

**We have 460 who verified their information, thank you. If you receive a membership application please fill it out and return it as soon as possible. Thanks to Al Manning for his memories. See the new portion of the letter call Edwards' Triva. 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 6 members in this newsletter we will be dropping from our membership list. We have no current information on them. So if you are in contact with them, please let me know how to get hold of them.**

As of 2/08/13 active members stand 629. Please welcome back John Nahlik (76-78, Rm3), Gerald (Jerry) Pierson (76-78, MM2), Edward Sokach (73-75, Ic3) I have his information for anyone who wishes to contact them.

We have 120 on your memorial page. We added to the memorial Ron Dake (58-62;Sk3), John Coats (71-74, CS1); James H, Vanderwyst (66-67,SN.) See below comments 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 2014 Reunion is slightly over one year away. The reunion will be held at the Best Western Grosvenor Hotel, located at 380 South Airport Bl., South San Francisco, California, starting Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and ending Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

The room rates are:  
\$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 free breakfast.

For those who wish to arrive a few days before the commencement of the reunion and remain a few days after the conclusion of the reunion, the hotel has agreed to extend our special rate.

You may start making your hotel reservations now by calling 1-800-722-7141. Be sure to give them our code "RSEDWARDS, MAY 2014."

The hotel is all inclusive with meeting rooms, free wi-fi, fitness center, outdoor pool, restaurant and bar. The hotel also runs a free airport shuttle every half hour to and from San Francisco International Airport making it very convenient for flyers.

Our reunion coordinators are still working hard to have some fun tours lined up for us and more information will be forthcoming. Hopefully we will have registration forms posted on the website sometime around July, 2013. We will let you know when registration will officially start.

A change of course. We have had a few inquires as to just what a "challenge coin" is. According to Wikipedia the coins are believed to have come about as early as World War One. The coins were carried by soldiers as a form of identification should they become separated from their units. There is also a bar game whereas if a buddy drops his coin onto the bar, he is making a challenge and if you don't have your coin, you buy the next round. The coins are currently used extensively in the military as a sign of recognition for a job well done, military actions, unit or service branch etc. The coins are also very popular with quasi military groups such as law enforcement and fire fighters.

Hopefully our initial order will be completed by the end of this month. The final cost of the coin has not yet been determined. Once we establish the safest way to ship the coins, we will be able to set a price. Once that is done, look for the coins in the ship's store.

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. Single, triple and quad. Add 10% tax+\$3.50 surcharge per night. Mention RSEdwards, may 2014. Cut- off date is April 4, 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. Who are not members of the Edwards' Association.

We have 460 members, who have verified their information on our membership list. We were able to verify 18 records this newsletter. We corrected 2 address changes, 2 phone numbers, 3 email address, 2 deaths. 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 62 letters, for membership lead and to verify association information for non email members. Two new Members from letters sent. 6 letters were returned.

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

## **Treasures Report**

February 1, 2013 - February 28, 2013

Beginning Balance \$4,433.97

Income 148.00

Expenses 54.03

Ending Balance \$4,527.94

Jim

## Memory Lane

Looking for the Edwards

The day after Christmas, 1964, I left Diego with orders to the Edwards. Nobody stateside had any idea where she was, so they sent me to Japan. We flew from Travis AFB via Settle to Tachikawa AFB, and had a long bus ride to Yokosuka. I went to Ops and said I was looking for the Richard S. Edwards.

“She ain’t here.”

Where is she?

“Don’t know.”

After shuffling papers, and a couple of phone calls, they said: “She may be in the Philippines. There’s a flight 2 days from now.”

It was New Years’ Eve. There were no ships in port, so no parties. The Japanese bartender and I spent the evening watching a baseball game on TV. Then it was that long bus ride back to Tachikawa, and a flight to Clark AFB. To avoid another long bus trip, I hitched a ride on a Marine plane headed for Cubi Point. It was Saturday afternoon when I finally made it to Ops at Subic Bay. By that time I had been on the road for 7 days. But at Subic I got the same story:

I’m looking for the Edwards.

“She ain’t here.”

Where is she?

