



# Sua Sponte

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*Third Quarter 2014*

***Inside this issue:***

**Michael Chu Resigns**  
Sua Sponte Staff — 1

**Board and Officers**  
**President's Report** — 2

**Savannah Booking**  
Stephen Crabtree — 3

**Featured Member**  
Steve Deever — 4

**VA Agent Orange**  
Sua Sponte Staff — 6

**2014 Dues**  
Sua Sponte Staff — 7

**Robison Books**  
"Dolly" Robison — 8

**Financial Report**  
Lynn Walker, CPA — 9

**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

## Editor Michael Chu Resigns



Michael Chu has informed members of the Association that he has inoperable cancer and his doctors have given him one year to live. In a phone conversation last week, Mike said that "home sweet home" is

where he is happiest to be with Yetta in their Honolulu home. Mike's cell number is 808-282-8109 with his email address: Mchu-moanawai@hawaii.rr.com Home address is 42 Moanawai Place; Honolulu, HI 96817.

**Company G (Ranger)**  
**75th Infantry Association**

1105 Bell Road  
Success, MO  
65570

Email: [Ranger69@centurylink.net](mailto:Ranger69@centurylink.net)

**Sua Sponte**

Stephen "Tower" Johnson, Editor

10433 Juneberry Rd. NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601

PH: 218-333-1541 (Home)

E-mail:

[TowerG75th@yahoo.com](mailto:TowerG75th@yahoo.com)

**Officers**

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Chuck "Wolf" Williams, Vice President

Lynn "Cowboy" Walker, Treasurer

Ed Carey, Secretary

Ed Carey, Historian

Tom "Dolly" Robison, Corporate  
Counsel

Stephen Johnson, 75th Regiment  
Representative

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Tim Garver, Board Member

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Member

Frank Svensson, 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, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 or email: [tomsharonrobison@msn.com](mailto: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



Well here it is time for another Sua Sponte. By the time each of you receive this your "rucks" should be packed, your weapons test fired and taped, all last minute briefs conducted, final equipment checks made, and ready for insertion into LZ Inn at Ellis Square in Savannah, Georgia. This will be our 25<sup>th</sup> reunion and I hope to see bunch of my Ranger brothers there. Steve (Crabs) Crabtree and Rangerette Lorie have invested a lot of their time, personal monies, and effort to make this the best reunion yet. The young 75<sup>th</sup> Rangers of the 1st Battalion will treat you old guys great. See you in Georgia.

In the last issue of Sua Sponte I asked for input on what the Association did right and what we did wrong as an association and how to improve attendance at our reunions and how to increase participation in the association. I can't release the names/names of the individuals that I received the feedback from, because I do not have their permission to do so. I have had some feedback that I will share with everyone. I am still open for more feedback! One concern/question: "I have attended two reunions and there were no guys in attendance that I served with; I felt like an outcast because the other guys broke off into groups of guys that they served with." The first part of the question: What to do about increasing the different year groups and insure that someone is there from your year group? If anyone is interested in contacting brothers from a specific year group talk to me and I will try to help you get in touch with guys that you served with, that way you can make your plans to attend the next reunion together. I realize that as we get older that sometimes we plan on doing something and then the plans are interrupted due to emergency situations and there is no way we can plan on them. The second part of the question: "I felt like an outcast." I apologize that any of the brothers feel this way. It is no one's intention to ignore one of our brothers, but it did happen. So from now on I personally, and the other officers as well, will be on the point to insure that no one is left out. You as a Ranger/LRRP also must insert yourself into the program and let everyone know "Hey, I'm a Ranger/LRRP and I don't intend to be left out."

Again I am asking for feedback on ways to improve the association and attendance at our reunions. Hope to see each and every one of you in Savannah.

