



# REVETMENTS

The Official Journal of The Tan Son Nhut Association

A Memorial to the American Experience in Vietnam

APRIL 2025



## Chaplain's Corner-Easter Andy Csordas-Associate Chaplain

Well, another year is passing by rapidly. This month we will again celebrate Easter. As kids we typically colored eggs, went on Easter egg hunts and received candy in our Easter baskets. Like other holidays our traditions may have made us miss the true meaning of the celebration.

So, what happened on those days 2000 years ago? We know Easter is after Good Friday. What does Easter actually celebrate? As adults we are more informed than we were kids and we typically understand it is about the resurrection of Christ. But what is truly significant about the resurrection of Christ?

Jesus Christ was born of a virgin; he is the son of God. I am sure we know the Christmas story. At Christmas we also have a lot of fun traditions that, like Easter, seem to overpower the real meaning of the holiday. As a note, understand there are many non-Bible historical references to Christ's life.

Christ was God and was a man. He was also sinless, even though Satan tempted him. So how do we compare to Jesus? Have we sinned; we all know the answer to that question. Christ's sinless life provided atonement for our sins. **Romans 3:10** reminds us: **There is none righteous, no, not one.** That includes you and me. So how are our sins forgiven?

There is a common misconception out there, including in many churches, that if we are good we will be admitted into heaven. Scripture does not tell us that, in fact it is very specific, being good and "working" to get into heaven does not work. Heaven is a gift from God; it is not earned or deserved. **Romans 6:23** tells us: **For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Death in this case refers to eternal separation from God; you will not be with Him in heaven.

**Exodus 34:7** says: **... Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished . . .** God will not permit sin to enter into heaven. We have all sinned, how do we resolve that problem? Now the good news; remember earlier we mentioned that Jesus was both God and man and he was sinless. Sin entered into the world through Adam's sin when he ate the forbidden fruit. That changed everything forever. We were all born once physically and we will all die physically, but Jesus told us about being born of the spirit. In **John 3:5-6** he answered Nicodemus' question about being born again. Jesus answered, **"Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."**

God gave us a gift, a gift is something you cannot work for, you cannot earn a true gift. The gift is His salvation which in turn lets you enter heaven as a sinless person; Jesus has taken on our sin. **John 3:16** says **"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."** Jesus took our punishment for sin on the cross and rose again three days later. He was on earth for 40 days after he rose from the dead and was seen by many people, again not just scripture references but other historical accounts as well.

The day we celebrate as Easter is the day we commemorate the gift God gave us through his Son. Jesus led a sinless life, but took on our sin to set us free. Give your heart to Jesus and be set free. It truly is a life changing experience, take my word for it. Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Let me end with a blessing:

**Numbers 6:23**

**The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make His face shine down on you  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord turn his face toward you  
and give you peace.**

\* Opinions expressed are those of the author, not necessarily those of the Tan Son Nhut Association

## Veterans, friends and families of Tan Son Nhut

You are invited to the Tucson Social Gathering and Rendezvous for Tan Son Nhut Veterans, family, friends and supporters.

Come visit and share stories with other Vietnam Vets, friends and families of anyone who was stationed at or passed through Tan Son Nhut AB

Contact: TSNAREUNIONS@gmail.com



Sponsors



### Titan Missile Museum,

Also known as **Air Force Facility Missile Site 8** or as **Titan II ICBM Site 571-7**, this is a former ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) site located south of Tucson, Arizona. It was constructed in 1963 and deactivated in 1984. It is now a museum run by the nonprofit Arizona Aerospace Foundation and includes an inert Titan II missile in the silo, as well as the original launch facilities.

It was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1994. It is the only Titan II complex to survive from the late Cold War period.



It remains as the only location in the country where visitors can view an entirely preserved ICBM  
**Titan Missile**

### Pima Air and Space Museum, Tour, welcome reception, lunch with speaker

*Pima Air and Space Museum* Is one of the Largest Non-Government Funded *Aviation & Space Museums* in the World with 400+ Historical Aircraft Across 80 Acres of Arizona.

Bring your cameras and capture some wonderful memories



### Tucson Military Vehicle Museum, Sponsor the tour and closing reception

An exciting experience not readily available west of the Mississippi River – The Tucson Military Vehicle Museum and driving experience! While many significant private collections exist as well as notable museums - none are in the Southwest part of the United States. There is a huge regional audience that will find this type of museum incredibly appealing. By leveraging the success in attracting global visitors as an international aerospace history museum – the same stature with a military vehicle museum is now available.



