

**We have 508 who verified their information, thank you. If you receive a membership application please fill it out and return it as soon as possible. We are starting to let you know about information on the next reunion. It will be found in the president portion of the newsletter. We have dropped 6 members in this newsletter from our membership list. We had no current information on them. See reunion Coordinator section for tour info**

**“The challenge coins are now available in the ship’s store!”**

See President desk for information

As of 2/08/13 active members stand 634 (508 who have verified their info and 126 waiting for response).

We have 121 on your memorial page. Added to the memorial page. Richard Law;The Edwards’ First Commanding Officer

See John Titus note below in comments section. Thank you John for the note (bull)

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.

Retirement Ceremony for CAPT Gerard A. Slevin to be held on 28 June 2013, 1300, Davis Conference Center Auditorium w/Reception to follow. Captain Slevin was a ( RM1,81-82) while on board the Edwards. Thank you for service

## **From The President’ s Desk**

I finally received the challenge coins that hopefully, everyone has been waiting for. We ordered one hundred coins. Each coin is 1 ½ in diameter, specially coated to inhibit tarnishing and sealed in a round, hard plastic case. The price is \$10.00 per coin and that price includes shipping.

The coins will be available in the ship’s store shortly. As with other items available in the ship’s store, please use the order form that can be down loaded at our web site. Once you have completed the order form, mail it along with your cash or check to Jim Kress. Once Jim receives your order, he will forward the order on and your coin(s) will be shipped. If for some reason you cannot download the order form, a short letter will suffice. So keep an eye on the ship’s store for the coins.

The 2014 Reunion in San Francisco is drawing closer. Ralph Draeger and Lee Baly are in the process of finalizing everything and we should be able to post the registration form and a list of activities on the website soon.

The reunion dates are Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. You may make your hotel reservations at this time. The room rates are as follows:

\$134.40 per night, tax included, for double occupancy.

\$145.40 per night, tax included, for triple occupancy.

\$157.39 per night, tax included, for quad occupancy.

Price includes breakfast each morning.

The hotel has agreed to extend the cost of rooms to those who wish to arrive earlier than the scheduled dates of the reunion and also after the conclusion of the reunion. We have 85 rooms set aside for us and if we need to have more rooms made available, that might be a problem, so reserve early. When making your reservation, be sure to give them our code of "RSEDWARDS, MAY 2014." Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-722-7141.

Just to let you know, Ralph Draeger has firmed up the events for the Thursday evening dinner at Neptune's Restaurant on Pier 39, as well as the Saturday night dinner/business meeting at the hotel. The dinner at the hotel will be Asian cuisine and the food manager is adding two additional entres at no cost. They are really bending over to make sure we are going to have a goodtime. Meanwhile, Ralph is waiting for a contract from Neptune's. He knows what the costs will be so for both so now we can set our registration cost.

I hope everyone is doing well. We sold 14 ship's coins so far.

JJ Hogue

## **From your Reunion Coordinator**

Reunion dates may 28, 2014-jun 1, 2014, see president's notes for hotel information. If you are planning to go to the reunion, please consider making your room reservation soon. Do not wait for the last moment there might not be a room available. Will start informing you of rooms left of the 85 that are available in our monthly newsletter. See information on hotel attached. Limited number of microwave are also available upon request first come first served. Hey Guys, These are the rates. double, triple and quad. Add 10% tax+\$3.50 surcharge per night. Mention R.S. Edwards, may 2014. **Cut- off date is April 4, 2014.**

### 2014 Reunion Rough Draft

#### **Wed. 28<sup>th</sup>: 6:30-9:00 Welcome**

Conference room—cash bar

Thurs. 29<sup>th</sup>: 6:30-8:30—Breakfast

9:00—Begin boarding buses to Pier 39

10:00-3:00—Hop on-hop off tours—drop off buses

3:30—Alcatraz tour

6:30—Dinner

9:00pm—Buses back to Best Western—pick up buses

#### **Fri.30<sup>th</sup>: 6:30-8:30—Breakfast**

9:00—Begin boarding buses

Group A: all day buses to Muir Woods & Sonoma-Back@3:00

Group B: buses to Pier 39 hop-on-hop off—drop off buses

5:30-- Harbor tour, both groups dinner on their own (transportation  
Back to hotel option)

9:00—Buses back to Best Western—pick up buses

**Sat. 31<sup>st</sup>: 6:30-8:30—Breakfast**

9:00—Begin boarding buses

Group A: all day buses to Ft.Point, Crissy Field, USS Hornet

Group B: buses to Pier 39 hop-on-hop off—drop off buses

4:00—Buses back to Best Western—pick up buses

TBA—Pictures (possible 5:15-6:00pm)

TBA—Dinner in Hotel (following pictures)

TBA-- After dinner farewell in conference rooms

**Sunday, 1June—6:30-8:30---Breakfast**

12noon departure

This is a tentative schedule, that is being sent to give you an idea of possible site seeing tour  
being arrange and are subject to change

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, who are not members of the Edwards' Association.

