



SURVIVOR

April 2010

OP Harry Survivors Association Newsletter

Issue 56

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OPHSA 19TH ANNUAL REUNION

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
JUNE 10-13, 2010

Bob Baker, Glenn Palmedo-Smith and Jerry Cunningham have pulled out all the stops to make this 19th Reunion an incredible event. The main event will be the premiere of the documentary *Hold at All Costs* that Glenn has been working on for the past 2 years.

The second is OPHSA members are invited to a **sneak preview of the Outpost Harry exhibit** at the Veteran's Memorial Museum at Balboa Park. The exhibit is scheduled for public opening following the national broadcast of the film in late June, 2010, the 60th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War. This exhibit will run for one year in San Diego and is then scheduled to tour the country for five years.

This schedule's event times are still subject to change, as we will be sharing space in a local theater with the theater's movie schedule. Our showing needs to be merged into the theater's existing film schedules. Glenn and Bob are working on the details.

To stay current, you may want to log onto the **OPHSA Forum** to get the current event schedules at:

<http://www.ophsa.org/smf/>

See you in San Diego.

Jim Jarboe, Editor

SAN DIEGO REUNION EVENTS

THURSDAY JUNE 10, 2010

Check in time: 3:00 p.m

Check out time: 11:00 a.m

Hotel Rates: \$119+Tax for 1, 2, 3, or 4 persons per room for OPHSA members. Car parking is \$5.00 per day.

FRIDAY JUNE 11, 2010

The "World Premiere" of *Hold At All Costs* to be held in the time frame of 11:00* - 4:00* p.m. - Attendees will board bus to theater. Transportation provided by **Bob Baker**.

Introduction: - Given by guest speaker **Lt. General William G. Webster**

View Film: - The theater's concession stand will be open

Questions and answers following the film showing

5:00 p.m.: - No-Host Bar, followed by **Reception Dinner** hosted by **Bob Baker**

SATURDAY JUNE 12, 2010

Ladies Tea/Brunch: Hosted by **Linda Smith**, during the Member's Business meeting. *The location to be announced.

12:00* p.m.: - Board bus to Museums, transportation provided by **Bob Baker**

Museum Visit: - Outpost Harry Exhibit at the Veteran's Memorial Museum.

Free time to roam Balboa Park's botanical building, outdoor gardens, attractions, and 14 museums.

4:30 p.m.: Banquet Toast - At Hotel

SUNDAY JUNE 13, 2010

Farewell Buffet Breakfast and end of Reunion

** Exact times and locations for these items were not finalized at this Survivor's press time. A printed copy of the final schedule will be in your registration packet at the Reunion.*

Bob Baker, Glenn Palmedo-Smith and Jerry Cunningham are working together to make this the best reunion ever. All members are encouraged to invite family and friends to experience this exciting and meaningful reunion. Additionally, there's much to do in San Diego and Bob Baker would encourage all to extend their visits.

AN INTERVIEW WITH GLENN PALMEDO-SMITH

QUESTION

Glenn, how did you get into the film making business?

ANSWER

In 1975, I earned a BS degree in Telecommunications and Film at SDSU, and have since completed a handful of documentaries, a 35mm motion picture, (*The Hungry Woman*), along with dozens of biographies & tribute videos for clients, as well as having a book published by Crown Publishing, *Discovering Ellis Ruley*. I'm now honored to add this latest contrasting subject to my career; a film about the military with the realization it would not merely be about the war, but rather something much more insightful.



As a survivor of OP Harry and a man committed to its story being told, **Mr. Baker** afforded me seemingly unlimited expenses and unprecedented access to a bevy of interview participants, which have included: three US Generals, one South Korean General, two MASH nurses, one CCF, (Chinese Communist Forces), nurse, twenty-five US veterans, six former CCF combatants, two military historians, the Veteran's Committee chairman of Korea's National Assembly, three notable US politicians, two national veteran advocates, three Greek Spartan veterans, two KATUSA's, an MIA relative, a KIA family member and the Prime Minister of South Korea.

