



The Leaflet Drop

The Newsletter of the PSYOP Veterans Association
(POVA)

www.usapova.org

Ex Verba Victoria

1 August 2017

Fellow Psywarriors,

POVA will come together in Biennial Reunion in 11 more months. How time flies!

The Reunion in Cleveland, OH, will be held from 19-22 July 2018. In general, our agenda will include our first-day arrival and welcome session on the first day; our business meeting and local tours and entertainment on the second day; a day of fun with friends and family on the third day, culminating in our Biennial Banquet and Remembrance Ceremony; and final farewells and departure on the last day. There will be plenty of time for reconnection with friends, social time, and entertainment in the rich visiting "grounds" of Cleveland.

To do this right, though, we need a few volunteers to help with the planning. Please commit some of your time to help make this reunion a truly excellent experience for all in attendance.

POVA has now rostered 100 Life Members, encompassing Psywarriors of all our "engagements" since the Korean War. POVA's 100th Life Member, Howard Patrick, is a very special member. The two of us served together performing PSYOP missions for the 1st Cavalry Division's 2d Brigade in '68-69. Launching from such scenic venues as Quan Loi, Lai Khe, and Dau Tieng.....ahh, the memories!. From such committed members come the future leadership and success of POVA.

For the past couple of months, POVA has worked with Gina Hinkley, owner of "Flick of the Wrist," a small company that does outstanding work producing custom shirts, caps, jackets, etc.. Gina is very hard-working and extremely committed to POVA and our members, and we are proud to count her as an Associate Member of POVA. She has made a difference with her work, and her continued efforts to help us raise funds for our charitable activities.

C. V. (Chad) Spawr
President

Anniversaries, Birthdays.....a Horse by any other Name.....

1965 and 1967 were very important milestone years in the Army's Psychological Operations world. 1965 saw formation and deployment of the original 6th Psychological Operations Battalion to Viet-Nam, where it was immediately deployed with great effect in support of US and Viet-Nameese operations. In 1967, having been almost overwhelmed by tactical demand for PSYOP support, the 6th Battalion was redesignated the 4th Psychological Operations Group (POG), and the original four PSYOP companies (244th, 245th, 246th, and 19th) were strengthened and redesignated as Battalions:

the 244th Company became the 7th PSYOP Battalion, located in DaNang
the 245th Company became the 8th PSYOP Battalion, located in Qui Nhon

the 246th Company became the 6th PSYOP Battalion, located in Bien Hoa
the 19th Company became the 10th PSYOP Battalion, located in Can Tho

These new PSYOP battalions were strengthened in their authorized manning and equipment, and immediately launched into major operations in support of US and Viet-Nameese ground operations in their AOR's.



4th MISGroup (A)
4th PSYOP Group



6th PSYOP
Battalion



7th PSYOP
Battalion



8th PSYOP
Battalion



10th PSYOP
Battalion

In spring 2015, the 6th Battalion celebrated the 50th anniversary of its original creation and deployment to Viet-Nam. POVA was very pleased and proud to contribute to and participate in this celebration, even preparing and presenting a Powerpoint presentation on the 6th Battalion's history in Viet-Nam. This was especially satisfying when several of today's 6th Battalion soldiers commented that they had very little awareness of the Battalion's combat history which began in Viet-Nam.

Similarly, the 8th PSYOP Battalion is currently planning to hold its own 50th Anniversary celebration in late 2015 (probably November). POVA has offered, and Battalion CO Marcus Welch has accepted, our support to this celebration, bringing our combat history and perspective.

Also in December 2016, the 4th MISGroup(A), formerly the 4th PSYOP Group, will conduct its 50th Anniversary celebration. POVA has offered our assistance and cooperation in planning and conducting this event. Our offer of assistance and cooperation has been gratefully accepted.

RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD: if you are a veteran of the 8th PSYOP Battalion or the 4th MIS/PSYOP Group, and would like to participate or contribute to POVA's assistance to these milestone celebrations, please contact either Chad Spawr or Rich Hosier (email addresses on the roster at the end of the newsletter).