RLTW

Richard (Boot) Corkan

# Savannah, Georgia October 8-11, 2014

Upon arriving on Wednesday, we will be treated to a "manager's reception" demonstrating the charm and grace of southern hospitality. Included each morning is a complimentary continental breakfast. As in the past we have reserved a large hospitality room for the duration along with a banquet room for Friday night. For those of you who wish an extended stay, the hotel will honor our reduced rates two days before and two days after our "official" reunion dates. The parking garage is very convenient positioned at the area where you unload your luggage. Accommodations for RV's can be easily made with the hotel. It is advisable to make arrangements for RV's and any other special needs when you make your room reservations.

The room rates are as follows: Double or King \$99.00 plus 13% tax plus \$1.00 city tax and a \$13.00 hotel parking garage fee (you really don't need a car!) For those of you who wish to reserve a King Suite the room rate is \$129 plus taxes. They have 18 handicapped rooms and two with roll in showers. If you are in need one of these, contact Linda Bell at 912 944-3286 immediately as these rooms sell quickly.

Please follow the following guidelines when making your hotel reservations; Call the hotel direct (912) 236-4440 ext. 147 group reservations Yvonne James or the sales department (912) 236-1024 0900-1730 Monday through Friday. Ask for the LRRP/Ranger block. **DO NOT MAKE RESERVATIONS ON THE WEBSITE OR THE 800 NUMBER AS THEY CANNOT SEE OUR IN-HOUSE GROUP RESERVATIONS. IT IS IMPERATIVE YOU MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE IF POSSIBLE. The reservation block shuts off on September 8, 30 days prior to the start of our reunion.**

The GRACE SHUTTLE SERVICE AT 912 657 4155 will accommodate those flying. You may call that number upon landing or beforehand giving them your flight number and landing time in order for them to meet you. The cost is \$28 for the first rider and \$5 for each additional one. As most of you will be flying to Savannah via Atlanta, it should be easy for many of you to meet and join up to keep the cost per person down.

**You need to make your reservation now to help for banquet numbers with related activities and to secure your room!**

## **Reunion dates:**

Wednesday, October 8th through Saturday, October 11th

### Wednesday, October 8th:

Check in.

Hospitality Room open noon - 2200 hrs.

1600-1700 - Reception at The Inn at Ellis Square

### Thursday, October 9th:

0800-0830 - Stage with Patriot riders for travel to Fort Stewart

0830-0900 - Travel to Fort Stewart and take positions

0900-1000 - E/51 G/75 Memorial service at 1st Battalion Ranger Memorial, Fort Stewart.

Guest speaker MG Kenneth C. Leuer (ret)

1000-1030 - Return to hotel

Free time - Historic Trolley from Hotel time TBD

Hospitality Room open noon - 2200 hrs.

### Friday, October 10th:

0800-0900 - Board Of Director's meeting.

0900-1000 - Membership meeting

Hospitality Room open 1100-1800 hrs. and 1930-2300

1100-1800 - Free time

1800-1930 - Association Banquet

1930-2300 - Auction

### Saturday, October 11th:

Hospitality Room open noon - 1900 hrs. and 2030-2300

Free time until 1715

1715 - Assemble at the hotel for walk to Kevin Barry's Irish Pub

1900-2100 - Dinner at Kevin Barry's Irish Pub in the Hall of Hero's Room with floor show.

