Wreath Laying Ceremony for General Hershey

The annual Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada-U.S. Unit (ANAVICUS) breakfast meeting was held March 24, 2014 with Director Romo and Associate Director Richard Flahavan participating as members. Following the breakfast was the annual wreath-laying ceremony at the Arlington National Cemetery gravesite of Gen. Lewis B. Hershey. GEN Hershey served as President of the U.S. Unit from 1953 through his death in 1977. The Hershey Chapter of the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) has co-hosted this event annually.

ANAVICUS was formed after World War II to maintain the bond that was established between veterans in Canada and the United States during the war. The organization has a history of distinguished members from both the military and diplomatic professions. Several current and former Selective Service employees and board members are active members in the organization. Both Director Romo and Associate Director Flahavan are current members of ANAVICUS.

Director Romo and Wreath Bearer from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment at Arlington National Cemetery.

Left wreath from ANAVICUS, right one from SSS.
Ahora Student Day

This is the third year the Selective Service System has partnered with Latino Magazine “Ahora Student Day” series, presenting positive motivational and education messages to Hispanic youth in underserved communities. Director Romo spoke at the Austin, Texas Latino event, April 30 stressing the importance of registration compliance and keeping eligible for college student loans and grants, jobs, and training programs. He even reminded all the students that it is a requirement for non-citizen immigrants to register, too, no matter their status.

Mr. Emilio De Los Santos, a Texas Local Board Member volunteered to do a similar event on February 27, at the University of Texas-Pan American University. Mr. Santos is from Hidalgo County, Texas, and has more than 30 years of service as a retired school administrator for Weslaco I.S.D. He and his assistant, Mr. Frank Garza, Veterans Service Officer in Region 2, talked to more than 300 students.

Between the SSS registration message and the Latino “speakers forum members” promoting personal commitment to working hard in school and pursuing courses in the Sciences, Technologies, Engineering, and Math (STEM), students learned that there are numerous job opportunities for them after they complete college successfully.

Many thanks to all who have helped in these and past Latino events, too.

SSS Exhibits at TESOL

The Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Language exhibit was held March 26 – 29, 2014 in Portland Oregon. The exhibit was manned by the entire Oregon SSS Team.
SSS Teams Up with The Harlem Globetrotters

The Harlem Globetrotters, legendary American icons of sports, entertainment and family values, are teamed up with the Selective Service System to spread the word that registration with Selective Service is quick, easy and critical to every young man’s future.

And in true Globetrotters style, they’re doing it in a way that’s fun and fan-friendly. All fans 16 and over were able to “Like” Selective Service on Facebook and had a chance to win a Globetrotters Prize Package and the Selective Service Shot of the Game at the Globetrotters’ Washington, D.C. game which was Saturday, March 1, 2014 at the Verizon Center.

“Registering with Selective Service is something every man has to do to make sure he’s got a shot at a good future,” said Lawrence G. Romo, Director of the Selective Service System. “Working with groups like the Harlem Globetrotters helps us get that very important message out in ways that might not otherwise reach people who need to hear it.”

A Special Thank You to Texas Board Member from Region II

Region II would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Mike Schofield, Chairperson of a local board, representing Fort Bend County, for his outstanding job of ensuring his surrounding counties’ independent school districts were informed and aware of the registration requirement for young men to register with Selective Service. Mr. Schofield took time out of his busy schedule to inform school board officials about registration and provided high school kits for distribution.

Mr. Schofield continues to encourage members of other organizations to apply as future Board Members with Selective Service. Mr. Schofield has been an outstanding Board Member for almost 14 years. Thank you for your efforts!
Region II RFOs Man the Distributive Education Exhibit

Major Neil MacLauchlan, LTC Jordan Davis, and Major Earl Tingle of Georgia Detachment 2-7 manned the Distributive Education (DECA) Exhibit that took place in Atlanta, GA at the Georgia World Congress Center from May 3-6, 2014. The officers explained to attendees the requirements of Selective Service System registration and the benefits associated with registration.

Pictured Above: Major MacLauchlan and DECA Attendees

Region II Represents the National Association of Secondary School Principals

LTC Michael R. Segner, Detachment Commander of TX 2-20 and LTC William E. Layne, Detachment Commander of TX 2-19, manned the (NASSP) National Association of Secondary School Principals exhibit that took place in Dallas, TX from February 5-8, 2014. This event informed school officials of the importance of registration, as well as served as a recruiting effort for future Board Members.

