



Sua Sponte

www.1rrpranger.org

First Quarter 2017

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Deadlines: Sua Sponte is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Absolute deadline for submitting material for the newsletter is 45 days prior to the month mentioned above.

Submissions:
Please send to Stephen Johnson,
Editor. Address page 2 inset

Old Soldiers Never Die

by Jonnie Melillo Clasen



Tom Tsubota, the oldest WW II Merrill's Marauder, who turned 102 Jan. 14, is recovering at Straub Hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii after suffering a heart attack earlier this week. "On Monday (January 23) he went into the hospital with a mild heart attack," said his son, Leighton, 64, the youngest of Tsubota's three children who all live in Hawaii. "As soon as he can start walking, he'll be coming home, which we hope will be in a couple of days." Fluent in Japanese, Tsubota is the

only one of the 14 Japanese American -- or Nisei -- interpreters still living who served in Merrill's Marauders. Their language skills were crucial to Merrill's Marauder success in the China-Burma-India Theater, known today as the "forgotten theater of WW II."

Although Tsubota has an impressive military background, his son said, "That generation is pretty humble, and my father didn't really talk about things until the last 20 years or so when more and more people started asking him questions. I think he wanted to forget some of the things he saw in the war."

Drafted in June 1941, Tsubota was on maneuvers with G Company of the Hawaii National Guard's 298th Infantry Regiment when Pearl Harbor was bombed Dec. 7, 1941.

Tsubota said in a 1993 interview that he and the other men thought the activity they were seeing on the morning of Dec. 7 was part of their maneuvers "until the machine gun firing started near Bellows Airfield. Then we knew it was for real."

On Dec. 8, 1941, Tsubota, who was guarding the shore line, helped capture the United States' first prisoner of war. (Continued on page 3)

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Tom Nash, Board Member

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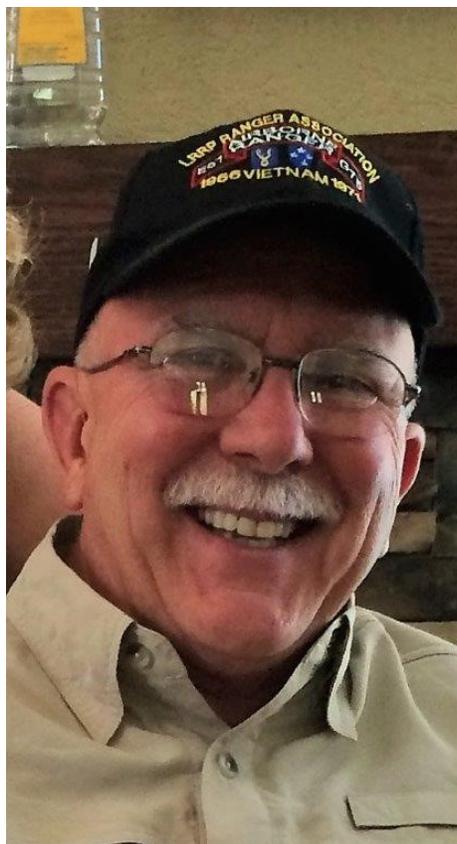
Chuck Ford, Board Member

Sua Sponte is the official newsletter published quarterly by the Company G (RANGER) 75th Infantry Association edited by Stephen "Tower" Johnson.

Change of Address: Any Address Changes should be sent to: Sharon Robison, 5523 North Ocean Blvd., Suite 1512, Box 12, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 or email: tomsharonrobison@msn.com

Membership Information: All former members of the 196th LRRPs, E/51st LRP, and G/75th Rangers are eligible to receive Sua Sponte. Membership applications can be obtained by contacting the Association at any of the addresses or phone numbers listed above.

Newsletter Submittals and Deadlines: see page 1



Greetings,

We're cutting grass in southern La. So, what passes for Winter here is done. While it is still early in the new year it's not too soon to be planning for the reunion in Buffalo, N. Y. in September. Rod Congdon and his team are progressing with planning. Look for the current information in this edition.

While arranging some photo albums I ran across photos from Vietnam and from previous reunions. I encourage all to consider bringing photos / albums to the reunion. I noticed that I had many similar shots, so I plan to bring some to give to those who may want them. Maybe they might know someone who couldn't make it to this reunion but might like one of the photos. So, if you have any extra shots that might be appreciated by

others, how about bringing them along.

