





Vietnam Service

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December, 2024



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# President's Message

Mike Detmer President (618) 910-2098 mmdetmer@gmail.com

Hello fellow comrades,

My name is Mike Detmer, and I was elected President of the Bravo Regulars at the reunion in Independence, Missouri. At this same meeting, Ken Neveaux of Louisiana, was elected as Vice President and Matt Flikkema of Montana is our new Treasurer. Dave Lowell of Arizona has accepted another term as Secretary and Editor of the Bravo newsletter.

I live in St. Rose, Illinois, home of a Bravo Reunion in 2000. I married Marge shortly after returning home from Vietnam, and celebrated 56 years last April. We have four children, all married, and we are blessed with eleven grandchildren, and four step-grandchildren. We also have two great-grandchildren, and have two more 'one the way'.

We had a great reunion in Independence, Missouri. We owe a big Thank You to Pam and Jim Adams for all their hard work in organizing this reunion at the Hilton Garden Hotel. I also want to say a big Thank You to Carl Lammers for serving the remainder of President Gormley's term, and then continued serving as President these past two years. Carl and I were drafted and served together for the entire two years we served. Thanks Carl!

In discussion at our meeting, it was determined that we need to, once again, collect dues for the organization. It was decided that the amount yearly will be \$35, and is voluntary. The revenue collected will be used for costs related to future reunions, and for costs incurred in the publication of the newsletter.

Currently, 110 Bravo members receive their newsletter by email, and 286 Bravo members receive their copy by 'snail mail'. Costs are extremely expensive (paper, printing, envelopes and postage) to send newsletters by mail. It would be a great savings to the organization if Bravo members who do not have an email account, would have their newsletter sent to a family member or a friend's email. Please provide an email address to the editor at davidwlowell @aol.com.

Also, the venue for the next reunion was discussed. It was determined that since next year will be the 25th anniversary of the St. Rose, Illinois reunion, the hosts of the Year 2000 reunion agreed to host the next reunion sometime in 2025 at St. Rose, Illinois. We are hoping to have a much-increased attendance at this reunion, so start planning for your trip to St. Rose. More news to come!

I wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed and Merry Christmas, and a new year full of Love, Happiness and Peace!! Yours truly,



Hello Everyone,

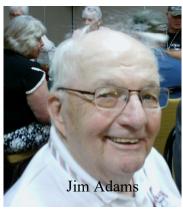
# Vice President's Message

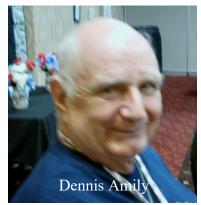
Kenneth Neveaux Vice President (337) 288-3323' kennethneveaux@yahoo.com

My name is Kenneth Neveaux. I was elected as the new Vice President at the last reunion in Independence, MO. I'm from Louisiana and would like to introduce myself for those of you who don't know me. I've been married for 58 years to my wife, Sue, and have three girls, two grandkids and one great grandson. I'm retired from the oilfield. I served in Vietnam in the First Platoon from 1969 to 1970. I joined the Bravo Regulars reunion in Pismo Beach, CA for the first time. I was welcomed with open arms from my comrades and have not missed a reunion since. If you have not attended a reunion, I highly recommend that you consider doing so. It's a great outing where you get to reconnect again and visit with everyone. You learn what has been happening in the lives of one of the greatest groups of people that I have ever met. Hope to see you at the next reunion. Your new VP.

