

# OPERATION AWAKENING II

## THE SIT REP

July 20, 2016

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## WELCOME ABOARD

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My name is Tim Tuomey and I am the person who is all things Operation Awakening (OPA). In 2012 I began OPA through a personal experience I had while bagging peaks in the Sierra Nevada. What came of that situation was an awakening of sorts. I was awakened to the fact that I am my brother's keeper. No greater love than one who lays his life down for his brother. The next greatest love is to watch over those who come home to ensure their sacrifice is not lost on yellow ribbons and "I support the troops" bumper stickers. As I have preached during the first OPA, support is defined as a verb. Support – To bear or hold up, to maintain the load and serve as a foundation, to sustain and withstand without giving in...

In December of 2016 I sat down with my OPSCHIEF and discussed the future of my support for The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund (501c3). We put a lot of events and targets on the sand table but ultimately we came up with OPA 2 "The Long Patrol". And what a long walk it will be.. I will cover 2,656 miles of the entire Pacific Crest Trail kicking off June 2017 (close we get to June I will be able to target an exact date). Once I insert at the Washington state and Canadian border, I will be continuous (a walk through) until I reach the southern terminus at California and Mexico border. During these months I will be consumed with the purpose of why I am doing this insane walk. And that in itself is the key. When I talk about support I will always be the one known to walk the walk, and not those who plan and revise and talk about how they will support. Instead I will make set the plan to support and adapt, adjust and overcome any obstacles that stand in my way of completing this operation. And that is to reach my target fund raising (i) goal of \$100,000

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(100% proceeds go to the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund), (ii) walk the entire Pacific Crest Trail in a south bound direction until I reach my distance goal. And finally, (iii) arrive at Camp Pendleton CA to hand a check for 100k to the Semper Fi Fund on 11/10/17. With that said, I will look to those reading this SITREP to help me reach my goal through contributions, fund raising, and spreading the word of our operation. So if you have the ability to pitch Operation Awakening II do not hesitate to reach out for assistance.

Semper Fi

Tim Tuomey

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## DONATION UPDATE

**Target Goal: \$100,000**

**Raised (as of 7/13/2016): \$2,500.00**

**Top Donation: Sean Ward = \$1,000.00**

As of July 5, 2016 we have moved closer to our goal of \$100,000. It has been approximately one week of fund raising and I have to say we hit the ground running. Our initial contributors have helped set the bar for others to follow. I have had returning contributors as well as new ones. These are the type of contributions this operation will need to succeed. During the first Operation Awakening (2012) my records show we didn't hit the 2k mark well into the 60 day mark. Needless to say I'm

extremely happy with our progress. But we still have miles to go and much fund raising to do.

Every SITREP I will list those who have stepped up to the plate to make that financial sacrifice for these warriors and their families. The following people have contributed since we kicked off on June 25<sup>th</sup> 2016.

- \$25.00 - Anonymous
- \$100.00 - Robert Behren
- \$100.00 – Charles Shehan
- \$200.00 – Joseph Kwelity
- \$50.00 – Steve Burgess
- \$50.00 – Brian Foy
- \$1,000.00 – Sean Ward
- \$100.00 – Sean Rhoades
- \$100.00 – John Sprague
- \$100.00 – Mark Tacea
- \$100.00 – Thomas Gray
- \$50.00 – Laura Burke

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- \$50.00 - Roseanne Schreuder
- \$50.00 - Catherine Bulak
- \$25.00 – Kerwin Klein
- \$200.00 – Ken MacEwen

### SEMPER FI FUND NEWS

By [Amy Bushatz](#) | [Spouse Buzz](#)

June 9, 2016 | [Link to article](#)

#### WOUNDED WARRIOR FAMILY FINDS HOPE THROUGH SPORTS

The more time Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Brandon Dodson spends playing adaptive sports, the better he deals with his injuries – and the easier his wife and primary caretaker, Jasmine Dodson, breathes.

Every now and then he'll be like 'You know, this sucks.' But with him doing the sports, it really clears his head and it makes him strong, like 'Hey I got injured, but I'm doing so much now,'" she said. "My stress level is way down because here I was taking care of him, but now that he's strong it's less that's on my plate."

