

**We have 437 who verified their information thank you. If you receive a membership application please fill it out and return it as soon as possible.**

As of 2/08/13 active members stand 662. We added 1 new member this month David Trigg (74-76; BM3). Please welcome him and I have his information for anyone who wishes to contact him. We have 116 on your memorial page. We added to the memorial page Raymond Petersen ( 58-61, Sk2), Robert Mortimer (62-66, Stg3, ), Charles Head (MM2, 71-73), Albert Paston (62-66; MMCS), Carl Mac Pherson (58-62 FT2) See notes below for their information. A lot of us have friends who we have kept in touch with who are not members. We are asking you to contact them and get them to join us.

## **From The President' s Desk**

The challenge coins have been ordered and the order should be completed in about four weeks. Each coin will come with a hard plastic case. It will probably take an additional several weeks to get them displayed in the ship's store and available for purchase. We placed an initial order of one hundred coins. They will probably sell fast so don't be left out. To place an order, go to the ship's store page on our website and printout the order form. Fill out the order form and send it to Jim Kress, along with your check. Once your order is received, Jim will forward your order to Todd Fowler for processing.

Rob Dege will soon be putting the group photo from New Orleans on the website. For those in the picture, please check to see if we have the right name with the person in the picture. If the name does not match, please contact me and I will forward the correction to Rob. There were two individuals who remain unidentified in the picture, so please let me know who you are, and where you are located in the picture. Hopefully, I got it right.

JJ

## **From your Reunion Coordinator**

Reunion dates may 28, 2014-jun 1, 2014

Wolf

## Web Site change

We are adding something to our web site under ship information history. Looking for some, who was on board the Edwards when it was hit by the carrier to add something about it also to this portion of the ship's info. Please contact me if you wish to do the write up

## 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 437 members, who have verified their information on our membership list. We were able to verify 79 records this newsletter. We corrected 12 address changes, 13 phone numbers, 13 email address, 3 deaths, 7 letters were returned not able to forward. If you have not verified your address and phone number please take a few minutes and email me at [bullcs3@hotmail.com](mailto:bullcs3@hotmail.com). We also sent out 9 letters, for membership lead and to verify association information for non email members. Again thank you to all shipmates that responded to the records verification updates.

## Treasures Report

January 1, 2013 - January 31, 2013

Beginning Balance \$4,580.97

Income 0.00

Expenses 147.50

Ending Balance \$4,433.47

Jim

## Memory Lane

Since being off of work Nov. 1 of last year recovering from surgery, I can truly say I have not watched more than 20 minutes of news. I am tired of listening to what the news leader want you to hear and what they want you to believe.

This space is for our memories, but this time we would like you to remember two falling heroes. Darrell (shifty) Powers was a member of Easy Company 101 Airborne, who most of us met the first time as one of the soldiers being interviewed on the HBO series Band of brothers. As far as I tell there was no mention of his passing. A email came through sent by Albert Hyde of the association. His death was 17 June 2009 and he never met Chuck Yeager. I found a web site <http://darrellshiftpowers.com/> which has his story. Please take a few minutes to read and to honor him.

The second believe it or not is an actress, her name is Martha Raye sent by Dale Prescott. Born Margy Reed in August 1916 she appeared on stage for the first time at the age of 3 with her parents and made her first film appearance in 1934. She was a member of the USO during World War 11, Korea, and Vietnam often going in harms way to entertain the troop despite her fear of flying. On Nov. 2, 1993 she received from President Bill Clinton the Presidential Medal of Freedom for service to her country. You can read the citation on Wikipedia along with her entire story. Martha died Oct. 19, 1994 in Los Angles and is buried at Fort Bragg, North Caroline with full military honors.

## Ship's Store

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

## Missing shipmates

**Will be waiting on this portion until April to report on those who are no longer a member of the Edwards Association, but will only be found on the Crew List and the reason they were dropped.**

## Newsletter Notes

**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](http://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.**

**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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information. If you have received this message in error, please delete this e-mail and all files transmitted with it from your system and immediately notify the sender by return e-mail. Thank you.

Going thru our records found a Raymond Petersen from Marysville, Wa . Who was born Jan 13, 1934 and died Oct. 21, 2011. Last known address on our records was Marysville Wa.

Going thru our records also found Robert T. Mortimer from Dallas, Ga. Who was born Feb. 22, 1942 and died Nov. 26, 2008. Last known address on our records was Dallas Ga.

Sad news, we lost Charles Head, Wed., died in a car accident. He lived in O.K. with his wife of 41 years, Francis. Charles was on the Edwards when we went to Nam. on 72 cruise. Was a snipe, hung around with Huckabey (Busher). Charles and Francis were at the Nashville reunion. Charles was the Secretary of State for the Cherokee Nation, and was held in high regard. Dignitaries from all over the nation were there to pay their respects. The efforts to support the Head family with the pictures from the reunion, made for a very proud day for those who knew him from his Navy days. Greg Huckabey, John Goodrich, Ron Able, and I thank you. As they say, "BRAVO ZULU"...the Edwards' spirit lives on. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Wolf

There was a problem with Albert Paston's email address, a letter was sent to find out the problem. Mary Paston was kind enough to send us a letter that her husband had died 12/08/2011. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Bull

There was a problem with Carl Mac Pherson email address so a letter was sent to find out the problem. His wife was kind enough to inform us that Carl had passed away on 12/07/2012 of cancer. He was cremated and placed at Fort Rosecrans in San Diego. Our thoughts and prayers also go out to his family

Feb 2, 2013 at 6:45 PM, <[EACAclerFL@aol.com](mailto:EACAclerFL@aol.com)> wrote:

I'm trying to get some information regarding the USS Edwards' activities in Vietnam during my tour which was from 1970-72. Could you provide me with this information or direct me to a good source that supports our efforts to support the war effort off the coast of Vietnam. Please send any reply to [grizzlee1950@aol.com](mailto:grizzlee1950@aol.com). Thanks.

Sherrill L. Swinney