



Sua Sponte

www.1rrpranger.org

Third Quarter 2011

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Myrtle Beach Honors Association



Mayor John Rhodes (Pictured left) presented the Association with a plaque recognizing our contributions during the Vietnam War. The inscription details some of the highlights of our accomplishments. He attended our banquet at Myrtle Beach, reading verbatim the plaque and thanking us for our commitments.

This year's reunion at Myrtle Beach had nearly fifty members present and included a fantastic reception at the Ocean Beach Resort Friday evening hosted by Tom and Sharon Robison. The Robison's recently relocated from Michigan to the warm climate of Myrtle Beach and the Association would like to thank them and the staff of the Ocean Beach Resort for their warm hospitality and the events of the weekend.

Besides the plaque presented to the Association at our banquet, we were honored to have George Olsen's sister and nephew with us. For those of us who knew George, it was remarked how much in similarity the "jaws" (code name for Olsen KIA March 70) that they resembled and emulated with their sincerity of George. We had the Myrtle Beach Fire Department Honor Guard post the colors and young Conner lead us in the pledge.

Our guest speaker, Kenneth Jungclaus, VA Assistant Service Manager from Columbia, South Carolina and shared information about services afforded to veterans in a well received audience.

Afterwards, Mr. Jungclaus had an open question and answer for our members followed by more specific individual guidance.

Should any member have questions about services offered by the Veterans Administration, Jungclaus encouraged members of our Association to please contact him at 803-647-2555 or Kenneth.jungclaus@va.gov

Sua Sponte

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

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Sua Sponte

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Chuck "Wolf" Williams, Vice President
Frank Svensson, Treasurer
Ed Carey, Secretary
Jerry Howard, Historian
Tom "Dolly" Robison, Corporate Counsel
Stephen Crabtree, 75th Regiment Representative

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Stephen Crabtree, Board Member
Richard Corkan, Board Member
David "Chief" Moncada, Board Member
David Travis, 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 9

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



By: Steve "Tower" Johnson

Another fantastic reunion this year at Myrtle Beach and the Association would like to give special thanks to Tom and Sharon Robison for their hospitality toward our members and guests. The Friday evening social hosted by Tom and Sharon was a hoot!

Saturday at our banquet, we had two special guests with the mayor of Myrtle Beach presenting the Association a plaque of appreciation and a VA representative that shared insight into the VA for services and provided a question and answer session that was very informative. This next year in the month of June, we will be having our reunion in Branson, Missouri hosted by Richard and Jo Jo Corkan.

Michael Chu is welcomed aboard as our new editor for "Sua Sponte". You can read the inset to the left to find out who the officers and board members of the Association are. One important note about address changes: Sharon Robison is now in charge of our data base and should you have any address, phone, or email changes, please contact her with the address to the left in the inset. News article submissions need to be sent to Michael Chu; again that information is in the inset. The Association would like to thank Stephen Crabtree for raising funds allowing some very special guests.

George Olson's sister and nephew, Diane and Mike Pierce, stayed with us as guests at the reunion. Thank you for those who contributed to this worthy cause. George was KIA in March of 1970 and it was nice to have former team members of George, John Haines, Dan Linehan, and Ross Quarnoccio share some quality time with them including the rest of us who knew George.

The Association is presenting \$1,000 each to the children's Christmas party for the first and second Ranger Battalion and another \$500 towards the Ranger Memorial. We have cut back \$3,500 this year towards the 75th Ranger Regiment to assure a surplus budget for operating expenses for our members.

Pam and I were delighted seeing everyone in attendance at this year's reunion. A lot of us enjoyed cooling off by wading in the ocean right out our beach front rooms. Dave Moncada, Tim Garver, Bobby Guynn, Pam, and myself played a round of golf together Sunday. It was so hot and humid on the course that we quit drinking beer and consumed lots of water. There was a lot to do in Myrtle City Beach and every year that I can, I enjoy our reunion. This year we had four new first-time attendees and that is part of the reason we shift the location of our yearly gathering to different parts of the country to allow those of you who have not attended a chance to do so.