As we know, the Saturday evening auction is our chief (no pun intended) fund raiser each year. We look forward to seeing what the membership will bring to support this effort and to enjoying the talents of the auctioneer(s). I especially like to see the items that craftsmen / artists come up with as they are unique and often remind us of our history or inspire us to new efforts. I encourage you to do what you can to help with this vital tradition.

Another way that we can all support the association is to be sure our dues are up to date. We understand each of our status' is different. This is a gentle reminder and request for you to do what you can to get current for 2017. If you can afford a little (or a lot) more, any extra would be appreciated and put to good use. Lynn Walker needs something to occupy the rest of his winter months.

Send to:

Lynn Walker

PO Box 916

Livingston, MT 59047

Our organization exists for all our membership, so please let us know of any issues or ideas that you think need to be addressed or can be helpful. You can email me at lrrp75thinf@aol.com

I look forward to seeing you in Buffalo.

RLTW

Bill Martin

Oldest Marauder Continues the Mission

LT Kazuo Sakamaki, the only Japanese survivor of several two-man mini submarines attempting to reach land. Tsubota used his blanket to cover the body of Sakamaki's crew mate.

Following the Pearl Harbor attack, Tsubota and the other soldiers of Japanese ancestry serving in the 298th became part of the 100th Infantry Battalion which was sent to Camp McCoy, Wis. Tsubota was going through combat training there when he was recruited for the Military Intelligence Service because his background included two degrees from Japanese universities and because he had qualified for the 1932 Olympic trials in Los Angeles.

While attending the Military Intelligence Service language school at Camp Savage, Tsubota volunteered for a "dangerous and hazardous" mission. He is now one of only 24 original Merrill's Marauders still living out of almost 3,000 who volunteered in 1943 for that top secret mission. Merrill's Marauders were the first American ground troops to fight the Japanese in Asia.

Officially designated the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional, the Marauders were nicknamed by the press after their commander, BG Frank D. Merrill. Some called the volunteers, who represented 15 ethnic groups, the "dead end kids." "Magnificent" was how others described them.

Malnourished, poorly supplied and battling malaria, dysentery and mite typhus, the skeletal-looking Marauders defeated the much larger elite 18th Japanese Imperial Guards Division in five major battles and 30 minor engagements. Their final objective of capturing north Burma's all-weather Myitkyina Airfield meant that supplies could be flown in so an important pathway could be forged into China.

With only what they could carry on their backs or pack on mules, the tough jungle fighters made military history by walking farther -- almost 1,000 miles -- than any other WW II fighting unit through what Winston Churchill, British prime minister at the time, called "the most forbidding fighting country imaginable."

Considered "expendable," the Marauders were not expected to survive their 1944 mission. When the remaining elements of the unit were disbanded Aug. 10, 1944, in Burma, slightly more than 100 of the original Marauders remained.

Yet several Marauders have lived into their 100s. Tsubota, who had 11 malaria attacks in Burma, is the oldest at 102. Two others, John Jones and Everett W. Stanke, lived

to 101. Another Nisei, Roy Matsumoto, was weeks away from turning 101 when he died. Milton A. Pilcher turned 100 last November. Ernie Hubacker, who was a member of Mars Task Force, the unit succeeding the Marauders, is 101.

The legacy of these Infantry volunteers is being carried forward by members of the Army's 75th Ranger Regiment, whose crest is the Merrill's Marauder patch.

I Love Getting Older by Father John A. Dane

Team Ohio

1. My goal for 2016 was to lose just 10 pounds. Only 15 to go.
2. Ate salad for dinner. Mostly croutons & tomatoes. Really just one big round crouton covered with tomato sauce. And cheese. FINE, it was a pizza. I ate a pizza.
3. How to prepare Tofu:
 - a. Throw it in the bin
 - b. Grill some meat
4. I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.
5. I don't mean to brag, but I finished my 14-day diet food in 3 hours and 20 minutes.
6. A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.
7. Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.
8. Senility has been a smooth transition for me.
9. Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero out they closed school? Me neither.
10. I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented. I forgot where I was going with this.
11. I love being older. I learn something new every day and forget 5 others.
12. A thief broke into my house last night. He started searching for money so I woke up and searched with him.
13. I think I'll just put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day.
14. 30 October 2016 was the end of Daylight Savings Time. Hope you didn't forget to set your bathroom scale back 10 pounds on Saturday night.
15. Just remember, once you're over the hill you begin to pick up speed.

