

For Retirees By Retirees



Retired Military Police Officers DIGEST

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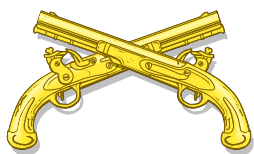
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Giving Thanks Back

*Where are RMPO
Members?*



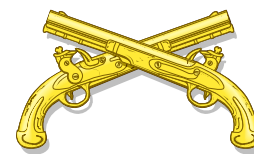


Retired Military Police Officers Digest

P.O. Box 5477

Springfield, VA 22150

www.rmpo.org



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DIGEST Input: News items, personal info, or donations can be sent to the RMPO address above or by email to: RMPOeditor@me.com Deadline for submissions for the Summer 2012 issue is 15 June 2012.

ROSTERS: To purchase a roster, send a \$10.00 check, made payable to "Jack Kochenour - RMPO" and mail to: 201 Canyon View Drive, Lansing, KS 66043. Changes or additions to the roster should may be mailed or emailed to: ltc.jak@gmail.com

Editorially Speaking



Greetings,

As we prepare for our 37th reunion in Oklahoma City I'd like to bring everyone up to speed on where we stand on our efforts to form a Retired Military Police Officers Association and what lies ahead. It has been apparent for a few years now that a tax-exempt status was necessary to control the costs of the reunions and the DIGEST and to support those who have contributed so selflessly to the DIGEST. To obtain tax-exempt status there are several steps.

The association must first be incorporated in a state. We have already submitted Articles of Incorporation as the Retired Military Police Officers Association to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Once the Association receives its approved Articles of Incorporation it applies for an Employer Identification Number (EIN) with the IRS. (This is different from the EIN number you get as a reunion host and open a separate checking account.)

Apply to the IRS for tax exemption status using Form 1024 and Form 8718 (User Fee for Exempt Organization Determination Letter Request).

We are seeking tax exemption under 501(c)(19) – Veteran's Organizations. To qualify under this category the group must meet these conditions:

- The Association is organized in the US.
- At least 75% of the members are past or present members of the US Armed Forces and that at least 97.5% of all members of the organization are past or present members of the U.S. Armed Forces or spouses, widows, widowers, ancestors, or lineal descendants, and
- That no part of net earnings inure to the benefit of any private individual.

It must also be operated for one or more of eight specific purposes. The purposes that apply to the RMPOA are, at the outset:

- To promote the social welfare of the community.
- To carry on programs to perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces and to comfort their sur-

vivors.

- To sponsor or participate in activities of a patriotic nature.

- To provide social and recreational activities for its members.

One caveat of this type of organization is that contributions are tax deductible only if 90% or more of the members are war veterans. This will place a new requirement on our Retired MP Officer roster, to document the wartime service of our members (i.e. years of service). The last period of wartime service reflected on the form ends on May 7, 1975 but we will ask about when they will update their list of wartime periods. On page 25 is a form to update your roster information. It can be mailed or emailed.

Once we receive an IRS determination letter organizers of reunions can seek sales tax exemption in their respective state in accordance with state requirements. It has been my experience working with Association of the US Army chapters that this step may be as simple as presenting the IRS letter up to a lengthy application process to the state.

While there is still work ahead we are well underway and will keep you posted.

With this future ahead of us, now is a great time to encourage membership growth in our organization. Growth will mean new and expanded committees with volunteer opportunities. Staying connected as MP retirees can be beneficial to the Corps and to each other. Pass along copies of the DIGEST and our website address, there may be someone out there who has been looking for us.

See you in Oklahoma.



*Your Editors -
COL (Ret) John Davies
and Jane Davies*

From our Readers

I just received the Fall/Winter 2011 issue of the DIGEST. Kudos to both of you for an informative, professional publication. Loved seeing all the pictures from the Little Rock Reunion. Wish we could have attended but Mark Inch got promoted and took command of the Regiment that week, so we were at Fort Leonard Wood celebrating with the Inch family.

I recently moved from Army Corrections Command to a new position as the Chairman of the Army Clemency and Parole Board in Crystal City. A new set of challenges with a great team at the Army Review Boards Agency.

Keep up the great work.
Steve Andraschko
COL (Ret)
Fairfax Station, VA

This year I attended the US Army Europe Military Police Anniversary Ball. The Ball, which was attended by over 800 of our MP soldiers, civilians, and family members, as well as representatives of our British, Dutch, and German allies, was a truly noteworthy event held at the Heidelberg Village Pavilion. It highlighted the three pillars of the Regiment, the operational MP's, the CID and the Confinement Specialists. The three head tables were hosted by the three senior Military Police Officers in the theater; Col Army Turlock, PM, Col Brian Bisacre, Cdr 18th MP Brigade, and Col Donna Martin, Cdr, 202nd MP Group (CID).

The guest speaker and guest of honor for the event was LTG Mark Hertling, CG, US Army Europe. I was privileged to share one of the head tables with him. To my knowledge, this is the first time in USAREUR MP history, that the Ball was attended by the USAREUR CG. It was apparent from my conversation with him and from his remarks as guest speaker, that he was present because of his high regard for the members of our Corps based on both his experiences in Germany and Iraq. During a pre-event

head tables ice-breaker, he repeatedly complimented individual Military Police officers present and recounted the exceptional performance of a number of them on specific accomplishments in the combat zones.

In his dinner address to the attendees, he commented on being glad to have the opportunity to compliment such a large group of MP soldiers and in particular to the spouses present, on their many contributions not only to the warfight, but also to the safety and security of the MP's provide to all of our Army activities worldwide. He had obviously done his homework in preparing his speech in that he challenged the audience on their knowledge of the history of the Corps with such questions as when did the Army have its first Provost Marshal, what was the first manifestation of CID on the battlefield, and what was the last MP Company to have a horse platoon? I was particularly intrigued by the horse platoon question as the answer is the 287th MP Company, when it was in Berlin. I commanded that company in 1963-4, not too long after the retirement of the horse platoon and in fact found in my desk at the company, special 287th Horse Platoon stationary.

The downsizing of USAREUR continues relentlessly, with many installations familiar to RMPO readers, now empty and closed.

My compliments and best wishes to you both and to the members of the team for the excellent job that you all do supporting the RMPO.

Tom Jones
BG (Ret)
Wilmington, NC

Thanks for all you do for RMPO!
Margherite Garrison
COL (Ret)
Springfield, VA

Please accept this check as small donation in my mother's name, Dorothy Timmerberg, to the RMPO.

My mother remembers with great fondness my father's (*BG Paul Timmerberg*) service with the MPs and their great friendships established along the way. Please extend her warm wishes to anyone who might ask about her.

John Timmerberg
Liberty, MO

Sure enjoyed attending the Reunion and reading the RMPO DIGEST.

R. A. Spaulding
COL (Ret)
Exeter, NH

I retired 36 years ago so I don't recognize many names but I still enjoy the DIGEST. Thanks for a wonderful publication.

John (Sam) Holeman
COL (Ret)
North Augusta, SC

I truly look forward to reading each issue of the DIGEST. Thanks for keeping us all connected.

David Clark
COL (Ret)
Watertown, NY

Thanks, John and Jane, for a truly outstanding product. Sandra and I enjoy the DIGEST. Great new look in color. Best to Pat and Peggy as well.

Vince Apruzzese, Sr.
COL (Ret)
Suwanee, GA

Great job. Kudos to all!

Arnold Daxe
COL (Ret)
Burke, VA

RMPO DIGEST is outstanding. It was great to see the reunion photos of my MPOC #5 classmates; Jim Hallihan Ted Cole, Bob McDonald and Dave Reed!

Glenn Higgins
LTC (Ret)
Lakeland, FL

Thanks for all you folks do to keep the RMPO DI-

GEST up and running. The new format looks terrific. Great job!

Tony Stamilio
COL (Ret)
Arlington, VA

It is always a pleasure to receive our copy the Retired Military Police Officers DIGEST. Many thanks to you both and the DIGEST Staff for keeping faith with the past, present, and future of our Military Police Corps.

