

Bravo Regulars

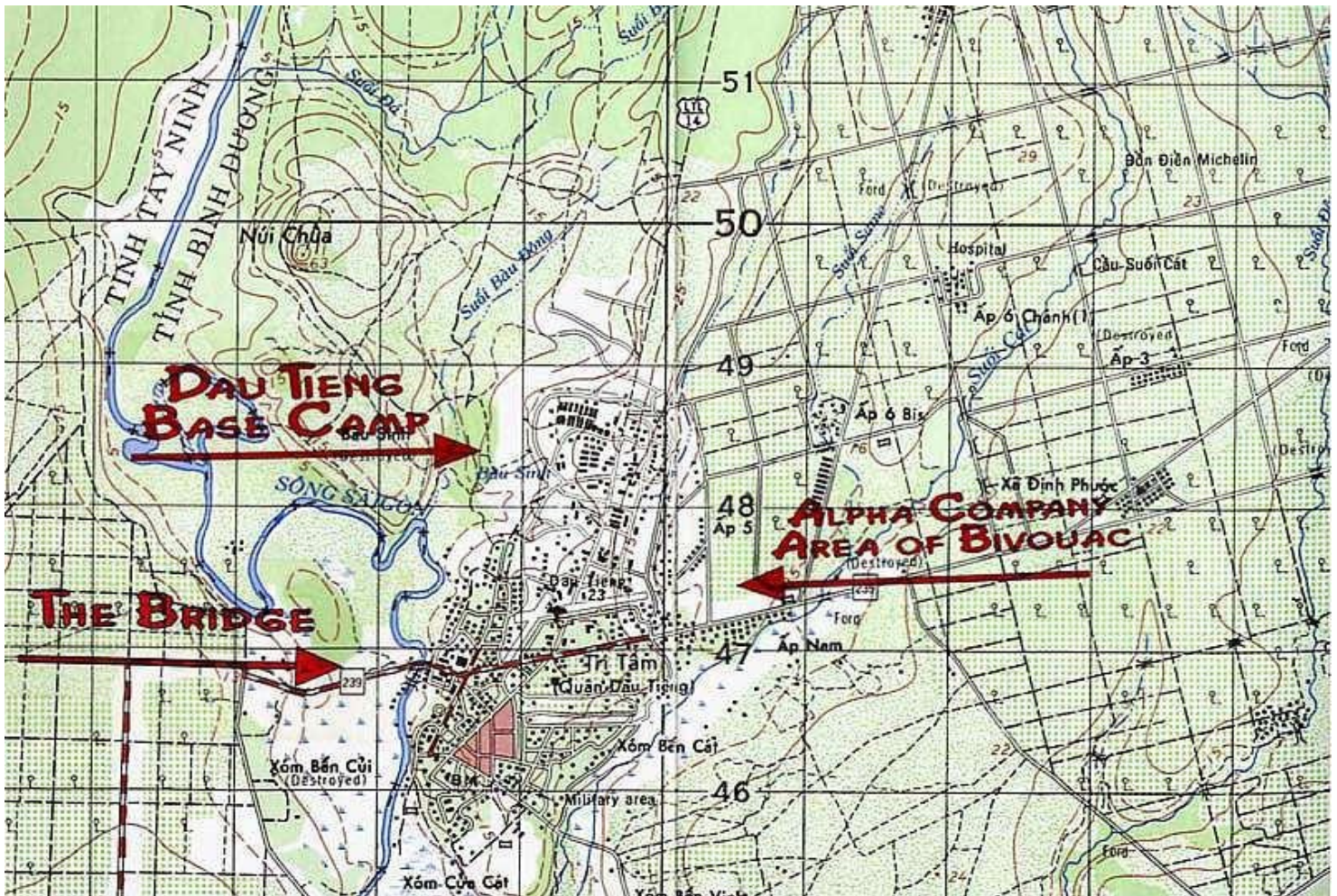
B Company 3/22



Vietnam Service

www.bravoregulars.com

March, 2020



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President's Message

Art Gormley
President
(718) 317-9881
ag31782@aol.com

Greetings to my Bravo Brothers,

Time is growing short. We only have roughly 90 days before our 2020 Bravo Reunion in Goldsboro, NC. We need to get those registrations in hand to ensure a successful event for all. If you haven't registered for the reunion yet, please do so without delay. Knowing how many guests to expect will help our host, brother Bob Best, finalize the plans he has for us. There is a time element here as well. You will find another copy of the reunion registration form included in this newsletter.

