



JOURNAL OF THE WILLIAM C. WESTMORELAND CHAPTER, ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

The President's Message – Summer 2013

It as come to my attention that it may be a good idea to share with the Westmoreland membership what I do at my regular job. I am a contractor working for Human Resources Consulting Incorporated (HRCI). My job is to work primarily with those families who have lost a family member in the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Basically I am a coordinator who works with the family after the Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO) has finished his or her duties. That usually takes about 30-60 days after the death of the soldier. The CAO works primarily with the family on funeral issues, insurance, personal affects, etc. There are usually some items that the CAO can't complete so this is where I come in. My official title is Survivor Outreach Coordinator (SOSC). The Mission Statement that I work by is to "help build a unified program which embraces and reassures Survivors that they are continually linked to the Army Family for as long as they desire."



In Nevada there are about 332 such families which my counterpart in Las Vegas and I work to help. Each State has SOSC's and, depending on the size of the State and the number of survivors, there can be as few as 1 SOSC or as many as 6 SOSC's. California for example has over 1500 families and they are serviced by 5 SOSC's.

The job is a challenge, and it takes a lot of emotional energy out of me at times; but the rewards are great in seeing the appreciation of those we help.

Hopefully many of you are putting our Veterans' Day Dinner to be held November 11, 2013 on your calendars.

Thank you all,
Alan Callanan



New Members:

- 2LT Justin F. Geil-Crader (NG)
- 2LT Micah L. Gill (NG)
- 2LT Angelica B. Gurley (A)
- 2LT Austin W.S Hamilton (A)
- 2LT Crista Harrop (A)
- 2LT Dashawna M. Jimerson (A)
- 2LT Jason E. Kilgore (A)
- SPC Putheraa Khoeun
- Ms. Noreen Leary (C)
- COL Katherine N. Miller (RA)
- LTC Michael Minaudo (A)
- 2LT Tyler D. Redden (NG)
- CPT David D. Robinson (A)
- 2LT Jacob V. Sanford (NG)
- 2LT Travis G. Salley (R)
- 2LT Joe D. Stevens (A)
- LTC Bart Tragemann, (RA)
- 2LT Ethan J. Witt (A)

CD - Corporate Designee
NG - National Guard
A - Active Army
V - Veteran

C - Civilian
R - Reserve
RA - Retired Army
RUSAF - Retired Air Force

Have an E-Mail Address? Please Read

If you have been receiving Chapter information by USPS and have an e-mail address, please contact Chapter Secretary Bernie Stolzman at (775) 624-8545 or digitwiz01@gmail.com and share your email address.

Using email saves the Chapter money and provides you, our members, with more timely information. Thank you

Out & About *by Jack Logan*

As many of you know, our much loved life member, **Barbara Vucanovich**, passed on June 10, 2013, twelve days short of her 92nd birthday. Recovering from a broken pelvis, Barbara succumbed to an infection. Those of us who attended her service on June 14th were again reminded of her popularity and the deep respect the Community held for the former Congresswoman. She will be truly missed by all who knew her.

On a happier note, "Congratulations" are in order for **LTC(R) Scott Maryott** who recently accepted the nomination to become the Director of Army Instruction for the Washoe County School District involving the 11 high schools hosting an Army Junior ROTC program. His tour of duty began July 1, 2013 upon the retirement of **LTC(R) Norb Czech** who has held the position for the past 4 years. Norb was honored at our Armed Forces Day Dinner in May with a Certificate of Appreciation for his support of our Chapter activities and events. We wish him well in his retirement after more than 40 years in uniform, as we applaud the selection of Scott who has excelled in past positions as the PMS at UNR and the SAI at Reno High School.

The celebration of the Army's 238th Birthday and Flag Day was hosted by the Nevada National Guard on June 14th at the State Capitol. The Army Guard's State **Command Sergeant Major Daryl Keithley** and the 757th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Operations NCO **MSG Harry Schroeder** both spoke of the significance of the celebration. **Sixth Region President Sharlee Smith**, **Chapter President Alan Callanan**, **Chapter Vice President for Corporate Membership Jim Nicholson**, **Chapter Vice President for National Guard Affairs Alicia Nyland** and I attended. The Chapter furnished the refreshments that were enjoyed following the ceremony.

Two happy events involving the Military Science Department of the University of Nevada occur every May. The first is the Awards Ceremony which was held in the afternoon of May 3rd; the second is the Commissioning ceremony which took place in the morning of May

16th. Several Chapter members took part in the Awards Ceremony. This year our Chapter was able to provide two \$500 scholarships which I was honored to present to **Cadets Brandon Castinado** and **Jacob Ziolkowski**. **LTC(R) Sharlee Smith** presented a personal scholarship of \$450 to **Cadet Nicolette De Los Angeles**.

