



## 80<sup>th</sup> FIGHTER SQUADRON

# HEADHUNTER HEADLINES



905 Arapaho Court; Columbus, GA 31904-1242  
 Phone or Fax: (706) 324-7360  
 E-Mail: [JayBirdOne@mindspring.com](mailto:JayBirdOne@mindspring.com)  
 Web Site: [www.mindspring.com/~jaybirdone/headhunters](http://www.mindspring.com/~jaybirdone/headhunters)



Vol. XIV, No. 55

"AUDENTES FORTUNA JUVAT"

August 1, 2004

Greetings, Fellow **HEADHUNTERS!**

Bonnie & I hope this newsletter finds all of you in the very best of health and happiness!

### Did You Know?

**D**id you know that Col Gerald Dix was the first member of our 80<sup>th</sup> Squadron (80<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Squadron at the time) to be decorated? Maj Phil Greasley, our first Sq Commander, awarded the Purple Heart to him for injuries received on 27 February 1942 while on the

Photo # NH 92472 USS Langley being abandoned, 27 Feb. 1942



*USS Langley* being abandoned after receiving crippling damage from Japanese bombs, south of Java, 27 February 1942. *USS Edsall* (DD-219) is standing by off *Langley's* port side. Photographed from *USS Whipple* (DD-217). Courtesy of Captain Lawrence E. Divoll, USN (Ret), 1981. *U.S. Naval Historical Center Photograph.*

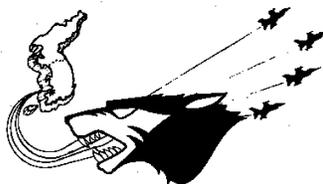
aircraft carrier *Langley*—only 52 days after the Squadron was activated 6 January 1942. Commissioned in March 1922, *Langley* was the U.S. Navy's first aircraft carrier. While carrying 32 Army Air Corps P-40 fighters and pilots to Tjilatjap in the Netherlands East Indies, *Langley* was attacked by 9 Japanese twin engine bombers on 27 February 1942. Hit by several bombs and disabled, she was scuttled by her escorting destroyers, the *USS Whipple* and *USS Edsall*. They rescued the 485 men from the *Langley* and took them to Christmas Island where they

were transferred to the fleet oiler *USS Pecos*. The *Pecos* was to take the survivors to Australia. However, a large force of Japanese bombers targeted the old ship and sank it only 2 days later on 1 March, along with the *USS Edsall*. *Whipple* happened to be in the vicinity, again rescued the men from *Pecos* and *Langley*, and finally took them to safety in Fremantle. *USS Whipple* sur-

vived the War. All told, 70% of the men from the *Langley* were lost. Col Dix, who is now one

### ACTIVE SQUADRON HAS CHANGE OF COMMAND

of our WWII LifeTime Members, resides in Sumter, SC! (The REST of the story!!)



**L**t Col Kevin B. “Gumby” Schneider, Commander of the Squadron since 5 September 2003, relinquished command to Lt Col Steven E. Clapp on 14 July. Lt Col Schneider, our outgoing 80<sup>th</sup> Squadron Commander, sent in the following information on 2 July (See his complete e-mail message of 2 July in [the Mail Bag](#) Section below): “...On a personal note, I will pass the 80 FS flag over to Lt Col Steve Clapp on the 14th of July. I am departing the fix to be a student at the Marine War College in Quantico, Virginia. Focusing my emotions into coherent sentences is definitely not my strong suit, but I wanted you to know that this year has truly been the highlight of my Air Force career. Nothing I have done in my stint in the AF has come close to this, and I suspect that nothing will. The people, the focus and the heritage are absolutely unmatched. It has been an honor and a privilege to lead the Juvats, and I have loved every minute of it. You can be very proud of the Juvats -- the men and women of the 80th are more than continuing the squadron's long-standing tradition of success. Again, it has been an honor to be Juvat Lead. I will drop you a line with my new contact info when I get settled in the DC area. Thank you again for all that you have done for me this year and for the 80th. [Signed] ‘Gumby’ Juvat Lead, Kevin B. Schneider, Lt Col, USAF Commander, 80th Fighter Squadron”

