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Volume 1, Issue 11
January, 2010



# Walking Point The newsletter for D Co. 2/8 Vietnam 1965–1972

### **Misplaced Viet lessons**

A tactical defeat; arguably a strategic victory

By William Lloyd Stearman



Current opinion affecting decisions on Afghanistan could well be, at least subconsciously, influenced by a "Vietnam syndrome" based on two persistent and widespread myths - that the war could not be won and, in any case, was not worth fighting. It is, therefore, past high time to set the record straight.

The following expose of these myths is based on more than 10 continuous years' experience with that war from the rice paddies to the White House as well as extensive research. When the end came in 1975, I was probably the most senior U.S. official who dealt exclusively with Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

The conclusion that the war was "unwinnable" clearly can be traced to the 1968 Tet Offensive. Mainly Viet Cong forces penetrated or captured most of South Vietnam's cities and towns, including Saigon, even reaching our embassy's grounds. Resulting sensationally vivid TV and other reporting created a profound and lasting defeatist outlook in and out of government. Scarcely reported and still widely unappreciated, however, was that this offensive ended in a catastrophic defeat of the Viet Cong from which it never recovered. Not reported at all were the resulting impressive gains in countryside pacification that led to one of the most successful land reforms in history.

By 1972, the (well overdue) Vietnamization process had withdrawn all U.S. ground forces in Vietnam except advisers. However, we still provided air, naval and logistics support. In 1972, about 200 Americans were killed in action as opposed to an average of about 7,000 in previous years. With its Viet Cong forces defeated, Hanoi decided in 1972 to test Vietnamization by launching its largest conventional offensive of the war. This Easter Offensive employed the equivalent of 23 divisions equipped with hundreds of Soviet-supplied tanks, long-range artillery and rockets, surface-to-air missiles and other modern weapons. South Vietnamese ground forces, ARVN (army) and marines, with U.S. air, naval and logistics support, stopped the offensive and launched counteroffensives, inter alia recapturing the enemy's strongest position, Quang Tri near North Vietnam.

# Inside this issue: Misplaced Viet Lessons 1-2 D 2/8th CAV Honor Roll 3 Ltr from Cpt Minges, Cdr, D 2/8 Iraq 4 ASA Financial Statements 5 D.C. in 2011 5 St. Pete Beach Reunion Registration 6-7 D 2/8th CAV in Iraq 8

### Angry Skipper Association, Inc.® Board of Governors

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### Misplaced Viet Lessons—continued from page 1

If they couldn't hold Quang Tri, what could they have held? This offensive cost North Vietnam nearly 100,000 killed in action, twice the number U.S. troops suffered in the entire war. After Hanoi's 1975 victory, a former top commander in the South, Gen. Tran Van Tra, revealed in the party organ Nhan Dan that, in effect, his troops were on the ropes and close to defeat by 1972's end. As former CIA Director William Colby wrote in his 1983 book "Lost Victory," "On the ground in South Vietnam the war had been won" by the fall of 1972. We then proceeded to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory by prematurely concluding the Paris "Peace Accords," which left North Vietnamese troops in South Vietnam. As North Vietnamese Chief of Staff Gen. Van Tien Dung later wrote, "The [Paris] agreement represented a big victory for our people and a big defeat for the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys."

After this, Congress reduced U.S. military aid to South Vietnam by nearly 70 percent and then banned all U.S. military operations in Indochina. This decisively contributed to South Vietnam's defeat in 1975. A Gen. Dung put it, "The decrease in American aid made it impossible for Saigon troops to carry out their combat and force development plans."

Was the Vietnam War worth it? In April 1954, President Eisenhower said a communist victory in Indochina could topple Southeast Asian countries like "dominoes." While it was pooh-poohed by many in the United States, most Southeast Asian leaders agreed with Eisenhower's "domino theory," as did leaders in Hanoi, Peking and Moscow.