Today, nearly two years later, the filming is at last complete and only the final editing remains. As Director, I can further state that I am a different filmmaker today.

QUESTION

What are your goals for this film?

ANSWER

The film's goals are:

1. South Korea's success provides positive resolution for the veteran sacrifices depicted in our film. The film's core message to today's returning service members is, "You too – who've been wounded, mentally affected or just considered damaged goods by an often ungrateful

and unsympathetic society -- can also find peace, enjoy raising a family and experience business success, just as these young-at-heart folks have!" Fruits of sacrifice, sometimes are to be savored, and often only evident, nearly sixty years later...

2. Conversely, for those who assume this effort is therefore some kind of "military documentary", they may be disappointed. I make films and write books about people who find themselves in extraordinary circumstances -- and that is exactly what this film is; a decisive battle at the end of the Korean War. A unique human experience-singular in modern warfare, (at least since WWI), where two principal players, the US and China, simply "had it out" face-to-face in trench warfare, just before going to the bargaining table to sign an armistice. One side was committed to "Hold At All Costs", the other to "Take at All Costs".

This battle included two of the greatest fears held by mankind, (far worse than any Frankenstein or King Kong monster). These are:

1. The ancient nightmare of enemy hordes attacking while you sleep, and
2. The equal horror of the past century, nightly "shock and awe" heavy artillery barrages.

No, this film is not a war film, it's about what human beings are capable of doing to each other, what they can endure, how the species can adapt and how these very same people can go forth, return home, get married, have children, build careers and enjoy fruitful lives.

For some however, when left alone, in their deepest sleep, these soldier's' horrible nightmares are only a wink away. And now, unforeseeable, after intimately reliving these troubled images with these men and women, their experiences have now somehow burrowed into my own psyche, and are soon to be transplanted within the country's larger consciousness. How can one person be asked to document such horrific events and expect not to be affected? Those who converse with me regularly know that I can barely tell an OP Harry tale without choking up. I'm a changed person and I've been affected by the making of this film. As the men and women I've interviewed have suffered in sharing their memories, I'm compelled now to share with the world these same experiences and hopefully, somehow, rid myself of the curse -- or is it an honor? I know viscerally it's the latter.

QUESTION

Can you describe the process of filming the interviews?

ANSWER

Upon arrival at each veteran's abode, my crew and I typically were led to the veteran's den. Almost without exception, there existed a wall full of medals, ribbons, patches and photos of buddies -- all captured in lose fitting military fatigues and goofy faces belying their circumstances -- with nearly always a shadow-box frame containing a six-inch

piece of rusted barbed-wire from the DMZ. It mattered not whether I was in a MASH nurse's home, a veteran's abode in Peoria, Illinois, in Greece or in a tiny apartment in Communist China -- eerily, they all had the same dedicated wall space, located somewhere in their home where the veteran spent most of his or her time.



Glenn Palmedo-Smith interviewing Dr. Laing Zhe

I was raised in the San Francisco Bay Area suburbs with fellow sons and daughters of WWII vets and many of my older buddies whom I befriended later in college, often veterans of the Viet Nam War, all had some evidence of military ephemera. However, I can't recall one veteran I knew back then who possessed a wall entirely dedicated to his or her time served in the service. To be sure, every soldier had, or has, a cigar box stuffed with military mementos that can be retrieved from time to time, and then safely, sanely, returned to a special shelf behind sweaters. The few homes I later visited of the rare OPHSA veteran who participated on the periphery of Harry, as part of a support team, seemed not to be afflicted with the "decorated wall" syndrome. Yet, they too, were no less heroes in my book for their service.

I'd surmise much later it was the specific experience of facing death in hand-to-hand combat, that evidently cemented this internationally common bond among those who had been there; like some weird unintended initiation club. No matter what race, creed, color, ethnicity, nationality or sex, these people shared something very profound, many without having ever met. Yes, something quite unique happened to these people up there, on that dreadfully bloody mountain.

