

# The Ugly Angel

## Memorial Foundation Newsletter

Vol III, Issue 5 August 1998

### 47 Days & Counting

As was the case just before the Las Vegas reunion, we've reached the point where the attendance count is beginning to fluctuate rapidly, with some dropping out and others signing on. The Status Board on page 4 tells the story. Today's snapshot: 79 Angels say they will attend, 19 are thinking about thinking about it, and 17 are flat unable to make it.

By the by, so far only 43 Angels ( 81 total diners counting wives and other guests ) have signed up for dinner. Haven't heard from the other 36 of you yet, but I'm hopeful. In the interim, I can only presume you are either on a really strict diet or broke – or both.

### Notam

Although the Association set a registration deadline of 1 August, it's not too late to sign up. If you haven't mailed your check, please do so now. We want to see you in Pensacola, especially those of us who are getting on in years. Remember, it's Association policy that you have to be a member in good standing ( 1998 dues paid up ) to receive a reunion packet. Without the packet you cannot gain admittance to any of the reunion events except our dinner. If you plan to go, please make out a check for \$30 to the USMC/Vietnam Helicopter Association and mail it to 11151 Alejo Place, San Diego, CA 92124 along with your name/nickname, address, and squadron – and join us on the beach.

### Dinner – Last Call

**Place:** New World Landing, 600 S. Palafox St. in Pensacola.

**Time:** Friday 18 September.

Happy Hour: 1730 ( 5:30 PM ). Cash bar @ \$2.50 per drink.

Dinner: 1900 ( 7:00 PM ).

**Dress:** Please...but beach casual will do!

Menu Choices: Each of which comes with small new potatoes and a delicious vegetable medley

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| (A) Stuffed Shrimp w Crab meat Dressing.....                 | \$17.75 |
| (B) Roast Prime Rib of Beef, Au Jus, 8–10 oz.....            | \$15.75 |
| (C) Champagne Chicken w Cream Sauce and Toasted Almonds..... | \$15.25 |

Each dinner includes a salad of Hearts of Romaine Caesar, rolls & butter, and a selection of non-alcoholic beverages. You may select your own dessert from the special Dessert Table donated by our charming hostess/ banquet manager, Janice Sheehan. All dinner prices include gratuity and local taxes. Wines may be purchased separately at \$9.95 a carafe ( about 5 glasses ), tax included.

### Ordering

If you plan to attend the dinner, and we hope you will, *you must order and pay* no later than 15 August. That's less than two weeks away! Because of the lead time needed to order the groceries, booze, and plastic glasses ( Wimpy take note ),

*you will not be able to order and pay at the door.* To order simply write down your names & choices ( Sue A and Stan B, or Sylvester C, etc. ) plus a check for the total of the one/two/three dinners made out to Tom Hewes and mail it to me at the address on the bottom of the last page. If you don't get your canceled check back right away, don't worry; I haven't changed my name, taken the Concorde to Paris, and moved into a suite at George V. I'm simply holding your checks and depositing them in batches every couple of weeks.

## Paint Job Status

A plan is in motion to complete the painting of YL 42 within the next few days. Steve Manning ( of Manning Signs in Mansfield, MA ) has agreed to fly to Pensacola on Friday 7 August to apply the several hundred dollars worth of transfers he has generously donated to the Foundation. When he arrives he will be met by our own Bob Sheehan who will act as his host and assistant for the weekend. If all goes according to plan ( and I hope it does or I'm going to be seriously depressed ), the job should be completed by late Saturday afternoon. Thus by the time some of you finally open this and finish moving your lips, the job should be done. OooRah!!!

## How To Tell You Are No Longer In The Marine Corps

I call my boss Mike, his boss Larry, and his boss Bob.  
Have finally worked "Recon", "OooRah", "Sh!%", and "Fu#&" out of my daily vocabulary.  
Have determined green T-shirts and green socks go with nothing in the real world.  
No harassment from people with nothing better to do than worry whether my field jacket is zipped or not.

## Fund Drive Update

The following seventy-one very, very generous Angels have contributed a total of \$4183.00: If you want to join the crowd, there's still time to throw something in the pot – and get a lovely golf shirt in return. Read on.