The war, however, bought time for strengthening the Southeast Asian regimes, the potential "dominoes," while wearing down North Vietnam and effectively eliminating its threat to Southeast Asia.

In the 1970s, Indonesian leaders Suharto and Malik told U.S. officials that our introduction of combat troops in Vietnam in March 1965 substantially encouraged their resistance to a nearly successful October 1965 Chinese-backed communist coup that could have toppled a number of dominoes, probably including the Philippines. That would have triggered our treaty obligation to come to its aid and in the face of a far greater communist threat than we faced in Indochina.

Our troop commitment to Vietnam also encouraged the successful British defense of Malaysia against a communist invasion launched from Indonesia.

We got into World War II primarily as a result of severe economic embargoes we imposed in reaction to the Japanese occupation of what is now Vietnam. So this area was of prime importance to our national security even then. On the whole, our fighting in Vietnam was key to implementing George Kennan's ultimately successful "containment policy" in Southeast Asia. The final result of the Vietnam War should thus be regarded as a tactical defeat but a strategic victory.

William Lloyd Stearman, a retired U.S. Foreign Service officer, headed the National Security Council's Indochina staff from 1973 to 1977 and is a former adjunct professor of international affairs at Georgetown University.

### New Members since the June, 2009 Newsletter:

Mike Konz, Wild Cat, 66-67 Christopher Keefauver, Security 72

**Deceased Member/s:** (Date of Death) Pierce Burke, Jr., Range 6, 69-70 (23July09) **Membership count:** 

Active Members: 700 Members Online: 257



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### **HONOR ROLL**

### Delta Company, 2/8th Cav (abn), 1st Cavalry Division (airmobile) 65-72 Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) 06-08