Owen Powell, Jr
COL (Ret)
Vienna, VA

Keep up your great work!

Paul Corriere
COL (Ret)
Williamsburg, VA

The only magazine we read cover-to-cover immediately upon receipt.

Chuck Colbert, LTC (Ret)
Aileen Colbert, LTC (Ret)
Leavenworth, KS

Kudos for an outstanding issue of the RMPO Digest. Your coverage of the Reunion was excellent. I especially enjoyed the information about our outstanding officers and their families. Their assignments and changes of command keep us retirees informed. Your Purple Heart stories will touch many readers. Book Reviews is a great inclusion. Thanks again for your outstanding effort.

Stan Lobodinski
COL (Ret)
Tampa, FL

Thank you - enjoy reading all the updates!

Walt Chalkley
COL (Ret)
The Villages, FL

Fall-Winter edition great!

Deluin "Pete" Laguens
COL (Ret)
Louisville, KY

I am sending my annual donation in memory of Colonel Ben Bonner. Elaine and I were able to attend his funeral at Arlington. The Old Guard did a magnificent job and Ben would have been both impressed and honored.

This past year was much better than 2010. Elaine has fully recovered from having the upper lobe of her right lung removed due to cancer. The cancer was discovered quite early and no chemo or radiation has been required. She is checked every three months, and, so far, every thing is clear. Last December I had bypass surgery for a clogged artery. Am fully recovered and doing fine. However, my golf game is in the toilet.

We had a good travel year with a cruise to Alaska and had a great trip to Maine and Canada. We are planning to play The Old Course in St. Andrews and Carnoustie. We are fortunate that we still are able to travel long distances.

Thank you for the outstanding job with the DIGEST. You guys had some big shoes to fill, and you have filled them right to the top.

Rabun 'Cliff' Sanders
COL (Ret)
Greensboro, GA

Just wanted to let you know that you and Jane are doing a fantastic job as editors of our DIGEST. I'm enjoying retirement doing lots of fishing in my kayak here in the warm waters of Florida.

Dario Compain
COL (Ret)
Odessa, FL

Thank you for my DIGEST.

Mrs. James (Constance) Kingwell
El Paso, TX

Keep up the good work!

Camie Jarvis
COL (Ret)
La Verne, CA

Thanks for doing such a great job on the DIGEST.

Appreciate all the hard work Mike Tarman has done through the years as webmaster and to all others on the DIGEST staff. Best regards to fellow MP officers.

James Burdick, Jr.
LTC (Ret)
Mesa, AZ

Thanks for keeping me on the mailing list – been retired for 48 years – 93-years-old – don't know a soul in the magazine but keep interested until I pass on. I had an interesting military experience: 13 years in the Navy (1936-49), 15 years in the US Army (1949-63). Was an enlisted, warrant in both services – commissioned in 1949 to 1957.

William Thomas
CPT (Ret)
Shoreline, WA

It is a joy to stay in touch with our Military Police Family. Thank you.

Mrs. Ralph (Natalia) George
San Antonio, TX

You do a great job with the DIGEST magazine.

Bob Hall
LTC (Ret)
Louisville, KY

Thanks to the DIGEST leadership for continuing to provide a great product.

Larry Allen
LTC (Ret)
Madison, AL

I really enjoy the DIGEST. Keep up the good work.

Mike Bennett
COL (Ret)
Anna, OH

Congratulations! You are in the national finals as the result of your Fall/Winter 2011 edition!

George Goering
LTC (Ret)
Virginia Beach, VA

(Ed. – We appreciate the recognition...)

Maryann and I really enjoy what you have done with

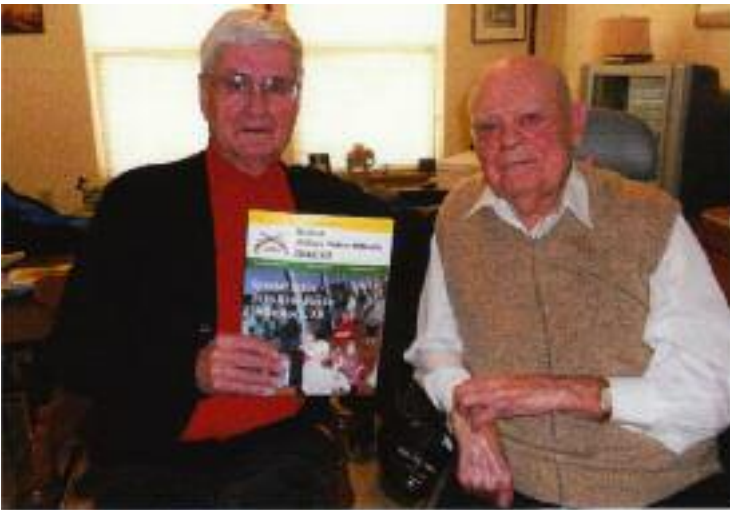
the DIGEST. It is a great example of how the RMPO is growing.

Jack Kochenour
LTC (Ret)
Lansing, KS

Thanks for all you do to keep the DIGEST going!

Andy Cohen
COL (Ret)
Woodbridge, VA

Another great issue and you two are to be congratulated. Thanks for taking the reins and keeping the old timers of the MP Corps informed. We are kind of away from it all in this "Cultural Air Pocket" of the Rockies, Missoula, Montana and we look forward to each quarterly issue of the RMPO DIGEST. My wife and I drop by and visit with Colonel Julien LePage from time to time in the Springs of Missoula, a retirement community. He has been retired for 35 years and turns 92 in a few months.



He wanted me to tell you that he enjoys the magazine, but doesn't find many of his old friends mentioned anymore. He attended many RMPO Reunions before he was slowed down. I had just finished reading the wonderful article on Pete Slusar to him when we had this picture taken. I am the one on the left. Thanks for all you two do.

Gary Sorenson
COL (Ret)
Missoula, Montana

(Ed. - It is with much sadness that we report that

Colonel Julien LePage passed away in February 2012, before he could see this issue.)

Great job as editor. Keep up the good work.

Bill McInnis
COL (Ret)
Virginia Beach, VA

Keep up the good work. It is appreciated!

James Smith
COL (Ret)
Manchaca, TX

Thanks very much for your outstanding efforts to keep the MPs who have served our Nation informed and involved. Take care and God bless all my MP friends and family.

Scott Torgerson
LTC (Ret)
Montclair, VA

Moved down I-35 to Temple, TX. Time to downsize. Looking forward to Oklahoma City Reunion in 2012. Thanks for the great work that goes into the DIGEST.

W. D. "Chine" Ray
COL (Ret)
Temple, TX

Joyce and I continue to live near Fort Lauderdale although TSA handed us a surprise in October when they announced that they wanted to promote me and send us to the Federal Security Director for the San Francisco International airport. So I guess we will make our 20th move back to the state where we started our MP career (54th MP Company, Fort Ord) for one year and then retire next year at this time back to south Florida. Take care and I hope you have a great 2012.

Rick Sackett
COL (Ret)
Pembroke Pines, FL

Really enjoy the DIGEST!

Betty Alexander
Austin, TX

Keep up the excellent work!

John Garrett
LTC (Ret)
Sun City West, AZ

I'm probably the only 'civilian member' of the Military Police Officers Association. I was privileged to have been employed by and worked as a civilian staff officer in the Provost Marshal General Office from 1968 to 1980. By way of background, I entered WWII as a rifle platoon leader in the 103rd Inf Division, wounded, decorated and retired from active duty in 1966 in rank of LTC. During my employment with the PM staff I was honored to have worked with and served some of the most professional officers with whom I served during my entire military and civilian career. I take this opportunity to say thank you to all those who still remember me and I hope I have kept my mark upon the scroll that recognizes the past accomplishments of the Military Police Corps. On a more personal note I'm still living with limitations and would very much enjoy hearing from my past associates in the Corps.

Arthur Klekner
LTC (Ret)
Fairfax, VA

The DIGEST continues to get better and better. I like the balance between the old and new. As the pub-

lishers of LOOK, LIFE, Colliers and the Saturday Evening Post learned many years ago, a little nostalgia is fine but it can be overdone and cost a bundle.

