



Fall 1996

# Sua Sponte



The Quarterly Newsletter of The Company G (RANGER) 75th Infantry Association

## SUA SPONTE LRRP LINE

- RANGER MEMORIAL...**A ceremony honoring soldiers of E 51-G75 this Veteran's Day. page 1
- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...**"Jolly" takes the baton from "Chief". page 2
- BOARD MEETING...**Board adopts policies affecting membership at large. page 6
- VEGAS REUNION...**Small numbers, but quality time. pages 3-4
- CHAIRMAN'S REPORT...**Al Stewart is new Chair. page 6
- WHAT'S NEW IN LRRP GEAR...**Polo shirt and other on back page
- GUNNER'S CORNER...**Historian John Gunner. Next Issue
- SUA SPONTE SNAPSHOT**Who is this? Look on page 2
- IMPORTANT SURVEY** Page 7

## E 51-G 75 LEAD THE WAY TO RANGER MEMORIAL

by: Steve "Crabs" Crabtree

Dear Friends:

Lori purchased a brick for me at the Ranger Memorial for Veteran's Day 1993. I thought to myself, wouldn't it be great if I got one for Pres Hogue. I then thought, if I get one for Pres, then I should get one for those two, then I should get one for John Bennett. From there it snowballed and I was overwhelmed with the thought of twenty-nine plus two bricks. I attempted to get the McDonnell Douglas Foundation to sponsor the effort. It didn't work. I shelved the idea.

Late last year a good friend of mine was temporarily sent to Georgia. I asked him if he would take a picture of my brick and send it to me. He did and I received it in late January or early February. Every time I looked at it I was reminded of drinking beer with George

Olsen the night before he was killed and also of the day I pulled John Bennett out of the ocean.

Then it came to me. I would ask for help. Your response has been tremendous. In my book, every one of you deserve the CMH!.....We did it!

Lori and I are flying to Atlanta on Saturday the 9th of November and will be staying at the Sheraton in Columbus. Sheraton's phone number is: (706) 327-6868; the rates are \$60 per night. The Service will be at the Ranger Memorial at Ft. Benning on Veteran's Day, November 11th, at 0900. We hope all of you will be able to join us. I will attempt to have the service photographed and will make copies available.

We were unsuccessful on one count. P Company has beat us to the punch as all of their KIA's have bricks. I can't think of a better competition to lose at. They have also been invited to join us on Veteran's Day.

I, for the first time, am at a loss for words. The English language doesn't have the right ones for me to express how thankful I am. I have one last favor to ask. If you know where any family members of our KIA's are, please send me  
(continued page 5)



# Sua Sponte

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**COMPANY G (RANGER)  
75th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION**  
8845 s. 1240 E.  
Sandy Ut. 84094  
PH: 801/561-1206

or

6964 BERKSHIRE AVE.  
ALTA LOMA CA. 91701  
PH: 909/989-8461 FX: 909/ 989/8461

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUA SPONTE**  
RT. 2, BOX 178 D  
BEMIDJI, MN. 56601  
PH: 218/ 759-1439 FX:218/ 759-1439  
\*\*\*\*\*

**President**

Charles "Jolly" Haussler

**Vice-President**

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**Secretary**

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Danny 'Bean' Jacks

Steve "Tower" Johnson

Dave "Chief" Moncada

Jerry Schuster

**Historian**

John 'Gunner' Starnes

**Corp. Counsel**

Tom 'Dolly' Robison

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

**Change of Address:** Sua Sponte does not maintain the mailing list. All addresses are maintained by the Treasurer. Receivers of Sua Sponte are encouraged to keep the Association informed of any address changes.

**Membership Information:** All former members of E/51 and G/75 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:** Article, photos, announcements, etc. are always welcomed. 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 hand written, typed or on computer disk. We can translate most files. Macintosh is preferred.

**Deadlines:** Sua Sponte is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Absolute deadlines for submitting material for the newsletter is the first of each month identified above. Time sensitive material will take precedence. Send material to the Sua Sponte address in Bemidji, Mn.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Charles Haussler

Though I am still uncomfortable addressing you from this forum, I am proud to have been selected to carry on in "Chief's" footsteps, and pledge to you my sincere desire to do my best to serve you and the Association as President.

Before I go any further, let me express my gratitude to David Moncada. It was his vision and ability that brought the Association into being and to our current success. In July 1991, I was attending the graduation of the Sergeant's Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas. At that time I recognized Sergeant Major Paul Reynolds. Paul told me that Chief had organized the unit and held reunions in my home town and Washington, D.C. He was unable to give me a point of contact. In February 1992, Jerry Schuster located me and brought me home.

