



Fox 2/5 Association Vietnam

Fox Company 2nd Bn
5th Marines

Semper Fidelis

Fall 2004

Reunion 2004 From the President;

Chris Brown

As the newly elected president of the Fox 2/5 Association I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I have always felt it was the greatest honor to have served with such great men and with such a highly decorated unit. This takes it one step higher. I will do my best to continue in the traditions of Dave Brown, Pete Korn and George Burgett.

The best place to start my first message is to recap what I am sure all that attended will agree was the best reunion to date. I always say they keep getting better and better but I heard many of the men in attendance say the same thing. There were 90 Vets in attendance and I believe we had about 175 veterans and family members at the banquet on Saturday evening. Of those 90 vets at least 20 were attending their first reunion. Those are all record numbers. We have to thank our hosts Sam and Donna Henderson as we had every thing first class. I also want to thank Ken and Judie Kreader as they are tireless helpers that help take some of the load off Sam and Donna. Donna arranged for us to have a large hospitality room where much of the sharing went on.

Some of the highlights include two side trips to two of the local military installations. One was to the Top Gun School and the other to the Marine Corps Cold Weather Training Center. Aside from a couple of bus glitches all seemed to enjoy the visits and were impressed with the facilities.

During the reunion Dave Brown held a couple of sessions where he interviewed many of the attendees to get their stories for the book he is writing on Fox 2/5 in Vietnam. It will be called "Battlelines". Dave estimates that sometime early in

2005 he will have the book 95% complete with just some final editing to be done. I am sure he would like to thank all that contributed.

In addition we all enjoyed each others company at various meals and there was even an outdoor concert. Also the hotel had some great shows that we all enjoyed. We gathered in the hospitality room on Saturday morning and we held our annual meeting. Here we chose our new officers. Besides electing the president we added a Vice President this year. I am happy to announce that Tom Martin was elected to that position. We did this for two reasons. We wanted to increase the number of people that make decisions on behalf of the Fox 2/5 Association during the year and at the same time provide a link to the next president. The other big decision made at the meeting is the naming of the 2006 reunion site. After much discussion it was voted that New Orleans will be the next site. Harry Albert will be the chairman and he has a great ear to help him. Judging by the rate we are growing in attendance he will need all the help he can get.

The banquet on Saturday was a sold out affair, so much so that we had to add a couple of tables to accommodate everyone. The guest speaker was Capt. Brent Biniek. Brent was the Executive Officer for Fox 2/5 during the first phase of the war in Iraq. He showed us pictures and led us through Fox Company's training and preparation for the war and then the actual deployment. He thanked the Fox 2/5 Association for its support during the war and said that the letters and packages received were greatly appreciated. The professionalism shown by Brent and the men of Fox Company made all of us proud that our

traditions are being carried on by such fine young men. As many of you who have attended a prior reunion know we end the reunion by gathering on Sunday morning and standing in a large circle we read the names of our KIA's. We also remember many of the men who we have lost since returning. For such a simple ceremony it carries all the meaning of what we are all about. As we go forward until the next reunion I call on everyone to use our newsletter and our website to communicate with each other. Our newsletter goes out to all our members and because it reaches all our members is our most valuable tool to communicate within the group. If you know that a member has passed away contact Ken Kreader and let him know the details. So often we hear of the deaths of our members years later. Also many of you have mini - reunions with a couple of Fox 2/5 members. When you do write a little something about it and share it with the group. The more we share with each other the closer it brings us together.

