

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.

“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). Please welcome Ken Felice (MM3,66-66) I have his information for anyone who wishes to contact him. Lead supplied by Lewey Holley Also welcome Michael Dominquez (62-66 sh3) I have his information for anyone who wishes to contact him.

We have 120 on your memorial page. Added to the memorial page John Francis O’Brien died 1/12/ 2013. Note received by Rob Dege

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 29th, 2014 to Sunday, June 1st, 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.

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.**

Well, after many phone calls & e-mails, the bus fares are being tended to. The reason for the 36 pax bus vs. the 54 pax bus to MuirWoods & Sonoma is the road into Muirwoods. The road is too narrow and there is no parking for a 54 pax bus. Lee confirmed that as well earlier this week. We are also trying to come to closure with buses, for those who can't spend entire day in the city. Then we can put an actual cost to the day's activities and tours. I'm trying to keep cost down so those who want to go back to the hotel early don't get gouged. I have to get a head count so I can order those early return buses. Another possibility is having cab companies pick up in mini vans. Just an example, cab fare to the city from the hotel runs approx. \$45 per cab, four people @ \$11.25/person. That's today's rate.

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 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, 1 email address, 2. If you have not verified your address and phone number please take a few minutes and email me at bullcs3@hotmail.com .

We also sent out no letters, for membership lead and to verify association information for non email members. T

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

April 1, 2013 – April 30, 2013

Beginning Balance \$3756.05

Income 0

Expenses 0

Ending Balance \$3756.05

Challenge are in be among the first to get one.

Jim

Memory

Please note, I was aboard the Edwards during 1963, as a tad for a special operation. There were 5 of us who reported to the Edwards 4 navy personal and one USMC. We boarded the ship in Taiwan , and there we found the Edwards 950, with the Turner 951, And Parson 949

We had come from Sam Miguel Navy Base which was a Naval Communication Base with a lot of antennas about an hour bus ride east to Subic Bay.'

We Boarded the Edwards at Taiwan big Navy base. We then sailed down and up the Chinese (Communist) Coast. They actually sent out a small gunboat to greet us. (That was nice of them!!) They got next to us by our port stern and we slowed down. They got on their blinker and sent "You are in our territory water leave at once". We replied back "our position latitude and longitude and that we were in international waters" They repeated their message and we replied with ours over and over again. All the while their Naval Infantry in Sky blue uniforms stood at port arms

Everyone was nice to us while on board from the captain down and even the chiefs. While on board, I was getting stomach cramps but never got sick. When I was off duty I spent a lot of time in the bow and remember the 3 class Boatswain who took muster there of his sailors.

After that back to Taiwan, they flew back to Subic Bay and on to Sam Miguel. Before I was stationed at San Miguel I went to Naval Communication School at Pensacola Fl. To learn Morse code

Edward Alcock (E-4 Corporal USMC) Typed by Bob Sheard from the back of his renewal application

Ship's Store

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

Missing shipmates

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 (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. 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?



BEST WESTERN
GROSVENOR
Hotel
AT SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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.