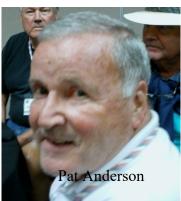
Ken

## **Reunion Attendees**









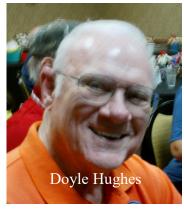




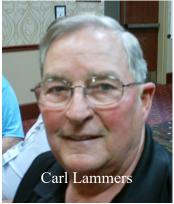


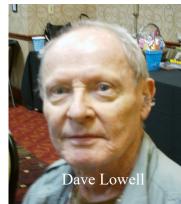


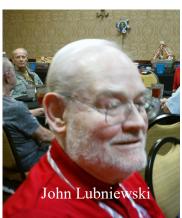
# **Reunion Attendees**

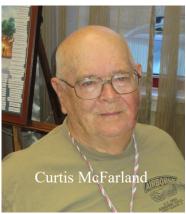






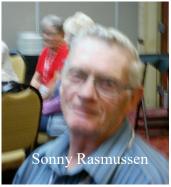


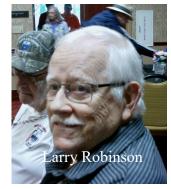








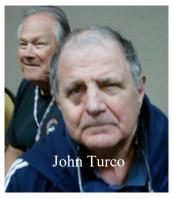


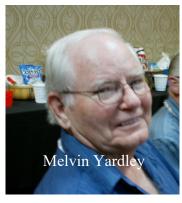














# **Association Business**

Matt Flikkema Treasurer (406) 580-7543 maflk@yahoo.com

Financial Income and I	-	
August 31, 2024 Balance		\$ 9,814.23
Income Third Qtr. Total Income	\$ 0.00	
Expenses Third Qtr.	204 50	
Newsletter	391.50	
Domain Monthly Fees	66.63 458.13	450 40
Total Expenses	456.13	458.13
Income Fourth Qtr.		
Reunion Refund	405.00	
Adjustment	91.90	
Total Income	496.90	496.90
Expenses Fourth Qtr.		
Newsletter	368.66	
Website Update	490.00	
Domain Fees	57.61	
Reunion Seed Money	4,500.00	
New Account Checks	43.24	
Total Expenses	5,459.51	5,459.51
November 30, 2024 Balance		\$ 4,393.49

## **REUNION FINANCIAL REPORT**

	of Money collected a										
Registration Collected \$5,750					Bravo Mast	er Account	\$3500 + \$10	000=\$4500			
		\$890									
Hats sold		\$720									
Raffle ticke	ts sold	\$1,395									
50/50 total		\$599									
Bus Collection		\$440	Friday Trip	to WWI Mus	eum						
Hospitality Room		\$55									
Donations:	·										
	Mrs. Hemphill	\$100									
	Patrick Toyama \$230 Dennis Amily \$200										
	Silent Donation	\$140									
Sam' Club I	Returns	\$174									
Expenses:											
		\$10,393.08		Hospitality	Room No R	oom Rental		This includ	es tax and 25	% service fe	е
		\$5,000									
	Paid	\$4,000									
	Paid	\$1,393.08									
	- Ulu	7-,									
One Stop C	ustom (Shirts/Hats)	\$1,443.60		Pd \$20 per	shirt, Pd \$1	5.70 per hat		have 13 ha	ts left to sell		
		\$313.42									
Oriental Trading(bags)		\$44.39						1			
Onemat III	Same(sago)	711101									
KCNight Tra	ain (Bus)	\$960									
WW1 Tickets		\$350									
Group Photo		\$41.93									
David the Magician		\$400									
		7.00									
Sams Hose	oitality Room	\$49.99									
outries in the second s		\$417.55									
Sams Hospitality Room		\$338.89									
		1									
Post Office	Mailing shirts/hats	\$55.80									
						Seed Money - \$4,500.00					
					Returned	Returned to Bravo + 405.00					
			1		1	Balance - \$4,095.00					





### **Bravo Regulars**



# **Editor's Notes**

David W. Lowell Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Publisher (520) 762-8609 davidwlowell@aol.com

Welcome back Bravo Brothers! I hope this finds all of you well.

Reunion 2024 in Independence, Missouri has passed. It was a great location, had great food and went well. Attending the Board Meeting was President Carl Lammers, Vice President Mike Detmer, Treasurer Ted Silbereis and Secretary Dave Lowell. President Lammers decided to include wives and all four attended.

President Lammers retired. Vice President Detmer was promoted to President. Ken Neveaux volunteered to became the new Vice President. Treasurer Ted Silbereis will step down once the transfer of accounts is done and Matt Flikkema will become the new Treasurer. The position I hold will remain. Our discussion then centered on how to reduce costs in all of our activities. No motions were made.

We received a letter from Don Lambert (2nd Platoon Leader—6/67-10/67) requesting that he be removed from the active list. He has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. His phone number is 214-726-1865 and his email is lambertdonalde@gmail.com.

Sadly I must report the passing of six Brothers-In-Arms. They are Allen Bateman, Paul Fournier, Peter Sabala, Allen Crane, Gabriel Gorski and Jerome Mondt. Available information is on the Bulletin Board.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. Our next issue will be out in March and we will be accepting submissions through the end of February. Until then, may peace be with you!