Greg Doll takes care of our website and he does an excellent job. Currently we have just over 200 members signed on to the site. If you are signed on then I ask you to check to see if your address and email contact information is correct. If not let Greg know of the changes. Secondly I ask that if you have not already done so please let Greg know what dates you served with Fox Co. This way if someone is looking over the list he will know when you served and if he wants to contact you he will have the correct information to do so. As you navigate through the website you will see there is a message board, pictures, newsletters and lots more. I encourage everyone to visit the site and use it and contact Greg if you have any suggestions or questions. The contact information for

Inside this issue:

From the President and
Reunion 2004 1

Letter from Glenda
Carter 2

Fox 2/5 goes back to
Iraq 3

Marine Corps humor 3

F 2/5 says goodbye to
Bernie Burnham 4

Retrun to Vietnam trip
2005 5

Report Reno 2004
Reunion 6

Greg if you have any suggestions or questions. The contact information for all of the officers is on the website so if you have anything you wish to discuss please give us a call or send us an email.

I hope all of you will give strong consideration to attending the next reunion in New Orleans. Until the next newsletter,

Semper Fi!
Chris Brown

Letter from Glenda Carter widow of Bruce L. Carter Fox

Dear Fox 2/5,

I want to say thank you to all of you who were at the 2004 Reunion in Reno. Thank you for allowing me to share from my heart and thank you for your support. A special thanks to all of you who worked so hard to organize the reunion and to Chris Brown for helping so many of us find each other.

My husband Bruce was very proud to be a Marine and I am proud to be an extended family member of the 2/5 Marines. As some of you know, Bruce, along with six others was killed September 11, 1968 in an ambush near Liberty Bridge. So many of you have helped me to heal from my unresolved grief by sharing information and your personal experiences. Some of you that I have spoken with were not at this reunion but I thank you also and hope you will make it to the next reunion. I know you will be welcomed with open arms. I have found it to be true, Marines are loyal and take care of their own.

The healing process is helped along by connecting with other people and talking, laughing and crying together as memories return. Sometimes there are just no words to express the feelings so a hand shake or a hug says it all.

My personal war with grief is coming to an end. I am once again feeling hopeful and peaceful (most of the time.) It is good to be alive.

The book I am writing, **Sacred Shadow, Sacred Ground**: will soon be finished. The first limited printing of this book will be available to family, friends, Widows of the Vietnam War, wives of Veterans and members of my extended family of Marines in 2/5.

I will send detailed information as it becomes available. Those of you who are interested can purchase your copy before I extend the offer to the general public and before it goes to national publication.

I hope to see you in Washington D. C. this November 2004 when I plan to leave a copy of my book at the wall in memory of my husband Bruce Carter and the other six Marines who died with him that night. Members of the other families will also try to attend. Details of when and where are in the making. If you are interested in attending you can contact me directly through my e-mail address listed below. Other places to find information will be through this newsletter or through Chris Brown whom I will make sure has the information by the end of September.

I have not been able to find family members or pictures of Billy Joe Scott and George William Mc Gee. If anyone can help locate their family I would appreciate the help.

Thank you again and may God richly bless each one of you as we welcome each other home.

Glenda Carter, Widow of Bruce L. Carter Fox 2/5

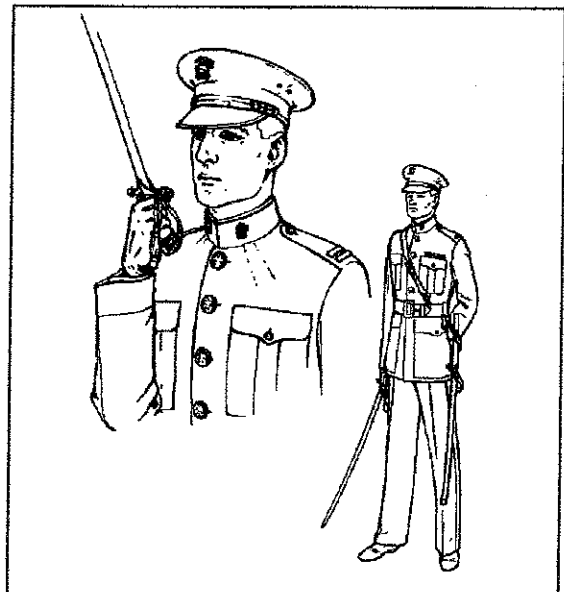
carter@oregontrail.net

The Poem: "Missing Links" taken from Sacred Shadow, Sacred Ground

By Glenda Carter

Missing Links
by
Glenda Carter

Threads of research
Wove the scene
Where Bruce was ambushed
With six other Marines.
I didn't know then
How they fell
Or never dreamed
I'd be the one to tell.
Persistence beckoned that I try
To find the comrades with them
When they died.
I need to know what happened then,
So I can put away
The pain within.





