

63rd Infantry Division Association, USAR

#### President's Message

The 63rd Association President for 2004-05, COL David Ross, was unable to continue due to medical reasons. COL Lydia Collins who assumed the role of President for 2005-06 has used the opportunity to give the President's comments.

I am pleased to be elected the President of the 63rd Infantry Division Association for the upcoming year. The Association has a proud history and has served the nation, Southern California and the Active and Reserve forces for many years. It carries on the history and Traditions of a brave Infantry Division of WWII. I would like to make the coming year a year of dedication to building up the Association in membership and status.

The Association should enhance the tradition of the 63rd by incorporating the modern sacrifices of the 63rd soldiers in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan. The Association needs more younger members contributing to and becoming active in the meetings and the Association. This can only be accomplished by having members of the 63rd RSC and the 311th COSCOM joining our organization to continue the tradition of the Generation of WWII Veterans who saved America and the world. The newer soldiers are fighting in places that WWII Veterans never heard of. The 63rd Association could be a rallying point for men and women of this era.

The Association must be timely and appropriate for the troops of today. As COL Hoy discussed, it is Iraq and SWA that is important to the troops and the nation. And so, we must remember the past, but recognize the importance of the present and the future. Let us all strive to meet that goal and set the 63rd on a mission of dedication to the soldiers of 2005 who will continue the battles for freedom.

Lydia S. Collins

Lydia S. Collins

Annual Report 2005

# Officers of the Association

#### 2004 - 2005

President - Colonel David G. Ross Vice President- Colonel Lydia Collins Secretary - Lieutenant Colonel Donald L. Wirth Assistant Secretary - Sergeant Major Thomas Gorden, Jr. Treasurer - Major Raymond H. Edgerly

### Members of the Board of Governors

Major General Jerry J. Josten Lieutenant Colonel William J. Hodges Lieutenant Colonel Robert H. Smith Lieutenant Colonel James T. Wright Chief Warrant Officer 4 Layland A. Carson Sergeant Major Arnold Greenberg First Sergeant Herman McDonald

## Advisors to the Board

Colonel Charles J. McCleery Sergeant Major Howard B. Eighmy

# Counsel to the Board

Brigadier General Robert D. Upp

### **Past Presidents**

1/1966-8/1966 8/1966-5/1967 1967-1968 1968-1969 1969-1970	Lieutenant Colonel Noel B. Pattinson* Lieutenant Colonel Walter B. Kroener Captain William B. Kuntz Major Noah F. Modisett Lieutenant Colonel Noel B. Pattinson*
1970-1971	Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy S. Gozawa*
1971-1972	Major William T. Allen
1972-1973	Colonel Charles J. McCleery
1973-1974	Colonel Arthur T. Vikander
1974-1975	Lieutenant Colonel Durwood D. Hicks
1975-1977	Colonel Tommy R. Gilliam, Jr.
1977-1978	Major Howard T. Graber, Jr.*
1978-1979	Lieutenant Colonel Stanley T. Hoversten
1979-1980	Colonel James B. Price, Jr.
1980 - 1981	Chief Warrant Officer 4 Ernst H. Andreas*
1981-1982	Lieutenant Colonel Harold F. Pellegrin*
1982-1983	Lieutenant Colonel Irving C. Myers*
1983-1985	Colonel Thomas V. Chandler*
1985-1987	Colonel Charles J. McCleery
1987-1988	Lieutenant Colonel William A. Hodges
1988-1990	Colonel Albert K. Mendonca*
1990-1991	Lieutenant Colonel Donald L. Wirth
1991-1993	Colonel Milton I . Bremer *
1993-1993	Major Dale D. Hart
1993-1995	Lieutenant Colonel James B. O'Dowd
1995-1998	Sergeant Major Howard B. Eighmy
1998-1999	Lieutenant Colonel Earle D. Sweeney
1999-2001	Sergeant Major Howard B. Eighmy
2001-2003	Lieutenant Colonel Robert H. Smith
2003-2004	Lieutenant Colonel William A. Hodges
2004-2005	Colonel David G. Ross

