

CREDIBILIS

Psychological Operations Veterans Association

FALL 2006

□ *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

As some of you have already heard, on the 15th of September, at the Biennial Reunion in Branson, Missouri, Joe Rosenberg was replaced as your President. I was elected President and shortly thereafter declared myself President for Life.

As we arrived in Branson, Joe was still plagued by previous ailments resulting from his July auto accident and had to use a walker to get around. Friday morning while Joe was negotiating his way around he had a nasty fall, which required him to be taken to a nearby Doctor's office for treatment.

As a result of Joe's unfortunate accident our business meeting was delayed as he ended up being hospitalized for some tests.

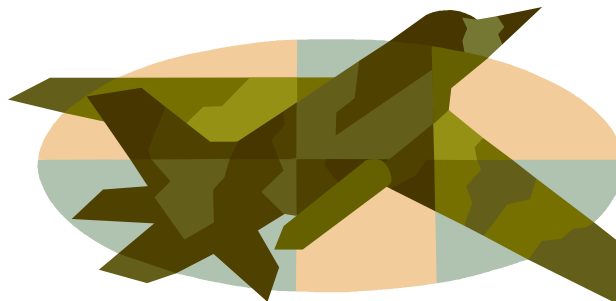
At that business meeting I was elected President of POVA for the next two years. A month has passed and I certainly **do not** want to be president for life. It is an honor to be asked to serve as your president. I just hope I can live up to the task. I assure you that I cannot spend as much time in the office of President as Joe Rosenberg did. I will try to help meet your needs for information, etc.

My primary objective as your president is to refocus as a reunion group. I have been to all of the POVA reunions since my first one in St. Louis in 1994. In going to these reunions I get a chance to meet with my fellow Psyopers from the past, and sometimes the present. It's great to see some of the old faces (though they may have changed or gotten older), meet new or forgotten faces and their families. It has been great to meet others, especially the family of Lt.Merkel. The Merkels are now an important addition to our Psyop family. I plan to attend many more POVA reunions.

Finally, it is my desire to keep politics out of the organization. I do encourage our members to vote in all elections. I encourage our members to submit articles for the newsletter, but they should be devoid of politics in any manner. If future articles are submitted the content will be scrutinized and our editors may omit material with political content. Political views expressed in this newsletter have caused too much contention in the past.

Start planning to be at our next reunion in Florida in 2008 at a time and place to be announced at a later date.

Thanks,
Arlo Despain
POVA President



► BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

POVA – The Psychological Operations Veterans Association
Minutes of the Biennial Meeting of the Association
September 15, 2006
Minutes Taken by John Cheney

- President Joe Rosenberg declared the meeting of POVA open at 15:30.
- President Rosenberg asked that we take a moment to think of the soldiers overseas and their safe return.
- The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived.
- President Rosenberg has chosen not to run for President or any other office in POVA. We appreciate the dedicated work Joe has done for our organization.

The following were voted into the offices indicated for the next two years:

President:	Arlo Despain
Vice President:	Mike Stoeckert
Editor / Secretary:	Clyde Gaidosh
Newsletter Mailer:	Mike Paschkes
Treasurer:	Open
Trustees:	Paul Wolfinger / Donald Workman
Vet Service Officer:	Open
Chaplain:	Open
Liaison to Ft. Bragg:	Doug Elwell
Historian:	Tom Brandt

The membership voted on the amendments proposed by Past President Rick Hofmann with results as follows;
(these are printed in Summer Credibilis 2006).

1 – yes, 2 – yes, 3 – yes, 4 – yes, 5 – yes, 6 – yes, 7 – no, 8 – tabled for further study, 9 – yes, 10 – as pertains to vote by proxy, changed to “ absentee ballot “ yes.

Tentative date for Fort Bragg Ceremony and naming of Building for LT Merkle is November 9, 2006.

Dr. Richard B. Verrone, from Texas Tech, stated they would host our website (at no cost to us), providing a webmaster to keep content current and we can make our own changes. This is to be worked out by our President and Dr. Verrone.

No progress between Tom Brandt and getting our collection to Texas Tech.