### Sunday, October 12th:

Check out & travel

## Featured Member Ralph Steve Deever

Back in 1969 straight out of high school I was working as an apprentice heavy equipment operator. Two friends were arrested for “joy riding”, the judge said jail or the service, which was common back then, (judges sentence not “joy riding”). I told another buddy, “Let’s go with them”, so Bob and I signed up with Dickie and Joe. We had a ball at Ft. Ord in reception switching bunks to avoid fire watch. After Basic, Bob went to Armor then to Korea, Dickie to Mortars and 101<sup>st</sup> Vietnam. Joe and I were 11 Bravo, after a couple of long days and nights in Long Binh we boarded a C-130 about 03 hundred hours, I fell asleep. I awoke the plane was shaking like crazy, I asked Joe if we were taking off, no we’ve been flying for 20 minutes! At the Americal Combat Center in Chu Lai we saw the Ranger presentation, I was ready, Joe didn’t like the idea of such small units. We ended up with A company 1st/46, 196 L.I.B. off of L.Z. Professional in the same platoon. Being a grunt in a line company was hell; inept leadership, constant booby traps, running into ambushes, always in the bush, plus a lot of casualties and KIA’s. On a resupply, a ranger team got off the choppers, they stayed with us a couple of days before they split off on their mission. I talked a lot to “Saint” Santa Maria and Hardy. All of us being from California, my interest peaked at the way they operated. Cammies and Lerps were a plus since we only got c-rations. Shortly after that Joe got shrapnel in the head; barely made it, affected the rest of his life. I put in a transfer to the 75<sup>th</sup>. By the time I went to the Americal Recondo School Saint and Hardy were “tacs”. SSG Hammond was the head of the school. I graduated head of the class as I knew I did not want to go back to the line company. Six of us made it out of 24 including Donovan, Anyla, Cincanti and I went to team Arkansas with team leader SSG Riley where Merkel and I shared one end of the quonset hut. Don’t know where we got it, but we painted that section bright red, hung a California flag, as Merk grew



up about 20 miles from me.

Some missions stand out more than others. The time in the middle of the night I was on guard duty and pressed others hands to awaken them as a company of NVA came by about 10 – 15 meters from us, they threw some rocks in our direction I knew it was on if they hit something metallic, but my biggest fear was they could hear my heart beat, I thought it sounded like drums. Another mission we came out on ropes after contact. Being so far out, we had to have a plane up to relay our radio transmissions. It was a long ride to a fire base (were we in Laos?). Another was a joint hunter killer with SSG Beach and Team Texas. We were still positioning when we made contact, we won! Great times in the club room then to the top of the tower to see the sights. I remember someone, I think it was Cpt. Dinoto that could rappel off the tower, break one time and with the rope stretch land on his feet.

# Deever Feature

Coming back I was at Ft. Hood with the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Div. with Armor Recon, which was a lot of driving around in jeeps chasing armadillos. Off duty spent time with Steve Achenison who was at Hood. About to get out when Top Williams who was 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt of the Ranger Company there came by to give me a re-up talk. I was hocking my Seiko watch about the 28<sup>th</sup> of every month for \$10 to get by. Would get it out on the 2<sup>nd</sup> for \$12. So I politely declined.

Headed back to California working construction and going to college was going to be a history teacher and coach. Quit my senior year, had enough of the liberal professors and the credential program. At the time there was more money in construction. Operated for awhile then to the family tradition of plastering then back to operating. When I got home I spent a lot of time hunting. I felt more comfortable out with a rifle. Looked into Angola as a mercenary, but the pay was the same as construction. Remember hitting the ground when cars would backfire, people said I changed, DUH!

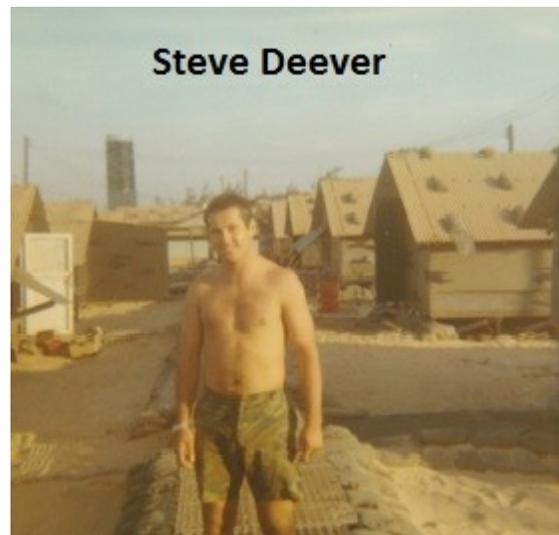
In 1977 I took a break from construction moved to Oklahoma and was selling exercise equipment, giving demonstrations, lectures to civic organizations, schools and corporations. I think we were a little ahead of the times. I have a cool photo album of the time I went to Minnesota Vikings training camp as they were using our equipment. Bud Grant was the coach; Fran Tarkenton quarterback and the Purple People Eaters were there. Fun job but no money, so packed the wife and kid and back to California and construction. Have worked a lot of states including Alaska, which everyone should see. Loved water skiing and baseball, played hard ball until I was 50. Also got into horses and trail riding. I live in Norco, California officially "Horse Town USA".