### Members Emeritus of the Board of Governors

Colonel Noel B. Pattinson\* Colonel Thomas V. Chandler\* Lieutenant Colonel Irving C. Myers\* Major Howard T. Graber, Jr.\* Lieutenant Colonel William T. Hodges Lieutenant Colonel Harold F. Pellegrin\* Colonel Albert L. Mendonca\* Lieutenant Colonel Stanley Hoversten\* Lieutenant Colonel Fred E. Davidson Sergeant Major Howard B. Eighmy Colonel Charles J. McCleery Colonel James B. Price, Jr. Colonel Tommy R. Gilliam\* Colonel Arthur T. Vikander Captain William J. Martin\* Sergeant Major Charles Cavenee\* Colonel Milton I. Bremer\* Lieutenant Colonel James B. O'Dowd Chief Warrant Officer 4 George F. Murray Major Raymond H. Edgerly

\*Of Honored Memory

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#### 2005 Annual Meeting

The 39th Annual membership meeting of the 63rd Infantry Division Association was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Brea, CA. A uniformed Color Guard, from the Army ROTC Unit at Cal State University - Fullerton posted the Colors. FSG McDonald led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Chaplain Donald Forden gave the invocation. We then enjoyed a festive brunch. The food was excellent and no one went away hungry. There were sixty-eight members and guests in attendance.

After brunch, COL Michael Ewens introduced our guest speaker, Colonel James Hoy, Jr., Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff at the National Training Center at Ft. Irwin. He is a 1981 graduate of the University of Utah, commissioned in the Field Artillery. Colonel Hoy has served numerous tours in Germany among which he commanded a Paladin Bn. through a peacekeeping rotation in Kosovo. He has served with the 1st Calvary Division at Fort Hood, Texas and with CETCOM Forward Hdqts. in As Saliyah, Qatar.

His presentation was timely and detailed with videos showing all the aspects of training and briefing charts laying out various missions and objectives. Colonel Hoy explained that the previous training of armor to armor as was envisioned for fighting the Soviet Bloc has been modified greatly. There is some armor training that takes place on a limited scale for possible use in other conflicts with armor heavy aggressive nations. The main thrust of the NTC is to prepare small units for the military and civilian situations, which occur in the present conflict in Iraq and SWA (South West Asia).

The NTC employs 100s of Iraq-Americans as role players in a wide variety of situations. The troops have to deal with scenarios ranging from hostile armed villagers to village demonstrations to civil affairs activities to storming different types of Iraqi buildings in the configurations that exist in the battlefield. Huge underground tunnels run beneath the battlefield where insurgents can emerge, fire on US troops and then disappear. The role players speak Arabic which forces US commanders of small units to respond exactly as they would in Iraq or lose the opportunity for success. Videos showed the various situations with explosive results. It was a dramatic and highly informative presentation, which enabled the viewers to better understand the type of conflict and training necessary to survive in Iraq.

The Eagle Award went this year to SGM George Ichimura. George has been taking the pictures of the activities at our Annual Brunch Meeting. A Life Membership Certificate was presented to CW5 B. Earl Daniels.

MAJ Raymond H. Edgerly is not returning to the Board of Governors of the Association and received his Member Emeritus Certificate from the Board.

SGM Arnold Greenberg presented a list of nominees for 2005-2007 term on the Board. MG Jerry Josten, LTC William Hodges, LTC Robert Smith and FSG Herman McDonald will return to the Board for another two years. COL Alfred Diaz and MSG Ulric Grisby were elected for a two-year term. Nominations for President and Vice President were asked for and COL Lydia Collins was elected President and COL Albert Diaz was elected Vice President.

LTC Hodges and COL Ewens held the raffle. The meeting was adjourned at 1400 hours.

## **Committee Reports**

**Membership:** This past year, we gained 6 new members, and had a number of renewals. If you are not yet a life member, please consider becoming one. The cost is only fifty dollars, and the secretary would love to send a life membership card. As always, the effort to find and enroll new members continues. There are many eligible candidates out there, and all present members are asked to submit names of potential members to the membership committee.

CW4 Layland A. Carson, Chairman

**Treasurer**: For the calendar year 2004-2005, ending 20 April 2005, the balance in our bank account was \$4782.17. This compares with a balance of \$5134.96 as of this time last year. It is a significant improvement since the 2004 balance did not take into account the \$1833.58 to be withdrawn for the Annual Meeting. Our major expenses were for publications and mailing. The cost of the Annual Report for this year was \$1019.06 compared with \$1074.91 in 2004. Our income from Memorial and Sustaining Contributions was \$1270.00. A financial report is published and distributed at each Board meeting.