Ever since I left Viet Nam, hardly a day went by that my thoughts didn't return to, or touch on, the unit or someone. After the reunion in New Orleans, I still thought back to Viet Nam, but this time it was a different, a more gentle view. Most of my questions as to "what ever happened to" were answered. I now knew that we were all sane, normal and doing well. Now it is like family, warm, comfortable and accepting.

I've rambled on enough. I would like to express the grati-

tude of all of us for those who have organized and helped with this year's reunion in Las Vegas. It was a job well done and all who attended enjoyed themselves. Those who have served on the Board of Directors and past boards, thank you, thank you very much!

I'd like to give a special thank you to a grandfather in Arizona, Steven Crabtree, for his efforts to memorialize our fallen brothers in stone at the Ranger Memorial in Benning...uniform: Class A, worn correctly and with pride, or suitable civilian attire. Crabs (sour for all you purists) is not giving up. He has pretty much finished with G Company and is not going to rest until all fallen Rangers are in stone. If you missed helping out the first time around, here is a second chance.

Again, I wish to thank all of you who have served the association in the past. I want you to know how important you are, and how much your effort is appreciated. Thank You, and looking forward to seeing you next year.

Jolly

P.S. I am not six feet + and 300 pounds. I am 6'6" and 275.

## SUA SPONTE SNAPSHOT

Yes, the answer to Sua Sponte's Snapshot is "Jolly".

Just think, "Buffalo", you were about that heavy in Nam. People sure have a hard time recognizing you since then!

# Vegas Reunion: The Second Time Around

By Frank Svensson

For us *old guys* with any memory cells left, that's a line from a song by Queen, I think. Anyway, Las Vegas turned out to be a great time for all who attended. While the numbers weren't great, we were an enthusiastic and close-knit crowd.

My personal take on this year's reunion is that, like a good ambush, it was very well planned and executed. The Aladdin went out of its way to make sure that we were happy and well taken care of. The hospitality room was large and well equipped with both food and drink. **Jammin' Jarhead** made his appearance and provided the usual great selection of music: everything from oldies to American Indian Pow-Wow music. I must say that the kabob to the strawberry cheese cake, it was totally enjoyable. To top it all off, a large group of Rangers sat until well into the night enjoying lies, cigars, and a cold beer. Thanks to all that made it such a good time for Carol and I.

By the way, this year's shirts are dynamite! They're designed to last a long time. Dark blue navy with an embroidered (not silk screened) patch. Those who were there were very enthusiastic about both the appearance and quality of these shirts. Order yours today!



Top photo, courtesy of Dennis and Percilla Nye, shows group



Without their support we wouldn't be here. (photo courtesy Nyes)

# LEST WE FORGET

by newsletter staff

One of the most important things we do as an organization is to take time during our Reunion to honor our Brothers who have given the ultimate sacrifice in serving their nation. Outside the Aladdin on green grass we did take time for services.

The Honor Guard from nearby Nellis Air Force Base did an outstanding job looking very *strict* as we did (once upon a time). Besides the Honor Guard members we were once again supported by their wives, family members, and friends. Jim McElreath presented prayer and service.

Jim is a member of our Company and the words and thoughts that he shared with those present were well appreciated. Jim is actively involved with Veterans Helping Veterans which is a non-profit Christian Outreach program. The publication he sent to newsletter staff is titled, *Point Man*. Should you want a copy of this publication write or call to:

Jim McElreath  
 E. 817 Providence  
 Spokane, Washington  
 99207  
 phone # (509) 482-4505



This top photo shows Memorial Services shared by Jim McElreath. (photos courtesy of Dennis and Percilla Nye)



Middle photo is a group of veterans who need a command order.



Judging from the hand salute command, "Chief" got us there.

(Memorial continued page 1)

their names and addresses and/or phone numbers. I want them to know that after all these years that there still are people who remember and also to invite them to the Memorial Service. I hope all of you can make it to Ft. Benning so that you each may witness the fruit of your generosity.