I had the privilege of presenting the AUSA Medal of Excellence and two history books to **Cadet Robert Park**.

Continuing his practice of several years, **SGM(R) Lloyd Rahlf** made three personal presentations. His first leadership award, a copy of MG(R) Stanley McChrystal's book *My Share of the Task, A Memoir* went to **Cadet Dashawna Jimerson**. His second, also a leadership award, was the book *The Sentinel and the Shooter* which he presented to **Cadet Mary Ann Ong**. His final award consisting of a trophy and the book, *The Coldest Winter: America and the Korean War*, was presented to **Cadet Andrew Fishman**.

Twelve cadets became Second Lieutenants on May 16th. Their names appear among the list of New Members on page one of the Warrior as each was presented with a one year membership in the AUSA by our Chapter. The 12 new lieutenants are the largest group of cadets commissioned at the University in several years. Four were commissioned in the National Guard, seven in the active Army and one in the Army Reserve. Three are female officers. **LTC Mike Minaudo** and his excellent staff can take great pride in the outstanding quality of these new officers. The ROTC staff can also be proud of the planning and conduct of these two remarkable events.

On behalf of the Chapter Executive Committee, I would like to acknowledge **Dee Rahlf's** outstanding work as our Chapter Secretary. For the past 4 years Dee has performed in a truly outstanding manner, never missing a meeting and producing minutes that were accurate and complete. During that time she served 3 different Presidents often tactfully suggesting ideas and policy to improve the Chapter. We wish her well in her new role of taking care of the health needs of her family.

Activities of the National Security Forum *by Colonel (retired) Dick Hobbs*

The NSF has now been formalized as a non-profit organization with \$100 annual membership charge with the membership year beginning on 1 July each year. The cost of breakfast remains \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members.

Interesting programs were hosted during the spring and summer. Since our last newsletter in April, a presentation in May by Jerry O'Driscoll and Atul Minocha, both of the CATO Institute, dealt with US fiscal policy. O'Driscoll argued that our national deficit required austerity measures while Minocha argued that our deficit is not our most serious problem and more stimulus money targeted on education and infrastructure is needed.

Also in May the NSF was invited by the Nevada Air National Guard to a briefing on the effects on the Guard of Sequestration with about 50 attendees at the presentation and tour of a C-130 and other equipment.

On June 19th a four person panel discussed Syria and the Sunni-Shia conflict. John Jandali highlighted the ongoing conflict; Dick Hobbs provided the history of the Sunni-Shia conflict; Ty Cobb

addressed Russian involvement and interests; and Richard Mueller talked about Chinese interests.

July had two interesting programs. The first was a historical review of the National Security Council by Ty Cobb complemented by many photographs of the key players from the NSC's beginning until present day. The second dealt with the NSA's surveillance with four well qualified speakers. Bob Gast, former Assistant Director of the FBI, and Rae Huffstutler, former Executive Director of the CIA, argued that surveillance was necessary for national security. Warren Lerude, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, and Dr. Tom Cargill, UNR professor, addressed the threat to privacy.

August's presentation is scheduled for the 22nd and features Lt. General, Retired, Martin Brandtner, USMC, who will discuss the "Inside Story of Operation Desert Storm" from his perspective as the Operations Officer for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The last program presently scheduled takes place on 13 September and deals with Iran, its new leadership and the impact on US policy. The speaker will be Colonel Dino Pick, Commandant of the Defense Language Institute.

The Tamarack Junction, a Corporate Member *by Jack Logan*

Twelve years ago a new casino was built on South Virginia amid much publicity and some doubts about its future success. Two people who have erased those doubts and contributed greatly to its growth and success are the General Manager, Casey Sullivan, and his Administrative Manager, Lisa Johnson. Let's learn a bit about both.

Casey was born in September of 1962 in Salt Lake City Utah, the son of a successful banker. By 1964 the family had relocated to Reno and, in partnership with others, established Valley Bank. Casey's Dad, Robert James Sullivan, became the youngest Bank President in Nevada becoming well known for the Bank's success and for his support of the gaming industry. Casey grew up in the company of a younger sister and a younger brother who is now deceased.

He graduated from Bishop Monogue High School and the University of Nevada with a degree in Business Management. It was at the University where Casey met his wife of 27 years, Charlotte, who was a member of the sorority where Casey washed dishes. "Our fraternity didn't have a cook so we washed dishes at the sororities for food. It was there that I met Charlotte." Together they have raised three sons; Kyle now 25, Conner 21 and Keegan 18 who is a freshman at Emory Riddle University learning about the aviation industry and to hone his skills as a pilot. Pride in his boys is evident as Casey tells of Kyle's graduation as a football player from the University of San Diego and his present work in real estate. Conner is attending the University of San Diego majoring in drama with ambitions to be involved in the theater.