MAJ Raymond H. Edgerly, Treasurer

**Publications:** We continue to publish *The Blade* on a quarterly basis. We try with the limited space available, to inform the membership of the passing of our members, of the activities of the board of governors, and to present information on critical issues, as well as news of general interest. The annual report tries to summarize the past year's activities as well as provide the membership with a current roster of the members, photos and other interesting information. We maintain a mailing list of all active members and honorary members (240) who notify us of their current address and changes.

LTC Donald L. Wirth

### Contributions

The Board of Governors gratefully acknowledges the following contributions to the Association, which were made between 5 April 2004 and 20 April 2005.

Mrs. Sylvia Bremer COL Minor K. White LTC Robert Smith MAJ Raymond H. Edgerly CSM Charles Cavenee Mrs. Pamela Mitchell CW4 Mary F. Carter MG Theodore Paulson LTC Jerry Clary In memory of COL Milton Bremer
In memory of COL John King & COL Thomas Chandler
In memory of MG William Hixson & COL Ray Nepute
In memory of MAJ Dale Hart
In memory of CW4 Raymond Ross
In memory of LTC Don Mitchell
In memory of Minnie Spencer
In memory of MG Berwyn Fragner
In memory of BG William O'Brien

#### **Sustaining Contributions**

(In order of receipt)

COL Ralph Hall COL Jan Menning COL Abram Goldman CW5 B. Earl Daniels BG Darel R. Sievers COL William R. Seaver CSM Leo Schlocker SGM Howard B. Eighmy SGM George Ichimura CW4 Patrick Cleary COL Tom Allen COL Charles Rosenthal COL Floyd Brennen COL Paul Corriere BG Mike Schweiger COL Emmett C. Drennen MSG Uric Grigsby, Jr. CW5 Raymond Benson SGM Thomas Gorden, Jr. BG Robert Upp LTC Michael Schirm LTC William Hodges MG Robert Lame LTC Fred Davidson LTC Fred Davidson LTC Earle D. Sweeney ADM B.S. Sparks COL Richard E. Brewster



COL James Hoy Jr. presented with 63rd Infantry Division Association plaque by MG Jerry Josten

COL James Hoy, Jr. Guest Speaker Deputy Commander & Chief of Staff National Training Center at Ft. Irwin



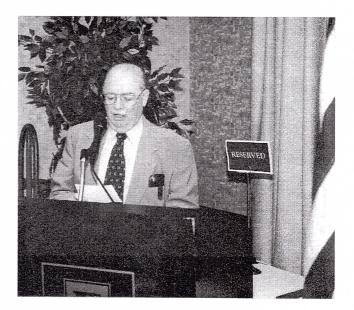


COL James Hoy, Jr., his son Colin Hoy & LTC Robert Smith



COL Michael Ewens introducing our Guest Speaker

SGM Arnold Greenberg introducing the Board Members





SGM Thomas Gorden, Jr. (Assistant Secretary)

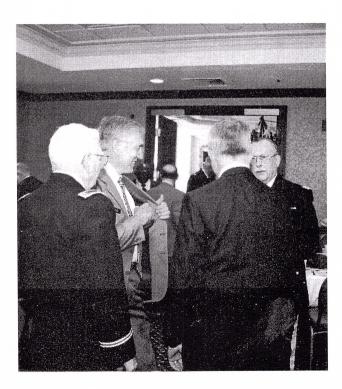
63rd Infantry Division Association, USAR



LTC Smith & MAJ Edgerly waiting to check in our members

CW4 George Murray, LTC Wesly Blasjo, LTC Don Wirth





MG Jerry Josten, MG Ted Paulson

63rd Infantry Division Association, USAR



COL Alfred Diaz, Mrs. Martha Diaz

CW4 Layland Carson, Mrs. Marcia Carson





Mrs. Jan Allen, COL Tom Allen

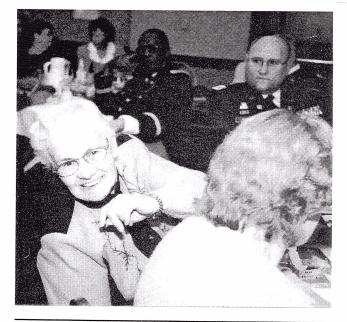
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MAJ James Helms, Jr., CW4 Raymond Ross, MSG Roberto R. Roman



