



CHINA POST # 1 POOP SHEET

June 2008 • Year of the Rat

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REUNION 2008-PHOENIX

Our meeting will follow the National Convention in Phoenix, starting on the Thursday, Aug 28 when the last session of National ends, through August 31. Phoenix is an expensive city even with the Legions hotel rates; banquet food costs exceed what we have normally paid in past years. Therefore we have set our own hotel, approximately 15 miles from the convention center and are working on transportation solutions for those attending the National sessions. The **SHERATON CRESCENT HOTEL** is just east of exit 207 (Dunlap Ave) on Interstate 17. The street address is 2620 W Dunlap Ave Phoenix AZ 85021. The hotel has 342 rooms, parking on site, wireless Internet and area transportation within 5 miles (limited due to insurance regulations). The rooms furnish voice mail, safes, irons and hair dryers. The local phone number is (602) 943-8200 and there is a pool, tennis courts, racquetball and for a fee, golf privileges are available. The toll free # is 1-800-325-3535. Our rate is \$ 84 per night + tax which is about a \$ 16 saving from the Legion rates. We have enclosed the event registration form and it includes the hotel reservation information-you must make your own room reservation with the hotel.

NATIONAL CONVENTION PARADE

There will be an alternative to the outdoor parade for the 2008 meeting. Present plans call for an event at the US Airways Center from 4 – 6:30 PM on Sunday August 24. Shuttles will bring attendees to the Center where they will be greeted by a Mariachi Band and be seated under their Department sign. The parade will start at 4 PM with no more than 18 people from each Department. Each Department will enter the arena, march across the floor, salute the Colors and exit to then join their delegation in Department seating. At approximately 4:50 PM there will be a mass enlistment reenlistment ceremony coordinated by the Arizona National Guard and local recruiters from the Phoenix area. Finally there will be en-

tainers and fireworks. Details will be provided at the convention parade meeting on Saturday Aug 23 at 2 PM.

AUXILIARY UPDATE

My apologies for our getting behind but I hope that by the end of Phoenix or before we will have finalized our new President / Secretary position. **Dana Maupin** has volunteered to take over and we hope to have everyone caught up on years and with cards in hand soon. The National Auxiliary is in the process of moving from the quarters they have occupied since 1925 and should have computers up by mid June. We should then be able to have a contact person and get back on track. Our heartfelt thanks go out to **Jenny Williams** for her 10 years of outstanding service. As happens when you have volunteers doing the work, they are not easy to replace and we hope to have the transition accomplished as soon as possible.

DRAGON FUND DONORS

Rodman Andrews / Richard Bauer / Jack Brewer / George Buchanan / Donald Bussart / Michael Caggiano / Ray Collings / Edmund Daley / Gerald L Damewood / Arden Davis / Richard Day / William Dereschuk (56) / Wilbur Dukes / John Duncan / Henry Durant / Paul Foley / Bert Garrick / Willard Gibbons / Henry Gray Jr / John Greenway / Derek Grimm / Timothy Haman / James Handlin / James Heron / Randy Hoffmaster / George Jacobs / Joseph James / Gordon Jennings / Ben Kerlin / Paul Kopper / Michael Ligenza / Tom H Luke / Robert Mitchell / Donald Munson / William E Murray / Allen Philipp / Hap Pierce / John D Powell / Allan Radcliffe / Samuel Randolph / Thomas Schroeder / Kenneth Sevinski / Capt Eugene Shabinaw / Paul Shepanek / Charles Stonecipher / Edward Subowsty / William Tilton / Paul A Tobey / Mac Alan Thompson / Harvey Tipton / Gerald Triplett / Roger Vogeler / Capt Joseph Weiss / Ronald B Welsh / L George Wheeler

MUSEUM FUND DONORS

Garren Brown / Richard Farlow / Dr Michael Lamar / Thomas L Liles / John W Maynard / Stephen H Reich / Thomas Riley / Terry Wall / Glenn Woods, a PUFL who sends his dues in annually as a special contribution, Thanks **Glenn**.

DONOR NOTATION

If you have donated to the Dragon or Museum funds in the latest period and we have not noted it in this Poop Sheet, you are not forgotten. The next Poop Sheet will have the names of contributors who were omitted.

ALMOST YOUR LAST CHANCE FOR 2008

Not really. National should be sending out another dues notice for the 2008 fiscal year. Remember, if your address label does not have 2008 or an "L" after your name then National considers you delinquent. And has dropped your continuous years. Annual dues are \$40 and the Post's address is on the masthead. If you 'just' paid for 2008, you will be getting a 2009 dues notice in July. Remember the Legion is on the old Federal fiscal year that starts on 1 July and ends on 30 June. Your 2008 card is still good for the balance of the year but it helps us process to get as many members as possible paying their 2009 dues when they receive the first notice since the second notice does not come out until you are about to be delinquent on Nationals books.

PEOPLE AND STUFF

After 7 years in Ankara, **Al Radcliffe** has moved his office covering the Middle East Region to Ft Worth.