I'm reminded of the beautiful Chinese nurse, **Fu Feng**, who at only thirteen years of age, while carrying a loaded burp gun nearly half her weight, often performed nightly patrol duty around Harry from the adjacent mountain, Star Hill -- while her American male counterpart also on patrol was only a few dozen yards away. Fu Feng described to our camera how she learned the unique skill of patching a human's split-

skull back together with an oddly shaped and filthy military shirt, utilizing buttons, after half the brains had been spilled out.

Or, American **Jim Evans**, describing how he quickly learned not to step on oozing guts of combatants, thus to avoid slipping, while ducking and weaving speedily through once seven-foot deep, but now shallow, two-foot deep trenches above an endlessly-long stack of human carnage.



Or, the brave Greek Spartan, **Dimitrios Popadopoulos**, who on the seventh day of the battle was ordered to re-dig the pulverized and collapsed trenches at Harry. After spraying aerosol foot deodorant up his nose to quell the stench of death, while exposing various decaying body parts with his shovel, he described his significant joy at coming across a rare dirt-encrusted American football. Only after gleefully passing it around to his comrades did he discover the blasted orb was merely a clump of solidified blood.



My interviews frequently started with a wife or son desiring to be present during the process. "He never talks about the war; can I listen in?" was often heard, even from oldest daughters near my own age, (I was born a government brat in D.C. right smack in the middle of the Korean War).

"I'm sorry, we have to ask that you wait in another room," would typically be my answer; always using the term, "we", as in crew, to better assuage my negative responsibility. I had learned early on that if veterans hadn't talked much to their families about these intimate matters in the past, they sure weren't about to start nearly sixty years later.

CONCLUSION

The moment after the "World Premiere" screening of what we believe will be an amazing film, to be shown in San Diego at the next OPHSA reunion, I will look forward to seeing all of you again and, in particular, **Mr. Baker**, who is simply the most genuinely generous person I've ever met; shake his hand, and give him my heartfelt thanks for honoring me to take the helm of this project and allowing me to be the Director of this story for the past two years.

And finally, I can say to all of you folks, it has been a distinct honor and a unique privilege to represent the entire OPHSA organization on this project. You're quite frankly the best damn people I believe I've ever had the great privilege to know. Thank you from the bottom of my heart and please accept an even deeper THANK YOU, from what I believe will be a very grateful nation...

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY JOHN FERRARA

MY FAREWELL ADDRESS

Having been elected to be president, I was very proud to serve and do what I could to help our organization and offer any assistance that may have been needed.

Serving the past two years, I have spoken to many members and officers. We worked out operations and solved any problems that may have arisen. Listening and talking to the officers, I realized how dedicated and committed they are to the Outpost Harry Survivors Association.

It is amazing how our Association has grown from less than a dozen to a roster of more than 260! I have spoken with members by phone that I have never met in person, but the conversations were of sincere interest and concern. I am proud to be a veteran.

It is sad for me to leave my office as OPHSA president. It brought me close to the members as we shared moments of time and place that only one who was there could understand. We spoke of wives, grandchildren, and our likes and dislikes. Many have never been to a reunion but talk about it with deep interest and a hope to go sometime.

I will step down so that others can experience the joy and pleasure of such a company of veterans. Freedom shall not perish!

It is said that you only go around once. For us survivors, not so. Go to the reunion in San Diego and see and hear what life had planned for us while on Harry.

To view the film and relive what took place was more than just a battle. We can now understand what we really accomplished on that worthless piece of land. We carried it with us all our lives and in all reality became better for it. It is now our responsibility to see that all viewers understand this untold story. It is, in fact, our legacy that we leave this piece of history to all future generations.

I am thankful that this reunion will give me the opportunity to experience life as it was. I also thank all of you who have worked so hard to make this film and weekend possible.

AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFE TIME!

Your president,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John".

NOTES FROM THE CHAPLAIN

BY ED HANRAHAN

As the winter winds down we will soon be able to put it behind us. Those record-breaking snow storms, icy conditions, cold rainy weather and those landslides are beginning to give way to the warmth of spring.

Occasionally I like to look back on our past reunions; the places we have been, the great guest speakers that Jerry gathered for us and most of all that special member (all of us and our families). Speaking for myself, if it were not for you members I don't think I would have ever seen the many, many states that we visited and especially the renewing friendships of old Army buddies and making new friends.

There were times when we did not feel well and OH!!! Carrying those heavy bags, the airport hassle, the security system and the long walks to catch that connecting flight. But, WE DID IT! After getting home you were always happy that you went. WE DID IT for the buddy you never saw again and for the goal of OPHSA: "The purpose of the association is to keep all men who were involved in the battles in Korea to hold Outpost Harry bonded together in common memory of that action and to honor the many sacrifices made by our comrades".

Since the OPHSA founding fathers met so many years ago we have come a long way. Let us not ease up now. With the gracious support from Bob Baker and the creativity of film maker Glenn Palmedo-Smith this can be the Grand-Daddy of our reunions Just think of the work and dedication, money and time that was put into this reunion and OPHSA's crowning achievement, the film "Hold At All Costs". Don't miss seeing the film in a theater in San Diego and bring your families too.

I believe it was Divine Providence that this film will gain National attention. When we see the eyes of those that were interviewed it puts a lump in your throat MAY GOD BLESS all you heroes.

To our silent sick members who never reveal their health problems: GOD Bless You! To those who recently have lost loved ones you will be together again.

The weather in Florida has been the worst in 40 years. Many thanks to Bob and Rhonda Gloodt and Bob Grillo for visiting me. They certainly brightened up the area. Don Chase did not come down because I think it was his turn to cook (just kidding). Walden Storie was not feeling up to par and stayed in OH, this year. We contacted John Szarpa's family,



first cousins and then his sister Mary Ann of New York. She will send us some pictures of John (5thRCT, Charlie Company), which we will place in the memorial book that will be on display at the reunion.

Congratulations to a very talented musician Xiao Dong Wei on the birth of her daughter in Detroit. Xiao Dong serenaded us on her Erhu at the reunion in Dearborn last year.

Please remember our troops in your prayers.

Sincerely,

*Sincerely
ed Hambar*

OP HARRY SHIRTS

OP Harry shirts available on special order from **Floyd** and **Iris Deiwert** who have graciously offered to process orders for our OP Harry white, short sleeved, polo shirts embroidered with the OP Harry Logo on the left and the name on the right.

Floyd said he received several inquiries about the shirts during the reunion. He has sent us the size and price information for both men's and women's shirts. (Prices subject to change. Check with Floyd or Iris when ordering.)

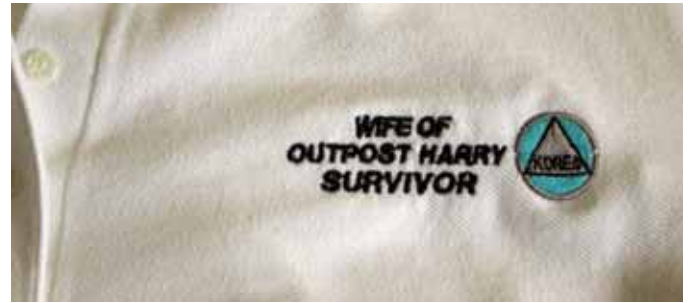
Send no money with your order. When the order is complete Floyd will ship it to you with an itemized invoice for payment.

Members shirts have "Outpost Harry Survivor" and the OP Harry Memorial Medal embroidered above the left pocket.



