



Jim Messinger

**e-mail ADDRESSES**

If you're in the e-mail database, you will get a quarterly newsletter. If you don't have an e-mail address, why not? Whaddya, some kind of a fruitcake? Don't you know this is a new century, a new milleniu.... a new milleneu.... a new.... aw shoot: it's 2001, and way past time for you to get with the program! Now get up off some of them bucks and go buy a computer.... clean out that spare bedroom, get yourself "on-line." Don't you know there are a gazillion programmer geeks out there depending on us to keep them in Skittles and Snikers bars!

Jerry Barnes <baron67@home.net>.

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**Screwdriver** - The drink ordered at the local bar after you call in a professional repairman to undo the \$500 in damage you did while trying to change out a light socket with your handy screwdriver.

**PARAPHERNALIA COMMITTEE**

Chapter paraphernalia can be purchased by contacting **Bobby Bateman** (940-325-8427 or bbateman@wf.net). Patches (\$5), an audio tape of Vietnam-era music (\$10), T-shirts -- available in two colors (\$15), caps (\$15), museum bricks (\$100). The patch graphic is in the newsletter masthead. Neat little battery powered Jet Ranger that flies 'round and 'round on a string and drives your dog nuts for just \$10. Really neat! (batteries and dog not included)

**Members: Bobby Bateman, Charles Holley, Ron Paddock, Bob Springer (Chair)**

**Phillips Screwdriver** - The bar drink that you order when the damage estimate is over \$1,000. Contains twice the vodka.

**Blatantly stolen from AvWeb's Short Final files:**

The Aeronautical Information Manual has been updated for 2001. One of the new updates in Chapter 5 describes GLS: "'GLS' is the acronym for **GNSS Landing System**; GNSS is the acronym for **Global Navigation Satellite System**." Only in aviation and from the FAA is there a need for an acronym to define another acronym.

*Editor's Note: Angelo, tell us it ain't so, buddie. . . ☺*

**Ft Wolters/Mineral Wells VHPA Chapter web site**  
<http://www.fwcvhpa.org>

You can now join the *Chapter*, pay your dues, buy *Chapter* paraphernalia, join "Friends of the Museum", and buy *Museum* bricks using MasterCard or Visa via our secure server connection. (. . . and maybe even contribute to the *Newslet-*

*ter Editor's retirement fund. . . .aw shucks. . . it was worth a try ☺*

Each month a number of inquiries are made about *Fort Wolters* and its history, many going back to **WW II days**. These inquiries re-emphasize the importance of capturing and displaying the history of *Fort Wolters* through the *National Vietnam War Museum* and through both the *Chapter* and the *Museum* Websites.

**Members: Jerry Barnes, Del Belanger, Ed Faught, (Chair), Char**

**The National Vietnam War Museum**  
**Charles Bogle reports from "Down Under"**

G'day Mates!

Well, some of us are a little bit slow. I waited over 30 years for my R&R in Australia. But, believe me Dorothy and I are enjoying our time "Down Under". I've been working out of Brisbane in Queensland in support of the RAAF F-111. There are a lot of things different down here. The USAF finally called the F-111 the Ardvark. The Aussies call it the PIG. And yes, the toilets do spin in the different direction. The following thoughts by Douglas Adams (author of Hitchhikers Guide) relates to something that most of us can understand:

**The Confusing Country**  
**by Douglas Adams**

...There are some traps for the unsuspecting traveler, though. Do not under any circumstances suggest that the beer is imperfect, unless you are comparing it to another kind of Australian beer. Do not wear a Hawaiian shirt. Religion and Politics are safe topics of conversation (Australians don't care too much about either) but Sport is a minefield. The only correct answer to "So, howdya' like our country, eh?" is "Best {insert your own regional swear word here} country in the world!".

It is very likely that, on arriving, some cheerful Australians will 'adopt' you, and on your first night, and take you to a pub where Australian Beer is served. Despite the obvious danger, do not refuse. It is a form of initiation rite. You will wake up late the next day with an astonishing hangover, a foul-taste in your mouth, and wearing strange clothes. Your hosts will usually make sure you get home, and waive off any legal difficulties with "It's his first time in Australia, so we took him to the pub." To which the policeman will sagely nod and close his notebook. Be sure to tell the story of these events to every other Australian you encounter, adding new embellishments at every stage, and don't forget to tell how strong the beer was.

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*From my own experience with the Provost Marshal of Vung Tau, who was an Australian Army Officer, and as one of a*