The March '08 edition of 'Aviation History' magazine has a feature article titled "MiG Madness in Korea" which features Post Member **'Hal' Fischer** a Double Ace in the conflict.

Esquire Magazine in the Jan '08 issue has a quote from a June 2000 interview of **Chef Julia Child**, a former Post Member: "Always Remember; if you're alone in the kitchen and you drop the lamb. You can always just pick it up. Who's going to know?"

Before the AVG 'Flying Tigers', **Chennault** went to China and formed the "International Squadron" with a mixed bag of pilots and aircraft in the hopes of holding off the Japanese invasion. Flying bi-planes against the modern Zeros and Betty bombers they were finally decimated and

Chennault came back to form the AVG as their replacements. **Adm Mark Wood** was with the International Squadron but was in the US Navy at Pearl Harbor on 7 Dec 1941. Another Post member who was with **Chennault** and the International Sqdn was **Robert "Bob" Babjack**. At the end of WW II as CAT was formed to fly in Asia, **Bob** joined **Chennault** as one of the first employees. I visited with **Bob** and his wife **Pat** and they are a living history lesson of the 'early days'. They donated the first year magazine style CAT Bulletins to the Post archives. Not only are they historically unique, if you start with reading as a normal English magazine with the spine on the left, at midpoint you can open it up from the back cover with the spine on your right and the publication is repeated in Chinese. One issue has a listing of the entire CAT employees with the Chinese names translated into English and the English names in Chinese. Our thanks again to **Bob & Pat Babjack** for this valuable addition to our archives.

Thanks to **Gary Catlin** for sending us the March 2008 The Elks Magazine which has a picture of Post namesake **Claire Chennault** on the cover and a great six page article. It will also be held for the archives.

The June 2008 issue of Vietnam Magazine has a feature article about Post MOH recipient Lewis Millett that proves to me he hasn't lost a step. Looking forward to seeing him at future reunions.

Post Vice Commander **Lance Greenwald** has wed the former **Darlene Kluck** in a ceremony in Ft Walton, FL. He is still supplying wholesale beverages to local restaurants in the Ft Walton area and is still selling his book, Corktales at signings around the area. Your Adjutant gave the groom away. Tip a glass or 4 in congratulations.

Talk about 're gifting'. **Alan Johnston, AKA 'Hooker'** from his call sign in Iraq, sent in a pair of tickets to the East-West Shrine Football game to be held in Houston which we in turn gave to A Livestock Show committee to auction off to raise additional funds for scholarships.

William Tilton, one of our new members on our last report was signed up by **Mac Thompson** on the runway at Long Tieng, Laos. This is the first recruit to come from that location since the 1975 evacuation.

John Gagen won the Super Bowl pools at the Tavern Bar in Bangkok. Might have to consider

this as an alternative Watering Hole. CMSgt **Tom Rohde** was presented the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for serving as the Project Manager of EUCOM construction activities for three years. He managed several million dollars worth of projects plus has volunteered for charitable and Veterans organizations in the Stuttgart Military Community. The EUCOM Chief of Staff, **MG Catto**, USMC made the presentation.

Ron Butts presented an American Flag and a POW Flag to Col **Ken Parris**, the California Wing CAP Commander on behalf of the members of China Post.

Ambassador to Australia **Robert McCallum**, presented some 128 US Air Medals to Veterans of the Royal Australian Air Force's No. 35 Squadron. Known to many American GI's and Airmen as the "Wallaby Airline" they supplied FAC and Caribu transport to US Troops. They also had a group of Canberra bombers that provided air strike capability in support of operations in Viet Nam. **Ron Workman**, familiar to many of our Air Commando and SOA members was the driving force behind the belated presentation of these hard earned awards and the recognition that was overdue since 1972. The Air Commandos were represented by '**Gene**' **Rossel** among others, and members of the FAC Association also attended

Our webmaster, **Jim Lint** took up a new position as the G-2 CECOM. He and **Anna** have moved from the DC area to Ft Monmoth. Upon his departure from DOE he was presented a plaque and Appreciation Award. **Jim** has also started a scholarship program at the Lint Center for National Security Studies.

Our Post's prolific author has produced another book in his "A Presidential Agent" series **W.E.B. Griffin's** latest, The Shooters has several references to China Post woven into the text and on page 122 he has a 'by name' reference to your Adjutant. He is presently launching a book tour on his OSS series. **H** and **Abe** will be joining him in the Dallas / Ft Worth part of the tour, on or about June 9th after which he goes to Austin and then to San Antonio for a noon signing at Sams Club and a 6 PM signing at Borders books.

JMD

The election for 2008 Division Officers was tallied in December with the following results:

Commander	Ernie Spetter
1st Vice Commander	Brendan Mooney

VC / Membership
VC / Social
VC / Treasurer
Adjutant

Jerry Hurych
Julia Sterling
Joe Jernigan
Aaron (AJ) Brooks

Congratulations to the 2008 Executive Board and to the Past Adjutant **Lee Johnson** who has written a history of the Division.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Raven Reunion scheduled for October 16 – 19 in San Antonio, same places, probably slightly higher prices than in past years. See the Ravens.org web site for details.

