



China Post 1

SUMMER 2019



Generals Ward & Chennault & LT Helseth China Post 1 Poop Sheet

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Welcome from the Commander

By 龙老板 Scott Riebel, Commander

Greetings everyone,

As you already know, Ron and Marlys Burkett have stepped down from their respective positions to take advantage of the opportunity to spend more time traveling the country in their travel trailer, visiting family and friends, seeing the country and enjoying all of the perks that retirement has to offer. I will take this opportunity to thank Ron and Marlys for their dedication to the Post, for all of their hard work over the last few decades, and to wish them well on their future plans.

China Post 1 is in solid shape going into the future. Our membership has remained steady, and thanks to the efforts of many of you, we are bringing in the next generation of

Legionnaires. Additionally, because of our web presence, many members who had lost contact with China Post 1 are now reengaging and returning to the Post. Recruiting of post Vietnam veterans remains a priority to help ensure the continued success of the Post.

The Story of China Post 1 is available on Amazon. All proceeds are going directly to the Post. Presently, we've raised nearly \$1,000.00.

The 2019 reunion in Colorado Springs, CO has exceeded expectations. Our room block is full, and I am looking forward to another successful event. There are a number of activities planned, including a “behind the scenes” tour of the Air Force Academy led by a former Academy graduate and current China Post 1 Bull Shipper Hank

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Hoffman. On 21-22 September 2019, the Pikes Peak Regional Air Show will take place -- complete with the US Air Force Thunderbirds. Finally, for you Dragon Riders, there will be a motorcycle ride through the Front Range led by Tony Archer. Please see the Reunion registration for more information.

You should be receiving your new membership cards shortly, along with a small gift from the Post. I look forward to seeing you all at the reunion.

Regards,

龙老板

Scott Riebel

Commander, China Post 1

Soldiers of Fortune Operating in Exile

www.Chinapost1.org

The History of China Post 1

The Story of China Post 1

By 龙老板 Scott Riebel

[The Story of China Post 1 1919-2019](#)

Part 3, The Story of China Post 1 is now complete and available on Amazon.com.

Preview:

There are people in this world that will sacrifice everything for God and Country. Many of them are members of China Post 1.

China Post 1, the oldest American Legion Post, founded in China, is celebrating its 100th anniversary. The history of this Post is, in fact, a history of the membership of the Post, their love for it, and their dedication and efforts in ensuring the success and survival of this organization.

During the early years and prior to the invasion and subsequent occupation of China by Japan in 1938, the Post conducted operations much like any other Post within the American Legion.

Following the Japanese occupation the members shifted focus, and much of their work consisted of clandestine operations, intelligence gathering and reporting through their established business connections. In effect, they operated a Shanghai underground.

On December 8, 1941, following Pearl Harbor, all U.S. expatriates were gathered up and incarcerated in "civilian detention facilities" like Pootung Prison. During their long incarceration, Post members continued their intelligence gathering and reporting through a vast network of established civilian contacts. One member in particular who stands out is Past Commander Frank D. Mortimer.

Following the war and their release from incarceration, Post members immediately returned to the old Post home, and began the process of assisting expatriates and veterans to return to the U.S., locate missing relatives,

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and arrange for final honors; frankly, anything that was within their power to accomplish with little money. General Chennault, Chairman of the Executive Committee for China Post 1, donated a large portion of his own money towards rebuilding the Post, restoring Ward's Tomb, and providing food and materials to the People of China. He redirected his energy to assisting the people of China with the herculean effort to rebuild that war ravaged country.

Despite the government's best efforts, the people abandoned the Chiang Kai-shek government for the populist Mao Zedong. In 1948, Americans in Mao's China became *persona non grata*. So began our exile.

The Soldier of Fortune moniker appealed to a certain category of war fighters in Southeast Asia. Men and women who willingly volunteered to conduct operations in regions where their detainment would result in long periods of interrogation without access to consular services. Furthermore, these people provided plausible deniability to the agencies, an asset during clandestine operations.

The resurgence of the Post is due in large part to these people willing to work in the world of the grey.

You cannot just join China Post 1. Membership in the Post is not solicited. Prospective members MUST be recommended by a current member. The veracity of their application is carefully verified and an intake interview is conducted. The brand that is China Post 1 is carefully protected.

The *Story of China Post 1* is the story of the membership. This is a collection of their stories and their contributions to maintaining the Post and its brand. There are people in this world that will sacrifice everything for God and Country.

