

The Sentinel

Membership Newsletter for the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

“Post and Orders Remain as Directed”

On Thursday, 18 September, Hurricane Isabel hit the Washington DC area with her best shot. Little did she know that she would be going into battle with the Army’s finest, the 3d US Infantry (The Old Guard), who willingly accepted her challenge. The men of the 3d US Infantry stood boldly before Hurricane Isabel and refused to stand down to her mighty strength.

As many rumors circled the Nation about the Sentinels abandoning their post and disobeying orders, SFC Geary put things straight “It was business as usual.”

In July of 1937, the first 24-hour military guard was posted and from that day forward, this Chain of Honor has not been broken.

Although the press thought they would be able to catch the Sentinels off guard, they were sadly disappointed. These young men never strayed from their orders while faced with 120 mph winds and heavy rain.

The following article published in *The Pentagongram* and the picture taken on the far right published in the Washington Post capture this event. From our vantage point, the following statement sums things up, “Post and Orders Remain as Directed.”

Tomb Guards Hurricane Hoopla Overblown by SPC Chuck Wagner (Pentagram staff writer)

Soldiers guarding the Tomb of the Unknowns made waves in national news last week for standing vigil as Hurricane Isabel blew through Arlington National Cemetery. After a newspaper article depicted a tomb guard stubbornly refusing to abandon his post, hundreds of fan e-mails and requests for follow-up interviews from network television, syndicated radio and major newspapers poured in. The attention isn’t something the Fort Myer unit is comfortable with, because it’s mostly a story that never was.

The media storm gathered around two misperceptions first appearing in Associated Press reporter Sharon Theimer’s article: that leaders ordered or permitted guards to abandon post during the storm, and that statements made by a guard on duty could be understood as a refusal to follow orders.

The Associated Press distributed the story nationwide, and it appeared in newspapers from Bradenton, FL to San Diego, CA. Newscasters borrowed from the article during television blurbs that inevitably mentioned the words “abandon” or “leave.”

“There was no order given to abandon or leave the guard mount. It wasn’t even considered,” said COL Chuck Taylor, commander of 3d US Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard). “They did exactly what we asked them to do, and they did it well.”

When meteorologists predicted 120mph winds and dangers such as falling trees and wind-tossed debris, SFC Fredrick Geary proposed the guards have options to move between pillars on the guard mount,

and if the storm’s severity increased, behind glass doors in a building on the mount.

“The guards are still within the limits of their post and can see the Tomb. If anyone was crazy enough to try to get to the Tomb during a hurricane, the guards would be in a position to stop them,” said Geary, who is sergeant of the guard and stayed at the Tomb through the brunt of the hurricane. Geary said he briefed all the guards that there would be no changes when he realized the storm was less severe



than forecasted. There were no orders given, and none refused. It was business, or better said, duty as usual.

Taylor entrusted the sergeant to assess conditions and determine if his troops should seek shelter.

“My concerns were about our ability to accomplish the mission and the safety of our soldiers. What was planned, but never took place, would ensure both and never compromise either,” Taylor said.

The public outpouring over the story seems fueled by

misperceptions tomb guard SGT Christopher Holmes ignored orders, or blew off permission to abandon his post during the hurricane. The story also suggested it would have been the first time in history soldiers left the post unguarded.

The article reported Holmes as responding to orders or permission to leave his post, “They told us that. But that’s not what’s going to happen. That’s never an option for us. It went in one ear and right out the other.”

This supposedly renegade refusal to seek shelter struck a chord with readers, even if it was an inaccurate portrayal.

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Final Thoughts from the President

As we have provided in our by-laws, we will soon hold our election, elect a new Board of Directors, who will in turn elect the President to lead us for the next two years. This will be my last message to you as the President of the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

As I begin my message, I would like to first recognize those Board members who have supported me these two years; indeed, it is these people that we, as Society members owe so much – they were the driving force that made many good ideas reality. As the President, I could not have wanted a better group of people to work with; they did all that I asked and frequently much, much more. To be on familiar terms with such people is a privilege and honor.

To Neale Cosby (58-60), thank you for your leadership, sound counsel and being there for me every day regardless of where you were in the Country. Virtually all of our accomplishments these last two years were completion of the work begun under your administration. You always looked for and seized every opportunity to advance the interests of the Mission and the Tomb Guard. Our meetings with General Jackson and the several RCO's followed by our talks as we walked through the Cemetery will remain with me always. I hope that you have not regretted that first lunch we had where I told you that "I can't but I will try"!

Meredith Smith (59-60), as Treasurer, you have been perfect. As a Founder, your counsel and involvement have been inspirational. To you we all owe a most solemn thanks for the impeccable planning and flawless execution of our reunions; – reservations, registration, smokers, dinners and everything in between. When you were overwhelmed with a million other things, you took on the miniature Tomb Guard pin and the Grave Marker initiatives and brought them to a successful conclusion. As I have told you personally, I thank you on behalf of Society, but also, because of this, you have allowed me to make good on a promise I made to a widow at the grave of one of our Brothers.

Gavin McIlvenna (97-98), the man for all seasons. As a Founder, you were with us from the beginning and took on virtually every job that needed doing. You touched virtually every function that needed work and kept us afloat. I can't think of anyone in the Society that is better known than you.

