



The Leaflet Drop

The Newsletter of the PSYOP Veterans Association
(POVA)

Ex Verba Victoria

www.usapova.com

1 May 2017

Fellow Psywarriors,

The month of May seems an appropriate time to look at some of the goals we set for POVA for the 2016-18 Biennium. Here are some of the things we set out to either do, or at least get started:

POVA Website Update and Relaunch: redesign, update and relaunch our POVA website at www.usapova.com. **Current Status:** site is updated and being continually expanded and improved. Always looking for additional inputs, pictures, reminiscences, etc., from our members.

Member Growth: grow active roster to at least 400 Psywarriors and friends, including at least 100 Life Members. Part of this objective is a continuous search for PSYOP veterans of all US PSYOP engagements since Viet-Nam. **Current Status:** active roster now tops **350** Psywarriors and friends, with **77** Life Members on board.

Expand relations with Reserve Component PSYOP Units: **Current Status:** POVA is now attending unit "dining in," military balls, Field Training exercises, change of command ceremonies, etc., and is making presentations to recruit Reserve soldiers into membership. POVA's dues-free membership for all soldiers in PSYOP units is very attractive and beginning to facilitate recruitment.

Chapter Formation: form at least one POVA chapter somewhere in the US. **Current Status:** at least three potential areas identified (Washington DC-Northern Virginia; Cleveland, OH; Fayetteville, NC), but no actual organizing yet begun.

Philanthropy: complete IRS Section 501c3 tax exempt status, and begin fund raising to achieve Biennium goal of \$20,000 from donations, sponsorships, and product sales. **Current Status:** still awaiting IRS completion; initial conversations with potential sponsors and partners for our future financial contributions.

Speakers Bureau: identify POVA members who can speak to Regimental and unit functions, training classes, FTX', etc., to communicate PSYOP operational history, facilitate Regimental esprit d'corps, and enhance the Regimental culture and élan. **Current Status:** survey of POVA members to begin building the "bureau" will begin in summer 2017.

In the June newsletter, I'll update you on a few of the others on which we are working.

C. V. (Chad) Spawr
President

Remembering one of our first PSYOP Commanders

In this issue, we remember COL-Ret. David W. Affleck, one of the earliest commanders of US PSYOP after it was deployed to Viet-Nam in 1965. After his tour in Nam, Dave was assigned as one of the US military representatives at the Panmunjom peace table in Korea. He later took command of the 2d PSYOP Group at Ft. Bragg. Your President has a very special memory of Dave from that time, although back then (1969), it was "Yessir Colonel Affleck."

Dave was an extremely conscientious coach for those of us who were new to leadership of the organization that POVA was to become. One of POVA's first Life Members, Dave spent long hours talking with past Presidents Jack O'Neil and Chad Spawr, guiding us as we worked to build and grow POVA. Over and above all that, Dave was a great friend. Our reunions with him and lovely wife Janice were wonderful affairs. Dave died in 2008, and he has been missed.

David W. Affleck, COL-Ret. US Army



David W. Affleck Colonel Infantry US Army Ret Affleck, David Westerdahl, Colonel, Infantry, US Army (ret), 83 of Largo, FL died Friday December 12, 2008 at Morton Plant Hospital. David was born in Salt Lake City, Utah. He was the son of Major David Burt Affleck and Isabella Westerdahl Affleck.

David attended East High School in Salt Lake City and the University of Utah. In 1949 he married Janice Burdette. David served in the US Army for 30 years, and has resided in Largo since his retirement. He was a veteran of World War II, the Korean and Viet Nam wars and also served tours in the Philippines Islands, Alaska and Germany.

He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Janice; a daughter, Susan A. (Robert W.) Suttles of Melbourne, FL; two sons, David W. (Terri L.) Affleck, Jr. of Seminole, FL and Robert B. (Donna) Affleck of Seattle, WA.; six grandchildren, Matt, Joy and Scott Suttles, Alexis, Cooper and Addison Affleck. Memorial Contributions may be given to the African Leadership Development (ALD), PO Box 176, Wheaton, IL 60189.

Passing of a POVA Brother and Friend

It is with profound regret that POVA announces the passing of Norton "Tony" Newcomb, a long-standing POVA Life Member. Tony had struggled with a lengthy illness, and passed on the morning of 4 April 2017 in Somerset, KY. Tony passed one day short of his 78th birthday. A life well-lived!