Dodson lost both his legs in Afghanistan in August, 2014 when he stepped on a pressure plate connected to five pounds of homemade explosives – a wicked IED that torn his body and sent him into a whirlwind of surgeries at Walter Reed Army Medical Center where he still lives with Jasmine and their toddler son.

But this month he will compete in track and field, swimming and cycling at the Defense Department's Warrior Games as an active duty member on the

Marine Corps' team. Jasmine and her son will attend as well and watch him compete thanks to a grant provided by the [Semper Fi Fund](#) to members of their organization, such as the Dodsons.

Brandon has attended multiple sports camps with the Semper Fi Fund, which believes that sports is the best non-medication way to help wounded service members heal from their injuries and any feelings of isolation. And while Brandon doesn't deal with PTSD, Jasmine says, getting out and staying active has been one of the biggest keys to his physical and mental recovery.

"It was really cool to see that he could go on his own. I was able to kind of lengthen the leash," Jasmine said. "I think, honestly, that's the best way to adapt."



Brandon has hand-cycled the Marine Corps Marathon with the [Team Semper Fi](#) as well as attending several of their surf camps and a water skiing camp.

The [Semper Fi Fund](#) has been key in helping Jasmine deal with Brandon's injuries as well as the huge emotional toll of going from Marine Corps wife to Marine Corps wounded warrior caregiver in the blink of an eye. In addition to helping cover costs, including lost salary, for their family right after the

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incident so that they could be at his bedside, Semper Fi Fund makes sure Jasmine has time for self-care as they wait for medical retirement through nights out and a little spa pampering.

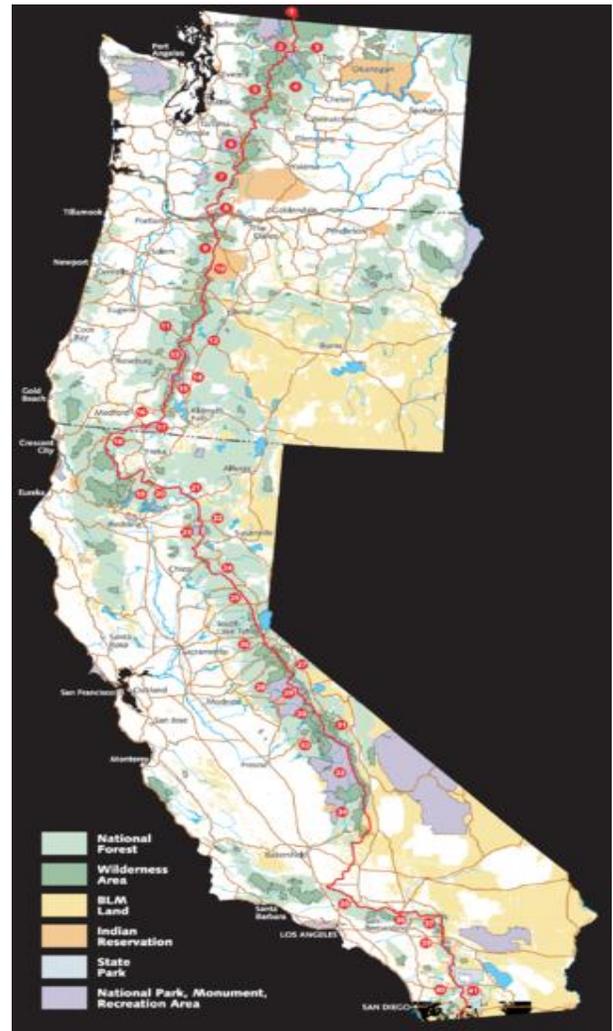
“That’s the highlight of my month – getting away from every body and getting some good food and just relaxing,” she said. “That’s just for caregivers, they consider us. Keeping us sane and relaxed is a big part of the puzzle.”

About 200 athletes will compete in the Warrior Games, hosted this year at West Point, New York. The games run from June 14 to 22 and include a total of eight sports.