<u>rank</u>	Name/Hometown	DOB	DOD	rank	Name/Hometown	DOB	DOD
Sgt	Richard Arthur Coffey, Los Angles, CA	21-Oct-41	4-Nov-65	Cnl	William John Anderson, Jr. Leroin, Oll	F lun 40	24 400 60
Pfc	Wright Bartwyn Hamill, Albany, OR	26-Aug-46	4-Nov-65	Cpl	William John Anderson, Jr., Lorain, OH	5-Jun-48	24-Aug-69
Cpl	Eddie Lee Hill Jr., Mobile, AL	7-Jul-40	4-Nov-65	Sp4	Hugh Henry Sarah, Plymouth, MI	5-Aug-45	23-Sep-69
Sp4	Terry Allen Rippy, Hammond, OR	30-Sep-42	22-Apr-66	Cpl	Albert Harold Altizer, Squire, WV	11-Apr-49	8-Oct-69
Sgt	Paul William Malec, Summerdale, Al	24-Jan-37	14-May-66	Pfc Pfc	Joseph Henning Benson, Coram, MT	16-Feb-49 14-Nov-47	8-Oct-69 8-Oct-69
Pfc	Fermin Saldana Jr., San Antonio, TX	10-Feb-46	23-May-66	Sp4	Jerome Milton Taylor, Battle Creek, MI Anthony Jack Carlucci, New York, NY	22-May-49	20-Nov-69
2Lt	Michael Douglas Derosier, Ft. Walton Beach, FL	16-Apr-43	19-Sep-66	Cpl	Peter Karl Matthei, St. Louis, MO	6-Sep-45	20-Nov-69
Ssg	Paul Edward Floyd, Jr., Clinton, MA	8-May-34	14-Oct-66	Pfc	Kenneth Frierson, Alcolu, SC	9-Nov-49	25-Jan-70
Cpl	Donald Francis Yates, Round Lake, NY	12-Sep-46	28-Jan-67	Pfc	Richard Lee Wiseman	J-140V-4J	Mar-70
Cpl	Peter Joseph Keller Jr., Detroit, MI	31-Jan-45	28-Jan-67	Ssg	*William Joseph Montague, Valley Stream, NY	10-Apr-42	12-Feb-70
Sgt	William Burton Jr., Hopkins, SC	2-Jan-45	1-Mar-67	Pfc	Tony Rava, Mt. Angel, OR	30-Aug-49	18-Feb-70
Cpl	Robert Edward Johnson, Highland, NY	14-Nov-46	1-Mar-67	Cpl	Kenneth Michael Flashner, New Orleans, LA	21-Nov-46	28-Feb-70
Pfc	Robert Lester Van Gieson, Van Nuys, CA	21-May-47	12-Mar-67	Cpl	Francis Louis Ware III, Youngstown, OH	10-Sep-49	6-Mar-70
Pfc	Michael Neal Johnson, Brentwood, MD	19-Nov-47	18-Mar-67	Cpl	Michael Charles Jackson, Simi, CA	10-Sep-49	17-Mar-70
Ssg	John Henry Willis, Philadelphia, PA	2-Nov-42	18-Mar-67	Ssg	James Cooney, New York, NY	1-Jul-47	9-Apr-70
Pfc	Ralph Traylor Woodall, Jr., Jesup, GA	14-Apr-44	18-Mar-67	Cpl	Kenneth Walter Gonder, New Brunswick, NJ	3-May-47	19-May-70
Sp4	Clayton Middleton, Cincinnati, OH	26-Sep-45	18-Mar-67	Cpl	Craig Thomas Waterman, Rockwell City, IA	30-Sep-49	3-Sep-70
Pfc	Vance George Williams. Dallas, TX	21-Nov-46	2-Apr-67	Pvt	James Lee Getter, West Helena, AR	18-Aug-51	16-Mar-71
Pfc	Daniel Ivan Nelson, Rutledge, MN	19-Oct-47	30-May-67	Cpl	James Melvin Cardwell, Castro Valley, CA	25-Jun-50	20-Apr-71
Sp4	Terry Russell McComb, Lapeer, MI	1-Nov-46	5-Jun-67	Cpl	Danny George Drinkard, Ferndale, MI	15-Oct-50	20-Apr-71
Pfc	George Steven Sutt, Indianapolis, IN	4-Aug-47	30-May-67	Cpl	Joseph Lindsey Hall, Little Rock, AR	5-Apr-51	20-Apr-71
Pfc	Charles William Krueger, Menasha, WI	13-Jul-47	31-May-67	Cpl	Stanton Gerald Sargent, Grenada, MS	15-Jan-50	21-Apr-71
Cpl	Lonney Lewis Ehlers, Rhodes, MI	9-Jun-47	1-Jun-67	Sp4	Charles W. Roberts, Jr., Atlanta, GA	13-Nov-49	18-Jul-71
2Lt	*Michael E. Bennett, Brentwood, NH	14-Apr-46	1-Nov-67	Pfc	William John MaKowski, Buffalo, NY	16-Oct-51	21-Oct-71
Sp4	Allen Eugene Follett, Independence, MO	13-Nov-44	11-Dec-67	Sp4	Oscar Aguilar, Fairfield, CA	5-Apr-51	10-May-72
Sp4	John Paul Paulson Jr, Neenah, WI	15-Aug-47	11-Dec-67	Sgt	William Arvel Boatright, Abbott, AR	28-Dec-49	10-May-72
Sgt	Wyatt Cecil Gordon, Lawrence, IN	3-Apr-48	31-Jan-68	Pfc	Steven Edward Bowersock, Lima, OH	25-Sep-51	10-May-72
