

THANK YOU SAFESIDE!

The members of the Safeside Association donated \$1,000 to stock our Hospitality Room in Washington D.C. and helped prepare the room for us. More importantly, they made sure that everything was purchased in the correct locations with the appropriate tax stamps so that we would not create alcoholic beverage issues for the hotel. Yes, if you party in Virginia, you must purchase your liquor in Virginia, not Maryland or Washington D.C.! The members of the Board of the Safeside Association, under the leadership of VSPA members President Jerry Nelson and Vice President Pete Villarreal, also ensured that every member of the Safeside Association who attended the reunion was a member of the VSPA! Thank you for your brotherhood and support of the VSPA!

VIETNAM SECURITY POLICE ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING NOVEMBER 11, 2007 - WASHINGTON, D.C.

AGENDA

1. 1830 hours Call to order VSPA President Steve Gattis
2. Moment of Silence for those who did not come home and for our departed VSPA comrades, who are listed at Life Member #111.
3. Invocation Chaplain Jim Stastny
4. Pledge of Allegiance Secretary Bruce Hadley
5. VSPA SISTERHOOD meeting started at the same time as our meeting in an adjacent room. Their agenda will include:
 - 5.1 Introductions
 - 5.2 Presentation by Associate Member Kim Bayes regarding support of loved ones in the aftermath of the parade and events at The Wall.
 - 5.3 Discussion
 - 5.4 November 11 birthday celebration for Mom Lehman and Lise Gattis.
6. VSPA Business meeting called to order again after a quorum was declared of the elected officers by President Steve Gattis.
7. **INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS AND APPOINTED POSITIONS** - by President Steve Gattis

1,254 members! 520 Life Members!

This edition of Guardmount is also available on our web site at www.vspa.com

All officers are elected for two years. Elections will be held next year in 2008.

ELECTED POSITIONS

President	Steve Gattis, Life Member #49, Glen Rose, Texas (Cam Ranh Bay 68 - 69)
Vice President	Hector Ramos, Life Member #165, Carteret, New Jersey (Binh Thuy 69-70).
Secretary	Bruce Hadley, Life Member #71, Forrest Hills, New York (Bien Hoa 61 - 62)
Treasurer	Den Cook, Life Member #300, Lancaster, Pennsylvania (Tan Son Nhut 67 - 68). Den was unable to attend due to medical problems and surgery on November 9.
Historian	Don Graham, Life Member #7, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania (Tuy Hoa 68 - 69). Don was recently diagnosed with prostate cancer and was unable to attend the reunion. He notified the VSPA that he would not longer be able to fulfill his position as Historian due to his activities in support of local Veterans and his own medical problems. Kelly Bateman, Life Member #118, Ubon K-9 70 - 71, Wemberly, Texas was appointed to complete the final year of Don's term due to his ongoing contact and working relationship with the Security Forces Museum at Lackland AFB.

APPOINTED POSITIONS - All positions appointed by the President with approval of the Board.

Web Master(s)	Don Poss, Life Member #37, Corona, California (Da Nang K-9 65 - 66) Don appoints the K-9 Web Master, Monty Moore (unable to attend), the Bulletin Board Flight Leader, Bill Marshall, Life Member #85, and the QRT Flight Chief, Gary Jones.
Membership Chairman	Phil Carroll, Life Member #336. Gladstone, Oregon (Takhli and NKP K-9 70 - 71).
Guardmount	Larry Ernsting, Life Member #139, Clay Center, Kansas (Phan Rang-Safeside, Pleiku, Tuy Hoa, 68 - 70). Assisted by Mike Kennedy, Life Member #35, Fontana, California (Bien Hoa 69 - 70). Larry was unable to attend due to recent knee replacement surgery.
Chaplain	Steve Janke, Carlstadt, New Jersey (Cam Ranh Bay K-9 69 -70). Steve was unable to attend, he sent his prayers for a great reunion.
Chaplain	Jim Stastny, Gaithersburg, Maryland (Korat K-9 70 - 71).
Chaplain	Bill Cooley, Canyon Lake, Texas (Cam Ranh Bay 71-72). Bill was unable to attend and sent his prayers for a great reunion.
Chaplain	Jeff Kerkhoff, West Covina, California (Tan Son Nhut 72-73)
Photographer	Tony Morris, Life Member #70, Shererville, Indiana (Cam Ranh Bay 69 - 70)
Photographer	Ken Neal, Life Member #80, Los Angeles California. (Ubon 68 -69 and Udon RTAFB 74 75)
Photographer	Steve Hall, Orange, California (Binh Thuy 68 - 69)
Photographer	Lou Reda, Norwalk, Ohio, (Phan Rang 68-69)
BX Sales Manager	Van Digby, Life Member #59, Bay City Michigan (Phan Rang 67 - 68)
VSPA Service Officer	Bud Owens, Life Member #56, North Hampton, New Hampshire (Binh Thuy 66 - 67) Bud is unable to attend due to financial issues with his home.
K-9 Kennel Master	Bill Cummings, Life Member #173, Tucson, Arizona (U-Tapao K-9 70 - 71).
Safeside Liaison	Pete Villarreal, Life Member #14, North Pole, Alaska (six months) and Corpus Christi, Texas (six months) (Phan Rang and Bien Hoa - Safeside 68 - 69, and NKP 73 - 74)