Jim Cardamon (57-58), you have been my Vice President and I have never felt so covered and looked after. Because of your leadership and hard work many good initiatives are now a reality. Tomb Guard Identification Badges are now awarded to those qualifying Tomb Guards assigned after 1958 and the Badge Board is a little closer to accurately reflecting our entire history; the Society has awarded our first scholarship after you moved a mountain of details, absorbed it, put it into a meaningful program. As the membership Chairman you dealt with diffi-



cult questions and always did the right thing.

When Bill Rigsby (60-61), comes to mind, I think of those words "Upon this rock I will build Bill, I don't know where to start, for in doing so I might slight the many things that you have done so well and under the most adverse circumstances. When I think of all of the things that you have done and the way you did them, I think of that steady inexorable pace of the Sentinel as he proceeds through the hottest

days and the coldest nights – an undeniable force that is ever faithful to the Mission and the Tomb Guard. Only the words of the heart can express what we felt at the memorial services and the Rose Ceremonies organized and directed by you. Each was a special blessing,-- I thank you.

Brother Chuck (Cochise) Shacochis (65-67), when I asked you to serve with us, you didn't hesitate and never have. I will never forget our first reunion, how when we lost our music for the memorial service, and without any warning, you looked me in the eye and said you could do it. You had, maybe 15 minutes to prepare and you led us in Amazing Grace. It is unforgettable. You have always been an outstanding Tomb Guard! Your work and presentations at our memorial service made them experiences that allowed us all to express our deepest feelings. Thank you for your untiring efforts with the United Federal Campaign. Because of you, we are registered in both the Washington and Baltimore Metropolitan area and continue to receive contributions from the fund. I am deeply grateful that our paths crossed again and wish you the best in your ministry.

Phil March (63-65), as with Cochise, you never blinked when I asked you to serve and have been a steadfast partner. Thank you for your support and counsel. Our meetings with the RCO were more effective because of your presence and counsel. Your pipes have made our memorial service very special. As Secretary, you have taken a difficult job and I thank you very much.

David Woods (64-65), without hesitation you took an idea and created a full mentoring program. Your efforts have helped many Tomb Guards and they are much in your debt. This program continues to play a significant role in our education program.

John Porter's (87-88) work on our education program has been an incredible success story. Your counsel has always been first rate. Everywhere compliments are heard about the DVD and how useful it is as our members engage in talks at

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Reunion 2002—The Rose Ceremony

by Bill Rigsby



The Rose Ceremony on Sunday morning. Pictured from left to right: John Porter, Ed Tatum, Lonny Le Grand, Dave Woods

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"



By laying a single yellow rose, Bill Rigsby honors our brothers/sisters that remain listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action

Roses are known for their beauty and have been a symbol of love and remembrance. To remember with love our departed comrades was the purpose of what the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has come to know as "The Rose Ceremony."

The Rose Ceremony for Reunion 2002 was very special in a number of ways. That year the ceremony took place Sunday morning immediately following the 0800 Guard Change and was conducted in it's entirety by Society members with Bill Rigsby issuing commands from his position on the plaza. All members placed a red rose in front of the Tomb and one yellow rose was placed in remembrance of all our comrades that remain listed as Prisoner of War or Missing in Action.

The ceremony was special for two of our Legacy Members; Mr. Marvin and Mrs. Phyllis Franklin and Mrs. Mary Spates. Marvin and Phyllis are the parents of former Tomb Guard Sergeant

Marvin Franklin, Relief Commander (1966-67), who was killed in combat in Vietnam in 1967. Sergeant Franklin is interred in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Mary Spates is the mother of former Tomb Guard, Staff Sergeant William R. Spates, Sr. He was an Assistant Relief Commander in (1964-65) and killed in combat in Vietnam in 1965. Sergeant Spates is interred in Arlington Cemetery in Section #48, Grave #432, a site very close to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

We normally think of sons and daughters walking in the footsteps of their parents. However, this year Marvin and Phyllis Franklin and Mary Spates had the opportunity to walk in the footsteps where their sons in their youth had walked while members of the Tomb Guard. They had the opportunity to place a white rose at the Tomb not only in remembrance of the Unknown Soldiers but also with love and remembrance of their own

dear sons who had given the "full measure"---their lives in defense of our country and the American way of life.

It was also a special time for Mrs. Jeannine Morrelli, widow of Master Sergeant John Morrelli a former Sergeant of the Guard. Jeannine had seen her husband John performing his duties many times during his three assignments as a member of the Tomb Guard. Now Jeannine also had the privilege and opportunity to walk where John had walked as she placed a white rose as a

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Pictured above from left to right: Mrs. Mary Spates, Mrs. Jeannine Morelli, Mrs. Phyllis Franklin and Mr. Marvin Franklin.

What's Gavin McIlvenna been up to these days?



SFC Gavin McIlvenna going over a log ladder in the race.

SFC Gavin McIlvenna (97-98) has been keeping busy these days, while called to active duty with the Oregon Army National Guard, by participat-

ing in "adventure" racing. He and some of his platoon enter races that are unconventional, rugged, obscure and definitely physically challenging. They have completed 10 races this year, which included the 7th annual Mt. Hood Scramble (labeled the "Grandfather of Filth"), the 6th annual McCubbins Gulch Scramble and the most recent event, the Astoria Assault in August.