Marine Corps Humor from Palacios Familia

Thanks, Palacios

LETTER FROM A FARM KID NOW AT THE MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT IN SAN DIEGO.

Dear Ma and Pa:

I am well. Hope you are. Tell Brother Walt and Brother Elmer the Marine Corps beats working for old man Minch by a mile. Tell them to join up quick before maybe all of the places are filled. I was restless at first because you got to stay in bed till nearly 6 a.m., but am getting so I like to sleep late.

Tell Walt and Elmer all you do before breakfast is smooth your cot and shine some things. No hogs to slop, feed to pitch, mash to mix, wood to split, fire to lay. Practically nothing. Men got to shave but it is not so bad, there's warm water. Breakfast is strong on trimmings like fruit juice, cereal, eggs, bacon, etc., but kind of weak on chops, potatoes, ham, steak, fried egg-plant, pie and other regular food. But tell Walt and Elmer you can always sit by the two city boys that live on coffee. Their food plus yours holds you till noon when you get fed again. It's no wonder these city boys can't walk much.

We go on "route" marches, which the Platoon Sergeant says are long walks to harden us. If he thinks so, it is not my place to tell him different.

A "route march" is about as far as to our mailbox at home. Then the city guys get sore feet and we all ride back in trucks. The country is nice, but awful flat.

The Sergeant is like a schoolteacher. He nags some. The Captain is like the school board. Majors and Colonels just ride around and frown. They don't bother you none.

This next will kill Walt and Elmer with laughing. I keep getting medals for shooting. I don't know why. The bulls-eye is near as big as a chipmunk head and don't move. And it ain't shooting at you, like the Higgett boys at home. All you got to do is lie there all comfortable and hit it. You don't even load your own cartridges. They come in boxes.

Then we have what they call hand-to-hand combat training. You get to wrestle with them city boys.

I have to be real careful though, they break real easy. It ain't like fighting with that ole bull at home. I'm about the best they got in this except for that Tug Jordan from over in Silver Lake. He joined up the same time as me. But I'm only 5'6" and 130 pounds and he's 6'8" and weighs near 300 pounds dry.

Be sure to tell Walt and Elmer to hurry and join before other fellers get onto this setup and come stampeding in.

Your loving daughter,
Gail

Fox 2/5 on the Internet

Visit our website at:

2ndbn5thmarines.com/foxcol

Gregg Doll is the webmaster and does a great job.

Fox 2/5 is going back to Iraq: submitted by Chris Brown

By the time you get this newsletter out unit will be back in Iraq for their 2nd deployment. I encourage all of you to write or send a package of goodies to these guys if you can afford it and have the time.

Rank and Name

2/5 Fox Co, Platoon #

VIC 40360

FPO AP 96426-0360

1st Platoon

1st-Cpl Paesano, Gabriel Austin, TX

2nd-Lcpl Ottman, Theodore Highland Hills, NY

3rd-Lcpl Noe, Heath Delbarton, WV

2nd Platoon

1st-Sgt Fatiaki, Keonekealoh Samoa

2nd-Cpl Sanchez, Roberto Calexico, CA

3rd-Sgt Bradley, Greg Loxahatchee, FL

3rd Platoon

1st-Lcpl Blake, Joshua Larned, KS

2nd-Sgt Diaz, Ernie LA, CA

3rd-Lcpl Hisle, Josh Cincinnati, OH

Wpns

MGs-Ssgt Kesl, James Fort Worth, TX

Mortars-Ssgt Garza, Manuel Midland, TX

FDC-Lcpl Martinez, Joe Atasesca, TX

Assault-Lcpl Godwin, Will Coral Gables, FL

Other Company Personnel

1st Sgt. Bruce Cole

Corpsman - HM3 Salvador Chavez

CO - Capt. Ed Rapisarda

XO - Lt. Paul Chase



LISTEN UP!
Jarheads

Newsletter

Your contributions to the Fox 2/5 newsletter are welcome, encouraged even necessary. Please mail your news items to:

Ken Kreader
211 Mill Pond Rd
Sanford, NC 27330
(919) 718-5911
or email to:
kenkre1212@msn.com

Fox 2/5 Association
c/o Sam Henderson
6201 Iroquois Trail
Stagecoach, Nevada 89429-9512

Phone: 775-629-0081
Mobile: 775-843-3155
Email: deh1262@aol.com

"Together Then, Together Again"

Association Registration and Dues

The Association dues are typically due the first of the calendar year. Many paid their dues during the Reunions but if you are not up to date then please send in your dues now for 2004.

Make checks payable to "Fox 2/5 Association" and mail to;

Donna Henderson
6201 Iroquois Trail
Stagecoach, Nevada 89429.
Dues are \$20.00.

An Association Registration form is at the end of the newsletter, please pass the form and newspaper to any Fox buddies or interested parties you know.

From the editor:

Thanks! Ya'll. I have more material for the newsletter than I can squeeze in this time. There are a couple of items I want to allow enough space for next time. So I have not forgotten anyone and will get everything in over time.

Keep it coming. I have a nice story that evolved with one of those "does anyone remember" pieces we insert in the newsletter or pass around via email.

Thanks much for the help.

Ken



Fox 2/5 Association

President: Chris Brown, 9 Alister Circle, E. Northport NY 11731
515-499-8739 cbrown@bis-ny.com

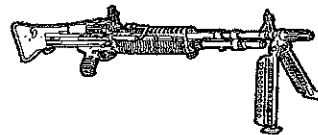
Vice Pres: Tom Martin, 14717 Anderson St, Woodbridge Va 22913
703-67066958 foxthreeractual@aol.com

Newsletter: Ken Kreader 211 Mill Pond Rd, Sanford NC 27330
919-718-5911 kenkre1212@msn.com

Locator: Chris Brown 9 Alister Circle, E. Northport NY 11731
515-499-8739 cbrown@bis-ny.com

Trea/Sec'y: Sam & Donna Henderson (addresses this page top left)

Sage Advisor: Dan Albritton, 9767 Meyers Road, Benton AR 72015
501-794-3637 chiggerranchers@aol.com



FOX 2/5 SAYS GOODBYE TO "BERNIE" from Chris Brown

Thomas Robert "Bernie" Burnham, age 67, passed away June 27, 2004 at his home in Norfolk, Va. Born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, he was preceded in death by his parents, Gertrude and Byron Burnham and his brother, Joseph, killed in Vietnam; and a sister, Mary.

He is survived by a brother, William, who lives in Milton, New Jersey; and several cousins.

He was a retired CWO-4 in the US Marine Corps. A decorated Vietnam veteran at the battle of Hue, he was thus awarded Navy Cross and Bronze Star.

A wake service with VFW honors were held June 30th at Hollomon-Brown Funeral Home, Tidewater Drive Chapel.

On August 19, 2004, Thomas "Bernie" Burnham was taken to his final resting place at Arlington National Cemetery. Bernie was given full burial rights befitting of the hero that he was.

Besides his family, his Fox 2/5 brothers were there in force led by Gen. Mike Downs, his skipper and Tom Martin, his platoon commander, a strong contingent of third platoon members and others. With his casket on a horse drawn caisson, a Marine Corps band, rifle platoon, firing squad and pall bearers gave us all a lump in our throats as we said goodbye to one of our heroes. Afterwards we all got together for a drink and to toast one of our greatest members.