Special Forces POVA Member/Author offers excellent deal on books



**POVA Member & Author
John Stryker Meyer**

POVA Member John Stryker Meyer is an accomplished author, writing of his experiences as a member of MACV-SOG leading reconnaissance teams into "places we never went" during the Viet-Nam War. John's writing brings the whole Special Forces reconnaissance methodology to the reader in clear and unmistakable terms. These soldiers, both American and Viet-Nameese, were extraordinary men performing extremely dangerous missions, and John Meyer's books are "must" readings for anybody interested in the clandestine world of "across the fence" recon deep in hostile territory.

You can buy these excellent books, which John will gladly sign and send direct:

Across the Fence: The Secret War in Viet-Nam, \$24.95

On the Ground: The Secret War in Viet-Nam, co-authored with John Peters, \$24.95

Both books.....\$49.90

Shipping is the same for one book or two: \$6.65

One book including shipping is: \$31.60; two books including shipping is \$56.55

John has offered to donate 20% of the purchase price of each book ordered by POVA members directly or through the website. This will help POVA continue to raise funds to further assist our fellow veterans in need.

You can order direct from John Meyer by emailing him at idahoonzero@sbcglobal.net. Send him your name and mailing address, and John will sign each book and send it to you. He is willing to send you the book on the "honor system," trusting us to send him a check when the book is received.

You can also write John directly, enclose your check, and he'll sign and send. His address is: 349 Vista Marazul, Oceanside, CA 92057-7343. John's phone number is 619-892-5983.

POVA Life Member Mike Paschkes continues to serve in Florida

Received this note from Mike recently; along with the picture, it says it all:



Hi Chad, did I send this to you for POVA newsletter? We have beautiful local vets memorial park, where I sing at special ceremonies. This was the 100th anniversary of U.S. entry into WWI, April 17, 1917. Man saluting is Tom Kaiser, WWII navy vet. Organizes programs, lost brother in submarine. Woman is Kim Metcalf who lost son Michael in Afghanistan 5 yrs ago. The lost battalion was stuck behind German lines. They used pigeon that flew 30 miles wounded to let Yanks know they were there. Pigeon got Legion of Honor! D-Day ceremony rained out. Next one VJ Day in August.

Best regards, Mike

Error Correction

The June issue included an article about Life Member Tim Fitzpatrick and Sammy Robinson, a member of the 310th PSYOP Company in Georgia, One of the pictures was in error. Here is an update from Tim on Sammy's performance:



PVT Sammy Richardson on left, receiving top shooting plaque.

This is a pic of PVT Sammy Richardson, 310th PSYOP Company, receiving a plaque as the top shooter - cleaning everyone's clock- in the recent CMP Talladega match. Sammy's excellence is an example of what our young PSYOP folks are capable of!

Results for Sammy Richardson: Excellence in Competition - Service rifle - Standing Slow fire 200 yards: 97 - with 4 X; Sitting from Standing Rapid fire 10 rounds in 60 seconds with magazine change 200 yards: 98 - with 1 X; Prone from standing rapid fire 300 yards 10 rounds in 60 seconds with magazine change: 99 - 3 X; slow fire

prone 20 rounds in 20 minutes single load at 600 yards: 191 - 5 X; total score: 485 (out of 500) - 13 X placing him in 1st place out of 74 shooters.

For the M-1 Garand (WWII Rifle) results for PVT Richardson: prone slow fire 10 rounds single load at 200 yards: 98 - with 2 X; prone rapid fire from standing 10 rounds at 200 yds with clip reload in 70 seconds; 96 - with 2 X; slow fire standing 10 rounds single load at 200 yards: 93- with 1 X; Total was 287 - with 5 X placing him first out of 125 shooters. PVT Richardson also placed 7th/64 with the M1 Carbine with a 341- with 5 X and was the high junior shooter. HE DONE GOOD!!

A New POVA t-shirt design

Our excellent clothing vendor has created a new design using beautiful pressed foil material on a dark blue background. Unique to POVA, this design is available now on our website store (www.usapova.org). Reasonably priced, shipping included, with a small profit donated to POVA for our developing charitable capability. When first offered, a question was asked about the design.....here's our story (and we're sticking to it):



The flag is still our flag, no matter that sometimes she is battered and damaged. It is the colors and the fact it is flying that are significant; like many of us after combat, it is battered and maybe a bit dirty, but we keep coming on and never just fold up and go away.