A special thanks to Danny Jacks who stepped down as chairman of the board; Tom Nash now holds that position.

If any of you who attended Myrtle Beach and have photos of the reunion that you would like to have in "Sua Sponte", please send jpeg photos to Michael Chu's email. "Tower"

Fritzinger's New Book: Decade of Deceit

By Michael S. Chu

I received the following email from the son of John Fritzinger, announcing the completion of a book Fritz was writing prior to his passing in 2002. Fritzinger II completed the book and has now been published and available for purchase. It is entitled DECADE OF DECEIT.

As most of you know, Fritz was nearly fully responsible for spearheading the production of our company video documentary entitled WHO WERE WE which was recently converted to DVD format and distributed to all Association members.

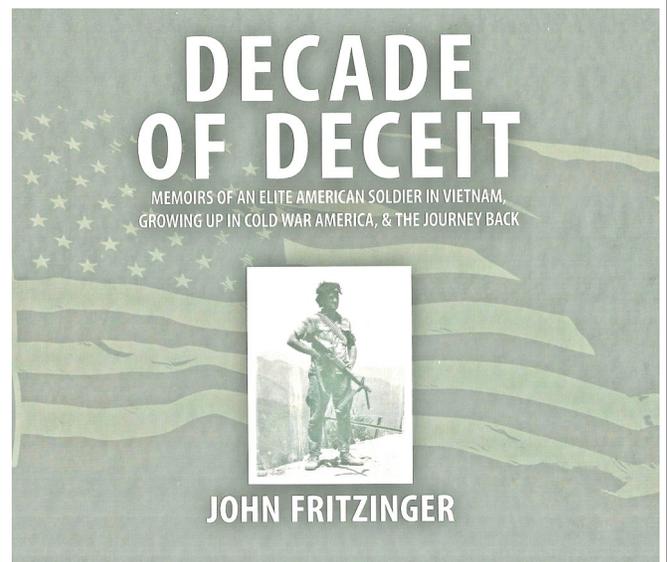
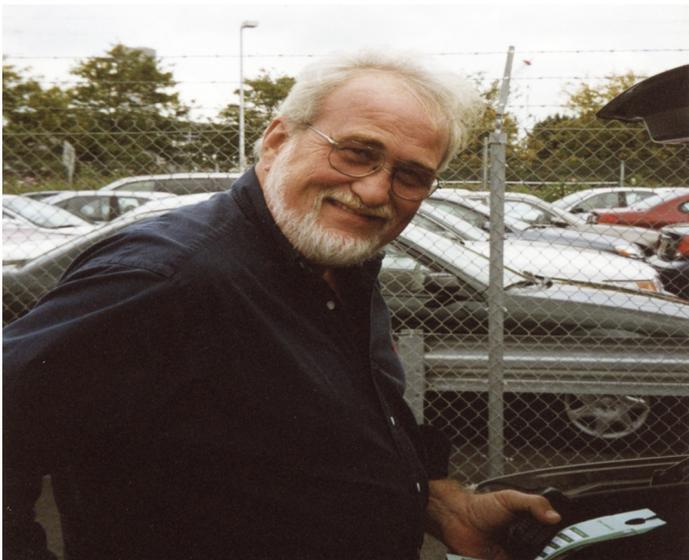
John Fritzinger was more than a close friend of mine. He was my TAC, a fellow participant on the original Hill 1362 insertion and a travel companion back to Vietnam in 1999. I encourage you to purchase his book and submit your review comments to Sua Sponte for future publications.

Instructions for purchasing this book are contained in the email below.

