



# The Leaflet Drop

The Newsletter of the PSYOP Veterans Association  
(POVA)

*Ex Verba Victoria*

[www.usapova.com](http://www.usapova.com)

1 June 2017

Fellow Psywarriors,

**The big news first: the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has approved POVA's application for tax-exempt status under IRC Section 501c3. We can now solicit and accept contributions, gifts, donations, bequests, etc., as a charitable organization. Many thanks to Life Member Attorney Joseph Meissner for his diligence in bringing this to conclusion.**

Last month, I shared our progress on several key POVA projects to promote continued membership growth, with an eye toward achieving our vision, which we stated as follows:

***POVA will be the leading organization to reconnect PSYOP veterans with their fellow soldiers, execute excellent reunion events, and provide support where needed and applicable to PSYOP soldiers, veterans, and family members and those of our brethren who were lost.***

- POVA has created a member database which, when complete, will provide a reliable source of information for member status, dues records, addresses, email contacts, etc.
- POVA is taking its first steps to creating Chapters. Spearheading the process is POVA Life Member Reggie Bostic. Focused on the "National Capital Region" in the metroplex area around Washington, D.C., we hope our first chapter will open during the summer of 2018.
- POVA is creating a centralized information source on the location and contents of PSYOP collections, displays, and materials in military facilities and museums around the country. Leading this effort is long-time member Doug Elwell.
- POVA is initiating a communication process so we can "reach out" to the Gold Star families of our war dead, and bring them into POVA. We have a long history of inclusion of Gold Stars as Life Members of POVA, and POVA is working to get that "back on track." So far, we have added four Gold Star Life Members.
- Finally, POVA is assembling a consolidated "speakers' bureau" of POVA members and associates who can be available to POQC courses, speakers, guest lecturers, and representatives at Regimental and other graduations, pinning ceremonies, etc.. Leading this effort is POVA Life Member Ben Tipton.

**C. V. (Chad) Spawr**  
**President**

## **Welcome to new POVA Member Brent Mendenhall**

Brent recently joined POVA. He has been a strong leader in PSYOP throughout his career and we are happy he with us. Here is Brent's bio:

Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Brent A. Mendenhall entered the United States Army in 1986. Following Basic and Advanced Individual Training, his first duty station was in Hanau, Germany.

Brent has served in every level of enlisted leadership. His duties and assignments include: Squad Leader and Platoon Sergeant with 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), 20<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Tactical PSYOP Team (TPT) Leader and Tactical PSYOP Detachment (TPD) NCOIC with the 9<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Battalion (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Senior PSYOP Sergeant with 1<sup>st</sup> PSYOP Battalion (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Small Group Leader (SGL) and CMF37 Branch Chief for Basic and Advanced Non Commissioned Officers Academy with the NCO Academy at John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg North Carolina and First Sergeant of Headquarters Company of the 8<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Battalion (Airborne), Operations Sergeant for G3 8<sup>th</sup> US Army, Seoul Korea, and Operations Sergeant for the 3<sup>rd</sup> PSYOP Battalion (Airborne), the Operation Sergeant Major for the 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group (Airborne), and the Command Sergeant Major of the Joint Psychological Operations Task Force in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. His last assignment was Command Sergeant Major of the 1<sup>st</sup> PSYOP Battalion (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During this time, he participated in numerous named operations. He is currently appointed as the Honorary Sergeant Major of the Psychological Operations Regiment.



**CSM Ret. Brent A. Mendenhall**

He is a graduate of PLDC, BNCOC, ANCOC, First Sergeant, and the Naval Senior Enlisted Academy (Class 122) courses, Basic and Advanced Airborne School, and various other military schools. CSM (R) Mendenhall holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Troy University and is currently enrolled fulltime in Eastern Kentucky University's Masters in Safety, Security, and Emergency Management (Fire Service Concentration).

His military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3OLC), Army Commendation Medal (3OLC), Army Achievement Medal (2OLC), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (2<sup>nd</sup> Award), Good Conduct Medal (6<sup>th</sup>), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award (2<sup>nd</sup> Award), NATO Medal and the Master Parachutist Badge. He has earned foreign parachute badges from Honduras, South Korea, Ireland, and Chile, and is a recipient of the Major General Robert A. McClure Award (Gold).

