

"LZ 53"
Newsletter of
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
SOUTH BAY CHAPTER 53

4733 Torrance Blvd #553 Torrance, Ca 90503 (310 540-8820)

March - April 2024



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LZ 53 Newsletter

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***Please do not throw this
newsletter away. Pass it
along to another Veteran.***

Chapter 53 Monthly Standard Schedule of Events / Meetings

There will be exceptions – check the monthly calendar inside.

* First Saturday – Hermosa Beach Veteran's Memorial clean-up @ 0830hrs

* Third Tuesday – "Board/General Meetings" all chapter members encouraged to attend.

* Third Saturday – Torrance Veteran's Memorial clean-up @ 0830hrs

Membership is open to all Vietnam Era Veterans, regardless of race, religion, gender, ethnicity or character of discharge. Associate membership is open to all others.

The opinions expressed in LZ 53 are not necessarily those of the chapter, its officers, Board of Directors, membership, Editor of LZ 53 or of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

If you wish to express an opinion, submit a story, poem or joke, etc. please contact the LZ 53 Editor: smandelfive@dslextrema.com

Chapter 53 Meetings

March 19, 2024 (Tues)

April 16, 2024 (Tues)

Board Meetings @ 1200 pm

General Meetings @ 1:00 pm

Hawthorne VFW Post 2075

4563 W. 131st Street - Hawthorne, Ca 90250



**Vietnam War
Veterans' Day
March 29, 2024**

date	day	March 2024 Monthly Calendar
1	fri	
2	sat	H.B. Vet Memorial clean-up @ 0830, corner of PCH/Pier Ave, breakfast @ 930am (dutch treat)
3	sun	Hawthorne VFW Dinner 3-5pm RSVP \$10.00 Hawthorne VFW 4563 W 131st St, Hawthorne
4	mon	
5	tue	1942 - Seabee's Birthday (82 yrs old)
6	wed	
7	thur	
8	fri	
9	sat	
10	sun	
11	mon	
12	tue	Ch53 Breakfast and BS Meetin' @ 9am Black Bear Diner 24021 Hawthorne Bl - Torrance
13	wed	K-9 Veterans Day
14	thur	
15	fri	
16	sat	Torrance Veteran Memorial clean-up @ 0830, corner of Torrance Bl/Maple, breakfast @ 930am (dutch treat)
17	sun	Happy St Patrick's Day
18	mon	
19	tue	Business Mtg 12 noon General Mtg 1pm SPECIAL SPEAKER - Mia Walsh, Col, USAF
20	wed	2003 - Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) begins
21	thur	Rosie the Riveter Day
22	fri	
23	sat	
24	sun	Hawthorne VFW 9am-noon \$12.00 / Palm Sunday
25	mon	Medal of Honor Day
26	tue	
27	wed	
28	thur	
29	fri	Vietnam Veteran's Day- sat 30 - sun 31-Happy Easter

date	day	April 2024 Monthly Calendar
1	mon	Happy April Fools Day
2	tue	
3	wed	
4	thur	
5	fri	Gold Star Spouses Day
6	sat	H.B. Vet Memorial clean-up @ 0830, corner of PCH/Pier Ave, breakfast @ 930am (dutch treat)
7	sun	Hawthorne VFW Dinner 3-5pm RSVP \$10.00
8	mon	
9	tue	Ch53 Breakfast and BS Meetin' @ 9am Black Bear Diner 24021 Hawthorne Bl - Torrance
10	wed	
11	thur	
12	fri	
13	sat	Happy Birthday Thomas Jefferson.....
14	sun	
15	mon	TAX DAY
16	tue	Business Mtg 12 pm - General Mtg 1 pm @ Hawthorne VFW 4563 W 131st St, Hawthorne
17	wed	
18	thur	
19	fri	
20	sat	Torrance Veteran Memorial clean-up @ 0830, corner of Torrance Bl/Maple, breakfast @ 930am (dutch treat)
21	sun	Hawthorne VFW Breakfast 9am-noon \$12.00
22	mon	Passover begins
23	tue	
24	wed	
25	thur	
26	fri	
27	sat	
28	sun	
29	mon	tue 30-Passover ends

**COMING TO GARDENA
THE WALL THAT HEALS**

Johnson Park

1200 W. 170th Street

April 4th (Thursday) - April 7th (Sunday)
open to the public 24 hrs a day



March 2023 speaker at general meeting:

MIA L. WALSH, Col, USAF

Commander, Space Base Delta 3
Los Angeles AFB, CA



Hawthorne VFW Dinner (1st Sunday of every month)

3pm-5pm \$10.00 donation (Reservations Required)

4563 131st Street Hawthorne (310 679-7472)



Hawthorne VFW Breakfast (3rd Sunday of every month)

9am - noon \$12.00 donation

4563 131st Street Hawthorne (310 679-7472)



Hawthorne VFW Casino Bus Trips (local & overnight)

contact VFW for more info: 310 679-7472

KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

By - **BOB HOLMES**

This column is a new feature of LZ 53. Each issue I am going to tell you a few fun facts about two of our members that I will bet you did not know.

