



COMPANY G (RANGER) 75th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION
4233 Spring Street • Suite #134 • La Mesa, California 92041

SUA SPONTE G 75th-E 51st NEWSLETTER

These Rangers were the fortunate ones who were able to attend the First Annual held in Sacramento, this past August.

As explained by Tom Hardy, it was the spirit of Sua Sponte, Latin for "Of THEIR OWN ACCORD," that brought these 28 Brother-Rangers together after too many years apart.

Within this newsletter is the attempt to share the feelings that grew from this accord which has generated to a Second Annual to be held in Washington D.C., next July.

The emotions that were brought from the past by these men, long overdue for many of us, were truly genuine and hard to describe, but should be told.

"Let's keep the fire burning," as stated by Dave "Chief" Moncada, our President, has the coals glowing!



WASHINGTON D.C. REUNION JULY 4TH THROUGH THE 7TH

Information provided by Pointmen J.R. McCullough and David Purser

The foundation is in place for our Second Annual to be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Washington D.C. Originally our Second was to have taken place in August, but because of reasons that had to be contended with, our insertion date is now July 4th through the 7th

There are 25 rooms blocked for the 4th, and 75 rooms for the nights of the 5th and 6th. All rooms have double beds and the cost is \$ 85.00 per night, so get your hutch partners arranged. All reservations should be in reference to the Ranger Reunion. For D.C., these are special rates so please mention the quoted price.

Plane reservations should be to the National Airport in D.C. You can take the Metro from the airport, to all events, and need not rent a car! Families are encouraged, the itinerary will be in the next issue.

Sacramento Success Story

by Steve Johnson: taken from Gary Gentry notes AND others

On August 24-26, 1990, G Company held its First Reunion at the Beverly Garland Hotel in Sacramento, California. At that time we had located fifty former members, twenty-eight of those attended the First Annual. At time of publication, we have over three hundred twenty located. Potentially, we could have a big gathering in D.C.

Dave "Chief" and Megan Moncada were wonderful hosts that entertained all of us that were fortunate enough to attend. By the way, just got a note from Dave saying that Megan and himself are the proud parents of a newly adopted baby girl, Rebecca Elana, weighing in at 7 lb. 5 oz.

While we were at the Annual, we were recorded by a CBS crew that aired our affair on the "CBS Sunday Morning" with Charles Kuralt. The t.v. crew was on hand at the airport to see the arrivals, at our dinner that evening, the California State Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Saturday morning, and the picnic in Dave and Megan's backyard.

You can notice the t-shirts that were designed by Tom Hardy and distributed by Gary Gentry on the front photo. These were proudly worn by all members present at one time or another, and a Second Annual shirt is going to be on the drawing boards in the near future.

A business meeting was held to form an organized manner in which to conduct operations for our association and it's functions, our Second Annual, for example. Tom Hardy was elected treasurer and received its first donation, \$100.00, from Major (RET) James B. "Whip" McWilliams, one of the Company G's former company commanders.

Since then, Tom Hardy, Gary Gentry, Steve Crabtree, Mike Chu, Bob Parker, J.R. McCollough, Dave Moncada, Dave Purser, and Steve Johnson have spent lots of time and pocket money to get as far as we have at this juncture.

The process of this association is evolving into a positive partnership with all cooperating to let everyone else share the same experiences that the first twenty-eight men did in Sacramento. Happiness is an accord. Thanks for your help, Rangers!

Bob "Ballerina" Parker

With thoughts of the California reunion still occupying a good portion of my waking hours, it won't be difficult to write my first column for our newsletter.

I'll attempt to convey bits of information about the Association, report on the status of our RANGER locating efforts and even cover some handy tips that you might find useful in the future.

First off I'd like to thank Tom Hardy for making that initial effort to reunite the company. I'm sure many of us have thought of the possibility of a reunion from time to time but Tom made it happen and for that I will be eternally grateful.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, there will be entire articles devoted to recounting the Sacramento reunion and thanking those who made it such a success, so suffice it to say that it was an experience beyond anything I could have imagined.