Brent currently serves as a Department of the Army civilian as a Requirements Specialist for HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Command G8 (Force Modernization). His duties include serving as the subject matter expert on PSYOP materiel requirements development. He submits PSYOP



specific and SOF common requirements to USASOC HQ and tracks requirements through the acquisition process from development, testing, fielding, to disposal. He has also served for 24 years as a firefighter for the Angier & Black River Fire Department in Angier, NC. He is currently the Assistant Fire Chief within the department.

He is married to the former Sharon Lewis of Angier, North Carolina. They reside in Angier, North Carolina, and have a 26 year old daughter, Anna, who just completed her post-graduate degree in Norwich, United Kingdom; and a 20 year old son, Austin, who is also a firefighter and pursuing a career in the fire service.

### **POVA's Tim Wallace: Working for his Fellow Vets and his Community**

POVA Life Member Tim Wallace has dedicated his life and his property to growing, reaping, and distributing nature's agricultural bounty to his fellow veterans and his local community. As owner of Milk and Honey Farms near Harrisburg, PA, Tim has dedicated his property to raising food crops to benefit his local community. Relying on fellow veterans to help set up the infrastructure, prepare plots for planting, and doing the myriad tasks required for a successful farming operation, Tim is working hard to benefit his brother veterans and community members. Here, in his own words, is Tim's introduction to the website ([www.milkandhoneyfarms.org](http://www.milkandhoneyfarms.org)):



**POVA Life Member Tim Wallace  
1<sup>st</sup> PSYOP Bn, Saudi Arabia, 1991**

***Milk & Honey Farms is home to a small herd of pygmy goats, a seven hive apiary that produces raw honey, a flock of free-ranged egg laying chickens, a young thirty-six fruit tree orchard, two huskies who keep away the fox and coyotes, and six domestic ducks who patrol the pond.***

***It has always been our goal to operate as a pure charity, and support individuals and families in need with a heart for veterans and military families.***

***As of 2017, that vision became reality as we have filed for our non-profit 501C3 status, and will be partnering with the Central PA Food Bank, and their MilitaryShare program along with a couple other non-profit veterans organizations to provide "Food for people, not for profit".***

***Please review the information provided on this website if you wish to volunteer, support, or donate to our mission.***

Tim's current emphasis is on raising funds to purchase equipment, fencing, seeds, and other equipment. Most recently, with the assistance of fellow veterans, Tim was able to install critical fencing to protect the new crops from marauding herds of deer so prevalent in Pennsylvania.

Tim recently wrote: "We recently had about ten AL Post 911 vets, with Team Rubicon and Team Red, White and Blue, come out to the farm and dig post holes and string up over 800' of deer fence to protect the future vegetable plots. They knocked it out in about three hours, and had a good time doing it. I think you will find, like I have, that many of the younger vets are looking to do service related projects after service. It is a time of healing, and it is how I healed as well 25 years ago."



Tim's farm operation is in need of funds to acquire such equipment as heavy duty tiller, eventually acquiring a tractor, and financial support to establish a reliable water source closer to the farm plots. Tim has attracted funds to support the bee hives (essential for crop pollination) and the first of several 30'x30' garden plots. Tim is reserving two of these garden plots for vets from a neighboring county that does not have a MilitaryShare program for that county's veterans. Given his goals and commitment, it would seem any donations would yield tremendous results. The best help right now is donations of funds to support a tiller, more beehives, and related small-scale farm infrastructure. POVA's Board of Trustees has already approved a donation of \$500 to the farm to help with continuing infrastructure development and equipment acquisition.

For more information, contact Tim at the Farm website or by email at: [dirtdart357@yahoo.com](mailto:dirtdart357@yahoo.com).

### **Do you have a Profile on the Registry of the American Soldier?**

Development continues in the plans and activities surrounding launch of the Museum of the United States Army. An important aspect of the new Museum is the opportunity for all Army veterans to enter a personal profile page, including pictures, on the Museum website.