Charles Patrick Gallagher
COL (Ret)
Walnut Creek, CA

Great work on the DIGEST. Thanks for all you (John) and your bride are doing for us.

Greg Lowe
COL (Ret)
Cecilia, KY

John and Jane, thanks for the work you do keeping me informed with the magazine.

Jackie Cumbo
COL (Ret)
Fayetteville, GA

Keep up the good work.

Ronnie Meek
MAJ (Ret)
Santee, SC

A salute and big thank you to all retired Military Police personnel.

Charles Meek
MAJ (Ret)
Largo, FL

Corrections from Fall/Winter 2011 issue:

Pages 15 and 16 – Doyle Herndon and his wife were identified as “Henderson”

Pages 24 and 25 – Tom and Dorothy MacDonnell were identified as “MacDonald”

Page 27 - LTC Van Holladay was erroneously identified as COL Don Greenwald

RMPO Has a New Mailing Address

Please send all correspondence to our new address at P.O. Box 5477, Springfield, VA 22150

On the Cover:

This issue's cover shows the Military Police Corps Regimental tree and plaque. It is located at Arlington National Cemetery, the intersection of McClellan and Eisenhower Boulevards. It is not far from McClellan Gate (how fitting!).

Photo credit goes to LTC (Ret) Jim Anderson, shown here taking photos for the *DIGEST*.





Marie's Medley

by Marie Curry

Marie Curry is a long-time contributor to the DIGEST, offering insights of our active-duty and retired Military Police Officer Family.

legacy of Mrs. Barbara C. Inch, wife of BG Mark S. Inch.

Barbara passed from this life to the next on the 1st of February 2012, after a valiant 15-month fight against breast cancer and a short, but intensive bout with pneumonia. I had the opportunity to spend some time with Barbara last September during MP



Anniversary Week at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Barbara was a lady who was grace-filled, and who possessed an inner joy, kindness and faith which was clearly evident to everyone whose life she touched. Her legacy of happiness and hospitality lives on today in her husband and their four children, and also in the

lives of the senior MP spouses at the Home of the Regiment, as they warmly welcome all newcomers to the MP Corps that pass through Missouri. Barbara would be so proud of the way they are continuing that warm tradition in her memory. Our heartfelt condolences to Mark and to his children, Matthew, Michael, Kaitlin and Karilyn. Thank you for sharing your beloved Barbara so graciously with all of us in the MP family! Our hearts are with you all.

LTC Eric Brunken deployed to Afghanistan in December 2011 with his HHD from the 720th MP Bn out of Fort Hood, TX. His unit has been paired with the 505th Afghanistan Uniformed Police Zone HQs in Paktya Province. They are tasked with assessing, manning, training, and equipping over 12,000 Afghan Policemen dispensed over 6 different provinces.

Their unit suffered a blow early in their deployment with the loss of three of their soldiers and the in-



juries of three others in an IED attack on one of their convoys. Happy to report that the unit has bonded closer than ever, and that they are continuing their missions with renewed courage and vigor in honor of their fallen and injured comrades. Pictured here are LTC Eric Brunken (2nd from left), MAJ Matt Allison (XO of the 720th MP Bn), another member of the Bn leadership team, and COL Dan McElroy, who was visiting the unit from Kabul.

LTC Ross Guieb and his 728th MP Bn HHD completed a yearlong tour in Afghanistan at the end of January 2012, and returned to their homebase in Hawaii. Their unit was paired with the 202nd Regional Afghanistan Uniformed Police HQs in Kabul, where they served in a mentoring capacity. One of the additional programs that Ross was especially proud of was the Junior Police Program that was started in Parwan Province, linking young boys to



the Afghan Police and improving the perception of the locals towards law enforcement personnel, their own and Coalition

forces. Attached are two photos, one of LTC Guieb in Parwan Province with the Junior Police Program, and the other of LTC Guieb receiving a Letter of Appreciation from the Minister of Interior in Kabul, the day before his unit completed their mission in Afghanistan. We wish the 728th a well deserved rest and joyous reunions with their families and friends. Thanks for a job exceptionally well done!



LTC David G. Thompson and his 716th MP Bn HHD deployed to Afghanistan from Fort Campbell, KY in mid-January. His unit took over the mission from the 728th MP Bn at the end of the month. They are mentoring the staff of the Regional Police HQs in Kabul. The prior MP unit set them up



for success and they are building on the foundation that was laid and the relationships that were forged by the outgoing unit with their

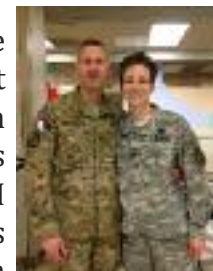
Afghani counterparts. We wish the 716th success with their mission and a safe return to their loved ones back home when their work is done. Pictured are LTC Dave Thompson and his battle buddy, CSM Willard Smoot, as they were casing the unit's colors

at Fort Campbell, and then later from Afghanistan.

COL Bob Taradash and his 42nd MP BDE HHD out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington deployed to Afghanistan in February 2012. His unit is conducting detention operations and partnering with an Afghan



National Army MP Brigade in the vicinity of Bagram Airbase. Just prior to Bob's departure from home, his wife, Kerrie Golden, was promoted to full COL. She is an MI officer out at Fort Lewis. Congrats to Bob's wife, on her promotion and all the best to Bob and the 42nd on their new mission in Afghanistan.



BG (Ret) Rod and Marsha Johnson have their first grandchild! Dexter Roberts Green was born on January 26th to the Johnson's daughter, Ashley, and her husband, MAJ Neal Green. Dexter weighed in at 7lbs 9 oz. Rod and Marsha are having a ball in their new roles as grandparents. Congrats to Ashley and Neal and to the whole Johnson family.



MG Dave and Melissa Quantock have had an eventful couple of months. They took a Christmas Cruise in the Caribbean this year and had some unique adventures on their trip. Among them were a cave tubing excursion in Belize, which they both enjoyed very much. In January they helped celebrate their grandson, Landon's, 1st Birthday with their



son, Chris, and his wife, Brooke. Chris will be deploying to Afghanistan this spring. Brooke and Landon will be staying with Dave and Melissa

during their son's deployment, so they are busy "baby proofing" their home to get ready! Please keep Chris in your thoughts and prayers while he is overseas.

MG (Ret) Don & Lisa Ryder took a cruise in Australia this February with their long time friends, Dr. Kevin & Babs Kiley. They had a marvelous time seeing the sights and especially enjoyed seeing some of the wildlife in Australia, the Koala Bears and the Kangaroos. So glad they had such a fun time on their trip. Sounds like it was a trip of a lifetime for them. Welcome home Lisa and Don!

COL Chuck and Sue Williams undertook quite a road trip in February. As Chuck put it: 5200 miles, 10 States and 6 National Parks. Their stops included Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon, and Sequoia National Park. Their dog, Melvin, accompanied them on their long journey. Many wonderful memories were made. Welcome back to Missouri, Chuck, Sue and Melvin! Glad you had a safe and fun trip. (Also glad this was before the gas prices rose dramatically!)



COL (Ret) Larry and Sally Saunders are doing great out on the West Coast. They are up in the Seattle area. Sally recently celebrated a birthday. Their son, Tim, has just launched a new landscaping business and he has done a great job marketing his new

company. Check out his video clip on FB. We wish him lots of success with his new venture. A belated Happy Birthday from your MP family, Sally!



COL Ed Lowe was home for R & R from Kabul, Afghanistan in February. He and his wife, Suzanne,



spent some time at Gettysburg, and they and their daughters took a trip to New York City while Ed was home. They enjoyed their time in The Big Apple very much. Ed has returned now to Kabul, and

he has taken over a new position as the Senior Program Manager for the Afghanistan National Civil Order Police. He will be serving as the Chief of Staff of Police Development for the effort over there and will continue in that capacity until the end of his deployment this Summer. He has learned that he will be returning to Carlisle at the end of his deployment and will be working at the Peace Keeping Institute at Carlisle Barracks. All the best to Ed in these new ventures!