From Left to Right: LTC Michael R. Segner, Detachment Commander of TX 2-20 and LTC William E. Layne, Detachment Commander of TX 2-19
Region I New State Directors

On April 4, 2012 Director Lawrence Romo swore in MG (Retired) Barbisch as the new District of Columbia State Director and Lt Col (Retired) McKee as the new Maryland State Director.

Left to Right: Director Romo, State Director McKee and Region Director Kenney

Left to Right: Director Romo, State Director Barbisch and Region Director Kenney
During the exhibitor session for the college students the primary area of interest was public service opportunities as a local board member. Several of the visitors chose to take board member applications in hope of an appointment that would be an opportunity to serve and help them start to build a resume of positive accomplishments. This board member recruiting activity was not limited to local vacancies, a nationwide list of vacant board member positions was used to tell potential applicants if there was a vacancy in their area. Since becoming leaders in their communities was a key message at the conference, learning about registration requirements also gave them important information to mentor younger members in their communities.

The booth was also a source of information for representatives of other organizations who were speaking or had exhibits at the conference. School counselors and other social service organization representatives were able to get information and receive outreach brochures at the conference. For some of the representatives this was their first time hearing about specific registration requirements and the potential penalties or loss of benefits for failure to comply.

This was the second year that members from IL 1-2 had participated in this annual event and found it to be a great opportunity for outreach to a wide demographic group. As the events were winding down for this year, returning to the conference next year was already being discussed.
Richard S. Flahavan Presented Government Service Certificate

Mr. Richard Flahavan joined SSS in 1986. He was appointed as the Agency’s Associate Director of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs in February 2002, having previously served SSS as its Chief of Governmental Affairs; Director of Planning, Analysis and Evaluation; Director of Operations; and the Inspector General. His current responsibilities include all public affairs endeavors, legislative liaison, interaction with the National Security Council, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Office of Management and Budget, the Government Accounting Office, and Congress. He is involved additionally with special “what if” drills which address Agency missions, requirements, structure, and strategies for the future.

Director Romo (Center) presents Mr. Flahavan (Left) with Certificate as Deputy Director Allard (Right) looks on

Director Romo presented Mr. Richard S. Flahavan with the SSS Service Certificate in recognition of his 40 years of Government Service

Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann presented SSS Challenge Coin

Indiana Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann was presented with a Selective Service Challenge Coin. Former SSS Board Member Mark Eustler made the presentation on behalf of SSS Director Lawrence Romo.

Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann (center) welcomed Andrew, Abigail, Therese and Mark Eutsler to the podium of the Indiana State Senate. Andrew and Abigail served as pages for the Lt. Governor in her capacity as President of the Senate. Andrew is a North Montgomery High School sophomore and Abigail is a fifth-grader at Pleasant Hill Elementary School.
Mr. Raul E. Hinojosa, SSS Board Member, comes from a long line of patriotic Americans whose family roots are those of some of the first explorers of Texas. His father, Raul was a track star at San Benito High School in Texas. He dreamt of becoming an Olympian but that dream ended on December 7, 1941 when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Soon he found himself serving his country during World War II at Guadalcanal as a Navy corpsman. Raul experienced the horrors of war and never forgot the reasons he proudly fought for his beloved country, the United States. After the war, Raul continued his service to the country and his community. He took advantage of the G.I. bill and attended law school. He had a successful career practicing law and served as a Judge while he and his wife Sarita raised their family. Throughout his life Raul continued to serve his country and volunteered to help with registration for the Selective Service System. In 1948, he was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the President of the United States, Harry Truman for serving as Chairman of the Registration Period for the Selective Service System.

Raul Hinojosa’s patriotism and that of his father Emilio who served the U.S. in World War I is shared by his son, SSS Board Member Raul E. On September 1, 1973 Raul E. registered with the Selective Service System. Coincidentally, Raul E. remembers watching the evening news that same day when Walter Cronkite reported that the draft had ended. Forty years later The Director of Selective Service System Lawrence Romo encouraged Raul E. to serve on the local board thus continuing the family tradition of serving the country. Raul E.’s sons Raul and Emilio are 13th generation Texans and with step-son Michael plan to continue the tradition of service to their country and community.
Robin Shaw Retires

Mrs. Robin Shaw, a native of Washington, DC, graduated from Suitland High School in 1975, and began her federal government career in 1976. Robin started as a Mail Clerk at the Department of Transportation and later moved to the Census Bureau in 1978, where she worked as a Secretary. While at the Census Bureau, Robin began evening classes at Prince George’s Community College and earned an Associate Degree in Business Management.