They are known as Team Diablo, and its members come

from within the platoon, families and any other crazy racer who just wants to have fun and challenge themselves at the same time.

Gavin and Team Diablo won the first Guard Dog Award, having the fastest military team on the Astoria Assault course. Besides assisting the Air Force with base security, they are planning on entering the snowshoe races this winter. Anyone ever in the Mt Hood area of Oregon can give

these races a try. <http://www.xdodgevents.com/html/news.html>



Pictured above from left to right: Team Diablo (Oregon Army National Guard) CPT Levi Lee, SSG Christopher McIntosh, SFC Gavin McIlvenna (97-98), and SGT Jarrell Rysavy

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I really do appreciate all that you do for the Society. Please make it clear that this is not an angry letter but that I just want the record to show the Ceremonial Detachment's contribution. As stated, I am just as proud of all the duties I performed, whether while a dog face in the CD or the 3d but most of all I am proud of the men I served with.

While I acknowledge the contribution of the 3d Cav at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, I must admit that there is an oversight here regarding the various units that supplied guards for the Tomb. I was at Ft. Myer from April 1947 to August 1948. At that time, the only unit, which stood guard at the Tomb, was the 7011th Ceremonial Detachment, ASU, MP's. As far as I know this unit was the only unit. In 1946, when

the 3d Cav was at Ft Myer, they alternated with infantry units on a monthly basis. In the 30's, some of those guards came from Ft. Washington. My drill sergeant, SSG Henry Pickerel, who now resides in South Carolina, was a guard at the time. If you like I can give you his phone number. Also, my First Sergeant, who lives in New Jersey, can supply you with much more information. Not only was he our top kick in the CD, he was also in the Machine Gun Troop of the 3d Cav in the 30's.

I certainly appreciate the work you are doing, but I believe you give more than the 3d Cav its due while over looking my unit. The CD was a company of about 100 men. When you take out the orderly room, the kitchen, and the supply room, it leaves about 70 of us who did all the duties that an entire regiment

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During the 2002 Reunion, Neale Hart (60-62, 3rd Relief) demonstrates to John Ranum (60-61, 1st Relief) down in the quarters, why 3rd Relief will always rule!

The following is a list of the current nominees for the Board of Directors for the SHGTUS.

- James Cardamon (57-58)
- Neale Cosby (58-60)
- George March (63-65)
- John Ranum (60-61)
- Donald Richburg (59-61)
- Bill Rigsby (60-61)
- Chuck Shacochois (65-67)
- Meredith Smith (59-60)

If you have any information regarding any of our lost brothers and sisters, please contact the Editor at:

SHGTUS Editor
101 Menominee Dr,
Edgerton, WI 53534

or email the Webmaster at:

webmster@tombguard.org

In Depth with Frank Kozlowsky

by Bill Rigsby

Command Sergeant Major (Honorary) Frank Kozlowsky was selected to be the Honorary Sergeant of the Guard for Reunion 2002. Frank was a member of the Tomb Guard in (1939-40) and served as a Sentinel and the Sergeant of the Guard. During that time the Tomb Guards were assigned to the 3rd Cavalry Regiment ("Brave Rifles") commanded by General (then Colonel) George S. Patton. And, yes they had horses. Frank proudly displays photos of himself with some beautiful mounts and also



Command Sergeant Major (Honorary) Frank Kozlowsky

has some good stories to go with them. He is a proud of his certificate of promotion to Corporal which was signed by Colonel George S. Patton. Frank is an excellent representative of the Tomb Guard for that period along with other former members of the "Brave Rifles" (I was once a "Brave Rifles" while assigned to Fort Meade, MD). Frank is to be congratulated and honored for his service as a Tomb Guard and for his combat service in WW II.

Frank and his wife Sylvia reside in Lansdale, Pennsylvania.

Membership Dues Reminder

All membership dues **must** be paid in full by 31 December annually for the next fiscal year. If your money is not received by January 15, your name will be pulled from our membership roster.

Without this money, we will not be able to provide scholarships, educational presentations, have newsletters, put on any kind of a reunion or even maintain the website.

The Society needs funding to help ensure that the history of the Tomb and the Senti-

nels is preserved for future generations. With this kind of responsibility, we continue to provide the public with a rich knowledge of experience, and first hand expertise in an area that we can not afford to watch go by the wayside.

Final Thoughts from the President (cont from pg 2)

various schools, civic organizations and veterans groups. Your leadership in the education program is without parallel and will continue to bear fruit over the years to come. Your willingness to jump in and save the Society's Store was nothing short of a miracle.

John Ranum (60-61), although not a member of the Board, I feel that you are. Your initiative and work on the education committee has brought us John Porter's work in the VHS format and facilitated greater use of that material.



Pamela Tish. You have come to us as a friend and secured a place with us as a member of the family. As the Webmaster, you have taken an essential function and performed beyond expectations. You have brought to this work impressive knowledge, skills and abilities but more importantly, the heart of a Tomb Guard. From the beginning I have always believed that a Tomb Guard must always handle certain functions of the Society because no one knows us like we do. I have watched you take on this responsibility and witnessed the hand of a Tomb Guard as you carried out your responsibilities as the Webmaster. In all that you have done, you have done it well. And you brought credit and honor to this Society.