“Don’t know for sure.” After some searching around, the Duty Officer came up with the answer.

“She’s due in Monday evening.”

Sure enough, the Edwards arrived late Monday. On Saturday afternoon, we departed Subic Bay headed for—you guessed it—Yokosuka. I should have just stayed in Japan.

Al Manning

Supply Officer, Richard S. Edwards, DD 950, 1965-1966

## Ship’s Store

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

## Missing shipmates

Robert Becker (no current address, phone, Email address)

Johnny Barajas (no current address, phone, Email address)

Edgar C. Boon (no current address, phone, email address)

Kevin Humphrey (Same as above)

Norman Hungerford (same as above)

Frederick Thompson (same as above)

## Edwards' Triva

We will be running this portion of the newsletter about every three months. First person who answer the question correctly by return email will win a prize from the ship store.

For a mouse saver pad. **Where the Edwards sank, how deep is the water?** The answer in fathoms. Winner will be announced next newsletter

## Newsletter Notes Received

**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

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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

Larry Beers (74-76, It) has been waiting almost 2 yrs for a decision from the V.A. on the amount of disability we will receive from being in country during Vietnam. Can anyone help? Is this the normal waiting time any suggestion?

Ron Dake, died July 8, 2011 Foyil Ok. Found this information out by a phone call received from his son. A postman from the area, forward the letter to him.

We just got your letter today. I wanted to tell you that John Coats passed away in April of last year. His wife Barbara did not know how to get in touch with everybody he knew.

A tip was sent to me about James H Vanderwyst Born Nov. 22,1946, Died Jan 1, 2013 Age 66

Thank you for posting our letter several times in your newsletter. Pat finally found out that his VA Service Officer could get the papers we needed and was easy for him to get. When a Veteran tries to get them it is much harder and you usually have to pay a fee if you get any documents sent to you. Some times it is very frustrating to deal with the VA and it has taken several years. If you are persistent you may finally have some luck and things get done.

Pat and Ann Clifford



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

## ROOMS CONTRACT

PAGE 1 OF 4

DEFINITE

TENTATIVE

REVISION

TODAY'S DATE 02/22/2013

SALES PERSON ROLAND CINCO MARKET SMERF

POST AS (Name of Meeting) RSEDWARDS REUNION

### CONTRACT INFORMATION

ORGANIZATION	RSEDWARDS REUNION		DIVISION		
CONTACT	RALPH DRAEGER	/TITLE	COORDINATOR	IN CHARGE	TITLE
STREET		CITY		ST	ZIP
T					

PHONE

FAX

ROOMS		ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE PATTERN										YEAR	
												2014	
SINGLE AND	@ \$119.00	CHK-IN	05/28										
DOUBLES	@ \$	CHK-OUT	06/01										
	@ \$	ROOMS	85										
TRIPLE	@ \$129.00	GRC											
QUAD	@ \$139.00	PICK-UP	85										
	@ \$												

TOTAL ROOMS NIGHTS \_\_\_\_\_ EACH DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ROOM RATE INCLUDES DELUXE BREAKFAST BUFFET

ROOM 10% PORTERAGE N/A  
TAX

ADDITIONAL CHARGES \$3.50 CITY SURCHARGE PER ROOM PER NIGHT

PARKING - \$7 PER DAY

COMMISSIONABLE AT \_\_\_\_\_%;  NET NON-COMMISSIONABLE

METHOD OF RESERVATIONS

INDIVIDUAL / DIRECT

ROOMING LIST

RESERVATION CARD / ENVELOPE

ADDITIONAL RESERVATION  
WILL BE PROVIDED ON A SPACE,  
AND RATE, AVAILABLE BASIS.

**RESERVATION CUT-OFF DATE APRIL 4, 2014**

**BILLING INSTRUCTIONS**

INDIVIDUAL PAY

MASTER ACCOUNT

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF MASTER ACCOUNT

ROOMS / TAX

ROOMS / TAX

CASH

DIRECT BILL \*\*

RESTAURANT

RESTAURANT

PREPAID

COMPANY CHECK \*\*

INCIDENTALS (SPECIFY)

INCIDENTALS (SPECIFY)

CREDIT CARD  
TYPE

DATE

CARDHOLDER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD  
NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTRACT TERMS**

To guarantee rates quoted, the availability of sleeping rooms requested and all other terms of this contract, this contract must be signed and returned to the hotel by March 4, 2013 or the rooms and any other function space will be released, and rates may no longer be available.