You will also find a copy of the reunion itinerary included herein. Once again, our special thanks to Pam Adams—who together with husband, Jim, hosted our 2018 reunion in Branson — for working with Bob Best and his team in Goldsboro to help make our 2020 reunion a great success.

In February, I received separate emails from two high school students at Westlake High School outside of Austin, Texas. For several years, Westlake High has been part of an impressive Virtual Vietnam remembrance effort which aims to honor each of the more than 58 thousand names on the Vietnam Wall. As we all know, nearly 100 of those names are from Bravo Company 3/22. Students receive individual names, which they are asked to thoroughly research and prepare a 3-5 minute video presentation, celebrating the life of the fallen veteran.

To date, students have prepared and posted more than 4,800 of these touching tributes, and this year two of our own are among those to be honored — Sgt. Lonnie Lundy (KIA 9/11/68) and Lt. Walter Hogans (KIA 10/5/69). If you knew either of these Bravo Brothers, please consider reaching out to these two young students to offer your thoughts.

I saw a number of written, first-hand personal recollections from fellow veterans in the videos that I reviewed. Even 50 years on, it can make a real difference in how friends and family remember the fallen. The Bulletin Board includes a bit more about this inspiring Virtual Vietnam remembrance project, including website links and contact information for the two students seeking comments and their faculty advisors.

I look forward to seeing as many of our Bravo Brothers as possible in Goldsboro in June. None of us are getting any younger, so let's all enjoy some of the time we have left with those with whom we have a truly unique experience as combat veterans. If there are Bravo brothers you would like to see in Goldsboro, now is the time to pick up the phone to say hello and urge them to attend.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Art Gormley', written in a cursive style.



Association Business

John Otte
Treasurer/Locator
(310) 539-0886
bravo6xray@aol.com

Financial Report Income and Expense		
December 1, 2019 Balance		\$11,413.96
<u>Income</u>		
Dues	\$ 50.00	
Total Income	\$ 50.00	
<u>Expenses</u>		
Newsletter	\$480.92	
Hosting Service	59.85	
Bank Service Charge	15.00	
Total Expenses	\$555.77	
February 28, 2020 Balance		\$12,795.74

John





Editor's Notes

David W. Lowell
Editor
(520) 762-8609
davidwlowell@aol.com

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

Bill King (C 2/22) has notified us of the upcoming annual memorial for the LZ Gold and Suoi Tre casualties. His email is on our Bulletin Board.

In our December issue, I published an email from Michael Sanders (1st Platoon—7/67-10/67) in which he mentioned that his adopted Vietnamese daughter was graduating from college. The story sounded interesting, so I asked Mike to elaborate. His response is on the Bulletin Board.

Honorary Member Joy Shipley shared some helpful information about performing CPR on yourself in an emergency. It can be found on the Bulletin Board.

Work on our reunion is continuing. You must have your hotel reservation made by the end of this month to receive the Bravo discount. A full report and a registration form is included with this newsletter.

The 22nd Infantry Regiment is having their reunion on June 4 to 7, 2020 in Dallas, Texas. Full information is available directly from them.

John Ferrell (12-69/70) contacted us with information on Richard King (Medic—12-69/70). He apparently has never been a member. I called and have added him to our roster. Welcome Richard and thanks John.

Larry Winslow (Platoon Leader.—8-69/70) has contacted us with updated information, and has been moved to Active member status.

