



CHINA POST # 1 POOP SHEET



February 2003 Year of the Ram

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APPOLOGY

For those who paid your dues early or on time and didn't get processed for several weeks, we were overloaded and several trips were unavoidably scheduled to take place during renewal time. By the time you get this Poop Sheet, all backlogs should be clear. You should now have your 2003 membership card. If you do not, please renew ASAP. Do not wait for another notice, please send your dues in as soon as you can, it will help your Adjutant. Look at your card, if it does not say 2003, send your renewal dues, \$35 to the Post PO Box. To the many members who have written or e-mailed that they did not get a dues notice, usually with an address change: National sends the dues notice. If you have moved it might not have been forwarded. If you received a notice and did not send it in because you thought that it was not for China Post, look at the return delivery address on the notice. If it says CP 1 and has our address at PO Box 570607 Houston TX 77257-0607 then send it in, it is coming to the Post.

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POST CONVENTION 2003-PLAN NOW

At this years meeting in Charlotte the majority feeling was that Labor Day is too busy for their scheduling and most of the members wanted to move off of that weekend. For 2003, the Post Convention and Reunion will be held in one of our favorite spots, **Ft Walton Beach, Florida** at the same hotel we used in 1997, the **Four Points Sheraton**. Courtyard rooms, single or double \$79 Beach front \$99. Our room block begins **Tuesday September 9th 2003 through Sunday september 14th**. For those who remember the eTiki Hutí by the pool where we had our Friday night activities before, that area has been entirely closed in, and air conditioned with a one stop handicapped elevator to provide access. This will be our hospitality room for the period, and hopefully we will not be too taxing on **Dick Geron** and the Air Commando staff. **Lance Greenwald** is hosting the reunion and is working on activities such as a fishing trip, golf, shopping and a cruise dinner. Final plans are still being formulated and will be on the web site and in the Reunion mailing packet due out in early summer. We will update you as events and plans firm up. In the meantime, mark your calendars, and start planning for 2003.

MILESTONES

POST EVERLASTING

David H Hickler, Vice Commander, and the Posts longest continuous member. Dave's obit will be carried in the Air America Newsletter and the CAT Bulletin. He was originally signed into the Post in 1945 by General Chennault.

WW II Army Airborne and later Dentist and Public Health Administrator **Lawrence 'Frank' Becker** who had worked in Alaska, Asia, the Mid East and

Africa in his career including 10 years in Laos, was also a 27 year Post member.

Lt Col Loren D Eaton passed to Post Everlasting on May 31, 2002.

USAF Vietnam Veteran and 25 year CP member **William J Ligenza**, who has lived in the Philippines for a number of years returned to the US for cancer treatment but succumbed in February. His ashes were returned to the Philippines. Reported to the Post by his brother, CP member Michael Ligenza.

Lee G Cuny, USAF Retired was a FAC for SF in SEA, and later the program manager at Systems Command for Recon drones in SEA, the forerunner of our modern unmanned vehicles used in SW Asia. In his second career as an engineer he worked on testing the Space Shuttle Main engines.

Dean Thomas Landon, had almost 36 years military service. He drowned near Houston while engaged in one of his favorite activities, wade fishing. He was also a Maintenance Squadron Commander with the Texas Air Guard. Dean was originally signed up for CP 1 by Rich Vandiver.

13 year member **Carl R Johnson**, a WW II Coast Guardsman and Merchant Marine went into the construction field and worked over 20 years in several overseas areas.

We received word of the passing of **William Mowrey** but no details.

Army Intelligence Retired **Jim "James L" Shirahis** passing was reported to the Post by his wife. He had worked in SOG and CORDS in Vietnam and was proposed for CP 1 by Karl Fritch

We received word that **Darrell Redman**, USA SF who had served as security consultant to the Prime Minister in Antigua was reported deceased in Bangkok in November.

John R Rowland, a 19 year member for 2001 passed on Oct 27, 2000.

Richard H "Dick" Whitaker, another of our WW II Navy Veterans joined while in Singapore in 1977. He was separated from active service for combat wounds and had a career in construction and engineering, mostly in Asia and the Pacific Islands.

