Strategic Gathering

At the end of January all the Region Directors, Region Operations Officers, the DMC Manager, CAPT Thomas Ryer of Detachment 1-25, the entire front office, the Associate Directors, and specific NHQ staff participated in three days of comprehensive strategic planning. National Guard Bureau’s LTC Kelly Brown was in attendance and was assisting SSS in firming up support of ARNG RFO’s for the future. After Deputy Director Allard conducted an intensive one and one-half day seminar on strategic planning principles, goals and objectives, the remaining time was spent on crafting an actual Agency 2013-2018 Strategic Plan.

This plan lays out what SSS plans to do (goals), the means and strategies to attain what we want to do (objectives), and measures how well we did it. It is important because it sets our operational priorities and places our budget where the priorities are. Currently the plan is at the Office of Management and Budget for clearance prior to posting on our website: www.sss.gov.

For more pictures of participants see pages 2 & 3
The Selective Service System exhibited at The National Congress of American Indians Convention, October 21-26, 2012, SSS RFO MAJ Tonja Ochonma attended the convention and made the following observations, “We were able to bring awareness of our program and recruit Local Board Members throughout the country as well as register young Native American men. One of the highlights of the convention was being able to talk directly to Tribal Chief’s; as they are the leaders and influences within the tribal community. It was amazing to hear their stories and learn about their contributions to the US Military, but more importantly getting the word out about Local Board Members reflecting their population in the event SSS has to execute it mission. I highly recommend SSS continue to support this event as it not only benefits SSS but educates and expands the knowledge of RFOs who are working directly with diverse populations. “ During the conference, the Veterans Committee Meeting was held. Director Romo was invited to provide an overview of the Selective Service System (SSS) to over 45 Native American Veterans. Director Romo stressed the importance of diversity within the Local Board Member process and the importance of their support and participation in the Local Boards. The committee members expressed their support and will encourage Tribal Chiefs and their communities to apply for local board memberships vacancies. Several participants completed the “Become a Local Board Member” application.

SSS Partners with Vietnam Commemoration

The Selective Service System has become a Commemorative Partner with The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, remembering the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. The program’s objectives include thanking, honoring and paying tribute to all Vietnam veterans, their families, Prisoners of War, those Missing in Action. The Commemoration’s Partner Program enables federal, state and local communities, veterans’ organizations and other nongovernmental organizations to also honor and pay tribute to our Vietnam Veterans and their families.

And as such, Commemorative Partners plan and conduct events and activities that recognize the service and sacrifice of Vietnam Veterans and their families.

The SSS was presented with a Commemorative Flag, Commemorative Partner certificate signed by the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and a copy of the signed Presidential Proclamation declaring May 28, 2012 through November 11, 2025 as the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

To learn more about the Commemoration please visit www.vietnamwar50th.com

SSS Exhibits at the National Congress of American Indians

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From Left to Right: CPT Espinoza, Mr. Romo and MAJ Ochonma.
PIA’s Outreach Efforts

Public & Intergovernmental Affairs has been busy with various social media outreach efforts to get the word out about Selective Service registration. Listed below are some of PIA’s products:

Radio and TV: PIA distributed two radio (recorded) and TV “news” announcements that were distributed to 6,000 radio and 1,000 TV “news” directors in last four months. Check out a sample TV at this link, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQcVu-8x5rI

Also, the “Just the Facts: For young men turning 18” was released at the beginning of January 2013 to 5,000 radio “public service directors.” Another 7,000 radio kits will be mailed in June 2013. Included in the package are announcer read spots, 14 recorded Public Service Announcements and 5 Spanish translations. Additionally, it distributed a new radio package, “What young Men Need to Know When they turn 18”, with announcer read public service announcements and 14 English and 5 Spanish public service announcements. Two mailings were distributed, totaling 12,000 packages to radio “public service directors.

Print Two news stories in English and Spanish were distributed in the last two months to 10,000 daily and weekly newspapers and more than 700 Spanish newspapers. (See attachments).

Facebook (Official site) and Twitter: We’re social with a whole lot of SSS registration information, banner ads links, advertisements, trivia facts, and videos that helps get out the registration message in a credable way. Check us out online. Go to https://www.facebook.com/SSSRegistration

We recently placed a historical photo of Mr. Coronado on Facebook and in one day got a call congratulating us on the new look and use of his photo. So you know information is getting out instantly.

Like Facebook, we are on Twitter, too. New information is loaded every couple of days and sent viral through Twitter land.
PIA’s High School Outreach

High school publicity kit materials were distributed by SSS Public & Intergovernmental Affairs to 42,000 high school addressees in November and December 2012. The publicity kits were sent to uncompensated Selective Service high school registrars and to principals for those schools not having a Selective Service high school registrar. Director Romo asked high school educators and influencers to help create greater Selective Service registration awareness in his cover letter.

The kit included a collection of posters, newspaper ad slicks, and public address announcements with an important registration message for high school men.

Selective Service high school registrars and guidance counselors were encouraged to remind young men about their civic responsibilities to register and the importance of complying with the federal law, as well as to facilitate their registrations, especially online at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov).