Eddie Crump (3rd Platoon—4-67/68) and Daniel Symon (3-68/69) have been moved to Inactive status due to their information no longer being viable.

With sadness, I must report that we received word of the passing of four Bravo Brothers: Benito Luna (2nd Platoon—6-69/70), John Kapor (3rd Platoon— Basic Only), James Thyne (2nd Platoon—7/70-5/71) and John R. Bode (FAC @ FSB Crook). Available information is on our Bulletin Board. A sympathy card has been sent to John Bode's family and additional information about his career is on the Internet. John Kapor was a contributor of many interesting articles for our newsletter.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. A special thanks to President Art Gormley for handling the remembrance project on our behalf. Our next issue will be out after the reunion in June and we will be accepting submissions through the end of our reunion. Until then, may peace be with you.

Dave out

BULLETIN BOARD

Submitted by Art Gormley (3rd Platoon Ldr.- C.O.—67/68)

Virtual Vietnam Remembrance Project — In February, I received separate emails from two young students at Westlake High School near Austin, TX. They are gathering research for an ongoing Vietnam remembrance project honoring those named on The Wall. This year's tribute includes two Bravo Brothers from our time in Vietnam: Sgt. Lonnie Lundy (KIA 9/11/68) and Lt. Walter Hogans (KIA10/5/69). Whether you knew them or not, please read on.

Both students are seeking first-hand memories and personal recollections from Bravo Brothers who served with Sgt. Lundy and Lt. Hogans. Hopefully, there are some among our members who knew these two fallen Bravo Brothers and are willing to help these young people memorialize them. Let's remember, this is a tribute from our grandchildren's generation helping to keep the memory of those we lost alive for future generations. Please help them if you can. I will leave the students' names and email contacts at the bottom of this page.

Here is a link to the Westlake High website (<http://virtualvietnam.eanesisd.net/>) dedicated to this impressive remembrance project. A further link on the site will take you to the individual 3-5 minute video presentations which now number more than 4,000. Here is the description provided on the site:

As a companion research project to the book *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien, students in our English III AP classes each research a person whose name appears on the Vietnam Wall. Students then create a presentation honoring the individual's life and the time in which they lived.

This has been an ongoing project of the English III AP classes at Westlake for several years. To date there are over 4,200 videos housed on this website honoring the servicemen and women who gave their lives in Vietnam.

I visited the Westlake website and reviewed a handful of the video remembrances and found them all very moving. These were prepared by high school students and showed enormous caring and respect for their subjects and their sacrifice. Personal recollections of those who served alongside of them can add much to such tributes.

The school also accepts recommendations for future tributes. If there is a Bravo Brother you would like to see memorialized in this way, please contact the Westlake High faculty advisors (<http://virtualvietnam.eanesisd.net/contact>), offering a name and a willingness to provide some contacts and commentary their students can use in assembling their remembrances.

<u>Bravo Brother</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
Sgt. Lonnie E. Lundy (KIA 9/11/68)	Ms. Lauren He lh83481@eanesisd.net	Mr. Jordan Connell jconnell@eanesisd.net
Lt. Walter J. Hogans (KIA10/5/69)	Ms. Riley Webster lw3866@eanesisd.net	Ms. Leighann Fenter lfenter@eanesisd.net

BULLETIN BOARD

Submitted by Bill King (C 2/22) - Re: 2020 Suoi Tre Ceremony

To all of our brothers and sisters, Fort Carson is honoring the Battle of Suoi Tre fallen and those who returned home on Friday, March 20th. Again it is not a reunion, it is their yearly historical ceremony. The ceremony will be on the 20th rather than the 21st because of the Fort's prior commitments. It will be held at 10:00 or 10:30 am depending on how cool it will be. Hotel Elegante is offering rooms at \$69.00 for however many days you would like to stay (breakfast included). Call 719-576-5900 to make reservations using code 2658626 if you think you could attend. No special gathering is planned unless we get a quantity response. So far myself, Paige Lalnier, Jerry Cupp (3 from Colorado Springs), Ron Conrad (from Michigan), and Jim Neely (from Aberdeen, WA) are attending. Would love to see anyone else who could make it. Any family of the fallen, or families of those of us who made it home would be extremely welcome if you can reach any of them. Health permitting we will have a 99 year old World War II veteran guest in the audience. He was an E7 medical x-ray technician during the war. Hope all is well with all of you and your families.

