to our By-Laws to remove the requirement that our Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM) must be held over Veterans Day. The reason for the proposed change is to provide our 187th Brothers living in the Northern part of the Country an opportunity (“hint, hint”) to host a reunion at any time of the year, including the Summer months, in order to not be

concerned about cold weather in early November. If anyone is interested in hosting the 2021 reunion please contact me at gschulzeee@aol.com.

Attached is information prepared by Jim Henry and Al Major discussing the proposed Bylaw change. This information will serve to meet the requirement under our Bylaws to communicate any proposed bylaw changes to the members at least 30 days prior to a vote at the AGMM. We will have a formal vote on the proposed change at the 2019 AGMM during the reunion in Austin.

“Huey Fund” March Field Air Museum – Your Board has approved and a contribution of \$500 has been made to the March Field Air Museum to restore a Huey, piloted by Major Evert Robeson, a former member of the 187th. AHC.

Below is some information provided to us by J. Houlihan, Director, Collections, Exhibits & Restoration, March Field Air Museum:

November 22, 1967 U.S Army UH-1D Helicopter 66-925, was engaged in the insertion of elements of the 3rd Brigade 25th Infantry Division into a hot landing zone 35 miles north of Saigon. At the controls Major Evert Robeson, a veteran of the fierce battles in the Ia Drang Valley two years before, now serving his second tour in Vietnam, pulled sharply away when enemy fire smashed through the cockpit. One round passed through the Major’s left leg inflicting a grievous wound. Within minutes, 66-925 had landed at Lai Khe where Army doctors worked frantically to stem the flow of blood. Stabilized, Major Robeson was transported to the 12th Evacuation Hospital at Cu Chi where surgeons fought to save his life. Tragically, the Major succumbed to his wounds three days later.

42 years after the loss of this gallant aviator, March Field Air Museum has been given an important opportunity; to acquire and restore UH-1D 66-925. We are committed to honoring the memory of Major Robeson, and all those who sacrificed so much in Southeast Asia, by bringing this helicopter back to its original military configuration and placing it on permanent display in Fire Base Romeo Charlie, March Field Air Museum’s extensive Vietnam exhibit.

\$6,000 dollars will bring this aircraft to its new home and prepare it for display. March Field Air Museum is a non-profit 501(c) (3) and receives no government funding. Donations, of any denomination, are urgently needed. Can you help? Please follow the link: <https://www.marchfield.org/uh-1d-huey-vietnam-veteran/> or send donations to the “Huey Fund” March Field Air Museum, 22550 Van Buren Blvd. March ARB, CA 92517.

Unit Tributes – National Museum of the United States Army – Jim Henry has been in communications with members of the National Museum of the United States Army who have a program to recognize All Army units, past or present, and its accomplishments, in perpetuity with a Unit Tribute Plaque. The 12” by 18” Unit Tribute Plaque will line the *Path of Remembrance* leading to the Museum. Jim has not requested that the 187th Unit fund bear the \$5,000 cost of the Plaque but instead has solicited contributions from a few members of the 187th, who in consultation with Jim, will design the Plaque to honor the 187th. AHC. For more information, see “The Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army at <https://armyhistory.org/unit-tributes/>.

“Snail Mail” – In order to minimize the cost of mailings to the organization we have decided to discontinue all “snail mail” correspondence with members. This will be the last “snail mail” distribution. If you are aware of a brother in your city or area that does not have access to a personal computer to access our website, please encourage them to go to a local Library where they can use a PC for free and get assistance from a Librarian to access our website or alternatively print out the relevant information and provide it to them.

See you in Austin in November
George Schulz - president