COL Stephen Green has just completed a year-long tour in Afghanistan. He served in several different positions there and had some very interesting experiences. His most recent position was as the Senior Mentor for Operations Coordination Centers-Regional Central, Combined



Joint Task Force 1. In layman's terms, I think this means that Steve and his team were responsible for codifying and setting up these OCC's and then coor-



minating the interface between them and the Afghan National Security Force Leaders. These OCC's will be used to help facilitate the transition of authority from Coalition Forces to the Afghan provinces and also on a national level in time. There are presently 7 Regional OCC's and 33 Provincial

OCC's, so that takes a lot of coordinating. In between all the hard work, Steve has had time to meet a few famous authors in his travels around the country, among them Clive Cussler and Sandra Brown. He has also had a chance to learn about and participate in many of the cultural events and practices of the local people he has been working with. He should have interesting stories to tell for years to come! Steve will be training deploying troops at Fort Polk, LA for about a month before finally signing out of his unit officially, and heading home to his wife in Kentucky. Welcome back to the USA, Steve!

BG (Ret) Dave and Dawn Phillips have retired to Smiths Station, Alabama, not far from where their daughter, Noelle, lives. They have not let much grass grow under their feet, though, as they have been traveling frequently back and forth to Europe ever since Dave retired last fall. They have spent time with their younger daughter, Sarah, in Germany and traveled to other areas of Europe as well. Dave is doing some public speaking on a matter he feels strongly about, and this has become a mission of sorts for him (and his family.)



COL Dan McElroy has been serving as the Senior Advisor to the Afghan Minister of Interior since last fall. He has had wide experiences in that capacity



and has run into many MP friends during his travels with the MoI. Dan and his friend, LTC Ross Guieb, and the Minister of Interior are shown at a recep-

tion they attended in December. In the second photo, Dan is pictured (second over from the American flag) at a Provincial Transfer of Governance ceremony, where he did the honors for our flag during the event. Dan will be heading home this coming summer and another MP COL will take his place as the next Senior Advisor to the MoI. Thanks, Dan, for all that you have been doing over there in Afghanistan and a personal thanks for all the amazing photos you have shared with me while you have been there! You have given me an amazing course in Afghani culture and geography in the process!

LTC (Ret) Eric Provost and his wife, Ellen, are enjoying retired life down in Florida. Their daughter, Alison, was recently married. A great time was had by all at that event. Congratulations to their daughter and brand new son-in-law.



COL Jim and Cindy Brown have had a wonderful tour in Berlin, Germany, where Jim has been serving as the Military Attaché for a couple of years. Jim and Cindy recently attended a Ball in Vienna, Austria for the Austrian Officers. What a dream assignment this sounds like to me!



COLs (Ret) Ted and R'ami Spain spent a few days at Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island, in the

Bahamas in mid-February. Ted surprised R'ami with this trip for Valentine's Day. They had a marvelous time on their trip, swimming with dolphins and snorkeling among the nearby ruins. So glad you had the chance to get away for such a fun vacation, R'ami and Ted! Welcome back to the Spain's, and R'ami, congrats on the new job you have just begun!

COL (Ret) Robert and Beth Abernathy are living in the Atlanta area. Robert is currently working as the Chief of Staff at the Army Crime Lab. Beth says they are very happy to be home in Georgia. Their



three children are all married now and the Abernathy's have four grandchildren: Clara and Macy Jane, who are 3 and 2 years old, and Gus

and Georgiana, who are both a year old. All of the family lives in Georgia. Life doesn't get much better than that! Great to hear from Beth.

Our son, MAJ John Curry, deployed to Afghanistan in January. He is working as the S-3 of the 716th MP Bn under LTC Dave Thompson. The unit is working in

partnership with the 202nd Regional Afghan Uniformed Police HQs in Kabul. Pictured on one of many snowy days in Kabul this year are: our son,



John, his Bn Cdr, LTC Dave Thompson, and the Afghan Regional Police Chief they are mentoring this year. John tells us that they have a wonderful working relationship with their Afghan counterparts and that their chief has a great sense of humor and is a joy to work with. All the families of the Bn's HHD are

doing great back at Fort Campbell, KY, supporting each other and their soldiers, and keeping busy to help the time go by more quickly. God bless them all, on the battlefield and on the homefront!

COL (Ret) Ronald D. Phillips, of Pflugerville, TX, lost his beloved wife, Gloria Gayle Goode Phillips, on February 17th,



after a brief, but intensive bout with cancer. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Ron, his two sons and the rest of the Phillips and Goode families. The photo of Ron and Gloria (taken in 1988 when the family was stationed in Germany) was sent to me by a close friend of theirs shortly after Gloria passed.

COL Tommy G. "Gregg" Thompson has been serving over in Kabul, Afganistan for the past year as the Senior Advisor to the Afghan Uniformed Police. Gregg's wife, Meredith, and their three sons remained at Carlisle while

he has been deployed. Gregg will be finishing up his tour later this spring and upon his return to the



United States, he and his family will be moving on to Fort Leonard Wood, MO. They have family out that way, who are no doubt thrilled that they will be close by! The Thompson's oldest son is graduating from High School and he will be attending Mizzou in Columbia, MO in the Fall. We wish Gregg a safe completion of his deployment and a smooth move for him and his family out to the Ozarks this Summer. Thanks for all that you did while you were deployed this past year and thanks to your family who kept the home fires burning while you were away.

Giving Thanks Back



Colonel Mike Tarman Takes on a Personal Challenge

A Story by

Colonel Mike Tarman (Ret)

On April 26, 2012, I will strap on my backpack at Campo, California and begin hiking north on the 2665-mile Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT). I plan to finish hiking the PCT in late September or early October at the Canadian border. One of the goals of my hike is to raise money for Communities for Marines, a 501(C)3 non-profit corporation. So, what is the PCT, why hike the PCT, and why is a retired Army colonel hiking to raise money for Marines?

What is the PCT? The PCT is a hiking trail (dirt foot path) that runs contiguously from the Mexican border at Campo to the Canadian border near Manning Park, BC. 2,650 Miles is the specified length of the trail but not the actual length. The true length from Mexico to Canada is 2,655.4 miles and the trail travels beyond the Canadian border to Manning Park making the total trail length 2,663.5 Miles.

The PCT is a designated national scenic trail. It traverses three states (California, Oregon and Washington), climbs nearly 60 major mountain passes, descends into 19 major canyons, passes more than 1,000 lakes and tarns, 3 national monuments, 7 national parks, 24 national

forests, and travels through 37 federally mandated wildernesses. It offers some of the wildest backcountry terrain to be found in the lower 48 states. Over the course of my hike, I will climb 314,711 vertical feet! (That's a lot of up and down.) About 300 to 400 people attempt to thru hike the PCT each year. About 40% will complete the entire trail. To give you an idea of the magnitude of the challenge, more people have climbed Mount Everest than have completed a thru hike of the PCT.

Why I am hiking the PCT?

After retiring from the Army in 1993, Joyce and I moved to Arizona. It was there that I took up hiking with life-long friend and fellow retired MP Colonel, DB Rice. DB and I started with day hikes around the Phoenix area and graduated to hiking the Grand Canyon. In early 2002, Colonel (Retired) John Mumma joined DB and I for a non-stop hike of the Grand Canyon from rim-to-rim-to-rim. It took us 22 hours to hike the 42 miles that included over 20,000 feet in elevation change. At some point in time, while researching potential hikes for DB and I, I came across some journals of people who were hiking the Appalachian Trail and the seed was planted that one day it might be "neat" to do a thru hike myself.

Joyce and I moved to South Carolina in 2002 after I was hired by TSA

to be the Federal Security Director for the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport. The Upstate of South Carolina is a hiker's paradise. In addition to numerous State parks with miles of hiking trails, Greenville is located near the Foothills Trail and a little over an hour away from the Appalachian Trail. The

thought of doing a thru hike continued to grow in my mind, and in 2006 I decided it was time to learn if I would enjoy backpacking. (I had spent many a night in the field during my military career, but I never had backpacked.) I purchased some backpacking gear and went on an overnighter on the Foothills Trail. I enjoyed myself immensely and not long after spent 4 nights hiking the entire 77-mile long Foothills Trail.