Submitted by Mike Sanders (1st Platoon—7/67-10/67)

Enclosed is the background story for my daughter. Liberating Vy from a hopeless future in Vietnam has got to be one of the few "right" decisions that I've made in my life. There's much more to the story, but then there always is.

The Shoe Inspector's Daughter — A skin and bones kid came dancing across the bedroom floor toward me shaking a baby bottle in her left hand and grinning joyously. That was my introduction to Vy Nguyen, the shoe inspector's daughter from Vihn Long, Vietnam. It was difficult to determine Vy's age at that time because she had been stunted by bouts of dysentery and TB. I later learned that she had calcium concretions in her lungs. Both Vy and her mother had to take antibiotics to knock out any residual TB germs once they reached the United States. Getting Vy out of Vietnam was not easy and it required the intervention of Representative Dicks from Washington and others. Vy attended Lowell Elementary in North Tacoma, WA and learned to speak English quickly. She graduated with honors from Gig Harbor High School and won a scholarship to the University of Notre Dame. Last summer, Vy studied the polarization of macrophages by calcium channels at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. Vy will graduate with honors from the University of Notre Dame on the 17th of May. She then hopes to go on to medical school and specialize in neurosurgery. She has come a long, long way from the Mekong River since I first met her in 2004—to a large degree through her own efforts. I wish the survivors of 1st Platoon of Bravo Company could attend Vy's graduation. In a way, you all helped make it possible.

Submitted by Honorary Member Joy Shipley - CPR When You Are Alone

This comes from Dr. Patrick Teefy, Cardiology Head at the Nuclear Medicine Institute, University Hospital, London Ontario. Let's say it's 6:25 pm and you're home after an unusually hard day on the job. You're really tired, upset and frustrated. Suddenly you feel severe pain in your chest that starts to drag into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home. Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. You have been trained in CPR, but the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself. Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it to regain a normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims have time to get help or to a hospital.

BULLETIN BOARD**Submitted by Editor—Obituaries****Benito Luna (2nd Platoon—6-69/70)**

Benito Luna, 65, was called home by our Lord on April 26, 2017. He was born on November 30, 1951 in Robstown, Texas to Alejandro and Amalia Perez Luna. He was a Catholic and loved gardening, working on his cars and spending time with his family. He will be missed by all of his family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Irma Luna, and his children.

John S. Kapor, Sr. (3rd Platoon—Basic Only)

John Kapor, 72, U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran and proud lifetime member of the Steadfast & Loyal 4th ID, the Military Order of the Purple Heart and Johnson-Phelps Post 5220. A beautiful life came to an end... he died as he lived, everyone's friend. He passed away on August 12, 2018.

James G. Thyne, Jr. (2nd Platoon— 7/70-5/71)

James Thyne, Jr. of Crestview, Florida, passed away and went to be with the Good Lord on Wednesday, April 10, 2019. A cherished dad and adored grandfather, he left us too soon for all who knew and loved him. Jim was a generous man, kind and loving, eternal optimist, and had endless love for his grandchildren. He was a man of many talents and great character. Jim was respected and loved by all who knew him and he will be greatly missed by family and friends. Jim was born on February 15, 1950 to James G. Thyne and Marilyn (Bigelow) Thyne in Lowell, MA. He served his country with distinction for thirty years in the U.S. Army as an infantry soldier and a noncommissioned and commissioned officer, retiring in 1999 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He had the honor of leading infantry soldiers from squad to brigade level. Among his many infantry assignments were a combat tour in Vietnam with the 25th Infantry Division and numerous stateside and overseas infantry command and staff positions including Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Stewart, Georgia; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Wiesbaden, Germany; Fort Benning, Georgia; and Atlanta, Georgia. His U.S. Army awards and decorations include multiple decorations for valor and meritorious service. Following his U.S. Army retirement, Jim worked in his second career for 12 years as an Associate Agency Director (Chief Operating Officer) in the Texas A&M University System. Jim was an avid Boston sports fan.

