



THE BLADE



Volume 26

A Newsletter of the 63d Infantry Division Association, USAR
Summer 2021

Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been almost a year since we published the last issue of The Blade. During this time there have been a number of changes on the Board of Governors. In November of 2020 LTC Beverley Houghton announced that she and husband Milt Houghton were moving to Oregon and that she was resigning from the Board of Governors. Bev had been serving as our treasurer so the Board decided to appoint me (BG Ebner) as the acting treasurer with COL Rick Garza alternate bank account signee so that there were at least 2 members who had access to our accounts. Also at this meeting Col Jim Wisenbaker, our secretary, and COL Ben Colcol, our membership chairman, advised the Board that they were not interested in serving for another term on the Board. At this meeting we also reviewed the results of the membership survey that we conducted that fall. Several things were apparent from the survey: Only 2 of the 27 respondents indicated an interest to serve on the Board of Governors. Several members recommended we transition the organization to the 79th Theater Sustainment Command (located at Los Alamitos), or the 63rd Readiness Division at Mountain View CA or consolidate it with a regional Retiree Council. Most of the suggestions were outside of the scope of our current Constitution and Bylaws, requiring a change to both. Based on this input the Board directed the president to confer with the current commander of the 63rd RD and assess their interest in becoming more involved in the Association.

At the direction of the Board of Governors a letter was sent to the Commander of the 63rd Readiness Division advising him of the existence of the 63rd Infantry Division Association USAR and its history, the problems we face with declining membership due to the relocation of the 63rd and our interest in meeting with him to discuss ways to work together on a course of action so that the association can survive. The Commander, replied by email that they were very busy and that "We are very interested in our lineage and affiliation and would like to engage with you to determine how we can best move forward." He indicated that he had discussed my letter with his CSM. I was contacted by the 63rd CSM about the Army Heritage Month (June) activities they were discussing and the possibility of our association's participation. I asked CSM Roberson to act as our point of contact for this. Unfortunately, nothing developed for this year's Heritage Month due to the Op Tempo at the 63rd. I feel that the future of the Association is in growing the membership by recruiting those who now serve in the 63rd RD to join the association and at some time in the future having them become more involved in its leadership.

I have given you this information so that you understand the challenges facing the Association. As you know we were unable to safely hold an annual meeting in April 2020. With the resignation of LTC Houghton I felt that there was a need to add a member to the Board of Governors. At the March 2021 meeting I proposed the appointment of CSM Mike Crespo to fill the vacant position once held by Bev Houghton. The Board unanimously approved this recommendation even though there are no provisions in our Constitution or Bylaws for such an action.

President's Message Continued

The annual meeting was also canceled for April 2021 due to the uncertainty that winter on whether gatherings would be permitted in April. It has now been two years since we have held an annual meeting and two years since we have held an election. Our Constitution provides that elections are to be held at the annual meeting. There is no provision for the conduct of an election by mail other than the submission of a Proxy to be voted by a member who is in attendance at the annual meeting. Therefore, the Board of Governors has set 25 September at 0900hr as the time for a Zoom Annual Meeting of the 63rd Infantry Division Association USAR.

There are two items that require a vote of the membership. The first is the amendment of the Constitution to reduce the number of members on the Board of Governors from 12 to 7. Specifically, Article IV GOVERNING BOARD shall state that the board shall consist of seven (7) members; Article V ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS shall be amended to state that the board consists of seven members, and that four of the members shall be elected each odd year and three shall be elected each even year; a new Article VI. FILLING OF VACANCIES ON THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS shall be added to provide a way to fill vacancies on the board of governors between annual meetings; Article VII MEMBERS EMERITUS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS is renumbered; Article VII ANNUAL MEETING is added to specify a procedure to hold an Annual Meeting via Zoom or any other electronic meeting service so that the Association does not experience a gap between elections; Article IX ASSOCIATION FUNDS, X CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS and XII EFFECTIVE DATE are renumbered to provide for the new provisions to the Constitution. The changes to the Constitution are in Italics highlighted in the text provided in this newsletter.

The second item for the Annual Meeting is the election of the Board of Governors. I have asked CSM Roberson and CSM Crespo to serve as a nomination committee to fill the Board of Governors. They recommend the following candidates for the Board of Governors:

To be elected in odd years:

CSM Mike Crespo
BG Chuck Ebner
COL Susan Lee
COL Michael Plotkin

To be elected in even years:

COL Lydia Collins
COL Rick Garza
CSM Robie Roberson

With the consent of the membership, I recommend that those elected for odd year terms be subject for reelection in 2023 and those selected for even year terms be subject for reelection in 2022.

The agenda for the 25 Sept Annual Meeting and instructions on how to participate are elsewhere in this newsletter.