This column is not intended to highlight military accomplishments. Rather, it is a chance to get to know your fellow Chapter 53 members better and, perhaps, find out something you really have in common with them.

ED SAKIHAMA-Army Born on Oahu, Hawaii
Was an accomplished street racer with his '56 Chevy--Never defeated and never arrested!
His GMC Duramax pickup truck actually runs on reclaimed vegetable oil (I'm not kidding).

Is part of our Chapter 53 crew that maintains the Hermosa Beach Veterans Memorial on the 1st Saturday morning of the month.

JEFF MARTIN-Marines

Is an avid (fanatical?) pickleball player.

Was a league (San Bernardino area) champion diver in high school. Enjoyed hang gliding when he lived in Hawaii in the 70's. Has been married 48 years.



JUST DON'T STAND THERE - Get involved with ch 53.

Attend a meeting, help clean a memorial with breakfast afterward, join us for our monthly breakfast meetings.

At our April meeting we will be voting for new officers and board members.....Think about becoming an officer and board member. There is plenty of room for more board members. GET INVOLVED - you might just like it.

IT'S BACK

Ch53's monthly BREAKFAST & BS MEETIN'

Time to roll outta them sacks,
formation at 0700 hrs
PT at 0800 hrs
chow at 0900 hrs

Welcome to the over the hill club.

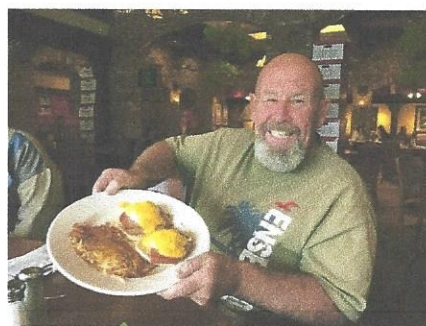
*The non workers club, where not only do you,
not work, but nothing else does either.*

2nd Tuesday of each month

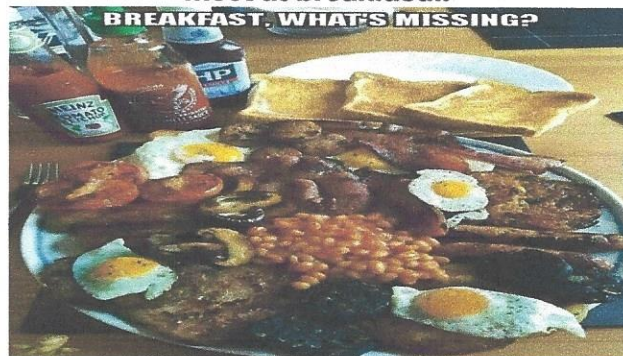
Time: 0900 hrs (9:00 am for you civilians)

Where: Black Bear Diner

24021 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrance



**You never know what characters you might
meet at breakfast...**



**The above picture is asking
"WHAT'S MISSING"**

Missing are Ch53 Members to enjoy good food,
embellished war stories.....
and most of all, Camaraderie.

Contact Steve Mandel at 310 547-3819 h (leave
message), 562 216-3274-cell (text) or
smandelfive@dslextreme.com to get on the e-mail
mailing list and breakfast info.

1st breakfast

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

0900 hrs

SUCH AN INCREDIBLE, MOSTLY UNKNOWN STORY

In 1933, a beautiful, young Austrian woman took off her clothes for a movie director. She ran through the woods, naked. She swam in a lake, naked. Pushing well beyond the social norms of the period. The most popular movie in 1933 was King Kong. But everyone in Hollywood was talking about that scandalous movie with the gorgeous, young Austrian woman.

Louis B. Mayer, of the giant studio MGM, said she was the most beautiful woman in the world. The film was banned practically everywhere, which of course made it even more popular and valuable. Mussolini reportedly refused to sell his copy at any price. The star of the film, called "Ecstasy," was Hedwig Kiesler. She said the secret of her beauty was "to stand there and look stupid." In reality, Kiesler was anything but stupid. She was a genius. She'd grown up as the only child of a prominent Jewish banker. She was a math prodigy. She excelled at science. As she grew older, she became ruthless, using all the power her body and mind gave her.