Member OP Harry shirt, left logo

Spouses and family members shirts have "Wife of Outpost Harry Member", "Son of Outpost Harry Member", "Daughter of Outpost Harry Member", etc. with the OPHSA emblem.



Ladies OP Harry shirt, left logo

Men's shirts (no embroidery, with pocket)

Small to X large	\$15.50
XXX Large	\$19.00
XXXX Large	\$21.75

Lady's shirts (no embroidery, no pocket)

Small to X Large	\$10.55
XXX Large	\$14.00
XXXX Large	\$15.75
XXXXX Large	\$16.00

Embroidery costs are:

Left Logo

Either men's or lady's	\$6.00
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Names (The name goes on the right)

One name	\$4.00
Two names	\$5.00

Floyd and Iris Deiwert
1186 E. Meadow Dr.
Greensburg, IN 47240-7700
Phone: (812) 662-0021
Email: floydirts@etczone.com

ORDERING REUNION BADGES

For those attending your first OPHSA reunion, a copy of the registration form you filled out and sent to our Secretary/Treasurer will be sent to our Historian, **Richard Martinet**. Richard has blank badges he will send to a vendor close to him. The badges will be mailed to the reunion site in time to be waiting for you in your registration packet when you check in at the OPHSA desk in the hotel lobby.

For those of you who have had badges but somehow misplaced them, you should send \$15.00 to Richard Martinet to have replacements badges made. The first time attendees' badges are free.



Sample Reunion Badges

The badges are 2x3 inches, Infantry Blue background, with the name of the member, where you live, and your unit engraved in white. Spouses or relatives will have names and location as seen in these samples.

For replacements, send the required information and \$15.00 to:

Richard Martinet
10045 Gardenside Dr.
Waite Hill, OH 44094-6952

Orders will NOT be processed if not received on or before May 24, 2010.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Our Association, since it's inception, has never charged the membership dues. We have relied on donations from our members to keep us afloat. Those donations have allowed us to fund our quarterly "Survivor" newsletters and the Website as well as the planning and deposits needed when preparing the reunions.

Your elected and appointed officers serve without compensation.

Below, in no particular order, are the names of our most recent donors. OPHSA wants to thank them all! (Ed.)

James Hafer
Leonard Lasser
Edwin Kurtz
Francis Collette
Sam Buck
Joseph Kolgat Jr.
Patrick Carbone
Rankin Burchfield Jr.
Don Patton
Bob Baker

Hal Adamson
Loriman Brigham
Jack Coffee
Arthur Elkington
E. Douglas Jones
Ted Vlahos
Martin Markley
Chester Fudala
Robert Grillo

EDITOR'S TWO BITS

Recently your editor received information that can enhance the experience of the potentially most significant reunion of the Outpost Harry Survivors Association since its inception.

Sam Buck's Son-in-law's son, **Lee Whalert**, is an accomplished musician, composer and singer who has been following the military experiences of Sam Buck and the Outpost Harry Survivors Association. Inspired by the story of that series of battles he has written a song about the battles with which we are all familiar. We hope that our Reunion Chairman, **Jerry Cunningham** will find a few minutes in our tight schedule for Lee to present the song to our members.

We are expecting at least two awards to be presented during the reunion. We don't know whom and therefore can't tell.

San Diego is a great place to have a reunion. If you want to spend a couple of days either before or after the reunion, do it. There are 14 museums in Balboa Park plus the San Diego zoo, the aircraft carrier Midway is a floating museum, the Gas Light District has clubs, restaurants and other attractions and of course there is Sea World, good for a full day and evening of entertainment.

It is rumored that the dinner hosted by **Bob Baker** on Friday after the Premiere will be on a Hornblower Yacht in San Diego Harbor. This particular yacht is rumored to be the Presidential Yacht during the F.D.R. administration.

