



Dedication Ceremony
OF THE
Huey 425 Restoration

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF
Echoes of Erin *AND* Palm Beach Pipe & Drums

Saturday, June 9th, 2007, 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.



13566 North Road • Loxahatchee, Florida 33470 • 561.753.3800

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Order of Events

Master of Ceremony	Dave McBride WJNO
Color Guard	PBSO Volunteers
Palm Beach Pipes and Drums	Ralph Hyppolite
National Anthem Solo	John Giliberti
Blessing of the 425	Father Michael Vecchio
Mohawk Fly-Over	Paul Pefly
Guest Speaker	Major General Wayne P. Jackson
Story Teller Donut Dollies	Lt. Col. Bob Machen
Plaque Presentation – 178th ASCH Box Cars.	Bill Jeczalik
Dedication of Hillclimber 425.	Marge Herzog Loxahatchee Groves representative
Honored Guests	Best Light Images – Jim Kosinski Hillclimber Veteran Assoc. – Victor Labelle
Missing Man Ceremony	Dave McBride
Taps	Laurel Adams

Photography by Dave McBride



News Release:

Dedication of restored Vietnam-era Huey helicopter gunship

Contact: Dave McBride
dave@davemcbride.com



What: Unveiling of restored Huey rescued from PBSO gun range by Vietnam Vets, including a former Vietnam helicopter crew chief.

When: Saturday, June 9, 1:30pm

Where: G&M Ranch, 13566 North Road, Loxahatchee, FL 33470

Note: Not open to the public. Invitation only. RSVP from press requested.

Two years ago, Palm Beach County contractor Mike Carroll learned of the corroding remains of a Vietnam combat helicopter, residing among buses and artifacts used in exercises on the PBSO gun range. As a helicopter crew chief in Vietnam in 1966-67, Mike knew the Huey intimately and when he checked the tail number and confirmed that this aircraft had flown almost 2 thousand Vietnam combat hours, he resolved to save it. After 2 years of painstaking restoration by Mike and his crew, the Huey will be publicly displayed for the first time on Saturday, June 9, at Mike's Ranch in Loxahatchee, to a large gathering of Vietnam vets, local officials, and friends. During the Vietnam War, 2500 Hueys were lost, and few pilots walked away. The 425 was a taxi. She was a truck. She was an ambulance. She brought the ammunition. She brought the wounded. She brought the beer. A lot of Americans are alive today because of her. A lot of Americans who died in the jungles of Southeast Asia rest under the green grass of home because of her.

Main speaker: Major Gen. Wayne P. Jackson, ret. (from Jupiter)

Other highlights:
Grumman Mohawk fly-over
PBSO color guard
U.S. Marine rifle squad



Mike Carroll, 425 Crewchief: 561-722-5385

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN



Mike Carroll
Hillclimber Crew Chief

For the past 19 years I have had several restoration projects. No sales, just collecting. It all started off in 1988 with an 84 Lumber tin sign nailed up on the garage wall. Then a few more signs... then a 1940's Gilbarco gas pump. The fire was lit and burning well. Several more pumps, a '29 Ford, a few Mercury outboard motors, a '48 Ford, traffic lights, more signs, a '69 Pontiac, more pumps, and of course, Dr. Ginnie with a superb collection of Hog Oilers.

After graduating high school in 1965, Bay City, Michigan, 100 miles north of Detroit, I had a quick little '55 Chevy 2-door h.t. and also a B/Sr '29 Ford Roadster with a 301-2-4's, 4-speed. I left for an unbelievable job at Ace Wilson's Royal Pontiac in Royal Oak, a suburb of Detroit. Ace was a nationally known dealer of performance cars. I was a line mechanic under Charlie Brumfield and installed many a bobcat kit. Ace also campaigned 2 GTO Tigers throughout the country. I was in Horse power heaven — lots of street racing!

It was then about time for me to get the draft board physical. My dad talked with the army recruiter and they thought I would be well suited for an aviation mechanic. I signed up... it also helped with the piled up traffic tickets I had collected (the judge dismissed several).

January 20th, 1966 I took the oath, as promised I attended a couple aviation mechanic schools, then landed in Vung Tua, Vietnam, October 20th, 1966. I found Chinooks were much like my cars... lots of horse power... noisy, awesome horsepower, and constant maintenance.

January of 1967 I volunteered for flight status, and an extra \$55 as Crew Chief. I got to see the *real* Vietnam during the day giving support to the infantry and artillery soldiers and the occasional downed air craft recovery, then return every night to a safe warm bed in Vung Tua.

Project 425 is allowing me to relive my younger days, in allot of cases reuniting with the same people of the Vietnam area both enlisted men and officers.



Wayne P. Jackson
Major General, ret.

General Jackson was born in Chicago, Illinois on April 9, 1929. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Force in 1946 and was discharged as a staff sergeant in 1949 after serving in Alaska and the Pentagon as a cryptographer. In 1950 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served as an Aviation Electronics Technician attaining the rank of Second Class Petty Officer. He was separated from the Navy to allow him to attend the U.S. Army Officer Candidates Course at Fort Riley, Kansas. Upon graduation from this course he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. His military service covers a span of thirty seven years and he retired as a Major General on April 8, 1984.

