

## **Geodetic Survey Squadron/Group 2012 Reunion, Newsletter #11, 24 May 2012**

### **Greetings, Fellow Veterans of the Geodetic Survey Squadron/Geodetic Survey Group!**

Memorial Day is often the unofficial summer kickoff for fun and outdoor activities, but we must never forget those who secured that free lifestyle for us with their lives. For this Memorial Day, let us remember our friends and colleagues who have gone before us, and all those who ever served our country honorably in uniform.

Here's my (slightly irreverent) prayer for our departed Geodetic Survey veterans:

*Lord, please remember our dearly departed geodetic brethren.  
Though they may have sometimes strayed from the straight and narrow, as  
masters of position and direction, they could never truly be lost souls.  
With confidence in your loving kindness, we ask that you please set them on a  
course to their permanent change of station that is true in azimuth, plus or  
minus one second of arc, and position them in your presence with a two-sigma  
error not to exceed plus or minus thirty centimeters.  
Amen*

Now, here's our latest update on our evolving reunion plans.

#### **Reunion Reservations**

***If you have not done so yet, you may now make your hotel reservations and firm up your plans for our reunion, which will take place beginning with a Friday evening "Ice Breaker," Saturday mid-day luncheon and Sunday late morning brunch, 3-5 AUGUST 2012!***

- ? Our reunion is at:  
**Holiday Inn Cheyenne**  
204 West Fox Farm Road  
Cheyenne, WY 82007  
Use this address to get a Google Map of the location or to program your GPS vehicle navigator.  
NOTE: Be sure your reservation is at THIS Holiday Inn, NOT the Holiday Inn Express, elsewhere in town!
- ? Make your room reservation by calling Holiday Inn at 307-638-4466; state that you are attending the "Geodetic Survey Squadron Reunion" to get the special rate of \$85 per night.
- ? If you encounter any problems with room registration at the discounted rate, refer the person taking your reservation to our point of contact, **Katie Edmiston**, Sales Manager, direct line: 307-757-9112.
- ? The cut-off for reserving a hotel room at Holiday Inn for our reunion at this special rate is 20 July, but do not waiting that long. After 20 July, any unreserved rooms will go back to the regular price and be available to reunion attendees only on a space-available basis.
- ? The prices for our main events:
  - o Friday Evening Ice-Breaker Social – \$2 per person – this covers the bartender fee only; Holiday Inn will provide free snack items, but drinks are on you.
  - o Saturday Mid-Day Luncheon -- \$13 per person
  - o Sunday Brunch -- \$11 per person

***IMPORTANT: I have told the hotel to expect about 100 people and secured the cost with my personal credit card. So, if you plan to attend any or all of these***

***three functions, please pay ME in advance by check for the events you plan to attend, NOT the hotel! You cannot pay for these reunion events by adding them to your hotel bill; they must be paid to me in advance, and I will settle with the hotel in a lump sum at the end of the reunion. When you send me your check, please include a brief note indicating what your check covers; i.e., which of the three events you plan to attend and how many people are in your party.***

***Make your checks payable to Garrett R. Moore and send them to:  
Garrett R. Moore  
6406 Stonehaven Court  
Clifton, VA 20124***

Many thanks to those of you who have already paid.

### **Menu**

I have not yet received the detailed menu breakout for the Saturday lunch and Sunday brunch, but it will be similar to the previous fare at the last reunion. I have asked the Holiday Inn caterer to send me the exact menu so I can include it in the next newsletter. I have also asked for some flexibility in the kitchen to substitute menu items in case there are a few of you who have food allergies or dietary restrictions.

### **Saturday Golf Outing a Definite Maybe...?**

A few days ago I received the following message from **Fritz Friehauf**. Fritz is a former GSS commander and Cheyenne resident, who has graciously volunteered to arrange a golf outing on Saturday afternoon on the FEW links. Says Fritz,

"The Saturday, 4 August date and time (1400 hours) have been reserved at the Warren Golf Club. Further details will be coming in a couple weeks. Right now it appears we will have room for 36 golfers to play nine holes. It's been hard to nail things down because since March 1 it has been in question as to whether the base course will even open this year due to funding. Right now they are letting people play, but a final decision has not been made yet. So I'm betting on the come right now. I'll get back to you when things firm up."

So, I ask you, is the glass half full or half empty? We'll keep you posted...meanwhile, keep your golf clubs ready to swing!

### **Other Saturday Events**

Don't forget that **Anita Rakestraw**, a veteran of the GSS Orderly Room/Admin Office, has sponsored a wine and cheese social on Saturday evening in our hospitality room at the Holiday Inn. She will bring the starters and you are all invited and encouraged to bring something to share. This party may be the perfect venue for picking up your commemorative coins, for those of you who indicated that you would pick them up at the reunion.

### **Other Things To Do In Cheyenne**

In between reunion events, you can get information on other things to do, places to eat, and a calendar of events happening in the Cheyenne area by going to the website of the **Cheyenne Convention and Visitors' Bureau** at <http://www.cheyenne.org/>.

**NOTE ADDED 8 Jun 2012: All 100 commemorative coins have been sold as of 30 May. There are no more coins available for sale. All those ordered for mail delivery have been sent. The rest will be delivered to their buyers at the reunion.**

### **Commemorative Coin News**

*The coins are in!*

They arrived at my door on 7 May right on schedule, and *they look even better than the artwork on our*

**webpage!** Meanwhile, there was a recurring comedy of errors with regard to the plastic protective 'flips' that arrived with the coins. The first set of flips was too small for our 47 mm coin. Then, the replacements were sent to Gordon Barnes instead of me! (And those were also too small!) The correctly fitting flips finally arrived at my door a few days ago, but the snafu delayed by two weeks my mailing out the coins to those who mail-ordered them. However, as of 22 May, all of the coins previously ordered are on their way to those who requested mail-order delivery.