Appeal Board Member Visits Headquarters

Indiana District Appeal Board member Mr. Mark Eutsler along with his wife Therese and children Andrew and Abigail visited Director Romo and senior staff at national headquarters. They enjoyed the visit and the tour of the agency given by the Chief of Staff, Joel Spangenberg. After returning home from their visit Mrs. Therese Eutsler applied for consideration to be appointed to the volunteer Local Board. Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Eutsler for your service to our Nation!

*From Left to Right: Mr. Romo, Therese Eutsler, Abigail, Andrew, Mark Eutsler*
Board Member Awarded 20 Year Certificate

On Saturday, November 3, 2012, Mr. Kenneth Mitchell Jr. was presented with a 20 year Certificate of Appreciation for serving 20 years as a Selective Service Board Member in Colorado. He was appointed on October 15, 1992 and served on Local Board #16 in Jefferson County.

He was drafted in 1954 and served in the Army's Military Police while stationed in Germany. In addition to volunteering with the Selective Service, he serves as a Deacon in his church and volunteers with the Gideon’s.

Presentation of Eagle to Former Florida State Director, Doug Maddox, Sr.

Florida State Director, Doug Maddox, Jr., presented the SSS Eagle to former Florida State Director (and Father) Doug Maddox, Sr. during a recent family gathering.

Colonel (Ret.) Maddox, Sr. was a pioneer in suggesting and later passage of state legislation linking SSS registration with obtaining a Florida Driver's License or I.D. Today, registration compliance in Florida is the best in the Nation! His dedication and commitment to the Selective Service System is truly an inspiration. We wish him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

New Missouri State Director Appointed

New Missouri State Director Lt. Col. (Ret) Diane Cummins-Lefler was recently presented with the Selective Service System appointment certificate from members of Team Missouri.
SMSgt Fuss Presented Medal

Director Romo presented the Joint Service Commendation Medal to SMSgt Danette Fuss for her superb work in coordinating all personnel actions for USAF RFOs assigned to SSS. The ceremony was held at Bolling Air Force Base in December, 2012.

Director Romo and SMSgt Fuss
Michigan’s SSS DET MI 1-6 recently held their annual breakfast social at a restaurant near their drill site. The annual event is a great opportunity for past and present RFOs to reconnect and also to exchange enterprising Board Member recruiting ideas. State Director Jim Klynstra and DET Commander Dan Kloc have organized the event for the past several years and have found it to be enjoyable and extremely helpful. LTC Kloc states, “it’s great to see RFOs from days gone by and share stories and ideas. We are like one big Selective Service family here in Michigan. And maintaining a network of past and present RFOs has helped us to creatively fill more than a few Board Member vacancies since its inception. We think that it is a good idea and it’s a tradition that we plan on continuing every year.”

The Region III staff toured the Hammond Candy Factory in Denver, CO this past Holiday season. The Hammond Candy Company was founded in 1920 and manufactures approximately 10 million candy canes each year along with many other candy items. The tour took approximately 30 minutes and was enjoyed by all.

Past and Present RFO’s Reconnect

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RFO Counsels Secretary of the Treasury

Reserve Force Officer LTC Michael A. Olson, Detachment Commander in Iowa (3IA), is a Congressionally recommended member of the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC). The CCAC was established by Congress in 2003 to advise the Secretary of the Treasury on the themes and designs of all US coins and medals, to include Congressional gold medals. The CCAC serves as an informed, experienced and impartial resource to the Secretary of the Treasury and represents the interests of American citizens and collectors. LTC Olson is a career banker and has been active in both the Iowa Bankers Association and the American Bankers Association (ABA), having served as a prior member of the ABA’s Compliance Administrative Committee as well as chair of the ABA’s Presidential Dollar Coin Working Group. LTC Olson currently serves with the Iowa Army National Guard and is a graduate of University of Northern Iowa.
Roderick R. Hubbard Appointed Associate Director and CFO

Mr. Roderick R. Hubbard has recently been appointed as the Agency’s Associate Director for Financial Management and Chief Financial Officer. Before coming to the Selective Service System, Rod served as a Navy Supply Corps Officer for 26 years. He began his naval career in 1986 at the Officer Candidate School (OCS) in Newport, Rhode Island. After commissioning, he attended the Navy Supply Corps School in Athens, Georgia, then off to his first sea assignment aboard USS HARLAN COUNTY (LST-1196) – a flat bottomed troop carrier that made for very interesting times in rough weather.

Throughout his career, Rod served on a number of warships, the highlight of which was USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51), the flagship of the Navy’s most capable class of destroyers. Over the years, he made several deployments to the European, African, and Middle Eastern areas of operation. He spent time ashore, between sea duty assignments, where he focused on developing his financial management credentials – earning a Master’s Degree in International Business and the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) designation.

Rod has served in several high-profile assignments in the Navy’s financial management community. These included Deputy Director in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Operations, Director of Readiness and Logistics of the Programming Division of Chief of Naval Operations’ staff, Financial Management Officer for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Budget), and other positions in the working capital fund and general fund organizations.