Bernie Lorenz (59-60), you took the store and created something that we are all proud. Through him we had a tremendous success in getting the miniature pins to the members and is now working on taking the orders for the grave markers. His work reflects thorough organization and sound judgment, not to mention the tremendous amount of time that he has given freely.

Pat Varallo (47-48), coordinates the notices and our representatives on the passing of a Tomb Guard.

In this past year, members of the Society have supported the Tomb Guard in numerous other ways. Here are some examples:

- We provided encouragement and crucial expertise in support of the RCO's initiative to create an Old Guard Monument.
- Our individual support for the purchase of the sports-drink to offset the effects of heat have reinforced the good will between us and the walking Sentinels.
- We have entered the dialogue regarding the replacement of the World War I Sarcophagus.
- Our library initiative will fit perfectly with and enhance our education program and the current RCO's efforts to emphasize education and training.
- We supported the filming and airing of Discovery's History Channel: American Icon's: Arlington

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First Scholarship Awarded by Jim Cardamon

The Society awarded its first Scholarship in August 2003. The \$2000.00 award went to Jessica Dawson of Oak Park, IL. Her father John Dawson, Badge number 62, was a guard from June 1967 to August 1968. The Scholarship Committee received numerous applications from qualified candidates, which made the selection process extremely difficult. We are in the process of trying to get as much coverage of the award through a press release as is possible. We think the award is a generous one and anticipate a good response for the award next year. Any help the members can give in helping to raise donations to the Scholarship Fund will be greatly appreciated. The Committee thinks that all of the members can feel proud of what the Society has accomplished in this very worthwhile endeavor. Members of the Committee are: John Ranum, Dan Mancuso and yours truly, James M. Cardamon Chairman.

Our newest badge holders

Congratulations are in order for the following new badge holders:

- 504** — SPC Roy L. May
- 505** — PFC Ryan L. Kline
- 506** — PFC Richard J. Graham
- 507** — SPC Beau Doboszanski
- 508** — CPT Stephen J. Ruppel-Lee
- 509** — PFC Joshua Luce
- 510** — PFC Matthew Kreeb
- 511** — SSG Roscoe J. Robinson
- 512** — CPT Joshua B. Jones
- 513** — SGT Bryan J. Campagna
- 514** — SPC Ryan M. Richardson
- 515** — SPC Brendon R. Bowen
- 516** — SPC Jesse D. Ward



PFC Matthew Kreeb (2002-present) receiving his Badge from Colonel James Laufenburg

Badges Awarded 45 years Later by Jim Cardamon

Here is a picture of the ceremony at the Tomb on June 7 when 15 of us received our Badge, orders and certificate from the Army. Those of us that got out of the Army between 07 February 1958 and 31 December 1962 had to turn in our badge before we left. It became a permanent award in 1963. The present regulation requires a minimum of 9 months on the Tomb to qualify for the award. Twenty four of us met that requirement. We will continue to work with those that had less than 9 months because of their ETS date. The ceremony was held in the trophy room at 11:00 a. m. The SOG formed the 15 of us that could make it to Arlington,



in three ranks. We were flanked by a cordon of present Badge holding sentinels. The orders were read and as each name was called, the RCO pinned the Badge on each of us. A short speech by the RCO followed. The ceremony was followed by a reception

down in the guard quarters. The reception was put together by Irene Hart. Everything was well done and enjoyed by the men and their families. As the Colonel said "45 years is a long time to wait."

James Baker	*Neale Hart
*John Butchko	*David Kerecz
*James Cardamon	Douglas Lamke
*Robert Carraher	*Bernie Lorenz
*Thomas Core	William McCarley
*James Costello	*Laurence Nagle
*Donald Farenholtz	*Donald Richburg
Jack Findley	*Gary Robertson
Jay Fuerst	*George Seawright
Ronald Gibson	Meredith Smith
Talmedge Gilley	*George Vanlandingham
David Goodwin	*Roger Wilkins

*Were able to attend the ceremony

The New RCO—COL Chuck Taylor



Colonel Charles L. Taylor came on board as Regimental Commanding Officer on June 24, 2003. He graduated from the University of Kansas as a distinguished military graduate and was commissioned as a 2LT of Infantry in 1982.

He has served in a variety of Command and Staff assignments in both Light and Mechanized Infantry units to

include 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), 25th Infantry Division (Light), and 24th Infantry (Mechanized), 87th Infantry (L), G3 for 10th Mountain Division (LI). His most recent assignment was as Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Army. COL Taylor was deployed to Haiti during OPERATION Uphold Democracy and Iraq during OPERATION Iraqi Freedom.

COL Taylor is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the US Army War College. He received his Masters of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University and Masters of National Security from the Army War College.

COL Taylor's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal w/ five oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal w/ three oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Expert Infantrymans Badge, Parachutist badge, Air Assault badge, Ranger tab, Army Staff Identification Badge, Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge

- 1. What things can we look forward to from you?** I'm a firm believer in the philosophy "if it isn't broken, don't fix it." I would like to make sure that we reach out to the past and looking back to the way things were done and incorporate those way's of doing things today.
- 2. What is your view of the Regiment?** This is such an honor and privilege for me to be a part of the finest regiment in the world. I was actually selected to take this position, I mean, they approached me, they entrusted me with this assignment and, I couldn't believe that I am now part of this regi-

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Next Deadline for *The Sentinel* is December 31, 2003.