We have 2 members, who have verified their information on our membership list. We were able to verify 18 records this newsletter. We corrected 1 address changes, 2 phone numbers, 1email address, 2. 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 no 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. Need help, we have lost contact with Edwin Armstrong stc last address is no longer correct in Woodland. If anyone is in contact with please let me know how to contact him.

## Treasures Report

May 1, 2013 – May 31, 2013

Beginning Balance \$3756.05

Income \$160.00

Expenses \$150.00

Ending Balance \$3766.05

Challenge are in be among the first to get one.

Jim

## Memory

If you have a story while aboard please send it to me.

## Ship's Store

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

## Missing shipmates

## Service Jokes

On some air bases the Air Force is on one side of the field and civilian aircraft use the other side of the field , with the control tower in the middle.

One day the tower received a call from an aircraft asking , "What time is it?"

The tower responded , "Who is calling?"

The aircraft replied , "What difference does it make?"

The tower replied , "It makes a lot of difference. If it is a commercial flight , it is 3 o'clock. If it is an Air Force aircraft it is 1500 hours. If it is a Navy aircraft , it is 6 bells. If it is an Army plane , the big hand is on the 12 and the little hand is on the 3. If it is a Marine Corps aircraft , it's Thursday afternoon and 120 minutes to "Happy Hour."

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During training exercises , the lieutenant who was driving down a muddy back road encountered another car stuck in the mud with a red-faced colonel at the wheel. "Your jeep stuck , sir?" asked the lieutenant as he pulled alongside. "Nope , " replied the colonel , coming over and handing him the keys. "Yours is."

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Having just moved into his new office , a pompous , new colonel was sitting at his desk when an airman knocked on the door. Conscious of his new position , the colonel quickly picked up the phone , told the airman to enter , then said into the phone , "Yes , General , I'll be seeing him this afternoon and I'll pass along your message. In the meantime , thank you for your good wishes , sir." Feeling as though he had sufficiently impressed the young enlisted man , he asked , "What do you want?" "Nothing important , sir , " the airman replied , "I'm just here to hook up your telephone."

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Officer: "Soldier , do you have change for a dollar?"  
Soldier: "Sure , buddy."  
Officer: "That's no way to address an officer!  
Now let's try it again!"  
Officer: "Soldier , do you have change for a dollar?"  
Soldier: "No , SIR!"

**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

**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

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this e-mail and any files transmitted with it are for the exclusive use of the addressee and may contain proprietary, confidential or privileged information. To the extent this communication includes technical information subject to U.S. and/or other applicable non-U.S. export control regulations, this communication is restricted to persons legally permitted to receive such 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.

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

I regret to inform you that Captain Richard R. Law, the first commanding officer of the USS Richard S. Edwards (DD-950) died in his sleep on April 17, 2013 after a brief illness. He was about 94 years old and very much "with it" until the very end. He and his wife, Julie lived in Coronado, CA since his retirement from the Navy and where she still resides. He was buried at sea.

John Titus, LT, USNR

Plankowner

Thank you for keeping me in the loop. I can't make any reunions, but I like to keep aware of what's happening. The VA finally got back to me. I am 100% disabled. I was surprised to find that I still receive my retirement pay in addition to the disability pay, and it is all tax free. All this money and I can't go anywhere to enjoy it. They dated the disability (and pay) back to May, 1911; the date that I first applied. If anyone is thinking of applying due to exposure to "Agent Orange", the physical exam is quite thorough to identify actual conditions (e.g. Diabetes) that may have been caused by such exposure. Keep up the good work and my best to everyone. Contact me if you have any questions.

Larry Beers

- > **Does any one know how to get in touch with MMC Smith on board 79 to 82**
- > **Paul Binette**
- > **BRR Refrigeration**

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Should cancellation of the rooms become necessary, the Hotel must receive cancellation notification in writing prior to the cancellation date indicated on the Rooms Contract. If a cancellation occurs after that date, the refunding of any deposit or money received, as payment will be made at the discretion of the hotel. The customer may also be liable for the payment of additional penalties if the hotel's opportunity to resell the sleeping rooms or meeting space is impaired because of late cancellation.

**HOTEL ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES:** Check-in time is at 3PM and Check-out time is at 12:00N. Any requests for early check-in or late check-out will be considered, based upon the Hotel's occupancy, but not guaranteed. For late check-outs that are granted, a fee of \$50 per room will be charged, for no later than a 5PM check-out extension.

**EXTRA PERSONS, ROLLWAYS, AND CRIBS:** There is no charge for children 12 years of age or younger, providing they share the same room with their parent(s) with existing bedding. There is an extra charge per person for more than double occupancy in a room with maximum of 4 people for a double bed accommodation only. Rollway bed charges are net per night and taxable. Cribs are provided at no charge upon availability.





BEST WESTERN  
**GROSVENOR**  
*Hotel*  
AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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