



REVETMENTS

The Official Journal of The Tan Son Nhut Association

A Memorial to the American Experience in Vietnam



JUNE 2019

NOTATIONS FROM APPLICATIONS

I lived in the barracks area close to the Main Gate. I was actually off-duty the night of Tet. When the rockets started coming, I rolled out of bed and pulled my mattress on top of me. Several rockets hit barracks close to us. There were several casualties and many injured. It seemed like the attack lasted forever. We couldn't get out of our barrack area for several days while the Air Force Police cleared the base. I worked at night on the flight line and went through several more attacks. I didn't believe I would make it out alive.

William Derrel Franks, Jr.
377th Supply Squadron
Aug 67 - Aug 68

2019 TSNA ELECTION

(For President)

I am again running for President of TSNA. The last four years have passed quickly. It has been an honor to represent TSNA. I want to continue to lead our great organization. I served at TSN from December 1966 to Feb. 9th, 1968. I was Registered Mail Courier assigned to OL 1508 Postal Courier Squadron, USAF.

I am very active in veterans' groups, having started our local VFW Post, 1st Vietnam Veterans of America Post and it being one of the first dozen in America.

I started a website called Vietnam Veterans With Diabetes, having over 725,000 belonging. I have a Facebook Page serving Vietnam Veterans With Diabetes. We have over 325,000 a month checking us out. I speak all around the country to veterans' groups on health issues relating to Agent Orange and Diabetes.

My Vision:

To foster fellowship of all its members now and in the future. To help educate, inform all the members about TSNA and our goals as an association. I want us to grow to encompass everyone who ever served at Tan Son Nhut and Vietnam, so we can hear and learn about their experiences while serving there. I want to contribute to help us grow in areas of members, news, etc. I want us to grow to be one of the larger Vietnam Reunion groups.

I feel I can reach so many more by using my website and

Facebook site as a way to promote TSNA and make our membership really grow. I want to use the Media to get the message out to all who served at TSN.

I feel so honored to belong to this great group.

I want to keep bringing great speakers to our reunions. So proud to carry on our Scholarship program started by our Past President George Plunkett and Administered by Rich Carvell. We have grown the Scholarships we give out. This is our legacy. So with all said here I am asking for your vote.

Randall W Brown-President-TSNA

(For Web Master)

I joined TSNA January 31, 2001 and became a Life Member January, 2013. My first reunion was in 2009 in Pigeon Forge, TN. I really did not know what to expect from the reunion. But from the moment I walked in and was greeted by Janice Jones and some of the other members they made me feel like family. I haven't missed a reunion since.

I was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2011 as Co - Director of Membership which I held till 2017. In 2018 I was appointed to be the Web Master of the Association. It has been a big learning curve for me and still presents a lot of challenges.

It has been a pleasure and honor to be a member and a member of the BOD of TSNA, working with some of the best people that you can ever hope to have the honor of knowing and working with.

If I am re-elected to the BOD I will continue to do my best to help to keep TSNA a great association.

Kerry Nivens
Tan Son Nhut Association
Web Master

JANICE JONES, TSNA "CHEERLEADER"

REMEMBERING JANICE

A short tribute, but long on love and respect.

The membership of TSNA is mourning, and the board is still toiling to grasp the reality of our sister, an unbendable pillar of support over the years, is gone. The chaplain is the official advisor to the board to be its conscience; Janice was always the unofficial go to person for the board being the spirit and soul of TSNA. She was the "Cheerleader", a descriptive and uplifting term that still lacked the depth of her commitment.

She gave so much of her time and energy to make every member seem like the most important part of a very extended family. No one knows how many cards of congratulation, sympathy, good will, or just plain friendship she's sent to our members over the years. At every reunion, we felt we had not really arrived until we got that greeting and hug from Janny.

Contrasting the outward great warmth and love, Janny had a biting sense of humor that, if you did not know her, could be taken for callous. Such was far from true. You knew you were liked and loved the more she teased. Intelligent, caring people are most complex.

We got the impression she was not fond of flying, but in the end she, with jet speed, winged her way to Heaven. We must rejoice the place of her final landing and not focus on the sadness.

Rest in Peace, dear sister.