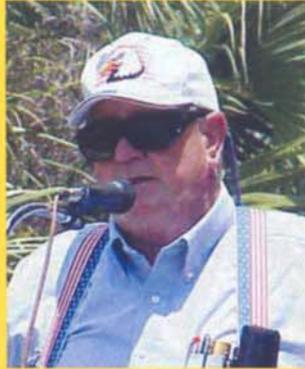
General Jackson received his Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts degrees in psychology at the University of Tulsa. He did post graduate work at the Illinois Institute of Technology and was a PhD candidate at the University of Southern California. His military education includes the basic and advance officer's course at the Signal and Military Intelligence Schools. He has also completed the advanced courses at the Civil Affairs and Infantry Schools. In addition he has completed courses in areas of electronic warfare, chemical warfare, terrorism, nuclear weaponry and special operations. He has also graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College.

General Jackson has served in various overseas theatres of operations and has served in a variety of assignments. He has commanded Signal Corps, Civil Affairs, Infantry, Military Intelligence, Aviation, Special Forces and Psychological Operation units. He has also served as the Director of Counter Intelligence and as the Assistant to the Chief of Staff for Intelligence at Headquarters, Department of the Army.

General Jackson has been awarded the Master Aviator Badge, Parachute Badge and the Expert Infantry Badge. His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal and several other military awards and decorations.

General Jackson and his wife Lahoma reside in Jupiter, Florida. His son and two daughters, Jacky and Jennifer and four grandchildren also reside in Jupiter. His son, Wayne Jr., retired from the U.S. Army in 1995.

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN



Robert Machen
Lieutenant Colonel, ret.

Robert Machen, a retired Lieutenant Colonel, who was a Major when he commanded the 171 st Maintenance Detachment supporting the 147th Assault Support Helicopter Company while in Vietnam during the year 1967.

Bob, with an undergraduate degree in Geology, was originally in the Army Corps of Engineers but later transferred to the Transportation Corps. He flew CH47 Chinook helicopters, was an instrument flight examiner, and was qualified to fly all the Army aircraft during his career - logging over 5,000 hours of flight time, of which 450 hours were combat time in Vietnam.

Bob claims to be a "slow learner" because he went to school at night during his military career. He received a Masters Degree from the College of William and Mary in Virginia, a Doctorate from The American University, and a Law Degree from the George Mason University School of Law. He has practiced law in Northern Virginia for the last 25 years.

Bob and Dorothy have now been married for over 51 years, have two sons and seven grandchildren.



Marge Herzog, Vice Mayor
Town of Loxahatchee Groves, Florida

Marge Herzog moved to Loxahatchee Groves in 1995 after retiring from public education with 28 years of service as a classroom teacher in New Jersey.

Marge is President of the Loxahatchee Groves Landowners' Association, Founding member of Incorporate Loxahatchee Groves Committee and a Member of the Palms West Presbyterian Church. Marge has been a Deacon and an Elder of the Presbyterian Church for more than 20 years. She was called to serve while living in New Jersey and has continued her service in Florida.

Marge is also a Member of the American Legion Auxiliary in New Jersey and Florida for the past 26 years. She has participated in many Veteran activities where she has offered the opening or closing prayer at the service.

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN



2 May 2007

Mr. Mike Carroll
Carrroll Brothers Construction

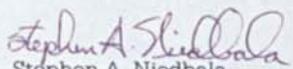
Greetings,

Mr. Bill Jeczalik, a member of the 178th ASHC "Boxcar" Vietnam Veterans Association, has brought the fact to our attention that you have successfully restored a Vietnam era UH1 to static display condition for use in parades and general display.

This gracious act will assist in keeping the memory alive of the selfless dedication and sacrifice of all the Army aircrews who served in the Vietnam war.

Vietnam veterans, such as yourself, continue to serve and preserve the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. I offer my profound congratulations and thanks for the task you have completed.

Sincerely,


Stephen A. Niedbala
2007 President
178th ASHC "Boxcar" Association
Vietnam Veterans

DEDICATION
of the
Huey 425 helicopter
by Marge Herzog

June 9, 2007

On behalf of the many veterans who have fought hard to keep America free,
I would like to express grateful thanks to Mike Carroll
for providing this beautiful Huey 425 Restored helicopter.

I would like to now officially dedicate this aircraft.

This Huey 425 Helicopter is dedicated to the memory
of those who fell in the service to their country
while on land or in the air.

It is dedicated in the name of those who offered their lives
that Justice, Freedom, and Democracy might survive.

The lives of those who have made the supreme sacrifice
are glorious before us, and their deeds are an inspiration.

As they served America in time of war,
yielding their last full measure of devotion,
may we also promise to do the same.

I dedicate this restored Huey 425 Helicopter to them and ask that
all citizens strengthen their faithful service to our country
and to the preservation of the memory of those who died
that liberty might live.