RANGERS lead the way!  
Crabs

Stephen C. Crabtree  
2823 East Norwood Street  
Mesa, Arizona 85213  
(602) 396 3783

*Editor's Note:*

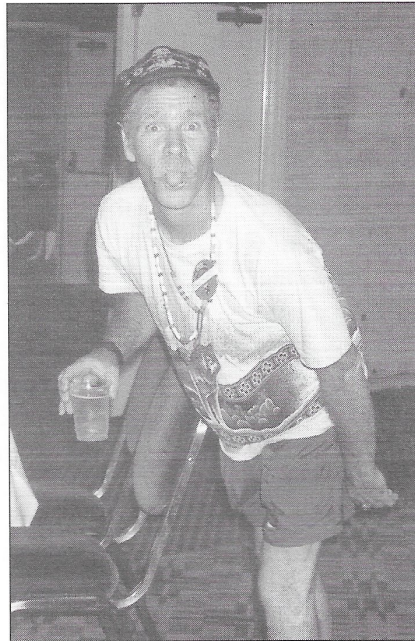
The Ranger Memorial suggests that Steve has been very successful in coordinating with several people in raising money for this project.

First, in getting McDonnell Douglas to match funds (dollar per dollar) in raising a total of \$7440.00. Half of that money was raised by anonymous members of our organization.

Secondly, in working with Colonel (ret) Frank Casey, representing the Ranger Memorial Foundation, Inc. Colonel Casey has gotten the services at Benning organized with Major General Hendrix, commanding general at Benning.

Benning Motel Update

Looking for a place to stay that will meet your needs? If so, contact "Boot" Corkan at 1-205-898-1081 for latest info!



O.K., Jarhead, so the beer is a little stale! (photo courtesy of Dennis and Percilla Nye)

**“Jarhead” keeps Jamming**

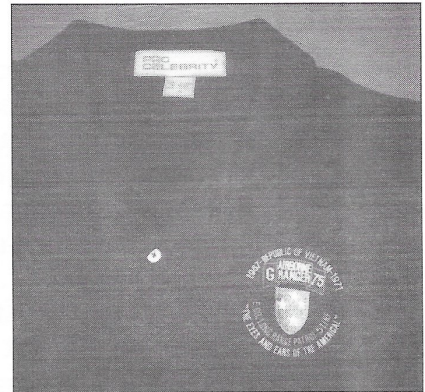
by newsletter staff

Rick Collier, better known as *Jarhead*, brought all of his musical gear, again, from Louisiana to entertain those of us who attended the Vegas Reunion for the second time. Rick has made a commitment in entertaining veteran groups in their activities and, needless to say, we are most fortunate in having him and his wide range of music for all to share.

Rick has not only consistently entertained us, but also for the likes of Merrill's Marauders, other LRRP-Ranger companies and for the Regimental Association.

A special thank you to you, Rick, for your talent and attitude. Oh yea, if the beer is warm, Jarhead, chances are it is stale or even worse.

**LRRP Gear**



The polo shirt above, worn proudly by members at the Vegas Reunion, is for sale for \$18.00 Please state size when ordering.

Also, the belt buckles previously listed for \$15.00 are now on sale for \$10.00.

New hats that were selling like hot cakes are available for \$15.00.

Talk about a super t-shirt depicting hilltop 1362 with Sua Sponte logo is listed at \$15.00. Please state size.

Also, in order to get the Sua Sponte newsletter, one might consider buying a year's membership at the cost of \$20.00.

Video tapes of *Who We Were* for \$30.00 are still available.

Please remit cash, check, or credit card (which would include its expiration date and credit card number) to:

LRRP Gear c/o Frank Svensson  
6964 Berkshire Drive  
Alta Loma, California  
91701

Editor's note: a complete list in graphics will be in the next issue.

5/1/02

## Chairman Report

by Al Stewart

Be careful about missing reunions, you can never tell what you will get elected to. Seriously, I am honored to serve this association and I thank you for the opportunity. Like most of you, I have enjoyed the conception, growth and successes of this organization with very little personal sacrifice. What we all know but can't fully fathom, is that these things don't just happen without a tremendous amount of effort on the part of a core group willing to carry the load for the rest of us.

Having attended four of the seven reunions and done some minor project work for the Board of Directors, I have witnessed, in a small way, the efforts of the dozen or so people who have carried this organization for the past several years. The entire membership is indebted to them for the work that has been done.

Everything has not always run smoothly; feelings have been hurt, egos damaged and misunderstandings caused some to simply walk away. We are made up of a group of strong, proud people- that is how we all got together in the first place! We will never all agree on anything. That is what makes the world go around and our country great. It's OK to disagree. Let's try to disagree openly and in a civil manor, let the majority rule, and go on to the next issue. If you have become disenchanted with the organization for whatever reason, get back in the fold, help us continue to improve as an association. I can't guarantee that everything will go your way, but we will listen, and if you are in the majority, you will prevail.

In order for the Officers and Board of Directors to know what members want from this organization, you must express yourselves. Please call or write an Officer or member of the Board. We want to represent each of you and not simply our own desires, difficult as that may be. We plan to include questionnaires of request for input in future newsletters. Please take the time to complete and return them.