From the Treasurer's Desk... "Oxy who?"

I once read that if you laid all accountants end to end...that would be a good thing. As treasurer and utility money manager for this august body, the same might be said for the likes of me. There is only so much of real interest to report. The Society will have approximately (not a good word in this business) \$8000 in the treasury at the time you read this and about (uh oh) \$6000 in our scholarship account. These numbers are imprecise because we are a moving target income/bill paying wise. There is always a trickle coming in and ooze going out (real accounting terminology now) and so our asset level has been about static for the past several SHGTUS years. Reason: We've got so many Founding/Life Members in this man's Society; dues income has become a real oxymoron. Like "airline food", it's a term that contradicts itself. Is there a cure? Sure...if we truly want to fund SHGTUS so we can become all we want it to be, then we either change our thinking/policy about life membership or we figure new ways to raise capital (accounting vernacular at last!). Personally, I would like to receive your input on this issue MRSmith@goecw.net. In the meantime, we can always sell more SHGTUS GRAVE markers. Now there's a hot item for our under 60 contingent (smile).

Meredith R. Smith
mrsmith@goecw.net
 410-820-4169

Shopping at the Society Store

For those who ordered mini badge pins and grave markers, I would like to express my sincere thanks. We have grave markers in stock and there are a few mini badge pins left so, if you don't have one, please contact me. The mini badge pins are \$17.50 (incl S&H) and the grave markers are \$58.00 (incl S&H). Please keep an eye on the Society Store on the website as we have added more clothing. The clothing is available in assorted colors and sizes. We have also included items just for the spouses. All items have the Society Logo embroidered on them. The logo will be a shade darker or lighter than the material it is on which makes it stand out nicely. More items will be added for the Fall and Winter season so keep the Society Store in mind when you think about buying that special gift by displaying the logo we are all so proud to wear. To keep from having to inventory these products, we need to have orders for 24 items or more before we can order from the manufacturer to get the best price, which is reflected in the retail price. We will try to have baseball caps available continually. Please make checks payable to: SHGTUS Treasurer and mail to:

SHGTUS Store Manager
Bernie Lorenz
 440 6th Ave SE
 Ephrata, WA 98823
 509 754-4290
shgtus_store@yahoo.com

News Around the Society

John Porter (87-88) was married to his best friend Kristen on 24 June, 2003. While on their honeymoon, they went to the great state of Montana and visited with **John** and **Joyce Ranum (60-61)**. The Porter's are expecting a baby girl in February. **Jaime Goebel (97-99)** and his wife recently moved to St Cloud, Minnesota where Jaime will soon be coaching track, football and basketball; **Gary Bauer (62-64)** went on an excursion to Europe "tell everyone I went to Normandy and saw the War Memorial...with actual movies from both sides...it was something"; **Roy Banks (59-60)** and **Dave Woods (64-65)** both took separate trips to the Yule Marble Quarry in Colorado and witnessed history in the making. They both saw the process that goes into selecting the perfect cut of marble that will eventually be transformed into the new Tomb sarcophagus; **Richard Azzaro (63-65)** delivered fruit baskets to wounded Marines at Bethesda Naval Hospital. "They told us about their wounds, how they received them and their friends that were killed trying to save others." An incredible coincidence made the visit even more compelling. The Commandant of the Marine Corps was at the hospital at that very same time, presenting the Purple Heart to these same Marines; Tom Denne was hired by **Bill McCarley**
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How Can You Help the Society?

The society needs volunteers to help on our committees. If you have any spare time or any ideas, please contact the Secretary or the Executive Director today. Our goals as an organization cannot move forward unless we all pitch in, and it only takes a fraction of your time.

If you have a new address, phone number, cell phone number, or email address, please send them to the webmaster. Include a note if you would like this information kept confidential.

www.tombguard.org

The web site is starting to shape up nicely. I still need the majority of you to send in your bios. A sample of the bio is attached to the Member page. You can included whatever you care to for your personal gallery on your own website. If you have any ideas, please feel free to fire them off to the webmaster. Over the next several months, I will be revamping formats and pages. If you spot any errors, please let me know. A fresh set of eyes are always welcomed. Email the Webmaster at:

WEBMSTER@TOMBGUARD.ORG
 (and there is no "A" in webmster)

Wreath Laying Ceremony with the New Regimental Commander

by Richard Azzaro

Today, at the formal invitation of the Regimental Commander, I had the privilege to attend the Old Guard's special formation at Ft. Myer and wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier to remember those of the 3d Inf., killed and wounded in the service of our Country. This is the first in what I hope will become a tradition in the Old Guard. From my perspective, it is an idea that proceeds upon something that we as Tomb Guards know very well -- "Soldiers Never Die Until They are Forgotten, Tomb Guards Never Forget." At the RCO's direction the Presidents of the Old Guard Association and the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were placed in the reviewing stand and introduced to the assembled Regiment.