MAJ Ray Edgerly, CW5 Raymond Benson



SFC Kay Fuller, COL Alfred Diaz

63rd Infantry Division Association, USAR



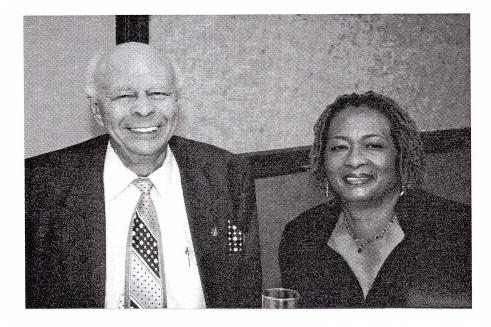
COL Charles Rosenthal, Synthia Rosenthal



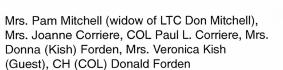
Marilyn Hamilton, CW4 Joe Hamilton, COL Tom Allen



LTC William Hodges, Mrs. Marion Hodges



FSG Herman McDonald, Mrs. Ernestine McDonald







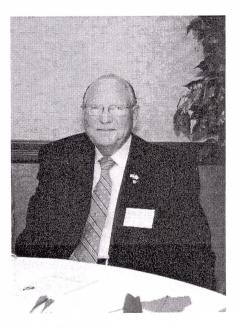
Mrs. Jenny Eighmy, SGM Howard Eighmy

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COL Michael Schirm

COL Emmett D. Drennen, Mrs. Jane Drennen

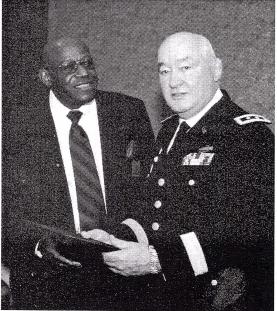


MSG Ulric Grigsby Jr., Ms. Jeanene Turner



EAGLE AWARD SGM George Ichimura (our photographer) receives the Eagle Award from MG Jerry Josten

CW5 B. Earl Daniels receives his Life Membership Certificate from MG Jerry Josten





#### **BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS**

MAJ Raymond Edgerly (Treasurer) completed over three consecutive two year terms as member of the Board. Presented by LTC Donald Wirth

63rd Infantry Division Association, USAR



BOARD OF GOVERNORS MG Jerry Josten, COL Alfred Diaz, LTC Robert Smith, LTC William Hodges, MSG Ulric Grigsby, FSG Herman C. McDonald

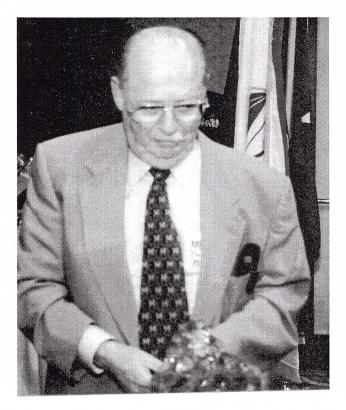


SGM Thomas Gorden Jr. & FSG Herman McDonald



COL Lydia Collins, new President of the Association

# **Raffle Winners**





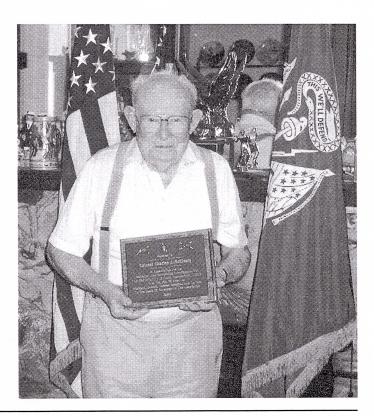
Grand Prize donated again by Mrs. Pam Mitchell, won by CW4 & Mrs. Murray



Annual Report 2005



COL McCleery receives a plaque for his support and dedication to the 63rd Infantry Division Association from LTC Hodges



Annual Report 2005

# Our Get Acquainted Party the Night Before the Luncheon



And Some Pictures Without Words . . .



. . Come and Join Us for Our Annual Meeting in 2006!

#### Whooze Nuze

**LTC Robert L. Smith** (One of our past Presidents) said that the past 14 months have been a pretty quiet one for us. My wife Dorothy has gradually lost the strength in her legs and can't travel comfortably.

She requires a lot of help to manage now. We did manage to take a trip to northern California over the Christmas holiday and it went smoothly.