This is their story.

Visit the WW2 Pacific War Memorial Hall in San Francisco Chinatown

By L.L. Wong

If any China Post 1 members are passing through San Francisco, there is a small storefront that opened in Chinatown in 2015, that is of great interest. Located at 809 Sacramento Street near Grant Avenue, this is the site of a small museum focused on the Sino-Japanese War of 1937-1945, and the American presence in China from the pre-Pearl Harbor days through VJ Day and beyond. Americans will recall the intentional Japanese attack and sinking of the river gunboat USS Panay on the Yangtze on Dec 12, 1937.

The visitor is greeted by a display in the lobby that features a model of the Chinese gunboat Zhong Shan (Chung San) named in honor of Sun Yat-Sen. This ship was sunk by the Japanese during the Battle of Wuhan on the Yangtze River on October 24th, 1938, and to the Chinese, it is akin to the destruction of the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor three years later. The Battle of Wuhan was the continuing fighting retreat of the Chinese after the fall of Shanghai and Nanking in 1937. The 780 ton coast defense gunboat Zhong Shan was salvaged in 1997 and completely restored and displayed out of water as a museum ship for public viewing at Wuhan. Its ruptured hull from the bomb blast is fully visible. On the wall is a narrative of background events in China and the United States during these times, and includes an image of the Pearl Harbor attack. On the opposite wall are photos of the surrender at Bataan, and an image of the Japanese surrender leaflet dropped.

American involvement in China's defense against Imperial Japanese aggression is documented by a number of exhibits. Claire Chennault and the American Volunteer Group (AVG) contributions are prominently featured. Flying Tigers memorabilia from the Flying Tigers Historical Organization, historic posters, and many period objects, documents and photographs are also on display.

Various aspects of the China-Burma-India theatre of operations are highlighted, including a topographical model of the Hump and a large model of a C-47, shown below as photographed by the author.



Noteworthy is the extensive section documenting the Japanese prisoner of war (POW) camp in Shenyang, Manchuria. This was one of hundreds of Imperial Japanese prison camps that held Allied POWs. A number of dramatic photos are on display including a gallery of some of the thousands of American and Allied prisoners detained. There is a photo of the camp graveyard and a listing of all the POWs who died there. The "never-say-die" survival attitude and irrepressible humor of American and Allied POWs is also evidenced by the cartoon artwork created by many of them that have been preserved. The portraits of several sailors and marines who managed to escape but were recaptured and then tortured and executed are also sadly on view. The pictures of the eventual POW rescue are very moving and include images of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) rescue team and the subsequent medical exams and interviews with the rescued men. There is also a photo of Gen. McArthur hugging Gen. Wainwright and Gen. Percival after their rescue. Later photos document the surrender ceremonies on USS Missouri with the satisfying picture of Wainwright and Percival present as McArthur signed the documents.

The friendship of the Chinese people is particularly highlighted with pictures. Besides the many anonymous Chinese who helped American prisoners, there were several individuals identified who provided aid. At a reunion half a century after the war, some of these Chinese and Americans met again. On display is a U. S. Department of State certificate of appreciation, which the American Consul in Shenyang presented to one of the Chinese for the kindness and assistance rendered.

A photo of the museum exterior, taken by the author, is shown here. Many passing pedestrians stop to view the models and the selected historical panels on window display.



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I highly recommend this museum to China Post 1 members. The museum staff is Chinese, and they welcome American visitors. They have been warmly receptive to my comments and suggestions to help them curate their exhibit and improve their English.

The museum is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization and it is suggested that you call or check its website at <http://ww2pacificwarmemorialhall.org/> before visiting.

China Post 1 Auxiliary

By Linda Cockrell, President

Lyrics from Linda

The China Post 1 Auxiliary is alive and well. We have 47 active members, and look forward to a well-attended 2019 reunion in September in Colorado Springs, CO. At the reunion, the Auxiliary is scheduled to meet at 13:30, Saturday, 21 September. Come get to know your sisters better and help welcome our new members.

Remember, if you have any Auxiliary news that would be of interest to the readers of the Poop Sheet, please send your article, with any pictures, to me via email at: AUXPresident@chinapost1.email.

I will be attending the American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis in August. If you are going to be there, let me know and, hopefully, we can meet up!