Many things contributed to what I believe was a very powerful and arresting demonstration of the best of who and what we are as former and current members of the Old Guard. I think the first would be the conceptual framework. It is rooted in the immutable truth that to understand and know who we are, we must first know who we were, how that came to be and where possible, identify and capture the spirit and personality of those who answered our Country's call in time of need. Secondly, the drawing upon the artifacts that are a part of that history brings a dimension to the effort that aids the communication and creates a moment where time can stand still. Where we can reach back to the hands of those that came before us. That was done by having the Old Guard Historian present with the Chapultipac (Sp) Baton, 3rd Inf. members dressed out in period correct uniform and the Regimental Flag with Battle Streamers. The full participation of the Regiment drawn up on a field that we all know, before daylight, out of the public view, made the ceremony ours,-- by us and for us, all of us -- From the first member to put on the uniform of the 3d Inf to the newest member to be enrolled in the unbroken chain of those having served with the Old Guard. Dawn is the beginning of a new day. To commemorate those who began the proud traditions of the Old Guard in a ceremony at dawn was brilliant. What happened this morning on that field was not something you capture through your eyes, but those other senses that alert you to something happening around you. That something was a mingling of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. To assemble us and set us upon that footing was a noble purpose and we were enriched by it.

At the conclusion of the formation, we proceeded quickly to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where Karen and I were warmly received. You all know that feeling when we are in the Guard Quarters -- with the family. These current Tomb Guard's have created an atmosphere that is as intense with commitment as when I first walked. I will never be able to express how absolutely complete I feel when I am with Tomb Guards.

The wreath laying was perfect -- before public hours, only 3d Inf. present, the Tomb Guard drawn up in a separate formation and the music was provided by members of the Old Guard Fife and Drum. (This bugler played from his soul) Taps was played



and again time stood still for a precious moment. I was honored by the RCO to join him and the CSM in the wreath laying party. While it was my honor to be there as the President, and they were my hands that touched the wreath, know that all of you were there with me.

Our guys were outstanding (I think they were all trained by the Second Relief). The current Tomb Guards are the best I have ever seen. The mission is secure and we could never be more proud. To be a part of the past and connected to the future they have firmly in their hands is simply another facet of this incredible experience of being a Tomb Guard and member of the 3rd Infantry.

I needed to share this with you all because it is important that you know how well the Society is regarded by the current RCO and the direction he is taking us.

Yours in the Society,
Richard Azzaro

Knowledge Quiz

Do you remember the days when visitors asked you questions? Was it a tough one like: "When did you join the Marines?"

As we represent the best the ARMY has to offer, the public expects Tomb Guards to know everything about ANC, the Regiment and the Army. Do you still have what it takes? Take the following quiz and see:

1. Name the four participating ships that were involved with the transportation of the WWII and the Korean Unknowns.
2. What did the US Army Honorary Pallbearers on 30 May 1958 for the Unknowns have in common.
3. There is a quote in the Amphitheater "When we assume the soldier, we did not set aside the citizen."
 - a. Who said this.
 - b. Where was it originally said.

If you have news you want to let your fellow members in on, please send it in!

“Post and Orders Remain as Directed” (cont from pg 1)

An e-mail from one reader thanked Holmes for “showing young and old that there is great honor still alive in America.” Holmes’ quotes were taken out of context and pieced together from several different responses, Geary said.

The Tomb Guards are grateful for the public’s support, but unhappy their devotion to duty could mistakenly be viewed as a willingness to disobey orders, Geary added. Taylor and Geary understand the nation’s interest in a story about a national shrine that in Taylor’s words is “a celebration of the Soldier,” but believe the article may have created some misplaced heroism.

“Ultimately it’s a great story, but the emphasis is on the wrong point,” Taylor said.

“Everyone did the same job we do every day,” Geary said. The rain a few days after the hurricane caused more difficulties for the guards than experienced during the hurricane, he pointed out, but the mission was, as always, accomplished.

“This isn’t about the Soldiers, it’s about what they are guarding. Sentinels come and go, but the tomb stays and it stands for something a lot bigger than each of us,” said Geary. “The guards understand that, and they are devoted to what they do.”

“The real story is why we put guards there in the first place, because guarding it is our sacred trust to those who paid the ultimate price, the last full measure,” Taylor concurred.

A note of Thanks...

Without the support of the following businesses and individuals, our 2002 reunion would not have been such a success.

Days Inn Arlington
2201 Arlington Blvd Dr
Arlington, VA 22201
703-525-0300

Royal-Lee Bar & Grill
2211 North Pershing
Arlington, VA 22201
703-524-5493

Marriott Key Bridge
1401 Lee Highway
Arlington, VA 22209
703-524-6400

Twinbrook Florist
9575 Braddock Road
Fairfax, VA 22032
800-582-5759 (Toll Free)

Tom Sherlock (Historian)
Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, VA 22201

Officers Club
Ft Myer, VA

A special thanks goes to:

Craig & Landreth, Inc.
1590 Greentree Blvd.
Clarksville, IN 47129

for donating \$500 to our scholarship fund.