Between the sexual roles she played, her tremendous beauty, and the power of her intellect, Kiesler would confound the men in her life including her six husbands, two of the most ruthless dictators of the 20th century, and one of the greatest movie producers in history. Her beauty made her rich for a time. She is said to have made - and spent \$30 million in her life.

But her greatest accomplishment resulted from her intellect, and her invention continues to shape the world we live in today.

You see, this young Austrian starlet would take one of the most valuable technologies ever developed right from under Hitler's nose.

After fleeing to America, she not only became a major Hollywood star, her name sits on one of the most important patents ever granted by the U.S. Patent Office. Today, when you use your cell phone or, over the next few years, as you experience super-fast wireless Internet access (via something called "long-term evolution" or "LTE" technology), you'll be using an extension of the technology a 20-year-old actress first conceived while sitting at dinner with Hitler.

At the time she made Ecstasy, Kiesler was married to one of the richest men in Austria. Friedrich Mandl was Austria's leading arms maker. His firm would become a key supplier to the Nazis. Mandl used his beautiful young wife as a showpiece at important business dinners with representatives of the Austrian, Italian, and German fascist forces. One of Mandl's favorite topics at these gatherings - which included meals with Hitler and Mussolini - was the technology surrounding radio-controlled missiles and torpedoes.

Wireless weapons offered far greater ranges than the wire-controlled alternatives that prevailed at the time. Kiesler sat through these dinners "looking stupid," while absorbing everything she heard. As a Jew, Kiesler hated the Nazis. She abhorred her husband's business ambitions. Mandl responded to his willful wife by imprisoning her in his castle, Schloss Schwarzenau. In 1937, she managed to escape.

She drugged her maid, snuck out of the castle wearing the maid's clothes and sold her jewelry to finance a trip to London. (She got out just in time. In 1938, Germany annexed Austria. The Nazis seized Mandl's factory. He was half Jewish. Mandl fled to Brazil. (Later, he became an adviser to Argentina's iconic populist president, Juan Peron.)

In London, Kiesler arranged a meeting with Louis B. Mayer. She signed a long-term contract with him, becoming one of MGM's biggest stars. She appeared in more than 20 films. She was a co-star to Clark Gable, Judy Garland, and even Bob Hope. Each of her first seven MGM movies was a blockbuster. But Kiesler cared far more about fighting the Nazis than about making movies.

At the height of her fame, in 1942, she developed a new kind of communications system, optimized for sending coded messages that couldn't be "jammed." She was building a system that would allow torpedoes and guided bombs to always reach their targets. She was building a system to kill Nazis. By the 1940s, both the Nazis and the Allied forces were using the kind of single frequency radio-controlled technology Kiesler's ex-husband had been peddling. The drawback of this technology was that the enemy could find the appropriate frequency and "jam" or intercept the signal, thereby interfering with the missile's intended path.

Kiesler's key innovation was to "change the channel." It was a way of encoding a message across a broad area of the wireless spectrum. If one part of the spectrum was jammed, the message would still get through on one of the other frequencies being used. The problem was, she could not figure out how to synchronize the frequency changes on both the receiver and the transmitter. To solve the problem, she turned to perhaps the world's first techno-musician, George Anthiel.

Anthiel was an acquaintance of Kiesler who achieved some notoriety for creating intricate musical compositions. He synchronized his melodies across twelve player pianos, producing stereophonic sounds no one had ever heard before. Kiesler incorporated Anthiel's technology for synchronizing his player pianos. Then, she was able to synchronize the frequency changes between a weapon's receiver and its transmitter. On August 11, 1942, U.S. Patent No. 2,292,387 was granted to Anthiel and "Hedy Kiesler Markey," which was Kiesler's married name at the time.

Most of you won't recognize the name Kiesler. And no one would remember the name Hedy Markey. But it's a fair bet than anyone reading this post of a certain age, will remember one of the great beauties of Hollywood's golden age - Hedy Lamarr. That's the name Louis B. Mayer gave to his prize actress. That's the name his movie company made famous. Almost no one knows Hedwig Kiesler - a/k/a Hedy Lamarr - was one of the great pioneers of wireless communications. Her technology was developed by the U.S. Navy, which has used it ever since.

You are probably using Lamarr's technology, too. Her patent sits at the foundation of "spread spectrum technology," which you use every day when you log on to a wi-fi network or make calls with your Bluetooth-enabled phone. It lies at the heart of the massive investments being made right now in so-called fourth-generation "LTE" wireless technology. This next generation of cell phones and cell towers will provide tremendous increases to wireless network speed and quality, by spreading wireless signals across the entire available spectrum. This kind of encoding is only possible using the kind of frequency switching that Hedwig Kiesler invented.