Sp4	Robert Eugene Gardner, Sylacauga, AL	22-Sep-42	19-Apr-68	Sgt	Edward Denzel Burnett, Jay, OK	6-Dec-51	10-May-72
Cpl	Richard Allen Carlson, San Francisco, CA	30-Mar-48	24-May-68	Sp4	Dennis Gyman Dunning, Raymond, MS	11-Aug-53	10-May-72
Sp4	Larry Dean Novak, Platte Center, NE	17-Mar-48	24-May-68	Sp4	David Cruz Flores, Agana, GM	20-Aug-52	10-May-72
Sgt	Jacob Robinson Weldin, Wilmington, DE	18-Aug-46	6-Jun-68	Sgt	Dieter Kuno Freitag, Ft. Dix, NJ	10-Sep-46	10-May-72
Pfc	Brian Carl Winner, Detroit, MI	8-Sep-47	7-Jun-68	Pvt	James Douglas Groves, Maysville, KY	6-Jul-53	10-May-72
Sgt	Robert James Ross, Charlotte, NC	1-Jul-47	1-Jul-68	Sp4	Frank Theodore Henson, Massapequa, NY	6-Oct-51	10-May-72
1Lt	Harrison E. Woehnker, Jr., Minneapolis, MN	7-Jul-43	18-Jul-68	Sp4	Donald Edward Howell, Los Angeles, CA	14-Nov-47	10-May-72
Cpl	Stanley Lloyd Grunstad, Everett, WA	21-Apr-47	19-Jul-68	Sp4	Freddie Jackson, Cocoa, FL	14-Feb-44	10-May-72
Pfc	Roger Theodore Fast, Butterfield, MN  Ronald Duane Colden, Superior, WI	14-Jan-48	19-Aug-68	Cpt	Kenneth Rosenberg, New York, NY	25-Oct-42	10-May-72
Sp4	Ronald Duane Golden, Superior, WI	22-Jul-44 11-May-40	20-Aug-68	Sp4	Gary Robert Monteleone, Saugus, CA	27-Jul-52	10-May-72
Cpt Pfc	John Robin Wiest, Billings, MT Michael John Cromie, Harperwoods, MI	6-Apr-48	12-Oct-68 18-Nov-68	Pfc	Dean Anthony Phillips, Tiro, OH	14-Nov-51	10-May-72
Sp4	Raymond Joseph Ahern, Jr., Philadelphia, PA	14-Jan-48	26-Nov-68	Sgt	James Christian Jensen, Elsinore, UT	21-Jun-51	10-May-72
Sp4	Willie Gerald Jones, Fort Lauderdale, FL	15-Nov-47	4-Dec-68	Pvt	Jackie Ray, Jackson, MI	19-Apr-49	10-May-72
Sp4	Donald Robert Stoltz, Milwaukee, WI	17-Jan-48	4-Dec-68	Sp4	Richard Ridgeway, Bloomington, IL	13-Aug-51	10-May-72
Ssg	William Charles Williams, Horton, MS	15-Oct-46	4-Dec-68	Pfc	John Tenerio Sablan, Agana, GM	3-Jun-53	10-May-72
Sp4	Elliot Velez-Rodriguez, Vega Baja, PR	29-May-47	21-Jan-69	Sp4	Clarence L. Saulsberry, Jr., Chicago, IL	31-Dec-51	10-May-72
Cpl	Warren Reed Eskridge, Tangier Island, VA	9-Sep-47	28-Jan-69	Sp4	Raymond Joseph Shiko, Kingston, PA	2-Aug-53	10-May-72
Sp4	Carl Dale Pipher, Canton, OH	31-Mar-49	28-Jan-69	Sp4	David Wesley Sulser, Galion, OH	28-Oct-51	10-May-72
-	James Edmonds, Burlington, NC	12-Jul-48	5-Feb-69	Pfc	Thomas Eugene Wood, Tacoma, WA	16-Aug-53	10-May-72
Sp4	Chester Jon Kmit, Williamsburg, MA	11-Apr-45	5-Feb-69	Spc	Justin Paton, Alanson, MI	4-Jul-82	17-Feb-07
Pfc	Neil Shipp Brown, Salt Lake City, UT	7-Aug-44	2-May-69	Cpl	Montrel S. McArn, Shannon, NC	26-Feb-85	19-Feb-07
Cpl	George Arthur Brown, Whaleyville, VA	19-Jan-48	, 12-May-69	Ssg	Pedro J. Colon, Bronx, NY	24-Dec-81	19-Feb-07
-	James Robert Dunkle, Milton, PA	10-Oct-48	13-May-69	1Lt	Gwilym Newman, Oaks, CA	27-Apr-82	12-Apr-07
1Lt	John Preston Karr, Kenner, LA	14-Jan-47	25-May-69	1Lt	Dan Riordan, St. Louis, MO	17-Feb-83	23-Jun-07
Pfc	Wayne Eric Garven, Mt. Vernon, OH	4-Feb-48	25-May-69	Sgt	Jimy Malone, Wills Point, TX	27-Jul-83	23-Jun-07
Cpl	Richard Neal White, Golden Valley, NM	30-Jul-46	25-May-69	Spc	Joel House, Lee, ME	21-Nov-84	23-Jun-07
Cpl	Michael Dennis Muse, Garland, TX	7-Jan-48	16-Aug-69	Spc	Derek Calhoun, Oklahoma City, OK	8-Sep-83	23-Jun-07

