



48th Assault Helicopter Company

APO San Francisco 96240; 96321; 96349



ATTENTION TO ORDERS

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

**The Grand Ole Order of the 48th Assault Helicopter Company and Their
Successors, A Co/3-158 AVN
APO San Francisco; APO, AE**

Situation: The 48th AHC has completed its summer revelry in Orlando. Preparation continues for a full scale offensive and combat assault to the “little” burg of Williamsburg, located in the Colony of Virginia. The landing zone (to be further referred to as *LZ Williamsburg*) for this operation will be the Woodlands Hotel & Suites, 105 Visitor Center Drive, Colonial Williamsburg, VA. The assault will begin on November 9th and continue through November 13th, 2011. The operation will be declared complete when the last man standing departs the LZ.

Alright, now there’s your “official” notice. Now let’s get down to the nitty gritty. Janet Gay (with a little help from Ben Gay, and I mean little) has really put together a great program for us this year. Starting with finding us some great digs located right across from the Visitors Center in Colonial Williamsburg to our banquet on Saturday night. As most of you may know, this year marks the 5th anniversary of our Fall Reunion, a tradition that was started by Tony Terrana and Cliff Whiting. This tradition continues by reunion attendees having a little get together and cajoling someone into volunteering to host the next Fall Reunion. Fortunately for us (but not according to Janet ☺), Ben has volunteered Janet twice now. I guess its called delegation of authority. Here’s the low-down on the tentative schedule:

Wednesday, November 9th Day of arrival
1800 Cookout at Ben & Janet’s (15521 River Bend Trail, Lanexa, VA)

Thursday, November 10th
0900/1000 Shelton Glass Works (more info in Newsletter)
1300 Lunch at Courthouse Tavern in Charles City County
1400 Berkley Plantation Tour
1900 Dinner in Colonial Williamsburg (location TBD)

Friday, November 11th
Day at your leisure Tour Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown or Golf
1600 Veterans Day Parade (more follows)
Evening At your leisure/Ghost Tour through Colonial Williamsburg

Saturday, November 12th
Day at your leisure Tour Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown or Golf
1800 Banquet and 60’s Sock Hop – Dress for the occasion

Sunday, November 13th Prepare for multi-sortie departure (those leaving on Sunday)

There are a multitude of places to visit while you’re in Williamsburg. The Mariner’s Museum in Newport News (home of the Monitor), Ft. Eustis Transportation Museum in Newport News, Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Williamsburg Winery Tour, Golf, Spa’s and other Plantation tours.

Note: Anyone interested in a Civil War tour of one of the local battlefields, contact Ben Gay.

Hotel: The room rate for a standard room (two double beds) for single or double occupancy is \$89 per night. King size suites including queen size sofa are available for \$119 per night. Complimentary continental breakfast is included. This special guest room rate will apply 3 days before and after the dates of the event. A GP medium and cots will be provided in the adjacent wooded area for select individuals. For reservations call 800-261-9530 between 0830H and 1700H EST. Use booking Code #17008 or Group Name 48th AHC. **Reservations must be made prior to Wednesday, September 7th, 2011.** Reservation must be accompanied by a one night's deposit for room plus tax. Reservations made after September 7th will be based on space and rate available. Individual deposits are refundable, provided notice of cancellation is received by the hotel by 1700H EST at least 3 days prior to the reserved date of arrival. Check-in time is 1600 H and check-out time is 1100H.

Banquet: The Saturday night banquet will be at the Colonial Williamsburg Conference facility located within walking distance of our hotel (approx 1 ½ blocks). The menu will include a regional BBQ menu featuring such delights as chili-rubbed BBQ chicken breast, Virginia pulled-pork BBQ with all the fixins'. This year we're trying something a little different. We added a theme to this year's festivities and thought we'd try returning to the 60's with a 60's sock hop. Yep, that means we should get the hair slicked back, squeeze into those tight jeans and put on the T shirts (don't forget the rolled-up cigs in your sleeve). We've engaged the services of a DJ and have a dance floor. All this for the modest cost of \$37.50 each. You can't beat that with a stick! There will be a cash bar during dinner & the Sock Hop. It'll be real important to get your **reservations and \$\$ in to Janet by September 7th**. Please use the enclosed reservation form and send it to Janet ASAP.

T Shirts: By popular demand, we're going to have T-shirts available. The T-shirts will be dark green with a Huey slick and a gunship on the front, nothing on the back and no pocket. Sample artwork is included. Once again, if you're interested in ordering a T-shirt(s), please use the order form included. T-shirts will be available for pick-up in Williamsburg. If you can't join in the festivities, T-shirts can be mailed for an additional cost. T-shirts will be available around the beginning of November for mailing. This is a one-time deal. If you want one, order it now. We won't be ordering any extra's for "stock" so to speak. **The deadline for ordering T shirts is October 10, 2011!** Again, fill-in the order form and get it to Janet ASAP. See the T Shirt artwork on the back of the enclosed Association Membership Application!

Shelton Glass Works: We've got something special this year - **48th AHC REUNION HAND BLOWN COBALT MUGS**. John Shelton has agreed to produce hand blown cobalt blue mugs with the 48th Blue Star inset into the mug.