Hedy Lamarr

Poor People vs Rich People.....

One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of a very poor family. On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" "It was great dad," the son said.

"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked.

"Oh, yeah," the son said.

"So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" the father asked.

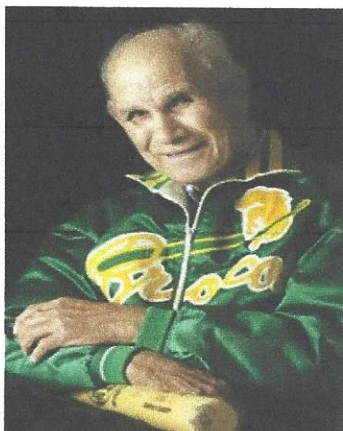
"I saw that we have one dog, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden, and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden, and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard, and they have the whole horizon. We have a small piece of land to live on, and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us, and they have friends to protect them."

The boy's father was speechless. Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

Isn't perspective a wonderful thing? Makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks for everything we have instead of worrying about what we don't have.

May this story refresh our perspective and appreciation!

Don't Widen the Plate!



John Scolinos

In Nashville, Tennessee, during the first week of January, 1996, more than 4,000 baseball coaches descended upon the Opryland Hotel for the 52nd annual ABCA convention.

While I waited in line to register with the hotel staff, I heard other more veteran coaches rumbling about the lineup of speakers scheduled to present during the weekend. One name, in particular, kept resurfacing, always with the same sentiment — "John Scolinos is here? Oh, man, worth every penny of my airfare."

Who the hell is John Scolinos, I wondered. No matter, I was just happy to be there. In 1996, Coach Scolinos was 78 years old and five years retired from a college coaching career that began in 1948. He shuffled to the stage to an impressive standing ovation, wearing dark polyester pants, a light blue shirt, and a string around his neck from which home plate hung — a full-sized, stark-white home plate. Seriously, I wondered, who in the hell is this guy?

After speaking for twenty-five minutes, not once mentioning the prop hanging around his neck, Coach Scolinos appeared to notice the snickering among some of the coaches. Even those who knew Coach Scolinos had to wonder exactly where he was going with this, or if he had simply forgotten about home plate since he'd gotten on stage. Then, finally ...

"You're probably all wondering why I'm wearing home plate around my neck. Or, maybe you think I escaped from Camarillo State Hospital," he said, his voice growing irascible. I laughed along with the others, acknowledging the possibility. "No," he continued, "I may be old, but I'm not crazy. The

reason I stand before you today is to share with you baseball people what I've learned in my life, what I've learned about home plate in my 78 years."

Several hands went up when Scolinos asked how many Little League coaches were in the room. "Do you know how wide home plate is in Little League?"

After a pause, someone offered, "Seventeen inches?", more of a question than answer.

"That's right," he said. "How about in Babe Ruth's day? Any Babe Ruth coaches in the house?"

Another long pause.

"Seventeen inches?" came a guess from another reluctant coach.

"That's right," said Scolinos. "Now, how many high school coaches do we have in the room?" Hundreds of hands shot up, as the pattern began to appear.

"How wide is home plate in high school baseball?"

"Seventeen inches," they said, sounding more confident.

"You're right!" Scolinos barked. "And you college coaches, how wide is home plate in college?"

"Seventeen inches!" we said, in unison. "Any Minor League coaches here? How wide is home plate in pro ball?"

"Seventeen inches!"

"RIGHT! And in the Major Leagues, how wide home plate is in the Major Leagues?"

"Seventeen inches!"

"SEV-EN-TEEN INCHES!" he confirmed, his voice bellowing off the walls. "And what do they do with a Big League pitcher who can't throw the ball over seventeen inches?" Pause. "They send him to Pocatello!" he hollered, drawing raucous laughter.

"What they don't do is this: they don't say, 'Ah, that's okay, Jimmy. You can't hit a seventeen-inch target? We'll make it eighteen inches, or nineteen inches. We'll make it twenty inches so you have a better chance of hitting it. If you can't hit that, let us know so we can make it wider still, say twenty-five inches.'"

Pause.

"Coaches ..."

Pause.

"... what do we do when our best player shows up late to practice? When our team rules forbid facial hair and a guy shows up unshaven? What if he gets caught drinking? Do we hold him accountable? Or do we change the rules to fit him. Do we widen home plate?"

