



# CHINA POST # 1 POOP SHEET



April 2004 • Year of the **Monkey**

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## UPCOMING EVENTS REUNION CONVENTION / REUNION 2004

Our Post Convention / Reunion is scheduled for the Frontier Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada for the period of 14 September for early arrivals through 20 September for late departures. The Hospitality Room will open on Thursday 17 September and be open as late as practical on Sunday 19 September for late departures. We have some events in the planning stages that include tours, shooting automatic weapons at a range, and of course the main attraction of going to Las Vegas, the casinos, the food, the fun. A Poop Sheet will be sent out in June for event / meal registration. What is **important** is that you make your **room reservations NOW !!!** You can cancel up to 48 hours before arrival if your plans change, but they cannot make more rooms available than our block, and after the cut off date, whichever comes first you could find yourself homeless in Las Vegas (sounds like a movie plot ?) Just beyond the neon lights there are some easy to get to spots to visit. The Valley of Fire has ancient petroglyphs and rising red rock faces about an hour East of Las Vegas and not far from there is the Lost City Museum which contains the remains of the city swallowed by the waters of Lake Mead when it filled in 1935. It is only a 20 minute trip to the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. There are drive through trips and easy hiking to see some of the Mojave Desert's unusual geological features. Most trips can be arranged through the Hotel or you can pick up the brochures and drive yourself out to take a break from the tables and change your luck. The Fashion Show Mall next to the Hotel is the newest mall in town and offers shopping till you drop and The Guggenheim of artistic masterpieces in 7,600 sq ft or the Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art might appeal to the cultured amongst us but don't forget the Elvia-A-Rama with it's show, exhibit and museum



dedicated to the "King". Now that I've given you some of the side shows, it's time for the main information: **Our Hotel, The New Frontier** is located at 3120 Las Vegas Blvd (The Strip) it is a 986 room hotel that features in-house 'Phil's Angus Steak House', The Orchard Buffet with a varied menu, Margarita's Mexican Cantina (with the coldest margaritas on the strip) and 'Gilley's Western Honky Tonk and Texas Bar-B-Que' for dinner, dancing and country music.. **Our Rate: Regular** (Standard rooms 377 sq feet) with king or double beds are \$39 Sunday through Thursday and \$59 on Friday and Saturday. Please Note: **The Hotel does not accept Saturday arrivals.** If this presents a problem let me know and I will try to 'fix' it. **Atrium Suites** with separate living and sleeping rooms (600 sq feet) and wet bar are available at \$59 Sunday – Thursday and are \$109 on Friday and Saturdays. **The Reservation numbers for the hotel are (800)634-6966 or (702) 794-8200** and the room block is under **CHINA 1**. Once again-the block name is under **China 1** and the numbers for reservations are **(800) 634-6966 or (702) 794-8200.** **DO NOT DELAY MAKING YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS—THE CUT OFF DATE**

**IS AUGUST 15 BUT YOU SHOULD RESERVE BEFORE WE RUN OUT OF ROOMS IN OUR BLOCK.**

**NORTHERN VA MEMORIAL DIVISION** annual luncheon Sunday, 2 May 2004 at Wu's Garden at 418 Maple Ave E in Vienna, VA. Arrival time 11:30 lunch at 12:30 followed by **Gooooood Mornning Vietnam**. No it's not Robin Williams but the real **Adrian Cronauer** who will be the guest speaker. For those in the area who want reservations, contact **Mike Evers** by phone at (703) 591-6724 or check the Post web site for a link to e-mail him regarding the meeting. They are also planning on having a representative from the MIA/POW office brief.

**SOUTHERN FRANCE**, and Italy, Germany, Paris, Saudi. UK and US will be represented at our Post Meeting, 40 & 8 Promenade, VFW and Cooties meeting in Menton, France May 6-8. Meeting of the organizations will be held on May 6 and 7 and on the 8<sup>th</sup> we will lay wreaths in the VE Day ceremonies. We plan this year's trip to include a Memorial Service for Mel Rosen and to decide if we will continue this VE Day tradition in Southern France in future years.

The biennial **SKY Reunion** will be held in Ft Walton Beach, FL 20-23 May. Sky members and guests should have received their "Warning Order" and made reservations.

**Air America** meets in Dallas 3 – 5 June at the Westin Park Central Hotel. Beside the Saturday Banquet, they have scheduled a trip to the Mesquite Rodeo with bus transportation and a Bar-B-Que dinner. We are looking into having a **North Texas Division Meeting** on Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> if we can make the arrangements.

The **Special Forces Association** will be at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas for their annual Convention 20 – 24 June. Yes, that is a Sunday to Wednesday time frame. A bit of an unusual format without the Saturday night but it takes advantage of the lower mid week hotel rates. Post VC **Bill Anton** will be in charge of their hospitality room so if there are any 'glitches' we can fix them for our meeting in Sept. I hope that at some time during the meeting we can gather the **Las Vegas Division** plus some of the Post members who come into town for the SFA together for a meeting at our **Gilligan's Hideaway** Las Vegas Safe House / Watering Hole.