Anonymous ( 4 )	Jim Aldworth	Steve Attell	Lew Barnes	Denny Beckman
Bo Beumer	Alan Bloomer	Alan Bower	Bob Bracy	Pat Bray
Al Cain.	Gene Camp	Mike Carley	Ben Cascio	Archie Clapp
Dick Cline	Cal Cormier	Ed Creamer	Norm Derylak	Bill Duffy
Jay Erbeck	Ron Fix	Sandy Gideonse	Jim Gordon.	Orael Hall.
Ron Heald	The Editor	Ed Hunneyman	Ron Ice	Bart Jealous
Dave Jones	Bill Kelly	Nick Kapetan	Dave Kemna	Jerry Kottkamp
Ed Langley	D. J. Leighton	Denny van Liew	Chuck Linn	Jack Lodge
Terry Mann	Tom McKnight	Walt McLeroy	Curt McRaney	Bob Nickens
Bob O'Neil	Burt Palmer	Jim Perryman	Pete Petersen	E. V. Rose
Rusty Sachs	Marc Sohmer	Ed Southworth	Bob Skinder	Ron Sorenson
Lou Stefan	Al Thomas	Tom Thurber	Charlie Upshaw	Joe Vignere
Muddy Waters	Carl Wheeler	Bill Willey	Tim Wilson	Wimpy Wimpler
Mike Zacker			( If I've forgotten to include your name, holler )	

## More How to Tell...

Forget to shave? Just tell 'em you're starting your beard that day! Haircut? Ha!  
Can't remember the last time the shoes I wore to work got any mud on them.  
The ability to run long distances quickly and do many push-ups or sit-ups is not confused for intelligence, leadership potential, or degree of motivation.

## Freebies

Thanks to honorary Angel Frenchy Lafontaine of Ultra Marine Productions, we're going to make you an offer you can't refuse. Henceforth, anyone who donates \$35 or more to the Foundation will receive a spiffy golf shirt inscribed with the

Ugly Angel logo and the words, Ugly Angel Memorial Foundation. The black forest green shirt with red facings is a quality Outer Banks product. Frenchy gets the cost of the shirt – and we get the rest. Please send your checks, made out to the Ugly Angel Memorial Foundation, along with your size ( S, M, L, XL ) to the Sachs Law Office, P.O. Box 1360, Norwich, VT 05055 ( attn: UAMF ). We're sorry we didn't think of this idea sooner ( we obviously need smarter management), but we can't award shirts retroactively.

## **A Death in the Family**

We've just sadly learned from Col. Archie Clapp via Jerry Dooley that Jim Riffle, former XO of Archie's Angels, has just joined the Angel flight. In Jerry's words, Jim was "a great man who never, ever forgot that he too was once a Lieutenant." A field grade officer can receive no higher accolade in my opinion. May Jim rest in peace.

## **Ready Room**

We had originally planned to decorate the ready room with large 20"x 30" posters of Ugly Angel scenes as well as with other interesting stuff – but the initial response to our request for pictures has sucked so seriously that Ben not only has hickeys on his feet, he now has to use 100% oxygen to breathe.

Since it now appears the ready room is going to look like the Phu Bai club after a Tet rocket attack ( and it didn't look all that good before ), you are encouraged to bring memorabilia of any kind. We need scrapbooks, flags, pictures, maps, 782 gear, shrapnel, field telephones, C rats, Bangkok phone numbers, flight gear, bullet holes, hash marked skivvies, POWs, and other stuff to dress up the Ready Room and make it look Vietnam-like. Bring stuff you can store in your room overnight. There are thieves in Florida too.

On the other hand, if you do have a picture you would like displayed, send it ( along with the negative if you have one ) to our Ready Room honcho, Ben Cascio, 684 Route 208, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417. Tel: (201) 848-7811/fax: (201) 848-9174. You can e-mail previews of your pics to <bencascio@aol.com>. August 15th is the new cutoff date, so send your pics ASAP. This is coming out of Ben's pocket so slip him a sawbuck if you can. Remember, we can afford to hang only ten pictures – and maybe a field grade or two!

## **And More...**

All the years of learning great cadences are wasted on the civilian world.

If a cannon goes off at the office at 06:30 or 17:00, you call 911.

I'm now making full use of both arms for carrying items, and (once I realized I don't wear one anymore) save lots of time not looking for my cover.

## **More on Sam**

We're still looking for Angels with information about the mission flown by the late CWO Sam Chastain. The incident in question involved the extraction of a Recon Team ( correction from last edition ) along the Ben Hai River in 1968 under extremely hazardous conditions. The mission co-pilot was P. T. Nemetz and the Corpsman Jim Fisher. If any of you other Angels have first hand knowledge of this action, or were involved, please contact me. Provided we can collect the necessary statements – and his family doesn't object – we will attempt to see that Sam gets an appropriate posthumous award.