Dave out



#### **BULLETIN BOARD**

#### Submitted by Editor—Obituaries

#### Allen Bateman—8-68/69

Allen Bateman, 63, of Richmond, died July 18, 2012 at home. He was born July 21, 1948 in Steubenville. He is the son of the late Edward W. and Verna Faye Hammack Bateman. Allen was a member of Kolmont Community Church and was a foreman at Cryogenics Construction. He served his country in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and was a Purple Heart recipient. Allen was a member of Jefferson County Sportsman Association and Brilliant American Legion Post 573.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

#### Paul E. Fournier—Co. RTO—6-69/70

Paul Fournier, 69, of Wharton, NJ, passed away peacefully Jan. 5, 2017 at Compassionate Care Hospice in Dover, surrounded by his loving family. Born on Jan. 11, 1947, in Jay, to the late Roland and Adrienne Fournier, Paul grew up in Jay where he graduated from Jay High School, Class of 1965. Paul also graduated from Central Main Vocational Technical Institute in 1968. He was drafted by the U.S. Army, where he served proudly during the Vietnam War until 1970. Paul moved to Lincoln Park, NJ, in 1970 before residing in Parsippany and moving to Wharton in 1979. Paul was a skilled woodworker and owned and operated Paul E. Fournier General Contracting in Wharton.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

## Peter Sabala—1st Platoon—9-66/67 Original

Peter Sabala passed away on April 14, 2018. No additional information was found.

#### Allen Dorsey Crane—66/67

Allen Crane, 73, of Columbia, passed away February 19, 2020 at the Harry S. Truman Veterans Hospital. He was born August 27, 1946 in Boone County, MO to Emmette Leotis and Bessie Lee Madden Crane. A.D. served our country from 1965 to 1967 in the U.S. Army. He was stationed initially at Fort Leonard Wood, MO and was deployed overseas to serve in the Vietnam War. After returning home, he married Lorelei (Lora) Semon in 1969. He was known far and wide as a master carburetor builder. He loved guns, hunting and the KC Chiefs and was fortunate enough to see them win the Super Bowl. A.D.'s main passion was drag racing and building race engines. He was instrumental in the design and counsel of multiple racing teams. His knowledge was impeccable and those that knew him thought of him as their mentor. Where he felt most at home was at the drag strip, watching family and friends competing with the engines he designed.





#### **BULLETIN BOARD**

#### **Obituaries (continued)**

#### **Gabriel Chester Gorski**

We are sad to announce that on October 10, 2023, we had to say goodbye to Gabriel Gorski (Pittsfield, MA), born in Chicago, Illinois. No other information was available.

Jerome "Jerry" Mondt—3rd Platoon—9-66/67 Original Jerome "Jerry" Mondt, age 78, of Aviston, Illinois, passed away on July 19, 2024, at HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital in O'Fallon. He was born on January 14, 1946, in Breese, Illinois, the son of the late Edward and Sophia Mondt (nee Renschen). Married Anna Marie Mondt (nee Gruender) on April 4, 1988 in St. Louis, MO. Jerry proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He dedicated his life to farming, driving school buses for Central Community High School and Aviston Grade School, and later retired from Central Community High School where he worked in maintenance. He was a faithful member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Aviston, a member of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 269, Mondt-Lampe American Legion Post 1239 in Aviston, and a former volunteer for the Aviston Fire Department. Jerry enjoyed his time on the farm, golfing, playing pinochle, and cheering on the St. Louis Cardinals; but his greatest joy was found in spending time with his family.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE



#### Submitted by Jerry Mondt's Family

Do not stand at my grave and weep.

I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry.
I am not there. I did not die.

#### <u>Unless You've Been a Soldier</u> By Clive Sanders

Unless you've been a soldier,
You just won't understand.
The things that we have seen and done,
In the service of our land.
We have trained to live in combat,
To cope with awful sights,
That shouldn't be seen by anyone
And keep you awake at night.

We don't discuss the wounds we have,
To the body or the mind.
We just put our hurts behind us,
And turn our memories to blind.
We are proud we served our country,
And remember those we lost.
For the freedom that you have today.
They paid the awful cost.

## **Association Officers**

#### **PRESIDENT**

**Michael Detmer** 7803 Cemetery Road St. Rose, IL 62230-4915 Phone: (618) 910-2098

E-mail: mmdetmer@gmail.com



#### **VICE-PRESIDENT**

**Kenneth Neveaux** 10202 La. Hwy 696 Abbeville, LA 70510-4331 Phone: (337) 288-3323'

E-mail: kennethneveaux@yahoo.com



#### **TREASURER**

Matt Flikkema 6301 Belleview Street Manhatten, MT 59741-8442 Phone: (406) 580-7543

E-mail: maflk@yahoo.com



## SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER **EDITOR AND PUBLISHER**

David W. Lowell 880 North Solar Drive Vail, AZ 85641-9608 Phone: (520-762-8609

E-mail: davidwlowell@aol.com

