

**Volunteer Homeland Reserve Unit (VHRU)
General Membership Meeting, November 19, 2012**

- Call the meeting to order.
- Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Treasurer, Frank Bruton will give us his report on the status of our Treasury.
- On September 11th, the 11 anniversary of the attack on our country BACK ON 9/11/2001, the New York Ten 13 Police Organization held its annual Memorial at Metro's Police Memorial Park. A number of VHRU members were in attendance. Thanks to those who came to pay tribute all those who lost their lives on that tragic day.
- This is our last meeting for the year and we appreciate your loyalty and support. Most, if not all of our ID cards expire on 12/31/12. It has been agreed to create a one time ID card (Lifetime Member) for \$100.00. This will save a lot of time collecting dues annually and issuing new ID cards. Many of our members have subscribed to this new one time card already.

If you have not sent in your check, please mail it to the VHRU 9811 W. Charleston Blvd Suite 2-142 Las Vegas 89117. If you wish to pay for 2013 only, the dues are still \$30.00.

- On September 25th we participated in a Hazmat exercise with the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe (FMIT) under our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The exercise commenced at 0730 hrs and 23 members responded to assist. The exercise, from our point of view was a success. We were able to test our mobile repeater and radio system. You will see in the "After Action Report" handed out this evening, some recommendations which we have addressed by purchasing a new Marine Antenna and battery for the Laughlin trailer.

As a result of our participation, the Chief of the Mohave Valley Fire Department asked us to meet with him to discuss a separate MOU with their department.

On Thursday, November 15, I went to Arizona and met Bob Boerner and Dan Christian and drove to the Mohave Valley Fire Department to meet with the Chief. At this meeting it was agreed to place a VHRU repeater on one of their towers in Arizona and install a base VHRU radio in their Emergency Operations Center. A letter will be sent to them confirming the agreement and copying Luke Johnson, the Emergency Manager of the FMIT. Our existing MOU with the FMIT will cover us if we are working under the Mohave Valley Fire Department.

- **The Laughlin/Arizona will be purchasing a Ham Radio to be installed in the Laughlin trailer along with the appropriate antenna. Additionally, they will also start a drive to recruit more members in Arizona for those teams. The local press and TV stations in Mohave Country will be contacted to see if they will assist in this effort to get more involved in supporting their communities by joining the VHRU.**
- **Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11th was the annual Las Vegas Parade. We meet at 8 am at the Stratosphere Hotel on Las Vegas Blvd for breakfast and after the parade kicked off at 10 am. The uniform was our VHRU jacket, black pants and VHRU police cap. We showed our support for our military and had a decent turnout with (14) members marching. We hope next year we can double that turnout.**
- **I have received many requests to meet more frequently than quarterly. Next year we will meet six (6) times, beginning in January, March, May, July, September and November. Location to be determined. (T/B/D). An e-mail note will be sent out in December with the location for our January 2013 meeting.**
- **On the Agenda at the January meeting, we will talk about another raffle in 2013 to help booster our Treasury. We still have some expenses, food at meetings, travel reimbursement for any exercise when we are asked to assist etc. Additionally, there are other items we need to supply to our new members, uniforms etc., which we will have to purchase in 2013.**
- **The Laughlin/Arizona team conducted there Arizona Adopt-A-Highway cleanup. They had 10 members from their teams who assisted. Thanks to those members who took time out from the personal lives to help.**
- **The Vegas and Pahrump Road clean up will take place in early December. E-mail to follow later in the month with the date with the details.**

- **There is another planned meeting with Las Vegas Metro PD regarding the upcoming New Year's Eve celebration. Over the past 5 years we have offered our help at the eight (8) Police Substations doing security at the property while all; the officers were assigned to the celebration on the strip. Again, this year we will be seeking volunteers to help. If you want to work at a substation, please see Paul Wagner after the meeting so he can get your names. Thanks again for those who will volunteer.**
- **Hurricane Sandy has really devastated the northern region of the US. I think it's appropriate that the VHRU send the Salvation Army a donation of \$500.00 to help those families in need. Any objections?**
- **On October 30th the VHRU held its first shoot. We had five winners in each of the categories. The prize was \$25.00 in cash. We also drew names for the 13 bottles of wine donated for this event. The event was a wash with no expense to the VHRU Treasury.**

Box lunches were provided by Jason's Deli. The shoot was a big success and we will plan on shooting each month starting in January 2013. An e-mail message will be sent once we lock in the dates. These shoots in 2013 will be for fun and practice only not a competition.

- **Kurt Jackson a Arizona member forward to me a grant that was open for funding on a new project focusing on Homeland Security. I put together a project for the VHRU and named it "Helping Hand". The plan, if awarded, would task the VHRU to work with individuals living in high rise apartments that are springing up all around the strip. This is a new form of living in Vegas and plans need to be developed to assist those residents in a time of crisis. We would seek Metro PD's involvement.**

Assistant Sheriff Ray Flynn, Metro PD and Luke Johnson, the Emergency Manager for the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe wrote letters of endorsement for the VHRU. These letters were sent along with the grant submission.

We should hear something on this by the end of November. If approved, funding will start in December. We applied for \$24,000.00 in funding. Once I receive notification, I will let everyone know by e-mail on the outcome.

- **On Friday, November 2nd I went to Mesquite and met with our Mesquite Team Leader Rick McDonald. We attended a meeting to at the Mesquite Police Headquarters with Captain Shane Charles and Don Woodmancy, the Mesquite Volunteer Coordinator. The meeting focused on a MOU that we are ready to sign with a few small changes.**

The only issue was the Mesquite Police Departments position that we report to their volunteer coordinator and work under his direction. The VHRU does not do that, we work under the supervision and control of a sworn office or the Emergency Manager in each department we have an MOU.

At this time we are at an impasse on the reporting, supervision and control of the VHRU.

- **On Thursday November 8, the VHRU assisted the National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA) at a seminar they were hosting at the Tropicana Hotel. One of our members from the Arizona Team, Richard Valdemar, was a guest speaker. We provided seven (7) VHRU members who assisted with the check in process. I went out to the Core Leaders only, being we needed such a small number of volunteers. Thank you to those seven who came out that day. This gave the VHRU some exposure, being all the participants were from law enforcement agencies.**

The NLPOA donated \$100.00 to us for the help we provided, which was deposited in our Treasury account.

- **Tonight I handed out a copy of a recent article in the Review Journal. The article talks about insurance for volunteers. It appears all the time we were negotiating with Bullhead City PD and the City Attorney there was an insurance policy available to them to use to fulfill the MOU requirements. Not sure why they didn't mention this or use it to get us on board assisting at the River Regatta.**

Dan Christian our Tri-State Coordinator did further research and found the actual Insurance Pool that Bullhead City is a member. Dan will pass on all this information to the Community Services Officer in the Bullhead City PD and to the Deputy Chief Brian Williamson for consideration. We may be able to reopen our negotiations with that Department and get the proper coverage. If this happens, we may be back assisting that agency with the 2013 River Regatta. We would ask the Bullhead City Manager to make a

donation to the VHRU for our help if we can come to an agreement.

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