THE TSNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By: Jimmy Smith
Chaplain

Greetings Veterans and Fellow Members of TSNA: As your Chaplain my prayers and wishes for each of you is for everyone to have a blessed and happy June. The event of this month is Fathers Day. Moms had their day last month and this month we remember the second most important person, in most if not all of our lives, and that is our Father. I was only 17 years old when my dad passed away at the age of 47. However I have many fond memories of all the things my hard working dad shared with me and my siblings. As I do for Mom on Mother's Day, I burn a candle for Dad and remember all those good times and love he shared with us. Fishing, Pic-Nic's, family reunions and school activities were all his favorites. I know we are getting old ourselves, but if your dad is still with us remember him, and visit him if you can, or call him to let him know he is still loved and remembered. TSNA has played a very important role for me in my life. It has helped me a great deal with healing from my Vietnam experience. Talking about and sharing our experiences have helped with the perspective of dealing with these experiences and putting the bad ones behind me. We served together and all went through the same experiences. Who could understand you any better? I am proud of the TSNA organization and what they stand for. If you served in Vietnam and have been following us on our web page or Facebook we encourage you to join us and share your story and all of the great times we have when we get together. Serving in Vietnam may not have been our choice, remember the Draft, but we did not shirk our responsibility to serve our country when we were called. It is a privilege and an honor to have served and that act deserves respect. If you are not already on the TSNA Facebook group or web page at TSNA.org, check it out. Better yet, join us at the TSNA Reunion this year in Little Rock, Arkansas 12 -15 September. Information is on our web page at TSNA.org under the reunion tab. To all of my Vietnam Brothers and Sisters, I love and appreciate all of you more than you will ever know. I was immediately and warmly accepted into TSNA and shown love and care through my past illnesses. I am currently, and pray I will remain, totally Cancer free. Thanks for all of your prayers and cards. Remember all of our members and supporters who are struggling with health issues and say a prayer for each of them. May God bless each of you for what you have done for our country and the TSNA Organization.

Until next month, this is your Chaplain signing off. Have a blessed month and God's speed to all.

TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION 2019 REUNION REGISTRATION

**LITTLE ROCK, AR
Sep 12-15, 2019**

NAME _____ GUEST NAME(S) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TEL (_____) _____ EMAIL _____

SPECIAL NEEDS (if applicable) _____

Choose only the item(s) from the following that apply:

Full Registration (includes Banquet & daily access to Hospitality Suite, per person)\$75.00
Number of people _____ x \$75.00 = \$ _____

Banquet Only (per person)\$37.50
Number of people _____ x \$37.50 = \$ _____

Access to Hospitality suite (per person, per day)\$17.50
Number of people _____ x Number of days _____ x \$17.50 = \$ _____

Pre-Order Reunion DVD (each) \$15.00
Number of copies ordered _____ x \$15.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL REMITTANCE: \$ _____

Mail this form with payment (check only) to:

**TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 236
PENRYN, PA 17564-0236**

**THIS REGISTRATION FORM WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED
NLT AUGUST 30, 2019**

Questions regarding Reunion Registration should be directed to:

Larry Fry
Director of Membership
Email: lfry2@dejazzd.com



TAN SON NHUT ASSOCIATION 2019 HOTEL REGISTRATION
FOUR POINTS SHERATON LITTLE ROCK MIDTOWN

925 S. UNIVERSITY BLVD & INTERSTATE 630
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72204
(501) 664-5020

NOTE: This hotel is now part of Marriott Hotels International

TSNA Room rate: \$96.00 + Tax (Currently: 15%)

Option 1:

You may make your reservation by telephone. To do so, call the hotel directly at:
(501) 664-5020

Mention TSNA or Tan Son Nhut Association

Option 2:

You may also make reservations through Marriott's nationwide Toll-Free Reservation Center at:
(800) 721-7033

Mention this code: **TS-1089**

Cutoff date for hotel reservations at our reduced rate is: August 10, 2019 at 5:00PM

Any questions regarding hotel reservations should be addressed to:

Joe Kricho

Director of Reunion Planning

Email: 67vietvet68@gmail.com

(Please put "TSNA 2019 Reunion" in the subject line)



Looking Back To 1973

By: Harold Boone
Sep 67 - Aug 68
460th TRW HQ Section

With the signing of the Paris Peace Accords, America's war in Vietnam was almost over. The last combat troops left in March. Small detachments remained with the last being helicoptered out in 1975 as Saigon fell. Some 68 Americans died in Vietnam in 1973. The Paris Peace Accords allowed for the first American POWs to return home to the USA in February.

The Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) imposed an oil embargo in response to the United States military support of Israel. Prices were raised and "pump lines" developed during the shortage. Congress reduced the speed limit nationwide to 55 MPH. In response to the shortage of oil, the Trans Alaskan Oil Pipeline was approved.

The Watergate Hearings were held. Barcodes in supermarkets debuted. The Sears Tower in Chicago became the world's tallest building. Vice President Agnew resigned. Lyndon Johnson died. Airports in U. S. began inspecting luggage due to terrorism.

The U. S. Supreme Court issued a landmark decision. Norma McCorvey sued Henry Wade, Dallas County (Texas) District Attorney over abortion laws. To protect McCorvey's privacy, her name was changed in the court documents to Roe as in "Roe vs. Wade".