A Special Forces veteran who served in MACVSOG before joining the 6th PSYOP Battalion, Tony was a "mustang" who was commissioned after outstanding service as an Army NCO. He retired with the rank of Captain.

Tony will be long remembered, and for those who knew him, not easily forgotten. Tony has been a unique friend for many years! RIP, Brother.



Norton "Tony" Newcomb

Tony's 14 April funeral in Illinois was attended by POVA Life Members Dave Missavage and Chad Spawr.

POVA's Life Members

POVA's Life Member ranks continue to grow, and with this newsletter, have now reached 73 "Lifers." This month, we welcome new Life Members **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, 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 Stoekert
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

*Deceased Life Member

POVA Adds an Additional Trustee



POVA Member and Trustee Rod Fritz

POVA's Board has agreed to add an additional Trustee. New Trustee Rod Fritz is a long-standing POVA member. He served in the 6th PSYOP Battalion in Viet-Nam in 1969-70, and has been a constant advocate for America's veterans. His email is listed in the contact roster at the end of this issue of the newsletter. Here is Rod's most recent bio:

Rod Fritz is an anchor/reporter for WBZ-AM CBS Boston and can be heard anchoring the news Mid-Days, Monday thru Friday from 10:00 until 3:00. Fritz, a veteran of over 35 years in radio news, began his career in Boston in 1976 at WHDH-AM as News Director. Rod

coordinated the entire radio stations efforts during the Blizzard of '78 and won a number of Associated Press and United Press International awards for local coverage during his tenure.

Rod then spent two years working at KIMN in Denver, CO. Rod returned to his roots in Boston in 1980, as New Director of WROR-FM. He then moved on to anchor and Assistant Director of News and Programming at CBS owned all news WEEI. In 1986 Rod was named morning news anchor and News Director at WMJX-FM/WMEX-AM and coordinated efforts and won awards for the

coverage of the Presidential campaign of 1988, as well as an award from the Massachusetts Teachers Association on the 25th Anniversary of Man's Landing on the Moon. Fritz spent a year in Bristol, CT at ESPN Radio, as national sports anchor during the early years of the network's operation.

Rod spent 7 years supervising the news division of WRKO, from 1999 to 2006. He also produced and anchored major news events and breaking news stories, including complete Republican and Democratic National Conventions, the Shuttle disaster, the Rhode Island Night Club fire, Worcester cold storage fire, and local and state election results. He was on the air when the World Trade Center was attacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001. Rod has been honored three times as Best Newscaster in Massachusetts by the Associated Press. Fritz also worked as a Network News Anchor on Fox News Radio, heard on over 600 radio stations as well as Satellite Radio.

Rod is a Vietnam Veteran (July 1969 - July 1970) and served with the 6th Psychological Operations Battalion and was assigned to the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment. Fritz was responsible for flying Psychological leaflet and broadcast missions with several Units in Vietnam, including the U-S Air Force.

Welcome Aboard, Rod. Your leadership will be appreciated.

POVA Membership Clarification

Every so often, questions are raised about eligibility for POVA membership, how dues are applied to membership, and who is considered "dues free" and who is not. All good questions, and it is worth a few minutes (and some extra typing electrons) to clarify. Here are some key points:

- any person who has ever served in a US military PSYOP unit, in any capacity, regardless of MOS or career field, is eligible to join and be a member of POVA;
- any person who has served in a US military Special Operations unit in conjunction with a PSYOP organization, such as Civil Affairs or Special Forces, is considered to have been engaged in PSYOP and is eligible for membership in POVA;
- any Allied soldier who served with or supported a US military PSYOP unit is eligible for membership in POVA;
- any soldier or veteran who served in a US military PSYOP unit, and then is transferred away from a PSYOP unit to a non-PSYOP unit, is perpetually entitled to membership in POVA based on that person's military PSYOP experience and assignment;
- any soldier in any Reserve or active duty PSYOP unit, regardless of MOS, is eligible for membership in POVA and is exempt from membership dues until such time as he/she retires or is discharged from military service;
- any person interested in US military PSYOP or who provides support and/or assistance accepted by POVA is eligible for an Associate membership. Associate membership may be granted as an honorary recognition of the benefit a person has provided to POVA;
- any person eligible for full POVA membership is eligible to become a Life Member of POVA.

These "clarifications" may generate other questions, and we are always willing to assist in making participation and membership in POVA available to those eligible and interested.