You just have to do it to understand.

Regarding our efforts to locate every swingin' dddd...well, every individual that served with Co.'s E 51 and G 75, we have come a long way from the fifty names we had prior to Sacramento. At this writing we have compiled a list of about 480 names and have been able to come up with addresses for a major portion of them. However, WE STILL NEED HELP and this is where YOU come in. You know that dusty box containing your service records? Get it out and send copies of your old orders I.E. Recondo School Graduation, transfers, decorations, anything with names on it to the Co. G" (Ranger) Association address you see in this newsletter. We have a number of people attempting to locate your buddies from the LRRP'S and we are depending on each and every one of you to help us out. So, grab a brew and rummage through those old papers.

There's another way you can help make next year's reunion a success. When you receive the Association Membership Application in the mail, fill it out and send some bucks to help cover printing and postage. All of you are members by virtue of having paid your dues in the Nam, but become an active member and help support the efforts being made on your behalf.

At the very least, fill out and mail the update form along with your phone number so we can make any corrections needed to keep our roster up to date.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS? PHONE NUMBER: ()

Name

Street No.

City

State

Apt. No.

Zip

MOMENTOS

VCR COPY OF THE FIRST ANNUAL, SEND \$8.00 TO:
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14 JAQUELINE COURT
MANDEVILL, LOUISIANA
70448
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STEVE JOHNSON
RT. 2, BOX 178 D
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

"Buffalo Chips"

Information provided by Gary "Buffalo" Gentry



"CHIEF" NOTES by Dave Moncada

Recently, I saw a National Geographic Special on TBS regarding cameramen who have filmed unique footage of important world events and situations.

One segment was devoted to Norman Lloyd, the Australian cameraman who filmed some "hairy" combat footage in Viet Nam for a number of years, including Cambodia and Laos.

As you know, Norm was the cameraman at our Sacramento Reunion. What's more, the sound tech was "DUC" a South Vietnamese National who also worked for CBS in-country. CIB'S should be awarded to them!

Pictured to the right, is the wonderful family of Steve Crabtree who all made the Reunion. Lucky guy!

Rumor has it that these beautiful ladies kept him in "check" for much of the occasion, with the exception of an unexpected full moon, sighted in the backyard of the Moncada's, all in broad daylight.

"Crabs," like so many others mentioned and not mentioned to date, has been very instrumental in helping getting this thing organized and has been a doer.

The segment at the Memorial in Sacramento, was a good reflection of his feelings.

Between "Crabs," Ho (Mike Chu), and Ballerina, they all need new fax machines. They have done a super job in getting names and addresses for our Association.

The gentleman pictured to the left, Gary Gentry, from Lubbock Texas, has taken time out from reading some "historical stuff" at the Reunion to pose for this photo.

Although he has lost weight since the last time seen in Viet Nam, he is just as ugly as can be attested by this picture.

Gary has inundated us, and probably you by now, who are involved with the Association with tons of mail-data information. Needless to say, he should be commended on his personal effort to reunify the former members of the G 75th and E 51st.

Among other projects that Gary is doing includes making a Directory and History book. In order for this to happen, it requires help on your part to make it happen. He plans on mailing out this questionnaire shortly after this publication and your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated!

Gary has stated, "The one thing that brought us all together into the long range patrol business was our kindred spirit. Each of us wanted to participate in an adventure that ordinary men would never attempt. We didn't have to have a tab on our shoulder, a patch on our pocket, or a set of wings on our chest. It was the power of the spirit we possessed and the actual accomplishment of the missions that we volunteered for that brought us together into this special fraternity."

For those of you who haven't received your Company G (Ranger) application from Tom Hardy, please write:

Company G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Association
4233 Spring Street, Suite #134
La Mesa California
92041

If you want to join the Regiment Association wait for Gary's letter, as he has an application form within it and has done an excellent job in explaining what this is all about.