## **Frank Visconti Inquiry**

Just this week I received an impassioned e-mail from a lady who is planning to establish a web page honoring 1st. Lt. Francis Edward Visconti, the Ugly Angel whose aircraft disappeared in late 1965 or early 1966 just south of Ky Ha while returning from an all day mission in a flight of four which encountered bad weather. I have e-mailed her the basic facts of Frank's loss as related to me at the Las Vegas reunion by several of you. Since I can't remember who told me the story ( CRS big time ), it would be appreciated if those of you with specific knowledge of Frank's loss ( including date

of loss and other details ) would send me your recollections. You can also insure that this lady, who is apparently a close friend of Frank's widow, has the straight story by sending her a brief narrative.

Send your narrative to: Arlene Johnson, 28 Overton Place, Babylon, New York 11702. Her e-mail address is: Arlene Marine <babylon\_nana@yahoo.com>

## And Still More...

One look at my new paycheck and I now know why they called it the L.E.S.(s).  
Discovered jumping out of a perfectly good plane on a business trip is a federal offense.  
Office empty at 5:15 PM. Only people left behind are ex-Marines whose wives couldn't take the shock of seeing their spouses before 7:00 PM.

## FNGs Checking In

We would like to extend a warm welcome aboard to the following Angels who have appeared out of the mists of time like the crafty old veterans they are: Dr. Joe Fernandez, Curt Ryan, and Dr. Carl Yung .

## Squadron Status Board

### Taxiing ( 79 )

Rabon Adler	Jim/Kitty Aldworth*	Charlie Appleton	Greg/Nancy Armstrong
Steve Atell	Lew/Jean Barnes	Denny Beckman	Tom Bong
Al Cain	Gene/Marcia Camp	Mike/Barbara Carley	Ben/Ailene Cascio
Bob/Ginny Case	Cal Christensen	Archie Clapp*	C. J./Wanda Cormier
Ken Davis	Norm Derylak	Adam Deveny	Jerry/Eleanor Dooley
Bill/Carol Duffy	Sherard Dukes	Ron/Gerry Fix	Frank Flagg
Sandy Gideonse	Jim Gordon	Butch Gorman	Oramel/Sharon Hall
Ron/Lynn Harkless	Garett Hatcher	Ron Heald	Tom/Joanne Hewes
Dick Houghton	Steve Hucal	Ed/Linda Hunneyman	Ron Ice
Bobby Johns	"Doc" Jones	Nick Kapetan*	Bill Kelly
Pete King	Dick Koeppe	Jerry/Turmi Kottkamp	D. J. Leighton
Chuck/Linda Linn	Jack/Cindy Lodge	Ken/Raeanne Logue	Denny/Caroline van Liew
Terry Mann	Bill/Carol McCluskey	Curt/Renette McRaney	Tom McKnight
Dave/Amelia Moore	Romy Myszka	Smokey Norton	Robbie/Lorraine
Robertson			
Bob O'Neil	Jim Perryman	E. V./Ruby Rose	Hugh/Betty Rothweiler
Curt/Linda Ryan	Rusty/Marlene Sachs	Bob/Janice Sheehan	B. J./Mary Sigman
Bob/Madilyn Skinder	Marc Sohm	Ron Sorensen	Willie/Esta Sproule
Lou Stefan	Wayne/Becky Sutter	Al Thomas	Tom/Anita Thurber
Phil/Judy Turner	Bill/Ruth Waters	Bill Willey	Tim/Karen Wilson
Wimpy Wimpler	Carl/Adele Yung	Mike Zacker	

\* former COs

( If you don't see your lady's name listed, send it in and I'll add it. )

### Looking for the Flight Line ( 20 )

Beetle Bailey	Bo Beaumer	Alan Bower	Pat Bray
Gary Doss	Don Flick	Bill Green	Steve Hill

Bart Jealous  
Mush Melin  
Upshaw Ed Tatman

Al Kerst  
Bob Nickens  
Jim Villarreal  
Wilkison

John Longdin  
Donn Proven  
Carl Wheeler

Walt McLeroy  
Charlie  
Billy

### **Grounded ( 17 )**

Alan Bloomer  
Ed Creamer  
Tom Gillan  
Burt Palmer

Bob Bracy  
Steve Eck  
Merle Hill  
Pete Petersen

John Burns  
Jim Ferrier  
Ed Langley  
Bill Spicer

Dick Cline\*  
Jim Fisher  
Bill Lelash  
Ed Southworth

Joel Vignere

### **Editors Note**

I want all of you who have written me to know how much I appreciate all the letters, pictures, and articles you have sent me during the past few months. My only regret is that the newsletter simply isn't big enough to include all your offerings. We can afford only a two-page printing and mailing, most of which gets eaten up by dull, boring, and repetitive announcements of one kind or another. By the same token, this whole enterprise takes up so much of my time that there isn't enough left to personally answer each and every letter. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak – and my conscience still bothers me. Again, thanks. You're an outstanding bunch of Marines!

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