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN



Mike Carroll, a 1966/67 Hillclimber Crew Chief of the 147th Assault Support Helicopter Company, Vung Tua Vietnam, has dedicated his talents, finances and a 5,000 square foot garage to resurrecting the 425 into a physical artifact of the Vietnam era... to be able to see, touch, climb on, sit, and share comradeship with others, possibly their children and grandchildren. 96% of Vietnam Vets have been on a chopper, whether they wanted to or not, as that was the mode of transportation in Vietnam.

Since 1988 Mike enjoyed taking on various restoration projects, starting out with an 84 Lumber tin sign nailed up on the garage wall. Over the years he has restored many more signs, gas pumps, antique and classic automobiles, the last being a 1956 Chevy that he duplicated from his 1968 era Drag race car. All of his projects had been completed when he stumbled upon a Huey 425. After a tail number check he realized that this helicopter was very rich with Vietnam history.

Mike hoped to accomplish bringing the 425 back to life as a restored aircraft for a mobile static display. Now complete, the 425 will be available for parades, air shows, veteran events, and for all public enjoyment. The 425 will be stationed at the G&M Ranch and is available for display to Veteran's Associations, Church events or any worthy cause.



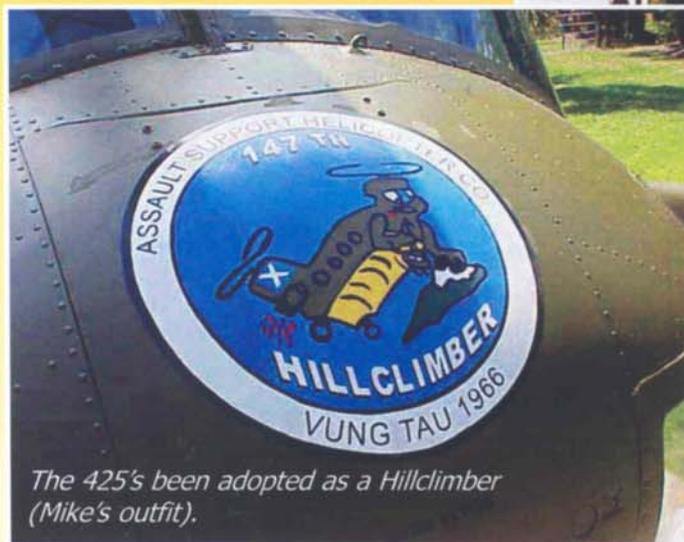
Mike rescued her from her abandonment on the Palm Beach County Sheriff's gun range.

The 425 takes its name from the final 3 of its serial numbers.





Instrumentation restoration work continues.



The 425's been adopted as a Hillclimber (Mike's outfit).

Anita checks out the pilot seat during restoration.



NO HILL FOR A CLIMBER



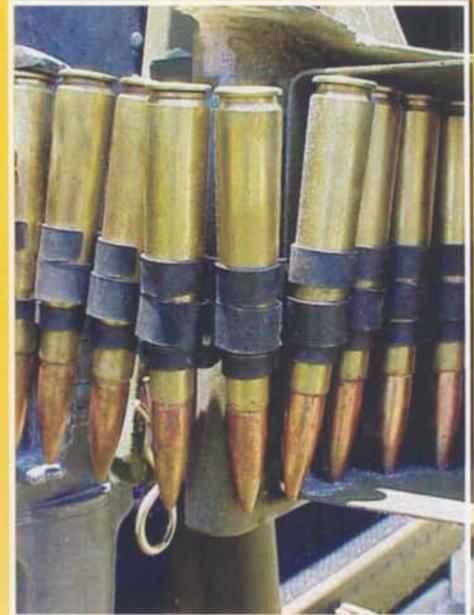
The 'Hillclimbers' got its name in transit to South Vietnam. Captain/Pilot L. Thomas Elliston was very instrumental in creating the first patch & call sign for a newly formed Chinook company. In November 1965 the 147th Aviation Company went over as a unit. It was the first Chinook company in country after the 1st Cav. Tom, a country boy who grew up in the Ozarks of Missouri where there was a "can do" attitude, often expressed with the phrase "That is no hill for a climber." He used that phrase frequently on the trip over. The pilots picked up that phrase and then it became their call sign.

Some considered "No Hill for a Climber" a short prayer asking God for a judgement to fall your way. Some of us Hillclimbers used it as a salutation in our letters.

The first patch pictured was one of the first ordered, misspelling and all. The objects pictured represents the attitude of the company... an elephant with 2 rotors, belching fire and smoke at both ends, walking up a slight incline... a flower (keeping things in its proper perspective, things are never quite as bad as they may seem, and to stop often to smell the flowers)... a tree (representing going about business in an easy manner when possible, stay in the shade even if it was in the shade of a Chinook blade)... a cow skull representing a bull or authority, "don't mess with a bull").

Later on the patch developed in to the 2nd one pictured.

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The Huey, a gift from the local Marine Corps, had been at the sheriff's firing range out by 20-Mile Bend, serving duty in SWAT training but used primarily as a prop, said Capt. David Sleeth, PBSO.

Carroll said he initially had no interest in the helicopter until the flight records were looked up and found it had flown almost 2,000 combat hours in Vietnam.