In a letter addressed to Gary from Bob Gilbert, President of the 75th Regiment Association, dated October 20 1990, stated, "Absolutely delighted to be able to help all of you hookup again and get the E 51st- (75th Rangers together. As I said in an earlier letter, we want to see strong Company organizations and a less strong central organization. I think everyone should recognize that we need a flag to rally around as an entity (Regiment Association) and we hope this slightly over four year old association is what will fill people's expectations.

Again, stay tuned and "Buffalo's" letter will explain it all.



RANGER TRIVIA PURSUITS

BY MIKE CHU

What were the various names given to Hill 1362?
answer: Mad Mac's Mountain and LZ Pineapple. There may be other documented names known only to those who occupied this hill.

How many helicopters were lost on 1362?
answer: Two Hueys. One went down during the original insertion onto the hill. The second went down several months later when a poncho line got caught in its blades after lifting off from the helipad. Was there a third?

Against what type of biological life forms on Hill 1362 were Ranger ambushes employed, excluding NVA/VC? How, where, and why?
answer: Large bush rats would invade the garbage dump located on the north side of Hill 1362. At night, Rangers would stage ambushes. According to Moncada, the Claymore mine was usually the most effective weapon.

Why was Baby-san called Baby-san?
answer: Ralph Dunham was called Baby-san because he was the only team leader who hadn't started shaving yet.

Who had the longest tour of duty with Company G?
answer: Unconfirmed reports have placed George Beach in Company G as early as 1967 and as late as 1972. Clearly, George holds the record-tour and reference to him as the "legend" is warranted.

Who was Lt. Wyatt?
answer: 1st Lt. Wyatt was a Huey helicopter pilot with the Blue Ghost and was responsible for the insertion and heavy extraction of many Ranger teams during the 68-69 era.

Who made the sound "Oooo-ooo"? When and why?
answer: Richard Wolch, a member of Team Texas, was noted for going "Oooo-ooo" in anticipation of enemy contact.

Who was Elephantus Asiaticus?
answer: The radio code name for Dan Lanihan "Porky" but he was also known as "Elephant Boy."

Besides the food, what else was contained in a LRRP ration?
answer: Sugar, salt, coffee, a plastic fork, shit paper, matches, and oh yeah... a small pack of Chesterfields.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ranger Trivia Pursuit, is a collection of fond memories supplied by knowledgeable members of Company G. The Editor makes no claim to authorship or accuracy. Additional questions/answers and disputes to Trivia are welcomed.

Send To:

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Or:

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SHENKARUK FINALLY TIES THE KNOT

by Ballernia,

John "Lightning" Shenkaruk of Detroit and Donna Lopiccolo of Westland Mi., were married in a ceremony performed by Donna's brother, Reverend Tony Rea, at The Little Wedding Chapel in Farmington Hills, October 27, 1990.

Shenkaruk, who in 1969 thrilled the Chu Lai PRC 25 radio audience with his performance of the "One Leg Inverted McGuire Rig Extraction," remained cool to the end, surprising those who had predicted yet another hasty E&E.

In addition to family and friends, in attendance were Rangers Tom "Rock" Hardy, Ron "Frenchy" Labrie, Bob "Scar" Sedlmeyer, Bob "Ballerina" Parker, and Tom "Snake" Giddings who CONUS AO's to help celebrate the occasion.

Following the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Shenkaruk were toasted at a great bash of a reception where the RANGER team celebrated John's cherry marital mission.

Although details of the After Action Report remain unclassified, it is known that the Shenkaruks spent some time away from their AO for an extended post mission standdown.

Future plans for the couple may include the pitter-patter of jungle boots and, for sure, attendance at the Capitol.

Letterhead Design

The design for the letterhead has evolved just like this newsletter and all the other working- Ranger projects set into motion.

Part of it is borrowed from the 75th Ranger Regiment Association application and edited from there.

