

This is the last newsletters, before we start to mail new application for membership. To save the association money, we would like it done mostly by email. If you have not responded, we are looking to verify your mailing address and phone number. 325 of you have given me their information thank you. This is less than half of our current membership. If you receive a membership application please fill it out and return it as soon as possible.

As of 1/21/13 active members stand 662. We have 111 on your memorial page. We added a 3 new members this month Michael Laurent (Qm2, 64-67), and Jeff English (73-75, Gmt 3); Peter Lucason (MM3; 60-62) Please welcome them and I have their information for anyone who wishes to contact them. We added 5 to the Memorial Page this month. John R. Delanoy (62-64; MM3), Dory Dale Leedy (MM3;62), Frank C Mcquilliams (PNC,63) Richard L Brys (MM2; 62). Ben L Sanes (64-67 MM3) Peter Lucason membership was from a lead by JJ. Hogue. A lot of us have friends who we have keep in touch with who are not members. We are asking you to contact them and get them to join us, See notes received below for death announcements.

From The President' s Desk

Bob Sheard has been working very hard trying to update our membership list by trying to confirm names and addresses of our members in order to streamline the members list. Some of our members have moved, changing their addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and never notified our secretary. Bull's information may not be up to date. So please, if you make or have made a change, let Bull know.

During our searches for former shipmates and Bull's endeavor to confirm his information, we sometimes discover that some of our former shipmates have passed away, which is the case this month. We discovered that members John Delanoy, Ben Sanes and Frank McQuilliams recently passed away. While searching for shipmates we also learned that Richard Brys and Dory Dale Leedy passed away some years ago. It is unfortunate that the latter two men never discovered the association and missed the opportunity to reconnect with their old shipmates. None the less, they will be missed.

If you ever wondered what happened to an old buddy, who is not a member, get on your computer and try to locate him. There are plenty of on-line resources that can help you do this. It takes a digging at times, but in the end it would be very rewarding to see an old chum at a reunion or even talk to him on the phone.

Some of you may wonder why information has not been forthcoming about the 2014 reunion in San Francisco. Ralph Draeger continues to work on it. It is difficult for him, not to mention expensive, to travel to San Francisco and work on putting together the reunion, as Ralph lives in southern California. So please be patient.

We hope to get pictures from the 2012 Reunion posted on the website soon. I have been putting names to the faces in the group photo and should be wrapping that up shortly. I still have a couple of individuals who have not responded to e-mails I have sent them. We know they were there! When the group photo is posted on the website, please check the photo and if you have been misidentified, please let me or our webmaster, Rob Dege, know so we can make the correction.

The last bit of news is about the challenge coins. I believe the final design has been set. Once the design for the 2014 Reunion pin has been finalized, we will submit an order for both to "Pinsville." By placing both orders together, we will get a nice discount. Once the challenge coins are received, they will be available in the store.

JJ

From your Reunion Coordinator

I'm going up to S.F. Dec. 11th-13th to have a face to face meeting with the hotel sales manager. We'll bang out the rooms, hospitality rooms, meals and everything associated with contracts needed by Best western and RSE Association. Will also be talking with tour people, bus services needed, dinner in the city, and rental car agency. My goal is to have as many hard copy contracts for JJ as possible when I get home. I also got info. for the USS Hornet in Alameda. Haven't heard from Tom re; R.V. parking.

Reunion dates may 28, 2014-jun 1, 2014

Wolf

Web Site change

We added something to our web site under ship information.

Secretary Desk

I am asking for any leads of shipmate that you are in contact with who are not members of the Edwards Association. We have 325 members, who have verified their information on our membership list. Again thank you for your help, we were able to verify 66 records. We corrected 13 address changes, 13 phone numbers, 3 deaths of members, 5 email address changes. If you have not verified your address and phone number please take a few minutes and email me at bullcs3@hotmail.com . Have sent out 38 letters this month, for membership lead and to verify association information

Again thank you to all shipmates that responded to the records verification updates.