A Great Army Deserves a Great  
**MUSEUM**







**Thomas J. Spawr**

**BRANCH OF SERVICE**  
U.S. Army

**RANK**  
Private

**HOMETOWN**  
Lexington, IL

**HONORED BY**  
C. V. (Chad) Spawr, Distant Cousin

Service Activity

Member of Co C, 94th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Killed in action near Rolla, MO, 26 April 1863. Buried in Lexington, IL.



It is very simple to access and easily completed. Go to [www.armyhistory.org](http://www.armyhistory.org), and you'll find the place to enter your Profile. You can also enter profiles for any relatives who have ever served. There is a place on the profile to tell your own or a relative's military history in your own words, add one or more pictures, and make it a nice addition to both the Army's and your family's history. I have entered profiles for myself, my father, grandfather, great grandfather and a distant cousin KIA in the Civil War in 1863.

You must open a free account on the Museum website, but once complete, you can access the rest of the site and add Profiles to your heart's content.

As you can see from the above screen shot, each entry is given a nice format; under the "Service Activity," there is plenty of space to tell that relative's Army story. If you don't do this for yourself, do it for those who will come after you and may wonder "what did Daddy do in the Army?"

### **A Close and Personal Meaning to Memorial Day**

POVA received this message from new POVA Member Raphael Trujillo, Commanding Officer of the 321<sup>st</sup> Psychological Operations Company in Grand Rapids, MI. This is his Memorial Day message to his command in Grand Rapids, MI:

Chad- Here is the Memorial Day message I sent the 321st PSYOP Company. May it find you well and bless your weekend. Nick is one of many but he is close to me.

*A note about my cousin, Nicholas R. Roush. Nick was assigned to the 1st Psychological Operations Battalion, 4th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, N.C. He died Aug. 16, 2009 in Herat, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. We celebrate him often and our family will likely never be the same.*

*In August of 2009, I was on active duty assigned to the Lansing MEPS and I got a phone call from my mother in law saying Nick had been killed. Nick is her nephew and she was a mess. It was overwhelming. Nick was a great and honorable guy. I remember when he left for basic we all celebrated, now we would wait for his body to arrive. My stomach turns as I write that and think about all of the emotions of the 8 days that followed. His funeral was powerful display of community and family rallying around a fallen Soldier. People for miles lined the procession. The Belt-line from M-6 to Middleville was a sea of supporters. There were some anti-war activist that were going to protest his funeral but the protest was called off over safety concerns. Western Michiganders were not messing around and Middleville is full of farm folk with lots of equipment used for hunting.*

*CPL Nick Roush was a 37F PSYOP Specialist and he was well trained, ready and prepared. He was doing tactical PSYOP Missions in Afghanistan. After the IED went off*

his Detachment NCOIC never left his side. I spoke at length with SFC Jason Montesanto his DET NCOIC about the journey, and the effect that Nick's death would have on his Team, Detachment, and Company. He said "We keep training, we keep working, we keep fighting."

When I speak about being "MORE READY" I often think of Nick and of SFC Montesanto. "We keep training, we keep working, we keep fighting."

I am proud to be with the 321st PSYOP Company. I like to have fun and to make you all laugh but there is a serious side to all that we do. In each of you, I see a little bit of Nick. When I interviewed with MAJ Payton about why I wanted to be a PSYOP Officer, I told him about Nick, and I hoped to honor him. We are professionals and warriors. We have a great legacy in PSYOP that sets us apart from traditional units. We are a non-conventional unit, which provides a non-conventional capability to Commanders at every level. We do PSYOP, and we must do it well. All 37 series, all of our HQ personnel and all those in the PDD that support our work as PSYOP make that happen and I am grateful. Your work also honors Nick.

Memorial Day is about the fallen. If you pray or pause and send positive thoughts into the universe, please also do so for Bob and Donna Roush. When the world shifts its focus to celebrate the fallen - Bob and Donna also mourn the loss of their precious baby boy- Nick. Happy Memorial Day and may you be blessed.



**CPL Nicholas Roush  
KIA Afghanistan  
16 August 2009**

Editor's Note: POVA carries CPL Nicholas Roush on its roster of PSYOP soldiers killed while serving our Nation in combat. He was one of our fellow Psywarriors specifically honored during our Rose Ceremony at the POVA Reunion Banquet, Fayetteville, NC, 13 August 2016.