Prior to reports, reading and approval of the minutes, President Steve Gattis asked if there was anyone in the room who was not a current member of the VSPA. All present were members in good standing and eligible to vote during business proceedings.

8. REPORTS

Treasurer Report - Secretary Bruce Hadley for Treasurer Denis Cook who was unable to attend due to medical problems and surgery. Beginning balance \$68,800.93, income \$27,910.58, expenses \$13,936.25, ending balance \$82,775.26 as of October 2007. Motion to accept made by Van Digby, seconded by Tony Morris; motion carried.

Historian Report made by Kelly Bateman for Historian Don Graham who was unable to attend due to medical problems.

Web Site - VSPA.com - Web Master Don Poss gave an update on the web site and discussed upgrades and redesign that included the BX coming online in January 2008, and putting the pictures of VSPA officers on the web page. He mentioned that he was working on preserving VSPA history by offering website support to K-9 and Safeside if they chose to be under the auspices of VSPA on our server. Each organization would provide their own web master. Don mentioned that for help desk type issues and questions, Gary Jones was the person to contact. Motion to accept made by Jim Stastny, seconded by Dave Forman; motion carried.

Membership Report - Chairman Phil Carroll reported that as October 6, 2006 VSPA had 907 active members and 442 life memberships. As November 11, 2007 there were 1,131 active members (an increase of 224) and 454 life memberships (an increase of 12). Motion made to accept report and to revise our bylaws on eligibility for membership to read service in Vietnam or Thailand between July 1, 1958 and May 15, 1975. Motion made by Vernon Anderson, seconded by Bill Cummings; motion carried.

Guardmount Report - President Steve Gattis reported that the Guardmount is now a PDF file in an Adobe Reader and printable to reduce mailings and postage. Members with computers are requested to assist the VSPA in controlling cost by updating their on-line information to indicate that they will view Guardmount on-line and that they do not want Guardmount mailed to their home address. Access to Guardmount on the web page does not take members off the mailing list. To reiterate, you must request to be taken off the Guardmount mailing list.

Scholarship Committee - Chairman Jim Lebowitz. Committee members are Vice President Hector Ramos, Albert Habercorn, Bud Owens and David Adams. Hector reported that two applications had been received from students Kendal Mills (University of Alabama) and Phillip Smith (University of Nebraska). The committee recommended that each student be awarded \$500. Motion to accept made by Al Barnett, seconded by Victor Arce; motion carried.

BX Sales Report - BX Sales Manager Van Digby reported that three new items had been added for sale: a K-9 patch, the combat infantry badge, and two back packs one with wheels. Motion made to accept by Lew Goldberg, seconded by Dave Forman; motion carried.

VSPA Service Officer - Bud Owens was unable to attend but is available to assist any member with the VA Claims process.

K-9 Report - Bill Cummings, Kennel Master, gave an update on the Nemo War Dog Heroes Memorial at Lackland AFB, and the Old Dawgs and Pups Program. Phil Carroll reported the support of the Leatherman Company in donating several thousand dollars in equipment for K-9, and a wholesale price on the multipurpose tool that is being resold at retail to raise funds for the program. Phil also displayed the VSPA commemorative knife that was specially engraved for VSPA by Leatherman and is available for \$50 at the reunion. All proceeds will go to the Old Dawgs and Pups Program. Motion made to accept by Bill Sautter, seconded by Frank Polites; motion carried.

Safeside Report made by Pete Villarreal, Safeside Liaison. Motion made to accept by Vernon Anderson, seconded by Wendell Wallace; motion carried.