Robin came to the Selective Service System in September 1982, as a Secretary at the Alexandria Computer Center. Within 2 months, Robin was promoted into an upward mobility position for Computer Programmer Trainee. Her primary responsibility was the IMIS system in its various incarnations through present day including the new IMIS which was released in February of this year. Robin was also a primary contact for the SSS Intranet since 2006. Outstanding customer service was always an unconditional goal during her years as an NHQ contact with our Regions.

Robin met Clarence (known as ‘Bae’) in high school; they began dating in 1980, while both worked at the Census Bureau; and married in 1988. Robin & Bae have one daughter, Dominique, who currently resides in Durham while attending North Carolina Central University. Dominique is studying to be an RN in Pediatrics and is scheduled to complete her BSN in 2015. Robin and Bae, who is also retiring after a 40+ years federal career, highly anticipate Dominique’s graduation, enjoying lots of travel (1st trip-- New Orleans!) and spending more time with each other, their family and friends. Robin’s retirement was effective April 3rd. We will miss Robin and wish her and her family continued health and happiness in the future.

MaryKay C. Berglund Retires

Mary Berglund joined the Region I Headquarters as the Management Services Assistant in October of 1994. She has a combined total of 35 years federal government service with various agencies such as Military Pay, RTC Great Lakes; DFAS Great Lakes; Civilian Payroll, Great Lakes; Supply Center Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, MS; and Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, MS.

In July 2001, Mary was promoted to Administrative Officer for the Region Headquarters, responsible for the development and execution of the Regions annual operating budget. In addition, she oversaw the purchase, maintenance, storage and disposition of all supplies and equipment for the Headquarters, its 33 Detachments, and 18 State Directors. She maintained and monitored support agreements for ongoing services and physical spaces within the Region and in the field. She also monitored the submission of Annual Training orders for RFOs and the review and certification of Board Member travel claims and various invoices for payment. Mary was responsible for the annual property inventory at Region Headquarters as well as for the Detachments and State Directors. Additionally, she ensured the preparation and completion of numerous monthly, quarterly, and annual reports related to administrative functions at the Region.

In her spare time enjoys reading. She also enjoys watching auto races, washing and waxing her car, and loves Harley Davidson’s. Mary has 2 very spoiled cats named Harley Davidson and Cody Paul and is married to a wonderful guy named Bruce. All of us at SSS wish Mary well in all of her future endeavors. Congratulations Mary on your retirement!
Region II Hail and Farewell to TN State Directors

A celebration was held on May 3, 2014 to recognize retiring Tennessee State Director, Colonel (Retired) Chris Gingles, who was presented with the SSS Distinguished Service Award with Gold Medal for his many years of service as a Region II Reserve Force Officer and Commander for six years and 14 years as the State Director. Also, during the ceremony, the newly-appointed State Director for Tennessee, LTC (Retired) Bruce Henry was presented with his Commission. We wish both gentlemen the best in their new endeavors.

From Left to Right: New Board Members, MG Robert Harris, Assistant Adjutant General Tennessee Army National Guard, newly-appointed TN SD Bruce Henry (with Commission), Region II Director Keith Scragg, and retiring TN SD Chris Gingles, who received the SSS Distinguished Service Award with Gold Medal. Surrounding State Directors are TN Reserve Officers, IBMT Attendees, and BG Jeffery Holmes, TN Army National Guard.

CWO4 Mark Anning Retires

CWO4 Mark Anning retired from the US Navy in February 2014 after more than 30 years of service. He spent 18 months in the Selective Service System as an Area Office Manager and Reserve Force Officer for boards located in San Bernardino and Orange Counties. He became a trainer and helped train local Board Members in several IBMT and CT Face-to-Face sessions conducted in Los Angeles and San Diego counties. He also represented the Selective Service System at several conferences and helped promote the importance of registration compliance.

From Left to Right: ENS Jason Morgan, CWO4 Mark Anning, LTC Richard Gurr
Contributors

Many Thanks to:

Mary Bergland
Jennifer Burke
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Emilio De Los Santos
Dick Flahavan
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Shelby Krick
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