



AFTER REUNION REPORT – SUPPLEMENT 1

November 12, 2015

This report is a Supplement to the After Reunion Report –

First, The Reunion Committee needs to be recognized, again, for all their support, time and ideas, which contributed to making this reunion all the more successful. It was not easy and with the change in location from Panama City to Dothan, it added more time in emails, conference calls and travel time looking at hotels, Ft. Rucker, etc. A **BIG ‘Thanks’** to everyone below -

Dick Baker, 219th, Co-Chairman
Charlie Mingus, 183rd, Co-Chairman
Steve Butler, 219th, Co-Chairman
David Haidle, 183rd
Charlie Barnes, 219th
Rod Stewart, 183rd, 219th, 220th



Hiram Johnston, 18rd, 219th
John Ritz, 219th
Sam Dawson, IBDA
Marcus Mitchell, 183rd
Don Vaughn, 199th
Mike Medlin, FAA-O

Second, shown below is a summary of attendance and financial numbers from this reunion. By all measures it was very successful just based on the attendance. Coming the farthest distance was Jan Smith (219th & 220th) and sadly Tom Williams (183rd & 185th), who passed away just 2-weeks before the reunion, was coming from Vietnam. Many of you had to change other plans, sacrifice time to come versus doing something else, and some of you had to overcome health challenges to attend. Congratulations to all of you and your families for these efforts. To everyone who attended, it was a flood of memories, seeing old friends and making new relationships.

- **FINAL REUNION ATTENDANCE FIGURES**

1. Thursday Welcome Reception 350 (Est.)
2. Friday morning Memorial Dedication 450-500 (Est.)
3. Friday Afternoon Reunion BBQ 385 (Est.)
4. Saturday Afternoon Octoberfest 200
5. Pre-Registered Total 337 (Unit personnel 196 / Guests 135)

- **FINAL REUNION FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING**

1. Funds donated for Birddog Memorial Maintenance \$1,950 (Not included in total excess below)
2. Funds donated for Memorial Birddog Replica \$2,504 (Not included in total excess below)
3. Funds remaining AFTER all expenses are paid \$12,862.04 (Note: Excess funds will be held for the Birddog Replica for the Memorial or for the next All Birddog Unit Reunion.)

BIRDDOG MODELS

Many of you have asked how you could order a model like the one given away in the 50/50 drawing at the reunion. Here is how you can order your own model. Pricing is \$179-\$189 depending on what you ask to put on the base. You can put your unit patch on the base along with your name and other info. Contact information -



Rose Griffin
Griffin Aerospace Models
4200 N. Main St., Suite 280
Fort Worth, Texas 76106
Office 817.624.2320 Cell 817.808.2747
Email: aeromodel@aol.com

REUNION PICTURES YOU TOOK

If any of you have pictures you want included in an online reunion photo gallery that are different than the ones taken by our reunion photographer, please send them clearly identified with names to me at REUNION@L19BIRDDOG.COM I will post them on the website www.L19Birddog.com

BIRDDOG MEMORIAL BRICK PURCHASES

Many of you asked about purchasing a Memorial Brick. I spoke to the Army Aviation Museum Foundation (AAMF) and confirmed that they are still handling the brick purchases. There are two ways to order a brick.

1. On the Internet at www.armyaviationmuseum.org/index.php/get-involved/brick-paver-program
2. Printed Form (see attached) that is mailed into the museum.



In both cases it will be important to provide instructions WITH YOUR ORDER that the brick is being purchased for the “Birddog Memorial”

REUNION T-SHIRTS

A limited number of reunion T-shirts remain for purchase. Sizes are M, XL & 2XL. Color is Lieutenant Green (No blue or orange). Cost each is \$12 plus \$5.00 postage.

To purchase email REUNION@L19BIRDDOG.COM and be sure to title your email "Reunion T-Shirt. I will confirm your email. Only send a check AFTER receiving confirmation email.



REUNION MUGS

A limited number of Reunion Mugs remain for purchase

- these are great mugs! Price each \$10 plus \$5.00 postage.