Mostly we have enjoyed being at home. I still am on the Board of Governors of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Inf Div Association, USAR, and enjoy participating with this fine group of people.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Annual meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>, where Dorothy and I will be celebrating our 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary with our friends.

**CW4 George F. Murray Jr.** stated that from the pages of our life: George and Rosemary Murray- 2004.

If you had read about our family for 2003 you would know that we had some pretty sick children and grandnephew, Ryan, who had been hit by an SUV. I am glad to be able to tell you that they are all on the road to recovery, although for Ryan it will be a long, long time but with his attitude he will make it. Our daughter Pat, has come through her bout with cancer and her son, Robert is progressing after having had a stroke. Everyone's prayers have brought us through these trying times.

The year 2004 has brought great joy to all the family with the birth of one grandchild and three greatgrandchildren. With seven of our eight children, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren, living in Riverside we keep making the rounds of birthdays, anniversaries and graduations. As genealogists we keep busy digging up our ancestors.

We made our yearly trip back to where our roots are- Connecticut and Rhode Island where our families live, There we visited some old cemeteries. We followed an old map to a cemetery in Exeter, Rhode Island where some of my family is buried. It is located on the farm of Hal Morgan, way out on the back 40. We weren't quite ready for what we found. Hal was kind enough to lead the way through the brush and finally went back to the barn to get a cutter so he could cut his way through to the cemetery. For me it brought back memories of the jungles on Guadalcanal during WWII. We took some pictures and as we left Hal said to make sure we took a shower that night because the woods are loaded with ticks. He was telling us this as he put out his hand and showed us one. Needless to say we did as he said. From there we drove to Hampton, Virginia where we attended a Chapter Reunion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div Association. We were extremely happy to visit there, as we were able to visit with our granddaughter and her boyfriend who are in the Navy and stationed at Newport, Virginia.

In September we attended the National Convention of the 25<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. in Tucson, AR. We were surprised when we were recognized for all the many years of loyal service to the Association.

It has been a great year and it was wonderful to visit with old friends, buddies and relatives along the way

**Brig. Gen Robert D. Upp** (Staff Judge Advocate, 63<sup>rd</sup> Div.) Retired. GEN. Upp stated that during the past year Jan and I have taken a couple of cruises to the Pacific Islands, One to the North and the other to the South. From May 17 to June 11 we took the Pacific Princess from Honolulu to Osaka Japan, with stops at Midway, Majora, Guadalcanal, New Guinea, Guam, Saipan, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and Hiroshima.

I missed these during WWII. I was at Fort Lawton, Seattle, to ship out as a replacement but I drank too much one night, got sick, and missed a shipment to Guadalcanal. The next day I was on a boat to Adak in the Allusion and spent a year there before coming back to Camp Shelby, Ms. and going to Europe with the 65<sup>th</sup> Division.

We went to the South Pacific in February of this year. It started the end of January with a flight from San Diego to Santiago, Chile. After a few days there we took a bus ride to Valparaiso to board the MV Discovery. The cruise took 15 days to Tahiti, with stops at Robinson Crusoe Island, Easter Island, Pitcairn Island, and Bora Bora. Now we think that we'll stay home for a while.

Jane wonders why we take cruises when we live on the Ocean front. I like them because I don't have to do anything on board.

**Mrs.Ruth McKinney** (widow of COL John McKinney). Ms. McKinney wrote that about a year ago, she wrote to some one in Running Springs that her husband had passed away May 2, 2003. I also mentioned in that note that we use to see quite a bit of Dorothy and McCleery. I see McCleery's name in articles occasionally but I don't know if Dorothy is still OK. Say Hi to them for me. Sorry we lost track of those great folks.

Glad to hear some of the old group is still together. Good luck, R, McKinney. and the social activities the dancers do. We danced about 6 or 7 times a week. It was a very wet winter in AZ. as it was in CA, but we spent most of our time inside of the ballroom and let it rain. We took some side trips to Sedona, the Grand Canyon and to a Civil War battle reenactment at Picacho Peak State Park, AZ.

We are looking to this April when we return to CA and hope we will have the time to enjoy some of the clubs, the pool and golf course in Ocean Hills. We were too busy moving last year to get into the swing of this life style. We are less than a mile from Ray Edgerly's home.

I'm still on the Board Of Governors of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Inf. Div. Assn. USAR and enjoying attending the meetings.

