



ANGRY SKIPPER ASSOCIATION, INC. (ASA)®

Walking Point

The newsletter for D Co. 2/8 Vietnam 1965—1972

From the corner of the President's spare bedroom...



Seeing You in Seattle

If you've never been to the Pacific Northwest this is one of those areas which are just plain stunning. (Going AWOL 2 days then caught by the Shore Patrol and then leaving Ft. Lewis for 'Nam doesn't count.) There are 20 museums and 100 art galleries there. There is also something called the Fish Market which is unique, to say the least. And they even have a spinning restaurant stuck on a stick (aka: the Space Needle). We didn't try to cherry pick events for you. Too many good ones. And many of them are free. (Warning: Seattle is *not* flat.) Red Lion will pick you up at the airport 24/7. There are posts there A, B, C, & D with land lines direct to our Renton Red Lion. *No limo, subway, or taxi is needed.* Red Lion has a very good restaurant. Breakfast is \$12 but we get it for \$10 & they are constantly renewing it. There are other restaurants w/in walking distance of our hotel in Renton (Which *is* flat) The hotel shuttle will take you to the Light Rail which takes you downtown & back for under \$10. (Warning: Seattle is not flat.) Parking is free at our hotel & there's lots of it. Driving in, or to, downtown Seattle is not a good idea.

Banquet Menu: Catch of the Day

This has nothing to do with Mermaids. Catch of the Day is fresh fish right off of the boat and then cooked and served. We are hoping to get wild caught Salmon. However, if there is no suitable Catch of the Day, Chicken will be substituted.

Newsletters

Our newsletters have evolved over these last 20+ years. Usually we start out with out with an article about something back in 'Nam. I do know, from experience, that many men can see the same incident many different ways (and all be right) which is why we always try to make sure we have a good hospitality suite at these reunions so that all of us may talk these things out among ourselves. We also publish meeting minutes and financials. Both are discussed and adopted at the business meeting and available in our Newsletters.

I would like to focus on what's going on in our lives now. For example, there's a great PTSD article in this issue. Or VA stories (be nice now...or not) could help us help each other.

I would also like to add an *On the Mend* item which sounds a little better than 'sick call' (no need to sham now...) which can help us help each other. As well as *Moving On* for acknowledgement of our brothers who have died since our last get together. Or if you win the lottery we'd all be there for you...This is *your newsletter* so if you've got an idea let us hear it. If it stinks we'll let you hear it. Just say'n.

(Continued on page 2)

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Angry Skipper Association, Inc.® Board of Governors

- President: Chuck Hustedt (Skull, 69) chuckin-shh@sbcglobal.net
- Vice President: Tom Clark (Skull, 70-71) tmctool@juno.com
- Treasurer: Ed Regan (Range, 68-69) smilez4747@yahoo.com
- Secretary: Robin Woo (Skull, 71-72) rwoo@surrewest.net

From the corner of the President's spare bedroom... *(continued from page 1)*

Agenda The above will be items on our business meeting agenda which means we can vote on it then if we want to. Any one of you can request that an item or proposed course of action be placed on the agenda. The cutoff date for this is one month before the business meeting. If something comes up late we can always discuss it under new business. I would also like to discuss reformation/revival of the Reunion Committee as well as our overall financial picture and practices.

We've already worked out some of the D.C. meet (2017) & need to vote on 2018. Honolulu? London? Copenhagen? Kansas City? New Orleans? New York? Old York? Tijuana? Somebody please step up...

Money. We are a registered non-profit organization. If you'd like, we can be your dependent! None of us minions are compensated in any way. However, if any of us (you too!) spends your own money on behalf of ASA it can be considered an 'in kind' contribution for tax deduction purposes. Since 2006, the membership has participated in making consistent donations to ASA. This is how we pay for the printing and mailing of our Newsletter. It also helps to defray shortfalls in our budget. Thank you for your generosity in supporting our Association.