**L**t Col Steve Clapp wrote on 16 July: “Jaybird--Sir, I'm honored to be associated with such a legendary group of people. I'm humbled as I look at the names of the previous Sq/CCs and know that my name will be on the same list. We've got the Headhunter Association information displayed prominently at the ops desk and are strongly pushing for membership. I can't think of why anyone wouldn't want to be a member...my check and information is in the mail, even as I type. What can we do on this side of the pond to help the Assn? Standing by to assist, V/R, Lt Col Steve Clapp, Juvat Lead” [Ed note:] *On behalf of all the **Headhunters**, Bonnie and I would like to commend Col Schneider for a job well done as the 80<sup>th</sup> Commander this past year, and we wish him and wife Lori the very best of luck in their future assignments. We would also like to officially welcome Col Clapp and his wife to the **Headhunters**, and hope they have an equally rewarding tour as **Commander of the 80<sup>th</sup>!***

### HEADHUNTER SONGS CD

**A**s you all know, Dick Jonas was at our Mesa reunion. What many of you may not know is that, during the outstanding sing-a-longs we had with him in the hospitality room, some of the singers came up with the idea of making a CD of our Headhunter songs with him. As of now, this great project is well underway! The Project Officer and point of contact (POC) is Erik “Digger” Drake ( [TheDrake16@cox.net](mailto:TheDrake16@cox.net) ). The recording session will be 13-17 October in

Las Cruces, NM. If you have song requests and/or would like to participate in this project, please contact Digger ASAP.

### SQUADRON HISTORY DVD

**A**nother great project we have underway is a DVD of our Squadron History! As of now, we have lots of loose photos and a couple of video clips that will slowly deteriorate over time if we don't transfer them to permanent storage. A DVD is the perfect solution. Not only is it permanent, but will also allow us to make as many as we want for all who may like to own their own Squadron History! The price will be kept to an absolute minimum to allow as many members as possible to purchase one. We are looking for more video and/or film clips to use in this DVD, which will become a permanent history of our Squadron. Any video, film and/or photos of our Squadron from WWII up to the present are welcome. Please identify each item that you send in, if possible. **This DVD will only be as good as the items put on it. We need your help to make this a successful project!** All items will be returned to you, if that is your desire. Dave Kulaas (dkulaas@iotabits.com) is the POC for this project. For those without e-mail, you can contact him at (303) 232-8698. His address is 11755 W 24<sup>th</sup> Place Circle; Lakewood, CO 80215. To keep this on the front burner, we have set a **SUSPENSE of 30 September** to send in all the items to be used. Let's do it! *Thanks!*

### TWIN TAILED LIGHTNING SONG REMAINS ORIGINAL

**I**f you remember, the words to our Squadron Song, *Twin Tailed Lightning*, were proposed to be changed at the Mesa reunion as reported in our last newsletter. The numerous pronouns in the song were changed to help distinguish between the Headhunters and the enemy. However, upon further thought, Robbie Robbins, who wrote the song in 1982 to honor his father, Lt Gen Jay T. Robbins, has decided that the original lyrics should remain as written. His rationale is that the song was written to honor the Headhunters of WWII. We are all Headhunters; however, changing the words to "we" and "our" take away from "their" WWII fame and honor.

**I** have changed the words back to the originals on our web site Song Page. For our active Squadron at Kunsan, please keep the original lyrics as shown below. For the JBC alumni that will burn the Headhunter Songs CD in October, please keep the original lyrics.

### *Twin Tailed Lightning*

*By Robbie Robbins*

*(sung to the tune of "Running Bear")*

In the jungles of New Guinea, the *Headhunters* carved their name,  
They were brave and they were fearless, downing *Zeros* was their game.  
From the beaches of Port Moresby, it was three miles to their drome,  
'Twas a dirt strip carved in a hillside, this is the place they called their home.

Chorus

Twin Tailed *Lightning*, was their warplane,  
As they roamed Pacific skies,  
Searching out the sons of Nippon,  
Sending them to their demise.

They were known not as a number, but as a name denoting fear,  
A tiny native was their logo, making history for all to hear.  
With names like Homer, Norb Ruff and Murphy, Cragg and Robbins and Kirby too,  
They swept the sky clean of the Jap menace,  
And came back victors when they flew.

Chorus

They flew out from their airdrome in their *Lightnings* climbing high,  
Looking up to find some *Zeros*, gonna blow them from the sky.  
All the odds were against them, all they had were their planes,  
And some friends down in the jungle, who made sure they'd fly again.

Chorus

Making aces was their standard, two-hundred kills even more,  
With fifty cal and twenty mike-mike, they always ran up their meatball score.  
About the odds they never worried, from tree top level they'd cut 'em down,  
And when they landed from their melees, they would drink and "mess" around.