Be Safe
Chuck Ebner
BG Ret. USA

Proposed Constitutional Changes

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE 63d Infantry Division Association, USAR

Revised 12 May 1979
Amended 3 Apr 1980
Revised 15 Apr 1984
Revised 27 Jun 1990
Revised 11 Mar 1992
Amended 28 Apr 1996
Revised 13 Apr 1997
Revised 22 Apr 2007
Revised 20 Aug 2009
Amended 28 April 2013

Proposed Amendment 25 September 2021

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME: The name of this organization shall be 63D INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, USAR.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE: The purposes of this Association shall be: To perpetuate the history and honor of the 63d Infantry Division (WW-II & USAR) and all other US Army Reserve units that have been subordinate or attached to the 63d Infantry Division, the 63d Army Reserve Command (ARCOM), 63d Regional Support Command (RSC), or the 63d Regional Readiness Command (RRC), or have been based in the geographic area of responsibility of any of the foregoing organizations; to promote and enhance the national security of the United States of America through a strong military program; and to provide assistance and support to the members and their families.

ARTICLE IIIA. MEMBERSHIP: Those eligible for full voting membership in the Association shall consist of individuals who are serving or have served under the colors of the 63d Infantry Division, including those who have been members of the 63d Infantry Division during and immediately after World War II; the 63d Infantry Division, US Army Reserve (USAR); the 63d US Army Reserve Command (ARCOM); the 63d US Army Reserve Regional Support Command (RSC); or the 63d US Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command (RRC); or who are serving or have served in subordinate or attached units or in an attached status to any of the foregoing organizations; or who are serving or have served in any US Army Reserve unit based in the geographic area of responsibility of any of the foregoing organizations.

ARTICLE IIIB. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: Associate membership may be granted by the Board of Governors to spouses, widows, widowers, ancestors, or lineal descendants of individuals referred to in Article IIIA above; or to individuals with a special affinity for any of the foregoing US Army organizations. Associate members shall have the right to vote and to serve in any elected office except President or Vice President of the Association.

ARTICLE IIIC. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: Honorary membership may be granted to those individuals who do not meet the criteria for regular or associate membership, but who, by their actions and efforts, have contributed materially to the purposes of the Association. In addition, upon the death of any regular member, honorary membership shall be automatically conferred upon the surviving spouse.

ARTICLE IV. GOVERNING BOARD: The governing body of the Association shall be known as the Board of Governors. It shall consist of *seven* members of the Association in good standing.

ARTICLE V. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Nominations for election to the Board of Governors shall be made by a nominating committee named by the President prior to each annual meeting. The Board shall consist of *seven* members, elected for a term of two years, with *four members elected each odd year and three members elected each even year.*

ARTICLE VI. FILLING OF VACANCYS ON THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS: *A vacancy on the Board of Governors shall be filled by an appointment of a member in good standing of the Association at the next meeting of the Board of Governors. Said appointee shall complete the term of the member who's position they fill and shall stand for election by the full membership at the next annual meeting.*

ARTICLE VII. MEMBER EMERITUS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS: A member who has served on the Board of Governors for three consecutive two-year terms shall become a "Member Emeritus of the Board of Governors", with full privileges upon completion of his/her qualifying or final term of office. Member Emeritus status shall not preclude subsequent election to the Board. A Member Emeritus subsequently elected to additional terms of office shall be accorded full privileges of the office.

ARTICLE VIII. ANNUAL MEETING: *The Association shall hold its annual meeting in the second quarter of each calendar year. Said meeting shall be conducted in-person if possible. Should the conduct of an in-person annual meeting not be possible due to conditions beyond the control of the Board of Governors such as a pandemic, the annual meeting shall be conducted virtually by the use of Zoom or any other electronic meeting service. The election of Board of Governors shall be conducted at the annual meeting.*

ARTICLE IX. ASSOCIATION FUNDS: Funds may be accumulated through *member dues*, periodic assessment of members of the Association and by such other means as may be approved by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE X. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS: This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of those members who, either through Proxy or by voting while present at an annual meeting of the Association, affirm a proposed amendment. Where a Proxy has been submitted, and the member attends the next-following Annual Meeting at which the issue is decided, the Proxy may be allowed to stand, or the member may withdraw the Proxy and vote in person. In no event may a member do both. Written notice of such proposed amendment(s) shall be delivered to the full membership not less than thirty days prior to such meeting, accompanied by a copy of the amendment. No member may vote both through proxy and presence at an Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE XII. EFFECTIVE DATE: Amendments to this Constitution shall become effective upon ratification by a majority of the membership voting at an annual meeting, either through proxy or presence at such Annual Meeting.

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

By-law I. Officers and Committees:

SECTION 1. The members of the Board of Governors shall, at a regularly scheduled meeting, elect the following officers from among their number President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer. The term of office for all officers shall be for a concurrent one-year period.