Rod retired from the United States Navy this past November. He is a native of East St. Louis, Illinois and currently lives in Lorton Virginia with his wife of 22 years and daughter.

Agency’s Human Resources Officer

Arnita Edmunds joined the Selective Service System as the Human Resources Officer. Prior to joining SSS, Arnita was employed as a Staff Analyst with the Air Force Cost Analysis Agency (AFCAA) working for the Resources Division at Andrews Air Force Base, MD. In her assignment with AFCAA, she was instrumental in providing recruitment and placement expertise to managers, supervisors and employees in order to recruit and retain top talent for the agency. She also successfully managed a full range of civilian manpower and human resource programs and special study projects. Since joining SSS she is focusing on bringing the HR Division in compliance with the current OPM standards and re-establishing the Agency’s Strategic Human Capital Plan. She has over 20 years of federal service and human resources management experience. She is a graduate of Friendly High School in Fort Washington, MD and is currently enrolled in the Human Resources Program at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC). Welcome Arnita!
The Agency’s Accounting Officer Mrs. Dien-Hoa L. Nguyen, CPA has departed the Agency and has joined the Government Printing Office. Dien had been with Selective Service System for over two years. In that time she coordinated efforts to help the Agency earn three consecutive unqualified audit opinions with no material weaknesses on FY-2010, FY-2011 and FY-2012 financial statements. Dien also successfully restructured the financial reporting process and improved several accounting operations including: Fund balance with Treasury reconciliation; fixed assets reconciliation; reconciliation for payments toward prior year accounts; accruals preparation; journal vouchers and manual accounting adjustment process; separation of duties; and reimbursable agreement full cost implementation. Dien has more than 22 years of experience in Federal government financial management, Appropriations Law, U.S. Standard General Ledger and various accounting and budget operations. Director Romo presented Dien with the Silver Medal for peerless, superior performance for serving as the Agency Accounting Officer. Congratulations Dien and best wishes from Selective Service!

Please join us in welcoming Region III Director John J. Wilber to the Selective Service System. Mr. Wilber comes to us from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) as Senior Intelligence Community Planner for the National Intelligence Emergency Management Activity, responsible for the Continuity of Government planning and activities for 17 Intelligence Community agencies. Previous positions he held were with ODNI’s Iran Mission Manager’s Office serving as the Analytic Integration and Senior Military Liaison officer and as the Mission Assurance Coordinator for the ODNI, responsible for all Continuity of Operations planning and program execution.

Mr. Wilber graduated from Colorado State University and entered the US Navy as an intelligence officer in 1985. After serving a variety of naval intelligence tours over 12 years of active duty, he went Reserve in 1997, finally retiring in 2009. During the course of his military intelligence career, Mr. Wilber served in assignments ranging from the unit tactical level, up to National strategic postings. He served in DESERT STORM and IRAQI FREEDOM, made numerous deployments aboard multiple US Navy ships, served on 3 Combatant Commander staffs, the Chief of Naval Operations staff, in addition to taking multiple assigned tours and TDY’s to the Middle East area of operations. He is one of the foremost Iran country experts in the Intelligence Community. He was awarded numerous personal decorations and theater/campaign badges.
Region III has new Management Services Assistant

Mrs. Maryann Rangel has joined Region 3 as a Management Services Assistant. Prior to joining the staff at SSS, Maryann worked for the Department of the Air Force. She held a variety of civilian positions in the Air Reserve Personnel Center, the Medical Group, and as the Unit Program Coordinator for the Security Forces Squadron at Buckley AFB, CO. Additionally, she served four years on active duty in the Air Force as an Information Manager.

During her free time, Maryann stays busy with her two young sons and enjoys cooking and camping with the family. Welcome Mrs. Maryann Rangel to the SSS Family!

Region III RFO’s Retire

November 2012 Drill for Detachment CA 3-3 and CA 3-4 was the last drill for retiring Navy Officers LCDR Josh Gates and CDR JH Chang. LCDR Gates was responsible for Area Offices in San Bernadino, Orange, and Riverside counties. LCDR Gates was an officer for Selective Service System (SSS) in the San Diego area for four years. While an officer for Selective Service he recruited numerous local board members, conducted face-to-face IBMT and CT and attended many conferences to help get information about SSS to the general population. JH Chang was with SSS for one year and participated in an IBMT training and two CT trainings. He was also very successful in recruiting local board members in his area encompassing parts of Los Angeles county.

From Left to Right: CDR JH Chang, LTC Richard Gurr and LCDR Gates.

This picture was taken at the Admiral Baker Reserve Center in San Diego, CA.
Contributors

Many Thanks to:

Mario Campos
Arnita Edmonds
Dick Flahavan
Rob Grinton
LTC Richard Gurr
Rod Hubbard
Carol Mills
LTC Michael Olson
MAJ Tonja Ochonma
Andrew Pepper
Pat Schuback
Alan R. Rohlfing
Rene Thompson
John Wilber
Brett Williams