Approved as POVA priorities:

1. We are a reunion Organization.
2. We will look after our member families (Member, Spouse and children)
 - a. We will keep our relationship with Active Duty to a minimum.
 - b. We will honor future KIA's by sending a card and as needed, donate from the Joint Fund.
3. Active Duty Support: Joint POA/POVA fund to be administered by Doug Elwell.

Note: We are not a service Organization for active Duty Military organizations.

A motion to continue our current policy on dues payment for current members passed. (Board can change dues requirements).

During September 16 Rose Ceremony, each of the Merckles will place a rose for Korea, VietNam, Agean, and Gulf Wars.

This year's CHARITABLE donation (aprox \$150) will be postponed until, and if, a special worthy cause is determined.

REUNION 2008. Members voted to hold in the Disney area of Florida. Dates suggested were around the 15th of August (after grandkids are out of school and before next school year starts).

Meeting adjourned at 17:05, September 16, 2006.

- **Some Good News about the VA**
 - **VA MEDICAL CENTERS UPDATE 01**
- Source: VA News Release 30 Jun 06**

Veterans in the Louisville KY area will be receiving a new, state-of-the – art medical center from the VA to replace the existing facility. VA Secretary Nicholson is directing that a technical analysis for the new facility begin as soon as possible, followed by establishment of a site selection board to evaluate potential locations for a new hospital.

The Louisville decision was made after a study was completed that has been in progress since 2004 to upgrade health care facilities across the country that serve veterans.

Nicholson concluded that VA has enough information to end the analysis phase of the project and move into the site selection process. Once a preferred site in Louisville is selected, VA will conduct the necessary due diligence for property acquisition and request congressional approval before the new facility can be built.

VA will conduct the necessary due diligence for property acquisition and request examining whether to collocate VA’s regional office for veterans financial benefits processing at the site. The current Louisville VA Medical Center has a main hospital building and 15 outbuildings on a 47-acre hilltop near downtown Louisville. The buildings, parking and related facilities were constructed around 1950.



ED NOTE: QUICK, TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE VETS NEW IMPROVED BUILDING, WE NEED IT DONE ASAP !!!!!!!

2006 DUES ALERT

ENDING BALANCE: July 10, 2006 - \$2451.37 Current balance unavailable. (Treasurer’s position is open. If you’d like to volunteer please call Arlo Despain at 1-801 571-5807.) 2006 Dues = \$30.00; 2007 – 2008 = \$50.00 (If received in 2006) Please send dues checks to POVA c/o Arlo Despain, 1762 Tramway Drive, Sandy, UT 84092.

MY LAST MESSAGE

Joe Rosenberg
Past POVA President

On September 15, I ended my 4 years of service to POVA, as Secretary and President.

I first heard of the Mindbenders in 1994 from John Moore who was in the same class@Fort Holabird. All in all 10 of us from the class were assigned to the 6th Psyop Battalion in 1967.

It took me 4 years to get to a reunion. The minute I arrived in Anaheim for the 1998 Reunion, I felt part of a extended family. One of our members hooked us up with Disney and a Magic Show. Later this member objected us having a Chaplain and after copious emails, left us.

This was the reunion where we changed our name to POVA and our scope beyond 4th POG at the suggestion of our friends at Fort Bragg.

Before I go further down Memory Lane, I salute our 4 Past Presidents; Duane Yaeger and the “3 AMIGOS”, Jack O’Neil, Rick Hofmann and Chad Spawr. Without much help other then from and editor and treasurer they formed a successful collaboration with the cadre at Fort Bragg. Obviously this left little time for recruiting and retention of members.

At the 2002 Reunion I know how impressed I was seeing the 3 Amigos participate in a ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I looked forward to reading about our Presidents’ staff rides and other bonding activities. Except for leaving one of our members behind at Arlington it was a near perfect reunion and the Amigos were in harmony.

In 2000 I attended the reunion in Estes Park. I stepped up to the check in desk to find out that POVA had moved to parts unknown. About an hour or so later Chad picked me up and took me to the new host hotel. Later we went for dinner in a caravan. Tony Newcomb, Tom Brandt and I missed a turn and ended up by ourselves. Thus began our efforts to help our Historian.