Steve Gattis gave an explanation of the Liaison position and the need to increase the program to allow for one per base and thanked Lew Goldberg for his work to coordinate contact with the Binh Thuy troops.

- 9. **Approval of the 2006 Minutes** - Secretary Bruce Hadley read the minutes of the 2006 business meeting. Several cosmetic changes to language were made. Motion to accept with cosmetic changes made by Bill Cummings, seconded by Tony Morris; motion carried.

10. **OLD BUSINESS**

- 10.1 VSPA History Book Update - President Steve Gattis reported that the biographies, photos and rubbings have all been compiled and are in the final stages of editing before the book goes to print. Correction proofs are expected in the next three to four months. Delays have been due to the need to sell at least 300 copies of the book before work could begin, extensive research and editing.

- 10.2 Commemorative Shield - President Steve Gattis reported that Tim Waage had moved overseas and had a new Email address for Tim Waage to order badges. The order form will be updated and placed on the web site.

- 10.3 Bulletin Boards and Rules of Use - Don Poss reported that it was controlled by VOY. Profanity and personal attacks were expressly prohibited. Violators of the rules would be locked out by VOY accordingly.

- 10.4 Reunion Site Selection for 2008 - Steve Gattis reported that Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, New Mexico was selected at the 2006 reunion in Las Vegas. The contract is in place with the Marriott. The registration fee will be significantly reduced due to the area. The dates will be October 15-18, 2008.

- 10.5 Selection of Reunion Site for 2009 - Steve Gattis reported:

Reunion sites - Places we have been	US REGION
Atlanta, Georgia 1995	East
San Antonio, Texas 1996	Central
Pensacola, Florida 1997	East

Washington D.C. 1998	East
Las Vegas, Nevada 1999	West
San Antonio, Texas 2000	Central
Hampton, Virginia 2001	East
Dayton, Ohio 2002	Central
San Antonio, Texas 2003	Central
Tucson, Arizona 2004 10 th Anniversary	West
Valdosta, Georgia 2005	East
Las Vegas, Nevada 2006	West
Washington DC 2007	East
Albuquerque, New Mexico	West

Nominations/Suggestions/Presentations: President Steve Gattis reported that he and Don Poss had conducted a test to determine whether on-line voting could be used in an Email format to select a reunion site. The test revealed many many problems, including multiple votes by the same individual for different sites, failure to follow directions, blank votes and bases that no longer existed or were overseas. Members present in the meeting voted to hold all future site selection activities in accordance with existing procedures at the annual business meeting.

Luke AFB, Phoenix, Arizona was selected as the primary site for our 2009 reunion. In the event, problems preclude holding our reunion at Luke, the next base to received the most votes will be the back up site for 2009 reunion. That base was Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas.

A recommendation was made to consider making Lackland AFB a recurring location for future reunions every four or five years. The recommendation was tabled until the 2008 business meeting based upon a motion by Hector Ramos, seconded by Tony Morris, that we conduct research on the impact at Lackland so that we do not overlap other organizations and overwhelm the personnel at Lackland; motion carried.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- 11.1 Presentation of information from the Ad Hoc Committee by Sam Lewis regarding the use of the web site to vote on reunion locations and the election of officers. Don Poss and Newell Swartz expressed that there should be the involvement of all members in good standing in the voting process for the leadership of the VSPA, not just those members present at the reunion. There was some discussion as to whether the selection of reunion sites should be voted on the same way as well. It was decided that the selection of reunion sites should be voted on by those who attended the reunions and were present.

A motion was made to change the by-laws of VSPA to allow all members in good standing to vote on the election of officers. Motion was made by Newell Swartz, seconded by Keith Young; motion carried with three opposed.

President Steve Gattis appointed Don Poss and Newell Swartz to co-chair a committee to determine whether on-line voting was possible and, if on-line voting was possible, to develop a procedure

including all related programming to implement the voting process on our web site, with Don Poss in charge of all programming. (Please see the following article regarding 2008 election of VSPA officers).