POVA Awards Life Memberships to “Best Warriors” in USACAPOC

Two PSYOP soldiers were crowned as the “Best Warriors” at conclusion of the 2017 USACAPOC “Best Warrior” competition. This is a very intensive competition testing a variety of military skills and preparedness, and is open to all USACAPOC soldiers.

ARE YOU AN AOL USER?

AOL consistently blocks emails from my IP address any time I send you a newsletter or an announcement to our general roster regarding items of interest to POVA members. I have approached all AOL users on multiple occasions to encourage them to change their email settings to permit my email address as a “safe” sender.

Invariably, whenever I raise this, somebody tells me that it is not a problem, that they are receiving “all” of my emails. THAT CANNOT BE TRUE! AOL rejects these emails and you do not get them. As an example, 26 AOL addressees were rejected when the 1 April newsletter was sent; just this past week, another 26 were rejected for the announcement about Tony Newcomb’s passing.

If it is possible for you to add a non-AOL email address, that would be helpful. However, in the meantime, I am unable to assure you delivery of POVA-email material on your AOL email address. It is too touchy and their “spam” standards apply too broadly, thereby consistently rejecting many POVA emails.

We don’t send that many general emails, but the work required to “end-run” their excessive spam protections against legitimate senders is very problematic.

POVA Membership Ceremony in Grand Rapids, MI

POVA President Chad Spawr visited the 321st Tactical PSYOP Company, 13th PSYOP Battalion, 2d PSYOP Group (ABN), at the unit’s Grand Rapids, MI, US Army Reserve facility. This meeting followed Chad’s visit to the unit’s Field Training Exercise on 24 March in Battle Creek, MI.

During the most recent visit, Chad awarded 10 members of the 321st TPC their POVA Membership certificates and POVA Member pins. In addition, Company Commander CPT Raphael Trujillo was awarded POVA’s Life Member certificate and Life Member pin, as he had opted for a full Life Membership with POVA.

Many thanks to the officers, NCO, and soldiers of the 321st Tactical PSYOP Company for their outstanding and warm welcome to POVA, and for their recent membership in POVA. We are pleased and proud of our Reserve soldier members.

Ex Verba Victoria!

In Memoriam Roster

POVA has maintained a roster of our fellow PSYOP soldiers who have died while deployed in wars since Korea, and maintains that roster on both our website and in our official records. In

addition, POVA is developing a process to communicate with our Gold Star families as we have done in the past.

Beginning in late 2015, POVA began building an "In Memoriam" roster of those PSYOP soldiers and veterans who have died since returning home, or since leaving the military. Many POVA members have vivid memories of times with fellow veterans, and still cherish their memories of times together. This "In Memoriam" roster has languished in past months, and it is time to resurrect it to honor the memories of our colleagues who have passed.

POVA Life Member and Trustee Matt Robbins will serve as point of contact to collect the names of our late Psywarrior friends and colleagues so they can be added to our "In Memoriam" roster. Please send the names of those you wish to refer to Matt at rdawnmatt@comcast.net. Please provide a brief notation regarding the person's period of service, assignments, etc., so we can make a logical linkage. Once Matt has completed his review, the name(s) will be posted to our website and records.

Help POVA preserve the memories of those Psywarriors who have passed.

CALLING DAVE ALBANESE.....CALLING DAVE ALBANESE

POVA has been searching for Dave Albanese for nearly two years now, and we're having no success. Dave is a POVA Life Member, but we have no accurate contact information to help us reach out to him. We are holding his Life Member certificate and Life Member pin, but more importantly, we want to reconnect with him as we have with so many others.

IF ANYBODY IS IN CONTACT WITH DAVE, OR HAS CURRENT CONTACT INFO, PLEASE CONTACT CHAD

POVA'S NEW MEMBER DATABASE

Over the past few weeks, Chad Spawr and Rich Hosier have been working to populate our new POVA Member database. This will allow POVA to collect member information in one place, regularly update it, and use it to generate mailing lists, confirm membership, etc.. Until now, we literally operated POVA from individual mailing lists, address books, spreadsheets, and the backs of paper napkins. This is a big step forward for POVA.

We hope to have the new database up and running effectively by 15 May; it is already shaping up nicely. Once we have all the contact information collected and uploaded, we should be able to operate much more seamlessly as we grow and manage our membership information.

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.

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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.