We will miss you.
Semper Fi!

Visit the FoxCo website for some pictures of the ceremony



The correspondence below is from Steve Byrd brother of Art Byrd, Fox 2/5 KIA 6.2.67. Steve has been writing to Chris, myself and possibly others beginning in January regarding the "Battles of Vietnam" series VFW Magazine was starting. I wrote to Mr. Hemingway also and he was very interested in anything any of the Union II guys could add. Obviously the deadline is long gone but it may not be in vain to pass some notes, thoughts and memories on to Mr. Hemingway. I missed the deadline but do intend to send something to him. Keep your eyes open for a VFW magazine with his article.

Ken

Marines,

Shown below is a message I received yesterday:

Dear Mr. Byrd:

I am writing an article for VFW Magazine on Union II, especially the action that took place near the village of Vinh Huy on June 2, 1967. Rich Kolb, the editor, sent me copies of your website dedicated to your brother. I must say it was very moving.

If you know any veteran who took part in this action, could you please have them contact me. My home number is (203) 754-2733. My cell number is (203) 578-0183.

Thank you for cooperation.

Al Hemingway (alhemingway@snet.net)

I wrote him back and asked what he had and wanted. He has "Water Bu's" article and other sources, but stated that he would be interested in comments from anyone who was there. It could be short, like MO - you could mention your friend Bill Daugherty, and what you felt when Echo company arrived - as you wrote in your Chronicles. But it is all up to you all - I know you all carry a heavy burden from Union II, and so do I but in a different way. I have no right to have input - except that I mention Arthur. I asked his deadline and it is Sept. 1st.

Feel free to contact Mr. Hemingway if you want - it is all up to you. God bless you all

Steve brother of LCpl Arthur M. Byrd, 2nd platoon, F/2/5 KIA 2 June 1967

Return to Vietnam – 2005

I realize a trip back to Vietnam is not for everyone but I am sure there are some of you out there that want to go back one more time to revisit the places you were and recall some of the old memories and say goodbye to a few friends. I am in the process of finalizing the details. The time will be April 2005 and the cost to and from Los Angeles to Vietnam including all meals, hotel and transportation is approximately \$2,500. You would have to add you transportation to and from Los Angeles. It is going to be a Marine only trip and mostly Fox 2/5 Marines. The trip is put together by Battlefield Expeditions and the guide will be Bill Stillwagon (also a Marine Vietnam vet). The trip is Northern I Corps and includes the following itinerary: Hanoi, Da Nang (An Hoa, Liberty Bridge, Hill 55 and 65, Nong Song), China Beach, Hai Van Pass, Phu Bai, Leatherneck Square (Dong Ha, Camp Carroll, Khe Sanh, Gio Linh), Hue City. If you are interested and want to know more contact me as follows:

Chris Brown

9 Alister Circle

E. Northport, NY 11731

Home – (631) 499-8739

Work – (212) 894-9225

Email – chris.brown@xlinsurance.com

REUNION 2004 REPORT from Sam and Donna Henderson**Hello To the whole Fighting Fox Gang.**

I think it was the best reunion ever. Of course to me each reunion is the best ever! BUT, Wait till the next one, July 25 –30, 2006. It will be the best ever, because I know "YOU" will be there too. We really enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting so many wonderful new people.

FOX 2/5 VIETNAM ASSOCIATION MEETING

The meeting took place at Harrah's Reno Hospitality Room on the 2nd floor of the East Tower on Saturday morning, July 31, 2004. President George Burgett chaired. George opened the meeting by welcoming all the NEW members who had not attended a reunion before. He also recognized Glenda Carter, widow of Fox 2/5 Bruce Carter, who is writing a book "Sacred Shadow, Sacred Ground".

Treasurer's Report. Our Treasurer provided this report.

