

DASPO newsletter follows. This blank page is inserted so you can browse the newsletter as a two-page spread.

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If you choose to remain set to one page, then just scroll down to the cover.

Thanks and a Merry Christmas to all of you from the staff here at the newsletter.

— Roger Hawkins



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Chuc Mung Giang Sinh

Merry Christmas

I hope this Christmas season all is well with our DASPO group. I know many of us are looking forward to our 10th DASPO reunion in 2008. Personally I think this will be a great reunion where we can really spend some relaxed time with each other. WE have over 30 cabins firmly booked.

I am attending the next Vietnam Symposium at TTU this March and want to know if any one else is planning on attending? I just made my hotel reservation and was informed they may be running out of space soon, so if you will be attending make your reservation ASAP. The Holiday Inn can be reached at 806 797-3241 and be sure to let them know you are attending the symposium so that you can get the TTU discount. The dates are March 13th through the 15th but get there on the 12th.



Merry Christmas ACLU

Yes, Christmas cards. This is coming early (really early) so that you can get ready to include an important address to your list. Read on.....Fun with the ACLU.....

Would you like have some fun this CHRISTMAS? Send the ACLU a "CHRISTMAS" CARD this year. As they are working so very hard to get rid of the CHRISTMAS part of this holiday, We should all send them a nice, CHRISTmas, card to brighten up their dark, sad, world. Make sure it says "Christmas" on it..... Might not hurt to include a note telling them you will NOT take CHRIST out of Christmas so they can be "policitally correct". Here's the Address, just don't be rude or crude. (after all, It's Not the CHRISTian Way!)

ACLU
125 Broad Street
18th Floor
New York, NY 10004

Two tons of Christmas cards would freeze their operations because they wouldn't know if any were regular mail containing contributions. So lets all spend 41 cents and tell the ACLU to leave Christmas alone. Also tell them that there is no such

thing as a "Holiday Tree". . . . It's a Christmas Tree even in the fields!! And PLEASE pass this on to your email lists. We really want to communicate with the ACLU in the Spirit of Christmas! They really DESERVE us!!

— Bob Lafoon

Copy that, Xerox!

If you go to this web site, www.letssaythanks.com, you can pick out a thank you card and Xerox will print it and it will be sent to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq. You can't pick out who gets it, but it will go to some member of the armed services.

How AMAZING it would be if we could get everyone we know to send one!!! This is a great site.

Please send a card. It is FREE and it only takes a second.

— Ted Acheson

Great Idea from Melinda Barbee:

Melinda Barbee suggests sending a card addressed to a recovering American Soldier at Walter Reed Army Hospital. The problem is Walter Reed will not accept them. However, Pitney Bowes and the American Red Cross have teamed up to solve the problem.

Instead of sending cards to Walter Reed, send them to:
We Support You During Your Recovery!
c/o American Red Cross
PO Box 419
Savage, MD 20763-0419



**Quiero ir a Panama.
Vamos a la playa.
Quiero una cerveza tambien!**

Ted, Bernie and I are absolutely going on the DASPO Cruise to Panama.

For us, its a total win. We get to spend time with DASPO friends. Our daughter lives in Fort Lauderdale and I have a brother in Panama City part of the year. His wife is Panamaian and they have a home there. I will ask him to be in Panama at that time.

I got my new car and my wifes mad. I keep stealing her cleaning rags to wax and polish it. She made me promise to buy my own tomorrow.

I will send the deposit tomorrow. For us, it could not be a better trip.

—Larry Letzer

From Lisa Murdock who was looking for JD Devan.

Thank you for your help. I have been trying to get any information for years, without much success. I know that my father was a film maker in Germany starting in 58 or 59, I know he was there in 1960. If anyone replies, I would love to hear from them. Thank you again, you've been a huge help.

Thank you so much for letting me know. I actually did find his wife and my mother has spoken with her for the first time in many years. My father was a friend of his beyond

his service years and he too has passed a few years before J.D. I was looking for him about information about him and my father interviewing Elvis Presley in Germany for Armed Forces Television and Radio. My father David Murdock was the interviewer and J.D., of course, the photographer. I was looking for film footage of that interview. If you have any information or insight on that, I would appreciate it very much if you could write back.

I remember J.D., Greta and the kids fondly though I haven't seen them since I was a child myself. I am very sorry that I wasn't able to reconnect with him prior to his passing.

Thank you for your assistance.

— Lisa Murdock

Only good?