Chorus (twice)

**LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD!**

**O**ur highly reliable sources in strategically placed key positions around the globe have informed us that Lt Col J. Winn "Winn Dixie" Delk had his retirement ceremony 27 May, and will be officially out of the Air Force 1 September 2004. Happy retirement to Winn & Becky!

**O**ur deep undercover moles in clandestine positions in highly sensitive areas have also reported to us that Capt Jon "Meat" Tinsley & Christine Murphy will be married on 17 September of this year up at Lake Tahoe. Meat was overheard saying, "I figured that if she could hang with me



and a bunch of Juvats/Headhunters, then she would pretty much be with me forever.” Jon & Christine were at our Mesa reunion in April, so she has been exposed to us! Congratulations!

All of our dreams come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.

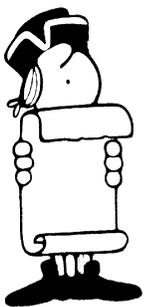
**RONALD WILSON REAGAN, 1911—2004**  
**40<sup>th</sup> President of the United States**

**"A**nd whatever else history may say about me when I'm gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears, to your confidence rather than your doubts. My dream is that you will travel the road ahead with liberty's lamp guiding your steps and opportunity's arm steadying your way. My fondest hope for each one of you -- and especially for young people -- is that you will love your country, not for her power or wealth, but for her selflessness and her idealism. May each of you have the heart to conceive, the understanding to direct, and the hand to execute works that will make the world a little better for your having been here. May all of you as Americans never forget your heroic origins, never fail to seek divine guidance, and never lose your natural, God-given optimism. And finally, my fellow Americans, may every dawn be a great new beginning for America and every evening bring us closer to that shining city upon a hill." --Ronald Reagan (1992)

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

**I**t gives us great pleasure to welcome these **5 new members** to our ranks for the **first time** (in the order of "signing up" since 1 May). **Equally rewarding** are the **many** members who have **rejoined** after 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 or even 11 years absence! **Welcome to all!** At press time we have 281 Yearly, plus 589 LifeTime Members (LTMs)—**870 Total!**

*Here is the roll call of our new members—with their time in the 80th:*



Maj Mike F. Tarlton (97 – 98)

Maj Earl O. Conrad (WWII)

Col Joe Lee Burns (71 – 72)

Col Larry N. Guarino (62 – 64)

1Lt David A. "Goa" Wray (03 – 04)

**F**riends of yours? You bet!! Look 'em up in your new Master Roster Change and/or Master E-mail & Fax List Change (enclosed), give 'em a call, write 'em a letter, or beam an e-mail message over to them. Or better yet, ask them to meet you at the **next reunion in Las Vegas in the Fall of 2005!** Great to have you all in formation—and what a super one it is!! Do you have Headhunter friends that aren't members? If so, please let me have their addresses, and I'll send a "Please Join Us" letter to them. **How about all of our active duty JUVATS in the 80th today? Cleared to join up, Y'all!** See your *SNACKO* for **Member Information Forms** and **mailing envelopes**, or **contact me directly—Thank you!**

**MISSING LIFETIME MEMBERS**

I need your help. Does anyone know the whereabouts of these paid up LTM's?

Milbirm Benner      Donald Clemens      Matthew Kobylarz      Earl Lyle

William      McCarthy

Jerome      Ravenhorst

**THE MAIL BAG**

William Pruss

Samuel Scher

**E**-mail received 16 May: “Hi Jay, Yesterday I had the privilege of watching Chris [“Zippo” Fahey] and his fellow pilots doing their stuff at the Chino Air Show. *Porky II* was on display at the VIP tent area along side of the P-38 National Association area. Even without any superchargers that beautiful P-38 performed superbly and gave the crowd a lot to cheer about. Chris didn't get to fly *Porky II*, that privilege was given to William Kelly Johnson (I believe he is a relative of the P-38's creator, Kelly Johnson and the Lockheed "Skunk Works.") If he isn't a relative, then the coincidence is remarkable. I may not have heard his first name correctly over the loudspeaker, but definitely heard the Kelly and Johnson clearly. Chris flew the F-86 and the Navy F8F *Bearcat*. Through the generosity of Chris Fahey with free passes, I took my grandson, Chris Lloyd, and two golfing buddies, Bill Schy and John Mash to the Air Show with me. Bill was a B-17 pilot in WW II, and John was career Air Force with a lot of time in the F-86 and a SAC pilot flying the B-52. Grandson Chris was thrilled to see up close the plane his grandfather flew. The Navy sent an F-18 *Super Hornet*, and the Air Force sent an F-16 *Viper* to show their stuff, and the crowd was not disappointed. Wow! Had to cover my ears when they cut in the afterburners. Hard to realize that our wonderful P-38 must have had made a similar impression in the 1940s compared to the pursuit planes of WW I. Chris came over to my home two weeks ago and had me sign the photo of *Porky II* that he is having framed and sending to our Squadron in Korea. Sure is an honor and privilege to be a small part of squadron history! [signed] Ken [Lloyd]