By Chuck Hustedt, President (White/Skull 69)



Washington, D.C. Reunion
Crowne Plaza, Dulles Airport
May 17—May 21, 2017

Contracts are done for D.C. in 2017. We stayed at the Crowne Plaza in 2007 and in 2011. The dates are May 17, 2017 to May 21, 2017, including 3 days before and 3 days after. Room rates are \$105/night. The hotel is 2 miles from the airport and the hotel provides shuttle service 24/7. Remember, we chartered those 55 seat buses for our trip to the Wall? Now, they have shuttle to a Metro station about 4 miles from the Hotel. The Metro takes less than 15 minutes to get to the Wall, while our bus took about 40. They tell me it is a straight shot to the memorials when you go by Metro. The Hotel will provide shuttle service so that we can catch the Metro into D.C. for our ceremony at the Vietnam Memorial Wall. A large shopping center is across the street where there are many restaurants serving a variety of cuisine.

PTSD

I know that I have experienced undiagnosed PTSD. Many, perhaps all, combat veterans have experienced symptoms of it in one form or another. Some of us deal with it in our own way without help. Some require help to recover. Some never recover.

For me, PTSD was evidenced by behaviors that at best were stupid, at worst destructive. I spent the better part of a year and a half after my return from Viet Nam in a state of semi-alcoholism. I took chances, drove while intoxicated, and was sometimes abusive to those who loved me most. Luckily for me, I met and married a wonderful woman who helped to dampen my fears, calm my rages and get me to see the long view of life. Symptoms were many. It took me four years after Viet Nam to sleep through a night. I would hear a noise, wake up and prowl our apartment with a loaded .357 Magnum. I have always been competitive and to some extent, that was positive. But it was easy to let it get out of hand unless I kept it in check. There were and now rarely are the dreams. I wake up screaming. Being able to address and discount the demons, the irrational fears and to face the fact that I survived, somehow, and many others did not was also key in my beating PTSD.

I also think that being raised under the Judeo-Christian ethic which states: “Thou shalt not kill” and “Love thy neighbor” contributed to my PTSD. I felt caught up in a dichotomy. I was drafted into a situation where it was either kill or be killed and I had no choice in the matter except that I wanted to live and would do what it took to live. To me I was between the proverbial rock and a hard place. The programming of my socialization made me feel guilty. That has been hard to deal with.

I was lucky in one aspect of this dilemma. I was, as a college graduate, older and more mentally and emotionally mature than many of my peers. I was therefore able to rationalize some of the things that I had to do to survive in a way that many of my peers had a difficult time in doing.

Everyone deals with things in different ways. Some withdraw into themselves. Most of us at least occasionally display the “thousand mile stare” characteristic of many combat vets. It is hard for us to make close friends due to our fear that they may be killed and the comradeship and happiness we had with them be ripped out of our lives. When that happened to us in combat, a little of each of us died with them. So it becomes very difficult for us to make fast friends and to let others into our lives in the same way that we did prior to our combat experiences. This is probably the most difficult thing to rationalize.

Again I was a lucky man as I was successful as a combat leader in seeing all of those that I was directly responsible for get through the combat tour alive and at least physically unscathed. I don't know how I would have reacted if some of them had been killed and I had to face the “what if I had done things differently question” that so many have had to deal with. Would that have pushed me off the deep end? I'm glad I never had to ask that question because like others who did, I don't know what the answer would have been.

What was I fighting for in Viet Nam? It certainly did not have anything to do with patriotism, country or even family. It was partly expectations, partly coercion, but for the most part I believe that we fought to survive. We fought for each other knowing that our survival depended on not just our individual actions but the actions of the team, squad, platoon and company and that failure to act or react properly jeopardized the safety of all of us. That made each of us responsible to every other soldier in the unit.

I think that one of the root causes of PTSD is this feeling of responsibility. Ironic in a way in that it is also a key reason most people survived. Responsibility coupled with the fears and other demons of war are, when viewed through the clouded glass of one's socialization and personal experiences and perceptions are, in my view, at the roots of PTSD. As I said in paragraph one, I believe that most combat veterans have experienced symptoms of PTSD in one form or another. How we have dealt with it has, to a great extent, determined the course of our lives since the combat experience.