## Other Attractions to visit in the Tucson area

Fort Huachuca  
US Army Desert Proving Grounds  
Davis Montham AFB  
Casinos  
Mt Lemon  
Sonora Desert Museum  
Saguaro National Park  
Kartchner Caverns

Marine Corp Air Station, Yuma  
Fort Tuthill Military Recreation Area  
Luke AFB  
Nogales Mexico  
Mission San Xavier  
Flandrau Science Center  
Tohono Chul Botanical Garden  
Biosphere 2

**And don't forget the golfing**

No activities are planned at the hotel, all social/networking activities are planned at the tour locations

# Sponsorship Proposal

We are seeking Corporate or Private sponsors for the Tucson Social Gathering and Rendezvous for Tan Son Nhut Veterans, family, friends and supporters.

## Please consider sponsoring

Most attendees will be Vietnam Veterans who are in their late 70's or older. As this generation grows smaller, this could be their last chance to experience visiting with other Vietnam Vets. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS EVENT WITH YOUR SPONSORSHIP

### Titan Missile Museum, Sponsor the tour

Also known as **Air Force Facility Missile Site 8** or as **Titan II ICBM Site 571-7**, this is a former ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) site located south of Tucson, Arizona. It was constructed in 1963 and deactivated in 1984. It is now a museum run by the nonprofit Arizona Aerospace Foundation and includes an inert Titan II missile in the silo, as well as the original launch facilities.

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It remains as the only location in the country where visitors can view an entirely preserved ICBM **Titan Missile**



## Sponsorship Levels

**Silver Level: \$250.00** Benefits include admission for 2 two people to sponsored event, plus logo on marketing and promotion literature and event agenda

**Gold Level \$500.00** Benefits include admission for 4 people to sponsored event plus 5 minutes to speak at the welcome or closing reception to promote your business/cause to all in attendance, plus reaching thousands of veterans, family members, friends or military enthusiast through the marketing and promotion literature.

OR

**Sponsor lunch (Gold Level)** at Guadalajara Mexican Restaurant, provides the opportunity to meet attendees one on one, plus logo on all marketing and promotion literature.

**Benefits of Sponsorship:** Brand Exposure and recognition, lead generation, image enhancement, Networking opportunities, Building relationships, Potential business engagements, Return on Investment, Targeted Marketing, Community enhancement, and Support for Veterans. Be Active, Please Support this event!

**Pima Air and Space Museum, Sponsor the tour, welcome reception, lunch with speaker**

*Pima Air and Space Museum* Is one of the Largest Non-Government Funded *Aviation & Space Museums* in the World with 400+ Historical Aircraft Across 80 Acres of Arizona.



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## Rendezvous for Veterans, Family and Friends of Tan Son Nhut AB

Mail this form along with your check made payable to TSNA or Tan Son Nhut Association to :

Paul Mortensen  
1214 N Earhart Parkway  
Payson, AZ 85541



**September 18-20, 2025**

## Tucson AZ

For any Veteran, family member, friend who was stationed at, or passed through Tan Son Nhut AB Vietnam **and all military/aviation enthusiasts**

## 2025 Tucson Tours and Social Gathering

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Badge Names

Member \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Email us at:

[TSNAreunions@gmail.com](mailto:TSNAreunions@gmail.com)

All Social/Networking activities are planned at tour locations. NO activities are planned at the hotel, so you may stay wherever and join us at the activities. We have reserved rooms at the Heritage Inn on Davis Monthan AFB for anyone who has base access. Please contact Paul at the email shown on the left to reserve one of these rooms. **Hotel accommodations at the Heritage Inn are at \$104.00 per night. All rooms have one Queen sized bed.**

### Please mark which days you will be attending

Date	Location	Activity	Cost
Sept 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Pima Air & Space Museum	Welcome reception, tour, lunch, speaker	\$55.00 per person, includes welcome, tour, lunch and speaker
Sept 19	<input type="checkbox"/> Titan Missile Museum	Tour followed by lunch at Guadalajara Mexican Restaurant	\$20.00 per person plus you purchase your own lunch
Sept.20	<input type="checkbox"/> Military Vehicle Museum	Tour followed by closing reception	\$20.00 per person, includes closing reception

### Other things to do in Tucson AZ:

Casinos

Nogales Mexico

Mt Lemon

Mission San Xavier

Sonora Desert Museum

Also visit Fort Huachuca, Marine Corps Air Station, US Army Desert Proving Grounds

Gold Panning/mining

Science Center

Saguaro National Park

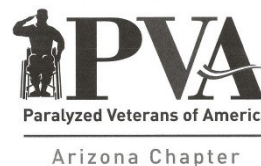
Tohono Chul Botanical Garden

Kartchner Caverns

Biosphere 2

(some locations may have limited mobility access)

**Total cost if attending all three tour and reception events is \$95.00 per person, plus the cost of the meal you order at Guadalajara Mexican Restaurant.**



**We are seeking Corporate Sponsors for these events, please notify Paul at [tsnareunions@gmail.com](mailto:tsnareunions@gmail.com) if you would like to be, or know a sponsor.**

## OBEDIENCE

Rev. Dr. Billy T. Lowe,  
Chaplain, TSNA

During the Vietnam War, Captain Ray Baker flew for the Strategic Air Command. He was a good airman. The Air Force trained him, along with all the other pilots, to drop whatever they were doing and run out of their barracks to their planes at the sound of a buzzer.