Michael S. Chu, Editor

For those of you who knew my Dad, John Fritzinger Sr., this is an update to anyone who knew about the book project he was working on before he passed away. John Fritzinger was, among many things, a proud member of G Company, 75th Infantry Rangers. He decided to write a book about his experiences in Vietnam during the war, growing up in cold war America, and about his journey back in 1999. His memoirs are a reflection of an America that had transformed from the sleepy 50's into the violent and turbulent 60's, and how his experience as a soldier in a tiny warring country in Southeast Asia totally consumed him - both then and thirty years later. He started writing these memoirs during and after his return trip to Vietnam in 1999. Sadly, Fritz died suddenly of a heart attack in 2002. As his son, I took it upon myself to finish what he started. My career as an Art Director has allowed me to design, arrange, and self-publish his memoirs in his book, Decade of Deceit. Everything that he wrote in his handwritten memoirs is included in this book. Fritz Sr. was well organized, and even wrote a table of contents with all the chapters he wanted to write about. He didn't get to finish a few of those chapters, but I felt that what he had completed needed to be published, and I'm happy that I could see it through for him.

Anyone interested in ordering his book, it is available online at www.blurb.com (type in Decade of Deceit in the search box). Anyone that wants to contact me with Fritz stories, I'm also interested! Thank you, RLW! John Fritzinger II



MYRTLE CITY BEACH PROCLAMATION PLAQUE FOR ASSOCIATION



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HORRY
CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH

COMPANY G 75TH (RANGER) INFANTRY ASSOCIATION 22ND ANNUAL REUNION, JUNE 3-5, 2011

WHEREAS, Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Regiment (Airborne) conducted nearly 1,000 long-range patrol missions from January 1967 to October 1971, covering the largest operations area of any Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol Unit in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Company G operated deep in enemy-held territory and conducted some of the Vietnam War's most dangerous commando missions, including ambushes, direct combat support, intelligence gathering, wire taps, tunnel explorations, bomb damage assessments and prisoner snatches; and

WHEREAS, The detachment's dangerous missions were not without casualties, as 26 members of the unit were killed in combat, including Staff Sergeant Robert Pruden, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, posthumously, for his actions; and

WHEREAS, Members of Company G received numerous awards and citations, both individually and as a unit, for their combat service and valor, with several members inducted into the United States Army Rangers Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, Georgia; and

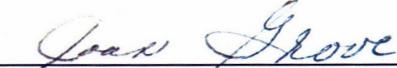
WHEREAS, Beginning in 1990, the members of Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Regiment have reunited annually, forming a non-profit veterans association to preserve and honor the experiences and memories of their war-time camaraderie;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City of Myrtle Beach welcomes the Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association to Myrtle Beach for its 22nd Annual Reunion and sincerely thanks the members of this unit for their outstanding service and sacrifice to our country during the Vietnam War.

Signed and sealed this Third day of June 2011.




JOHN RHODES, MAYOR


ATTEST: JOAN GROVE, CITY CLERK

MICHEL CHU EDITOR "SUA SPONTE"



SUA SPONTE CHANGES

Submitted By Michael Chu

Greetings from your new Sua Sponte editor. I salute Ed Carey as the exiting editor for a job well done.

I'm Michael Chu, located in Honolulu and am honored to be the next in line as the Sua Sponte editor. This is somewhat of a de javu experience as I served as newsletter editor for a year or so back in the early 1990's and as the original Association Secretary. I thank the Board of Directors for having the confidence in me to carry on this important function.

With the help of many, Sua Sponte has undergone many positive improvements over the years. With newer computer software and Steve Johnson anchoring as publisher, I understand the editor's job is a bit easier than what I remember. Nevertheless, I ask for your patience in getting up to speed and back into the zone.

Sua Sponte is the common thread that keeps all of us apprised of what's going on, what's coming up and relevant VA topics. As the new editor, I will strive to meet the following:

- Maintain the quality and relevance of the newsletter
- Make contributing articles and comments available to all Association members

Seek a balance between newsletter production and postage, and Association income

If you have any suggestion or comments regarding Sua Sponte, please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or email. My contact information is provided in the newsletter masthead.

Greeting and as we say in Hawaii, "mahalo" (thanks).