## PEOPLE

**Jim Baker** had a long ordeal of treatment but has recovered and we hope to see him in Las Vegas. You may remember that Jim arranged our visit to the USS Long Beach during our San Diego Reunion.

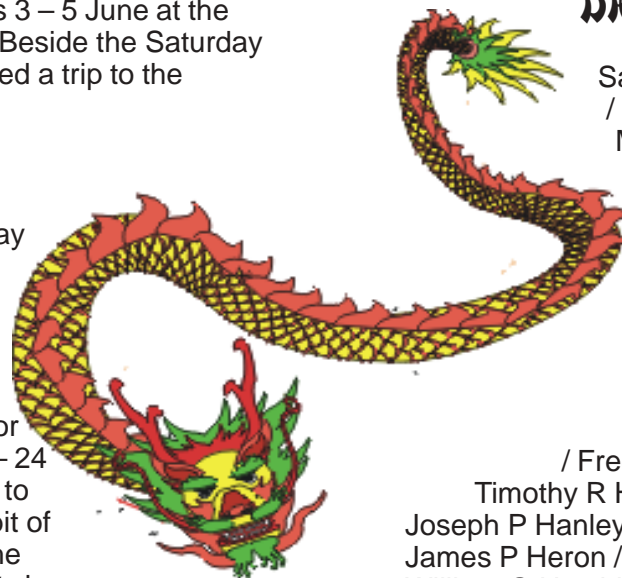
We heard from **Charles Burton** who is now on the mend and recovering, doing well.

The **Andros Division** still hasn't sent us an article for the Poop Sheet but Division Adjutant **Christine**

**Benn** does keep sending in new members. We have some of National Commander "Brieden's Rangers" pins to forward to the members there.

**CMSgt M. A. 'Beetle' Bailey, Post Vice Commander** will retire from the USAF on 16 June 2004 in the All Ranks Club at Scott AFB at 1000 hrs. Beetle was a Marine in Vietnam, was with AA in Laos and returned to the USAF afterward to continue his military career. Any Post members in the area who wish to attend can find the POC, SMSgt Kurt Jensen at kurt.jensen@scott.af.mil or can write letters or e-mails of congratulations to be delivered at the ceremony. Beetle made it over to our last St Louis Reunion.

## DRAGON FUND DONORS



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## PASSING

**Nell Bond**, Mother of Past Post Commander, Co-Chair of the Executive Committee, **JC Bond**, passed away on 18 Feb. She had attended our last Las Vegas Convention and at our earlier Ft Walton Conventions made tamales for the hospitality room. The Post sent flowers and join **JC** and **Janet** in grief over her loss.

For those who have not previously seen the notices and links on our web site, we sadly report again the passing of **Richard S Eaton** due to hostile fire at Al Ramadi, Iraq

Sadly, we lost another of our Korean War, US Army Veterans with the passing of **William J Gottlieb**. Bill was a 27 year member of the Post who was qualified in almost all areas of aviation, EMT and Law Enforcement.

**Warren C Miles**, a 19 year Post member, Veteran of WW II, USAF, passed in 2000 but his wife wanted to continue his membership until now.

Another of our WW II members, **Henri Stahl**, passed to Post Everlasting in July 2003. He was a 29 year Post member and Veteran of the US Army Air Forces. While overseas he was the Manager of Saudia Airlines at the Jeddah office.

**Edward W Ulrich**, another USAAF Veteran of WW II passed on July 13, 2003. He was a 31 year member and his many friends in the Post join his family in mourning his passing.

## DUES / DUES EITHER ARE OR WILL BE COMING DUE SOON PLEASE READ THIS SECTION!!!

If you do not have a 2004 card, you are delinquent and maybe are getting letters from National about your dues. If you did not get a dues letter from National, or a 2004 dues card from China Post with a letter that tells you to "ignore further notices since you are paid", and you are not a PUFL (Paid up for Life) member, then one of 2 things have happened-their mail to you was returned as undeliverable so they have dropped you, or you have not paid dues in two years so they have dropped you. We continue to mail to our members if we have a good address since our Post is aware of the transfers and transitions that our membership goes through. The point is we, your fellow members, are carrying you, and the number that we are carrying on our mailing list without dues is over 500. Do the math, postage and printing costs for non paying 'former' members are expensive. We do have members

who reinstate after 10 or 20 years or sometimes after only non payment for a couple of years. And two things that I hate are the change of address notes from members who are several years delinquent in their dues, and / or, not getting the change of address, so that the Post Office charges the Post \$.70 to give us the new address. **Here's the deal!** You will be receiving another Poop Sheet with the Convention / Reunion information in June. You will get a dues notice for **2005 dues** in late June or early July. Pay it when you get it!! It may take 60 days to get them all processed but you will not get future notices, lose your continuous years or be able to write me saying that you are mad that you got the delinquent letter when you 'have your card'. I will not go into the long explanation about the 60 day transition from them pulling your file to send you the dues letter so that you may have paid, but you will still get the letter-and then the letter to the Post or National complaining that you have already paid and what are "we / they" trying to pull. We send you the card, we know that you paid, the letters, after the first dues letter (late June / early July) state "*please ignore this notice if you have already paid your dues*" Please pay your dues when you get the **first** notice. If you just paid last month (143 members) that was for 2004. **GET ON THE FISCAL YEAR CYCLE.**

