



Sua Sponte

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First Quarter 2013

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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 Michael Chu, Editor.
Address page 2, inset

San Diego Sept. 5-8

619-224-3621 Holiday Inn Bayside



Holiday Inn, Bayside, in San Diego; @ \$119 per night with 3 day extension

Early arrivals will come Thursday, 5 September with the hospitality suite on site and the bay area of San Diego located right out the front door of the hotel. On Friday tour the San Diego Zoo, Sea World or even watch the Colorado Rockies play the San Diego Padres. Then return to a light dinner host reception in our hospitality suite. Board of Directors meeting is scheduled Saturday morning and more touring of

the San Diego area all day, returning to our Banquet which is slated at 6:00 p.m. including a special guest speaker to be announced. Our auction, which covers the cost of our banquet, begins right after the banquet. Sunday morning, there will be a memorial service at Fr. Rosecrans with a motorcycle escort and special event speaker. Checkout is Sunday morning. Those who want to stay later can do so up to 3 days.

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75th Infantry Association

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Frank Svensson, Board Member

Sua Sponte is the official newsletter published quarterly by the Company G (RANGER) 75th Infantry Association edited by Michael Chu.

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

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



In this issue of *Sua Sponte*, it is filled to the "brim" with articles and information that you might find useful. The above photo of Steve Castile at Normandy, for example, is part of a Ranger story written by his wife, Pat Castile. Thanks to Dan Linehan who spearheaded this year's reunion at San Diego with assistance from David "Chief" Moncada and Stephen "Crabs" Crabtree; insertion well done!

Shawn Ranahan is our featured member article with some thoughts from Shawn that many of us share during our life journey. And like all other members who have shared their story, I personally thank them! Stephen Chaney is being inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor. The article on page three gives the specifics about Mr. Lyon's letter who is a friend of the Chaney family. If you can, please plan to attend.

The editor's corner provides information on Ranger Memorial Bricks, not only ours, but those who have served in the Ranger Battalions in recent years; nice to see those soldiers with bricks. Again, we are asking you to look at the list of names of our brothers who either served in the 196th, E-51st, or G 75th. Help us, please, identify which unit these guys were with.

James Aguiqui passed away (page 8); seems like taps announcements keep getting bigger each year. Please buy a brick for yourself and for one of our deceased brothers who no longer can. Pam and I were talking about all the different places we have been for our annual reunions and what a tremendous time sharing my brothers with the one person who continually supports me! I am stepping down as president in San Diego and encourage new leadership to volunteer. RLW!

Stephen Chaney Ohio Military Hall of Fame

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Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor

5644 Worchester Drive
Columbus, OH 43232



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Director, Ohio Governors Office of Veteran Affairs

December 13, 2012

Mr. Timothy Lyons
3512 River Seine St
Columbus, Ohio 43221-4785

All Association Members of the 196th LRRPs, E-51st LRP, and Company G Rangers are encourage to attend this induction for one of our fallen brothers, Stephen J. Chaney. There should be many of us there!

Dear Mr. Lyons,

Congratulations! It is our pleasure to inform you that your nominee, Stephen J. Chaney, has been accepted for induction into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor. Your application was approved in recognition of your nominee's receipt of the Silver Star for valor in combat while serving during Vietnam in the United States Army.

The induction ceremony for your nominee will take place on **May 3, 2013 at 11:30 AM at the Ohio Statehouse (3rd Street Side) in downtown Columbus, Ohio.** We will be sending a follow-up letter before the ceremony which will provide you with the details of your nominee's induction. Please let me know if there are any changes in your contact information or status so we can keep in touch. You may contact me at the number shown at the end of this letter.

If you have one, please send me an 8x10 photo of your nominee around the time he received the award.