**SGM Howard Eighmy** (3/27<sup>th</sup> Inf.) Retired. We are staying close to home these days due to our health. I have fond memories of our past travels. I want to tell every body to travel while you can.

We get out for frequent doctor appointments, trips to March Air Reserve Base Commissary and lunch a couple of times a week.

I enjoy working with the Board of Governor, mostly by phone, and I enjoyed seeing old friends at this year's annual meeting.

**COL Richard Brewster** (263<sup>rd</sup> Engr.Bn) Retired. We have had a pretty standard year. We attended the Engineer Officer Candidate School Association's (TEOCSA) annual Meeting in San Antonio and had a great time.

We visited the Alamo, Fort Sam Houston and Fort Hood (home of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, which had just returned from Iraq).We were briefed by the Division Engineer Battalion Commander, about the division's experiences in Iraq.

When we visited Fort Sam Houston, we had lunch at the Officers Club and heard a talk by B.G. Burkett, co author of the book Stolen Valor, which describes how the Vietnam Generation was robbed of its heroes and its history. Very enlightening. Our farewell dinner speaker was LTG Carl A. Strock, Chief of Engineers, Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who spoke about the future of the Corps of Engineers.

I was elected Commander of the San Fernando Valley Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars in July of 2003 and completed my tour in June 2004. This is an organization of active and retired military personnel that support 17 junior and senior ROTC units at the high school and college level. We present scholarships, certificates and medals to them and provide instruction in military subjects when requested. It is very inspiring to be working with these dedicated cadets.

The only other item of interest was a family reunion in Eugene, Oregon. Wow, you never realize how many relatives you have until you see a lot of them gathered in one place.

The gals really served up some great home cooking. We talked about a lot of memories and did a lot of catching up. Only one ominous note; I noticed that several of the older guys were wearing hearing aids and suspect that I am headed in the same direction. Oh well, sometimes being hard of hearing can be a blessing, if you know what I mean.

**MSG Ulric L. Grigsby Jr.** (311<sup>th</sup> COSCOM) Simi Retired. I spent the 15<sup>th</sup> of March to 28<sup>th</sup> of April aboard the USS Reagan, teaching for Central Texas College. The classes taught were, Introduction to Psychology, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1200-1400 and 1600-1800 hours. Child Growth and Development, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 08:00-10:00 and 14:00-16:00 hours.

Then I went back for the big cruise around South America, (the ship is to big for the Panama Canal). My classes ran from the 31<sup>st</sup> of May to 23<sup>rd</sup> of July and, I taught seven classes, introduction to Psychology, Personal Finance, Introduction to Business and Child Development.

I left home on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May, spent the night at the BOQ on the Norfolk Naval Base in Virginia. Then the next day got my briefing and signed the contract and went aboard ship with two other instructors. The 26<sup>th</sup> of May the ship was taken on stores etc. On the 27<sup>th</sup> of May we pulled out a little after 1000 Hrs.

The ship made port calls in, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, Val Paraiso, Chile and the final port was Callao, Peru, then on to San Diego. We anchored out and the next morning at daybreak, rushed through the St Magellan. Cleared it before sunset. It is 338 miles long and at some spots it is less than 1 mile wide. The only time the ship rocks was at the point where the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean meet.

The flight deck is 4 and <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> acres and standing on end it is taller than the Statute of Liberty. I gave my future bride to be 13 long stem roses and proposed to her on the quarterdeck after I gave her a tour of the ship. Watch TV in April, the USS Reagan's trip around South America will be shown.

A few months later, I was at sea again on the USS Boone in the Caribbean waters while the ship was chasing drug smugglers and I received Hazardous Fire/Imminent Danger pay for the months of Oct-Nov 04. While on this ship I taught 3 classes in Introduction and two reading classes. Most of the time was spent chasing smugglers and bobbing up and down on rough seas on this frigate. A couple of days we had 10-foot waves.

Altogether, I put in 6 months at sea last year and, I have a total of 2 years and 76 days at sea. That is a lot for a soldier.

**COLAlfred M. Diaz** (Commanding Officer, 6386<sup>th</sup> Reinforcement Training Unit (Logistics)). Retired. I am now retired from my civilian job, as well as the Army Reserve, and able to devote even more time to ensuring "a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security." The words in quotation marks are from the Congressional charter of the Reserve Officers Association of the United State (ROA), an organization in which I remain extremely active as a way of continuing to support the Armed Forces of the United States. I urge each of you to remain active in ROA, or to join ROA or the Reserve Enlisted Association (REA), which currently shares office space within the ROA Minuteman Memorial Building across the street from the US Capitol in Washington, DC.

