

USAF

Combat Camera



e-Blast

June 2017

From the President and Board of Officers

The board of officers held a teleconference on May 25th. A majority of officers participated with special thanks to Ken Hackman and DJ Diomedes for their contributions.

Discussions included the imagery display for this and future reunions. We are bringing back the wall for this one with the addition of imagery banners provided by Mike and Donna Sklack.

We will move the annual meeting to 9 AM on Saturday so everyone will have enough time to get ready for the banquet.

Other topics:

Finances

Registration for Colorado Springs, (about 26 so far)

Museum exhibit at Lackland AFB, (awaiting some administrative action from us)

Equipment donations. (still need any MOPIC/Video equipment donations we can round up)

Colorado Springs activities (still being finalized, with transportation options)

Active duty and mentors participation for another shoot off (started last year at Charleston)

DJ presented a status on the 2018 reunion. Contracts are signed and deposit made for our hospitality suite.

The Board will begin more frequent conferences (probably monthly rather than quarterly) as we approach October. Any issues from the membership may be addressed to me at gppjk.8@gmail.com.

Pat Knowles

Time to Vote for new officers. Ballot in June

The ballot for new officers is paired with this e-Blast. Please fill it out ASAP and e-mail it back.

Thanks, Jose Lopez

The 2017 USAF Combat Camera Reunion

**Registration:
\$175.00 per person**

(Includes Icebreaker, Hospitality Room & Banquet)

Registration for our 2017 reunion is \$175.00 per person for the full event.

This fee pays for the food and drinks for the hospitality room, the Thursday night "meet and greet" reception, the Saturday night banquet and other reunion expenses. Click on the Registration button above to pay via PayPal (you don't have to have a PayPal account). There are several other options available, listed below.

You can also MAIL a check or money order made out to **USAF Combat Camera Association** (Please **DO NOT** make them out to Pat). If you want immediate acknowledgement of receipt of your payment, include a valid email address or give it a week and then check with Pat by e-Mail at usafcca.treasurer@gmail.com (Please use this e-Mail address for all non-personal, Association-related matters only).

Pat Nugent
1006 Pin Oak Lane
Allen, TX 75002

2017 Reunion

by: Joe Coleman

The 2017 reunion dates are 12-15 Oct 2017. It will be at the Hotel Elegante Conference and Event Center in Colorado Springs. The room rates are \$149 a night for both a king size bed and 2 queen double beds. Breakfast will be included in the room rate.

Individual Reservation: Each individual guest can make their own reservation by calling (800) 981-4012 by Monday September 11, 2017. They must identify themselves as members of the Combat Camera Reunion or refer to Group #1643557. All reservations must be guaranteed and accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card.

Or click on the button to register via their website:

[Hotel Reservations](#)

<https://www.reseze.net/servlet/SendPage?hotelid=1410&skipfirstpage=true&page=1643557>

Joe Coleman is setting an awesome agenda for the Colorado Springs Reunion.

Tentative schedule for Friday:

Garden of the Gods
The Academy Tour
Possible lunch with the cadets
Olympic Training Center
Photo in front of the Chapel

On Saturday we are looking for Volunteers.

Those who are driving to the Reunion and are willing to drive fellow attendees on an informal tour, after the 9 AM Annual Meeting, to the Pete Field Museum and WWII Museum. If you want to Volunteer please e-Mail Barb Eagan at: barb@mycactusproperties.com

News about AAVS HQ building at Norton from the Highland Community newspaper:

Headed for the bone yard?

Highland Community News



Note the vegetation growing through the roof of the decaying building.

Air Combat Camera Services building

Posted: Saturday, May 6, 2017 8:01 am | Updated: 8:10 am, Sat May 6, 2017.

Highland Community News photo by Charles Roberts

The Highland Community News has learned that the Air Combat Camera Services building on the grounds of the former Norton Air Force Base is headed for the wrecking ball. A meeting is scheduled next week (May 10) to discuss possible future plans.

The building was home to some of the most advanced camera and recording equipment and home to highly skilled producers, technicians and camera operators who turned out much of the air-to-air video still being shown. Also scheduled is a meeting to discuss a Specific Plan for a 22,449 acre section of the 3rd and 5th streets Corridor. The land is owned by East Valley Water District (EVWD), but under a settlement agreement of 2016, the Specific Plan is being developed by San Bernardino International Airport. Stakeholders in the Plan include the city of Highland, the airport and EVWD, among others.