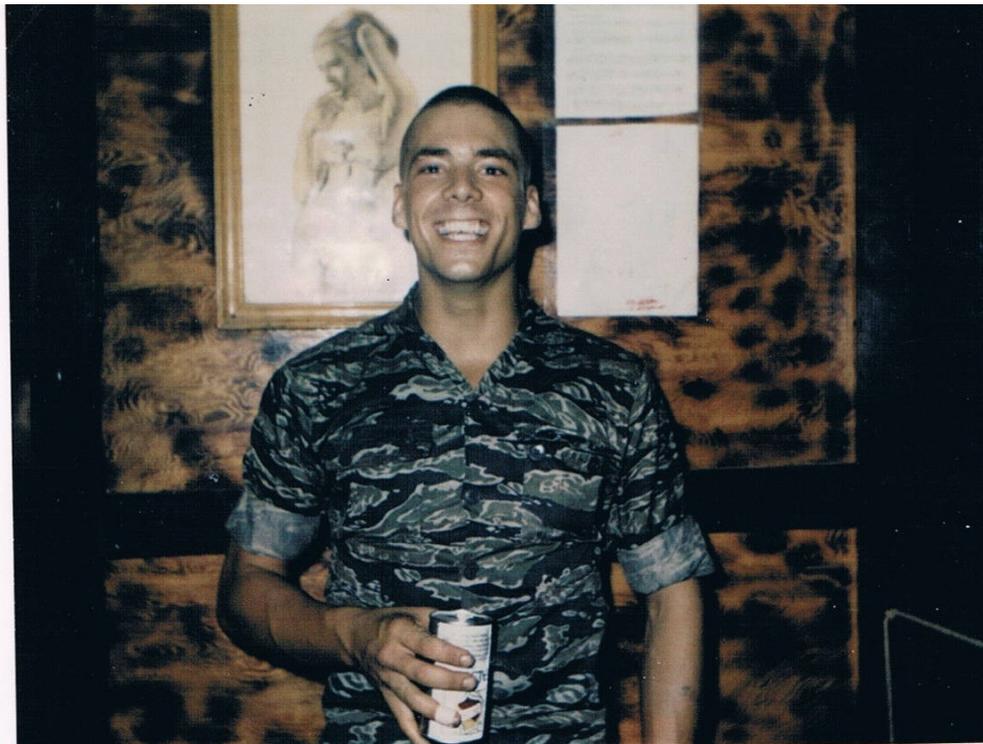
Once again, congratulations! We are proud of your nominee's accomplishments! We are look forward to meeting you at the ceremony. You are cordially invited to attend any of our induction ceremonies; they take place every year on the first Monday of May at the statehouse. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at (614) 207-4852.

Sincerely

Bill

William (Bill) Edwards
Board of Directors
Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor

Ranger Shawn Ranahan



FEATURED MEMBER

Sua Sponte is pleased to highlight its fifth featured member, Canadian Shawn Ranahan. Shawn served as team member as well as a Recondo Tac from 1969 to 1971.

By Shawn Ranahan

I'd been in the Army for a year by the time I arrived in Vietnam. After enlisting (Sept. 1968) and volunteering for Vietnam, I completed basic at Ft. Campbell, AIT at Ft. Gordon and ended up spending 7 months in Germany. It took another three (1049) requests to get my transfer to Vietnam. Life Lesson: "Be careful what you ask for."

I arrived in Cam Ranh Bay Oct. 4, 1969 and was immediately assigned and transferred to the Americal Division in Chu Lai. I was recruited in the usual way – Ranger TAC's (Lonny Miller, David (Chief) Moncada and Andy Pack) looking for volunteers at the combat center. After

the 3 intense weeks of Ranger school, a couple of missions with Team Georgia and then the MACV Recondo School, I settled into what would end up as a 19 1/2 month tour with the company.

Team Georgia (TL: Steve Johnson) was my first assignment, second was Team Hawaii (TL: Bob Hammond), and then Team Vermont (TL: John Sausville). From Oct. 1969 to Sept. 1970 I stayed in-Country and participated in 2-3 missions per month, mostly on 6 man teams in the position of "drag man". I was also on several hunter killers; a couple with Team Arkansas (Hawk Hill) and then with Team Texas at Chu Lai. We all know how much of an adrenalin rush they provided – addictive some might say. Two additional missions hold vivid memories for me: the re-opening of Kham Duc and the attempted POW rescue.

During my last six months I spent most of my time as an instructor at the Recondo School, and still managed to get

Featured Member Shawn Ranahan

in a few more missions. (DROS May 18, 1971)

During my time “in Country”, I would have to say that I had some of the best times of my life and certainly some not so good. I had the opportunity to work with some of the best people I have ever known and will respect and be friends with them for the rest of my life.