In this case, the flag is battered but still flying, and supporting it is POVA. We are there, always supporting our flag and our fellow soldiers and veterans. We may have been battered, but we come back stronger each time.

New “Best Warrior” POVA Life Members

POVA has inducted David Rosa and Robert Kratoska into our Life Member ranks. Winners of the 2017 USACAPOC “Best Warrior” competition that pitted hundreds of USACAPOC PSYOP soldiers in strenuous warrior-oriented skills, the two newest POVA Life Members both come from the 339th PSYOP Company, 13th PSYOP Battalion, located in Arden Hills, MN. If it seems unusual that the two national winners of this prestigious competition come from the same company, it is! Hundreds of soldiers competed, but these two “Best Warriors” brought home national honors to the 339th PSYOP Company.

Our two “Best Warriors” received their POVA Life Member credentials on Sunday 14 July 2017 in Arden Hills, MI.

Well done.....and welcome to POVA.



**2017 USACAPOC “Best Warriors”
I-r...SPC Robert Kratoska & SSG David
Rosa**

First POVA Charitable Donation Almost Ready to “Bear Fruit”

POVA previously reported its first donation to Life Member Tim Wallace’s “Milk and Honey Farm,” an agricultural project near Harrisburg, PA, raising produce to be shared with area veterans and their families in need. Tim put the donation to good use, purchasing a heavy-duty tiller to prepare the garden plots, and establishing a new bee hive to help pollinate even more crops on the Farm. Here are the most recent pics of this awesome project:



Great job, Tim. Your POVA brothers and sisters are very proud of you! Well done!

POVA'S Life Members



POVA's Life Member ranks continue to grow, and with this newsletter, have now reached 99 "Lifers." POVA is proud to add **Jared Tracy, Gregory Seese, David Rosa, Robert Kratoska**, to the ranks of POVA's outstanding Life Members. We are very pleased to announce our 100th Life Member.....**Howard Patrick**.

David Affleck *
Jack O'Neil *
N. "Tony" Newcomb*
David Schultz
David Albanese
Alfred Paddock
John Cheney
Arlo Despain
William Forgey
Eric Hersh
Rick Hofmann
Stanley Michelsen
Hammond Salley
James Osborne
C. V. (Chad) Spawr
Leon DeHaven
Jim Danger Fisher
Dennis Smiser
Rich Hosier
Curtis Boyd
Carrie Spivey-Vernon
Lawrence Dietz
Mike Stoeckert
Ray Ambrozak
Roxanne M. Merritt
Miguel Hobbs
Ferdinand Irizarry II
Joseph Meissner
Floyd Turnquist
Steven N. Collins
Richard Caplin
Matthew Robbins
J. David Missavage
B. Michael Paschkes

*Deceased Life Member

Benjamin Tipton
Timothy Fitzpatrick
Kelley Jhong
Paul Lawrence
Robert A. B. Curriss
Thomas Sweeney
Ramon Pangelinan
Donald Miller
Alan Byrne
Daniel Ammerman
John-Matthew Urby
Carl Lostracco
Kenneth Bennett
Patrick J. Dillon
Mary Martin
John Yanikov
Randall S. Cartmill
Lucas J. W. Donnelly
Alfred Forgacz
Jesse C. Manning
Raymond Knagge
Andree Navarro
Andrew M. Paparella
Tristan Macauley
Timothy Huening
Reginald Bostick
Bruce E. Leahy
Denton Poe
Dorothea Burke
Darrell J. Weatherford
Robert A. Martinez
Howard R. Charbonneau
Carrell Van Deacon
Benjamin F. Rogers