**L**etter received 20 May: “Dear Jay, Received my copy of Headhunter Headlines. Thank you for your dedication to the 80<sup>th</sup> Squadron and for printing the note about my twin brother Irvin. I flew 119 missions in the F-105 out of Korat, Thailand in 1967 (over North Vietnam). I mention this because my replacement at Korat when I rotated back to USA was James L. Stewart (B.G.). He was the flight leader on the mission that my brother was shot down in Korea and has remained my friend—haven't seen him since Vietnam. Again thanks, [Signed] Merv” [Brig Gen Mervin Taylor] PS—Enclosing LifeTime Membership fee!! [Ed note] *Gen Taylor just joined our Association back in March. He and his twin brother were in the 80<sup>th</sup> FBS together during the Korean War until Irvin was shot down on 13 July 1951—on his 80<sup>th</sup> mission, in the 80<sup>th</sup> FBS, flying an F-80. As you can see, Gen Taylor is one of many of our members that saw combat in at least two wars. Also, Gen Stewart, another of our Korean-era LifeTime Members, currently resides in Mission Viejo, CA—only about 120 miles from Gen Taylor in Santa Barbara, CA! It's a small world!*

**E**-mail received 1 June: “Jaybird- Good to be back in the Headhunter Loop! Here's an update for the next newsletter. I'm engaged to the lovely Miss Deborah Harter. We will be tying the knot in West Palm Beach, FL on Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005. We are doing a WWII aviation theme wed-

ding....we are even getting hitched in a hangar at Lantana Airport. I wonder if you could help us out? We would love to have some WWII vintage aircraft as the backdrop for our ceremony. If you know any Juvats who would own or fly any of these type aircraft, could you put me in touch with them? We would be willing to pay all expenses for the weekend (hotel, etc). My phone number is 940-851-8145. Thanks, Strafe” [Capt Marc Himelhoch] [Ed note] *We put him in contact with Chris “Zippo” Fahey, one of our LTMs who flies vintage WWII and Korean war birds with the Planes of Fame Museum in Chino, CA. Any others?*

**E**-mail received 7 June: “Jaybird--First off, great reunion. The last night of the weekend singing songs with Dick Jonas and everyone, and drinking beers with Kirby was outstanding! I look forward to the next event in Vegas! I just wanted to once again say thanks for the assistance that you and our fellow Headhunters provided me in my role as advisor to the American Airpower Museum at Republic Field on Long Island, NY. It’s actually only about 15 minutes from the 80th’s first home at Mitchell field. With the help of you, Col Broughton, and his friend Gen Metcalf at



the USAF museum at Wright Patterson, I was able to initiate the homecoming of two Republic fighters to their "place of birth". We associated with the USAF Museum, and they graciously loaned us an F-105 and straight wing F-84 to the museum for static display. Attached is a photo I took of me with the F-105 over this past Memorial Day weekend. Following in "Zippo's" footsteps I also have the privilege of flying many of the museum's flying warbirds. I would love to help them get a P-38, but I think that will be a bit of a challenge. I will continue to enjoy watching Zippo fly the Planes of Fame '38. Thanks again, take care and see you at the next reunion, [signed] Capt Scott "Buster" Clyman” [Ed note] *Scott is on his way to the 79th FS at Shaw.*

**L**etter received 16 June: “Since it would seem Kevin is never going to get around to doing it, I will take this opportunity to pay his dues and update our location. Kevin retired from the Air Force March 1, 2003. After completing his PhD in Educational Leadership from Southern Cal, he took a job as Senior Training Systems Analyst with Lockheed Martin. He loves his job and has already won the “Galaxy Award” for outstanding work. I love being settled in a beautiful house I don’t have to think about selling in 3 years! We both think Orlando is great and are very happy in our “new lives.” Thanks so much for all your hard work keeping us updated on everyone. Sincerely, Susan Reed (& Nordo) [Ed note] *Our congratulations go out to Nordo & Susan on their new lives! Please check their new address in the enclosed Roster Change.*