By: Wayne H. Robinson, MSG, RET. Cat 71-72

Seattle, WA 2016 Angry Skipper Association, Inc. Reunion

Our reunion will be held at the **Red Lion Hotel, One South Grady Way, Renton, Washington from May 18 to May 21, 2016.** You must call the Hotel and make your own reservations. Their number is **425.226-7700 and ask for the Angry Skipper Group Rate.** The hotel will honor the discounted group rates for 3 days prior to May 18th and 3 days after May 21st, for those early arrivals and stay-over's. These **rates are good until April 18, 2016**, so please register before April 18th. **Hotel room rates will revert to market after that date.** Rooms and rates will be subject to availability for reservations made after the cut-off date. The hotel rates are as follows:

Guest Room: \$ 109.00 (singles and doubles); \$122.52 all-inclusive

Online Hotel Reservations are here: www.redlion.com/renton and enter Group Code: **ANGRY518**

You must tell the Hotel you are with the Angry Skipper Association for these preferred rates. They will not change the rate if you forget to tell them you are with the Angry Skipper Association group.

The hotel is located just 5 miles from the Sea-Tac International Airport. The hotel offer 24 hours shuttle service from the airport and back. Also, the Light Rail is located at the location at the airport where the shuttle will pick you up, so they will also take you to the Light Rail station via the airport. Light rail is about 20 minutes to downtown Seattle. Round trip cost \$6. Here is the link to the hotel for you to peruse:

<http://www.redlion.com/renton> To research sights in Seattle, go here: <http://www.visitseattle.org/>

The hours for the Hospitality suite is from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. The Hospitality suite will open Wednesday, May 18th at 8:00 a.m. and close at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 22nd. When you arrive, please pick up your welcome package at the registration table. The package will contain your meal tickets, name tags, agenda, shirts & caps, etc.

The registration process will be handled by Register with Ease again, just like last year. VISA, MC, AmEx and Discovery will be accepted, as well. Register With Ease has set-up a website for online registrations. Go to <http://www.angriskyipperassociation.org> for a direct link, or you can mail the registration, with check or credit card information, to the address on the registration form. You may also fax the form, with credit card info, directly to Stacey. Or, register on-line, then send the check, payable to Angry Skipper Association, Inc., to Stacey. **Registration will close on May 9, 2016.**



Our speaker this year will be MG John Hemphill. He was the Battalion Commander of the 2/8th Cav, Dec 65 – Aug 66. He will discuss the difference between the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He will talk about the Airmobile days. A Graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, General Hemphill began his distinguished career with a commission as a second lieutenant of infantry. As a commander during the Korean War, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor and two Purple Hearts. His two tours in Vietnam earned him two Silver Stars, two additional Bronze Star Medals for Valor and a third Purple Heart. His dedication to the Army, as evidenced by his numerous decorations, has continued even into his retirement.

MG Hemphill has arranged the tour at the Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) on Friday (May,20) as well as arrange for 2 senior leaders from JBLM to speak to us after dinner at about **8PM on Thursday** evening (May 19), in the Hospitality Suite, for about an hour. They will give briefings on the I Corps Mission in the Pacific and the operation of the Joint Base Lewis-McChord. The briefing is an excellent prelude to the tour the next day.



Angry Skipper Association, Inc.™



May, 18 thru 21st, 2016 Reunion Registration Form Seattle, WA

Name: _____ (AKA) _____ Platoon: _____ Yr(s): _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Ph: _____
 How many will be in your group? _____ E-mail: _____ In Case of Emergency contact: _____
 List First names of all in your group: _____

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Cost/Person</u>	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Total</u>
May 18 (Wed) - 9:30am	Golf, Druid's Glen, Green Fees w/cart	\$49.00	_____	_____
May 19 (Thur) - 9:30am	Golf, Washington National, Green Fees w/cart	\$70.00	_____	_____
<i>(Golfer's, please register to play either or both days, no later than April 18, 2016)</i>				
May 20 (Fri) - 8:00am	Tour of the Joint Base Lewis-McChord.	\$ 20.00	_____	_____
<i>Cost of Transportation. Capacity = 56 persons (see page 7 for details)</i>				
May 21 (Sat) - 4:30pm	Group Photo's Digital		_____	_____
May 21 (Sat) - 5:30pm	Reunion Banquet (check meal selection below)	\$45.00	_____	_____
# of Top Sirloin _____ # of pan seared Catch of the Day/ Chicken: _____ # of Chef's Choice of Vegetarian _____				
Shirts & Caps	Number of Reunion Shirts: (Infantry Blue)	\$25.00	_____	_____
Sizes: Small: _____ Medium: _____ Large: _____ XL: _____ XXL: _____ XXXL: _____				
	Number of Caps:	\$18.00	_____	_____
<i>(please order by April 15, 2016)</i>				
D Co. 2/8th Cav	decals (see page 8)	\$ 3.00	_____	_____
TOTAL EVENTS REGISTRATION				\$ _____

MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATION FEE:

Registration Fee:	\$	35.00
Contribution/donation:		.00
Total Events Registration from above:		.00
TOTAL PAYMENT:	\$.00

_____ Check here if you are not attending and want shirts & caps mailed to you. Add \$13 for postage and handling.

Please register by May 9, 2016. Please complete form and mail with check (payable to Angry Skipper Association, Inc.) or with credit card info to:

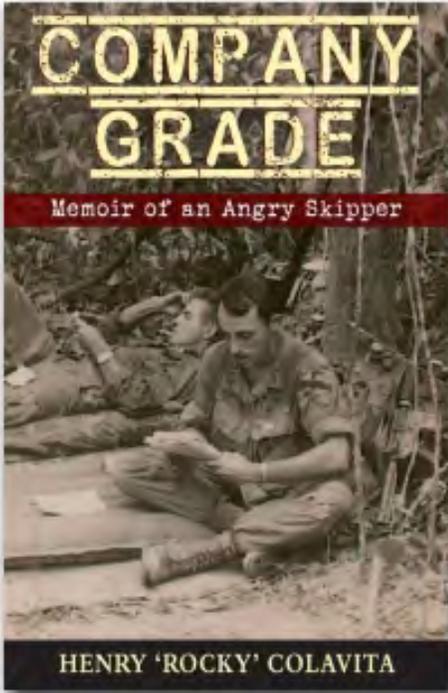
Stacey Smith
 Register with Ease
 473 Las Cruces
 Winter Haven, FL 33884
 Ph: 863.325-0077
 Fax: 863.325-0051

PAYMENT METHOD: _____ Check. Charge to (check one): _____ MasterCard _____ VISA _____ AmEx _____ Disc
 Card Number: _____ Expiration: _____
 _____ Month/Year
 Signature: _____

Do not send this form if you registered online at : <http://www.angrystickipperassociation.org>

Hotel Reservations, Phone 425.226-7700
 Tell them you are with the Angry Skipper Association group. Online Hotel registration at the ASA website.

You must arrange your own Hotel room. It is not included in this registration.
Your Welcome Package will be available in the Hotel Lobby. Please pick up your package when you arrive.



Company Grade

Memoir of An Angry Skipper

From an early age Henry "Rocky" Colavita dreamed of becoming an Army officer. And a policeman. He eventually did both. His engaging, often funny memoir covers the author's 20 year career in the U.S. Army, including multiple tours in Vietnam, and his subsequent 17 year career in law enforcement. Henry was born in New Jersey, raised in Hawaii for a time and grew up in Virginia where most of his schoolmates were Army brats. But his next door neighbor was a cop. The perfect situation for him to develop an affinity for service, both military and public. Wounded in Vietnam on his first tour, he returned for a second tour, this time as Infantry captain in command. He returned home, age 28, and continued his military career--including a stint at The Pentagon and in Berlin, eventually retiring in 1983 and beginning his second career--in law enforcement. <http://hellgatepress.com/henry-rocky-colavita/company-grade> also found on Amazon.

About the Author

Henry "Rocky" Colavita served multiple tours in Vietnam. His first was as an advisor with the Vietnamese Airborne in '65 & '66, and the second as a company commander with the 1st Cavalry Division in '68 & '69. After 20 years he retired from the Army as lieutenant colonel and was then hired by the Fairfax County, VA Sheriff's Office where, over the next 17 years, he progressed through every rank from private to Chief Deputy Sheriff. He currently lives in Haymarket, VA.

Law Now Allows Retirees and Veterans to Salute Flag

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag only while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 contained an amendment to allow un-uniformed service members, military retirees, and veterans to render a hand-salute during the hoisting, lowering, or passing of the U.S. flag. (This includes outdoors, indoors, or not covered — WDN.)