John R. Bode (FAC@FSB Crook)

Curtis McFarland reported the passing of Col. John R. Bode on Feb. 29, 2020 at 86 years of age. Col. Bode (then a Captain) was the FAC at FSB Crook and was awarded the Air Force Cross for that engagement. He flew day and night under the 1,000 foot overcast and directed both artillery and Army and Air Force fighters. He is one of the main reasons that Crook did not turn into a blood bath. John attended our reunion in southern California. Additional information on his career can be found on the internet under his name and then Veteran Tributes.



Reunion Update

Robert Best
Reunion Host
(919) 631-0179
solveaprob@aol.com

Greetings Bravo Brothers,

We are on the countdown, hard to believe we have made it to this point. As I write this, here is what the next 90 days will look like.

In 30 days — April 1, 2020 — Hotel reservations are due.

In 60 days — May 1, 2020 — Reunion reservations are due to Pam Adams.

In 90 days — June 1, 2020 — We will be preparing to head to Goldsboro, NC.

This much I know so far, Wednesday evening, June 3rd, will be our welcome. We will have a Hospitality Room set up at the hotel for conversation and fun. This room will be available daily with refreshments and snacks for photo and scrapbook looking. We plan daily interviews with battle participants to be filmed for the Smithsonian. My brother has taken the lead due to his knowledge and experience.

The local golf course has provided time, clubs, carts and golf course as a donation for those that wish to play golf.

The Colonel at the Air Force Base is looking forward to us spending some time to visit his new Museum and Club.

The mornings have been left open for golf, fishing, shopping and sightseeing in Goldsboro. Lunches at this point will be on your own except for Saturday, when it is included with the Bravo Board and Business Meetings, photos, gift baskets for raffle winners and the Quilt Raffle for some lucky ticket holder. Saturday evening will be our banquet with entertainment and lasting good byes until we meet again in 2022.

I still have lots of work in progress and I am looking forward to seeing everyone.

Your hotel reservations need to be made by April 1, 2020. If you have issues, please do not hesitate to contact me. The Holiday Inn Express and Suites phone number is 1-919-778-0007 for Reservations. Please be sure to use **Code BRC** when calling to ensure you receive the Bravo Reunion Rate. The closest airport to Goldsboro is Raleigh-Durham (RDU) which is 70.9 miles from the hotel.

We are asking that your Registration Form with registration fee of \$100.00 per person be sent to Pam Adams no later than May 1, 2020 to make sure that you have hats, shirts and name tags. Certainly, there will be no one left behind should this deadline slip by. But please do your best to register early.

Please consider donating a basket for the raffle. A quilt will be available for our raffle courtesy of Lisa Young. Registrations received thru March 1st include: Eugene (Slim) and Theresa Trame, Paul and Linda Angers, Paul Dell, Don and Mary Schulte, James and Thelma Howton, Robert (Sonny) and Joanne Rasmussen, David and Dee Lowell, John Turco, Ted and Judi Silbereis, Art and Denise Gormley, Kenneth and Sue Neveaux, James and Pam Adams, William (Bill) and Laura Turnpaugh, Dee and Cheryl Anderson, and Mike and Margie Detmer.

We are looking forward to many more. Another copy of the registration form is included in this newsletter. Many thanks!