Letters to the Editor (cont from pg 4)

now does. We did the Tomb, caisson funerals, all parade duties, all ceremonials guns and on top of this, we did all the mundane work of any other infantry co, KP, guard duty, prison chaser, etc. Sometimes I hear that we were lax - like hell! We didn't have time to be lax. We just didn't tolerate any chicken shit. If you wanted to sneak up on us at the tomb, you took a chance of getting your ass shot off. More than once, I put a live one into the chamber of my 03. I would have shot first and asked questions later. I would like you to know that I was there when we received the colors of the 3d Infantry Regiment. I am proud to say that, but I am just as proud to say that I was a member of the Ceremonial Detachment before there was a 3d Infantry at Ft. Myer. There was a ceremonial detachment and we did it all.

Thank you,
Pasquale "Pat" Varallo
(vrlllo@yahoo.com)

Ps. I was 17 and a tomb guard!

The New RCO (cont from pg 6)

ment. It’s so hard to put into words because there is such an overwhelming assortment of emotions that all point to pride.

3. **What are your goals for the Sentinels?** To take it back a notch to perfect perfection.
4. **When you took over as RCO from MG Jackson, did he pass on any words of wisdom?** “Take care of this regiment. It’s the finest in the world.”
5. **Can you tell us anything about your family?** Married to my best friend Becky for 20 years and have three wonderful kids; 13 year old Lauren, 10 year old Courtney, and 6 year old Zachary.

Thank you for taking the time to answer these. It helps the guys in the Society feel more connected to what’s going on at the Tomb and The Old Guard.

Rose Ceremony (cont from pg 3)

symbol of remembrance. It was a special time for all the other Society members as they followed these parents and wife in remembering with love and reverence their fallen brothers as they each placed their roses. After placing their roses members formed a rank at the rear of the plaza from where they rendered honors. During the time of "Present Arms" and the rendering of "Taps," they too may have been remembering that they also had walked in the "footsteps" of the many Tomb Guard Brothers that have been walking there since March 25, 1926.

Iraq Hits Close to Home by Robert "Red" Carreher

Tomb Guard Brethren,

I would like to ask you to render a moment of silence to honor SSG David Scott Perry, who was married to my niece. On Sunday, August 10th 2003, while on duty in Ba'quban, Iraq, SSG Perry was inspecting a package that suddenly exploded, killing SSG Perry and wounding two of his buddies. He died serving his country.

The son of Sharon and Jim Perry, David was raised in Sonora, California. After graduating from high school, he met and married Denae, my niece. He joined the Army, served for 4 years as an aircraft mechanic in Germany and also served in Operation Desert Storm. SSG David Perry was with the California National Guard's 659th Military Police. He leaves behind a young wife, Denae, and three small children, Alyssa 6, Brandon 4, and Sean 1 years.

I know it would be very special to SSG Perry's family to know that there are some fellow soldiers out there who care enough to personally thank him and his family for this sacrifice. If you would like to send a personal note of thanks to Denae, or the family, they can be reached at:

(cont on pg 12)

(cont on pg 10)

Hoopla Commentary (cont from pg 10)

mission was textbook. The manner in which the Sergeant of the Guard attended to protecting his men was the kind that justifies trusting the welfare of the men to their NCO's. As for those young men who stood the watch, let me say that they are the best of what the American Soldier is and aspires to be. On that night they again demonstrated that they have earned the right to be regarded as Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

If this sounds to you like I am doing a little "flag waving" you would be correct. And yes, it is a little personal. Although the hair is white, and my old bones betray me and I no longer "walk", I am still a Tomb Guard. I know these men personally, and I cannot fully express how proud I am of each one of them. My only concern is that when people retell the story, they will only deal with the story in terms

(cont on pg 12)

Hurricane Hoopla Commentary by Richard Azzaro

There is much to say about these articles about Isabel and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. First, the Honor Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, did not fail or shrink from the mission which is to "Honor the Memory and Protect the Remains of the Unknown Soldiers" entombed within the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Most of the facts assembled in these articles seem to be calculated to support what the press thought was a "real" story and that is that an elite military unit refused orders from their superiors and in doing so demonstrated some superior morality or ethical code. In doing so the press missed the real story and ill served the American people. The real story, the one that they missed, was even more powerful.

The Guard was never ordered nor authorized to quit the post. What the 3d Infantry did do was assess the information regarding the storm, which predicted 120mph winds at the Tomb and prepared to protect the mission and then the personnel needed to protect the mission. They did this with the kind of character and sense of knowing that everyone was counting on them that made every Tomb Guard that ever served there proud of them. As we say among the Tomb Guard, "they never left the mat." They acknowledged and carried out the orders that are passed on to each sentinel at each and every guard change since March of 1926.

The planning from the Regimental Commander down through his chain of command was thorough and flawless. The execution of the

President's Message (cont from pg 5)

National Cemetery.

- We are currently in the making of a documentary focused on the Tomb Guard which is a part of our initiative to raise funds to support our educational, scholarship and mentoring program.

We have accomplished much but we have more to do.

Bill McCarley (59-60), you stepped forward and erected an ambitious effort to reach out to new communities that would be interested in supporting the Tomb Guard.

As we approach this next year and Reunion 2004, we must focus on getting new blood into our initiatives and management of the Society. Critical to our needs will be a full and dedicated effort for fundraising.