Auxiliary Activities – President Linda Cockrell

On the first night of the American Legion Legacy Run last year, I met **Sons of the American Legion (SAL) member Charlie Porter from Indiana. China Post 1 SAL Commander Leroy** and I shared a table with Charlie, and had a couple of cool ones. When Charlie found out we were from New Mexico, he took off his new doo-rag and gave it to me. It was a replica of the New Mexico state flag! The next morning we and over 200+ bikes left on the first leg of the Run...in the rain! The roads were slick and, unfortunately, there was a wreck and Charlie got caught in it. He went down hard and was then run over by another bike. Needless to say he went to the hospital and endured months of healing, with a setback or two. We kept in touch with Charlie and made him promise to visit us whenever he was out our way.

In April, Charlie and his wife **Capi** stopped in Ruidoso for a few days on their way back to Indiana from Arizona. Leroy and I were delighted to play hosts and invited **China Post 1 member Bill Parrish and China Post 1 Auxiliary member Lola Parrish** to join us.



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Pictured left to right: Capi Porter, Lola Parrish, Bill Parrish, Leroy Cockrell, and Charlie Porter at the “No Scum Allowed Saloon” in White Oaks, NM.

As the saying goes...”There are no strangers, just friends you haven’t met yet!”

A Note from China Post 1 Auxiliary Chaplain Arlys Gowen (Reprint)

As your chaplain, I would like to touch base with each of you during the year. If you hear of a Sister we have lost, or someone needs a Get Well, Thinking of You, or Sympathy card, please contact me. If you never turned in your birthday date when you registered, you can email it to me. If your email address has changed, please email me the new one.

Arlys’ email address is: ragowen@msn.com .

China Post 1 Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron

By Leroy Cockrell, Squadron Commander



This year’s observations of Memorial Day and the D-Day Invasion brought about an assortment of memories, and even celebrations for all of us. All our families have shared in the blood lost during wartime. Yet we stand ready to contribute whatever would be needed to retain the freedom that we all enjoy daily. Our own fathers and grandfathers were there, and the mantra “all gave some, some gave all” came home to each of us. *What an honor it is to be a member of the Sons of the American Legion!*

The 2019 membership dues year is in the can, and our 2020 dues came due on the first of July. There are a fair number of *paid up* memberships, but unless you’re one of them, it’s time to post a letter to: China Post 1, PO Box 50858, Henderson NV 89016-0858. Please include \$35/year or \$100/3 years. Within 30 days, Anna will transmit your **paid-up** membership to National Headquarters and mail you your 2020 SAL membership card. Let’s all try to get these paid as soon as possible. The National Headquarters reports weekly the progress each Department is making with respect to paid up and retained membership of the previous year. Let’s be the first SAL Squadron in Department of France (DOF) to reach 100% -- oorah! As a side note for all, we finished the year with 42 paid up members which was 91.3% of our previous year’s membership. Not bad considering the big hit we took in 2018 by not paying up all expired memberships as previous Post management had done.

Gentlemen, we need to have a discussion concerning fundraising projects by our Headquarters SAL Squadron. There are several worthwhile causes that the American Legion supports, such as the AL Legacy Fund. We’ve had very little input/support for the VA & R Program that we started just after the first of this year. Those efforts will be totaled June 30, and reported to DOF SAL Adjutant, as mentioned in earlier communications.

Our Past Commander Joe Gentile headed a project that involved printing and selling China Post 1 T-Shirts. We have now sold out of those, and possibly we should consider another effort such as that for a fundraiser? We are open to any and all suggestions. Since our membership is geographically and age diverse, it is difficult to make this a cumulative effort but voicing our ideas via emails should be no problem. **Please let us hear from you with your fundraising ideas at: SALCMDR@ChinaPost1.email .**

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You can correlate the 1 in both China Post 1 and Team 1 in the way Joe Apel and his team get the job done. SAL member Mr. Joe Apel, owner of Team 1 Automotive Experts, has donated \$2,200 to provide dehumidification for our memorabilia, and to defray the manufacturing cost of bronze plaques noting our China Post 1's historical significance in military history. As Six Degrees go, Joe's grandfather was jailed by Castro about the time of Operation Mongoose. Castro had him set up in front of a firing squad as a method of persuasion to cease publishing anti-Castro material, but he was eventually able to escape to the U.S.

Of the several plaques made, one has been placed on the front of the Chennault Museum in Monroe, Louisiana. Another is picked for display on the American Club in Shanghai, China. As soon as possible, members of our Executive Committee will be traveling there to make the presentation.