**CANCELLATION AND ATTRITION POLICY**

If cancellation of this booking becomes necessary: The Hotel must receive written notification 30 days prior to group's arrival to avoid penalty 80% attrition will apply 30 days with-in group's arrival.

**I have read the above contract and the hotel's Group Booking Policies enclosed and constituting a part of this contract and agree to the terms and conditions.**

**CLIENT ACCEPTANCE:**

CUSTOMER  
SIGNATURE:

HOTEL REPRESENTATIVE: ROLAND  
CINCO

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
/

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 02/22/2013  
TRACE: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: February 22, 2013  
Sales Person : Roland Cinco  
Post As : RSEdward Reunion



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

## **GROUP BOOKING POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

- 1. ROOM RATES:** All rates quoted are based upon customer's sleeping room requirements as outlined in the rooms contract. At the Hotel's discretion, the original room rates may be renegotiated if a negative variance of more than 20% from the rooms originally booked is indicated in the final rooming list or is actually utilized.
- 2. DEPOSIT/GUARANTEE/FINAL PAYMENT:** Deposit policy and terms as stated on Page 1 of the Rooms Contract. All bookings must be guaranteed with a credit card accepted by the Hotel. Final payment must be made prior to the day of group's arrival. It is understood that all payments must be made in USD.
- 3. DAMAGE POLICY:** It is the policy of the Hotel to inspect all group rooms prior to departure for damages. If any damages, vandalism, evidence of smoke, or cases of extreme disarray are found, payment for such damages must be paid prior to the group's departure and/or billed to the company should there be direct billing privileges established.
- 4. INCIDENTAL CHARGES:** All incidental charges must be paid by each group member prior to departure from the Hotel. Any unpaid incidental charges will be the responsibility of group/company.



**5. 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.

**6. PORTERAGE:** Baggage handling is subject to the rates and conditions outlined on this contract. If baggage must be stored or rehandled, an additional charge may be added.

**7. 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.

**8. 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.

**9. ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATIONS:** The Hotel reserves the right to accommodate the group, or any part of thereof, in another Grosvenor Hotel or some other hotel equivalent or better standing as determined in the reasonable judgment of the Hotel for the duration of the group's stay or any part thereof at no extra charge to the agent, regardless of the price of alternative accommodations.

**10. NOISE DISTURBANCES:** In the case of any noise disturbances caused by the group, in which the Hotel suffers monetary damages due to other Hotel guest dissatisfaction, Hotel reserve the right to collect any lost monetary damages from the group. In addition, the Hotel reserves the right to cancel any future booking from the group/company.

**11. The Hotel makes no representations and warranties to the customer other than these printed hereon.**

**12. The Hotel shall not be liable for non-performance of this contract when such non-performance is attributable to labor troubles, disputes or strikes, accidents,**

**government (Federal, State and Municipal) regulations of, or restriction upon travel or transportation, non-availability of food, beverage, or supplies, riots, national emergencies, acts of God and other causes whether enumerated herein or not, which are beyond the reasonable control of the Hotel preventing or interfering with the Hotel's performance. In such event, the Hotel shall not be liable to the customer for any damages, whether actual or consequential which may result from such non-performance.**

**13. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this agreement, owner and/or manager of this Hotel shall be relieved from, all requirements hereof, and this agreement shall terminate if owner shall sell, transfer or otherwise convey its interest in this Grosvenor Hotel, provided owner has given at least 30 days notice of the transfer by owner then, owner may assign all of its rights and obligations under of all obligations and responsibilities under this agreement upon transfer of all advance payments and depots received by owner to the new owner.**

14. Due to strict liability issues, under no circumstances, no member of your organization is allowed to enter any hotel employee work area including the kitchen, housekeeping department, maintenance departments, etc.