The mugs that are being made for the 48th AHC will be hand blown by John Shelton of Shelton Glass Works, Williamsburg, Va. John is a former Viet Nam helicopter pilot who flew medevac missions in Viet Nam from 1967 to 1968. John then served in the Virginia Army National Guard (ARNG) in the 986th Medical Detachment/Air Ambulance with Ben Gay until his retirement in 1995. During his service in the ARNG, the 986th was activated and deployed to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq in 1990/1991 for 10 months during Operation Desert Storm. John has made his living as an independent glass blower from the mid 1970's to the present. John's work is not only known and highly respected nationally but also internationally, as he has produced specialty pieces for several European countries requiring 17th and 18th century pieces of the highest quality over the past 25 years. John has produced high quality individual pieces and collections for Colonial Williamsburg, the College of William and Mary, Jamestown, and other related historical sites over the past 30 years. John's work is highly sought after by private collectors of high end blown glass pieces and sets. John built his own glass furnace, mixes his own glass powder and uses the same tools as would have been used in the 17th and 18th centuries! John will be giving free demonstrations of his glass blowing skills in his shop in Williamsburg for members of the 48th during our reunion in November 2011 (see schedule). For further information on John and his work please visit his web site at www.sheltonglass.com

The "Blue Star" mug John will be making for our reunion will be offered at \$30.00 per piece. It will be made of Cobalt Blue glass and will have the Blue Star logo made of metal and attached to the mug. The mug design is of an 18th century drinking mug. A similar mug, made for the 986th Medical Detachment, is shown below. This piece of blown glass is a \$45.00 item, but John is offering it at his cost for our reunion. If orders are placed prior to the reunion, he will have the pieces ready for pick up in Williamsburg. If items must be shipped, that would add approximately \$22 per piece. Once again, if you're interested in ordering a mug, please use the attached order form. Again, this is a onetime deal. If you want one, order it now.

As an added attraction, John has generously donated a matching pitcher that we will be raffling off during the reunion.



Golf: Golf anyone? Dan Schuette has generously offered to coordinate a golf outing for anyone who might be interested. Dan will be staying at Marriott's Manor Club at Ford's Colony (about 8 miles from downtown Williamsburg). Dan is willing to make tee times, coordinate golfing for others who want to golf. If you are interested, please contact Dan directly at dschuette07@gmail.com.

Colonial Williamsburg FREE 3 Day Pass: For Veterans and guest Nov 11, 12 & 13. Bring your DD214, Military ID or other proof of military service. This is a great gift to veterans. A 2 day pass normally goes for \$45.95.

Veterans Day Parade: We are planning to participate in the Veterans Day parade on Friday afternoon in Colonial Williamsburg. The Blue Stars have been invited to participate in this parade. We are working on a large Blue Star banner to carry. Here's the great part – Brock Nicholson will be once again bringing in the NC Chapter's H model Huey to Williamsburg. The H model is in the Blue Star livery, nose art & 48th on the doors – the whole bit. We are planning to have the Huey in the parade. It's going to be a great sight, seeing a Huey coming down the streets of Colonial Williamsburg. This is going to be a great event and would like everyone to participate if they are able. We are hoping that those attending the reunion will purchase a T shirt so we can wear them in the parade.

BBQ at Ben & Janet's: Once again Ben has volunteered Janet to host a BBQ at their home on Wednesday, November 9th @ 1800 for anyone arriving early. A head count is needed so please let Janet know if you will be attending. Phone : (804) 966-9843 Email: joker73bg@cox.net

More Stuff: The Fall Reunion is really beginning to shape up. So far we have more than 30 (plus spouses/significant others) signed up. Make your plans to attend. Let's face it, we're not getting any younger. The Fall Reunions are generally just a laid back fun time. We are planning to have a TOC set up

where we can just hang out, socialize, whatever. If you have any memorabilia, pictures, etc you'd like to share, this is the place to bring it to. As I noted before, Brock Nicholson will be trailering the NC Chapter's H model to Williamsburg. It will be parked in the hotel parking lot for viewing and last time in Williamsburg, drew a pretty good crowd. It's not every day there's a Huey parked in a hotel parking lot.

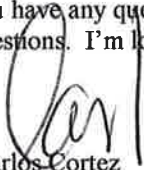
A Co/3-158 Blue Stars: Recently Roy Guy was able to pay a visit to the "new" Blue Stars at their base in Germany. Roy reported back that he was treated like a king during his visit. He was able to attend a "Hail & Farewell" for new arrivals and departing Blue Stars. There's a rumor that he was even able to finagle a ride in one of their Black Hawks. Roy is planning to be in Williamsburg and he promised to share his experience with us along with the pictures he took.

Blue Star Aviation Association: A thank you to all who have sent in their 2011-2012 Association dues. Your support is critical to our being able to put this all together. To answer some inquires as to being able to pay dues via electronic means, we're working on it. We've looked into Pay Pal but they take a 15% cut. We're looking onto SmartyPig but have run into some problems in getting it to work. Bobby Schulze is working on fixing the problem and hopefully in the future we'll be able to accept dues by credit card. In the mean time, if you haven't submitted your annual dues, please take a few minutes to send Bobby a check. Please use the enclosed form. Please make your check payable to Bobby Schulze. Also, if you're paying your dues, please mark your check dues. If you just want to send a contribution to the Association, mark your check as "contribution" so we can figure out how to credit it.