Gilbert San Roman completes his Peace and Remembrance Walk

May 27, 2017

Today at about 11:00, Col. (Ret.) [Gilbert San Roman](#) completed his 80-mile Peace and Remembrance Walk, May 24-27, from Raton to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park in Angel Fire, NM, and presented \$2,200 that his March raised to [Chuck Howe](#), President of the David Westphall Veterans Foundation, to benefit the Memorial. He has done this March every 5 years since 1982, and he says this is his last one.



Gilbert presenting \$2,200, that he raised through his 80-mile March, to Chuck Howe, President of the DWVF.



Walter Westphall and Chuck Howe, DWVF Board Members, with Gilbert.

Forwarded by Pat Nugent:

skirt!magazine
Escape the ordinary.

Stacy Pearsall

<https://www.skirt.com/profiles/stacy-pearsall/>



Stacy Pearsall hadn't yet turned 30 when she found herself undergoing rehabilitation at Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center in Charleston. The Air Force sergeant had been ambushed while working as a combat photojournalist in Iraq and fell and hit her head. It was the third injury to her neck during her third combat tour. She had been hit by roadside bombs twice before and suffered brain trauma, though doctors didn't yet know how to identify it. Still, all Stacy wanted to do was get back behind the camera. But this time, doctors told her if she took one more hit or fell one more time, she could sever her spinal cord. Stacy recalls being in a dark place, thinking she had no particular future. While waiting to see a neurologist, she felt an older veteran staring at her. His stare made her uncomfortable, and she finally turned to him and said, "Is there something I can help you with?" The man's face lit up, and he told her all about his service as part of a reconnaissance detail in France and Austria in World War II. That's when Stacy realized she was surrounded by members of "The Greatest Generation," veterans who all had extraordinary stories to tell.

It was her moment of inspiration. She picked up her camera and shot a portrait of the veteran, whose name was Mickey Dorsey. She hasn't put down her camera since, taking strikingly personal photos of veterans from across the country as part of the Veterans Portrait Project, which she founded. Her work is featured in a joint exhibition, "The Face

of Battle, Americans at War 9/11 to Now” at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. She earned the Bronze Star Medal and Air Force Commendation with Valor for her combat action in Iraq. She is one of two women to win the National Press Photographers Association Military Photographer of the Year Competition and the only woman to have earned it twice. Stacy has created portraits of 6,000 veterans in 27 states, and her goal is to document veterans in every state and province from which the Department of Defense recruits.

But, Stacy says, the most important photographs she has ever taken are the ones that the public will never see: She has taken the last living images of many soldiers. “Those are the most important works that I’ve ever done in my life,” she says. “The memories live on in the hearts of their families.”

See Stacy’s portraits at veteransportraitproject.com.

*May is National Military Appreciation Month. **skirt!** supports all the men and women who serve in our armed forces*

From Pat Nugent:

Office of Survivors Assistance

<https://www.va.gov/survivors/>

Welcome to the Office of Survivors Assistance!

The Office of Survivors Assistance (OSA) is a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) program designed to provide dedicated and comprehensive support to Survivors and dependents of deceased Veterans and members of the Armed Services.

The Office of Survivors Assistance was established by [Public Law 110-389, Title II, Section 222, in October 2008](#), to serve as a resource regarding all benefits and services furnished by the Department to Survivors and Dependents of deceased Veterans and members of the Armed Forces. OSA also serves as a principal adviser to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and promotes the use of VA benefits, programs and services to survivors.

In the course of perusing this Web site, OSA hopes that Survivors and dependents, Veterans, their families, caregivers and others will become more knowledgeable about the benefits and services offered by VA to eligible Survivors and dependents, and take the next steps to apply, if deemed eligible.

OSA will continuously improve the design, content and types of communications on this Web site as we move forward, and welcome any suggestions you might have as to how we might modify it further. Also, if you have any questions or concerns please review our [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) to determine if they have been addressed. If they are not addressed in this section, please contact us at officeofSurvivors@va.gov.

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https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/subscribers/qualify?topic_id=USVHA_48&email=Email+Address&commit.x=28&commit.y=14&commit=Submit

- Benefits:
[1-800-827-1000](tel:1-800-827-1000)
 - Health Care:
[1-877-222-VETS](tel:1-877-222-VETS) (8387)
 - VA Inspector General:
[1-800-488-8244](tel:1-800-488-8244)
 - Veterans Crisis Line:
[1-800-273-8255](tel:1-800-273-8255) Press 1
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BTW Pass this e-Blast on to fellow Combat Camera members who do not use computers.