*Father Vecchio
blesses the 425.*



*Part of the POW/
MIA missing man
ceremony.*



*Mike's
granddaughter
Laurel plays taps.*



*Dave emcees the dedication
festivities.*



*The Palm Beach Sheriff's
Office color guard and the
Palm Beach Pipes and
Drums.*

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN



Dave gets the show on the road.



Dave and guest speaker Major General Wayne P. Jackson

*Lt. Col. Bob Machen
tells an excellent and
entertaining helicopter
war story.*



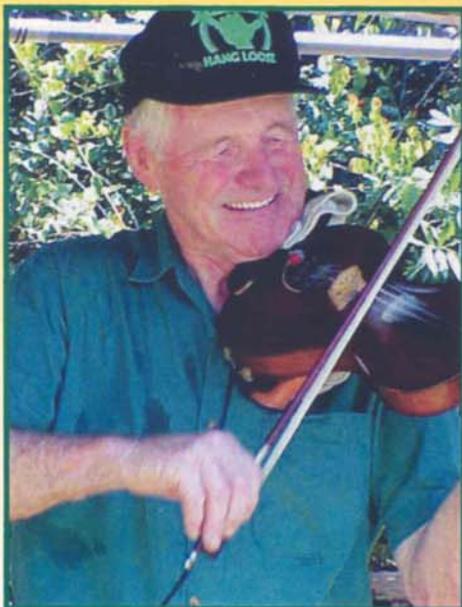
*General Jackson
recalls his time in
Hueys.*



178th Box Cars, Bill Jeczalik presents plaque to Hillclimber Mike Carroll



Vietnam-era Mohawk recon plane fly-over, pilot Paul Pefly



Always fun to hear George fiddle about with the rest of the excellent guys in Echoes of Erin.

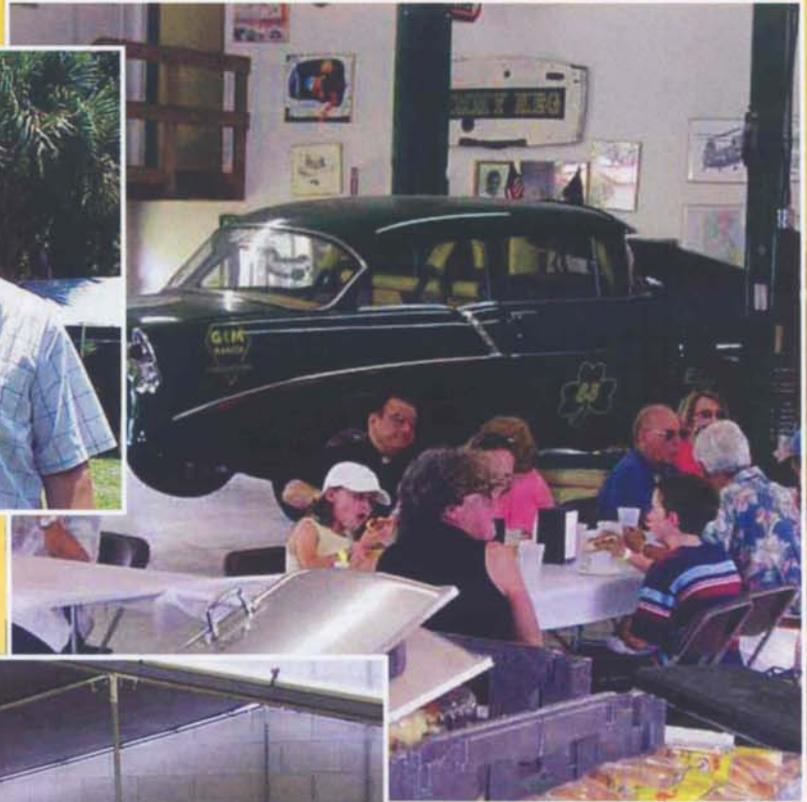


Before the beer and BBQ.

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN



Crew chief Carroll and our pal newsdude Gerrard Campbell.

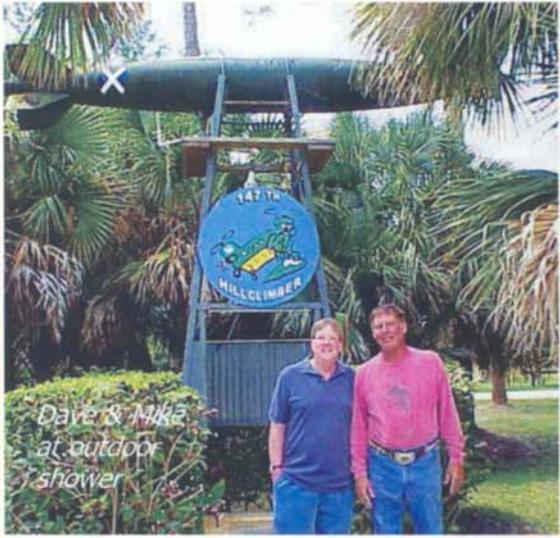


Some spectators seek the shade as the temperature tops 86.