Sadly, eight men lost their lives and more were wounded during my time with the Company. All this we took in stride and figured we were the lucky ones because “it wasn’t us”. It wasn’t until after I got out of the service and back home that I realized maybe, just maybe I hadn’t gotten away scott free after all.

I felt that I “fit” in at G. Company, everything was pretty cut and dried, no grey areas to get lost in. I knew my job and trusted the men I worked with implicitly. But, when I got “out” things didn’t seem to make as much sense. Nothing seemed to be working – I was bored and totally disaffected.

I tried to go to school, but it wasn’t about education as much as it was about protests and demonstrations, and I dropped out. I tried to hold a job, but again it wasn’t about work ethics or ability, but about workplace politics and “kissing ass”. I couldn’t stay in a relationship because it seemed the only things I knew were frustration and anger.

The only people I could really relate to were other vets and that wasn’t always a good thing at that time. In short, I was messed up, and I pretty much crawled into a big ol’ bag of weed and stayed there for about 10 years.

It wasn’t until I met my wife to be, Lynda, that I started to turn things around. She got me going to the new VA Outreach program for “Stress” (PTSD-1980) and encouraged me to finish an AA degree in finance. I still wasn’t the best at holding a job but I was trying harder and doing a little better. I have to admit, it hasn’t all

been a cake walk and there sure have been periods of back sliding, but I’ve learned how to put things into perspective and more forward. (Finally got SC for PTSD in 2012)

We moved to Canada in 1986 (my wife was working with Conoco at the time and was offered a transfer to Calgary because of her Canadian citizenship). I started a small construction company and worked doing decks, fences, retaining walls etc. I enjoyed working outdoors and being my own “boss”. Until - I blew out a knee skiing in 1993 and was told I could no longer do construction work.

As bad as the knee injury was, it presented me with yet another opportunity to get my shit together. I’d been asked if I wanted to fly helicopters when I first entered the service and completed all of the testing for Warrant Officer School. Unfortunately, I failed the trigonometry section and that was it.

The Army teased me with the idea of flying in 1968 and I never forgot that dream. When Lynda asked me what I would consider doing instead of construction she was quite stunned when I immediately said I wanted to fly. We had just paid off the house and I still can’t believe that she agreed to re-mortgage it to pay for flight school.

I finally earned my commercial helicopter pilot license in 1995. Like Crabs said, I wasn’t always the brightest bulb in the string; going to Canada After the war and then learning to fly on my own dollar instead of Uncle Sam’s.

I’ve been flying for 18 years now and will admit I’ve been with several different companies. I still don’t do well with the BS and politics around the office, but such is life and I love my job.

I now work as a contract pilot and am usually gone from April to October, working in remote areas of Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories. I no longer work winters – it’s just too cold and as I get older too many parts “ache” in the bad weather.

FEATURED MEMBER RANAHAAN STORY



I've had the opportunity to fly in the Barren Lands and Sub Arctic areas of Canada and they are some of the most beautiful places I've ever seen. The caribou herds, musk ox, wolf packs and Barren land grizzlies that I get to see are just some of the perks of my job. I've also worked with the diamond industry doing environmental assessments and bulk sampling all across the north, from Inuvik to Igloolik. The last several years have been primarily fighting forest fires in Alberta and the NWT.

Fighting big forest fires are certainly no match to our Vietnam experiences, but I do get huge adrenalin rushes that are just as addictive as ever, and every bit as satisfying.

The best parts of my job are: few people to irritate me, no city traffic, no office, and no air traffic control. I just take my machine and fly away – that's what it's all about – for me. As long as I can maintain my medical, I should be able to continue flying for another few years.

I have a great wife, a great job and life is pretty good now.

RLTW

Shawn Ranahan

Editor's Corner

EDITORS CORNER

Sua Sponte has received several emails and communication pertaining to the purchasing of memorial bricks at Ft. Benning. Noble in concept yet practicality weighs in. The issue is best summarized in the following article submitted by Association member Steve Crabtree.

Your personal response and feelings on this issue are welcomed.

Sua Sponte Staff

BRICKS FOR ALL?