Due to rising gasoline cost and engine efficiency, cars from Japan are being imported. The space station, Skylab, was launched and later fell from orbit in 1979.

Inflation in the U. S. was at 6.16 per cent. Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 850.

Some of the more memorable movies in 1973 were American Graffiti (my favorite), The Exorcist, The Sting, Serpico, and Live and Let Die.

On television we were watching programs such as All In The Family, The Waltons, Sanford and Son, M*A*S*H, Kojac, Cannon, and Sonny and Cher.

In music we were listening to songs such as:

Tie a Yellow Ribbon 'Round the Ole Oak Tree by Dawn
Bad Bad Leroy Brown by Jim Croce
Killing Me Softly With His Song by Roberta Flack
Let's Get It On by Marvin Gaye
My Love by Paul McCartney
Why Me by Kris Kristofferson
Crocodile Rock by Elton John
Will It Go Round In Circles by Billy Preston
You're So Vain by Carly Simon
Touch Me In The Morning by Diana Ross

In the world of sports, horse racing captured the attention of many. The big red horse, Secretariat, won the Triple Crown in record times. In baseball the Oakland Athletics defeated the New York Mets in the World Series. Once again, UCLA won the college basketball championship by defeating Memphis State. In college football, Notre Dame and Alabama were voted national champions. In professional football, the Dolphins defeated the Redskins in the Super Bowl.

FROM BRIAN WICKHAM

I thought you might like this photo I took with my Minolta SRT101. Brian Wickham, Aug 68 - Jun 69, Capital Military Assistance Command.

(From an email exchange between Larry and Brian)

Thanks Brian. There were some good cameras even back in "those days."!! I'll use it some-time in Revetments.

Why were two of the hoods part way "up"? And I just noticed that the three signs on the fence all have different number of "stars" on them, indicating I guess what rank can use that car? Larry



I don't know why the hoods are up, maybe they had overheating problems. I used to see the Vietnamese drivers waiting outside MACV and some had hoods up on their sedans. I wondered about the stars on the parking spaces but I don't think the three star spot would get that much use if it were Lt Gens only. Probably just a way to identify what car was waiting for you when you landed.

I'll see if I have any other Tan Son Nhut photos, if so they will be of the MACV Annex area. Brian
Reunion News

Tucson 2020

Well, it has taken a bit longer than usual, but we finally have a signed contract in place. Our reunion will take place Sep 17 -20, 2020 at the Doubletree Suites Tucson Airport. The room rate will be \$110.00 per night. This special rate will be available three days prior and three days after our scheduled dates, should you want to take advantage of being out West. However, keep in mind that this is an all-suite hotel. Therefore, everyone will have both a sitting room and a separate bedroom. This hotel is conveniently located just off the main entrance of the Tucson airport. In addition, the hotel offers complimentary airport shuttle service.

Little Rock 2019

Now that we have a contract for 2020, I can set Tucson aside and concentrate on Little Rock. We already have a guest speaker lined up, thanks to Randall Brown. Additionally, Vietnam Vet Radio will be doing a remote broadcast from our reunion. If you don't have their streaming service on your electronic device, I suggest you add it. Just go to: <https://vietnamvetradio.org>

One of the local attractions that I am looking to put on our schedule is the Bill Clinton Presidential Library. I hope that we can all put our politics aside and look upon this as a piece of history. I know that this will be my first-time visit to a Presidential Library.

Little Rock also has a great entertainment & restaurant district down by the river, which is near the Presidential Library. Also, there is Little Rock AFB, among other things to do in the area.

For those of you who are members of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA,) I have placed an ad for our reunion in their monthly news magazine. I have already had a few contacts as a result, so hopefully, we may gain some new members, as well as reunion attendees.

That is it for now. I hope to have some more concrete news about Little Rock next month.

Joe Kricho, Director of Reunion Planning

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P. O. Box 236
Penryn PA 17564

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Rev. Dr. James M. Warrington, TSNA Chaplain: 1997-2018
Presidents Emeriti:
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John Peele, Co-Founder and President 2002-2004
Wayne Salisbury, (1940-2014), President 2004-2007
Robert Robinson Gales, President 2007-2011
George Plunkett, President 2011-2015
Web Site: www.tsna.org
Annual Membership: \$20.00
Five Year Membership: \$80.00
Life Membership: \$180.00



PHOTO BY GEORGE GREENWOOD, Sep 66 - Sep 67;
460th FMS Airframe Repairman

NEW MEMBER

William Derrel Franks, Jr. Ringgold, LA derrel.franks@gmail.com Aug 67 - Aug 377th Supply Squadron

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Janice Jones Kingsport TN TSNA "Cheerleader" and Sister of Life Member Charles Penley

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