In closing, let me say to you that from the day that I first visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, all I ever wanted was to be a Tomb Guard. That desire has influenced every aspect of my life since that moment. As I near the completion of my term I need to thank you for the opportunity to have served as our Society's President because had I not had this, my service to the Mission and the Tomb Guard would not have been complete.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Azzaro

Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier—Reunion 2002 by Bill Rigby

The Society of The Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier held their reunion November 8-10 at the home of "The Old Guard," Fort Myer, VA. Members traveled from as far away as the states of Washington, California, Texas, Florida, Maryland, Maine and from many other states in between. They were all traveling to Arlington, Virginia to attend the SHGTUS Reunion 2002. They were anxious to see old friends and to meet new ones.

Days Inn Arlington was our host motel. It was the place of registration, great food and for meeting "OLE BUDDIES."

On Friday evening, a great time of "getting re-acquainted" took place at the Royal Lee Bar and Grill. There was a magnificent spread of hors d'oeuvres arranged by Meredith Smith (59-60) and his lovely wife Gretchen. As the drinks started flowing, there were many stories told (some were actually true) followed by a lot of laughter. One thing was very noticeable - the hair. When the men were younger and active members of the Tomb Guard, they had hair on top of their heads but none on the sides. Now, most of them have hair on the sides of their heads but little or none on top. One thing remained consistent, all the wives looked just as young and beautiful as we had remembered them from our earlier days.

On Saturday, the Town Hall (Old Post Theatre) was the site of our annual meeting. Much business was conducted and ideas exchanged. Some meaningful items discussed were:

- Presentation by Colonel Laufenburg concerning the placement of a monument to "The Old Guard" in an area adjacent to the parade field.
- Education/Scholarship Fund, with a cash donation being made by members.
- Presentation of the availability of the Tomb Guard grave marker.

Following the meeting, members gathered for lunch at the Ft Myer Officers Club.

The Marriot Key Bridge was the site for the hospitality hour and banquet Saturday evening. The guest speaker for the evening was Major General James T. Jackson, Commanding General, Military District of Washington. This was a great time for fellowship and good food in a beautiful setting. The presentation of the Colors and the professional conduct of the "Old Guardsmen" were great reminders of our heritage. Many good photographs were taken and are posted on the website.



Sunday morning activities began early with members gathering at 0800 hours at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for the Rose Ceremony and Wreath Laying. Society

members placed individual roses and the Board of Directors placed a wreath on behalf of all Society members.

Members then traveled to the Old Amphitheater for the Memorial/

Tribute Service. For the first time, the entire service was led by members of the Society. The old amphitheater has a warm, reverent atmosphere about it. It is just a few feet away from the Civil War Monument containing the remains of 2,111 Unknown Soldiers of the Civil War. These were the first Unknown Soldiers to be interred in Arlington National Cemetery.

A special addition to the service was "live music" provided by Phil March (63-65), a bagpiper. This was truly an inspirational location for our service and from the many comments made by members, we will probably return there again.

To conclude the service, the Society President, Richard Azaro made closing comments. We then posed for group photos which are also posted on the website. Make sure you view the photo of the wives and friends. Tomb Guards have an eye for BEAUTY!



Last but not least, was remembrances of our deceased brother Tomb Guards. Groups visited and placed roses on each gravesite.

We then departed Arlington and Ft Myer with fond memories, new stories and high expectations for our next reunion in November of 2004.



Hoopla...

(cont from pg 10)

of how the Press told it and what they thought was important. That they will say, "it didn't happen." And that is a damn shame because the real story is about honor, character, professionalism, profound respect for our war dead and yes, love of country. That's what happened out there that night and every night since March 1926.

What did happen was the Tomb Guard did not fail and that Isabelle was every bit as bad as reported.

Iraq Hits Close

(cont from pg 10)

Denae Perry
17058 Broken Pine Road
Sonora, CA 95370

Or you can send an email directly to Denae at:

honeystitch@webtv.net

Thank you for remembering SSG Perry and all of our young men serving their country, wherever they may be.

On a separate note, I hope to see some, or all of you guys at the next SHGTUS Reunion. Be there!!

Until then,

Robert 'Red' Carraher (59-60)

News Around ...

(cont from pg 7)

(59-60) and the SHGTUS to shoot a documentary on the Sentinels. He works at the Maryland Media College in Rockville, MD. It will be supplementing our power point presentation and will be aimed at our educational market. His tentative launch date is June 2003. **Fred Moore (1961)** was featured as a question and answer for the game show Jeopardy that aired 23 Sept 03; **Scott Tish (75-76)** recently lost his mother to breast cancer on 22 Sept, a disease that she had battled for 17 years. If you have any news to share in our next issue, please send it in to the Editor. You can e-mail it to:

webmster@tombguard.org

or send it via land mail to:

SHGTUS Newsletter
101 Menominee Drive
Edgerton, WI 53534

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of *The Sentinel* is December 31, 2003.

Knowledge Quiz**Here's the answers:**

1. The ships were the USS Blandy, the USS Boston, the USS Canberra and the USCGC Ingham.
2. They were all recipient's of the Congressional Medal of Honor.
3. A. George Washington
B. In a speech to calm the fears of the people of New York.

SHGTUS Newsletter

101 Menominee Drive

Edgerton, Wisconsin 53534

Email: webmster@tombguard.org

Address Correction Requested