By: Steve Crabtree

Tom Nash has mentioned several times about our Association purchasing bricks at the National Ranger Memorial (NRM) at Fort Benning for the former members of our units that have died after Vietnam. We have been purchasing two brick a year for our deceased members for the last couple of years. Our membership is dying off at a much faster rate than this will accomplish. Although this is a noble idea, this is why I don't believe that it will work:

A brick cannot be engraved at the NRM without the unit in which the man served. I have sent out the spread sheet with the names of those deceased after Vietnam asking for the units and had minimal (at best response).

Assuming that there were 800 former LRPs, LRRPs and Rangers in our units and assuming that 98 bricks have been purchased (31 for KI-As, 27 for those who have died after Vietnam and 40 for those currently still living) we need to purchase an additional 702 bricks. That equates to \$175,500.

Assuming that the 702 die equally spread over the next 30 years, we need to purchase 23.4 bricks a year for the next 30 years at a cost of about \$6,000 provided that the two for \$500 remains intact.

How long do you think our treasury would remain solvent with \$6,000 coming out each year? Guess what? IT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN! The answer to getting a brick at the NRM is to purchase it yourself. Bricks cost \$280 each or two for \$500. The most efficient way would be for two men to each put up \$250 and purchase two bricks. Bricks may be purchased on line at <https://www.rangermemorial.com> or contact me and I'll assist you (cell 843 338 2724) or e-mail me at lovestori@hargray.com There are 87 former members of our units that have died since Vietnam that do not have a brick at the NRM. It will take \$22,000 to purchase bricks for them. If any of you have an idea as to how we can accomplish raising this money, let me know and I'll work with you to make it happen.

Taking this much out of our treasury would bankrupt our Association so, I believe, that this is out of the question. I can also see Frank birthing kittens if this should ever happen.

Crabs

IMPORTANT INFORMATION URGENTLY NEEDED

By: Tom Nash

From time to time, you will see a note in *Sua Sponte* suggesting that certain information is needed by those who have volunteered to be officers or members of the Association's Board. Responses are generally mixed. I believe that this is because members of the Association simply assume that another member will respond. However, the purpose of these requests is often to lay groundwork for some higher purpose. For example, the Board and officers are currently discussing the pros and cons (read - "is this even possible?") of attempting to secure a brick at the Ranger Memorial for all of our brothers who have passed. This project is made all the more difficult, or even impossible, as members of the Board or the Association's officers simply do not know precisely when each of our deceased brothers served in the unit, or to which of our unit's various designations (196th LRRP, E51, or G75) our brothers should be assigned. Steve Crabtree has asked for this information several times, but the responses have been less than optimal. So, I am repeating Crabtree's request here - please review the following list of our fallen and simply identify, as well as you can, just the basic information as to which of our three unit designations should be applied to each; approximately when they served with the unit; and if you know it, the date of their death. (Continued next page)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION URGENTLY NEEDED

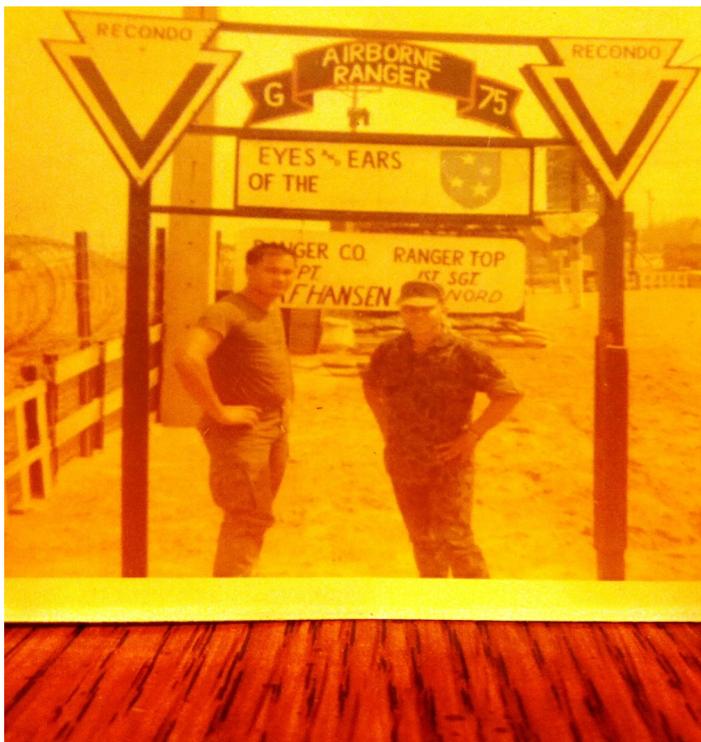
Edmund Adams
William Barton
Daniel K. Bennett
David Bradford
David C. Cruse
Donald L. Denney
John Eckert
Gary D. Fortson
Ted D. Grimble
Stuart E. Harkness
Robert L. Hogan
Melvin D. Johnson
Ronald E. Kinnison
Harry E. Lewis
John McGee
Eddie R. Nipper
Rainey R. Powers
David L. Roeher
Arlie B. Silver
Morris E. Smith
Randy V. Stepek
William Watson
Brian A. Wingert