- 11.2 Membership - Chairman Phil Carroll reported that the renewal dates for membership dues were due on the first of the month twelve months after the date of joining VSPA. So for example, if a person joins VSPA on March 3rd, their dues become due on March 1st of the following year.
- 11.3 Election of Officers - Two Year Term of Office - Elections are scheduled for 2008 for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian. Don Graham resigned due to local Veteran activities in which he drives Veterans to the VVA Hospital. Don was also recently diagnosed with cancer. Kelly Bateman was appointed to complete term.
- 11.4 Appointed Positions - The following positions were reappointed by the President of the Association to assist the elected officers with the management of the various functions of the VSPA.
 - 4.1 Web Master - Don Poss who appoints the Assistant Web Master for K-9 (Monty Moore), the Bulletin Board Flight Leader (Bill Marshall), and the QRT fight Chief (Gary Jones) to assist members with computer problems
 - 4.2 Membership Chairman - Phil Carroll, Assistant Janet Wise, Daughter of Life Member Al Matthews.
 - 4.3 BX Sales Manager Van Digby, Assistants Joyce and Kari Digby
 - 4.4 Chaplains Steve Janke (New Jersey), Jim Stastny (Maryland) and Bill Wheeler (Texas), and Jeff Kerkhoff (California).
 - 4.5 Photographer(s) Tony Morris, Steve Hall and Ken Neal and Lou Reda, who is a newspaper photographer and retired police officer.
 - 4.6 Guardmount Editor - Larry Ernsting
 - 4.7 VSPA Service Officer - Bud Owens
 - 4.8 VSPA Kennel Master - Bill Cummings
 - 4.9 Safeside Liaison - Pete Villarreal
 - 4.10 Base Liaison for Binh Thuy - Lew Goldberg
 - 4.11 Other base liaisons positions are available. Members are requested to volunteer.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

There being no announcements, motion made to adjourn by Ken Neal, seconded by Dave Foreman; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 0115 hours by President Steve Gattis.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Bruce N. Hadley, Jr.
Secretary

2008 ELECTION OF VSPA OFFICERS

VSPA members who attended our reunion in Washington D.C. voted to modify our by-laws and the election process so that the election would no longer be conducted only at the reunion business meeting. The majority of members at the last business meeting voted to change the process so that all members would have the opportunity to vote for the officers who manage the association. A committee was appointed to determine whether electronic voting could take place via our web site and to develop a process. The committee included Don Poss, Newell Swartz, Sam Lewis and Don Hamilton.

Don Poss thoroughly investigated electronic voting via the Internet and found that it could not be done in an efficient, cost effective manner. He looked at the process as both our Web Master and as a VSPA member who fully supported the idea of voting on-line. Other organizations that had attempted the process had numerous problems that far exceeded our ability to resolve, including multiple votes from different computers and the inability to accurately identify voters who emailed ballots. We simply do not have the manpower to search our records to verify current membership based upon multiple email addresses (like pullmyfinger@email.com) that have changed without notice to the VSPA, which is something we experience on a daily basis. Multiple votes on-line are a reality, not because people are dishonest, but because computers can be very confusing for some people who might worry that their ballot has not been received and they send it again, or they send it from another computer which could make them appear to be a different person. The only other alternative is to have a mail-in ballot that you can print from our web site, or receive in the mail and return.

For those members who are reading this on-line, you must be a current member in order to vote and read the bios of those who have declared their intention to run for office. Therefore, the bios and the ballot form have been posted in the Restricted Area of our web site. To vote, you must print the ballot and mail it to our Membership Chairman, Phil Carroll WITH A POSTMARK NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 3. He will verify your membership status and make certain that only one vote is submitted.

There are five positions up for election this year: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian. All other positions in the VSPA are staff positions appointed by the president and board based upon their expertise and willingness to serve the members of the VSPA. Elected officers will be confirmed and installed at our reunion in Albuquerque in October. The term of office is two years. The positions DO NOT receive a salary and are worked on a volunteer basis.

The following VSPA members have declared their intention to run for an elected VSPA position. Each person listed below has been a member in good standing for at least TWO YEARS. They are all Life Members. They have attended our reunions and have the ability to attend future business meetings that are held at our annual reunions. They communicate via the Internet on a regular basis and have made the commitment to provide the time necessary to serve in the respective positions that they seek.

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FOR PRESIDENT: Newell Swartz, Life Member #262, Phan Rang and Phu Cat 66 - 67:

Brothers of the VSPA,

In October of this year, the office of President of the Vietnam Security Police Association (VSPA) will become vacant. After careful thought and consideration, I have decided to seek the office of President of VSPA.

I can and will devote the time and energy this position requires, so that we may continue to take care of our own. Overall, I am very satisfied with the great work of all those who currently serve as elected officials, appointed officers, and the many staff volunteers. I am happy and proud to be a Life Member of VSPA, which I joined over four years ago. I have been to the last four reunions and try to keep up with current issues of the Association.