# Letter from Cpt. E. Les Minges, CDR, D CO, 2nd Battalion, 8th U.S. Cavalry Iraq—dated 11Dec09

Dear Angry Skipper, I hope that the fall into winter has gone well for all of you. The only semblance of changing season in Iraq is the ripening of the citrus groves and some of the apple and pomegranate orchards have a variety of standard fall leaf colors to walk through or drive by on patrols.

On 10 NOV 09 I took command of D CO from James Mijares. The ceremony was short and to the point, which is a good thing-no reason to keep Soldiers in formation for two CPTs to hand the guidon back and forth.

Below is a bit about me:

I am from Tuscaloosa, Alabama and like the fact that I grew up there, but cannot see myself returning at any point for anything other than a visit.

I enlisted during high school in 1997 with the job of air defense systems maintenance for the patriot system. It sounded really neat and a close enough runner up to the jobs that I wanted to do-medic or helicopter crew chief. After a year in Korea and almost a year at Fort Bliss, TX, I went to the West Point prep school. It's a place where they take enlisted Soldiers and teach them math and English skills (as well as a ton of PT) to qualify for an appointment to West Point. I liked it a lot and learned a lot. West Point was easy as a former Soldier, except the whole "school" part, a challenge I'll blame on being a product of the Alabama public education system.

D CO means an awful lot to me. I came to D CO originally in December of 2005 and was a platoon leader of 2nd PLT. We, through the task force organization during the deployment of 06-08, were sliced over to B CO. I was really sad that we were sliced away from D CO and asked several times to get our PLT swapped back. During that time, we had the same mission to D CO, but about 5 miles down the road instead of in Tarmiyah. After the VBIED, my tank and one other Bradley from B CO got to Tarmiyah itself slightly before the strykers did, it seemed like it took hours before we were able to get all the way to D CO's patrol base and provide direct fire support to Cory Wallace and his Soldiers. My medic, PFC Dillard (now SGT) was able to help SPC Patterson (the onsite medic) treat Soldiers prior to Evac. All of the Angry Skipper former Infantryman would be proud of the fact that my tank's gunner was an 11B, PFC Timmons, (now SGT) and perfectly used the system to engage targets with the main gun and machine gun to relieve the pressure off of the Soldiers on the roof of the patrol base. For the rest of my life I will never live down the thoughts that we didn't get there fast enough and did not shoot enough.

About three weeks later I became the XO of A CO. It was and still is a great Infantry company. We did a lot of missions using helicopters to pick a fight or capture those that needed the attention west of Taji. It was a crazy feeling every time we got dropped off and the helicopters flew away and the quiet returned. No matter what, I always found the mudhole or the slippery canal bank the hard way. Perhaps you all can remember the great feelings you got when the pickup aircraft's noise was finally audible. On one occasion as we took off the helicopter began discharging flares over a palm grove, illuminating the bushy topped palms and the citrus groves below them. As I looked out from my seat, I couldn't help but feel a connection to the efforts and sacrifice of the Angry Skippers and so many others at 200 feet and 120 miles an hour. Well, that feeling and a bit of excitement that I would be able to sleep in a bed that night after a long shower.