My military service began in 1953, at the age of 13, when I joined junior ROTC at Austin High School in El Paso, Texas. When I joined junior ROTC I was issued a pair of brown shoes and a bottle of black dye. Hence I can claim that I got in on the tail end of the brown shoe Army.

While serving in Vietnam from August 1968 to August 1969, I was assigned as officer in charge of the US Element of the III Corps Combined Interrogation Center. Toward the end of my tour of duty in Vietnam, we received a prisoner of war who had served previously on the Navy side of the North Vietnamese armed forces before being sent south as an infantryman. This POW had been aboard one of the North Vietnamese PT boats that attacked a US Navy destroyer in the Tonkin Gulf in international waters, at night in 1965. From the lettering on the fantail of the destroyer, which he observed from a distance at night, he identified the destroyer as the USS Matlock. My conclusion was that it was the USS Maddox.

Hence let no one tell you that North Vietnamese PT boats did not attack the USS Maddox at night in 1965 in the Tonkin Gulf while in international waters.

**Rear Admiral B.S. Sparks** (Retired 1992, Still Volunteering) Still visiting my wife, Betty Sparks, in an Alzheimer's skilled nursing home, daily and feed her lunch. She is in her sixth year with Alzheimer's, wheel chair bound and not able to recognize.

Still working with ROA Board of Trustees and ROA building committee, Board of Director of a Bank, Alzheimer's Association, Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging, and many others.

Can't make the 63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Association luncheon, but I wish you all well.

**COL Minor K. White** (Commander Co C, 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry) Retired. Greatly enjoy living in the South. Been involved with re-modeling my home. I now know why they say the cost escalates on a remodel. What started out as two major projects has expanded to six. At least I am helping the Georgia economy.

I have been a member of the festival of art (Laguna Beach, CA.) for 45 years, still a member. Since I greatly enjoy art . I joined the Springer Opera house here in Columbus last year. They put on wonderful plays, every bit as good as one would see on Broadway.

I continue to enjoy working in my large yard, have put in 28 roses.

Had a couple of health issues a couple months ago, but feeling better

As always I send warm regards to all the members from good old, "Joe-Ja" best wishes Ya'll.

**COL Michael Schirm** (63<sup>rd</sup> Div Public Affairs Officers) Retired? Not yet. Here is my story.

For the past few years I have been attached to DOD, FEMA, now Homeland security. Low and behold when the Tsunami hit the South East Asia area Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> 2004, I received a summons to make a survey of the Tsunami damage that hit Thailand. Our good allies since the Vietnam War era.

We, five officers, were to make pre-arranged contact with the Thai government . The Thai government officials ,who were operating the survivors' camps, visited the Thai area where the Tsunami struck and left huge destruction and took over 100,000 lives. Our job was to view the destruction, take photos and learn from the Thai government what they will need to provide aid and help for the survivors. We visited several survivor camps for men, women and orphaned children. At one of these survivor camps, there were 1000 burial caskets filled with unidentified Europeans who were vacationing on the Island of Phuket, a resort area on the east coast of Thailand.

We listed and recorded stories of Thai survivors and how they were able to live through the Tsunami that hit their cities, villages and homes. After working Infantry Division Flag was there, as were the flags of all of the other divisions that participated in the freeing of those in the labor camps and death camps. The granddaughter of Gen. Eisenhower spoke, as did Laura Bush. Of course the Army Band and Color Guard were there too. The night before there was a dinner at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel with the guest speaker Gen Wesley Clarke. Survivors and Liberators also spoke. Very emotional. About 500 or so dinner guests. I knew I had to do it soon, because I am getting along in years. My wife Margaret and I are in good health. No problems. Yes, I am still working. I get paid every Monday. Not a bad situation.

Let's take a moment to say *thanks* to **General Josten** for all of his support in doing all of our printing of the Blade, Programs, Invitations and our beautiful annual.

Thanks again to all of you, we again thank you for your input into the Whooze Nuze.