Treasures Report

December 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Beginning balance \$4,494.97

Income 86.00

Expenses 0.00

Ending balance \$4,580.97

Jim

Edson

The Edson is now located in Saginaw Michigan. They began a Naval Museum with a F. Sherman class Destroyer for Public Viewing.

Here is a link to an article about it. <http://www.ussedson.org/> and article <http://www.navytimes.com/news/2012/08/ap-edson-future-museum-centerpiece-080712/>

Memory Lane

This is a new Portion of the Edwards' newsletter. Would like input from everyone and does not need to be a large story. Only thing is tone down language and we do not want to adverse effect a shipmate or his family. It time to break out your old war stories.

Ship's Store

If you have not visited the ship's store please do so. Need a new Edwards' ball cap?

Missing shipmates

None to report at this time

Newsletter Notes

For those who are having trouble at the web site trying to access the membership

Sign in is the word member

The free guestbook service that was used on the website was discontinued by the vendor. For the interim, the guestbook buttons have been removed from the website. We are currently looking for a suitable replacement. Once we locate one, the buttons will be restored.

Thank you,

www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/ships/list.asp (united States Department of Veteran Affairs)

If you served on the ship (Feb 28- March 1 1969). You were possibly exposed to agent orange. Contact V.A. with any questions

I am writing this on behalf of my husband Gary Pat Clifford who served on the USS Richard S Edwards DD950 from August 1963 thru November 1966. We have proof the ship was in the Tonkin Gulf at the time he served. What we are asking, does anyone have proof or remember the planes flying over spraying Agent Orange? I

have been looking on the internet and we know some of the ships are listed as having been exposed to Agent Orange. I can't seem to find the DD950 on any list.

What he needs to prove is that the ship was called to the inland waters for fire support. He is looking for the dates and the name of the river that this took place in. He has some health issues and he knows that he was exposed to Agent Orange.

If anyone has any information that would be helpful we would certainly appreciate if you could send it to us.

We have already received the ships log from the National Archives.

On 1/15/13 while making phone calls to help update our records, I called John Delanoy's home and talk to who I believed was his wife. She told me that John had died about two years ago of a sudden heart attack. He was look forward to seeing his shipmates at the last reunion when it struck. We will be sending her this copy of our news letter. She was told that John will be added to our memorial page to be with his shipmates.

On 1/23/13 while calling for records updates. I called the home of Ben Sanes and was able to talk to his Mother, she informed me that Ben had passed away about a month and a half ago. She was also told that Ben will be added to the memorial page to be with his shipmates.

Dory Dale Leedy(MM3), Richard L Brys (MM2) deaths were found out by J.J. Hogue while searching for new leads for membership.

Frank C. Mcquilliams (PNC) Born Sept. 29, 1931 died July 26,2008 San Diego Ca., interment El Camino Memorial Park. Nothing was mention for cause of death

I am having rough time with my V.A. claim does anyone have information about the ships drydock times during the years 74,75. Looking for what was done during these times.

Thanks Glen Estes

I was lucky in having a couple of State Senators assisting me and Capt. Gary Bair from the Edwards DD90 wrote a great letter in reference to my case that I believed helped me in my claim.

This past month I won a partial claim for Agent Orange I am now up to 30 % disability and still fighting them for the Hypertension claim, only took 4 and a half years, it makes me sad for my Government what they are putting our veterans through..., take care

Yes Bob you can put my info into the newsletter

Charles Richard Sheetz

Subject: Warning from the VA

WARNING to Vets---Not a VA unit

From the US Department of Veterans Affairs.

Please disseminate widely. The Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has requested dissemination of the following : An organization called **Veterans Affairs Services (VAS)** is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. "This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way. The organization described itself at its web page at: <http://www.vaservices.or/g/us/index.html> VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our Legal Counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services. In addition, GC requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any additional information to Mr. Daugherty at the address below. Michael G. Daugherty, Staff Attorney, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of General Counsel

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