After my last newsletter, more coin orders poured in. So far, I have received orders for **81** of these specially minted GSS/GSG commemorative coins, so **they're going fast!** If you have been procrastinating about placing an order, take a good look at the design at our GSS website <http://www.1381st-gss.freeservers.com/> at the full color image of the coin. If you like what you see, send me your order.

### **How to Order Your Commemorative Coin**

Whether you want your coins shipped or will pick them up yourself at the reunion, here's how to order.

First, check out the design online, and then, if you decide to order one or more, just send me an e-mail with the following information:

ORDER DATE:

YOUR NAME:

HOW MANY COINS:

Then tell me how to deliver:

"I WILL PICK UP MY COIN(S) AT THE REUNION."

or

"SEND MY COIN(S) TO ME POSTAGE PAID."

(Include your shipping address.)

The cost of the coins is \$15 each by mail order, postage paid, and only \$10 each if picked up at the GSS/GSG reunion in August. All coins will include the new protective plastic envelope. (*This one fits!*)

***Either way, send no money now!*** I want you to receive your order and be completely happy with your coin(s), then either send me your payment (checks only, please) or return the coin(s). Reunion attendees, you may inspect your coins during the reunion, and if satisfied, pay me there in person by cash or check. ***Remember, we only minted 100 of these special coins, and 81 of them are already spoken for, so don't delay if you want one or more!***

### **Air Force Photomapping Association and Coin**

Also, remember that if you served in the Squadron between July 1959 and July 1972, while it was still attached to Air Force Photomapping parent units, you are also eligible to join the *Air Force Photomapping Association* and purchase the Photomapping coin. ***If you are interested in joining the Association, contact Gordon Barnes, Director of Membership, at [glbjlb@charter.net](mailto:glbjlb@charter.net).***

If you are interested in the Photomapper coin, you may view it and the related cost and ordering information at [www.1370th.org/coin.html](http://www.1370th.org/coin.html). These coins are currently sold out, and it requires a minimum order of 50 to put them back into production at the Mint. So far, Gordon has received orders for only 10-12 coins, so right now, it's not looking too promising for another reorder. ***If you really are interested in ordering a Photomapper coin, please contact Gordon Barnes at [glbjlb@charter.net](mailto:glbjlb@charter.net) and tell him how many coins you want and your shipping address.***

### **Reunion Publicity**

NGA employee **Dan Mullaney**, Coordinate Systems Analyst, stepped forward to take on the task of getting reunion information out through NGA's Public Affairs office. Says Dan, "I passed the information to OCC (Office of Corporate Communications), along with your contact information.

I'll see where we stand..." **Merilou Miller** and friends have also volunteered to get us some publicity in the local Cheyenne media as reunion time approaches.

### **More Names Added to Our Online Roster**

Thanks to the diligent efforts of **Dana Hannon, Merilou Miller and Hank Miller**, we have added a few more lost Cheyenne area residents to the fold. We are pleased to add **Darlene Kirkpatrick, Lenice and Ed Pinson** and **George Emerson** to the fold. **William DeLoach** (1968-70) and **Marc Pouliot** also found us and asked to join the fun. Those publicity ads in the VFW newsletter generated two requests for more information from veterans, one from **Jerry Summerfield** (FEW/1973-80) and a phone call and two e-mails from **Peter G. Gessner**. Peter is actually a veteran of an outfit called the 7<sup>th</sup> Geodetic Control Squadron that goes back to the *Army* Air Force days in the mid-1940s before the Air Force became a separate service! There's a considerable bit of history to this outfit available at [www.1370th.org/7gcs/7gcs.html](http://www.1370th.org/7gcs/7gcs.html). Anyway, I invited Peter to join us at the reunion and swap stories with our Orlando veterans, and being a spry guy in his young 80s, he might just drive up from Texas to do so!

All these folks are (or will soon be) listed among their friends and colleagues on our GSS/GSG webpage where they belong, but **what about you?**

**Remember, your e-mail address may get you this newsletter, but e-mail alone is not enough to get you listed in our "hall of fame" on our GSS/GSG website. If you want to be listed among your old friends and colleagues on the GSS/GSG veterans' webpage, then PLEASE send us your full locator information using the template below!**

Take a moment, if you not already done so, to copy and paste this little form into a reply e-mail to me right after you read this newsletter and fill it out with your

NAME:

ADDRESS: (Include street or mailbox #, city, state and zip code)

PHONE:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

MILITARY or CIVILIAN: (Answer "both" if you served the Squadron or Group in both capacities)

HIGHEST RANK or POSITION in GSS/GSG:

START/END DATES OF SERVICE IN GSS/GSG: (Multiple entries OK, if you had more than one tour of duty)

ORGS: (i.e., where you worked: Survey, Astro, Sat Tri, Gravity, Data Reduction, Detachment, etc.)

OTHER: (Add whatever else you want to share here in a few lines.)

***Friends, we are just a little over two months away from our next reunion! Make your plans, reserve your room at the Holiday Inn and remember to ask for your special reunion discount when you reserve your room by mentioning "Geodetic Survey Reunion."***

***Also tell me what events you plan to attend, how many are in your party, and send me a check to cover the total.***

***Commemorative coin collectors, follow the ordering instructions mentioned above!***

***Looking forward to seeing you all this summer!***

Garrett

Field Survey & Astro

GSS/Cheyenne

April 1967 - May 1970 and January - December 1972

*Nothing makes the Earth seem so spacious as to have friends at a distance—they make the latitudes and longitudes.*

*--Henry David Thoreau, Surveyor & Philosopher*