His passing was reported by his long time friend Doug Stevens.

GOOD EVENTS

Spencer Eggleston was awarded a long overdue Air Force Commendation Medal for his past service in SEA in a Ceremony at Corpus Christi NAS.

Ron Ehmann has been appointed as a National Aide-De-Camp in the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

LTC Sherri S Galante assumed Command of the 17th TSS at Goodfellow AFB in June

SSG GRONDIN, has become the Korea wide Electronic Security Systems NCO. He is also noted on your Post Letterhead as our Post's advisory executive committeeman for "North Korea"

Sr Vice Commander Judge **Jack & Carrie Hansel** celebrated their 60th Christmas together this year.

Hal Hunt, (in articles and photos that should be posted on the web site) represented the Post at the Veterans Appreciation Day Ceremony, presided over by Under Secretary of Commerce James E Rogan, at the US Patent and Trademark Office. On Nov 13th he was honored by receiving the US ñ ROC Mutual Defense Commemorative Medal and the Honor Medal for 823 Bombardment from the ROC Representative to the US Government. Former UCMC Commandant Al Gray attended the reception.

On 2 Dec. President Bush signed the Defense Authorization Bill into law. Any Veteran who served on the Korean peninsula since July 28, 1954, to a date to be determined, is now eligible for the newly authorized **Korea Defense Service Medal**. This should not be confused with the recently South Korean Republic of Korea Korean War Service Medal that is awarded by the Korean Government for Americans who actually served in the 1950-53 War.

POST HOME UPDATE

We are still in the process of raising the funds necessary to build the Post Home. While the current downturn in the economy has slowed those efforts, we are still making steady progress. With a credit line in place we are approximately 80% to our goal which leaves us needing about \$250,000. Are we married to the current plan? No. I think that we could recover our investment in the property if

another situation comes along and we are still looking at existing buildings that come on the market to buy as an alternative plan until we have the funds to build on our property.

DMD DIVISION OFFICERS

The Division officers and Executive Committee for 2003 are: Commander, DMD **Hans Stockenberger**, 1st VC **Rey Quijano**, VC Membership **Joe Sanchez**, VC Social **Susan Brand**, VC Fundraising **Kathy Siebert**, Treasurer **Deb Simon**, Adjutant **Jerry Hurych**. Post VC's **Tim Brown** and **Joe Hoofnagle** also serve as advisory members.

NEW JMD DIVISION

The new Division formed in Jubail started with 15 members to revive the activities that were only carried out by the DMD which is a 2 hour drive away and was inconvenient for members to always attend. The election of officers were Commander **Ernie Spetter** 1st VC **Kevin Sterling**, VC Social **Julia Sterling**, VC Membership **Jerry Hurych**, Treasurer **Roy Hallums**, and Adjutant **Clay Zocher**. Jerry Hurych was the organizer of the Division and feels that they will grow to more than 30 members soon. The web site for this Division as well as the DMD Division should be linked to the CP 1 web site soon.

WEB SITE

Most of our members are familiar with the Post web site at chinapost1.org and the great job that **Eric** (SAL) and **Jim Lint** are doing. Someday we will probably issue the Poop Sheet by e-mail for a large number of our members. Jim has organized and operates the **Korean Memorial Division** also.

NORTH TEXAS MEETING

The North Texas Division had its largest turnout yet with 22 China Post and Auxiliary members on the 12th of December. Using an alternate location because the Midway Point watering hole had not yet reopened, we had **Tim Brown** in from Saudi and **Dennis Wright** brought daughter **Whitney** as the youngest in attendance. **Chuck & Mary Alexander** with **Davis & Janis Tubre** anchored one end as we kept adding tables. **Wayne Lenhart** and **Bill Sparkman** along with Post artist **Robert Thundercloud** and **Jim Luke** were in on the festivities. Ravens **Richard Welch** and **H** were also there and **Martin 'Ski' Duszynski** drove up from Austin.. Air Americas' **Glenn Woods** joined **Larry Harper** and **Jim Holstein**. **Jerry Williams** and our Auxiliary

President **Jenny Williams** were busy doing Post business as Post Sr VC **Abe Goldfarb** hosted another successful gathering.