I hope to bring about some changes through convincing you, the membership, that my ideas and proposals will enhance and improve the VSPA as a brotherhood. Our members who have served us deserve our thanks, and I appreciate their bedrock foundation of accomplishments that my new proposals can build upon. A few changes I will bring about include delegating more authority to staff members based on their unique experiences, skills, and proven commitment to the Association as outlined in our constitution, in order to get some things done in a more timely manner. And yes, the responsibility and accountability resides with the office of President. The most critical of these are: #1 getting Guardmount out on a regular quarterly basis; and #2 finishing our history book (if it's not already done by the time of our reunion). I also will do everything I can to provide frequent and timely updates on projects such as these through emails and the bulletin boards, so our members never feel left in the dark.

Another priority will be to complete an election system which will give 100% of our members the opportunity to vote in the election of VSPA officers. I have worked with a group of our members on this issue. Significant progress has already been made but there is room for improvement.

On a personal note, I want to tell you a little about myself. I retired from the Army as a Warrant Officer in October 1976, having completed my twenty years (11 ½ USAF Security Police and 8 ½ years Army CID Agent). In January 1977, I entered the Arizona Highway Patrol Academy and retired 25 years later as a Sergeant, at the age of 63. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. My wife of 48 years and I are both in good health. My current pastimes are gold prospecting, the VSPA, keeping up with a garden, pets, and keeping 11/2 acres shipshape. I am a member of the SAC Elite Guard Association, the CID Agents Association, the Arizona Highway Patrol Association, and the Roadrunner Prospector's Club. My 45 years of experience in military and civilian law enforcement have taught me to be my own man when I must; make decisions on my own, but to also value team work and welcome camaraderie. My military assignments have taken me to England, Spain, Germany, Libya, Turkey,

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Korea and Vietnam. In the USA, I have been to Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Florida, Georgia and New Hampshire.

I believe my strong desire to serve the members of the VSPA, my years as a supervisor and as an elected district representative to the Highway Patrol Association, should help me to make an intelligent argument for or against an issue. Should I be elected president, I look forward to working closely with a great group of men and women who are already serving you on a daily basis. I will always value input from membership.

The VSPA is a growing, thriving organization with many staff members who do an unimaginable amount of work to provide services for all of us and I value each and every one of them. I see one of my primary duties as providing them with the resources and discretionary authority to accomplish their job.

Of all the places in the world I have been and of all the people I have ever met, two things stand out for me: One, the USA is the most beautiful country with more to offer in splendor than any other place on earth, and two, the VSPA enjoys the utmost in camaraderie and has truly welcomed us home. I have served my country and State and now would serve VSPA as the key member leading us into future years of growth and enjoyment for our members. I will dedicate my efforts on your behalf to assure our best years as a brotherhood are ahead of us. I sincerely believe that as your President, this will prove to be true.

In summation, it is my view that we already have an outstanding group of core members who serve us on a daily basis. My vision for leading VSPA will be "enhancing what's right with the VSPA" as opposed to an attitude of "fixing what's wrong with the VSPA."

Sincerely,
Newell Swartz
roaddog2007@yahoo.com

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FOR VICE PRESIDENT: Hector Ramos, Life Member #165, Binh Thuy 69 - 70:



I was born in Puerto Rico and grew up in Brooklyn, New York, where I graduated from high school and joined the US Air Force. I served four years as an Air Policeman & Armed Forces Police in the Panama Canal Zone, Tower Guard at Binh Thuy Air Base, Vietnam, and finally, as Base Security in Bangor, Maine. After my discharge, I completed a two-year AAS Degree program to allow myself a choice between the NYPD, which was recruiting me, and the engineering field.

Once I succeeded with school, the obvious choice for me and a new challenge was engineering. I currently work for PSE&G in Newark as a Supervising Engineer in the Electric Sub & Switching Station Group. I'm nearing 38 years in the field of Engineering/Construction and still enjoy what I do. I've had the opportunity to travel during my career and work in New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Florida, New Orleans, North Carolina, Ohio and Puerto Rico.

My leadership experience in military associations includes 2nd Vice President of the Vietnam Veterans of America Eastern New Jersey Chapter 779, and Vice President of the Vietnam Security Police Association, our national USAF organization that I joined in March, 2001.