A later amendment further authorized hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel. This was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14, 2008. (This includes outdoors, indoors, covered, or not covered — WDN.)

Here is the actual text from the law:

SEC. 595. Military Salute for the Flag During the National Anthem by Members of the Armed Forces not in Uniform and by Veterans.

(A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note.

(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

(C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at their right shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

Note: Part (C) applies to those not in the military and non-veterans. *Article Courtesy W.D. Neal, (Skipper 6, 71)*

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.® Treasurers Report

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.®
 Profit & Loss (unaudited)
 January 1 through December 31, 2015

Angry Skipper Association, Inc.®
 Balance Sheet (unaudited)
 December 31, 2015

Ordinary Income & Expense

Income	
Banquet/s	\$ 4,970.00
Donations	2,365.00
Membership Dues	800.00
Registration Fees	2,255.00
Shirts, Hats, Patches	<u>2,824.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 13,214.00
Expenses	
Bank Service Charges	\$ 314.32
Banquet—Saturday Event	4,765.39
Entertainment	300.00
ASA Website	00.00
Flowers/Funeral	118.78
Insurance	384.00
Member Assistance	00.00
Merchant Account	812.04
Photographer	200.00
Postage & Delivery	839.65
Printing & Reproduction	1,067.00
Professional Services—Reunion	3,645.55
Shirts, Hats & Patches	<u>1,980.02</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 14,426.75
Net Income (Loss)	<u>(\$ 1,212.75)</u>

ASSETS

Current Assets:	
Checking	\$ 592.44
Deposits	500.00
Accounts Receivable	<u>00.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,092.44</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	<u>00.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$ 00.00</u>
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	3,316.97
Retained Earnings	(1,011.78)
Net Income	<u>(1,212.75)</u>
Total Equity	\$ 1,092.44
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>\$ 1,092.44</u>

* Thank you Robert Burke, CPA (Skull, 70-71) for preparing the Association Tax returns since 2006.

Ft Lewis Tour

- 8 AM Depart Hotel ;
- 9 AM 16th Combat Aviation Brigade. See all the current Army helicopters and learn about current Army Aviation operations to include combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- 11 AM Tour the Fort Lewis part of Joint Base Lewis-McChord;
- 12 PM Lunch in an Army dining facility. \$5.55 onsite.
- 1 PM Stryker Combat Brigade to include rides in the vehicle;
- 4 PM Depart to Hotel.

Joint Base Lewis-McChord

Home of I Corps & 62nd Airlift Wing
<http://www.lewis-mcchord.army.mil/>

How many of you departed from Ft. Lewis to Vietnam? Over 40+ years ago? It is nothing like it was then. Lunch at Fort Lewis will cost \$5.55 at the cashier. The bus will take members on a tour with a tour guide accompanying us. Capacity of 56 passengers. This has been arranged by MG John Hemphill (Bn Cdr, 2/8th Cav, 65-66). Thank you, Sir!

New Members since the July, 2015 Newsletter:

BG (ret) Burt Tackaberry, Cat 6, 1970

Deceased Member/s:

Miquel Nieves-Perez, Skull, 66-67
 Russell Ryals, Skull, 1971-72

Membership count:

Active Members: 663
Members Online: 295



ANGRY SKIPPER ASSOCIATION, INC. ®
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STOCKTON, NJ 08559

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*“Remember the bad times once,
Remember the good times forever”*

We're on the web:
www.angryskipperassociation.org

Museum of Flight

<http://www.museumofflight.org/>



The Museum of Flight showcases its collection of more than 150 historic air- and spacecraft and related artifacts in unique and inspiring exhibits. There is something for everyone to experience in these dynamic displays presenting

events that have carried us from Kitty Hawk to the moon. This might be a good place to visit while your in Seattle. There are so many sights to visit in the Seattle area!

D Co, 2/8th Cavalry Decal

This year we will produce a D 2/8th decal. The custom decal is made of vinyl (just like a bumper sticker) and is 6" x 4 1/4". Mounting is from the outside. Cost is \$3 each. This is for on-site delivery only. If you want a few and are not attending the reunion, then ask a friend who is, to pick them up for you.