Still have "Old Duke" in the back, he's 31 years old and can't ride anymore. Have 36 years in the American Legion. I am a past Commander. Now days I enjoy the kitchen more and making tacos at the post on Saturdays.

I am retired now and enjoy my time with Cindy my wife of 3 years, 2 sons, 1 daughter and 10 grandkids. I wonder now how I ever had time to work? I have made the last 2 reunions and I encourage all of you to put out the extra effort to be at the next one.

I truly believe going to the LRRP's and being with guys that had it together saved my life and made me a better stronger person.

Ralph Steve Deever



# VA Website Agent Orange Cancer Information

## Respiratory Cancers and Agent Orange

Veterans who develop respiratory cancer (lung, bronchus, larynx, or trachea) and were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides during military service do not have to prove a connection between their disease and service to be eligible to receive VA health care and disability compensation.

About respiratory cancers:

Respiratory cancers are cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus.

Symptoms vary, depending on the location of the cancer:

Lung cancer—a new cough or cough that doesn't go away, coughing up blood, shortness of breath, chest pain, hoarseness

Cancer of the trachea—dry cough, hoarseness, breathlessness, difficulty swallowing

Cancer of the larynx (at the top of the trachea)—hoarseness, voice changes, sore throat or earache, feeling of a lump in the throat

Cancer of the bronchus—cough, chest pain, coughing blood

Visit Medline Plus to learn more about treatment of cancer and the latest research from the National Institutes of Health.

## GUARD AGAINST LUNG CANCER

Number one rule: Don't smoke and avoid second-hand smoke. VA can help you every step of the way to quit smoking.

## VA benefits for respiratory cancers

Veterans with respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx, or trachea) who were exposed to herbicides during service may be eligible for disability compensation and health care.

Veterans who served in Vietnam, the Korean demilitarized zone or any other area where Agent Orange was sprayed may be eligible for a free Agent Orange registry health exam.

Surviving spouses, dependent children and dependent parents of Veterans who were exposed to herbicides during military service and died as the result of respiratory cancers may be eligible for survivors' benefits.

### Getting Assistance for VA Benefits

Association members have suggested in conversation that contacting one's CVSO (County Service Veteran Officer) would be at a close local level. If you are near a VA Regional Center, you can access a DAV Service Office; they have helped many veteran's of our company get what was due them. The pointman is yourself in taking the first step when you are ready. *Sua Sponte*

# 2014 Dues Notification



## 2014 Dues Notification

Dear Members:

Please help us continue our operations by paying your annual dues and monetary contributions to the Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association. Our association consists of the 196th LRRPs, E-51st LRP, and the G 75th Rangers.

Annual dues cost is \$20 that can be sent to our treasurer, Lynn “Cowboy” Walker, in the enclosed addressed envelope after affixing a stamp on it.

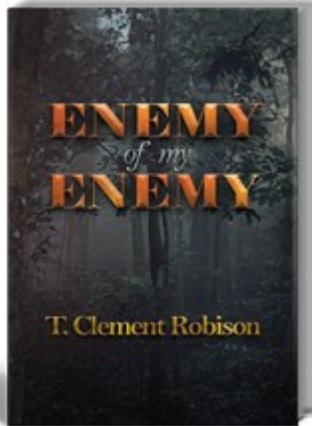
Please be sure to put your name and address on the enclosed envelope.

Lifetime members do not have to pay annual membership dues. However, they too, have been most generous with monies to the association.

Please help us with ongoing costs like the quarterly newsletter, website, and other worthwhile projects.

Your generous contribution to the association is tax deductible!

# Tom “Dolly” Robison Books for Sale



## **Three Riveting Stories Of Vietnam From T. Clement Robison:**

Award winning author T. Clement Robison is a master at bringing his readers along with him on one perilous journey after another as he introduces them to the physical and emotional trauma of war.