**E**-mail received 22 June: “Would like to receive your Newsletter. I am listed on the Korean War Project and looking for old buddies of the 80th. I was stationed at K13. Would like to pay my dues and sign up. I was stationed in Korea October 1952. Still looking for old buddies who were in the fire fight at the bomb dump. Lost three at the time. Time is running out on us old guys. Let me know. My address is Louis S Basura; 9754 Deep Creek Rd; Apple Valley, CA 92308-8323. Thanks Again” [Ed note] *A “Please Join Us” letter went out to Louis on 22 June & 21 July!*

**E**

**-mail received 2 July:** “The last few months have really flown by, and the Juvats have been doing awesome. We went through major inspections by PACAF (the Stan/Eval Visit and the Unit Compliance Inspection) as well as a couple of peninsula-wide Operational Readiness Exercises. The highlight was obviously the annual Hollandia Exercise. In April, we cleaned off all the jets and flew DBFM [dissimilar basic flight maneuvers], DACM [dissimilar air combat maneuvers] and DACT [dissimilar air combat tactics] for two solid weeks against the Marine F-18s from VMFA-225 out of Iwakuni. Believe it or not, the weather actually cooperated for the entire exercise, and we truly had two weeks of outstanding air-to-air training. The Marines were a class act all the way around, and we all had a great time. As for the competition associated with the flying -- we recognized the following pilots for their superior skills in aerial combat: Robbins Award (Top Pilot) -- Capt Brett “Zipper” Robison; Ruff Award (Top Flight Lead) -- Capt Jay “Tang” Sabia; Kirby Award (Top Wingman) -- 1Lt Dan “Chip’n” Daehler; Smith Award (Top BFM Pilot) -- Capt Brett “Zipper” Robison; Ladd Award (Top ACM Pilot) -- 1Lt Dan “Chip’n” Daehler; Homer Award (Top ACT Pilot) -- Capt Chris “Flush” Lehto. On a personal note, I will pass the 80 FS flag over to LTC Steve Clapp on the 14th of July. I am departing the fix to be a student at the Marine War College in Quantico Virginia. Focusing my emotions into coherent sentences is definitely not my strong suit, but I wanted you to know that this year has truly been the highlight of my Air Force career. Nothing I have done in my stint in the AF has come close to this, and I suspect that nothing will. The people, the focus and the heritage are absolutely unmatched. It has been an honor and a privilege to lead the Juvats, and I have loved every minute of it. You can be very proud of the Juvats -- the men and women of the 80th are more than continuing the squadron's long-standing tradition of success. Again, it has been an honor to be Juvat Lead. I will drop you a line with my new contact info when I get settled in the DC area. Thank you again for all that you have done for me this year and for the 80th. [Signed] “Gumby” Juvat Lead, Kevin B. Schneider, Lt Col, USAF Commander, 80th Fighter Squadron”

**H**ere is my reply: “Yes, the year at the Kun is a busy one. A “normal” Sq/CC job back in the States is 2-3 years, but the one year on the ROK has all the same inspections, deployments, exercises, etc crammed into that 1 year--plus a few more that are ROK [Republic of Korea] unique. Although very busy, it also makes the year go fast. Thanks to you, Kevin, our Headhunter Squadron has continued to excel in everything it does--no small task. You can be very proud of your leadership and accomplishments this past year. We all thank you for a great job very well done! As you move on to SSS [Senior Service School], we hope it will be a stepping stone to more bigger and better things to come for you in the future!”

**E**-mail received 15 July: “I received many many greetings on my birthday yesterday, for which I am most thankful. Thanks to each of you. Early in the day I had received 84 greetings, PLUS THREE ADVERTISEMENTS FOR VIAGRA... Thank you Jay for making it a pleasant experience, despite of what it denoted... Days over Rabaul, New Britain, I never thought that I would see my next birthday...and now I have celebrated 61 anniversaries [of that 2 Nov 1943 Raid]...Kirby” [Ed note] *Kirby turned 85 on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July! HAPPY BIRTHDAY!*

**HEADHUNTER STORE!**

**A**re you running low on Squadron items? Well, now is the time to stock up! **Look closely—although a couple of items have unfortunately gone up in price due to cost, a couple of oth-**

**ers have gone DOWN!** Wear/use them proudly—not just at the reunions, but wherever you go! It’s a great way to find other **HEADHUNTERS**, too! Unless purchased at a reunion, a small fee of **\$4 should be added** for postage to all orders (unless otherwise noted)—I’ll take care of the “handling!”