Information given to Mike Chu has led to his graphic creation of our letterhead and Tom Hardy has added the jump wings. Patent Pending!

Letter to Ralph "Babysan" Dunham by Stephen Crabtree

Dear Ben,

Although I've addressed this letter to you, I plan to send a copy to everyone both those who could and those who couldn't attend the reunion in hopes it will inspire them to attend next year's.

I really missed seeing you again. 20 years is much too much time for friends to be apart. I remember you as a 21 year old kid - I guess we all were. I remember the firefights we were in - hell, even a couple of them were with the enemy.

Words cannot properly describe last weekend. 28 of us converged on Firebase Sacramento, guys I remembered - some I had never met. But we all had one common bond - "G" Company RANGER. I don't think the hotel had any idea of what they were in for. We partied, we laughed, we talked, and we cried. It had to be the most emotional weekend of my life, and the most fun. I took my wife Lori and two of my three daughters. None of them ever expected to see the love and camaraderie that they witnessed in us.

I toasted you and your "RANGER" exploits in Georgia during dinner. Every Ranger there stood up and screamed "Right on, Babysan!" You thought nobody would remember you. You were wrong - we all remember you. I guess the next time we go to war together, I'll have to teach you how to be a good Ranger!

After dinner we all went to the bar for more lies about each other. No matter what Buffalo says, he really did think we were going to throw him out the window during our early morning raid. It was really a gas to see him crying and begging, "Please don't throw me off the balcony!" Next year we'll make sure he has a ground floor room.

Saturday morning we went to the California Vietnam Memorial. Having been raised in San Diego, I knew too many of the names. I don't know if I'm going to be able to handle "The Wall" next year, but I wouldn't miss it for the world. If you don't come - I'll personally organize a POW snatch and we'll kidnap you and your whole family. Be there or pay the price!

Afterwards, we all moved to LZ "Chief" for beer, pictures, beer, dancing, beer, "pie" (you'll have to see the pictures), beer, talk, beer, music, beer and a slide show that would have knocked "MAD MAC'S" boots off. Lori had heard of the snake, (not MOTHER'S), but couldn't believe how big that sucker really was. Every time they showed repelling or McGuire rig, we all screamed "RANGER", "AIRBORNE", or whatever. We all woke up hoarse the next morning. It was just too much.

About 20 of us had breakfast Sunday morning. I bought a round of beer and toasted, "Don't be sad guys, we only have 364 and a wake up to go!" That brought a huge roar.

About noon we were walking back to our room to check out. I watched LABRIE and HARDY get in their car to leave, HUSTLER and BUFFALO waiting for the Hotel car, and Bob Larson, his wife and my family walking back to check out and I realized the reunion was over. I actually broke down and cried like a baby. Bob came over, hugged me and started crying too. What a sight we must have been, two tough Rangers crying like babies. Who cares? I'll never, ever forget this weekend.

I've had my ups and downs in life, but now I know two things that no one can ever take away from me; my AIRBORNE RANGER patch, and the memory of the greatest group of men every assembled - "G" Company Ranger.

Twenty-eight this year, next year everyone and families.

Crabs

George is Where?

Gary Gentry had the opportunity to talk with George Beach, who is living in Thailand.

Should you wish to correspond with him, here is his address:

George Beach
APT # 12 THIPYA CT
157 RAJAVITI RD
DUSIT, BANGKOK
THAILAND
10300

PHONE:
011-662-241-3061 OR
011-662-243-4168

**WHEN IN DOUBT, PLEASE SEND PARTICULARS TO:
COMPANY G (RANGER) ASSOCIATION
4233 SPRING STREET, SUITE # 134
LA MESA, CALIFORNIA, 92041**

MEMBERSHIP-INFORMATION, SAME AS ABOVE

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**THIS EDITION WAS SENT FROM THE FROZEN TUNDRA
OF NORTHERN MINNESOTA. MUCH DIFFERENT FROM V.N.!**