Knife Bites Back at Owner



I can remember when David L. Swires was about to go back to the "World" when he sold his Akai reel-to-reel tape recorder including his beloved country western tapes to me for a "song". Most every one of us who were not medically evacuated sold stuff. When I left for home, I sold that Akai tape player with an AK-47 thrown in for \$60 to Bruce Lewis who was on Team Texas. Steve Crabtree left, but not before selling his model 18 survival Randall knife with his engraved name to Shawn Ranahan for \$50. Shawn brought that heirloom home with him and kept it 46 years until the auction at the Norco Reunion this year.

We all know that Shawn can instigate an event in a heartbeat and he and his wife Lynda came up with a plan that he shared with most everyone in Norco with the exception of Steve and Lori Crabtree. He wanted to return that Randall to Crabs, but not before making him squirm. Shawn said the sold price on "his" Randall contribution was going to be \$350 going to the association and our job was to take advantage of Crabs' desire to get his knife back to raise the price beyond ridiculous. Right now there is an exact T 18

Randall on Ebay being sold for \$2500. You want to order one it would be about 5 years before you got it; that is how much they are in demand.

When it was time, Shawn brought up the next item for auction, Crabs' old Randall and judging from the expression on Steve's face and the rest of his body language, I thought we might have to call 911 for a "dust off"! Watching all the angst from the Crabtree table during the auction was priceless.

Before the first bid, Chief gave a brief background of the Randall. I have taken from the Randall web site some of the information that Moncada talked about.

Starting in Vietnam, or maybe even earlier, SOG (Special Operation Groups) gear included a near-compulsory Randall Knife. The knives are less beloved today, but they are still handcrafted by the Randall shop in Orlando, and they're still damn good knives.

These days, they tend to be utterly wasted on the collectors who lock them in safes or glass display cabinets. With a Randall, you could cut just about anything that needed cutting, including (in one well-know case) through the skin of a burning helicopter wreck to safety.

Randall made knives take and hold an edge (especially the carbon steel blades). Some do swear by the tubular-hilted No. 18, wrapping the hilt in "550" cord.

The knives are built like a bank vault. No Chinese copy of one could do it justice, we fear.

Current order deliveries are being scheduled for every 56 months or nearly 5 years! 2022 would be the born date of your new Randall.

If you need one now, dealers can help you, but expect to pay nearly double the price! If you want a used one with "character", good luck- SOG used Randalls are much more pricey. Collectors lock up almost all new Randalls and never even put in the sheath. Pity that!

(Continued on the next page)

A Cut Above the Rest

DESCRIPTION

*Sawtooth edge on top. (sawteeth not offset)
Approx. 4 3/4" stainless steel tubular handle, 1" diameter, silver soldered to 1/4" oblong brass hilt, fitted with removable, threaded brass butt cap and waterproof "O" ring. (See detail above.) Flared holes in top and bottom of hilt accommodate wrist thong. (Stainless steel, knurled handle, compass and etching on blade are the only extra features available.)*

STANDARD FEATURES

BLADE LENGTH: 5.5", 7.5"

BLADE STOCK: 1/4"

HANDLE SHAPE: Standard

HANDLE MATERIAL: Steel

HILT STYLE: Brass Double

WEIGHT: 5.5" - 10-12 oz. | 7.5" - 12-14 oz.

PRICE: 5.5" - \$430 | 7.5" - \$440

Before the bidding was even started, Lori Crabtree shouted



across the room, "\$500!" Then it went back and forth between several members with Crabs outbidding every last bid but quit after the bid for the Randall went for \$2,000. Crabs looked to be in shock but was soon revived after Frank and Shawn came to his table, gave him the knife only after explaining the charade or shenanigan!

The autographed Randall is now in possession of its rightful owner displayed in a case of Ranger-LRRP heirlooms. Lynda Neumann gave her loving husband, Shawn, a KA-Bar

to alleviate separation anxiety from not having a SOG knife in the house.

All is well that ends well!