The chuckles gradually faded as four thousand coaches grew quiet, the fog lifting as the old coach's message began to unfold. He turned the plate toward himself and, using a Sharpie, began to draw something. When he turned it toward the crowd, point up, a house was revealed, complete with a freshly drawn door and two windows. "This is the problem in our homes today. With our marriages, with the way we parent our kids. With our discipline. We don't teach accountability to our kids, and there is no consequence for failing to meet standards. We widen the plate!"

Pause. Then, to the point at the top of the house he added a small American flag.

"This is the problem in our schools today. The quality of our education is going downhill fast and teachers have been stripped of the tools they need to be successful, and to educate and discipline our young people. We are allowing others to widen home plate! Where is that getting us?"

Silence. He replaced the flag with a Cross.

"And this is the problem in the Church, where powerful people in positions of authority have taken advantage of young children, only to have such an atrocity swept under the rug for years. Our church leaders are widening home plate for themselves! And we allow it."

"And the same is true with our government. Our so called representatives make rules for us that don't apply to themselves. They take bribes from lobbyists and foreign countries. They no longer serve us. And we allow them to widen home plate and we see our country falling into a dark abyss while we watch."

I was amazed. At a baseball convention where I expected to learn something about curveballs and bunting and how to run better practices, I had

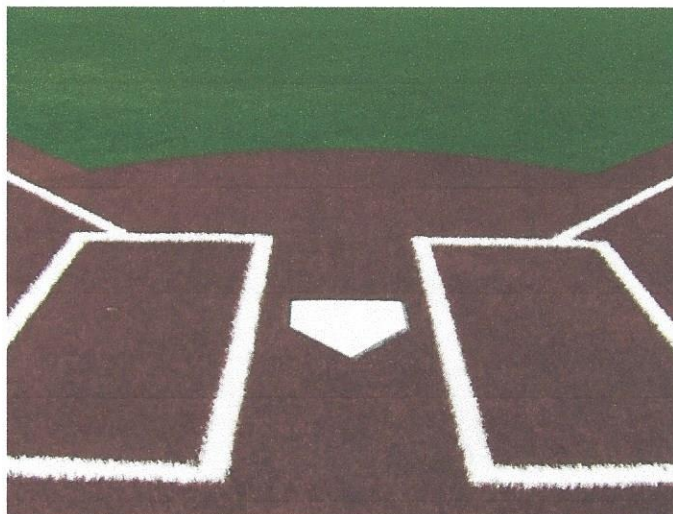
learned something far more valuable. From an old man with home plate strung around his neck, I had learned something about life, about myself, about my own weaknesses and about my responsibilities as a leader. I had to hold myself and others accountable to that which I knew to be right, lest our families, our faith, and our society continue down an undesirable path.

"If I am lucky," Coach Scolinos concluded, "you will remember one thing from this old coach today. It is this: if we fail to hold ourselves to a higher standard, a standard of what we know to be right; if we fail to hold our spouses and our children to the same standards, if we are unwilling or unable to provide a consequence when they do not meet the standard; and if our schools and churches and our government fail to hold themselves accountable to those they serve, there is but one thing to look forward to ..."

With that, he held home plate in front of his chest, turned it around, and revealed its dark black backside. "... dark days ahead."

Coach Scolinos died in 2009 at the age of 91, but not before touching the lives of hundreds of players and coaches, including mine. Meeting him at my first ABCA convention kept me returning year after year, looking for similar wisdom and inspiration from other coaches. He is the best clinic speaker the ABCA has ever known because he was so much more than a baseball coach.

His message was clear: "Coaches, keep your players—no matter how good they are—your own children, your churches, your government, and most of all, keep yourself at seventeen inches."



ACTORS THAT HAVE SERVED....

Don Adams. US Marines. Wounded on Guadalcanal, then served as a Drill Instructor.

Eddie Albert, US Coast Guard. Bronze Star with Combat V for saving several Marines under heavy fire as pilot of a landing craft during the invasion of Tarawa.

Robert Altman, US Army Air Corps. B-24 Co-Pilot.

Danny Aiello, US Army. Lied about his age to enlist at 16. Served three years.

James Arness, US Army. As an infantryman, he was severely wounded at Anzio, Italy.

Claude Akins, US Army. Signal Corps., Burma and the Philippines.

Gene Autry, US Army Air Corps. Crewman on transports that ferried supplies over "The Hump" in the China-Burma-India Theater.

Ernest Borgnine, US Navy. Gunners Mate 1c, destroyer *USS Lamberton*.

Tom Bosley, US Navy.

Neville Brand, US Army, Europe. Was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart.

Mel Brooks, US Army. Combat Engineer. Saw action in the Battle of the Bulge.

Charles Bronson, US Army Air Corps. B-29 gunner, wounded in action.

Raymond Burr, US Navy. Shot in the stomach on Okinawa and medically discharged.