After returning, I got engaged to my then girlfriend, Corrie, who had been writing me almost daily letters the whole deployment and showed a level of caring for me and my Soldiers that I had never seen from anyone before. We got married in her hometown, Thibodaux, LA on August 9th, 2008. That day was the 1 year anniversary of the double VBIED bombing of the A CO patrol base in Hor Al Bosh. This time, the only flying debris was the occasional champagne cork and the only explosions were from laughter during speeches!

If I can express anything to you all its this:

I care for D CO more than I ever thought I could and will focus the efforts of my life to ensure that it has everything it needs from a Company Commander-Soldiers deserve that and a whole lot more. The fact that the Angry Skipper Association exists today lets me know the value and importance of D CO Soldiers' lives; it makes me want to do what I can to ensure that we can make you all proud to call us CO D, 2nd Battalion, 8th U.S. Cavalry.

Respectfully,

E. Les Minges CPT, AR CDR, D CO 2nd Battalion, 8th U.S. Cavalry HONOR AND COURAGE!



### **Angry Skipper Association, Inc.® Treasurers Report**

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.® Profit & Loss (unaudited) January 1 through December 31, 2009

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.® Balance Sheet (unaudited)
December 31, 2009

Ordinary	Income	& Expense

HICOHIC			
Banquet	\$ 3,680.00		
Donations	3,067.60	ASSETS	
Membership Dues	1,800.00	ASSETS	
Registration Fees	1,420.00	Current Assets:	
Group Photograph	615.00	Charling	\$ 252.30
Shirts, Hats, Patches	2,722.00	Checking Deposits	300.00
Total Income	\$ 13,304.60	Accounts Receivable	
Expenses		TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 552.30
Banquet—Saturday Event	t 3,657.27		
ASA Website	446.60 (3yr)	LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Corporate	50.00	Liabilities	
Flowers/Funeral	120.00	Current Liabilities:	
Insurance	310.00	Accounts Payable	0.00
Member Assistance	238.18	TOTAL LIADILITIES	Φ 0.00
Merchant Account	796.41	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 0.00
Photographer	492.00	Equity	
Postage & Delivery	733.34	Opening Bal Equity	3,316.97
Printing & Reproduction	1,164.00	Retained Earnings	( 2,864.85)
Professional Services—R	eunion 3,050.29	Net Income	100.18
Shirts, Hats & Patches	2,088.93	T-4-1 F '4	Φ 552.20
Total Expenses	\$ 13,204.42	Total Equity	\$ 552.30
Net Income (Loss)	<b>\$</b> 100.18	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>\$ 552.30</u>

Note: The 2008 Tax Return was prepared and filed by Robert

Burke, CPA (Skull, 70-71) Thanks Bob!

### Washington D.C. in 2011

The Crowne Plaza Dulles, located in Herndon, Virginia was the hotel we stayed at in 2007. The room rates will be \$89/night and we will have the same hospitality suite as last time; ground floor just off the lobby. The hotel is located 2 miles from Dulles International airport. 24-hour business center, complimentary van shuttle to and from the Dulles Airport, wireless high-speed internet. Houlihan's Restaurant & Bar is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Indoor heated lap pool and a 24-hour fitness center is available.