## PATROL ORDER UPDATES

The patrol order update page is for current information regarding the event that I will execute in 2017. My plan is to leave (weather and snow levels dependent) sometime in late June. I will refer to my movements as “The Patrol”. Please keep in mind this is a solo event and I will be on my own to navigate and endure the 2,656 mile trail known as the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). Stepping off officially at Monument 78 (US / CAN border) and not stopping until the patrol extracts at Campo CA (southern terminus for the PCT). The direction I will travel will be what walk-through hikers call “SOBO” – **SO**uth**BO**und. Which means my first crux on the patrol will be once I cross PHASE LINE WASHINGTON. I will have to travel through the Washington Cascades right off the bat. The northern cascades in Washington have stopped many SOBO hikers dead in their tracks... Not literally. But once you have your mind set to make

the hike happen you don’t want to stop no matter what. This hike will have many nuances that the 1<sup>st</sup> Operation Awakening had. The endurance, isolation, weather, unknown conditions, navigation etc. Needless to say, this will be similar but much more difficult to finish, 4 months 2,600 miles, 27 miles a day. **A D V E N T U R E !!**



For more information and current updates on the patrol and its route information please see our website.

[OPERATION AWAKENING II PATROL ORDER](#)

## OPERATION AWAKENING II EVENT SCHEDULE

- [29TH BIENNIAL WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION \(WMA\) CONVENTION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE: 7/21 thru 7/26 - Portland Oregon](#)
- Pacific Crest Trail Test Piece, Sonora Hwy 108 to Mammoth Lakes CA: 8/5 thru 8/8
- Tower Peak Test Piece (speed hike): 8/2016 (TBD)
- More training pieces to be announced.

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### GROUP DONATION CHALLENGES

This section of the SITREP is saved for what I will call Group Donation Challenges. This section will list those groups who have decided to challenge a group to raise donations for Operation Awakenings target goal of \$100,000. A group can be defined as any entity who gathers to meet for work, play or prayer. For example:

- Work group
- Military / Veteran Association(s)
- Church congregation, prayer group, church organizations etc.
- Firefighters, Police Officers, EMS
- Running clubs
- Biking clubs
- Motorcycle Clubs

Groups can do individual contributions OR! The group can challenge themselves. Take the 10 for 10 challenge. For 10 days everyone in the group donates \$5, \$10, \$20 or whatever the denomination is decided. The group can do daily donations for 10 days, or at the end of those 10 days someone in the group goes to the [Operation Awakening II donation site](#) and fills out the donation page to include the group name. The group challenge is a great way to show how your team cares about our returning warriors. You and your group may not want to walk 2,600 miles but you can help me attain the more difficult summit - \$100,000. So talk with your peers and find out if your group is up to the OPA Group Donation Challenge. Feel free to contact us for more information and any IRS forms you require.

## TO BENEFIT THE



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### OPA II Website Updates

This section will highlight updates and information on what is new with our website

[www.opawakening2.com](http://www.opawakening2.com)

As of July 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 the Operation Awakening II site has been stabilized with the basic information. The home page or “landing page” show cases our brand. The brand is the color set, logo and the image of Arrow Head Lake. The navy blue and scarlet red is to represent our unity with Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund. The logo also taken from The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund. To me the logo represents the Navy and Marine Corps brotherhood. The image of Arrow Head Lake represents what I love the most. Mountain passage and adventure! I brought all these icons together to display what Operation Awakening II “the Long Patrol” represents. “Walking the walk”, so others can benefit and live the rest of their days in peace.

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When you log into the site scroll down and see my updates on all things Operation Awakening. Currently the following posts have been added.

- ✓ [Operation Awakening II – Welcome Aboard](#)  
Tim Tuomey June 21<sup>st</sup> 2016
- ✓ [The Patrol Map Update](#)  
Tim Tuomey, June 21<sup>st</sup> 2016
- ✓ [Donation Update](#)  
Tim Tuomey, July 6<sup>th</sup> 2016
- ✓ [Success Story: Justin Crabbe](#)  
Dayngr, July 6<sup>th</sup> 2016
- ✓ [Training Hike: Leavitt Meadow to Tower Peak](#)  
Tim Tuomey, July 19<sup>th</sup> 2016



## OPA II Command & Control

### Operation Awakening II Command & Control Team

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