Using his own experiences, first as a decorated United States Army Ranger serving during the Vietnam War, and later as a defense attorney; the author weaves stories of danger and adventure that explode in realism off the pages in minute-by-minute, hour-by-hour detail.

Historically bold in their presentation, imaginative in their scope, insightful in their depth; these stories give the reader a new perspective and understanding of the damages that only war can inflict on both the mind and body of combat soldiers.

### ***Operation Duck Hook***

In an effort to end the Vietnam War, President Richard M. Nixon developed a diabolical plan and placed the United States military on the highest combat alert status while setting in motion one of the most dangerous scenarios ever conceived by a national leader. So dangerous that it could trigger a world war.

### ***Wounded in Action***

Based on actual events and set against the historical backdrop of America's longest war, Wounded in Action tells the compelling and gripping story of courage and determination of one of the Army's most elite combat soldiers as he faces the realities of surviving near-fatal wounds and struggles to overcome the life-changing devastation inflicted on his mind and body from the explosion of an enemy landmine. This is author T. Clement Robison's real-life drama of struggle and survival.

### ***Enemy of My Enemy***

Facing a military court martial for the murder of a Vietnamese soldier, Army Sergeant John L. Coletrane is offered a plea bargain if he agrees to return to South Vietnam for one final combat mission. The agreement would save him from the gallows but the near suicidal mission could cost him his life.

# Company Financial Report

Lynn "Cowboy" Walker, CPA

1:30 PM  
07/28/14  
Cash Basis

## COMPANY G RANGER 75TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION Profit & Loss January 1 through July 28, 2014

	Jan 1 - Jul 28, 14
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Support	
Individ, Business Contributions	100.00
Total Direct Public Support	100.00
Other Types of Income	
Concessions	475.00
Total Other Types of Income	475.00
Program Income	
Membership Dues	80.00
Total Program Income	80.00
Total Income	655.00
Gross Profit	655.00
Expense	
Bank Fees	27.00
Operations	
Postage, Mailing Service	375.81
Printing and Copying	1,695.66
Supplies	233.76
Website rental	113.88
Total Operations	2,419.11
Other Types of Expenses	
Other Costs	
Ranger Memorial Bricks	730.00
Total Other Costs	730.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	730.00
Total Expense	3,176.11
Net Ordinary Income	-2,521.11
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
Reimbursements	1,365.98
Total Other Expense	1,365.98
Net Other Income	-1,365.98
Net Income	-3,887.09

# FINANCIAL REPORT CONT'D

1:31 PM  
07/28/14  
Cash Basis

## COMPANY G RANGER 75TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION Balance Sheet As of July 28, 2014

	<u>Jul 28, 14</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Company G Ranger 75th Infantry	15,537.15
Total Checking/Savings	15,537.15
Other Current Assets	
Charter Oak Capital Management	11,021.21
Total Other Current Assets	11,021.21
Total Current Assets	26,558.36
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>26,558.36</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
FT. Benning Memorial Stone Fund	1,898.88
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,898.88
Total Current Liabilities	1,898.88
Total Liabilities	1,898.88
Equity	
Equity Prior Year	1,703.47
Opening Balance Equity	26,843.10
Net Income	-3,887.09
Total Equity	24,659.48
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>26,558.36</u></b>

# Savannah Reunion



1st Ranger Battalion Memorial

## ASSOCIATION CONCESSIONS... Association Tee's

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Sua Sponte  
5523 North Ocean Blvd., Suite 1512  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

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*"of their own accord"*

Quarterly Newsletter of  
The 196th LRRPs, E51st  
LRPs, and G-75th Rangers

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### **Team Arkansas**

Standing left to right: William  
"Russell" Gietzen, George  
"Dwight" Merkel, Steve Deever,  
Johnny Jack Fox.

Kneeling left to right: Dennis  
Nye, Calvin "Turtle" Johnson

Photo circa late September or  
October 1970