As the idea of doing a thru hike continued to grow and after much research on the various national scenic trails, I decided on the PCT for no other reason than the scenery. I am excited over the opportunity to push myself physically and mentally as I immerse myself in the beauty of this great country and interact with other hikers to accomplish a goal that few have attempted and even fewer have accomplished. (More people have climbed Mount Everest than completed a thru hike of the PCT.) A longer and more detailed answer on "why I am hiking the PCT" can be found on my blog site at <http://hiking-the-PCT.com>.

Why is a retired Army colonel hiking to raise money for Marines? Joyce and I fell in love with the Upstate of South Carolina. In 2007, we built and moved into our retirement home in Keowee Key, a residential community on beautiful Lake Keowee in the Foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. In 2008, one

of our neighbors found himself in grave medical condition in Roger C. Peace Rehabilitation Hospital (RCP) in Greenville, South Carolina. He was most grateful for the care he received at RCP and one day during his recovery process he asked them the simple question, "What do you need?"

RCP previously held a water ski "bash" for Marines from the Wounded Warrior Regiment at Camp LeJeune and said they wanted to expand it. Our neighbor returned to Keowee Key and, as people learned of the event, they asked, "What can we do?"

Those two simple questions, "What do you need?" and "What can I do?," ultimately resulted in approximately 150 Keowee Key volunteers, Keowee Key administrative personnel, and 30 RCP employees (therapists and nurses) joining together to host our first group of Marines in June 2009 for three days of relaxation – boating, skiing, golfing, hiking, kayaking and more. That first year we hosted 24 Marines and there were 183 motorcycles in the escort from Easley to Keowee Key. (For comparison, in 2011 we hosted 39 Marines and there were 411 escorting motorcycles.) That first year, Joyce was actively involved with the planning of the picnic and formal dinner and we also hosted a Marine in our home.

Following that first visit, a small group, which included Joyce, gathered to discuss the event and what we wanted to do next. This meeting served as the impetus for the formation of what was to become the board for Communities for Marines (C4M). Joyce became the Vice President. One night, while she was formulating a response to an email from another member of the new board,

she mentioned to me that they were looking for a name for their 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. If I learned anything in my 27 years in the Army, I learned the importance of having catching acronyms for something new. After playing around with the purpose of the corporation, I suggested Communities for Marines (C4M); she sent it out; and that is what they adopted. Their website is at:

<http://www.c4warriors.org/ind>



[ex.html](#)

Following "Honoring Their Service 2010," Joyce was asked to be a co-chair for "Honoring Their Service 2011." She is the chair for "Honoring Their Service 2012." You can see a short video of "Honoring Their Service 2011" at:

<http://www2.sceneon7.com/entertainment/2011/jun/22/marines-come-keowee-honoring-their-service-ar-2012762/>

The entire Keowee Key community is firmly behind the concept of hosting a group of Marines on an annual basis. It provides everyone a sense of pride in our country and our community. It deepens our appreciation for these men and women who say good bye to family and friends, button up the chin strap on their helmets, throw on their rucksacks, and answer their country's call to arms. They truly are America's silent heroes and we are honored to be able to provide them a few days of rest and relaxation – a simple, yet heartfelt, THANK YOU!

This "thank you" is not free. Very few can fully appreciate the time and effort contributed by countless volunteers to ensure the successful planning and execution of each "Honoring Their Service." Even fewer realize the costs of putting this event on at no expense whatsoever to our Marines. Individuals and businesses throughout the county have stepped up and generously opened their checkbooks, but there is continuing need to support the annual visits, the newly created Family Get-a-Way Program, and future expansion.

It is this need for additional funding (plus a twinge of guilt from knowing I will not be there to provide Joyce support while she wrestles with all the nuances associated with chairing "Honoring Their Service 2012") that inspires me to dedicate my hike to these brothers-in-arms and solicit pledges for the miles I hike. It matters not that they are Marines. It matters that we as a country say "Thank You for your sacrifices." So, please help this old Army Colonel honor them by going to my blog site <http://hiking-the-PCT.com> and make a small pledge.

Where are RMPO Members? Everywhere! (except Wyoming...)



(above) This Southwest area map detail shows the membership concentration, with dark green being the highest concentration



(above) The map shows the distribution of members by zip code or where each member lives

(left) The map shows the distribution of members by county with dark green being the highest concentration



Top Ten Counties in the USA by Membership

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Count</i>
Virginia	Fairfax	129
Texas	Bexar	52
Virginia	PrinceWilliam	44
Arizona	Maricopa	33
Kansas	Leavenworth	22
Colorado	El Paso	20
Georgia	Columbia	20
Florida	Brevard	19
California	San Diego	17
Florida	Hillsborough	17



*(above) The Greater Washington DC area shows highest membership in Northern Virginia
(left) This map detail shows the concentration of members in Florida*



(dark green is the highest concentration)

The data for CONUS is depicted only; not shown are AK, HI and Europe

DIGEST Honor Roll of Donors

Special thanks to the following individuals who have contributed since the last issue of the DIGEST. Your generosity enables the DIGEST to reach the many members of our Retired Military Police Officer family and to touch out to future members.

In recognition of their contributions, here are are current Honor Roll of Donors:

CWO Kaan Albert	COL Marguerite Garrison	COL John Mumma
Mrs. Betty Alexander	Mrs. Natalia George	COL Jerry Novak
LTC Larry Allen	COL Gerald Gibbons	LTC Claude Owen
LTC Ridgeway Amy	LTC George Goering	LTC Grande Peter
COL Steve Andraschko	LTC Dale Groenenboom	COL Vern Pike
LTC Kim Anglesey	Mrs. Liz Hackett	MAJ Lloyd Powell
COL Vincent Apruzzese	LTC Bob Hall	COL Owen Powell, Jr.
CPT Roger Beaumont	MAJ James Henn	LTC Mike Rauer
COL Mike Bennett	LTC Glenn Higgins	COL W. D. Ray
COL William Beuhler, Jr.	COL Peter Hoffman	MAJ Martin Rogers
LTC Thomas Briggs	COL John Holeman	COL Richard Rowland
LTC James Burdick	CW3 Sydney Holt	COL Richard Sackett
Ms. Astrid Burnette	COL Dewitt Hudson	COL Don Salo
LTC Loren Bush	COL Camie Jarvis	COL Rabun Sanders
COL Walter Chalkley	BG Rodney Johnson	MAJ Vernon Scoville
MAJ Heck Charles	CW2 Lee Johnson	COL Arnold Seligman
BG Sal Chidichimo	BG Thomas Jones	LTC Alvin Siegel
COL David Clark	MAJ Daniel King	COL James Smith
LTC Wilburn Clifton	Mrs. Constance Kingwell	LTC William Sondervan
COL Charles Cogswell	COL Donald Kirchoffner	COL Gary Sorenson
COL Andrew Cohen	LTC Arthur Klekner	COL Richard Spaulding
LTC Chuck and Aileen Colbert	LTC Jack Kochenour	COL Anthony Stamilio
COL Dario Compain	Mrs. Lori Kriwanek	COL Richard Stevens
COL William Conway	LTC Delwin Laguens, Jr.	CWO Francis Sullivan
COL Paul Corriere	COL Julien LaPage	COL Carl Swanson
COL Jackie Cumbo	COL Joel Leson	Mrs. Dorothy Tenore
LTC Paul Curry	MAJ Hector Lopez	CPT William Thomas
COL Joe Curtin	LTC Kenneth Lord	COL John Thurman
COL Arnold Daxe, Jr.	COL Gregory Lowe	Mr. John Timmerberg
LTC Edward Drury	COL Robert MacDonald	COL Edward Toporek
LTC Carroll Dunn	MAJ Carlos Marxuach	LTC Scott Torgerson
Mrs. Alice Duruz	COL William McInnis	MAJ Robert Voss
LTC Frank Fernandez	LTC Clarence McKinney	COL Nevin Williams
BG Evelyn Foote	LTC J. Bryce McWalter	LTC James Wilson
COL Charles Gallagher	MAJ Ronnie Meek	MAJ Forrest Witter
LTC John Garrett	COL John Melia	



37th Annual Retired Military Police Officers Reunion

Oklahoma City, OK
26 - 30 September 2012

Information and Survey

The 2012 RMPO reunion is 26-30 September 2012 in Oklahoma City, OK. Mark your calendar, book your room and encourage your friends to attend. The host team chairman, Garold Holcombe and his team, are planning a great event and desire your input to help make this a memorable reunion. Please complete the interest questionnaire and return it to Garold Holcombe no later than 1 May 2012. Based on your feedback the team will finalize the events and activities and provide a registration form in the upcoming issue of the Digest.