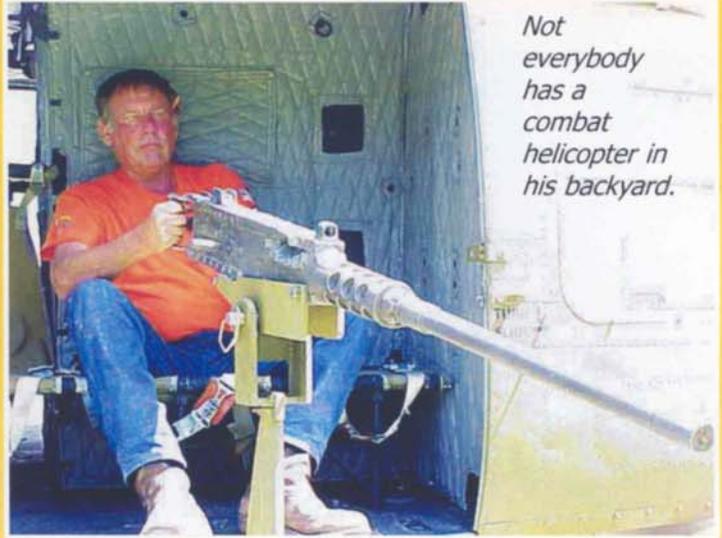
They say an army travels on its stomach.



Additional eating seating inside the garage.



*Dave & Mike
at outdoor
shower*



*Not
everybody
has a
combat
helicopter in
his backyard.*



Restored cars ring Mike's pond.



Gerrard meets one of Mike's more stable tenants.



*Mike & Ginnie's
dog, Quasimoto,
joins in the fun!
Dr. Ginnie
considering
name change to
Agent Orange*

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

A heartfelt thank-you to all those who have kindly donated their time and expertise to help to make this event a success.

Name*	Donation
BJ /BJ Auto Glass	Install Chin Bubbles & Windshield
Carder, Peggy /FedEx Ground	Tracking & finding some of the 86 lbs. of 127lbs. lost when pallet strapping broke spilling parts from Panama City, Pensicola, Jacksonville, Orlando and Riviera Beach
Carter, Danny/Great American Sign Co.	Stencils
Carter, Linda	Internet Research
Cook, Mark	Arranging 425 Donation
Elhiney, Allan F. M. /Naval Air Station Museum	Membership
Freeman, Mike /Raython Corp.	Olive Drab Paint
Gall, Joe / UPS Store	Secretarial & Mailings Svce.
Giliberti, John /Giliberti World Wide	Tow Bar Fabrication
Hall, Rob & Danyell /Aero Source.	Various HUEY Parts
Hand, Jeff /Hand's Crane	On & Off Load
Hoyt, Mike	Crate & Ship HUEY Parts
Kosinski, Jim /Best Light Images	Photo & Update Letter
Lee, James /Brite Lee Polished Materials & Plastic	Polished Out Plexiglass
Machon, Bob	Donation
McMillin, Mark /Amcom Project OLR.	Grand Tour of OLR
Miller, George /147 th Ash Company Warrant Officer Pilot	Main Parts Finder
Moss, Barbara /Barbara Moss Studio	Graphic Design, print material
Mynhier, Bill Jr. /Trade Master, Inc.	Fuselage Painting
O'Leary, Ed /Murray Logan Construction.	Low Boy Service
Pefty, Paul /Mohawk Tech	Skid Wheels
Raley, Don	Donation
Ritter, Neil	Technical & Fabricating Svce.
Sayre, Dr. Ginnie / PBC Animal Care & Control	Support
Sharski, John /Project engineer/Bell Helicopter	T.M. CD's
Smith, Tim /Ft. Rucker.	Parts
Stiles, Larry/B&P Paint Supply	Interior Painting Material
Voon Hees, Jerry	Interior Painting Labor
Zeitler, Jim	Picking Up HUEY Parts



**Names are in alphabetical order by last name*

The Palm Beach Post

REPRINT

Posted Sunday

June 10th, 2007

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SUNDAY
JUNE 10, 2007
PalmBeachPost.com

LOCAL

A Vietnam veteran works to restore a wartime helicopter.
HEALING HUEY

By STACEY SINGER
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer
The phone call irritated Mike Carroll. The prolonged restoration of a '56 Chevy had picked his pocket: Three times over budget, it was. Another restoration project? No way. Not again.
"Just take a look," his friend said on the phone. "It's a Huey. An old one. Just sitting there."
Carroll had been a helicopter crew chief in Vietnam in 1966 and '67. Since then, he had moved to Florida and founded a successful construction company with his brother and sister. He bought a ranch with a veterinarian friend. They built up a fantastic homestead, with an immaculate horse barn, an old cracker-style house, and a generous garage where he could tinker all he liked.
He couldn't help himself. He'd just look at the Huey, he thought. He grumbled the whole drive from Loxahatchee. "I don't want to get involved in a project like that," Carroll



Mike Carroll, who was a helicopter crew chief during the Vietnam War, has spent \$40,000 fixing a Huey, which was a multipurpose aircraft.