My Candidacy for a Third Term as Vice President of the VSPA:

In the two terms I've served as Vice President of the VSPA, I'm extremely proud to say that the organization has seen a substantial growth in membership, including almost 400 Life memberships so that now we have over 1,200 active members and over 500 Life Members. Alongside our esteemed president Steve Gattis, and with the vision and help of charter members, board members and volunteers, the VSPA and our legacy in SEA is widely recognized by current USAF Security Forces members, Veterans' groups, historical/educational resource groups and, of course, our own VSPA brothers. Although it would be easy for me to list the individual & team accomplishments that I've been involved with in over eight years of membership, I'm most proud of how EVERYONE who has been associated with this organization has, and continues to make it a truly rewarding experience.

Sincerely,

Hector Ramos

HRAMOS926@COMCAST.NET

FOR SECRETARY: Bruce Hadley and Don Hamilton (listed alphabetically):

FOR SECRETARY: Bruce Hadley, Life Member #71, Bien Hoa 61-62:



I enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1959 and was discharged in 1963 as an Airman Second Class. I served in Detachment #9, 2nd ADVON, Bien Hoa Air Base, Republic of Viet Nam in 1961-1962.

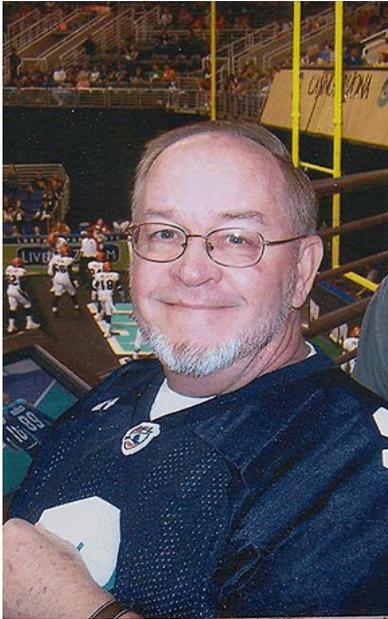
I graduated from Brooklyn College, New York City University, New York, in 1974 with a BA in Economics under the G.I. Bill while serving as a Customs Inspector in U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security. Presently, I am a Supervisor in Field Operations at JFK International Airport, Jamaica, NY.

I joined the VSPA in June, 1998, have been the Secretary for the last four years and have attended numerous reunions. The major concern I have for our brotherhood is your awareness of Agent Orange related Prostate Cancer - GET CHECKED NOW! I am a certified NRA instructor in pistols, rifles and shotguns. I also instruct women in a league that shoots rifles at a local city range and have done so for the past three years. One of my great pleasures is the opportunity to preserve our history while talking with the young troops who have followed in our footsteps.

Sincerely,
Bruce Hadley
brunole@juno.com

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FOR SECRETARY: Don Hamilton, Life Member #201, Tuy Hoa 69 - 70:



After a great deal of consideration and encouragement from VSPA members, I have decided to run for the position of Secretary. I have the qualifications, experience, dedication and time to serve as your VSPA Secretary.

The Secretary has many responsibilities including officiating in the absence of the President and Vice President, serving on the Board of Directors and is a member of several standing committees, as well as record maintenance. My experience in both public and private organizations makes me uniquely qualified to be the Secretary of our VSPA.

I have been a Life Member, #201, since 2005 and have served as a member of the Electronic Voting Committee.

Qualifications and experience:

Family-Married (Missy) Elaine in 1967. Two sons

Federal Government Service-

US Air Force; 1968-1972; E-5 1970

US Postal Service; retired 2003 as Manager, Customer Service.

Public Service-

President, Central Arizona Health System Agency

President, American Postal Workers Union, Phoenix Local

Member, Arizona State Health Planning Agency

Member, Arizona Statewide Health Planning Commission

Life Member, Disabled American Veterans

Life Member, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Member, American Legion

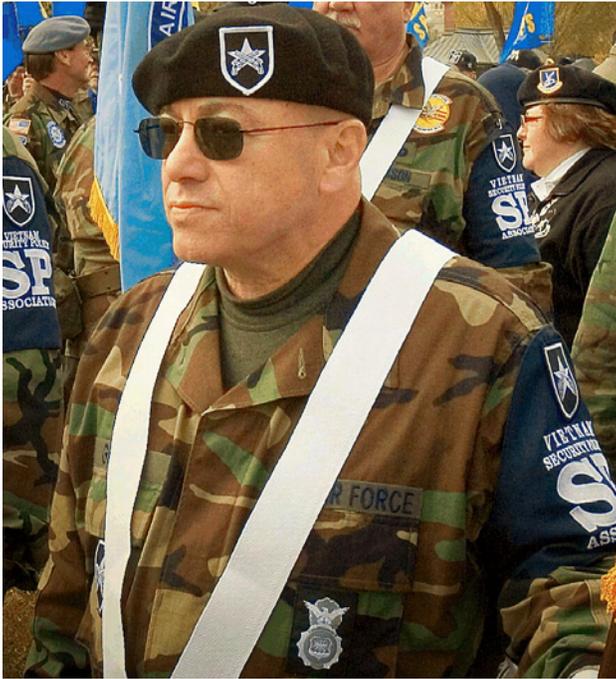
“Together we can make a difference in our VSPA.”