The 2012 Reunion Program

The 2012 Reunion Program will follow the traditional programs of the past and include the three main events; the Wednesday evening *informal welcome reception/meet and greet*, the Saturday *memorial breakfast and evening banquet*. These activities will be included in the registration fee. In addition there will

be a golf tournament and a well-stocked hospitality room which will operate throughout the reunion. We have a room that is nearly 1200 square feet with tables and chairs as the hospitality room and for registration. We will also include in the registration fee transportation to Remington Park Horse Track and Casino, provided we have enough interest. The hotel is located in the heart of the OKC entertainment district (Bricktown) with dozens of restaurants, clubs and activities within easy walking distance or ride the free downtown area trolley.

Activities and Events

The “meet and greet informal welcome reception”

This traditional event will be held across the street from the hotel in the Pearls Crabtown Restaurant. We have the entire second floor reserved with a cash bar and finger food buffet, pool tables and lots of room to “meet and greet”. There is an elevator for those who desire not to or cannot negotiate the stairs. There are a number of restaurants adjacent to or within a couple of blocks of the hotel for those who want to venture out for a full meal after the meet and greet. A list of restaurants will be added with the welcome packet.

Memorial Breakfast

The traditional Memorial Breakfast honoring the MP Corps members we have lost this last year will be



Myriad Gardens and Memorial Botanical Gardens



Remington Park Horse Track and Casino



The Hampton Inn and Suites



Oklahoma City National Memorial

held on Saturday morning at 8AM at Rocky's. The breakfast will be a buffet with enough choices that everyone should be satisfied including those with special dietary needs. Rocky's is located directly across the street from the hotel. A benediction and roll call will be read to honor our fallen comrades.

Business meeting

A business meeting will be held on Saturday at 1 PM.

Saturday RMPO Banquet

The official coat and tie dinner will highlight the reunion. The banquet will be held at Rocky's. Rocky's will provide us with a private facility that is catering to our needs and requirements. Visit their web site at www.rockysbricktown.com. The evening will begin with a cash bar, posting of the colors, toasts, guest speaker and a buffet meal, retiring of the colors and some music that most of us probably grew up with. Our guest speaker will be the Oklahoma Adjutant General MG Myles L. Deering. The 45th CBT has deployed to Iraq several times and is currently in Afghanistan and Kuwait.

Remington Park Horse Track and Casino

Provided we have sufficient interest this activity is included in the registration fee. The track offers live horse racing and a slot machines. There are several excellent restaurants and bars located at the track and casino. The paddock is set up where you can go down and get up close and

personal with the horses and riders. There are also seating areas (indoors and outside) and lounges where you may just set and visit if you wish. The track is located about 10-15 minutes from the hotel and we can set up a round robin bus schedule to accommodate most everyone's requirements. The horse track starts races about 6 PM and finishes around 10 PM. The track is a first class facility; expect this to be a four to five hour event (or less).

Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum

The Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum honors those who were killed and survived the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. It is located at the site of the bombing. In addition to the memorial, there is an extensive museum covering the events of the bombing. The memorial is on the free trolley route from the hotel or we can go as a bus group and get a guided tour. The memorial is about 8 blocks from the hotel. Expect this to be a two-three hour event.

Myriad Gardens and Memorial Botanical Gardens

Located a few blocks from the hotel (on the free trolley route) and across the street from the OKC Thunder's basketball home arena. The gardens provide a wonderful look at nature and an interesting "glass tube" of tropical gardens. This is easily a one-two hour event.

National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum

Located about a mile north of Remington Park, the facility provides a look back into our western history and heritage and the development of the west. Included in the museum is numerous works of art and sculptures by notorieties such as Frederick Remington. There is also a section that honors the “cowboys” to include notables such as Will Rogers and others, many with Oklahoma roots. There is a cafe in the facility. This is easily a two to four hour event.

Saturday Ladies Make-Overs

Dillard’s will provide free makeovers on Saturday afternoon for all the ladies who wish to participate. In order to have sufficient makeup artists, please indicate interest on the questionnaire.

National Weather Service

The National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office in Norman, Ok has the latest and most updated weather and storm prediction technology in the nation. It’s located a short 20-25 minute bus ride from the hotel. This is the facility that tracks and predicts all the severe storm events/warnings in the US. See how they track and predict the tornados. This tour can only accommodate up to 35 per tour, but we can run two tours on Friday. Expect to be in the facility for about an hour, so with travel time expect about a two-hour event.

State Capital and Oklahoma

History Center

The OK state capital was the last capital building to have a dome. The dome was constructed in the early 2000’s. The capital building itself is nearly 100 years old and houses some outstanding works of art. Across the street from the capital building is the OK History Center. The center houses everything from space capsules flown by native Oklahomans, to replicas of Wiley Post’s aircraft, music and music history of famous Oklahoma musicians ranging from country to R&B. There is a cafe in the museum. These two activities are easily a four-hour event.

45th DIV Museum

The 45th Div Museum is located about 15 minutes from the hotel. The museum has both indoor and outside static displays that chronicles the history of the DIV from WWII through Korea and Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. This is easily a two-hour event.

Historic Guthrie

Guthrie was the territorial capital of Oklahoma Indian Territory then the State of Oklahoma. There are many historic buildings, antique shops and boutiques, restaurants in the downtown area. A few blocks east of the downtown area is the original state capital building that is now occupied by the Oklahoma Scottish Rite of the Oklahoma Masons. Tours are available at the facility. Expect



Nighttime view of canal in Bricktown



National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum



A stagecoach



The fountain in Bricktown

this event to take about 4-5 hours.

Golf Tournament

The tournament will be Friday Morning at the Tinker AFB golf course, about ten minutes from the hotel. Greens fees, lunch and prizes will be in the golf tournament registration fee.

Other attractions

Also available in the downtown OKC area is a banjo museum, the old theater row, the old automobile row, an arts district and numerous other attractions.

A short distance away (5-10 minutes) is the historic stockyards district that has the famous "Cattleman's Restaurant", and a shopping district of western wear and equipment.

There is the Oklahoma River with three boathouses; the "Oklahoma City", the "Devon" and the "Chesapeake". This area now houses the US Olympic Rowing teams training facility.

In Norman about 20-25 minutes south on I-35 is Oklahoma University and its natural history museum.

The OKC Zoo is about 10 minutes away from the hotel, is one of the most popular zoos in the US having just been nationally ranked as the 4th most popular zoo.

There is also the national softball museum, train museum, and a firefighters museum all within a couple minutes of the zoo.

Fort Sill is about 1½ hours southwest of OKC on I-44. Just on the north side of Fort Sill is the Wichita Mountains Wildlife reserve. Located on Fort Sill is an artillery museum and also historic sites to include the graves of such notable Indian chiefs as the Apache's Geronimo and Comanche's Quana Parker. Fort Sill also houses a national military cemetery.

Located to the east of OKC is the Oklahoma lake country boasting many large lakes and several small mountain ranges and forrests. This is a favorite drive for those wishing to take in the fall colors. The route parallels the OK and AR boarder.

Getting to and Staying in OKC

OKC is located at the crossroads of America. It is located at the intersections of I-40, I-35 and I-44. Check the hotel web page listed below for easy to follow instruction to locate the hotel.