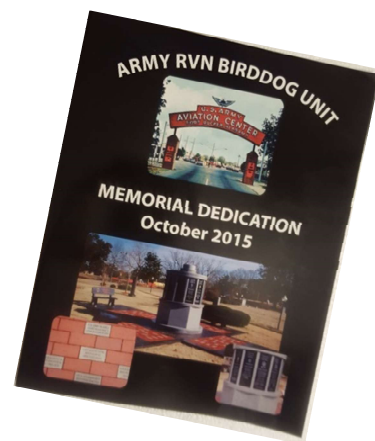
To purchase, send email to

REUNION@L19BIRDDOG.COM and make sure to title your email "Reunion Mug". I will confirm your email. Only send a check AFTER receiving confirmation email.



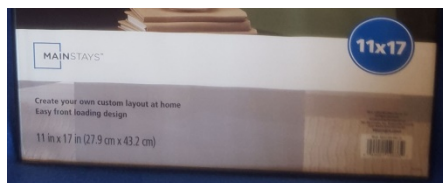
MEMORIAL DEDICATION PROGRAMS

A limited number of programs have been re-printed. These are collectibles. This was first-class printing job since the program highlighted each unit in a first class manner. The cost is \$8.50 each, plus \$1.50 each for postage. If you want to purchase a program for yourself or for someone else email me at REUNION@L19BIRDDOG.COM and make sure to title your email "Dedication Program". I will confirm your email. Only send check AFTER receiving confirmation email.



11" x 17" PICTURE

Most of you received the 11 x 17' Birddog "High Flight" Picture at the reunion. For your information Walmart sells a very inexpensive plastic with glass frame for about \$5.00 that fits this picture perfectly. You can find this frame with all the other picture frames. It is clearly labeled 11" x 17" with the frame maker's name *MainStay's*



REUNION VIDEO

If anyone took a video of the memorial dedication service please let me know. I need it for posting on the website. Also the local TV station WDHN broadcast a short segment about the dedication ceremony and BBQ afterward. You can see this on the website at <http://l19birddog.com/Reunion.htm> And clicking on "Dedication Ceremony Video"

Note: All Reunion Pictures are now in Slideshows where you can view, copy and print Hi-Res pictures.

IMPORTANT!

NEED YOUR FEEDBACK

SPECIAL QUESTIONS FOR ALL BIRDDOG UNIT MEMBERS

TAKE SURVEY ON THE INTERNET

Go to <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2428774/6b6e7c856f66>

QUESTION #1 - THE NEXT REUNION?

There is strong interest to organize another **All Birddog Unit Reunion** in either 2 or 3 years. There is also interest by several units to hold individual unit reunions next. These units have been actively holding their own reunions for many years, so there is a need for your feedback.

QUESTION #2 - BIRDDOG MEMORIAL REPLICA AIRCRAFT?

Much has been said and done regarding the Birddog Unit Memorial and the replica aircraft originally placed on the memorial top. The Memorial Committee did a great job planning and constructing the memorial but the model atop the memorial became controversial for how it represented the aircraft. During the recent dedication ceremony the aircraft replica was not present as it had been removed by Ft. Rucker who now has custodial control. In a survey taken last year and in general discussions at the reunion, the sentiment is overwhelming that the model must be replaced with one that accurately represents the Birddog in a more realistic presentation. To do this means working closely with Ft Rucker. This process has been started while planning the reunion. Accomplishing this task can be done in a timely thoughtful manner. If proper procedures are followed that show the majority of all donors to the memorial and other unit members agree with a replacement design, Ft. Rucker will support our decisions. We need your feedback.

To help with both these questions above, a **SPECIAL SURVEY** has been created on the Internet. This survey will be available for a limited time period of 30 days commencing November 12th-December 12th. The Survey link is <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2428774/6b6e7c856f66> and can also be found on the L19Birddog.com website.

In summary, please go to the survey and answer the questions. Also, if you want a T-shirts, mugs or dedication programs, just email reunion@L19Birddog.com with your request and wait for a confirmation response that your order can be filled. Or, if you have any questions about this After Reunion Report and Supplement Report, please email me Bob Brewster at bob@219headhunters.com.

Submitted by,



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