

## Koh Tang / Mayaguez Veterans Organization

Now that the 2014 reunion is over, I'm already looking forward to the next one!!

At the reunion, the board members were asked to vote on the location of our next reunion and to have all the details available within the next 6 months. There are more of us in the organization than just the board members, and I would like to receive some input from each and every veteran.

I'm confident that the more participation and interest we get, the better we are at negotiating acceptable rates and amenities, including handicap friendly. Let's not wait until the last minute to figure out where we want our 2016 reunion to be held. The sooner we can come to a decision within the organization the better. This will give our brothers and families time to start saving for the event. Remember, when you're thinking about where to go that you think about everyone. It would be great to see our brothers with family at the next one. This next reunion we would like to feature our families and have them be a part of our organization. Your children, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, and anyone that is close to you and knows that being part of your organization is special. Also, remember that we are an elite group of historians that have banded together forever.

Since I have been back at home, I've reviewed several e-mails concerning the growth of the organization. It appears that I have inherited a lot of challenges and I look forward to addressing and resolving them in an expeditious manner. Now that I have accepted the challenge, I will certainly give it my 110% going forward and will try to reunite our brothers. Like Terry Brooks said at the reunion after we had some disagreements, we are all SURVIVORS from a mission that we had no say in. We did what we were told to do, and no matter what we thought, those were the orders and we carried them out. It doesn't matter who was first on and last off. The tables could have been turned. All that matters is that this organization stay together until we receive our final orders, and I will need help from all my banded brothers.

There are many of us that don't work and would have some extra time to try and find some of our unaccounted for brothers and their families that do not even know our organization is alive. I have been sitting back and watching the display and magnitude of what is all taking place, and it saddens me. Our members and the individuals who are going back and forth really should consider the ultimate damage than can be caused by such actions. I have carefully reviewed numerous emails and I for one, believe we should put forward our useful ideas and thoughts in a more constructive manner to make our organization strong.

Understand my letter is in no way shape or form here to criticize anyone. We are a team and should conduct ourselves as so. We must all take note that everyone is entitled to his or her opinions based on their findings and knowledge. It also should be noted that diplomacy is always our best course of action. I am asking if we could all communicate with the current Board and let's bounce ideas, it will serve more purpose than to attempt to anger one another. This is not the KTMV I remember. Our new board is attempting to get a handle on all the personalities and I'm sure it can be accomplished this is a win, win proposition. I ask each one of you to consider this.

If you have a friend and you lose this person over the course of your life and you had a disagreement, are they still your friend or enemy? The Lord is our judge. He will issue our final orders, and again, we will have no say. Life is to short and we all have passion.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to be your President. We have had a change in command as one of our brothers has indicated he has resigned. I will do my best to represent you, to make our organization stronger, and work successfully through any issues that arise so there is no animosity among us.

Semper Fidelis Your Brother,

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