Proudly displaying one of the plaques are left to right: Mr. Mike Thomason, Team 1 Automotive Experts, China Post 1 Commander Scott Riebel, China Post 1 SAL member Joe Apel and Owner of Team 1 Automotive Experts, and China Post 1 Past Judge Advocate Kerry Kilburn. If you want to thank Joe and Company personally, write him at joe@team1autoexperts.com.

That's about it for this quarter. Please get your 2020 dues in soon, and try to attend this year's 2019 China Post 1 Reunion in Colorado Springs. We're planning a SAL membership meeting on the Saturday afternoon after the general Post meeting in the morning. See you there!

TAPS: None reported during the Spring Quarter.

New Members

By Dr. Anna H. Lint

NEW MEMBERS	
Month	Name
May 2019	Merrill G Hall, Roger C Morris, Bradley E Owens, Gary T Rezabek (4)
June 2019	Leonard C Ekman, Richard A Lyda, Daniel J Portues (3)

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Dragon Fund Donors

By *Dr. Anna H. Lint*

DRAGON FUND DONORS	
Month	Name
May 2019	Gregory A Harris, Ronald B Powell, Hans Stockenberger (3)

Memorial Division News

Nevada Memorial Division

China Post 1 meeting on 8 June 2019

By *Jim Lint*

Attendees (6/08/2019) - 21 people

Jim Lint introduced the new China Post 1 Deputy Commander (Jeff Carson). China Post 1 Commander has changed from Ron Burkett to Scott Riebel, effective June 13, 2019. See <https://chinapost1.org/contact-us/> for a list of our new leaders.



W.E.B. Griffin's "Retreat Hell" book was donated for Deputy Commander Jeff Carson to take to the reunion. (See photo.) This book was about the Korean War. I read it during Anna's and my recent trip in May to Korea. The book started in Inchon (where we landed at the new International Airport), Seoul, (where we stayed and visited Yongsan Army Garrison), and Wonsan, (where we visited). This book traveled to the locations mentioned in the book. (I did not plan on it; it just happened that I wanted a book for the flight!)

VFW Post 3848 Commander and China Post 1 member Dan Atkins received a plaque with wire from the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

Five China Post 1 members were present at the Friday Fish Fry event.

Many of our members were in Korea in the past, and we had a China Post 1 Memorial Division from 2000-2004. We met every Friday at the Hartell House on post where there was free finger food. (During the seven years from 1987 through 2004, JRL served multiple tours in Korea.)

After the meeting, Anna and I went to the Shanghai Plaza, next door to the Leatherneck Club complex. It might be worth a future picture taking event. Anna and I went to the China Post 1 post home in Shanghai, China in 2003.



Jeff Carson: Jeff showed some items that would be going to the reunion. The U.S. Veterans Affairs (VA) Director for Southern NV/Las Vegas retired and they are in the hiring process. The history of China Post 1 book

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is on Amazon at <https://www.amazon.com/Story-China-Post-Generals-Chennault/dp/1093893001> . Memorial Day cemetery flag distribution event was a success. (Jeff has been a driving force for this event for multiple years.) Future reunion locations (2020: Florida, 2021: Virginia).

George Rivers: The story of General Leonard Wood plus George's grandfather and father as veterans. VA still has the issue of slow payments, which upsets the doctors out in town. VA doctors move to the local hospitals for the better pay and benefits.

Paul Curtis: Living in California, but made the visit in May and in June. His last duty station in the Navy was a Recruiting Station at the Los Angeles Dodgers stadium. He was Navy from a Marine family.

Terry Parker: Discussed Dr. Little's history in aviation and a story about the Vietnam War.

Norman Honadle: Had 38 years in the Marine Corps. Seems to have liked it and survived!

Rey Quijano: Reminded everyone about emblem sales. His family moved to the USA in 1949. He was an Army laboratory technician/researcher. He has been with China Post 1 for 25 years.

Bud Pattengale: He was Navy but his father made Tanks during WWII.

Jon Lear: Chief pilot (Lebanon, Cairo Egypt...etc.)

Pete Caimi: Had stories about his 30 years in the Marine Corps.

Mike Evans: Chaplain at the Special Forces (SF) Association in Las Vegas chapter. (31 years in Airborne).

Jim Hanke: ROTC – Airborne - SF and Attaché in Israel.

Dave Jochman: Chaplain at Marine Corps League. Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery is the second busiest cemetery (nine burials per day).