Harry Carey Jr., US Navy.

John Carroll, US Army Air Corps. Pilot in North Africa. Broke his back in a crash.

Art Carney, US Army. Wounded on Normandy beach, D-Day. Limped for the rest of his life.

Lee Van Cleef, US Navy. Served aboard a sub chaser then a mine sweeper.

Chuck Connors, US Army. Tank-warfare instructor.

Jackie Coogan, US Army Air Corps. Volunteered for gliders and flew troops and materials into Burma behind enemy lines.

William Conrad, US Army Air Corps. Fighter Pilot.

Tony Curtis, US Navy. Sub tender *USS Proteus*. In Tokyo Bay for the surrender of Japan.

Kirk Douglas, US Navy. Sub-chaser in the Pacific. Wounded in action and medically discharged.

Charles Durning. US Army. Landed at Normandy on D-Day. Shot multiple times. Awarded the Silver Star and Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts. Survived Malmedy Massacre.

Norman Fell, US Army Air Corps., Tail Gunner, Pacific Theater.

Henry Fonda, US Navy. Destroyer *USS Satterlee*.

Steve Forrest, US Army. Wounded, Battle of the Bulge.

Clark Gable, US Army Air Corps. B-17 gunner over Europe.

Peter Graves, US Army Air Corps.

James Gregory, US Navy and US Marines.

Fred Gwynne, US Navy. Radioman.

Buddy Hackett, US Army anti-aircraft gunner.

Alan Hale Jr, US Coast Guard.

Stewart Hayden, US Marines and OSS. Smuggled guns into Yugoslavia and parachuted into Croatia.

Charlton Heston, US Army Air Corps. Radio operator and aerial gunner on a B-25, Aleutians.

Pat Hingle, US Navy. Destroyer *USS Marshall*

William Holden, US Army Air Corps.

Earl Holliman. US Navy. Lied about his age to enlist. Discharged after a year when they Navy found out.

Rock Hudson, US Navy. Aircraft mechanic, the Philippines.

Clifton James, US Army, South Pacific. Was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart.

Russell Johnson, US Army Air Corps. B-24 crewman who was awarded Purple Heart when his aircraft was shot down by the Japanese in the Philippines.

Brian Keith, US Marines. Radioman/Gunner in Dauntless dive-bombers.

DeForest Kelley, US Army Air Corps.

George Kennedy, US Army. Enlisted after Pearl Harbor, stayed in sixteen years.

Jack Klugman, US Army.

Ted Knight, US Army, Combat Engineers.

Don Knotts, US Army, Pacific Theater.

Harvey Korman, US Navy.

Lee Marvin US Marines. Sniper. Wounded in action on Saipan. Buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Sec. 7A next to Greg Boyington and Joe Louis.

Karl Malden, US Army Air Corps. 8th Air Force, NCO.

Walter Matthau, US Army Air Corps., B-24 Radioman/Gunner and cryptographer.

Victor Mature, US Coast Guard.

Ed McMahon, US Marines. Fighter Pilot. (Flew OE-1 Bird Dogs over Korea as well.)

Burgess Meredith, US Army Air Corps.

ACTORS THAT HAVE SERVED....

Robert Mitchum, US Army.

Robert Montgomery, US Navy.

Wayne Morris, US Navy fighter pilot, *USS Essex*. Downed seven Japanese fighters.

Paul Newman, US Navy Rear seat gunner/radioman, torpedo bombers of *USS Bunker Hill*

Hugh O'Brian, US Marines.

Jack Palance, US Army Air Corps. Severely injured bailing out of a burning B-24 bomber.

Fess Parker, US Navy and US Marines. Booted from pilot training for being too tall, joined Marines as a radio operator.

Tyrone Power, US Marines. Transport pilot in the Pacific Theater.

Robert Preston, US Army Air Corps. Intelligence Officer

Denver Pyle, US Navy. Wounded in the Battle of Guadalcanal. Medically discharged.

Aldo Ray. US Navy. UDT frogman, Okinawa.

Ronald Reagan. US Army. Was a 2nd Lt. in the Cavalry Reserves before the war. His poor eyesight kept him from being sent overseas with his unit when war came so he transferred to the Army Air Corps Public Relations Unit where he served for the duration.

Steve Reeves, US Army, Philippines.

Don Rickles, US Navy aboard *USS Cyrene*.

Jason Robards, US Navy. was aboard heavy cruiser *USS Northampton* when it was sunk off Guadalcanal. Also served on the *USS Nashville* during the invasion of the Philippines, surviving a kamikaze hit that caused 223 casualties.