For those traveling by air, Will Rogers World Air-

port is your final destination. Rental car, shuttle service or cabs are available at the airport. It is about a 10-15 minute trip to the hotel.

For those traveling by RV, Tinker AFB is your best bet for secure RV parking. It is best to get to the RV camp off of I-240 at the Air Depot Street exit/gate on the south side of the base. Most of the other gates/entrances have barriers which will not allow passage of RVs/trailers. The camp grounds are located about 3/8 mile from the south gate, just east of the new base hospital.

We will provide bus transportation with our planned activities. There is a free downtown trolley pick up next to the hotel. Across the street to the west is the Bricktown Water Taxi pick up point that can take you on the Bricktown Canal that winds through the Bricktown entertainment district.

Hotel Accommodations

The Hampton Inn and Suites is located at 300 East Sheridan, Oklahoma City. Phone in your reservations at 405 246 2709 or 405 232 3600 and use our reservation code of R M P O .

Room rate is \$116 for king rooms or \$120 for double queen rooms. The hotel provides a com-



plementary hot breakfast every morning. Parking in the secure garage is \$8.00 per day, with unlimited in/out access. Free parking is available several blocks away from the hotel and is not a secure area. The hotel provides an indoor swimming pool, spa and fitness room. You may visit their web site at:

www.oklahomacitybricktownsuites.hamptoninn.com

Additional Information

If you have any questions or concerns for/about the 2012 reunion please contact COL (Ret) Garold Holcombe by telephone at 405 374 2268 or by e-mail at gldholco@itlnet.net.

37th Annual Retired Military Police Officers Reunion
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
September 26 to 30, 2012

REUNION INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

Please print or type and check appropriate boxes.

This is not a reservation form. The answers you provide will be used for planning purposes only.

Name _____
Last Name First Name

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Telephone _____ Email _____

I am planning to attend the 2012 reunion and there will be _____ total persons in my party.

I will need hotel accommodations (**Reserve Early! See reverse side of this form for reservation information**)

Please check the functions you plan to attend and the total number of persons in your party.

Informal Welcome (Wednesday) # of persons _____

Memorial Breakfast (Saturday) # of persons _____

Banquet (Saturday) # of persons _____

I/We have special needs (i.e. wheelchair access) # of persons _____ *Please describe in comments section*

* Meals will be buffet style with soft drinks, coffee and tea and included in the registration fee. Wine for toasting will be provided at the banquet.

Your 2012 reunion team is working to plan fun activities but we need your help! Please check the activities that are of interest to you and the total number of persons in your party who might participate. Again, this is for planning purposes only. You are not obligated to go on any tours.

ACTIVITY	# PERSONS	ACTIVITY	# PERSONS
<input type="checkbox"/> Remington Park Horse Racing and Casino	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Guthrie, OK	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tournament	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> National Weather Service	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Myriad Gardens	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 45th DIV Museum	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> State Capital / History Museum	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Business Meeting	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Dillard's cosmetic make-over	_____		

Welcome to RMPO

The following retirees have joined the ranks of our group since the last issue of the DIGEST

COL William R. (Bill) Crist, Tualatin, OR

LTC Andrew M. Porter, Danville, CA

LTC Amy Ridgeway, Lacey, WA

LTC Jim Redding, Chapin, SC

LTC Harold Monzingo, Coeur d'Alene, ID

RMPO MEMBER INFORMATION AND UPDATE

USE THIS FORM TO JOIN OR UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

NEW MEMBER

UPDATE

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip _____

Email1: _____ Email2: _____

Home Ph: _____ Cell Ph: _____ Other Ph: _____

Date Entered Service: _____ Date Retired: _____

Grade: _____ Spouse: _____

Is spouse joining
as member: No Yes if yes, then list email: _____

Please mail to: RMPO, Attn: Membership, PO Box 5477, Springfield, VA 22150 or
email information to LTC (Ret) Jack Kochenour, e. ltc.jak@gmail.com



Honor Flight Network

Written by

Col Arnie Daxe, USA Retired

While some retired military police officers are familiar with the honor flight program that transports many WWII veterans to the Washington D.C area, many of you are not. I certainly didn't until I started volunteering for the Metro DC USO this summer.

Since becoming involved, I wanted to let all MPs who read the Digest understand a bit more about the program. I assure you that once you understand what's going on, you will want to get involved.

The **Honor Flight Network** is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's veterans for their sacrifices, and transport our heroes to DC to visit the monuments and memorials. Priority goes to WWII survivors along with veterans who might be terminally ill. Senator Bob Dole is an honorary adviser to the program and is supported by private and governmental groups throughout the fifty states.

The program is spelled out in detail on their home page:

www.Honorflight.org.

Note: If by error you go to Honorflight.com or Honorflights.com, you will wind up in unrelated sites that are *NOT* part of the Honor Flight network. These two unrelated sites provide transport to DC for a *fee*; the Honor Flight Network *provides flights for free*.

If you know of a deserving veteran who does not know about the program and who might like to take advantage of a free trip to Washington, D.C., you can go directly to the home page as an advocate and click on your state. You will see a point of contact, or multiple points of contact, and make the connection as appropriate.

39 states now have a regional hub which is the nexus for all activity within the state. For states with few WW II vets such as North and South Dakota, you find a nearby state that has a hub and make inquiries as to how they can get involved with a flight to Washington.

The states with a hub have a pull down menu for accepting ap-

plications (pdf files) for veterans, volunteers and guardians. The guardians are folks who accompany the veterans but who do not travel for free. They pay a few hundred bucks and get the privilege of being a "guardian" with the vet for the entire trip. There is a bit of training that goes with being designated a guardian as it involves some understanding of the responsibilities you undertake for the day.

From my short experience, most flights arrive with their full complement of guardians, but if they are short, they select a few from the DC area that have gone through a short training program which is offered twice a year.

Due to fewer flights and a shortage of funds, there are still over 6,000 veterans on a waiting list to come to DC and, as you might expect, there are no flights during the winter months and at the height of the summer. Flights will resume in April 2012. The last flight for 2011 was on 15 November. For those vets in nearby states, they travel by bus.

For those MP officers who reside in the greater Washington D.C. area, there are opportunities to get involved by simply becoming a *greeter*.

As the chartered flights arrive at Dulles Intl Airport at concourse Z, there are dozens of greeters who stand by the jet way and lounge area with American flags and patriotic music playing who greet and cheer on the vets who come into Dulles, many for the first (and maybe the last) time in their lives.

It is a very touching and emo-

tional moment to see these veterans, many in their late 80's or 90's, being pushed in a wheelchair by a guardian into a throng of greeters and well-wishers applauding and saying a loud "hello - welcome to Washington". For those coming in from the west coast, the trip may span 2-3 days with an overnight stay at a nearby hotel.

When they arrive at the WW II memorial on the Mall, they are sometimes greeted by their congressional representative or sometimes, by Bob Dole himself. They have quite a day in store for them-

selves and the entire event is made possible by the thousands of businesses and private citizens who want to make this tribute to their Heroes.

For more information, (or if you are a tad confused) you can contact Arnie Daxe who is an active USO DC Metro volunteer and Honor Flight greeter/guardian at daxe54@earthlink.net. For those of you looking for volunteer opportunities, go no further than this program. It is a most rewarding and unforgettable experience.

Promise!

Bulletin Board: Items of Interest

2012 Army Posture Statement - The Nation's Force of Decisive Action

To view the document online or to download a copy, go to:

https://secureweb2.hqda.pentagon.mil/VDAS_ArmyPostureStatement/2012/pages/letter.aspx

Pentagon Official Makes Case for New BRAC Rounds

By Lisa Daniel

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, March 8, 2012 - The Defense Department needs two rounds of the Base Realignment and Closure process this year and next to shed excess building space and save money, the deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment told a congressional panel today.

The two BRAC rounds would align with the department's strategic guidance for a leaner, more flexible force as it rebalances after the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Dorothy Robyn told the House Armed Services Committee's readiness subcommittee in prepared remarks.

"Of all the efficiency measures that the department has undertaken over the years, BRAC is perhaps the most successful and significant," she said.