News:

- 1) Poop Sheet will be coming out in July 2019
- 2) Commander change: Commander (Scott Riebel), Deputy Commander (Jeff Carson)
- 3) Future reunion locations (2020: Florida, 2021: Virginia)

NEXT MEETING is 13 JULY at NOON at the Leatherneck Club.

(Pictures: Starting at Jim Lint going clockwise) Jeff Carson, Jim Hanke, Mike Evans, Pete Caimi, Nicole Caimi, John Lear, Ally Lear, Toni Carpenter, Bud Pattengale, George Rivers, Mike Saal, Terry Parker, Randall Heaton, Dave Jochman, Norman Honadle, Rey Quijano, Paul Curtis, Mary Lou Curtis, Richard Smith (not in the picture), Anna Lint (not in the picture: photographer).



China Post 1 meeting 11 May 2019

By Jeff Carson

We met upstairs in the library. Attendees were Jeff Carson, Pete Caimi, George Rivers, Mike Kandt, Don Loyd, Tom Southwick, Terry Parker, Bud Pattengale, Paul Curtis and his wife Mary Lou from California, Jim Davey, Lou Rothenstein, Richard Smith, Toni Carpenter and her longtime friends Marion Kordich from Minnesota, and Diana Pasch from Denver, Colorado.

Subjects talked about were:

1. Air America reunion to be held at the end of May, Mike Kandt will attend.
2. Discussed the passing of Bill Barber, awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, had a stadium named after him in Southern CA.
3. Lengthy discussion about Agent Orange and the upcoming bill for blue water Navy, Korea DMZ area, and Thailand areas for exposure.
4. Mike Kandt gave report on book *FLIGHT* by Captain Neil G. Hansen.
5. Poop Sheet was discussed, and Toni Carpenter was thanked for her editing.
6. Storage unit in Henderson has been vacated, and all material will be transported in September to Colorado Springs.
7. Memorial Day ceremony this 27th at Boulder City at 1:00 P.M.
8. Membership was discussed and proper filling out of Blue Cards with a sponsor!

Northern Virginia Memorial Division

By Jeryl "Jerry" Gegan, Division Commander

Jerry sent the following letter to our Post Commander on 2 June 2019:

“Cmdr, American Legion, China Post 1
P.O. Box 50858

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Henderson, NV 89016-0858

Ron,

The Northern Virginia Memorial Division is mourning the loss of our great Adjutant, Mike Evers. Mike was the heart and soul of our division; he was the leader and the engine that made the division the success that it is. While we could never replace a man like Mike, our new Adjutant, Bennett Hart, has done a magnificent job of locating and organizing division records, contacting members, and pulling together the string that will keep us functioning. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mike's family; our memories of Mike and what he did to guide and invigorate the Northern Virginia Memorial Division are vivid. He will never be forgotten.

V/R,

Jerry Gegan
Cmdr, Northern Virginia Memorial Division"

Quarterly Feature

By Brielle Bredsten

Love and War in Vietnam: A Veteran's Day Special

The story of two Aitkin, Minnesota Vietnam veterans whose hearts were captivated by their experiences while serving, meeting, marrying, and adopting a child across the globe.

A young nurse...

It was 1950 when Beverly Phillips graduated from Aitkin High School and left her parents, Harold and Elsie Phillips, Hide-Away Resort on Sugar Lake to attend Hamline University School of Nursing. Beverly later attended the Minneapolis School of Anesthesia, followed by a degree in nursing education from the University of Minnesota.

In 1958, while a student at the University of Minnesota, Beverly bought 10 acres on Sugar Lake not far from her parents, and dreamed of building a house there someday.

Beverly taught surgical nursing at the University of Michigan, and later Mounds-Midway School of Nursing. She learned that the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), a uniformed but not armed service headed by the U.S. Surgeon General, was recruiting nurse anesthetists for Vietnam service. She joined holding the rank of commander, USPHS ranks being the same as Navy ranks.

An Air Force Lieutenant...

Meanwhile Fred Donner spent six years fighting forest fires for the U.S. Forest Service all over the West and Alaska, including two years on the "smokejumper" (parachute) crew in Montana, the most fun he ever had in his life. The draft motivated him to join the military. During five years as an Air Force lieutenant he was stationed on Taiwan, when he volunteered to go directly to Vietnam in 1964 to command a transportation unit at Bien Hoa Air Base. "Lieutenants as commanders were a rarity in the Air Force," Fred explained. "I was

single, young, and adventuresome. I could have been sent anywhere in the world, but it turned out to be Taiwan and Vietnam, the major turning point in my life.”