Michael Chu

Company Roster

By Sua Sponte Staff

For those that want to be included in the Association's Official Roster providing your address, email, and phone number, you will need to give us your permission with signature and date. Please send this information provided on page 7 to Sharon Robison who is in charge of data base. Her address is found on page 2 within the inset.

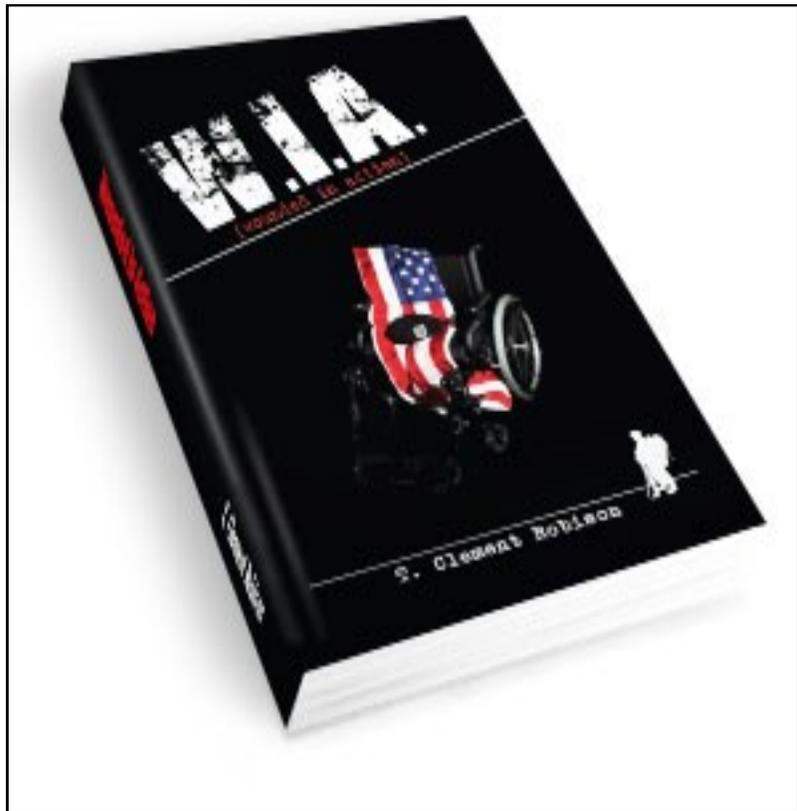
Also, if you want to be included on the official email list for first hand notification of ongoing information, you will also have to sign and date with information provided on page seven.

Too often when we are trying to contact others with important news, we count on the newsletter and website. But now we can share first hand information with you a.s.a.p. with our company emailing list. This will provide the fastest means for getting out Association news. Again, we will need to have you sign the form on page seven and send it to Sharon Robison; her address is on page 2 within the inset of contacts.

OUR ASSOCIATION AUTHOR THOMAS C. ROBISON'S NEW BOOK

"When people speak of the casualties of war, they usually refer to those servicemen and servicewomen who died during the war. But in order to have a more complete picture of the devastation the war caused the military, the casualty figure should also include those who are wounded in action. Although they didn't make the ultimate sacrifice and lose their lives, the severely wounded must, however, continue to sacrifice each and every day for the rest of their lives. While soldiers are trained on how to fight a war, they receive no training at all on how to survive the crippling effects—both mental and physical—caused by being severely wounded. Each soldier must find his own way to survive, for if he doesn't, he will perish as surely as if he's killed on the battlefield.

That's why the author puts his pen to paper to share this gripping story—his very own story—of survival in its most primitive form. Highly trained Army Ranger and leader of an elite long-range reconnaissance team, the author, Sergeant Thomas Robison, takes readers on a perilous journey from the enemy-infested jungles and rice paddies of South Vietnam to the sterile operating rooms of military and veterans' hospitals. Struggling to survive while those around him succumb to their wounds, he is given less than twenty-four hours to live: his kidneys shut down from too



many whole-blood transfusions; his heart ceases to beat due to the trauma of enduring more than a dozen operations; his body is plagued by raging infections and half of his body weight is lost; his one remaining leg is about to be amputated to save his life. How can and where will he find the strength to go on?