Dale Robertson, US Army. Tank Commander in North Africa under Patton. Wounded twice. Battlefield Commission.

Cesar Romero, US Coast Guard. Coast Guard. Participated in the invasions of Tinian and Saipan on the assault transport *USS Cavalier*.

Mickey Rooney, US Army under Patton. Bronze Star.

Robert Ryan, US Marines.

Soupy Sales, US Navy. Served on *USS Randall* in the South Pacific.

Telly Savalas, US Army.

Randolph Scott. Tried to enlist in the Marines but was rejected due to injuries sustained in US Army, World War 1.

Rod Serling. US Army. 11th Airborne Division in the Pacific. He jumped at Tagaytay in the Philippines and was later wounded in Manila.

Mickey Spillane, US Army Air Corps, Fighter Pilot and later Instructor Pilot.

Robert Stack, US Navy. Gunnery Instructor.

Harry Dean Stanton, US Navy. Served aboard an LST in the Battle of Okinawa.

Rod Steiger, US Navy. Was aboard one of the ships that launched the Doolittle Raid.

James Stewart, US Army Air Corps. Bomber pilot who rose to the rank of General.

Larry Storch. US Navy. Sub tender *USS Proteus* with Tony Curtis.

Frank Sutton, US Army. Took part in 14 assault landings, including Leyte, Luzon, Bataan and Corregidor.

Robert Taylor, US Navy. Instructor Pilot.

Forrest Tucker, US Army. Enlisted as a private, rose to Lieutenant.

Jack Warden, US Navy, 1938-1942, then US Army, 1942-1945. 101st Airborne Division.

John Wayne. Declared "4F medically unfit" due to pre-existing injuries, he nonetheless attempted to volunteer three times (Army, Navy and Film Corps.) so he gets honorable mention.

Dennis Weaver, US Navy. Pilot.

Jonathan Winters, USMC. Battleship *USS Wisconsin* and Carrier *USS Bon Homme Richard*. Anti-aircraft gunner, Battle of Okinawa.

Efram Zimbalist, Jr., US Army. Purple Heart for a severe wound received at Huertgen Forest.

And of course we have Audie Murphy, America's most-decorated soldier, who became a Hollywood star as a result of his US Army service that included his being awarded the Medal of Honor.

Would someone please remind me again how many of today's Hollywood elite put their careers on hold to enlist in the military.

The only one who even comes close was Pat Tillman, who turned down a contract offer of \$3.6 million over three years from the Arizona Cardinals to enlist in the US Army after September, 11, 2001 and serve as a Ranger in Afghanistan, where he died in 2004. But rather than being lauded for his choice and his decision to put his country before his career, he was mocked and derided by many of his peers and the Left.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I submit to you that this is not the America today, that it was seventy years ago. And I, for one, am saddened.

THE PHUNNIE PAGES

Newfoundland Trial....

Newfoundland farmer named Angus had a car accident. He was hit by a truck owned by the Eversweet Company.

In court, the Eversweet Company's hot-shot lawyer was questioning Angus.

'Didn't you say to the RCMP at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine I'm fine?' asked the lawyer.

Angus responded: 'Well, I'll tell you what happened. I'd just loaded my fav'rit cow, Bessie, into da...'

'I didn't ask for any details', the lawyer interrupted. 'Just answer the question.

Did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine!'?"

Angus said, 'Well, I'd just got Bessie into da trailer and I was drivin' down da road....'

The lawyer interrupted again and said, 'Your Honour, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the police on the scene that he was fine. Now several weeks after the accident, he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question.

By this time, the Judge was fairly interested in Angus' answer and said to the lawyer: 'I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favourite cow, Bessie'.

Angus thanked the Judge and proceeded. 'Well as I was saying, I had just loaded Bessie, my fav'rit cow, into de trailer and was drivin' her down de road when dis huge Eversweet truck and trailer came tundering tru a stop sign and hit me trailer right in da side. I was trown into one ditch and Bessie was trown into da udder.

Jaysus I was hurt, very bad like, and didn't want to move. However, I could hear old Bessie moanin' and groanin'. I knew she was in terrible pain just by her groans.

Shortly after da accident, a policeman on a motorbike turned up. He could hear Bessie moanin' and groanin' too, so he went over to her.

After he looked at her, and saw her condition, he took out his gun and shot her between the eyes.

Den da policeman came across de road, gun still in hand, looked at me, and said, 'How are you feelin'?"

'Now wot da fock would you say?"



Squirrely Catechism

The Presbyterian church called a meeting to decide what to do about their squirrel infestation. After much prayer and consideration, they concluded that the squirrels were predestined to be there, and they should not interfere with God's divine will.