***Curious to see what these items look like? Check them out on our Web Site STORE Page!***

Blazer Emblem (men’s or ladies)	\$35	Golf Shirt (specify size)	\$30
Squadron Unique Tie	\$30	T Shirt (specify size)	\$17
Ladies Floppy Bow (matches tie)	\$30 \$20	Squadron F-16 Litho Print	\$20 \$10
Sq “Nickel” Coin or Keychain	\$ 5	White & Green Hat	\$12
*Personalized Sq coffee mug	\$20	All White Hat	\$12
*Personalized Sq beer stein	\$23	Black Hat	\$12
*Mug & Stein set as above	\$40	Korean-era Sq Patch	\$ 5
Squadron Logo Golf Balls (sleeve)	\$10	Vietnam-era Sq Patch	\$ 5
**Personalized etched Sq beer mug	\$25	Current Squadron Patch	\$ 5
Headhunter Tattoos (fun!) 2 for a	\$ 1	Lapel Pin/Tie Tack	\$ 3

\* Please include **name and/or callsign** desired on your mug/stein (up to 20 letters), and **right/left** handed with your order. **Unless otherwise stated**, the Squadron logo & your first name in Old English will be on the front (handle left for right-handed drinker), and an F-16 will be on the back.

\*\* Large 25oz mug is beautiful **etched glass**. Please indicate **Squadron logo** or our **Association logo** desired, choice of **P-39, P-38, P-51, F-80, F-86, F-84, F-100, F-105, F-4, or F-16**, and include **name and/or callsign in “HEADHUNTER” or standard bold font**, and **right/left** handed, with your order. **Personal markings** (tail number/markings, aerial victories, etc.) available. Other aircraft may be available. Please call for quote.

Please send check to **“The Headhunters”; 905 Arapaho Ct; Columbus, GA 31904-1242**. Please don’t forget **\$4 postage** on all orders (accept patches, coins, tattoos, & lapel pin—please send \$1 postage.)

**Fighter pilot songs** (Rated PG) on professional CDs and/or tapes are available from World-renowned military songwriter and balladeer, and fellow **HEADHUNTER**, Dick Jonas. Contact him at: Erosonic; 2001 Mountain View Glen; Ft Mojave, AZ 86426-8833, or his web site at <http://www.erosonic.com>

Beautiful mahogany **model planes**, of just about any kind, can be ordered through fellow **Headhunter** Tom Slee at (253) 584-1223. Some may be able to be painted with your personal markings. Contact Tom directly for details.

**head headhunter corner**

“**T**o All On-Line Headhunters, I would like to pass on to you all today, Memorial Day 2004, my very best wishes for a job well done! To all those who went before us, to all those who now stand ready in far-off lands, and to all those who will follow in our footsteps to protect and defend our great Country against all enemies (foreign and domestic), this day is ours. The day before yesterday, Saturday 29 May, the brand new WWII Memorial was dedicated in Washington, DC, in honor of the 16,112,566 total US Service



members who served in WWII, and the 405,399 who gave their lives in the four years of that Great War. The Memorial, on 7.4 acres, measures 384 x 279 feet, and is made mostly of bronze and granite. To all of our WWII Headhunters, thanks for your dedication and sacrifices. You are not called "America's Greatest Generation" for nothing--you all earned it. To all of us--enjoy our day--and pause to remember what it takes to keep our Country free. Please don't forget to check out our "Headhunters" Web Site at

<http://www.mindspring.com/~jaybirdone/headhunters> If you've been there before and want to check new info, go to the "New Items" Page. All the best to you and yours--see you at the reunion! Keep your head on a swivel--we're in a target-rich environment, JayBird”

**W**e are in the beginning of a new Membership Year—1 July through 30 June. At the end of the year on 30 June we had a total of **989 current members!** Each year I recognize the many spouses who send in the dues for their husbands, for if they did not, we would have **about 89 members instead of 989!** This year is no different—again, thank you very much! ☺