Read more at

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=67478>

The Army's Top Cop: Newly Assigned General Leads Fight Against Crime

March 19, 2012

By Mr Colby T Hauser (USACIDC)

QUANTICO, VA, March 19, 2012 -- Maj. Gen.

David E. Quantock recently assumed responsibility as the 14th Provost Marshal General of the United States Army and took command of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, commonly referred to as CID, as well as the Army Corrections Command (ACC).

Serving a population of more than 1 million Soldiers, civilians, contractors and family members worldwide, Maj. Gen. Quantock is directly responsible for all policing functions within the Army as well as leading and directing the Military Police Corps.

Read more at: <http://www.army.mil/article/75953>

Logo Needed for RMPO

RMPO needs a logo and you can help. Submit your design to RMPO, by mail or email (RMPOeditor@me.com) and our panel will pick the best design that represents RMPO. Submissions must be received by 1 June 2012. (Design should be in vector format and in .jpg but not necessary. Detailed drawings will be accepted.)

Here is one idea to get you going.





In Memory of the Members of Our Retired Military Police Officers Family

COL Jim Harrison

KIA in Afghanistan in May 2007.
COL (Ret) Steve Andraschko
Fairfax Station, VA

COL (Ret) Rabun (Cliff) Sanders
Greensboro, GA

COL and Mrs. Tom Guidera

COL Dave Lemon

LTC Pete Slusar

CWO Jonathan Coulson

CWO David Sage

BG (Ret) Thomas C. Jones
Wilmington, NC

COL John Hackett

Liz Hackett
Alexandria, VA

Mrs. Dario (Margaret) Compain

COL (Ret) Dario Compain
Odessa, FL

COL Walt Ferguson

COL Jack Hackett

BG (Ret) Sal Chidichimo
Clermont, FL

MAJ Fouad Aide

LTC Kim Orlando

COL (Ret) Dan Salo
Lorton, VA

MAJ Fouad Aide

Fouad was a one of a kind International Ambassador who represented the Army and our Corps with distinction. His kind will not pass this way again.

COL (Ret) Owen Powell, Jr.
Vienna, VA

Mrs. Elvira Bell

COL Walt Ferguson

COL (Ret) Vern Pike
Pinehurst, NC

LTC Nick Green

MAJ(Ret) Carlos Marxuach
Center Hill, FL

COL Ben Bonner

Elaine and I were able to attend his funeral at Arlington. The Old Guard did a magnificent job and Ben would have been both impressed and honored.

COL Roger A. Eicher

COL (Ret) William Beuhler
San Antonio, TX

CWO Andre (Flip) Feher

CWO2 Lee J. F. Johnson (and daughter, Liz)
Universal City, TX

LTC Jon Regan

COL Phil Suess

COL Ed Lockwood

COL (Ret) Vince Apruzzese, Sr.
Suwanee, GA

LTC Nick Green

Nick and I first met while attending the Spanish Language Class at the Defense Language Institute at the Presidio of Monterey, CA in 1964. Nick and I were in the same section and were often "Dialog Buddies."

Upon graduation in June of 1964, both of us PCS'd to Fort Gulick, Canal Zone. Nick was assigned to the 550th MP Detachment of the 8th Special Forces Group Special Action Force and I was assigned to the School of the Americas.

Nick and I continued our friendship. I met a very nice Panamanian lady and we were wed in May of 1965. Nick served as my Best Man. (I am still married to that nice lady!)

After our tours at Fort Gulick, Nick and I went our separate ways, but we always kept in touch. My wife and I visited Nick and Jenny when Nick was assigned to the State Dept in Washington, DC in 1988. We also got together during the RMPO Reunion in Louisville. We kept in touch via phone calls and I still maintain contact with Nick's widow, Jenny.

The world has lost a great Military Police Officer, and more importantly, A GREAT GUY.

COL (Ret) Nevin Williams
Cary, NC

LTC Ralph George

Ms. Astrid George Burnette (daughter)
McDade, TX

COL Robert J. Kriwanek

Mrs. Robert (Lori) Kriwanek
Hilton Head Island, SC

COL Bob Walters

COL Doug Cobb

MAJ Bob Voss
Lilburn, GA

Mrs. Wilburn (Chrys) Clifton

LTC (Ret) Wilburn Ardell Clifton
Chattanooga, TN

COL John Blewett

MAJ (Ret) Martin Rogers
Whaleyville, MD

COL Nick Puginese

COL Bob Barnum

COL (Ret) Richard Rowland
Aiea, HI

BG David Stem

COL Henry Tufts

COL Walter Ferguson

"Don't walk by a mistake" – BG Stem
COL (Ret) Joel Leson
Fairfax Station, VA

Jack Boylan

Frank Burns

John Crittendon

Aubrey Currie

Don Jackson

John Montefusco

Gus Teller

John Wilder

MPOC-7 classmates; who have completed their earthly missions.

LTC John (Jack) Kochenour
Lansing, KS

Douglas Cobb

COL (Ret) Donald Kirchoffner
Broomfield, CO

Overton "Mac" McCullough

Mike O'Brien

Denny Stewart

Travis Parker

Joe Barry

Ralph Dunn

All from MPOC-4 (1963-64)

LTC (Ret) Thomas Briggs
Prospect, KY

LTC Rand Richardson

LTC (Ret) Mike Rauer
Alexandria, VA

COL Art Friedman

MAJ Fouad Aide

LTC (Ret) Bill Sondervan
Crofton, MD

COL Tom O'Malley

COL (Ret) Charles Cogswell
San Marcos, TX

FOR THOSE WHO LED AND INSPIRED.....

COL (Ret) Ed Toporek
Phoenix, AZ

**IN MEMORY OF ALL THOSE WHO MADE ME
FEEL A PART OF THE CORPS.....**

LTC (Ret) Arthur Klekner
Fairfax, VA

COL Ben Yarbrough

MAJ (Ret) Forrest Witter
Austin, TX

COL Dana S. Kierstead

COL (Ret) Jerry Novak
Valreco, FL

Dana was a great mentor for me when I was a young captain at the Presidio of San Francisco. He made our work both rewarding and fun. He is one of the "reasons" I made the Army my career. He will be missed greatly.

COL (Ret) John Mumma
Ada, MI

RMPO Spouses

Mrs. John (Mariann G.) Thurman

Wife of COL (Ret) John C. Thurman, Jr., Mother of LTC (Ret) John L. Thurman, Daughter-in-law of LTC (Ret) John C. Thurman, Sr.

COL (Ret) John C. Thurman, Jr.
San Clemente, CA

Mrs. Charles (Rosina) Heck

My lovely wife.

MAJ (Ret) Charles Heck
Largo, FL

COL James W. Harrison, Jr.

LTC (Ret) Peter Grande
Leavenworth, KS



TAPS

RMPO Members

MG (Ret) Fred H. Casey

CWO (Ret) Ronald E. Decker

CWO (Ret) Joe R. Greenwell

COL (Ret) Dana S. Kierstead, Sr.

COL (Ret) Julien H. LePage

MAJ (Ret) Morris Grant Looney

CPT (Ret) John F. Mills

CWO (Ret) William H.
Schnakenberg

CWO (Ret) Marshall Thomas

RMPO Spouses

Mrs. Mildred C. Blain

Wife of CWO (Ret) Terence Blain (deceased)

Mrs. Wilda Brakenridge

Wife of COL (Ret) Edward K. Brakenridge (deceased)

Mrs. Elsie Chrystabelle "Chrys" Clifton

Wife of LTC (Ret) Wilburn Ardell Clifton

Mrs. Barbara Corinne "Barb" Inch

Wife of BG Mark Inch

Mrs. Mary Beth Oursler

Wife of LTC (Ret) Robert C. Oursler, Jr.

Mrs. Gloria Phillips

Wife of COL (Ret) Ronald Phillips

Mrs. Virginia "Ginger" Wittwer

Wife of BG (Ret) Wallace K. Wittwer (deceased)

Mrs. G. G. Wright

Wife of CWO (Ret) Donald K. Wright

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