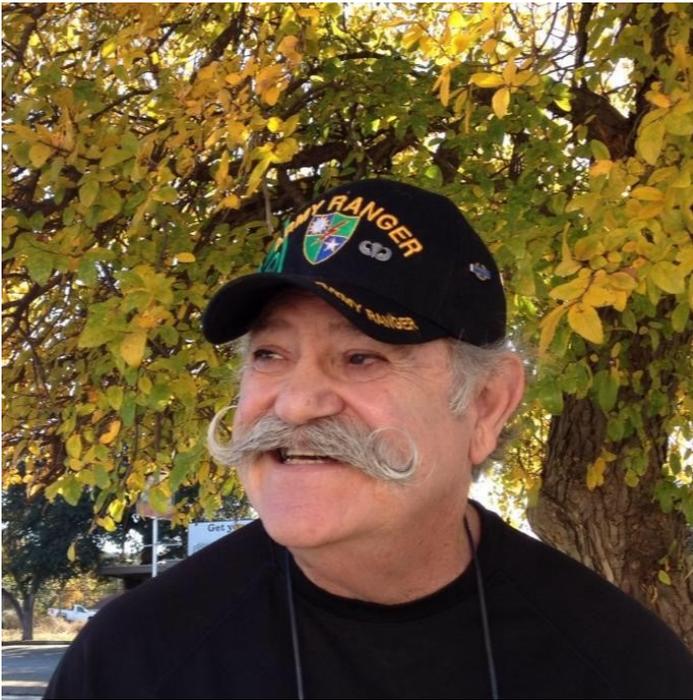
More Norco Photos

A Picture Worth a Thousand Smiles



Bon Appetit Y'all

By Gary "Buffalo" Gentry



Ranger Buffalo's Pork with Red Chili

Put these in a blender and Puree:

5 ounces of dried red chilies (no stems)
2 and 1/2 ounces bunch of peeled fresh garlic
1 ounce package of whole comino seeds
1/2 to 1 cup of water
Then dump the puree into a slow cooker

Add these ingredients to the slow cooker:

7-10 pounds pork shoulder roast cut into bite sizes
2 tablespoons of ground cumin
6 tablespoons sambal oelek chili paste
2 big onions diced
2 tablespoons cayenne powder
1 tablespoon of salt
4 tablespoons crushed red pepper flakes

After about 4 hours add this thickener:

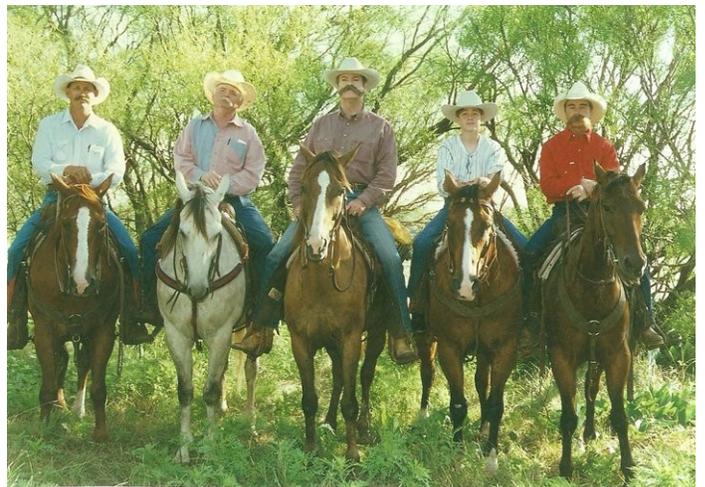
Mix 15 tablespoons of corn starch with small amount of warm water in a bowl and mix with a whisk until smooth

Slowly add the thickener to the hot chili until the whole mixture is no longer thin-soupy

Ranger Buffalo's Cowboy Cornbread

1. In a medium bowl mix with a whisk:
 - 1 and 1/2 cups cornmeal
 - 1/2 cup flour
 - 1/2 teaspoon soda
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
2. Add to this and stir well:
 - 1 cup milk
 - 2 eggs
 - 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
3. Fold in:
 - 2 cups grated cheddar cheese
 - 1 10.5 ounces cream style corn
 - 1 chopped onion
 - 10-13 slices bacon- cooked and crumbled
 - 2 tablespoons chopped pimento
4. Mix well and pour into a greased iron skillet or baking dish
5. Bake in a preheated oven for 40-45 minutes

Buffalo is the Lead Man in the Center , of course!