Wounded in Action is the author's emotionally gripping story of survival and determination that could only be told by someone who had to live it day by day and minute by minute."

To get your book,
order online at
www.tcllementrobison.com.

Special Note: Tom Robison, author of *Wounded in Action* and host of this year's reunion, would be more than happy to autograph your personal copy of his book.

"Tom Robison's new book is a must read! Every time I read books about events relating to Vietnam, I find it very difficult, but once I started to read Tom's story, I couldn't put it down and if it was difficult for me to read, I just can't imagine the courage it took for Tom to write his story." Tower

2011 ASSOCIATION MEETING (WORKING COPY)

Working Copy 2011 Business Meeting; Both Board and General

By Stephen "Tower" Johnson

June 4th 2011, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Ocean Reef Resort

Board Members Present: Richard Corkan, David Moncada, Tom Nash, Dave Travis

Officers Present: Stephen Johnson, Chuck Williams, Frank Svensson

Motion by Nash and seconded to open with quorum present...unanimous

2010 Meeting notes approved-unanimous

Treasure and Concessions Report

Unfinished business: honorary lifetime membership for Webmaster Justin Stay is complete

Authorized Johnson the resubmissions of Chaney and Williams for the 2012 RHOFF with Crabtree as 75th liason

Authorized committee for possible bylaw changes for Sua Sponte with Nash, Johnson, Chu

Motion and seconded to have Corkan coordinate the 2012 Branson and guaranteeing 35 rooms in June...unanimous

Motion and seconded for spending \$1000 each for the 1st and 2nd Ranger Battalions Christmas party and \$500 for the Ranger

Memorial with acknowledgement as donated by the Americal LRRPs and Rangers. Crabtree as coordinator...unanimous

The following were elected at our general meeting for the 3 board seats up for nomination: Corkan, Crabtree, Nash (Travis and Moncada board member seats will be up for nomination in Branson)

Nash was elected as board Chair by Association Members

The Board nominated and selected Johnson as president; Williams as VP; Svensson as treasurer and as an addendum, Carey as secretary

Authorized Crabtree to coordinate concessions at Branson; Svensson handles return shipping; Moncada remains concessions manager for all sales

Motion and seconded to adjourn 2011 Association meeting...unanimous

Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Associations MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



Check category below for \$20.00 annual membership dues.

Company Roster: I would like to be included in the company roster sharing my address, phone number, and email information. Only those who sign and have a membership will be sent our Company Roster. Also I want to be included on a Association emailing list for official company business notification and shared only within the Association. Signed _____ Date _____

\$20 Vietnam Membership: I have served with the members of the Association and would like to receive quarterly *Sua Sponte* issues. Membership also entitles me to participate with the Association. I understand that I will not be accepted as a member until my Vietnam service is verified and accepted by the Association.

Make check or money order to: **Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association**

Send membership form and remit payment to:

Frank Svensson

Name:

6964 Berkshire Avenue

Address:

Alta Loma, CA 91701

HUEY WITH LOTS OF APPRECIATION

PRESENTED BY STEPHEN CRABTREE AT OUR 2011 MYRTLE BEACH BANQUET

The following speech was given by CW4 Lawrence Castagneto, on 17 May 2011 at Ft Rucker when they retired the last Huey. My response to CW4 Castagneto follows.

"THANK YOU SIR"

"As a Vietnam Veteran Army Aviator, I would like to thank everyone for coming to this special occasion, on this to be honest...very sad day, the end of an era. An era that has spanned over 50 years. The retirement of this grand old lady "OUR MOTHER" ... the Huey.

I would like to thank, MG Crutchfield for allowing me to speak at this event and try to convey in my own inadequate, meager way.. what this aircraft means to me and so many other Vietnam veterans.