said to himself. The Huey sat in a field, a gun range operated by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. It was a pathetic specimen of an Iroquois UH-1H, men of an Huey, its better known as the Huey. Its windows were shot out, its metal corroded. It bothered him.
"I looked at it. I touched it," Carroll said. "I had feelings with it."
He wrote down its tail number: 68-16425.
He remembered his own time in Vietnam, servicing Chinooks as part of the Hillclimber company. He was just
See HUEY, 6C ▶

Restorer seeks research volunteer

▶ HUEY from 1C
21 years old.
"Our company lost seven men in one year," he said. "Several were maimed, lost limbs."
His job was to keep the choppers flight-ready. Mechanic, record-keeper, salvager. He remembered the distinct sound of the Huey's gas-turbine engine: "Wamp, wamp, wamp."
He did a bit of research and learned the ragged old bird in the gun range had flown 1,977 combat hours in Vietnam.
That sealed it. The aircraft deserved better.
"I thought about the people who had been through it," Carroll said. "It was a feeling of necessity to do something."
Two years and \$40,000 later, Carroll invited friends, supporters and fellow veterans to a party at his ranch Saturday. They celebrated the first phase of the helicopter's restoration and paused in silence to remember and salute missing veterans.
They admired Carroll's work. He'd painted the Huey an authentic drab Army olive-brown, positioned two massive machine guns in its doorways and painted its nose with the seal of his own troop, the Hillclimbers.
Carroll said he had to "beg, borrow and steal" to find parts for the helicopter. He visited several bases, and warehouse supervisors told him they couldn't help him. And some surprising things happened.
"When I went back to the parking lot, I found some very particular parts on the ground, next to my rental car," he said. "I've

'I thought about the people who had been through it. It was a feeling of necessity to do something.'
MIKE CARROLL
On why he decided to restore the helicopter

had good luck."
The Huey was an all-around work horse for the Army. It served as ambulance, troop transporter, taxi, truck and beer wagon. Carroll learned that a support group known as the Warlords, the 123rd Aviation Battalion had flown this particular helicopter.
Designed by Bell, the single-engine helicopter was equipped with skids rather than wheels so it could land on rough terrain. The Warlords probably used it for reconnaissance, dropping down into enemy territory to swipe equipment useful for intelligence purposes, or bringing suspected Viet Cong back to the U.S. base at Chu Lai for interrogation.
Carroll said he's looking for a volunteer to help him do more research on the aircraft — pull all its incident reports, speak to its surviving pilots.
He also hopes for help in phase-two of its restoration. The engine is too far gone to start now. It needs parts that are nearly impossible to find.
"I'm still hoping one day to hear 'tick... tick... tick-tick-tick-tick,'" he said. "There's something about that sound."
©stacey_singer@pbpost.com

Effort draws Groves resident closer to his Army comrades, war memories

By Joel Hood
South Florida Sun-Sentinel
Posted June 10 2007

Loxahatchee Groves — There are no simple or easy reasons why a man would invest two years and \$40,000 of his own money to restore a Vietnam War helicopter that probably will never fly again.

Except for this: It matters.

That's the best Mike Carroll, a Vietnam veteran himself, can come up with. It matters to him and it matters to many he served with in war, where even the lightest tours of duty sometimes leave scars that can never heal.

"We were all so young then," Carroll said, "I'm not sure we really knew what was going on."

Carroll says he was lucky in Vietnam, as fortunate as any 20-year-old kid from Michigan had a right to be, being shipped to an escalating and bloody conflict on the other side of the globe. Carroll served just one year, from 1966 to 1967, as a corporal crew chief in an Army unit stationed away from the most violent clashes.

But what he saw, what he felt and the lifelong friends he made there left an indelible mark that Carroll admits he's still trying to sort out.

Perhaps that's what this helicopter restoration is all about.

Now 60 and living on 10 lush, tree-lined acres in Loxahatchee Groves, Carroll has channeled a love for history, for tinkering and his war experiences into rebuilding a Vietnam Huey helicopter donated to him by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office about two years ago.

In that time, Carroll, who went to work for his family's concrete business, has replaced worn or missing aluminum panels on the outer shell,

installed new windshields and rebuilt almost every moving part, including the top propeller and another on the tail. He has replaced gear boxes and engine cowlings and given the aircraft a new olive green coat of paint. He has received some cash donations, but most of the money has been his own.

Carroll has even stenciled the names of men he served with in his Army unit on the side of the door and put the unit's image on the nose: the 147th Assault Support Helicopter Company, better known as the "Hillclimbers."

Carroll and fellow Hillclimbers dedicated the helicopter at a private ceremony at his home Saturday.

Carroll wants to make the Huey — one of the iconic images of the Vietnam War —



Mission accomplished

The Huey helicopter restored by Mike Carroll logged almost 2,000 combat hours during the Vietnam War. The two-year effort was a personal mission for Carroll, helping him reconnect with his feelings about the war.

(Photo/Rhonda Vanover) Jun 10, 2007

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The Sun-Sentinel

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Posted
Sunday

June 10th, 2007

available for public gatherings and veterans' ceremonies. But he knows this could rekindle mixed emotions for many veterans who've already made, or are still making peace with their past.