SECTION 2: The President shall conduct and preside at all meetings of the Board and any other meeting of the Association that may be held.

SECTION 3: The Vice President, if for any reason the President is unable to attend any scheduled meeting, or is unable to fulfill his term of office, shall preside over such meetings of the board or complete the term of office.

SECTION 4: The Secretary shall inform the Board of Governors on matters in need of the Board's attention. He or she shall publish scheduled meetings of the Association and the Board, prepare notices, agendas and minutes, and maintain necessary records, correspondence files and membership rosters.

SECTION 5: The Treasurer shall be entrusted with the management of Association funds. He or she shall be charged with the duty of accumulating, holding, managing and disbursing all funds. He or she shall also maintain accurate records of all transactions involving the funds entrusted to his or her care and prepare and submit all reports required by the US Internal Revenue Service.

SECTION 6: The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in the performance of those duties set forth in Section 4, as may be delegated to him or her. The Assistant Secretary shall be Co-Chair, with a member appointed by the President, of the Arrangements Committee for the annual meeting of the Association.

SECTION 7: The President shall appoint, from time to time, members of the Board to such committees as he or she deems necessary to conduct the business of the Association.

SECTION 8: Contracts and other documents shall be signed by the President or such other individuals as may be authorized by the Board.

By-law II. Meetings of the Board.

SECTION 1: Meetings of the Board of Governors shall be at the call of the President, but not less than four times in each calendar year. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order."

SECTION 2: The Secretary shall give every member of the Board no less than seven days notice for each meeting called by the President. Such notice shall state the date, time and place of such meeting.

SECTION 3: Three members of the Board currently serving in office, excluding Members Emeritus shall constitute a quorum to conduct any business of the Board.

SECTION 4: The Treasurer shall, at each meeting of the Board, report on the financial condition of the Association, unless such report is dispensed with by vote of the Board.

By-law III, Establishment of Regional Chapters:

SECTION 1: The establishment of regional chapters of the Association is permitted, upon petition to the Board of Governors by at least five (5) members of the Association who desire to establish a regional chapter.

SECTION 2: Members of a regional chapter must be members in good standing of the Association.

SECTION 3: News submitted by regional chapters shall be included, space permitting, in the Association's quarterly newsletter, "The Blade." At the discretion of the Board of Governors, the name of the publication may be changed to "The Blood & Fire," or a section within "The Blade" may be named "The Blood & Fire." A subscription fee may be charged by the Board of Governors for any mailed edition(s) of "The Blade" or "The Blood & Fire."

SECTION 4: Regional chapters may hold annual meetings, similar to the Association's annual meeting.

By-law IV, Amendment of By-laws:

These by-laws may be amended by any scheduled annual meeting of the Association by affirmative majority vote, or at any scheduled meeting of the Board of Governors by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members serving in office, after service of a reasonable notice in advance of such meeting.

NOTICE of ANNUAL MEETING

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the 63rd Infantry Division Association USAR will be held on **25 SEPT 2021 at 0900hr**. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom. To attend the meeting log onto Zoom using the following procedures.:

Meeting starts at 0900 (PST). The Zoom site will be opened at 0845. The Zoom app will accommodate 100 participants, max.

Participants just need to enter the link below in your browser, and enter the passcode.

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84517026405?
pwd=NWRJMHQ0T0Mwendvb1FH5zhSL2ZlQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84517026405?pwd=NWRJMHQ0T0Mwendvb1FH5zhSL2ZlQT09)

Meeting ID: 845 1702 6405

Passcode: 578677

CSM Robie Roberson will be available for any questions. He can be reached at robiejr1@gmail.com

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Self-Introductions

Introduction Guest Speaker,

MG Alberto C. Rosende, Commanding General 63rd Readiness Division Invited

Business Meeting

Amendment of Constitution and Bylaws

Election of Board of Governors

Adjournment



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 Huntington Beach, CA 92647
 E-mail: JWisemb662@gmail.com
 Website: <https://www.63rdinfdivassnusr.com>

NON-PROFIT
 U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
 PERMIT #589
 HUNTINGTON BEACH,
 CA

Address Service Requested

Membership Application 63d Infantry Division Association, USAR

Rank/Name _____ Home Phone (____) _____

Street _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

City/State _____ Zip code _____

Spouse's Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

Present or former assignments in 63d Inf Div WWII 63d Inf Div USAR

63d ARCOM 63d RSC/RRC/RRSC or geographic area of responsibility under any of these Organizations. _____

Life Membership \$50 3 Years \$25 1 Year \$10

Make check payable to 63d Inf Div Assn USAR

Send application and payment to

COL Ben Colcol 2518 Alki Place, Anaheim, CA 92806



HELP US KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU! Please send your current email address to our Secretary at Jwisemb662@gmail.com,