D. Scott Lene
John A. Hardaway
Raymond Hackler
Monique Guerrero
Xavier Colon
Jody J. Hall
Russell B. Price
Peter J. Running
Harold Isom
Ronald Deese
Timothy Wallace
Judith Harriman Kofeot
Mary Alice Nice
Ned Lynch
Bethany C. Aragon
Frank E. Coburn
Jack Guy
Joel Krall
Nicholas Israel
Raphael Trujillo
Jeremiah D. Trench
Craig Champagne
Annie Hilton
Ann Turner
Eric Kreitz
Mark Stets
Nancy Stets
Jared Tracy
Gregory Seese
David Rosa
Robert Kratoska
Howard Patrick

POVA's new Association Flag

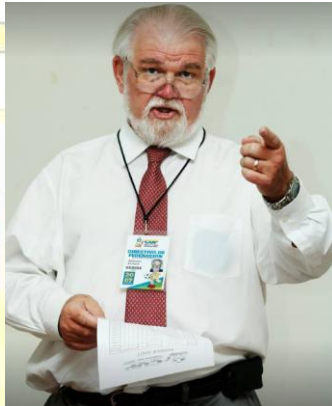
POVA is proud to announce that it has finalized design work for a new flag to represent our Association in those venues where a flag is appropriate. We believe it is also a fitting way to show our public face in a very positive way.

POVA will formally introduce the flag in Cleveland next July.



Return of the “Wandering Soul”

Every so often, an artifact or event from our PSYOP involvement in the Viet-Nam war “comes around again,” and the 4th PSYOP Group’s “Wandering Soul” campaign is no exception. “Wandering Soul” was a PSYOP initiative designed to sow fear and doubt in the minds of potentially vulnerable Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese soldiers based on Viet-Nameese cultural traditions regarding the proper preparation and burial of the dead. In that ancient culture, the dead must be properly prepared and buried with appropriate ceremony and prayers to send the person’s spirit to its afterlife reward. Those who died and were not so properly prepared were doomed.....their spirit would wander aimlessly in perpetual pain and anger in the darkness and despair.



**POVA Life Member
& Past President Rick Hofmann**

The completed BBC interview can be heard at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p004t1hd/episodes/downloads>

Any PSYOP soldier or veteran wanting to understand how PSYOP was developed and deployed in Viet-Nam should listen to this brief interview. Rick tells the story that all of us knew who worked with field-level tactical PSYOP and with “Wandering Soul” in particular. His lessons learned from Viet-Nam are as accurate today as they were then.

Rick was part of the original 6th PSYOP Battalion’s 245th PSYOP Company in Viet-Nam; he several other current POVA members joined the unit in August 1966. In Rick’s own inimitable way, he described that experience as “our”...sabbatical to study Asian cultures under government funding... in August of ‘66.” Well said, Rick.

Editor’s Note: In the near future, POVA will post the “Wandering Soul” on our website at www.usapova.org.

Sound Off!

Have questions, comments, complaints, or suggestions for your Association and/or its members? Please feel free to send any such commo to Chad Spawr. POVA will reply.

****POVA CONTACT INFORMATION ****

PRESIDENT & NEWSLETTER EDITOR	CHAD SPAWR	chad.spawr@usapova.com
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	LARRY DIETZ	larry_dietz@yahoo.com
VICE PRESIDENT/CHAPLAIN	JOHN CHENEY	hqcmdt@hotmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT FINANCE & MEMBER DEVELOPMENT	RICH HOSIER	rich.hosier@usapova.com
VICE PRESIDENT CORPORATE RELATIONS	CURT BOYD	Curtis.boyd@jhuapl.edu
TRUSTEES	MIKE STOECKERT RICK HOFMANN DOUG ELWELL MATT ROBBINS HAMMOND SALLEY HOWARD PATRICK DON MILLER ROD FRITZ	hookeye1@yahoo.com rick.hofmann@usapova.com elwells@embarqmail.com rdawnmatt@comcast.net hsalley@sbcglobal.net howard.patrick@usapova.com alphateob@aol.com rodfritz@rcn.com
POVA's Website Ed Rouse's PSYOP Website PSYOP Regimental Association Website COL-Ret. Larry Dietz PSYOP Blog Howard Patrick's Blog		http://www.usapova.com http://www.psywarrior.com http://www.psyopra.com www.psyopregiment.blogspot.com www.howardpatrick.weebly.com/blog

