



THE BLADE



A Newsletter of the 63d Infantry Division Association, USAR

Volume 19

Winter 2014

Number 2

Presidents Message

Let me start out by inviting everyone to join us at our Annual Meeting on April 27th returning to the Fullerton Hotel. In addition to an opportunity to see old friends (which is really why we have the meeting) we have what I think should be an interesting program on a new aspect of life in the Army Reserve that was not there when most of us served. Colonel Steve Mogan USA Ret. who some may know from when he was the G3 for the 63d RRC/RSC or when he was with one of the subordinate units will present a briefing on "Defense Support of Civilian Agencies and the Army Reserve". Steve is the Chief of Operations for the Defense Coordination Element, Region IX headquartered in the Bay Area. More and more the Army Reserve is doing things that we thought only the National Guard did.

You may be wondering "what's the status of the merger with the WWII 63D Infantry Division Association?" Things have slowed down since you voted to allow the merger. It seems that the WWII organization has been overwhelmed with illnesses and the passing of key members who were the leadership of their association. As a result they are struggling to reach their membership via the continuation of their newsletter. This may be for the good as the membership of our two organizations are very different. As you know our group is made up of those who served in an Army Reserve unit. With the passage of time, the WWII organization membership is now predominantly the kids or even the grandkids of the Soldiers who served in the 63D Infantry Division in

WWII. We have no idea how many of this second or third generation actually served in the military. This difference in perspective may not make for a good marriage so we are being cautious in proceeding with a merger. We will always have one thing in common with this group and that is to insure that the deeds and accomplishments of those who served in any of the 63Ds various designations are not lost as time passes.

As many of you may know we have an extensive collection of photos and other historical items which is now housed at the 63D RSC at Moffett Field. Recently I received an email from Vicki Jaeger in which she explained that her father-in-law served in the 63D Infantry Division, USAR somewhere around 1955 and that he was discharged in 1963 as a Sergeant 1st Class. SFC Jaeger passed away in February 2012 and his family found in his things a 33rpm LP record entitled "63D Infantry Division Band, U.S. Army Reserve" which they have donated to our Association. I could not listen to this record as I like many others no longer have a turntable. I am grateful to MS Jaeger for not simply disposing of this little treasure and would like to thank her for this gift.

I received this message in an email from Colonel Rick Garza USA Ret. and would like to pass it on to our membership:

Aggressive Skin Cancer from Agent Orange Exposure

In the spirit of "taking care of soldiers", please pass this to anyone you know who was

deployed in-country during the Viet Nam war. Encourage them not to wait to see their doctor and/or the VA until it's too late. It is my understanding that the VA now considers service on the ground in the RVN (and adjacent countries) to be presumptive of potential agent orange exposure and related illnesses.

Thanks,
Rick

http://www.upi.com/Health_News/2014/01/29/Agent-Orange-exposed-Vietnam-veterans-higher-skin-cancer-risk/UPI-78971391021104/?spt=rln&or=2

Hope to see as many of you in April.

Chuck Ebner, BG (USA Ret.)

IN MEMORIAM

(For full obituary, go to www.63rdinfdivusar.com)

COL Charles Estermyer Nov. 9, 2013

LTC Earl B. Young November 20, 2013

John Noyes Tappe January 6, 2014

California VETERAN License Plates

California VETERAN license plates are back by popular demand! Drivers now have the option of ordering either VETERAN or HONORING VETERANS license plates. Both plates can be customized with the distinctive military branch or veterans service organization logo of choice. That is great news for both veterans and veteran supporters. VETERAN plates can be reserved now but are not immediately available. According to the new law that authorized the plates,

CalVet must collect and hold pre-paid applications until 7,500 are received before DMV will actually produce the VETERAN plate. Once that threshold is crossed, DMV will produce the plates and take responsibility for processing future applications.

To purchase either specialty license plate, go to

www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/VeteransPlate.aspx.

You may also call CalVet at 877-741-8532 toll free to request a VETERAN or HONORING VETERANS specialty license plate application be mailed to you.

The 48th Annual Meeting on Sunday, 27 April 2014

63rd Infantry Division Association
(USAR)

invites you to attend

The 48th Annual Sunday Brunch
of the 63d Infantry Division Association
(USAR)

Place: **The Hotel Fullerton**, (formerly Crowne Plaza Hotel), 1500 South Raymond Ave. Fullerton, CA 92831 (Raymond off-ramp from the Riverside (91) Freeway in either direction [the hotel is visible from the freeway]. Turn north on Raymond. Turn right into the hotel just before the railroad tracks.)

Date: **Sunday, 27 April 2014**

Time: **Social Hour – 1100, Buffet – 1200** hours

Attire: **Dress blues with white shirt and four-in-hand tie, or business suit**

Speaker: **Colonel Steve Mogan USA Ret.**
Chief of Operations for the Defense Coordination Element, Region IX

Subject: **“Defense Support of Civilian Agencies and the Army Reserve”.**

1. Complete the attached Reservation Form (on Last Page) and mail it to the Treasurer, **LTC Beverley A. Houghton, 11307 Martha Ann Drive, Los Alamitos, CA 90720**. The price is **\$45.00 per person**. Please send your reservation in by Saturday, **19 April 2014**. You can help us keep the 63rd Inf Div Assn going by adding a tax deductible contribution.

2. Tell your “Whooze Nuze” story on the separate sheet of paper and Mail it to LTC Donald Wirth, 4554 Cordoba Way, Oceanside, CA 92056 or e-mail it to dlw4@juno.com.

Please send as much information as you can. This is one way to preserve the history of our membership. The SUSPENSE DATE for “Whooze Nuze” is 1 May – After that date it will be pure luck to get your story in.

3. Join us Saturday evening, 26 April 2014 at The Hotel Fullerton, formerly the Crowne Plaza Hotel. It’s an opportunity to visit together in a relaxed atmosphere, dine together, and sleep in late Sunday morning.

Several special room rates (single or double occupancy) are available at The Hotel Fullerton (as of mid-January 2014) for Saturday, 26 April 2014. The lowest lodging rate is Advance Purchase (\$87.20, pay upon reservation, nonrefundable). The next lowest rate is State Government (\$90, for state employees). Next is Senior Discount (age 50 or more)/AAA Discount (\$92.65). Then Best Available without Breakfast (\$109.00) and Best Available with Breakfast (\$119.00). The Government/Military Rate is \$133.00 (based on the GSA lodging allowance for the Los Angeles area). All rates are plus taxes and subject to change. If you use the hotel’s internet website, www.hfullerton.com, indicate your check-in date, number of nights, and number of guests, then click on “Book Now,” and on the next screen click on “View More Room Only Rates.” Or call the hotel directly at (714) 635-9000 and ask for Reservations.

FILL



63d INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, USAR
 4554 Cordoba Way
 Oceanside, CA 92056-5102
 E-mail: dlw4@juno.com
 Web Site: www.63rdinfdivusar.com

NON-PROFIT
 UNITED STATES
 POSTAGE PAID
 ANAHEIM, CA
 PERMIT # 6010

Address Service Requested



**63d Infantry Division, USAR
 48th Annual Meeting -- 27 April 2014**

Name _____ Grade _____

Phone () _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Please reserve _____ places @ \$45.00 (deadline 19 April 2014)\$ _____

My contribution to keep the 63d Inf. Div. Assn. going \$ _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Make check payable to: 63d Infantry Division Association, USAR Total Remitted \$ _____

Mail to , LTC Beverley A. Houghton, 11307 Martha Ann Drive, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

I will join the group gathering on Saturday evening, 26 April 2014, at the hotel? YES _____ NO _____