Sincerely,

Don Hamilton

achilldigger@cox.net

FOR TREASURER: Richard Garcia, Life Member #82, Phan Rang 69 - 70:



Born in Puerto Rico, grew up in Brooklyn, New York.

Enlisted in the United States Air Force in April 1967.
Basic Training at Lackland AFB.

Security Police Tech School and Combat Prep Course at
Lackland AFB 04/67 to 07/67.

After Lackland, I went to Francis E. Warren AFB, Cheyenne,
WY 07/67 to 01/69 guarding Minuteman Missiles/Nuke
Warheads.

I served at Phan Rang AB, RVN in the 35th Security Police
Squadron 02/69 to 02/70, heavy weapons Tiger mortar pit
from sundown/sunrise.

I completed my service commitment with the 370th SPS
Bangor, Maine.

Honorably discharged 04/71.

Currently a Billing/Collections manager with the Episcopal Church, responsible for over 4,000 accounts payable and accounts receivable with an estimated monthly premium cash value of over **\$20,000,000.00**.

Military Associations:

Vietnam Security Police Association (VSPA) Life Member #82

VFW

American Legion, Massapequa Post 1066

DAV Life Member

Vietnam Veterans of America

Sincerely,

Richard Garcia

cal400@optonline.net

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FOR HISTORIAN: Kelly Bateman and Russ Stabler (Listed alphabetically):

FOR HISTORIAN: Kelly Bateman, Life Member #118, Ubon K-9 70 - 71:



Born and raised in Garland, Texas. 60 years of age and retired from ATT after 21 years. Currently living in Wimberley, Texas, near San Antonio and married to my wonderful wife Vicki, who so kindly made the 38 guidons carried by the VSPA and Safeside in the 2007 Veterans Day Parade in Washington D.C.

USAF (68-70). Security Police OJT K9 Handler Det. 193 Incirlik AB, Turkey (USAFE).

Sentry Dog School, Wiesbaden AB. Germany, March, 1969.

Security Police Sentry Dog Handler 8th SPS, Ubon AB, Ubon Thailand (70-71), (PACAF).

Security Police K9 handler and K9 training NCO, Dyess AFB, Abilene, Texas (SAC) (71-72).

VSPA Life Member # 118.

VDHA Life Member # 1066.

Life Member VFW Post 6441, Wimberley, Texas.
Life member NRA.

Currently an active member of the Civilian Emergency Response Team and SAR under the Department of Homeland Security for Hays County, Texas.

I am a Founding member of Nemo's War Dog Hero's Memorial Committee, Lackland AFB, Texas. Our Committee raised funds and, by using old photos and historical documents, completely restored USAF Sentry Dog Nemo's kennel at the present 37th Security Forces Law Enforcement Kennel at Lackland. We also placed a granite monument to commemorate Nemo and the 1968 TET attack on Tan San Nhut AFB, RVN, where he saved his partner's life. The USAF has recently declared Nemo's Memorial an official historical site at Lackland.

As the current VSPA Historian, and due to my ongoing working relationship with the Security Forces Museum at Lackland because of the Nemo War Dogs Memorial, I visited with the Director of the Museum in July of this year regarding another memorial project. We met to discuss the USAF Security Forces Museum fund raising project for their "WALL OF HONOR" to honor all USAF Air Policemen, Security Policemen and Security Forces members who have been killed in action, or were medal recipients of the Air Force Cross, Silver Star, Airmen's Medal, Bronze Star with "V" and the Purple Heart from 1946 to present. During that same period, I also chaired a group of four other VSPA volunteer members when we spent one week at the 37th Training Wing, Lackland AFB, on a USAF project to document and catalog historical documents and photos from the DOD K9 Training Center. The documents were found during preparation for demolition of several of the older buildings. The Air Force had no funds available to save or preserve them. The documents are now preserved and will eventually be transferred to the Security Forces Museum.