First a few facts:

It was 48 years ago this month that the first Huey arrived in Vietnam with units that were to become part of the 145th and the 13th Combat Aviation Battalions; both units assigned here at Ft Rucker today. While in Vietnam, the Huey flew approximately 7,457,000 combat assault sorties; 3,952,000 attack or gunship sorties and 3,548,000 cargo supply sorties. That comes to over 15 million sorties flown over the paddies and jungles of Nam, not to include the millions of sorties flown all over the world and other combat zones since thenwhat a amazing journey.... I am honored and humbled to have been a small part of that journey.

To those in the crowd that have had the honor to fly, crew, or ride this magnificent machine in combat, we are the chosen few, the lucky ones . They understand what this aircraft means, and how hard it is for me to describe my feelings about her as a Vietnam combat pilot.... for she is alive... has a life of her own, and has been a life long friend.

How do I break down in a few minutes a 42 year love affair, she is as much a part of me, and to so many others,,as the blood that flows through our veins. Try to imagine all those touched over the years ...by the shadow of her blades.

Other aircraft can fly overhead and some will look up and some may not; or even recognize what they see but, when a Huey flies over everyone looks up and everyone knows who she is... young or old all over the world she connects with all.

To those that rode her into combat... the sound of those blades causes our heart beat to rise... and breaths to quicken... in anticipation of seeing that beautiful machine fly overhead and the feeling of comfort she brings.

No other aircraft in the history of aviation evokes the emotional response the Huey does... combat veteran's or not... she is recognized all around the world by young and old, she is the ICON of the Vietnam war, U.S. Army Aviation, and the U.S. Army. Over 5 decades of service she carried Army Aviation on her back, from bird dogs and piston powered helicopters with a secondary support mission, to the force multiplier combat arm that Army Aviation is today.

Even the young aviators of today, that are mainly Apache pilot's, Blackhawk pilot's, etc., that have had a chance to fly her will tell you there is no greater feeling, honor, or thrill then to be blessed with the opportunity to ride her thru the sky... they may love there Apaches and Blackhawks, but they will say there is no aircraft like flying the Huey " it is special".

There are two kinds of helicopter pilots: those that have flown the Huey and those that wish they could have.

The intense feelings generated for this aircraft are not just from the flight crews but, also from those who rode in back ...into and out of the "devils caldron". As paraphrased here from "Gods own lunatics", Joe Galloway's tribute to the Huey and her flight crews and other Infantry veterans comments:

Is there anyone here today who does not thrill to the sound of those Huey blades?? That familiar whop-whop-whop is the soundtrack of our war...the lullaby of our younger days it is burned in to our brains and our hearts. To those who spent their time in Nam as a grunt, know that noise was always a great comfort... Even today when I hear it, I stop...catch my breath...and search the sky for a glimpse of the mighty eagle.

To the pilots and crews of that wonderful machine ...we loved you, we loved that machine.

No matter how bad things were...if we called ... you came... down through the hail of green tracers and other visible signs of a real bad day off to a bad start. I can still hear the sound of those blades churning the fiery skyTo us you seemed beyond brave and fearless... Down you would come to us in the middle of battle in those flimsy thin skin -chariots ...into the storm of fire and hell,.. ...we feared for you , we were awed by you. We thought of you and that beautiful bird as " God's own lunatics"... and wondered ...who are theses men and this machine and where do they come from Have to be "Gods Angels".

So with that I say to her, that beautiful lady sitting out there, from me and all my lucky brothers, that were given the honor to serve their country, and the privilege of flying this great lady in skies of Vietnam - Thank you for the memories...Thank you for always being there...Thank you for always bringing us home regardless of how beat up and shot up you were..., Thank You!!!!

You will never be forgotten, we loved you then..... we love you now... and will love you till our last breath ...