Kenneth B. Akers
Michael Beamis
Richard Bogue
David Cpikar
Sam Day
Danny W. Dewsnp
John Evans
Cecil M. Fountain
Marlyn D. Guthmiller
Jimmie Haselden
Hubert H. Hudgens
Clifton Johnson
Raymond E. Klein
Richard A. Likely
Leroy A. Mouton
Stanley C. Paige
Clifford L. Price
Bill Ross
Bridgeforth Simmons
Robert L. Smith
Eddie C. Sutton
Richard Wessel
Jarrell A. Young

Robert Anderson
John M. Bees
Walter A. Boyd
Ralph Cole
Delbert DeLowe
William V. Dickey
Bruce Fischer
Johnny Fox
James M. Hamer
Alan G. Hendley
David W. Jackson
Zola R. Jones
Joseph F. Kraus
Terence Longway
David Nelson
John P. Payne
Ronald Robertson
Robert Salwin
Dial L. Skinner
Julius W. Smith
Steve Ward
Alan E. Whitcomb

Please send any information to 196lrrp66@gmail.com or to Crabtree @ Stephen.C.Crabtree@gulfstream.com. Your help is ESSENTIAL in this regard to the management of our Association's records.

Nash



Taps James Aguiqui

Leon Guerero has informed "Sua Sponte" the passing of James Aguiqui, former member of Company G Ranger who served with us. From left to right in this sepia tone photo are James Aguiqui and Leon Guerero.

RANGER MEMORIAL MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Since the formation of the three Ranger Battalions there are 133 Rangers that have lost their lives either in training or in combat. Many of these men have had bricks engraved in their honor at the National Ranger Memorial at Fort Benning. Seven Rangers from the 1st Battalion, ten from the 2nd Battalion and five from the 3rd Ranger Battalion did not. Thanks to the efforts of Shelia Dudley, Linda Davis and a whole slew of others, the following bricks will be engraved this summer just prior to the Ranger Hall of Fame inductions.

CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT	CO C 1/75TH RGR RGT
JOSEPH W DIMOCK, II	CO E 1/75TH RGR RGT
JUSTIN B ALLEN	CO D 1/75TH RGR RGT
MARTIN A. LUGO	CO C 1/75TH RGR RGT
LANCE H. VOGELER	HHC 1/75TH RGR RGT
TANNER S. HIGGINS	CO D 1/75TH RGR RGT
KEVIN M. PAPE	CO C 1/75TH RGR RGT
JOHN P YOUNG	HHC 2/75TH RGR RGT
WILLIAM J COBB	CO A 2/75TH RGR RGT
VINCENT S BARCLAY	CO A 2/75TH RGR RGT
DREW HARRINGTON	CO A 2/75TH RGR RGT
DEVIN KP PEGUERO	CO C 2/75TH RGR RGT
GEORGE V LIBBY	CO C 2/75TH RGR RGT
CHRIS GATHERCOLE	CO D 2/75TH RGR RGT
THOMAS F DUNCAN	CO C 2/75TH RGR RGT
JOEL D CLARKSON	CO A 2/75TH RGR RGT
THOMAS R MACPHERSON	CO D 2/75TH RGR RGT
ALLEN JOHNSON	3RD BN 75TH RGR RGT
TOBY JOHN YOUNG	3RD BN 75TH RGR RGT
HARRIS GLENN	3RD BN 75TH RGR RGT
JAMES J REGAN	CO C 3/75TH RGR RGT
NEIL SECOR	3RD BN 75TH RGR RGT

To the best of my knowledge, every man who gave it all and was assigned to a Ranger unit since Vietnam will now have a brick at our Memorial. I'm sure that there are Ranger qualified men who were killed in action while serving in other non-Ranger units. If any of you know of any tabbed Rangers who fall into this category let me know and I'll take care of it from this end.