Buffalo 2017 Reunion

Buffalo Itinerary Working Copy

Airport Fairfield Inn

Wednesday, September 20

Early Check in

Hospitality Room opens from 4:00 PM to 11:00 PM

On your own for the evening

Thursday, September 21

Official start of our reunion

Hospitality room open from 12:00 Noon until 11:30 PM

Host & Hostess Pizza and Wings party- 6:00 PM in Hospitality Room

Friday, September 22

Board Meeting- 9:00 AM Hospitality Room

General Membership Meeting- 10:00 AM Hospitality Room

Hospitality Room open from 12:00 Noon until 11:30 PM

On your own for supper

For those interested, Cook out at the Hospitality Room 5:30 PM until 7:00 PM, \$5 per person

Music in the Hospitality Room 8:00 PM- 11:00 PM by an all veteran local band

Saturday, September 23

Memorial Service Rendezvous – Parking Lot- 9:00 AM

Drive to Buffalo Naval and Servicemen's Park 9:15 AM

Memorial at Naval and Servicemen's Park 10:00 AM

Time allowed for tour of the Park and Canal Side if desired

Return to hotel at 12:00 Noon

Hospitality Room open 1:00 PM until 12:00 Midnight

Banquet in Hospitality Room at 6:00 PM

Auction in Hospitality Room at 8:00 PM (This pays for our reunion cost; please bring something to auction and your banker)

Sunday, September 24

Check out and farewells



This Huey was in Nam. Couldn't have been used by us on any of our missions; no bullet holes! This and other displays will be available to see at the Buffalo Naval and Servicemen's Park where we will have our Memorial Service.



USS Boston submarine tail on display at the park. Below is the USS Little Rock to be captained by Jacks!



2017 Reunion Buffalo, NY

The 2017 Reunion dates are Thursday, September 21st with a checkout date on Sunday, September 24th. The rate is \$109 per night plus tax (\$13.75). For those that want an extended stay you can get the special rate 2 days prior or after our reunion.

The reunion will be at the Marriott Airport Fairfield Inn with free airport shuttle and a hot breakfast and free parking.

The phone for booking is 1-716-633-2488. The address is 4271 Genesee Street, Cheektowaga, NY, 14225. More to follow next issue. Rod Congdon



Quarterly Financial by Lynn "Cowboy" Walker CPA

10:57 AM
02/14/17
Cash Basis

COMPANY G RANGER 75TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION Profit & Loss January 1 through February 14, 2017

	Jan 1 - Feb 14, 17
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Support	
Individ, Business Contributions	1,470.00
Total Direct Public Support	1,470.00
Other Types of Income	
Concessions	35.00
Total Other Types of Income	35.00
Program Income	
Membership Dues	1,650.00
Total Program Income	1,650.00
Total Income	3,155.00
Gross Profit	3,155.00
Expense	
Other Types of Expenses	
Other Costs	
Coin Costs	757.50
Total Other Costs	757.50
Total Other Types of Expenses	757.50
Total Expense	757.50
Net Ordinary Income	2,397.50
Net Income	2,397.50

*Financials continued
on page 10*

FINANCIALS CONTINUED

11:09 AM
02/14/17
Cash Basis

COMPANY G RANGER 75TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION Balance Sheet As of February 14, 2017

	Feb 14, 17
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Company G Ranger 75th Infantry	18,661.24
Total Checking/Savings	18,661.24
Other Current Assets	
Charter Oak Capital Management	11,021.21
Total Other Current Assets	11,021.21
Total Current Assets	29,682.45
TOTAL ASSETS	29,682.45
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
National Ranger Memorial Founda	250.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	250.00
Total Current Liabilities	250.00
Total Liabilities	250.00
Equity	
Equity Prior Year	186.85
Opening Balance Equity	26,843.10
Net Income	2,402.50
Total Equity	29,432.45
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	29,682.45



Association 50th Anniversary Coin



Here is the new pricing for concessions,

1. Black polo shirts - \$35 ea.
2. Legacy t-shirts - \$30 ea/
3. Ball caps - \$20 ea.
4. Travel bags - \$30 ea.
5. Americal LRRP or Recondo pins - \$5 ea.
6. Challenge coins - \$35 if shipped
\$30 if purchased at a reunion site.

ASSOCIATION CONCESSIONS...

Great Bags for Travel @ \$30



email David "Chief" Moncada at:
meganmoncada1@comcast.net

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"of their own accord"

Quarterly Newsletter of
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Shawn and Lynda