At my second reunion, I came to the realization that you can't have a first reunion but once. The

excitement, wonder and gauntlet of emotions will reach their peak during that first time of seeing people that you haven't seen for 25-30 years, but you can't duplicate it every year. Don't let the fact that the "high" you got on your second reunion wasn't as good as the first. It can't be- won't be, but that doesn't mean it is any less important, and you will very likely be a part of someone else's first reunion high.

I have no personal agenda other than to serve this organization for the benefit of the members. If you ever think I'm doing otherwise, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
Al Stewart

## board minutes: 96

Substantial discussion was held regarding the distribution of the newsletter. Sua Sponte will be delivered to:

- a) all current dues paying members
- b) all delinquent members for a period not to exceed 12 months
- c) all members that demonstrate hardship ( to be re-confirmed yearly)
- d) friends of the association

e) all will be issued 1 newsletter in the Spring

association president: Charles Haussler

association vice-pres: Ralph Tildon

association secretary: Mike Chu

association treasurer: Frank Svennson

Board members:

Al Stewart, Danny Jacks Kirk Brookbush whose terms expire in 1997. Also, Jerry Schuster, Dave Moncada, Jim Connolly, and Steve Johnson whose terms expire in 1998

Treasurer: total fund in account \$6806.45; approved budget expense for 96-97 is \$2950.

Sua Sponte Editor: Steve Johnson

# Survey: membership feedback

by Mike Chu

**Please complete and send to:**  
Charles "Jolly" Haussler  
8845 S 1240 E  
Sandy, Utah 84094

\* In addition to the Co. G (Ranger) 75th Infantry Assoc., check those of the following veteran organizations that you presently belong to?

- Special Forces Association
- 75th Ranger Regiment Assoc.
- Americal Division Veteran's Assoc.
- American Legion
- Veteran of Foreign War

Others \_\_\_\_\_

\* How accessible and responsive do you feel the Association leadership is to your concerns, ideas and interests?

- very accessible and responsive
- moderately accessible and responsive
- unaccessible, not responsive

\* What kind of improvements do you recommend for the newsletter?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\* How important are the following Association membership services and activities to you? (rank from 1 to 10; 1= not important, 5= moderately important, 10= very important)

- reunions
- Sua Sponte newsletter
- membership handbook
- concession items
- representation with the 75th Ranger Association

\* Sua Sponte is the official newsletter of the Association. How would you rate the quality of this newsletter (rank 1-10); same rating as the top question

- information about Association
- feature stories
- graphic appearance

\* The Association has held a total of 7 annual reunions since 1990. How many of these reunions have you attended?

- never attended
- 1 reunion
- 2 reunions
- 3 reunions
- 4 or more reunions

\* How important are the following factors in your decision to attend an Association reunion? 1=not important, 5= moderately important and 10 is very important

- time of year
- distance
- selected city or local
- cost
- family schedule
- other friends attending
- other \_\_\_\_\_

\* Reunions have always been held over the 4th of July weekend. Is this a convenient time of year for you to attend a reunion?

- yes
- no
- doesn't matter

\* if reunions were not held over a 3 day weekend, would you be more likely or less likely to attend?

- less likely to attend
- more likely to attend
- doesn't matter

\* Association reunions are normally held at "Marriot" type hotels where room rates average about \$50 to \$60 per night. How important are hotel room rates and accommodation in your decision to attend a reunion?

- very important
- moderately important
- doesn't matter

\* If a future Association reunion were planned at a less expensive motel complex as opposed to a full-service hotel, would you be more or less likely to attend this reunion?

- less likely to attend
- more likely to attend
- doesn't matter

\* If future Association reunions were planned at a less expensive motel complex, would you be more or less likely to bring others important to you?

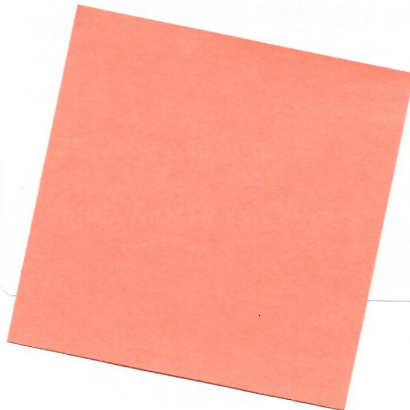
- less likely
- more likely to attend
- doesn't matter



# *Happy Holidays Rangers!*



**Sua Sponte**  
110 2nd Ave.  
Pacific, Washington  
98047



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