“CRABS HUEY LOVE AFFAIR RESPONSE



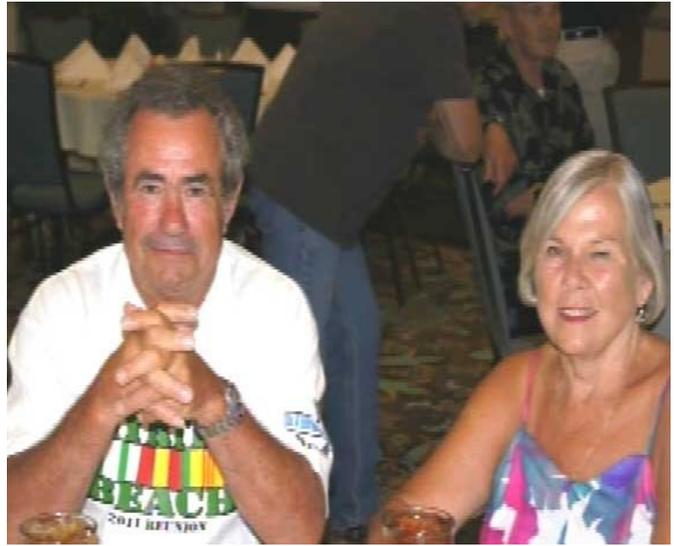
MY RESPONSE

In 1982 or '83 I was working at Teldyne Ryan in San Diego on a new helicopter program, the AH-64 Apache. We took a set of fairings to Hughes Helicopter Company in Mesa, Arizona. I think you know the place. We arrived a full day before the fairings did so we were given free access to the plant. Howard Hughes had an area where he stored some of his experimental aircraft. We entered it in awe as some of this world. Over in a corner there that some how had made it back white with the red crosses still intact ting idle for months and months. It for the new Apaches. I walked over to it, sat down on the cargo deck and reminisced about what that vehicle had done for me and my buddies a decade before. One of the other engineers made the comment, "What are you doing sitting on that old piece of junk?" I answered back, "If you ever call this beautiful lady a piece of junk again, you and I will have more than words between us. This beauty saved our butts many many times in Vietnam." He turned around and walked away. I don't think he understood what I had just said or my love affair with the Huey.



FACES OF THE MYRTLE BEACH 2011 REUNION

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY RODY LINDHE



Submissions and Concessions

2012 Reunion Branson, Missouri

By Sua Sponte Staff

Sua Sponte:

Articles, photos, announcements, etc. are always welcome. *Sua Sponte* reserves the right to accept and edit all materials as necessary. All submitted photos will be returned if requested. Authorship and photo credits will be provided. Submittal of written articles may be handwritten, typed or on computer disk. We can translate most files. Windows is preferred.

Deadlines: Sua Sponte is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Absolute deadlines for submitting material for the newsletter is 60 days prior to the month mentioned above.

Submissions:

Please send to Michael Chu, Editor. Address page 2, inset.

By Richard Corkan

Guys,

This is the latest on the hotel and the reunion. Radisson Hotel Branson, 120 S Wildwood Drive, Branson, Mo. 65616. Telephone # 800-333-3333 or 417-335-5767 to make reservations for our special price ask for LRRP Ranger Association Reunion rates.

\$85.00 a night + tax, and a free continental breakfast which can be upgraded to full breakfast buffet for \$4.50. The dates are June 21, 22, 23 2012. We have to guarantee 70 room nights, otherwise the Association is responsible for any rooms not booked at our guarantee agreement with The only draw back that I can think of and affects a few of us, the hotel is Nonsmoking.

The airlines that fly into Branson are Air Tram/Southwest (Atlanta), American, Frontier (Denver), Delta/Northwest, United, and US. I am lead to believe that the cheapest would be the direct flights from Atlanta and Denver. You can also go to www.flybranson.com and get prices as bookings.



ASSOCIATION CONCESSIONS...

New Myrtle Beach Tee's

RANGER-LRRP Gear at its Best!

Order early and have all your LRRP gear at the ready...

For prices and ordering: www.lrrpranger.org

or email Dave "Chief" Moncada at

meganmoncada1@comcast.net



Sua Sponte
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Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

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"of their own accord"

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

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