Treating casualties...

As a USPHS nurse anesthetist officer, Beverly worked with thousands of Vietnamese civilian casualties for two years at the Danang Provincial Hospital, on a U.S. government surgical team. “Danang is in the northern part of southern Vietnam, and there was heavy fighting in that area,” Beverly recalled. “Some of the patients were enroute to the hospital for several days and were in very bad shape.” Hospitals in Vietnam at that time were very primitive, Beverly said. At times there were two patients per small cot and the team sometimes worked day and night to keep up. “Once these people made it to the hospital, most survived. If they had made it that far, we were able to help. We did everything from brain surgery to cesarean sections,” she said.

One patient in particular stands out in Beverly’s mind as she thinks back to her days as an anesthetist. A small child, probably about six years old, was unloaded from a truck in terrible condition. “She was almost bled out from a severe injury to the leg,” Beverly said. “I put an oxygen mask on her. One of the doctors said, ‘You might as well stop. It’s too late.’” Against the doctor’s advice, Beverly kept administering CPR until a heartbeat was detected. The child’s leg was later amputated. “Every once in a while I think about her. I think there is a woman in Vietnam in her 50s who has one leg, but she’s alive,” Beverly said.

Meet and Marry in Danang...

After leaving the Air Force, Fred returned to Danang, Vietnam in 1965 as a manager with the U.S. government airline Air America, doing essentially what he did in the Air Force. “Air America was often called the CIA airline, but it served the entire U.S. government,” Fred said. “Travel was by air. You couldn’t drive. You could be ambushed on the road.” However, he described life as being comfortable for American civilians not on the front lines and not in combat.

Beverly and Fred met in Danang. In October 1966 they married in Hong Kong, honeymooned in Hong Kong and Taiwan, and returned to Danang for another year with Air America. Fred left Air America to earn a degree in East Asian studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, because Taiwan, Vietnam, and East Asia in general, had become of great career interest to him.

Fred and Beverly described southern Vietnam as suffering several wars within wars at the time of their service. “There was a lot of civil conflict,” Fred described. “Constant tension between multiple groups: Buddhist, Catholic, Chinese, former northern Vietnamese, as well as *montagnards*, the French word for the 50-some tribal minorities in southern Vietnam. In other words the whole country was in chaos.”

Christian Service...

Both evangelical Christians, Fred and Beverly returned to Vietnam in July, 1971. Fred described the couple’s return as “not a compulsion, but a calling.” The war was still underway. Fred was a business and property manager for a missionary group, and Beverly was a missionary nurse. “We went back to Vietnam as non-government civilians because we have a great love for the Vietnamese people,” Beverly said. “Our goal in going back to Vietnam was to be of service in a different capacity than previously.”

During their four-year missionary term, the Donners visited a Christian orphanage, resulting in the adoption of a six-month-old Vietnamese orphan, Susan, is their only child. Beverly recalled there were six infants sleeping except for one who was screaming. "I walked over to her and she stopped crying. Both parents had been killed in the war. Someone brought her to a pastor who had a number of orphans, but no way of caring for an infant," Beverly said. Susan was almost three years old when they left Saigon on April 6, 1975 as volunteer escorts on an "Operation Babylift" flight bringing orphans to the U.S. "South Vietnam was falling," Fred stated. "Babylift was using empty returning military aircraft to remove orphans." Susan is now 45, a computer manager, and lives near them in Virginia.

Beverly added, "Some of these people, even all these years later, you think about. When we think of the Vietnam War, we think about the tragedy and suffering. Our government sent not only military to Vietnam, but also sent others to help with the humanitarian needs that were so evident."

Post-Vietnam...

Fred finished a graduate degree in East Asian studies at the University of Minnesota. He became a Foreign Service officer with the U.S. State Department, serving five years in Manila and Washington, D.C., followed by 10 years as a Southeast Asia intelligence analyst at the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., until retirement. He then worked 10 years part-time on a classified contract for the Raytheon Corporation. "As you can see, I couldn't hold a job," Fred joked. The Donners lived in the state of Virginia, where Beverly continued her anesthesia career to retirement.

Beverly's mother used to send her an *Aitkin Independent Age* subscription. In May 2001 she read that a house built by Aitkin High School students was up for auction. She sent her brother Bruce, with cell phone in hand, to make her successful bid by phone. She and Fred moved the house from a vacant lot in town to Sugar Lake. For the last 17 years the couple resides there six months of the year, the other six months in the state of Virginia.