I have an extensive USAF Security Forces memorabilia collection that includes uniform patches, uniforms, posters, signs, head gear, K9 gear, photographs, etc. I am currently serving out the unexpired term of our VSPA Historian Don Graham and if elected would be proud to follow in his footsteps.

Sincerely,
Kelly Bateman
texask-9@swbell.net

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FOR HISTORIAN: Russ Stabler, Life Member #319, Ubon 72 - 73



I was born October 25, 1948 in Williamsport, PA to Rebecca and Hiram Stabler. In 1967, I graduated From Danville Area Sr. High School and started my enlistment in the Air Force.

October 67 to November 67 I was assigned to 3702 BMTS at Lackland AFB.

November 67 to January 68 I was assigned to the Air Police/Security Police School at Lackland.

68 - 70 I was assigned to Det. 3 26th TAC Recon Wing at Bad Soellingen CAFB as a Custodial Agent protecting US war making resources.

70-72 I was assigned to FE Warren AFB, Wyoming in the Missile Field where I performed duties as a SAT team Leader, CAT Team Leader SET/CAT Dispatcher, and SP Leader on strategic weapons movements. During this period I attended the 15th AF NCO Leadership School, graduating in the top 30% of the class.

72-73 I was assigned to UBON RTAFB, Thailand. Here I performed duties as perimeter guard and SRT Team leader for Tiger Flight. After 4 Months I was assigned to the Day shift as the Sector Supervisor for Alpha Sector for the base.

73-80 I was assigned to Langley AFB, VA. Here I performed duties as entry point guard to sensitive areas, SAT team leader on the Flight Line, moved into the Weapons storage as the Alarm Monitor/ Alt CSC, then duties in CSC and as the flight trainer. In this capacity I was able to take the QC pass rate from 30% to 98%. Because of this and my ABGD identifier, I was assigned to teach ABGD to members of my flight.

80-87 I was assigned to Grand Forks AFB, Grand Forks, North Dakota in the missile Squadron. I was assigned duties as the SET/CAT Flight Supervisor. While performing these duties I was assigned by the NCOIC of SET/CAT to teach ABGD and Tactics to the entire 322 MSS including the Flight Commanders and Officers. Upon completion of this assignment, I was moved to Fire Teams as a Flight Chief. After a year and a half I was assigned duties on a TAD to the Correctional facility for 180 days. Reassigned to the 322 MSS, I was assigned duties as the Senior Security in Wing Security Control, and moved over to the Training Section as the Squadron Training Manager.

During my career, I completed all upgrade training through the 09 Level. As stated, I completed NCO Leadership School, AZR and OZR training and the Managers Training Class. While in the service, I completed an Associates Degree in Civil Engineering and an Associates Degree in Forestry Management. Upon retirement from the Air Force, and while performing security supervisor work at a corporate office, I went to the University of North Dakota graduating in 1992 with a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Master degree in Modern European History with and Asian minor. Also, while attending UND in my last three years I

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was the Student Representative to the Teaching Department, Student Liaison for the Bridges Committee and recipient of the UND Memorial Leadership Award.

Since then I taught Middle School, retiring from teaching to start my own two companies. I have held positions as Historian, Chaplin, 2nd Vice Commander and 1st Vice Commander in the American Legion in Fargo, North Dakota.

I also started the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 941 in Fargo and was the first Chapter Commander for two years.

Decorations include Air Force Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Award, Good Conduct Medal with four O/L clusters, Outstanding Unit Citation with three O/L Clusters, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, and Thai wings from the Thai Government.

Sincerely,
Russ Stabler
Pa1kid@aol.com

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VIETNAM SECURITY POLICE ASSOCIATION BALLOT

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INSTRUCTIONS

If you are attending the reunion, you may only vote one time. You may mail-in your ballot, or you may wait to meet the candidates and submit your ballot at the reunion. All others must mail their ballot. **PRINT, CUT OR COPY THIS PAGE.** Please complete this ballot and mail to Phil Carroll with a **postmark no later than October 3, 2008.** Circle the name of the candidate below

FOR PRESIDENT

Newell Swartz

FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Hector Ramos

FOR SECRETARY (Vote for one)

Bruce Hadley

Don Hamilton

FOR TREASURER

Richard Garcia

FOR HISTORIAN (Vote for one)

Kelly Bateman

Russ Stabler



Vietnam Security Police Association
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