"Every April we go to a veterans event in Melbourne, and they'll fly a helicopter like that in," said Maxwell Nelson, a West Palm Beach resident and president of the Vietnam Veterans Association for Palm Beach County. "Just the sound of it gets your attention and you start remembering things. It puts everybody in the same frame of mind."

Which can be difficult for some, said veteran David Buckner, president of the American Legion Post 164 in Boynton Beach.

"It can bring back some bad memories that have to be faced," said Buckner, who served 15 months in Vietnam as a propulsion specialist with the Air Force. "But every veteran is going to react differently because every experience in war is different."

The Hillclimbers lost men in combat and Carroll remembers some harrowing experiences. He was part of a rescue operation near the Hillclimbers' base in the port city of Vung Tau when a hand grenade accidentally detonated inside the cabin of the one of the helicopters. The explosion killed two soldiers and blew the legs off two others. Others sustained wounds from the flying shrapnel. Carroll watched the carnage from another helicopter.

"All this blood and all this death, it was horrible," Carroll said.

Despite events like this one, Carroll, who went to work for his family's concrete business, said he found it easy to open up to family about his tour in Vietnam when the war ended. And that probably made it easier to acquire the Huey when word spread that the Sheriff's Office had one it was trying to get rid of. The Huey, a gift from the local Marine Corps, had been at the sheriff's firing range out by 20-Mile Bend, serving duty in SWAT training but used primarily as a prop, said Capt. David Sleeth.

Carroll said he initially had no interest in the helicopter until a friend looked up its flight records and found it had flown almost 2,000 combat hours in Vietnam.

"That changed everything," said Carroll, who also collects and restores classic cars and other nostalgic pieces. "So many of these helicopters were left over there or pitched over the side of boats. I knew this was a rarity I had to have."



Looking back

Mike Carroll, 60, of Loxahatchee Groves, has spent \$40,000 and two years restoring a Vietnam War Huey helicopter. Carroll and other former members of the Army's 147th Assault Support Helicopter Company dedicated the chopper Saturday in Carroll's backyard.

(Photo/Rhonda Vanover) Jun 10, 2007

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The Huey now sits on a trailer amid acres of palm trees and other tropical vegetation in Carroll's backyard. When the air is humid and the sky is gray, as it has been lately, Carroll acknowledges it's a setting that's eerily familiar to the one he left 40 years ago.

"I just wanted to give this Huey a good home," he said. "Hopefully, some good will come of it."

Joel Hood can be reached at jhood@sun-sentinel.com or 561-243-6611.

ONLINE—Hear Mike Carroll talk about the restoration project in a video report at Sun-Sentinel.com/chopper.



The **Observer**
REPRINT
Posted
June 15th, 2007



Vietnam Vet Restores a Huey Helicopter

By Evelyn O'Haller
Assistant Editor

The most widely used military helicopter the Bell UH-1H "Huey" served in large numbers during the Vietnam War and is being restored to its original "whisper" status. Vietnam veteran Mike Carroll of Loxahatchee is working on the restoration of the Huey 425, a helicopter that was shot down in Vietnam in 1966. Carroll, 67, is a "veteran" with saving, left: Mike Carroll lights a candle during the dedication ceremony. Photo by Linda DeBacco.

PROJECT 425

The Huey 425, a Bell UH-1H "Huey" helicopter, was shot down in Vietnam in 1966. Vietnam veteran Mike Carroll of Loxahatchee is working on the restoration of the Huey 425, a helicopter that was shot down in Vietnam in 1966. Carroll, 67, is a "veteran" with saving, left: Mike Carroll lights a candle during the dedication ceremony. Photo by Linda DeBacco.

According to the large crowd at "Project 425" on Carroll's property, "the U.S. Army was looking for a 'veteran' to restore the Huey 425, a helicopter that was shot down in Vietnam in 1966. Carroll, 67, is a "veteran" with saving, left: Mike Carroll lights a candle during the dedication ceremony. Photo by Linda DeBacco.

Carroll's dedication ceremony included many from the Hillclimber community, including the 147th Air Assault Helicopter Company, which is based in Loxahatchee. Carroll's restoration project is a labor of love, and he has spent thousands of dollars on the project. The Huey 425 is a "veteran" with saving, left: Mike Carroll lights a candle during the dedication ceremony. Photo by Linda DeBacco.

Carroll's dedication ceremony included many from the Hillclimber community, including the 147th Air Assault Helicopter Company, which is based in Loxahatchee. Carroll's restoration project is a labor of love, and he has spent thousands of dollars on the project. The Huey 425 is a "veteran" with saving, left: Mike Carroll lights a candle during the dedication ceremony. Photo by Linda DeBacco.

PROJECT 425 @ G & M RANCH

147TH

Dedication Ceremony of the Huey 425 Restoration

POW + MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

Helicopter UH-1H 68-16425

Information on U.S. Army helicopter UH-1H tail number 68-16425

The Army purchased this helicopter 1169

Total flight hours at this point: 00001010

Date: 01/18/1971

Accident case number: 710118151

Unit: B/123 AVN 23 INF

The station for this helicopter was Chu Lai in

Number killed in accident = 0 . . Injured = 0 . . Passengers = 0

costing 944

Source(s) from which the incident was created or updated: Army Aviation Safety Center database.