The All-FAC Reunion & Memorial is October 1 –5 in Colorado Springs, CO. Details at fac-assoc.org

Air Commandos are scheduled for Columbus Day weekend in Ft Walton Beach, FL. The hospitality room will open on Thursday, October 9th through Sunday the 12th.

AIR AMERICA

Will meet at the Embassy Suites in Tigard (Portland) OR from June 5 to June 8. air-america.org They have commissioned two previous paintings that hang in VA, the first depicting the last flight of "Earthquake Ma Goon and the second the battle of Site 85 with AA downing and forcing down AN-2 Colts. The third in the series is a rescue of the crew of a downed A-1 on the PDJ by an Air America H-34 with other aircraft that participated depicted in the background. The first copies are being signed by Generals **Aderholt** and **Secord** and then will be brought out to the meeting for signatures by some of the other participants. Both the signed and unsigned limited editions will be available to order at the Reunion or on their web site.

AIR AMERICA NEXT GENERATION

The Air America 'Next Generation' will hold a 2008 meeting in Dallas beginning August 7 with a trip to UTD to visit the archives and a banquet on Saturday the 9th. For information and details on attending e-mail **Terry & Kathy Bruner** at tkbruner@msn.com

40 & 8

The 40 & 8 National Promenade will fall closely on the heels of our Post Meeting in Phoenix. It is scheduled to begin on September 3 through the 6th in Orlando. Contact the Grand Correspondent **Roger Gowen** for details, we will forward e-mails to **Roger**.

The Erawan Group Reunion is scheduled for Las

Vegas September 11th to the 14th at the Gold Coast Casino and Hotel. For information, e-mail to: Erawangroup@gmail.com

The Distinguished Flying Cross Society will meet at Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL October 26 – 30. For questions about this meeting or joining call 1-800-DFC-Medal.

IN MEMORIAM

Dave Kouba died around 24 April in his apartment in Las Vegas. **Dave** along with **JC Bond** founded the first official CP 1 Memorial Division while they were in Laos. With VP on board, **Dave** was “the last Porter aircraft out of Laos”. In 7 years, mostly for CASI he accumulated over 9,000 hours in the Porter. The Hmong people in the Sacramento area plan on a ceremony to honor him in the future.

Richard Hand, USMC Sgt. WW II, USAF Korea and Vietnam. Retired as a Major and was then with the Las Vegas PD as a Supervisor and a Special Investigator

Edward Coll US Army, Korea. Signed up by **Robert Jenny**, he was a Tax Assessor in NJ.

Robert J Jenny, founder of Jenny Engineering and a preeminent expert in the design of tunnels and underground structures. **Bob** was a decorated Army Veteran of Korea, entering through the NJ National Guard. He received numerous honors as an engineer and in 1988 the SBA named him Small Business Person of the Year. He was active in the Coast Guard Auxiliary as a Flight Observer and after 9-11 he served as Flotilla Commander of Flotilla 10-20 at Air Station Caldwell.

James L Roberts, a 32 year Post Member who spoke Japanese and Cantonese. **James** was 10 years with USAF then 10 years until 1975 with Air America in FW as an IP and Assistant Chief Pilot.

Benna Hoehn, a Past CP Auxiliary President who along with **Don**, helped co-host the Orlando Reunion meeting. In recent years she was working on writing about experiences in Asia.

Several members wrote in about the passing of former member **Terry Youngs**. **Terry** was a long-term member in Abu Dhabi and Qatar who dropped his membership in 2004 to deal with health problems.

John ‘Spider’ Webb was one of the original

Laos Air Commando FACs with the “Butterfly” call sign. This notice was omitted in the last Poop Sheet.

Dick Rossi, one of the original ‘Flying Tigers’ has passed at age 92. He is officially listed as an “Ace” with 6 confirmed downed planes. This leaves only 4 of the original pilots left who flew with **Chennault**.

CHINAPOST1.ORG

Our special thanks go out to **Jim Lint** for building and maintaining our web site. He has done an outstanding job in keeping this line of communication open and more importantly, when we begin to e-mail the Poop Sheets to members the web will grow in it’s importance to the Post. He has approved a ‘quartermaster web site’ for the Post that we need to stock with supplies and put into use, probably after Phoenix. Current Post members can get an e-mail address by visiting the site and after a vetting process to receive an address. Many articles and photos do not appear in the Poop Sheet but they are posted on line for members in ‘real’ time.

FRANCE 2008

Tim Brown, **Hans Stockenberger** and I joined **Dr Bob** and **Mary Eager** for this years ceremonies. One ceremony in Menton was postponed due to they strain of marching on some of the ‘older’ Veterans. Our reception was gracious and the hospitality of our hosts was welcoming.