Once Ray Baker came home to California on furlough. The night he arrived, his family took him to his favorite Mexican restaurant. Everything was going well and a spirit of celebration filled the air until Captain Baker jumped up without warning and ran outside into the parking lot.

Catching up with him, his nephew asked him in total bewilderment "Where are you going, Uncle Ray?"

"I'm looking for my plane," Captain Ray replied as he searched the horizon for his B-52. "It's not here," his nephew explained. Then he asked, "Why did you run out here like that?" "I heard the buzzer," he said.

It was only then that his nephew realized that directly above their table was a buzzer used to call waiters to the kitchen to pick up their meals.

Obedience always calls for unquestioned, immediate action. This is what Jesus Christ expects from his disciples. Anything less is dereliction of duty. "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it" (Luke 11:28).

May each of you have a blessed Easter Season.

From the April, 2008 Revetments



*Tan Son Nhut Association's  
Connection to Doolittle's Raiders*

Compiled by Larry Fry from George Plunkett and Charles Penley emails.

FYI - the Doolittle Raiders originally trained here in Columbia, SC. They have held two past reunions here and will be back here on April 17 and 18, 2009 for what probably will be their final reunion - their 67th reunion. See [www.celebratefreedomfoundation.org](http://www.celebratefreedomfoundation.org) for details.

George Plunkett

FROM THE WEB MASTER:

George, the uncle that I am named after, "Charles H. Penley," served aboard the US Aircraft Carrier, USS Hornet, as a signalman, stationed up in the crows nest.

It was from that ship that the "Doolittle Raider's," flew their B-25's from "Hornet's" deck and attacked Japan.

In the movie, "Tora, Tora, Tora," they have mixed real combat scenes of the USS Hornet being attacked, into the movie and the plane that came almost straight down from the air is the one that killed my uncle.

For the first several days, the sailors aboard the USS Hornet, did not know the mission of the "Raiders." But once at sea, the sailor's were informed. The sailor's willingly gave up their bunk beds to the aviators and treated them well, knowing that many of the "Raiders," would not make it back home.

Your friend

Charles Penley

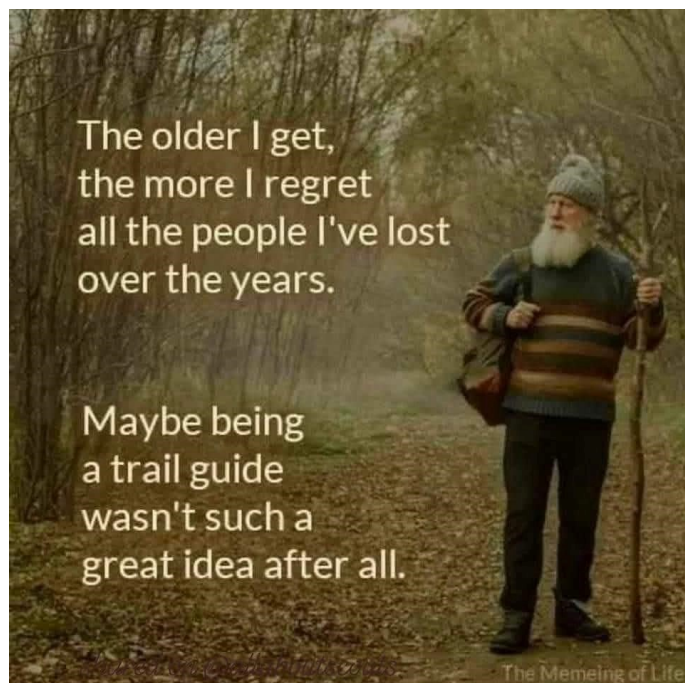


From the April, 2009 Revetments

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**Web Site:** [www.tsna.org](http://www.tsna.org)  
Annual Membership: \$20.00  
Three Year Membership: \$50.00



#### **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

**My greetings to our Revetment readers!**

**Yes, I know, this was a short one!**

**I just wish the reason for that wouldn't be so long—at least in my head.**

**I recently got a new laptop. And it is impossible to get the master data app that I use for Revetments, and other TSNA data, onto that computer.**

**So the old one will be just for Tan Son Nhut Association**

**And, this week, while working on TSNA stuff, I made some mistakes, and now have to update a lot of TSNA info that reverted back to 2024 and earlier 2025 timings. It will take a lot of time.**

**Also, another reason it is so short is because I don't have NEW items to put in it.**

**After my most recent plea, I received a total of three items, and I put them in the March issue. HINT! HINT!!**

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