A NOTE FROM THE WEBMASTER

As we approach this 19th Annual OPHSA reunion, some of the reunion details were not available at the time this issue of the *Survivor* had to go to press. This is the last printed issue of the *Survivor* before the reunion so, for those who want the most current information, this issue of the *Survivor*, will be kept updated online as new information is received. You can find the latest version of this issue of the *Survivor* online at:

<http://www.ophsa.org/newsletters/>

Also, if you are not already registered on the OPHSA forum, you may want to as **Jerry Cunningham** adds information there as it is confirmed. You can find the OPHSA Forum at:

<http://www.ophsa.org/smf/>

DONATIONS TO OPHSA

Send your donations to:

E. Douglas Jones
14614 Channel Drive
LaConner, WA 98257-4732

Make your checks payable to:

Outpost Harry Survivors Association

ADDENDUM

*This addendum to the online issue of the **Survivor** will bring you breaking news of events, times, and schedules as they are added or become firm and other information not available at the time the Survivor went to press.*

SHOWING OF THE FILM *HOLD AT ALL COSTS*

- The commercial premiere of the film is scheduled for May 31, 2010 at 7:30PM in the Terrace Theater at the John F. Kennedy Theater in Washington DC.
- Fort Stewart GA has announced a showing of the film *Hold at All Costs* on June 5th, 2010.
- A special showing for **OPHSA members** is scheduled in **San Diego, CA** during our 19th Annual Reunion on **Friday June 11, 2010**. This is a special showing, in a theater, for OPHSA members to view the film in the company of comrades, family, and friends. This special event is sponsored by OPHSA member **Bob Baker**.

Although the theater is close by -- within walking distance from the hotel -- Bob Baker is providing transportation to the theater from the hotel.

The film will be introduced by guest speaker **Lt. General William G. Webster**. Other honored guests have been invited and their names will be posted here as they are confirmed.

After the showing of the film, we will be transported back to the hotel to get ready for the **Reception Dinner hosted by Bob Baker** aboard the San Diego Bay Cruise Ship Hornblower. This luxurious cruise ship is the fully and beautifully restored Presidential Yacht used by President Roosevelt. We will be served dinner aboard the ship while crusing the San Diego Bay all while watching the sun set on the Pacific Ocean and San Diego Bay. After dinning, dancing, and enjoying the cruise, we will be returned to the hotel.

This will be a reunion to be remembered.

You don't want to miss this one!

Other showings of the film on television and other commercial venues will be posted here as they become available.

Outpost Harry Reunion 2010 Registration Form

Mail form, with registration fees and
voluntary donations to:

E. Douglas Jones
14614 Channel Drive
La Conner, WA 98257-4732



Make checks payable to:
OP Harry Survivors
Association

Member Full Name: _____ Date _____

Spouse Full Name: _____

Attending Children(s) Full Name(s): _____

Attending Guest(s) Full Name: _____

[] Check here if this is your first Outpost Harry Survivors Reunion

Your Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ ZipCode _____

Your unit during Defense of OP Harry: _____

Reunion Fees:

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
Registration <i>Before</i> June 1, 2010*	_____ X	\$100.00 each	\$ _____
Registration <i>After</i> June 1, 2010*	_____ X	\$110.00 each	\$ _____
*Attendees 16 years old and older			
Attendees Age 15 1/2 years and younger		FREE	
Voluntary Donation (not required)			\$ _____
		Net Total	\$ _____

OP HARRY SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION

James F. Jarboe, Editor
903 Crestfield Drive
Duarte, CA 91010-2131



The 19th Annual Reunion in 2010 will be held in San Diego, California on June 10th through June 13th, 2010.

The Enemy Wanted This Hill-----



With Courage, Tenacity and Faith.....
WE HELD!



Town and Country Resort and Convention Center

500 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA 92108
Tel: (619) 291-7131
Fax: (619) 291-3584
Reservations: (800) 772-8527
<http://www.towncountry.com/>

You will need to make your own reservations. Hotel rates and other details for our 19th Reunion are posted on the OPHSA Forum, and on page 1 of this *Survivor*.