### **REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED (RED)**

POVA Associate Member Gina Miller, a great supporter and vendor providing beautiful embroidered and embossed POVA-logoed products, has taken the initiative to help raise funds in support of the R.E.D. charitable initiative. She has designed a beautiful RED t-shirt to commemorate "RED" Fridays.

Gina has offered to donate all of her profits from these sales to POVA and to another Special Operations unit in the Army. This lady has a heart of gold and loves the veterans in her life....her husband is a member of a Ft. Campbell, KY-based Special Operations unit.

Here is her flyer for this project. You can contact Gina directly by email to place your order...  
[vlhinkley85@hotmail.com](mailto:vlhinkley85@hotmail.com)

A flyer for "RED Friday Support T-shirt". It features four red t-shirts with different designs: one with a logo, one with "RE", one with "RED Friday" and silhouettes, and one with a ribbon. Below the shirts, the text reads: "RED Friday Support T-shirt", "Purpose of RED shirt Friday is to show support to our Service Men and Women that are deployed.", "Remember Everyone Deployed", "Cost: \$18.00 (sizes S-XL)", "\$22.00 (sizes 2XL - 4XL)", and "Profits will be donated to the Army Psychological Operations Veterans Association (POVA) & Special Operations Club".

**RED Friday Support T-shirt**  
Purpose of RED shirt Friday is to show support to our Service Men and Women that are deployed.

**Remember Everyone Deployed**

Cost: \$18.00 (sizes S-XL)  
\$22.00 (sizes 2XL - 4XL)

Profits will be donated to the Army Psychological Operations Veterans Association (POVA) & Special Operations Club



## Gold Star Life Member Certificates Designed & Issued

For many years, our Gold Star family members have been considered to be Life members of POVA, and the number of these beloved members has changed as our demographics have changed.



Until 2017, however, POVA had not provided any specific recognition to these Gold Star family members to commemorate their sacrifice, loss, and commitment to our shared remembrance of those we lost in war.

Under direction of Life Member Larry Dietz, POVA has designed a beautiful gilt-edged certificate to be provided to each Gold Star Family member who agrees to become a Life Member of POVA. This Life Membership is free of any cost; their sacrifice is more than sufficient contribution. To date, four Gold Star family members have accepted POVA's offer. They are now rostered with POVA's Life Members, and are eligible for any and all of the benefits of POVA Life Member status.

We are honored by their sacrifice and their commitment.

### POVA'S Life Members

POVA's Life Member ranks continue to grow, and with this newsletter, have now reached 83 "Lifers." Commencing this month, POVA includes the names of our Gold Star Family Life members to our roster of POVA Life Members. We welcome new Life Members **Ron Deese, Timothy Wallace, Judith Harriman Kofoet, Mary Alice Nice, Ned Lynch, Bethany C. Aragon,**

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  
Benjamin Tipton  
Timothy Fitzpatrick  
Kelley Jhong  
Paul Lawrence  
Robert A. B. Curris  
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 Kofoet  
Mary Alice Nice  
Ned Lynch  
Bethany C. Aragon

\*Deceased Life Member

**The Day Has Come.....**

As previously noted in a separate email, this issue of “The Leaflet Drop” is the last “free” issue for non-members of POVA. We have been happy to provide the newsletter free for the past year, but continuing the “freebie” is simply not fair to those members who have chosen to join POVA as members.

We obviously want every eligible person to become POVA members and participate in our activities. The door is always open to those who are not yet members. If you have questions, feel free to contact me or Rich Hosier (emails addresses on last page).

To join POVA, visit our website at [www.usapova.com](http://www.usapova.com), navigate to “Join POVA,” complete the online member application, and navigate to “Pay Dues” to complete the online process with a credit card. We’ve made it very easy, and hope you will take this opportunity to join with your fellow Psywarriors.

**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, and the newsletter following receipt will include your note/comment.*

**\*\*POVA CONTACT INFORMATION \*\***

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**In Closing** If you have a correction to previous information, or something you’d like to add to a future newsletter, send it to Chad at the email address listed above.