Raffle: Once again we are planning to have a raffle. We have some great raffle items lined up. I know for sure we're going to have 1 Blue Star quilt and possibly 2. We'll also have the cobalt blue Blue Star pitcher, mate to the Blue Star mugs, as a raffle prize along with other items. We're always looking for raffle prize contributions. If you're able to bring a prize along, it will be greatly appreciated. If you can't make the reunion and would like to donate a raffle prize, you can send it to Janet. All raffle proceeds are returned directly to the Association to help fund & defray the cost of the Fall Reunions. Last year we raised approximately \$1,600 to help fund this year's Williamsburg reunion.

Future Reunion Activities: Our next summer gathering will take place in the Crescent City. That's right; we're going to New Orleans. We'll be gathering at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Aug 2nd - 5th. I'll be getting more information out for this epic gathering in future Newsletters. There's been some discussion about the next *Fall Reunion*. There seems to be a lot on interest in heading to Charleston, SC next fall. As you may know, we need some boots on the ground to help put our fall reunions together, preferably, someone local who has some connections to set up hotels, activities, etc. We're open to any suggestions as to this location or any other locations by someone who'd like to take the bull by the horns and volunteer to help us put a reunion together, not just in Charleston but wherever you live. We'd like to continue to hold the fall reunions at an east coast location if possible.

And In Closing..... On behalf of the Blue Star Aviation Association, I'd like to thank everyone for your continued support. Not just your financial support but the support you show by attending our reunions. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming reunion, please feel free to call or email Janet with your questions. I'm looking forward to seeing y'all in Williamsburg.


Carlos Cortez

CONTACT INFO: Ben & Janet Gay
15521 River Bend Trail
Lanexa, VA 23089
(H) 804-966-9843 Ben's Cell: 804-310-6190 Janet's Cell: 804-310-6180
Email: joker73bg@cox.net

NOTE: Please be sure to make all checks payable to 48th AHC

48th AHC REUNION
November 9th – 13th
Williamsburg, VA

Please make all checks payable to the 48th AHC.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Info: Email: _____

Phone: _____

BANQUET: Deadline for Reservations and \$\$ is September 7th.

Name of each attendee:

Total #: _____ @\$37.50 Banquet Total: \$ _____

T SHIRTS: Deadline for order is October 10th

Cost: \$12.00 small to XL; \$14.00 2X and larger.

Shirts: _____ Size _____ @\$ _____

Shirts: _____ Size _____ @\$ _____

Shirts: _____ Size _____ @\$ _____

Shirts: _____ Size _____ @\$ _____ TOTAL T SHIRT: \$ _____

NOTE: Please let us know if you will be picking up your T shirts or would like them mailed. Please add the following for mailing: 1 T Shirt add \$3.04; 2-3 T Shirts (priority mail) add \$8.25; 4 T Shirts (priority mail) add \$11.50. If being mailed, please confirm your mailing address if different from address above.

Shipping: YES NO Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

SHELTON GLASS WORKS: Please let us know how many want to go (no cost). Travel will be by POV.

BLUE STAR MUGS: Deadline for Order is October 15th

of mugs: _____ @ \$30 each: _____ Total Mugs: \$ _____

Note: Please let us know if you will be picking up your mugs in Williamsburg or would like them shipped. Please add \$22 per mug for shipping. Please let us know if shipping address is different from your mailing address. Shipping will be direct from Shelton Glass Works.

Shipping: YES NO Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED:

Banquet: \$ _____

T Shirts: \$ _____

T Shirt Shipping (if applicable) \$ _____

Blue Star Mugs: \$ _____

Mug Shipping (if applicable) \$ _____

If you are unable to attend but would like to send some \$\$\$ to buy your buddies a beer (or two) anyway, please indicate:

Yep, buy my buddies a beer or two: \$ _____

The beer's on: _____

Your buddies thank you 😊

BBQ @ Ben & Janet's 11/9: YES NO # Attending: _____

Please make checks payable to: **48th AHC**. Send your check to:

Janet Gay
15521 River Bend Trail
Lanexa, VA 23089

Application for Membership

BLUE STAR AVIATION ASSOCIATION

Name: _____ **Call Sign:** _____

Address: _____

Phone #: area code: _____ #: _____

Email Address: _____

Date(s) of Tour: _____

Primary MOS: _____

New Membership: _____ **Renewal:** _____

Annual dues for new members and membership renewals is \$25.00

All contact information is considered confidential and will not be posted or given to anyone without specific consent of the individual. The Secretary/Treasurer maintains the membership roles of the Association and the Association and Unit mailing list is maintained by Carlos Cortez.

Please mail this completed form and dues to: Please make checks payable to Bobby Schulze

**Bobby Schulze
PO Box 142
Baileyton, AL 35019-0142**



T-Shirt Network

48TH



ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY
VIETNAM