## THE STORK CORNER!



We take great pride in announcing the birth of the world's youngest **HEADHUNTERS!**

**O**ur congratulations go out to Lt Col Tim “Spino” Conklin and wife, Emily, on the birth of their first child on 12 April 2004. Spino wrote, “Isabella Grace Conklin is doing great, and I’ve already taught her to run away as fast as she can when she sees a flight suit! I am still flying full time with the Colorado Air Guard at Buckley, and currently I’m the Operations Officer. Take care and hopefully I can make it to the next reunion in the fall of 2005.” [Ed note] *Looking forward to seeing you both at the reunion in Vegas—and you’d better get a shotgun anyway to keep away the pilots-- just in case!!*

Congratulations to Tim & Emily on their first child!

**C**ongratulations also go out to Maj John & Karen Breazeale on their newest Headhunter! John wrote, “I wanted to pass along that we have added a forth, and final, to our hanger. John Keanon Breazeale touched down at 0341 on 6 May. Karen and Keanon are doing great, and we’re all having fun adjusting to the new level of chaos!” [Ed note] *That’s great news, and the best part is having live-in baby sitters!!*

Congratulations to John & Karen on their new wingman!

**L**et Col Charlie “Strut” & Sherry Simmons take great pride in announcing the birth of their new grandson, Bradley, on 30 March in Misawa! Bradley’s Dad, Jeff, is on his way to be an IP at Luke.

Congratulations to Charles & Sherry on their new grandson!

**C**apt Jeff “Gump” Collins wrote: “Henry William Collins, born 17 July 2004 in Adana, Turkey (Incirlik Air Base). He’s 21 inches and 8 pounds 8 ounces. My wife, Kathy, is doing fine, and we’re all back at home and enjoying the lack of sleep (except for Henry, of course).” [Ed note] *Jeff built our original Headhunter web site in 1998!*

Congratulations to Jeff & Kathy on their new wingman!

### HEADHUNTERS AT REST

**L**ast, but certainly not least, we would like to take this opportunity to pass on to all members the names of those **HEADHUNTERS**, who we know of, that have made their last takeoff in this lifetime since our last newsletter.

<u>Headhunter</u>	<u>Time in 80th</u>	<u>Last Takeoff</u>
Pat Kelly	Vietnam	5 Feb 1998
Col Howard L. LaBeau, Jr	Korea/LTM	7 Jun 2000
Col Richard L. Raymond	Korea/LTM	Oct 2003
William T. Hagar	WWII/LTM	25 Jul 2004

**E**-mail received 18 May: “Dear Jay: Richard Raymond passed away last October and I would appreciate if you would take me off the mailing list. I have friends that get your news and if I want to attend some reunions I will go with them. Richard attended several reunions and enjoyed them very much. He was proud to be a Headhunter. Thanking you in advance for all your efforts to keep the Head Hunters together. Richard is buried at Bay Pines Military Cemetery and on his grave marker is written, "Zoom in the Sky!" as Richard said just before he died "I am flying my jet upside down." Hope this brings a smile to someone who reads the grave marker! Sincerely, Clare Raymond”

**E**-mail received 26 Jul: “Dear JayBird, Yesterday July 25th, Bill died at home. He had been sick for awhile and now he is in God's hands. I knew when we couldn't make the last reunion, that Bill was not himself. Although we will miss him, we thank God for the time we had with him. Give my regards to Bonnie & girls. Fondly, Nancy Hagar & family”

**O**n behalf of the entire Squadron, we wish to officially pass on to these families our deepest sympathies and sincere gratitude for the outstanding contribution each of these individuals made to the Squadron and our Country. May they rest in Peace and forever soar with the Eagles.

**May God bless and keep them in His Flight forever.**



\*\*\*\*\*

The next regular issue of the **HEADHUNTER HEADLINES** will be dated 1 November 2004.  
The *Headhunter Headlines* is the official newsletter of the *80<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron Headhunters Association, Inc.*,  
a non-profit, tax exempt, War Veterans' Organization.  
© Copyright 2004, all rights reserved.



Labor Day – 6 September



Patriots Day – 11 September



Columbus Day – 11 October



Halloween – 31 October

## Las Vegas reunion—fall of 2005!



Col Jay E. "JayBird" Riedel, USAF (Ret)  
The "Head Hunter"



80th Fighter Squadron  
"HEADHUNTERS"  
905 Arapaho Ct  
Columbus, GA 31904

**RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

**FIRST CLASS**