Bob

ADDITIONAL FUN THINGS TO DO IN GOLDSBORO

Busco Beach ATV Park and Campground

An “ATV Rider’s Paradise” with more than 1800 acres of riding trails, drag races, motocross tracks, youth tracks, mudpits, mudholes, mudraces, and ATV ponds. For those who prefer water, we’ve got a lake and several ponds— perfect for swimming, jetskiing, boating, or fishing. Busco Beach has plenty of waterfront space for primitive camping and full RV hook-ups.

Goldsboro Greenway System

Goldsboro’s convenient network of sidewalks, bikeways, and greenways brings people of all ages and abilities together.

Mountains-To-Sea Trail

The Mountains-To-Sea Trail stretches almost 1,200 miles across North Carolina from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks. As a trail community, Goldsboro has segments that come right through Center Street in downtown.

Seymour Johnson Air Force Base (SJAFB)

The proud home of the 4th Fighter Wing and the 916th Air Refueling Wing, which flies the F-15E Strike Eagle jet and the KC-135R Stratotanker, the Base has an intricate history within and around Goldsboro and Wayne County. First activated in 1942, the installation was named in honor of U.S. Navy Lt. Seymour A. Johnson, a Goldsboro native, who was killed in March 1941. By 1944, the primary mission of the base was to train P-47 Thunderbolt pilots. Following World War II, the base was deactivated. In 1954, Goldsboro Mayor, Scott B. Berkley Sr., and a group of business leaders successfully lobbied to have the base reopened. A ground-breaking ceremony was conducted in 1955. Seymour Johnson was reactivated in April 1956 and officially reopened on July 8. Two years later, the storied 4th Fighter Group, then known as the 4th Fighter Day Wing, arrived.

Wayne County Courthouse

Built in 1914, this landmark hosts a World War I memorial and a marker denoting the execution of North Carolina’s first surveyor, John Lawson, by local Indians of the Tuscarora Tribe. The courthouse’s restoration and addition project won the Preservation North Carolina Gertrude S. Carroway Award for Merit.

Wayne County Museum

Used in World War II as a USO, the museum, located in the heart of Historic Downtown Goldsboro, memorializes Wayne County history with rotating exhibits, a permanent War Between the States exhibit, and a Wall of Fame honoring notable Wayne County natives.

Wayne County Veterans Memorial

This living monument was erected to honor those veterans who have died and instill in future generations an understanding and respect for the sacrifices made on our behalf by so many. The site includes a Memorial Wall, The Pavilion, Jaycee’s Vietnam Memorial, SJAFB sculpture, Wayne County granite map, fountain, and illuminated flags.

BRAVO REGULAR 2020 REUNION

JUNE 3 – 7, 2020

GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

REGISTRATION FORM AND NEEDED INFORMATION

Registration Fee: \$100.00 per Person

Full Name: _____

Guest/Spouse Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Phone Number: _____ Number Guest: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Vietnam Unit: _____

Date of Service: _____

Battle(s) Participated In: _____

Arrival Date Reunion: _____ Depart Reunion: _____

Interested in Golf Outing: _____ Number of Persons: _____

Email Address: _____ :

REUNION Shirts: \$25.00 each SIZE: S M L XL XXL XXXL (Circle Size) Number ordered: _____

REUNION Hats: \$15.00 Number ordered: _____

Lodging information: HOLIDAY EXPRESS and SUITES: KING BED ROOM: \$96.00 PLUS TAX AND QUEEN BED ROOM \$96.00 PLUS TAX per/room per/night, QUEEN SSUITES \$106.00 PLUS TAX per/room/per/ night. Phone number 919-778-0007. Please use Code BRC when making reservations for group rate.

Room Reservation need to be made by April 1, 2020 to make sure can receive Bravo Reunion Room Rate

Please complete this form, make checks payable to Bravo Reunion 2020 and mail to: **Pam Adams 17278 HWY HH, Mexico, Missouri 65265. By May 1, 2020.**

Information can also be emailed to pammyanny@msn.com. Pam's cell phone: 573-253-597

Host Contact Phone Number: Bob Best: 919-631-0179