## Membership 2005

LTC Fred W. Aberle LTC Edward E. Ahigren COL William T. Allen COL Andrew D. Amerson. Ms Debra A. Farkas Anton Mrs. Jerry W. Asher Mrs. Donna Barber CPT Edward H. Barr Mrs. Carl P. Bechdolt CW4 Haskell R. Beck LTC Herbert Becklund Mrs. Charles C. Bennett CW4 Raymond Benson SP4 Richard D. Beougher LTC Kenneth A. Bishop MG Stephen C. Bissett LTC Wesley D. Blasjo COL John M. Bodley Mrs. Milton I. Bremer COL Floyd M. Brennen COL Richard E. Brewster LTC Earl R Brooks CPT Ulysses G. Brown Mr. Steven P. Budassi, Sr. SFC Robert A. Campbell CW4 Layland A. Carson SFC Steven L. Carson CW4 Mary F. Carter Mr. Stephen W. Cavenee Mr. Michael Cellura CW3 Farrell J. Chiles LTC Charles H. Clark LTC Ira Clary CW4 Patrick J. Cleary COL Lydia Collins COL Michael A Cornwell COL Paul L. Corriere LTC John J. Coveney COL Roger W. Cresswell MG John T. Crowe CW4 B. Earl Daniels MSG Francis David LTC Fred E. Davidson COL Alfred M. Diaz COL Larry V. Diehm Mrs. Salvador H. Dippollet LTC Edward D. Doughty CW3 James C. Doughty

15615 29th Drive SE 891 S Walnut St #79 6052 Hackers Lane P. O. Box 554 1310 Gonealles Road Address Unknown 2592 W. 235th Street P.O. Box 1194 2856 Fidler Avenue 2777 W. Ashlan Avenue 40576 Calle Terra Address Unknown 3083 Cardamon Street 13434 Alcott Way Address Unknown 23312 Castlerocke 14130 Descanto Drive 1384 Fitch Way 4922 Fulton Avenue 13206 Wimberly Sq. #175 4318 Jacaranda Avenue 120 The Village #140 3852 Cloverdale Avenue 752 Roebling Avenue 5695 Los Palos Circle 28535 Jenny Lane Picacho E-17 Street 9621 Cimarron St. 1891 N. Lincoln Streeet 1221 N. Isabel Street 24 Oak Cliff Drive P.O. Box 61225 2334 Sunny Point Street 2227 West Farlington St. 10424 Faywood Street Address Unknown P.O. Box 211240 4603 Park Adelfa Address Unknown 3939 W. School Avenue 5650 Allendale Drive 2025 Ann Marino Avenue 1217 Sunrise Ridge Drive 1254 Camino Del Sur 23582 Los Grandes Address Unknown 5990 Wilhoff Lane Address Unknown

Mill Creek, WA 98012-4862 Anaheim, CA 92802-1703 Agoura Hills, CA 91301-1410 Big Bear Lake, CA 92315-0554 Simi Valley, CA 93063

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Los Alamitos, Ca 90720 Riverside, CA 92518-2805 Bellflower, CA 90706-2622 Maple Grove, MN 55311-2712 West Covina, Ca 91790-5026 Rosemead, Ca 91770-0399 Fallon, NV 89406-2815 Los Angeles, CA 90002-3546 Leander, Tx 73641-8504

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Bakersfied, Ca 93301-5908 Rancho Palos Verde, CA 90275 Harbor City, CA 90710-1802 Salt Lake City, UT^ 84121 Alta Loma, CA 91737-7816 Orlando, FL 32825-8081 Sammamish, WA 98074 Rebhoboth Beach, DE 19971

Pine Mountain Club, CA 93222 Bellingham, WA 98226-7185

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10646 Samoa AvenueTujunga, CA 91042-1521305 Dochan CircleMontebello, CA 90640-26491223 Cindy LaneCleburne, TX 76031-6634P.O. Box 59281Los Angeles, CA 90059-08216000 Garden Grove Blvd Apt 340 Westminster, CA 92683-19453130 Peck Avenue #8San Pedro, CA 90731

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Los Angeles, CA 90002-3253 Orange, CA 92867-8416 Pasadena, Ca 91104-2636 Bakersfield, CA 93306-4563 Los Angeles, CA 90049 Monrovia, CA 91016-1407 San Dimas, CA 91773-3843 Villa Park. CA 92861-4309 Blue Jacket, OK 74333 Sherman Oaks, CA 91403-1642 Burbank, CA 91501-1129 Torrance, CA 90505 Sun City, CA 92586

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