"After all these years I am still grieving about Vietnam, and the way it was back then," Beverly said. When one serves seven years in Vietnam in three trips, and meets their spouse there, and they adopt their only child there, Vietnam tends to have a special place in their hearts and minds. Ask the Donners.

Editor: This article was originally published in the Aitkin, Minnesota "Aitkin Independent Age," on November 8, 2017. It is copyrighted but reprinted here with the permission of the author and the Adams Publishing Group. Fred Donner is a China Post 1 member who is active in the Northern Virginia Memorial Division.

Fallen Comrades

Michael "Mike" Evers

On 21 May 2019 Bennett Hart notified us of the death of Mike Evers, Adjutant, Northern Virginia Memorial Division on Thursday, 9 May 2019 at Fairfax, Virginia:

"COMPANIONS-IN-ARMS, SILENT WARRIORS AND FRIENDS:

It is my sad duty to inform you of the untimely passing of our long time Adjutant, patriot and friend, Michael F. Evers on the night of the 9th of May. He is survived by his wife Marilew, and his daughter Ruthie. Both are longtime supporters of our Chapter.

A Memorial Service was held at 11:00 AM, on Friday, May 31st. The Service will be at the Truro Anglican Church located at 10520 Main Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22030. Lunch will follow at the Church, then proceeding to the Fairfax Memorial Cemetery at 9900 / 9902 Braddock Road (Braddock Road and Burke Station Road).

Cards and expressions of sympathy may be sent to their house at 10403 Courthouse Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030.

With Deepest Regrets and Most Respectfully,

For the Commander
Bennett R. Hart
Acting Adjutant”

Bennett delivered the following eulogy at Mike’s Memorial Service:

Companions-in-Arms, Silent Warriors and Friends:

In this Legion Post, there is a central core of men and women – those in the Zone of Silence, who remain nameless, faceless, and placeless, due to the nature of their calling. They are supported by multi-clad military and civilian special equipped operations groups and also contractors having every skill known to man for war, or training, or diplomacy or emergency, or rebuilding the ruins of conflict.

We have members who were prisoners of war and lived, wounded-in-action, missing-in-action with some still in that status, and killed-in-action. This for World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom, Peacekeeping, and cold wars, in between and on-going, wherever needed.

All are volunteers – All are professionals in the field of their choice.

When one is called to destiny – due to the “Oath of Secrecy,” seldom can an appropriate memorial service be given. Few people know what they have done for their nation and their fellow man. So, it is up to this Post to pass on the word, and those surviving to pay their respects.

With the “scattered but not dispersed” world-wide membership of China Post 1, we, in our own way, honor our dead – with a service, a glass of wine or a mug of beer – we honor their departure.

And his epitaph can read: “For his fellow man, in his own way, he did what he could with what he had. Mortals can do no more. He was a Keeper of the Flame.”

Michael F. Evers – We salute you! You have earned your rest. Farewell until we meet again.

Edna Nichols

L. Michael Kandt, Past Division Commander, Isfahan, Iran informed us on 29 May 2019 that:

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“I noted the obit in the Las Vegas Review Journal in May, regarding the wife of Past Dhahran Memorial Commander, Jack Nichols.

Edna Nichols (78) passed away peacefully on Tuesday May 6, at St. Rose Siena Hospital in Henderson, NV She was born in Wichita Falls, TX. She Married Jack Nichols on July 8, 1961. She and Jack were both military veterans- USAF.

Jack and Edna joined Northrop/McDonald Douglas in Saudi Arabia, and lived abroad for 18 years. They had no children. Jack and Edna were married for 38 years. Jack preceded her in death several years ago.

On a personal note, I knew Jack and Edna in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, where we were part of a team that organized and developed the Isfahan Memorial Division. I served as adjutant for many years, and Jack was a two term Commander.

Jack was a gentleman in the true sense. Edna was a lady, and very close friend of my wife Phanh. After I learned that Edna was living in Las Vegas with family, during an encounter at a local market, I told her of Phanh's passing, I regret not making a better effort to keep in touch.”

George “Ole” Olson

Scott Riebel let us know that, “We also lost George “Ole” Olson on March 20, 2019. I will miss him.”