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION

Our meeting followed on the heels of the National Legion with our small contingent one of the few to finish the parade, thanks to **Dick Schubnell** and to **Wes and Sandra Tribble** finishing a very wet day before they cancelled the units after us. We made a presentation on the podium to Deputy Secretary of Defense **Craig Duehring** who made a presentation for DOD to employers supporting Guard and Reserve programs. We then made a presentation to Craig who made similar 7 Continents Club Certificates to the National Commander and Adjutant. Our meeting, at the suburban Marriott, was enhanced by the superb hospitality rooms. A special tanks to our host **James Wengenroth** who was able to handle the negotiations long distance from CA. This years food was outstanding, and with James drafted on short notice he did an outstanding job. A thank you also to **Bob White** who did a physical inspection to finalize our site choice and talk the hotel into the use of both hospitality suites at no charge. At our business meeting, **James Luke** brought out copies of the Post's books and records for the past 6 years and we discussed the financial, membership and Post Home future of the Post. **Jim Sheldon** decided to retire from the Executive Committee, the Post thanks him for his years of service. **Emmett Sullivan** Air America Pilot, was elected to move into his slot. We started the meeting with a chance for the members of our diverse group to introduce themselves to each other and meet other Post members. We held a Post Memorial service for the members called to Post Everlasting between meetings. At the banquet, our Volunteer Bartender, **George 'Ole' Olson** was the unanimous choice to receive the 'Bullshipper' award. The Minuteman, CP Legionaire of the Year award was presented to **James Luke**. A note to future recipients might be, ship it home, Jim had an interesting time going through airport security. We started a new award for entertainment last year with **Jerry Williams** selected as the first 'Great Rooster'. He passed the honor on to active duty US Army Sgt **B J Robertson**, presently deployed-don't even ask about him wearing the uniform of his office on duty. **J C Bond** kept the emblem sales opened and we had some new items that he brought. There should be an updated emblem sales flier in this Poop Sheet. **Please do not include emblem sales with your dues check or send them to the Post PO**

Box. Send emblem sales directly to JC @ 36428 Jackson Rd in Slidell, LA 70460. Or E-mail jcb007 @ webtv.net for these items. Local member **Garren Brown** was able to attend his first Post meeting and **Fritz & Chandra Heibel** drove up. Dr's **Gene & Anne Kirkley** made their first reunion in several years and **Monty Lackey** helped us with the name tags. **Jim Roper** signed his new book 'The Raven' and we also had **Hal Fischer's** 'Dreams of Aces' about his adventures as a double ace and POW in Korea. The income from these books goes directly to the Post Building Fund. **Ron Zais** upgraded his PUFL to a Founders PUFL membership for the building fund. See the earlier article about the 2003 meeting - **Lance Greenwald** will host Ft Walton Beach Sept 10 - 14th.

RAVENS

The Discovery Channel has signed on to do a Documentary about the Ravens in Laos and will be taking several Ravens over to do the location shots in April. Look for airing about December. We will update as the time draws near.

AUXILIARY

Jenny Williams has once again put us over the top with the largest membership percentage increase in the organization.

SAL

The membership cards, and the bill for those who have not paid for 2003 should arrive soon after this Poop Sheet.

40 & 8

There is a cover letter from Chef **Tim Brown** and membership cards that should also go out within a short period of this Poop Sheet. We had a delay in getting our state filings brought up to date and we have recruited **Roger Gowen** to assume the Correspondents job.

SEA REUNION 2002

A full listing of attendees that included 28 CP 1 current members is posted on the Air America web site and is in the Air America Log. **Mac Thompson, Les Strouse** and **Jeff Johnson** did an outstanding job on setup, activities and attendance. Over 400 attended the banquet. Afterward they made a substantial donation to the Post Building Fund with the net income.