Following his graduation from the University, Casey began a 10 year employment with the Eldorado Hotel and Casino as a management trainee. "I did everything... food... beverage, housekeeping... worked on slots... changed light bulbs... you name it, I did it." In 1995, a five year employment with the International Gaming and Technology Company (IGT) began where he worked in the Mega Jackpot Department and the Casino Division. All this seemed a perfect background for the establishment of a new casino business.

In 2001 the opportunity to buy the Tamarack Bar, its 14 1/2 acres and its gaming license arose. In partnership with the Carano family and a local attorney, the Sullivan family purchased the Tamarack Bar and began the 12 year journey that led to its success of today. "We had our fingers crossed and watched it take off. We're a local place, we take care of locals and that's what we want to do." Our

AUSA Chapter, along with other local organizations, benefits by enjoying the banquet service and facilities.



Sharing in the work and management since the Tamarack's earliest days was Lisa Johnson, who like Casey, has done whatever needed to be done to insure the success of the Tamarack. My association with Lisa began in 2008 when, as Chapter President, I would seek Lisa's help in planning and conducting our quarterly dinners. Her desire to assist an Army organization came naturally.

Lisa was born at Fort Rucker, Alabama, the daughter of an Army aviator whose duty stations took Lisa and her three brothers to Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. Her Dad flew both fixed wing

and rotary aircraft and served two tours in Vietnam as an aviator. Tragically, her Dad was killed in a plane crash in Georgia in 1972 while flying VIPs. Her pride in her Father's career is obvious as she relates her childhood memories.

Following the loss of her Dad, her Mother and her three brothers moved to Texas to be near other family members. She graduated from Lake Highland High School in Dallas and with her Mother moved to Southern California where she attended college for a brief time. Foregoing an interest in architecture, she took the courses necessary to become an insurance agent with a company in southern California. She was selected by her employer to travel to northern Nevada to enroll the State of Nevada employees for benefits. "I fell in love with Reno and basically never left." Seeing an opportunity to use her administrative skills, Lisa became an administrative assistant and sales representative at the Pioneer Inn until it closed in 2000. In the meantime she had met Ken Johnson in 1997 whom she married in 2001.

It was that year that she joined Casey Sullivan and other key players who formed the team that built the Tamarack Junction. Casey would be quick to say that Lisa has been an integral part of the success that has come to the business.

Lisa and Ken have been heavily involved in the Reno Air Races since 1998 working as volunteers in a variety of jobs working their way upward to become supervisors of a portion of the Pylon Judges. She is eager to credit her Dad for her love of planes and pilots.

We are indeed proud and pleased to have the Tamarack Junction as a Corporate Member of the AUSA and to work with these two gifted people.

New Secretary Named

Chapter President Alan Callanan was pleased to announce the appointment of **Bernie Stolzman** as the Chapter Secretary replacing Dee Rahlf. As many of you know, Bernie has been the designer of our Chapter Newsletter, The Warrior which for the last two years has received an "honorable mention" rating in competition with other AUSA chapter newsletters.

Bernie is an Army veteran having served on active duty for two years beginning in November of 1961 and remaining in the Inactive Reserve until 1966. His basic training was at Fort Dix, New Jersey and his duty station was with the First Army Flight Detachment at Floyd Bennett Field on Long Island performing the duties of an air controller. Bernie had a private pilot's license which made his assignment a good fit for him and the Army.

He was never far from home having been born on Long Island New York to parents who owned an upscale restaurant also on the Island. Not wanting to be in the restaurant business Bernie became a Realtor forming his own company specializing in retirement community development and conversion of apartments to condominiums. His business took him to Milwaukee and Dallas among other metropolitan areas where he has lived.

He has one son from a previous marriage who lives in San Francisco, and is married to retired **Army Colonel Kathy Roehr** who heads up the rural outreach program for the VA Medical Center in Reno. Bernie and Kathy became residents of Reno following Kathy's retirement and her desire to be closer to her parents who live in Minden.





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Please Join us to Celebrate **Veterans' Day**

When: Monday Evening, 11 November 2013

Time: 1800 Hours (6:00 PM) Cocktails
1900 Hours (7:00 PM) Dinner

Where: The Tamarack Junction
13101 S. Virginia Street, Reno

Cost: \$38.00 per person
(No Host Bar)

Speaker: Retired Judge Steven Kosach

Please RSVP by 8 November 2013

**AUSA Westmoreland Chapter
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**Checks payable to:
AUSA Westmoreland Chapter**