Hi Ted,

Good, interesting news letter. Sorry to hear about the texas reunion going belly up. I was actually looking forward to visiting Austin for the reunion. I will bail on the boat trip though. So do you have reunion destinations for the future? I am just about ready to move into the house so will have a lot of free time on my hands. (ha ha) Hope all is well in texas for you. Still working? Do you hear from Hains or Grigsby?

Later!

— Burt 'Pete' Peterson

One-On-One with Al Chang

Just wanted to let you know that Time Magazine (October 22, 2007) ran a paragraph on Al Chang and his passing. I remember sitting in Al's office and him giving me one-on-one training. He was a good one. Wow, one-on-one training with one of the best. I have read, a number of times, the story about the picture he took during the Korean war. The stories were all off a little, but I knew the true story, because I heard it from Al himself. Yet, it is starting to get a little vague now. That was almost 40 years ago. I do know that camera he used.

— Duke Smith





Getting down to business

In the May newsletter it was mentioned that at our last reunion's business meeting we are now collecting dues (\$25.00 per year) from our members to defray our costs. We understand that many of you have already contributed generously to the DASPO fund and we all thank you for that.

John Gilroy has mentioned to me that he has received contributions but many of you have forgotten to send in your dues.

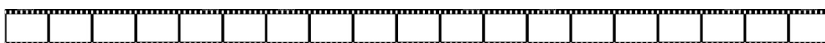
Please send your money to:

John Gilroy
474 N. 2nd Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
Make the checks payable to John
Gilroy DASPO.

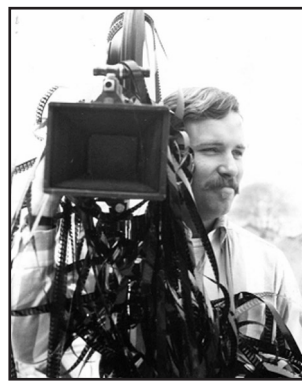


Scholarship: State of the Plate

At the last reunion Carl Conn talked about his personalized NY state license plates with DASPO on them. Carl announced he would donate \$25.00 to Rein Yoho scholarship, up to total of \$1,000.00, for everyone that also got a state plate with DASPO on it. You must submit a photo of your plate.



Stump the Chumps



No one identified the two photographers in the last newsletter? Have you finally been stumped? Some one must know these guys... please go back and take a look.

Texas Tech still wants to do oral histories on us—Please call Richard Verone at 806-742-9010 and set an appointment with him. TTU will pay for all calls for the interview. Also a reminder, please send anything that has to do with your time in DASPO to TTU as well. They will make a CD for you of your photos, letters and other items. Send to TTU

Attn; Steve Maxner
Special collections
room 108,
Lubbock, TX 79409-1041



Better Homes and Gardens



We are still waiting to hear from someone about the closing of the Villa's in 1970-1971 we need this bit of info for DASPO history that we are putting together. Someone must have knowledge of this?



1922 - 2007



AL CHANG



soldier / journalist — journalist / soldier





Al Chang

was a dock worker

at the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor who became a celebrated combat photographer, both as a journalist and a soldier.

Chang, who was twice nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, died late Sunday in Honolulu, his family said. He had celebrated his 85th birthday on July 13 with family and friends gathering to share memories of his life and acclaimed photography.

Colleagues remember Chang, who was wounded three times in Vietnam, with two Nikon cameras hanging from his neck and a cigar in his mouth.

He shot photos of the Japanese surrender on the battleship USS Missouri in 1945.

After a career as a military photographer in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, he shot photos during the Vietnam War

for National Geographic and The Associated Press. He later returned to the Army, shooting photos in Vietnam for the 25th Division and other units.

A longtime friend, retired Brigadier General Irwin Cockett, said Chang followed the hottest action, calling him “the epitome of a combat photographer.”

Former Honolulu Mayor Jeremy Harris honored the war photographer with an “Al Chang Day” and former Pacific Commander General David Bramlett called Chang “one of the best living combat photographers.”

His familiar photos included an August 28, 1950, photo of Army Sgt. Bill Redifer comforting fellow soldier Vincent Nozzolillo, which was included in the book “Family of Man” by Edward Steichen, published in 1955.

Chang’s wife, Jacqueline, said he was recently diagnosed with leukemia. “He never complained,” she said, “although he must have been in pain.”

Chang is also survived by sons, Hayward and Kaulana, and daughters, Cecilia Silva, Julita Chang and Paokalani Naluai.





SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING:

War stories may lead to premature baldness, detachment from reality, social ostracization, hives, shortness of breath, and an uncontrolled desire for alcohol.

If stories are repeated too often, it may result in beatings and withholding of food and exercise privileges by your minders. Stories should be checked for truth and told only in moderation.