Crew Members:

AC W1 SPECE TD

Accident Summary:

□ THE AC WAS OPERATING THE AIRCRAFT AND WAS HOVERING FROM POL REFUELING POINT TO PARKING AREA AT 3 FEET WHEN IT STARTED TO TURN TO THE RIGHT CONTINUED TO TURN TO RIGHT. LEFT PEDAL WAS APPLIED WITHOUT RESPONSE. THE AIRCRAFT CONTINUED TO TURN TO RIGHT FOR 360 DEGREES THE AC EXECUTED A HOVERING AUTOROTATION HOWEVER THE AIRCRAFT LANDED HARD RESULTING IN DAMAGE TO SKIDS AND CROSS TUBES. THE AC SHUT THE ENGINE DOWN AND INSPECTION REVEALED A TAIL ROTOR FAILURE. THE AIRCRAFT WAS RECOVERED AND RETURNED TO HOME STATION THERE WAS NO FIRE\

The following is Goldbook information on US Army helicopter UH-1H tail number 68-16425 It is provided here as an ESTIMATE of the history of this helicopter and is not intended to be the final authority.

This helicopter was purchased by the US Army in 1169.

Please provide any additional information on this helicopter to the VHPA.

DATE	FLT HRS	UIC	UNIT	AREA	POST	COUNTRY
196911	4	4 WE4HAA	142 TC DS	VIETNAM		RVN
196912	48	52 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197001	93	145 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197002	95	240 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197003	88	328 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197004	42	370 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197005	86	456 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197006	76	532 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197007	74	606 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197008	80	686 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197009	64	750 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197010	33	783 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197011	70	853 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197012	89	942 WGLEBO	B 123 AVN	AMDV VIETNAM		RVN
197101	68	1010 WGLEBO	B 123RD AVN BN	VIETNAM		RVN

(Gold Book History continued on back)

POW ★ MIA... YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

(Gold Book History continued from page 23)

197102	115	1125	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197103	115	1240	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197104	110	1350	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197105	119	1469	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197106	53	1522	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197107	87	1609	WGLEB0	142	TC	DS		VIETNAM		RVN
197108	95	1704	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197109	59	1763	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197110	46	1809	WGLEB0	B	123RD	AVN	BN	VIETNAM		RVN
197111	133	1942	WGLEB0	142	TC	DS		VIETNAM		RVN
197112	39	1981	WGLEB0	ARADMAC				IN MAINT	NAVAL AIR STN	AVSCOM
197201	24	2005	WACYD0	1	1	CAV	D TRP	VIETNAM		RVN
197202	62	2067	WACYD0	1	1	CAV	D TRP	VIETNAM		RVN
197203	8	2075	WACYD0	1	1	CAV	D TRP	VIETNAM		RVN
197204	0	2075	WACYD0	1	1	CAV	D TRP	VIETNAM		RVN
197205	0	2075	WOY6AA	OS	TO	CONUS		ITR CONUS		AVSCOM
197206	0	2075	WOY6AA	OS	TO	CONUS		ITR CONUS		AVSCOM
197207	0	2075	WOY6AA	ARADMAC				IN MAINT	NAVAL AIR STN	AVSCOM
197208	0	2075	W1BSAA	NAVAL	AIR	CTR		LOAN	PATUXENT	AVSCOM
197209	0	2075	W1BSAA	NAVAL	AIR	CTR		LOAN	PATUXENT	AVSCOM
197210	0	2075	W1BSAA	NAVAL	AIR	CTR		LOAN	PATUXENT	AVSCOM
197211	0	2075	W1BSAA	NAVAL	AIR	CTR		LOAN	PATUXENT	AVSCOM
197212	2	2077	W1BSAA	NAVAL	AIR	CTR		LOAN	PATUXENT	AVSCOM
197301	0	2077	W1BSAA	NAVAL	AIR	CTR		LOAN	PATUXENT	AVSCOM
197302	0	2077	W1BSAA	NAVAL	AIR	CTR		LOAN	PATUXENT	AVSCOM
197303	1	2078	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197304	6	2084	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197305	41	2125	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197306	44	2169	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197307	2	2171	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197308	40	2211	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197309	14	2225	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197310	26	2251	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197311	3	2254	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197312	21	2275	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197401	25	2300	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197402	25	2325	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197403	22	2347	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197404	35	2382	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197405	29	2411	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA		ALASKA
197409	24	2494	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197410	0	2494	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197411	2	2496	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197412	13	2509	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197501	0	2509	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197502	19	2528	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197503	0	2528	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197504	3	2531	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197505	0	2531	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197506	13	2544	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197507	26	2570	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197509	3	2573	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197510	6	2579	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197511	0	2579	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM
197512	0	2579	WDPEAA	E	TRP	1ST	CAV	ALASKA	FORT WAINWRIGHT	FORSKOM

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Ranch

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