At the Baptist church, the squirrels had taken an interest in the baptistry. The deacons met and decided to put a water-slide on the baptistry and let the squirrels drown themselves. The squirrels liked the slide and, unfortunately, knew instinctively how to swim, so twice as many squirrels showed up the following week.

The Lutheran church decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creatures. So, they humanely trapped their squirrels and set them free near the Baptist church. Two weeks later, the squirrels were back when the Baptists took down the water-slide.

The Episcopalians tried a much more unique path by setting out pans of whiskey around their church in an effort to kill the squirrels with alcohol poisoning. They sadly learned how much damage a band of drunk squirrels can do.

But the Catholic church came up with a more creative strategy! They baptized all the squirrels and made them members of the church. Now they only see them at Christmas and Easter.

Not much was heard from the Jewish synagogue. They took the first squirrel and circumcised him. They haven't seen a squirrel since.



I choked on a carrot this morning, and all I could think of was, "I'll bet a doughnut wouldn't have done this to me."

Nothing spoils a good story more than the arrival of an eye witness. (Mark Twain)

I finally realize why I look so bad in pictures. It's my face.

Sorry that I'm late. I got here as soon as I wanted to!

It turns out that when asked who your favorite child is, you're supposed to pick out one of your own. I know that now.

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It's fine to eat a test grape in the produce section, but you take one bite of rotisserie chicken and it's all, "Sir, you need to leave!"

One thing no one ever talks about, when it comes to being an older adult, is how much time we devote to keeping a cardboard box because it is, you know, a really good box

I can't believe I forgot to go to the gym today. That's seven years in a row, now.

If you drop something when you were younger, you just picked it up. When you're older and you drop something, you stare at it for just a bit contemplating if you actually need it anymore.

I like to make lists. I also like to leave them laying on the kitchen counter, and then guess what's on the list when I am at the store.

My kids say they want a cat for Christmas. Normally I serve turkey, but, hey, if it will make them happy.

Ask your doctor if a drug with 32 pages of side-effects is bad for you.

I just read a book about marriage that says treat your wife like you treated her on your first date. So tonight after dinner I'm dropping her off at her parent's house.

The best way to get back on your feet is to miss two car payments.

I love bacon. Sometimes I eat it twice a day. It takes my mind off the terrible chest pains I keep getting

Driver: "What am I supposed to do with this speeding ticket?" Officer, "Keep it. When you collect four of them, you get a bicycle.

I asked a supermarket employee where they kept the canned peaches. He said, "I'll see," & walked away. I asked another & he also said, "I'll see," & walked away. In the end, I gave up & found them myself, in Aisle C.

I told my physical therapist that I broke my arm in two (2) places. He told me to stop going to those places.

I put our scale in the bathroom corner & that's where the little liar will stay until it apologizes.

When I was a kid, I used to watch the 'Wizard of Oz' & wonder how someone could talk if they didn't have a brain. Then I got Facebook. (or Instagram or X) Do you ever get up in the morning, look in the mirror & think, "That can't be accurate!"

I want to be 14 again & ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

Apparently RSVP'ing to a wedding invitation with "Maybe next time" isn't the correct response.

A guy walks into a lumberyard & asks for some 2x4s. The clerk asks, "How long do you need them?" The guy answers, "A long time. We're gonna build a house."

I just burned 1,200 calories. I forgot the pizza in the oven.

Who knew that the hardest thing of being an adult is figuring out what to fix for dinner and doing it every single night for the rest of your life until you die?

I hate it when people act all intellectual and talk about Mozart, when they've never even seen one of his paintings.

Never trust an electrician with no eyebrows.

So my neighbor knocked on my front door at 3 am. 3AM!!! Luckily, I was already up playing the bagpipes.

Instead of cleaning my house, I just watch an episode of "The Hoarders," and think, "Wow! My house looks great."



The Hillbilly's 10 Commandments

To any who might be perturbed by the somewhat lighthearted caricature of hillbilly lingo in this rendition of the Ten Commandments, just remember that folks like Beverly Hills' Jed Clampett could have written this list, which you'll note has been reorganized from the traditional order.

1. *Ain't but one God.*
2. *Honer yer Ma and Pa.*
3. *No tellin' tales or gossipin'.*
4. *Git your hide to Sunday meetin'.*
5. *Aint' nutin' come before the Lord.*
6. *No foolin' with another feller's gal.*
7. *No killin', 'sept for critters.*
8. *Quit yer foul mouthin'.*
9. *No sippin' yer kin folk's stuff.*
10. *Don't be hankerin' for it neither.*



**Until Next Time
Back to My Bunker**

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