The next notice you receive will be for 2005, please pay it when you receive it and if you do not have a 2004 card, send your dues in now.

## NEWS FOR RESERVE AND GUARD

Under the 1994 Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), Reservists and Guard 'entitlements' are specifically: Employer obligation to prompt reemployment, the right to catch up on 401(k) retirement and pension plans and protection from termination without cause. A program called ESGR in the office of The Secretary of Defense for Reserve and Guard Affairs (**CP member Craig Duehring**) runs an ombudsman program to mediate disputes and can be reached on their web site [www.esgre.org](http://www.esgre.org) and, for self-employed Reservists not covered by USERRA, Congress mandated the Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program this is a loan program to cover operating business expenses that can't be met when a Reservist is activated for duty and is administered by the Small Business Administration.

## WATCHING TV LATELY?

The Discovery Times Channel aired "The Ravens: Covert War in Laos" beginning in March and it is scheduled to continue showing almost daily through April and possibly into May. Post members are heavily featured and several, including **Larry**

**Sanborn, Ron Rinehart and Mike Cavanaugh** made the trip to Laos to film there. **Jim Cain, Chuck Hines, Craig Duehring and John Wisniewski** have some major parts in the interview sections as does **'Growth' Wilson**. For those who have never had the pleasure of attending a Raven Reunion there is a small portion of the festivities in the film where they show a part of the Memorial Service. I guess that it is fortunate that they did not get into the carrier landings and the quantity of adult beverage consumed on these annual occasions. For additional times and information their web site is reached at [times.discovery.com](http://times.discovery.com) or a link at [ravens.org](http://ravens.org) on the Raven Web Site.

The History Channel has been showing the episodes of "Band of Brothers" on a regular basis about "Easy" Company of the 101<sup>st</sup>. In the companion book, old SEA hands will recognize that our Ops Officer at Long Thien, **Burr Smith** was one of the airborne troops in 'Easy'.

## SPEAKING OF BOOKS

**Jim Roper's** second book "Aardvarks and Rangers" is out and available. We should have copies available at our meeting in Las Vegas. In the meantime, Jim will be signing books at the Randolph Exchange on Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> while he and several others are in San Antonio for the FAC Reunion. **Al Galante** is driving down from Midland so I know that they have local transportation. The Post is sending over copies of Jim's first book, "Quoth the Raven" which he will be signing on behalf of the Post building fund. "Aardvarks and Rangers" is about flying the F-111 and jumping into Granada with the Army Rangers. He is currently researching book material for 3<sup>rd</sup> effort dealing with the Cambodia Ops.

Speaking of books, we still have signed copies of "Dreams of Aces", the **Hal Fischer** story of Korea and Vietnam, by our Post member, double jet ace and Las Vegas resident who will be able to personalize books when we are in town.

## POST BUILDING

There is not much to report on the building at this point. Our funds are secure in the bank and are increasing at a slow but steady pace. The land is mowed and maintained by our building association but we are still short of the funding goal to make final plans and start construction. Major parts of our building committee are temporarily on world wide duty and we hope that we can get on a faster track when they return.

## WEB SITE

As I was almost ready to send this to the printer I received an e-mail from our web master that he will be in Las Vegas for the Convention. You can ask **Jim Lint** all of those computer questions that I certainly can't answer and we can probably solve any problems or questions that you might have. Sorry to 'beard' you Jim but I am sure that you and the new bride will still have time to enjoy Las Vegas.

## ACCOUNTING

I want to thank **Jim Luke** for maintaining the Post's account books and doing the same for the 40 & 8. Those of you who know how disorganized I am will appreciate the effort Jim has to exert to turn my receipts and check book into a readable, coherent text.

## ONE LAST THING!!

Remember page 1. The hotel's reservation numbers are **(702) 794-8200** or toll free **(800) 634-6966** and our room block is under **CHINA 1**. The cut off date for reservations is 15 August. For our overseas members who have internet access, you can reach the hotel on their Website : **[www.frontierlv.com](http://www.frontierlv.com)** and I believe that you can make your reservations on line. It might be a little more difficult and require some e-mails since I don't know how interactive the site is. Remember to **MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS NOW.**