A special HOOAH and thank you goes out to Joe Leuer, Executive Secretary of the National Ranger Memorial Foundation, without whose assistance this would never have happened.

Stephen "Crabs" Crabtree

Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association



2012 ANNUAL TREASUREY REPORT

Complete Annual Company G (Ranger) Association Treasurer Report January 1st 2012-December 31st 2012

Income/Direct Public Support Individual, Business Contributions		\$3,235.00
Other Types of income from concessions		\$ 713.50
Reunion Auction Proceeds		\$4,250.50
Reunion Concessions		\$1,435.00
Total Incomes		\$6,349.00
Program Income Membership Dues		\$4,780.00
Total Income/Gross Profit	\$14,364.00	
Expense Bank Fees		\$ 22.50
Total Business expenses registration fees		\$ 40.00
Operations		
Postage Mailing Service		\$ 666.61
Printing and Copying		\$ 2,646.46
Supplies		\$ 1,475.15
Total Business Operations Expense	\$ 4,788.22	
Total Other Types of Expenses	Ranger Memorial Bricks	\$ 500.00
Reunion Concession Expense		\$ 1,963.80
Reunion Expense		\$ 2,562.28
Total Reunion Expenses		\$ 4,526.28
Total Expense		\$ 9,876.80
Net Ordinary Income		\$ 4,487.20
Net Income	4,487.20	
Assets Checking/Savings Company G Association		\$19,557.00
Sua Sponte Account		\$ 45.52
Total Checking/ Savings	\$19,602.52	
Other Assets Charter Oak Capital management		\$11,044.78
Undeposited Funds		\$ 835.00
Total Other Current Assets		\$11,879.78
Total Current Assets		\$31,482.30
Liabilities and Equity Equity Prior Year		\$ 152.00
Opening Balance Equity		\$26,843.10
Net Income		\$ 4,487.20
Total Liability and Equity	\$31,482.30	

Respectfully Submitted by Lynn Walker, CPA

Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association Treasurer

Normandy Beach

Normandy Beach 2012

By Pat Castile – Nov. 2012

The Normandy coast at Omaha Beach stretched out for miles of uninterrupted shoreline, peaceful and serene that beautiful clear fall day. The weather on the Northern coast of France is notoriously wicked and stormy, but that day it had serenity in a deadly calm. My plans for France always included a visit to Normandy to feed Steve's love of history. Standing on that breakthrough point it was easy to imagine a thousand ships approaching the sandy beaches; the smell of the smoke and blood and salt from the sea.

West of Omaha beach is the Pointe du Hoc Ranger Memorial; an eight mile drive on a narrow country road through the picturesque French countryside. Old stone buildings, half-timbered homes, gardens, water houses, men working their gardens, ladies hanging out laundry make for a pastoral ride as we approach the site of immense destruction. The contrast between the peace of Omaha Beach and the obvious devastation at Pointe du Hoc is shocking. The dirt and gravel walk to the point and memorial overlooking the sea becomes more and more difficult for me to navigate as the reality of the damage that was done to the land by the bomb craters became evident. Standing on the edge of one of the craters I could almost hear the sound of the blast and see the rocks flying. The 30' across and 20' deep pocked landscape was like a grotesque sculpture, a horrific homage to the devastation caused by the bombing. Steve still talks about what must have gone into building the bullet riddled pill boxes, some of them able to endure the onslaught still stand; a testament to German technology and engineering.

As a woman, I could only imagine standing in the kitchen of one of those homes; the noise, the smells, and the sights of that day in June, 1944. What terror it must have been in the air of this modest little community. But that goes to show you. Steve was thinking about what it was to be a ranger back in the day. He looked over the cliffs at Pointe du Hoc and told me: "As a ranger, we could do that". He said: "today's rangers would be able to surmount that obstacle and take it".

San Diego September 5th-8th 2013

619-224-3621 Holiday Inn Bayside



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Quarterly Newsletter of
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www.lrrpranger.org



Featured Member Shawn Ranahan
living in Canada after Vietnam