## Angry Skipper Association, Inc.®



### May, 13th thru 16th, 2010 Reunion Registration Form

### St. Pete Beach, Florida

Name:		(AKA)	Plato	on:	Yr(s):
Address:		City:	States	: Ph:	
How many wi	ll be in your group?	E-mail:			
	ergency contact:es of all in your group:				
<u>Date/Time</u> May 14, 2010–	Activity —Friday Beach BBQ 5:00pr	m—8:00pm	<u>Cost/Person</u> \$34.00	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Total</u>
# of slice wit	- Saturday  a Reunion Banquet (check meal seed Tenderloin of beef # grilled find the peppercorn sauce with lemonts thouse salad, twice baked potato, green	llet of Salmon # o peppers & Dill sauce			
Shirts & Caps	Reunion Shirts: (order by March Sizes: Small: Medium: La	31st) rge: XL: X	\$25.00 XXL:XXXL		
	D 2/8th CAV Caps		\$12.00		
	S REGISTRATION  & REGISTRATION FEE:	Pla	ase register by May		lease complete for
Membership Fe Registration Fe	e Life member @ \$200 ea.	.00 and	I mail with check (p tion, Inc.) or with cr	ayable to A edit card in	ngry Skipper Ass nfo to:
Contribution/do	•	.00	Attn:	ster With Ea Stacey Sm Las Cruces	ith
TOTAL PAYME	ENT:  sou want the membership card and/or shirt of	.00 Windows and a state of the	Winter 1	Haven, FL 3 863.325-00	33884
	reunion. We will have the items mailed to yo			863.325-00	
PAYMENT M Card Number:			MasterCard _ xpiration: Month/Y		VISA
Signature:					MasterCard
Do not send t	his form if you registered online	at : http://www.a	ngryskipperassoc	iation.org	
	Hotel Reservations:  Tell them you are	\ /	<b>37-8916 or (727</b> ) pper Association gro		1

You must arrange your own Hotel room. It is not included in this registration. Your Welcome Package will be available in the Lobby. Please pick up your package when you arrive.

### St. Pete Beach, Florida 2010 Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Reunion

Our reunion will be held at the **Dolphin Beach Resort & Conference Center**, **4900 Gulf Boulevard \* St. Pete Beach**, **Florida 33706** (<a href="http://www.dolphinbeach.com">http://www.dolphinbeach.com</a>) from **May 13th thru May 16**, **2010**. You must call the Hotel and make your own reservations. Their number is **800.237-8916**. The hotel will honor the discounted group rates for our group for 3 days prior to May 14th and 3 days after May 17th for those early arrivals and stay-over's. When making flight reservations, fly into either **Tampa (TPA)** or the **St. Petersburg/Clearwater International airports**. The hotel rates are as follows:

- \$ 99.00 for Standard room;
- \$ 129.00 for Pool view room;
- \$ 149.00 for Gulf front room.



You must tell the Hotel you are with the Angry Skipper Association for these preferred rates. They will not change the rate if you forget to tell them you are with the Angry Skipper Association group.

The registration process will be handled by 'Register With Ease" ("Stacey Smith"). VISA and MasterCard will be accepted, as well. Stacey has set-up a website for online registrations. Go to <a href="http://www.angryskipperassociation.org">http://www.angryskipperassociation.org</a> for a direct link, or you can mail the registration, with check or credit card information, to the address on the registration form. You may also fax the form with credit card info directly to Stacey. Or, register on-line, then send the check, payable to Angry Skipper Association, Inc., to the Register With Ease address. Please bring your lanyard from last year, if you still have it. As in previous years, we will mail life membership cards, caps and shirts to those who order these items and cannot attend the reunion. For info of St. Pete, visit: <a href="http://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com">http://www.visitstpeteclearwater.com</a>.

# ANGRY SKIPPER ASSOCIATION, INC. ® P.O. BOX 501 STOCKTON, NJ 08559

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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"Remember the bad times once, Remember the good times forever"

 $\label{eq:web:web:web:www.angryskipperassociation.org} We're on the web: \\ \textbf{www.angryskipperassociation.org}$ 

D Company, 2/8th CAV in Iraq (OIF 2009-2010) came home Jan, 2010



The Association will assist any member with transportation, lodging and meals who may have financial difficulty in attending an ASA National reunion. Please contact Ed Regan or Rich O'Brien, using the return address for this Newsletter, or by e-mail for consideration in receiving aid. Everything will be kept in strict confidence and handled discreetly. The association keeps cash reserves on-hand for this specific purpose. These are funds that donor's have made specifically for the purpose of helping members attend the reunion/s.