News from Our Members

Burt Kurland sent the following on May 11, 2019:

“Thank you for the “poop-sheet” recently received. I have been a CP#1 member since the late 70’s while in the Sinai with the Field Mission. I have been very INACTIVE with this Post and with the American Legion since 1946. You people do a GREAT JOB! I envy you. Now I am almost 93 yrs. old, so how much time do I have left?? Continue to march! Bert Kurland, Ft. Myers, FL.”

VFW 3848 Korea DMZ Plaque presentation to **Dan Adkins**.

On May 17 2019, Jim Lint gave VFW 3848 Commander Dan Adkins a plaque with the Korean DMZ barbed wire. The event happened during the Henderson, NV Friday Fish Fry. China Post 1 Deputy Commander Jeff Carson and members Lou and Betty Rothenstein were also in attendance. Dan is also a China Post 1 member. As usual, Anna Lint was the photographer.



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Jim and Anna Lint revisit Korea.

On June 8, 2019 **Jim Lint** reported on his and **Anna's** recent visit to Korea:

“Anna and I missed the last [Nevada MemDiv] meeting due to trip to Korea. I took a W.E.B. Griffin book about the Korea War. Interestingly, that story traveled from Inchon, Seoul, and Wonju. We did also. I also visited Yongsan and the new Camp Humphrey post that holds 36,000 military plus families. I got a great tour with some great members of the Military Intelligence Brigade, and they had a good lunch. One of our China Post 1 members was TDY, so we did not get to meet up.

FYI, our Safe House with Mr. Kwon has moved from Yongsan to outside to the gate at Camp Hump. <http://www.kwons.net/source/address.html> Picture taken by Anna of me with Mr. Kwon, the sun changed my glasses! The other picture is just outside of the gate, and it was a very US friendly town of Anjeong-ri.”



Jim M. meets with the American Legion National Commander.

On June 24, 2019 Jim Lint informed us that China Post 1 member Jim M. “had the honor of meeting the National Commander of the American Legion on 9 June, during the airborne drop at the La Fiere causeway in Sainte-Mere Eglise, France, as part of the commemorations of the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. Jim was leading the Counterintelligence/Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection (CI/AT/FP) teams supporting U.S. Army Europe's participation in D-Day 75 activities from 24 May to 10 June.



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Jimmy Jacks completes his book on Cambodia.

On June 28, 2019 Jimmy informed us that, "Perhaps you recall my saying I was working on a book about the war in Cambodia during the early 70s. It is done in paperback and hardback. I was thinking that perhaps some of our members from the Vietnam era might find it interesting." The book is about two proprietary "airlines" I worked with in the Congo, and then in Cambodia. I feel many of our members who served in SEA during the Vietnam War era would find it interesting. It shows the life of the "secret warriors and secret peacemakers" to borrow a phrase from the Thailand, Laos, Cambodia Brotherhood (TLCB).

Here is the description of the book: 'Life inside two secret companies funded by the United States to do their bidding in hot war zones during the Cold War. This shows a close-up view of the suffering they played a part in while supporting what history has clearly shown to be the misguided foreign policies of the United States in the Congo and Cambodia.' Veterans who served in Vietnam can easily identify.'

Sincerely & Welcome Home

Jimmy Jacks"

Editor: The entry for Jimmy's book is posted on the "CPI Library" on our website at <https://chinapost1.org/library/>. Further information is obtainable from Ingram, Amazon, and Barnes & Noble.

Message from our new Sergeant-At-Arms, Alan "Hooker" Johnston

Hooker sent the following message to Commander Scott Riebel on July 3, 2019:

"Hi Scott,

Sorry it has taken me so long to get to you, brother.

But congrats on being our new commander.

If you need anything done I am here to do whatever you want.

I can travel but cannot drive. I know excel, word and other languages, so if you need some data crunch or power point down, let me know.

While I was in Anchorage, AK the beginning of June, I participated in the National Veteran Golden Age Games.

I played in the visually impaired 55-59 age group.

I played 5 sports and did okay. I had a medal in all 5.

Gold in horseshoes, bowling and shuffle board Bronze in Bocce Ball and Blind disc golf.

Take Care Brother

HOOKER"



Poop Sheet Contributions Wanted

We welcome contributions to the Poop Sheet from all of our members, including links and photos that relate directly to our Post, its members, and their activities and accomplishments. However, please DO NOT send anything classified or sensitive, including topics of a political, sexual or religious nature. Your contributions to the Poop Sheet should be sent to poopsheet@chinapost1.email with the Subject: Poop Sheet Article. **Please send all other notices, requests for information or support, and any other messages to the appropriate individual in the directory that follows.**

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