As mentioned above , the 2002 Reunion in Baltimore came off very well. I helped Jack with some of the arrangements, which led me to be asked to be Secretary.

The 2 years between Baltimore and Fayetteville was contentious as we grappled with the Army’s desire to have us be a part of a Regimental Association and create an award under different names to honor our friends in the PSYOP community. So each of the Amigos served as President during this period. When Chad took the helm in January 2004, we had little money and few members for the Reunion. Between Tony Newcomb, Reunion Chair and Chad and my contact with our members, we generated enough money to operate. I filled in for Chad at the reunion due to illness in his family.

All spring I tried to get someone besides me to be President. I felt that my 19 months on active duty, liberal views and ignorance of Army traditions would obviate all the fine efforts would oblivate all the fine efforts from before. I concentrated on retention/recruitment and not relations with the Army. Some of this was influenced by finding out in 2005 that one of our members died, unmourned by POVA in 1997. I thought we should make sure that all our members were OK and to help those in need. My bad judgment.

By now you know I was right to believe that I would be a detriment to harmony. I'm glad Arlo stepped forward to replace me. I know he will return POVA to the prestige and regard it had under our other 4 leaders.

I now realize that to many, leading POVA means backing not only our troops but our President and his Cabinet and that the comradeship of the 3 Amigos was the basis of our proper patriotic agenda.

As another Hobokenite, Francis Albert Sinatra sang, "S'cuse me while I disappear."

Joe Rosenberg

Command

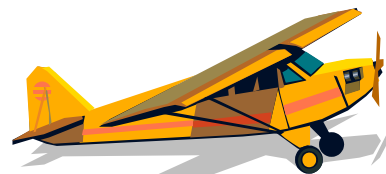
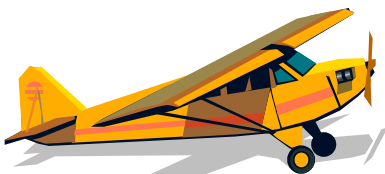
US ARMY
Civil Affairs
and
Psychological
Operations
Command

MEMBER FEEDBACK

I am looking for ways to improve the content of our newsletter. I would like for this section to become a place for the members!!!

If you have something of value to put here or comments that would be of value to everyone, please send me an email about what you have to offer. As Arlo had already mentioned please refrain from anything with a political slant. Please send photos in jpg format. All items submitted are subject to approval by all editors before appearing in newsletter.

Thanks!
Clyde Gaidosh
cgaidos@pacifier.com



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ~ EMAIL ADDRESS

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS ~ EMAIL ADDRESS			
PRESIDENT	ARLO DESPAIN	arlopova@yahoo.com	801-571-5807
VICE PRESIDENT	MIKE STOECKERT	hookeve@optonline.net	631-868-3068
TREASURER / LOCATOR			
SECRETARY / EDITOR	CLYDE GAIDOSH	cgaidos@pacifier.com	503-458-6825
NEWSLETTER MAILER	MIKE PASCHKES	bmpaschkes@adelphia.net	561-369-8698
TRUSTEE	PAUL WOLFINGER		
TRUSTEE	DONALD WORKMAN		
NOMINATIONS OFFICER	DAVE MISSAVAGE	namvet6@aol.com	309-786-1042
HISTORIAN/MEMORABILIA DESIGN ARTIST	TOM BRANDT	vietnamimages@yahoo.com	630-837-7955
CHAPLAIN	JOHN CHENEY	hqmdt@hotmail.com	817 442-9480
LIAISON OFFICER /	DOUG ELWELL	elwellds@earthlink.net	910-488-1383
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT	NATALIE RICHIE	armadillo30@hotmail.com	706-769-4717
ED ROUSE'S PSYOPS WEBSITE	http://www.psywarrior.com		
POVA'S WEBSITE	http://www.usapova.com		

POVA c/o Arlo Despain
1762 Tramway Drive
Sandy, UT 84092

FIRST CLASS

POSTMASTER: ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED