



## Post Reunion 2008 Las Vegas News Letter

Well another one has come and gone. Simply it was fantastic. From all over the world (PI) and country came 182 friends, guests, and families of some departed Seadevils. From the opening day when Ron Milam's Historical Work was set up, you could tell it was going to be great.

The welcome opening reception was absolutely outstanding. Even setting up the INFAMOUS ROOM 370 (alias the BEER ROOM) thanks to Bob and Karen Ford went well. The next day was the Combat Aircrew Wings presentations at which time Florence "Duggan" Bayne received the CAW for her KIA brother (William Duggan) along with his fellow crewman Robby Robertson, plus a very special group of Aircrew Personnel (Pat Clark, George Vines, Loren Hammon, Jeff English, Don West, and Gary Tremel) received their long awaited Combat Aircrew Wings. With the CO's, and special presenters, this ceremony was quite special and attended by many Family and Friends. A special presentation was made for our Seadevil, Michael "Frenchy" Plamondon, with John Birch receiving the Combat Aircrew Wings for "Frenchy" to be delivered to him upon John's return home. At the bottom of this email is a photo from John. This certificate was then signed by all the Aircrew present.

At this reunion we had a lot of first time attendee's. They were as follows:

BRENT AGUIRRE  
FRED & SADIE ARAGON  
TOMMY BARON  
FLORENCE "DUGGAN" BAYNE  
FRANK 'THE HAT' CHUPKO  
ED & LINDA CICCARELLI  
PAT CLARK  
TONY & VONDA WILSON  
TESS DEVRIES  
JEFF ENGLISH  
STEVE & MATT (SON) FALL  
LARRY FERGUSON  
MIKE & JoANNE FINICLE  
CHRIS & LENA GREGORY (SON OF SKIPPER GREGORY)  
DEKE HARNDEN & IRMA STEWART

CARLY & FRANCES HERNANDEZ & ROSALINDA AREVALO  
BOB HIGDEM  
STEVE & DENISE HOLBO  
DAN & KATHY & CHRIS (SON) JOHNSON  
WILL "RADAR" KAUTZ & LIZA GEIKEN  
JOSEPH & ELAINE KLIMKOWSKI  
HARRY "TOMMY" & MARTHA LACK  
DOUG MARESH  
NICK & REMY NICHOLS  
LARRY NILES  
DAVID & PEGGY OGAN  
DAVID PATTERSON  
CARLA PERUMEAN (FRIEND OF FLORENCE BAYNE)  
PHILIP PULLARA JR (SON)  
DUSTY & RESSIE RHODES  
LEWIS "ROBBY" & THERESA ROBERTSON  
JIM SACHS  
VERNON SIMPSON  
GARY SOMMER  
MIKE "OKIE" STANSEL  
PAUL TROMBETTA  
LANNY & MARIE VINES  
GEORGE VINES & MARLA KEEHN  
DON "BIG INDIAN" WEST  
CHUCK & CYNTHIA WRIGHT

Some traveled from the Philippines, and Europe to be here with all of us.

After the CAW presentation, Ron Milam did a Power Point Presentation that blew everyone away. Pictures, stories, and many memories of the past were covered in a 90 minute presentation.

On Wednesday night we began with a showing of "So Others My Live" DVD, produced by John and Diane Wilson. A great short film, that showed the life and times of the Combat Search and Rescue personnel. After the Banquet Meal the awards for Big Mother, Little Clementine, and the Christmas in July plaques were passed on. Ruth Ann Woltersdorf was the recipient of Big Mother, Dottie K. was given the Clementine award (to be carried to her by Barbara Dallas) and Walt Sutton is now the proud custodian of the Xmas in July award.

We also conducted via a hand count the vote for where the next reunion should be. Charleston South Carolina won hands down, by a vote of 4 to 1 over Pensacola and Orlando Florida.

Also we awarded the "Honorary Seadevil Awards to Florence "Duggan" Bayne, and Phil Pullara Jr.

The last presentation was for Seadevil #1. Needless to say we pulled one over on him, and he was shocked.

The raffle as usual brought out some (Fixed Drawing Questions) for the first awards, but you know how criminally minded guys are. A special thanks to Karen Ford, and Barbara Dallas for their assistance in selling lots of raffle tickets and passing out the prizes when.

Once all these festivities were completed. John "Moon" Wilson briefed the (once classified) "Operation Thunderhead", the attempt to rescue POW's when Lt. Spence was the Seal Team Leader was killed during the attempt to rescue POW's.

On Thursday morning we packed out all the memorabilia and finished with a great brunch, as everyone said their farewells till the next time.

If you did not come to this one, you missed a great time and visits with many Seadevils who were present at a reunion for the first time.

Thanks to all we had a great time and a lot of memories to hold till the next reunion.

To contact the "HC-7 Reunion Committee" either email "HC7CSAR@COX.NET" or send mail to:

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## **Frenchy with Certificate**

