

CREDIBILIS

~ WINTER 2011 ~

Psychological Operations Veterans Association

President's Message

Hope all is well by our membership since I last wrote a newsletter. I suffered a mini - stroke at the beginning of the summer and luckily I had no adverse affects from it. I had plenty of medical tests since then with all positive results. I am getting up there in age as most of us are and sooner or later we end up will some kind of medical problems.

Arlo Despain has done some preliminary planning for our 2012 Reunion. The Reunion location is Salt Lake City, Utah. Arlo is looking at the Radison Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown with a date sometime after Labor Day. The summer heat will be gone by then and the weather should be more comfortable. The costs of the rooms are \$99.00 per night. There is public transportation that goes by the hotel. The hotel does not provide an airport shuttle but they do have a contract with a private company to and from the airport for \$8:00 per person per trip. The airport is located five miles from downtown. I gave Arlo my approval of the site and once he finalizes everything I will pass the information on to the members and will post it on our website. Arlo has made itinerary of the day's activities, places to see, and things to do. I am looking forward to the Reunion and hope many will join us. This is our" Reunion" so let's make it just that by having a good time, meeting new and old friends, do a little business and strengthen the POVA commitment.

If any member would like to contribute information, pictures, or an article for the newsletter you can contact me or one of the editors.

Dues Reminder: Check with Treasure, Arlo Despain, to see if you are up to date on your dues. Dues are \$30.00 for one year and \$50.00 for two years. If you have changed your email address or mailing address please let me know so that I can update our records.

Wishing everyone healthy and Happy Holidays,

Mike Stoeckert

Reunion 2012 - Salt Lake City, Utah

During our POVA Reunion in Boston last year it was decided to hold the next reunion in Salt Lake City, Utah in fall of 2012

Preliminary planning for that reunion is ongoing, and it is expected to be held after Labor Day, because the summer heat is gone then and pleasant days can be expected.

The preliminary hotel is Radison Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown with a date sometime after Labor Day. The costs of the rooms are \$99.00 per night. There is public transportation that goes by the hotel. The hotel does not provide an airport shuttle but they do have a contract with a private company to and from the airport for \$8:00 per person per trip. The airport is located five miles from downtown.

We are expecting to tour the Kennecott Copper Mine, Park City, Antelope Island and The Hill Air Force Museum.

The first day we will visit the Kennecott Copper Mine which is the richest mine on the planet, where you will see the world's largest earth moving vehicles, which move 250-300 tons of earth in each load, loaded by shovels that hold 90 tons of earth in each shovelful. In the museum, we will learn the history of how the mine got its start, and more.

In the opposite direction we will drive up into the mountains where we will see another old mining town, Park City. There we will experience the Olympic Park and Museum, where the bobsled, skeleton, and luge track is located as well as the ski jumping area. Olympic athletes train there year round. Park City is also home of the main street galleries and fine dining, as well as Deer Valley the # 1 rated ski resort in the US.

We would hold our PSYOP Dinner on that evening.

Day two, we will head to Antelope Island, where a herd of over 500 head of Buffalo (North American Bison) roam freely. We may even see some Antelope (pronghorns), as well as other wildlife in its natural habitat.

The Hill Air Force Base Museum, has more than 70 aircraft on display including a replica of the Wright Brothers first airplane, plus many military aircraft of the 20th century including aircraft still being used today. The larger aircraft are displayed outside, with the smaller aircraft being housed in two huge, air conditioned buildings. My favorite display is the SR 71 Blackbird spy plane.

Each of the above tours will be less than 50 miles from the Hotel and the tours are combined to reduce distances. Most of these can be seen at a low (\$5.00) or no cost. Transportation to these sites will be provided by the host, and our president Mike Stoeckert has said he will be renting a car that will provide additional transportation, if needed.

If someone wanted to add a few days to their reunion schedule Utah has five National Parks (Bryce Canyon, Zion Canyon, Arches, Canyonlands, and Capitol Reef) all of which are 300 miles or less from Salt Lake City, as well as Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming 365 miles north, and the Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona which is about 500 miles south.

PYSOP Information

Psychological Operations is continuing on the path to becoming Military Information Support Operations. A second Active Army Military Information Support Group was activated (as provisional) on 26 AUG. It is the 8th MISG. The Group Commander is COL Brian Cavanaugh. The MIS Command (provisional) was activated this summer and is under the command of COL Chris Sorensen. COL Sorensen is not from the PSYOP Branch but will have command until a PSYOP GO is created. I am not sure of the date as I was not asked to pipe for the event nor informed of the date. Changes of Command this summer included 9MISB (LTC Bruce Leahy to LTC Herminio Bias-Irizarry), 6MISB (LTC Bo Clayton to LTC James Hickman), and 8MISB (LTC Wendy Graham to LTC Victor Garcia). Coming on 18 OCT is the Activation Ceremony for 7MISB on Meadows Field at the USASOC HQ Building. JFK Special Warfare Center and School stood up 5th Battalion/1st Special Warfare Training Group, which will have the primary responsibility of training PSYOP soldiers.

The above items are for sure. In the rumor mill we have talk of possibly moving Civil Affairs and/or PSYOP training from FT Bragg to elsewhere. I heard the reasons for CA but not for PSYOP. Locations are uncertain. Likely West Coast for CA.

The above information was supplied by Doug Elwell

Veterans Report

From: Military .com<newsltr@miltnews.com>

Veterans-Report is the most comprehensive newsletter available to help veterans stay current on benefit changes; important legislation; great discounts, and using the benefits earned in service. Readers and their colleagues should subscribe to this free update publication

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