As of July 7, 2004 \$3,992.82 (before reunion)

Treasurer Report after Reunion money collected/bills have been paid, dues deposited

As of August 15, 2004 \$6,258.07* (After the Reunion)

As of August 15, 2004 525 Members on the Roster

As of August 15, 2004 78 Paid-up Members

*If any questions or want a copy, can e-mail to you or mail one out.

Sam stated that our biggest cost is for the publication and mailing of the newsletter. Please update on your address when you move. He reminded everyone of the importance of paying the annual dues of \$20, as this is the prime source of income. There were 90 men attended the reunion, and their families attended this reunion. (Can see the list of attendees at the end of this report)

Department of Veterans Affairs Benefits Report. John "Doc" Simmons, who serves as a volunteer with the VVA monitoring VA activities, passed out "A Summary of VA Benefits". Details are available at (800) 749-8387. If any vet needs assistance, he should seek the Veterans Patient Advocates at any VA hospital.

Book Information

"Battlelines" Dave Brown and Tiffany met with several groups to finish getting the information for the book, it is your last chance to add any information by sending it to Dave NOW!

Next Reunion. After a several location for the next reunion were discussed (Canada by Dale Martin), New Orleans (Harry Albert), Little Rock (Tom Martin for Arky), Branson (Keith Byrd) the majority of meeting attendees selected New Orleans. Committee for the next Reunion will be Harry Albert, Tom Martin and James Cage. **Information will be sent out in plenty of time regarding the reunion. There will be "PRE-REGISTRATION"**. We are getting to be to handle it the old way.

Election of Officers. It was brought up and discussed that there should be a Vice President. Also that the Vice President would be the next President.

New Officers for 2004-2008

President:	Chris Brown
Vice President:	Tom Martin
Sect'y/Treasurer:	Sam Henderson
Newsletter Editor:	Ken Kreader
Company Gunnery Sgt:	Sam Jones

Newsletter: Ken discussed the newsletter, need news items to put in the newsletter, (doesn't have to be regarding Marines Stuff, can be news regarding family, mini reunions, anything that will be interesting for others to read.

Sunday Morning Memorial Services: Besides our KIA's names that we honor, we have added our guys who have died since getting out of the Corp. If you know of someone that should be on our list, please e-mail or write Chris Brown and let him know.

Here's a list of the attendees at the reunion. we had several that had to cancel.(about 8)

Harry Albert, Andy Anderson, Dwight Anderson, Les, Anderson, Ian Bailey, Bill Baumgardt, Robert Bell, Joe Bibich, Chris Brown, Dave Brown, Tom Burchiel, George Burgett, Keith Byrd, Dennis Cadigan, James Cage, Marvin Carpenter, Charles Coffey, Richard Cole, Pablo Contreras, Kelvin Cox, Gerry Creech, Oers Deaks, Paul Dixon, Mike Downs, Richard Dubose, James Ennis, Daniel Farris, Dana Fayette, Danny Garland, Fran Garnsey, Don Gold, Mickey Gordon, Rod Gurganious, Robert Haehnel, Pat Haley, Gerry Hall, Sam Henderson, Russ Hester, Robert Hofmann, Tiffany Brown Holmes, Richard Horner, Richard, Hulet, Arthur Jarrett, Woody Johnson, Sam Jones, Pete Korn, Gordon Kosobucki, Ken Kreader, Tom Labarbera, Ken Lee, Larry Levau, Frank Lopez, Isidro Madrid, Mike Malanowski, Mike Maloof, Tony Marengo, Bill Martell, Dale Martin, Tom Martin, Mike Maxwell, Jimmy McClintock, Jim McGunnigle, John McLean, Mike Meldrum, Eusebio Molina, J D Moore, Tom Morris, Wilfred Naquin, Phil Pantane, Steve Piscitelli, Robert Prewitt, Ken Reynolds, Dave Rhodes, Marcelino Rivas, John Robertson, Charlie Schlader, Jeff Shay, David Shelton, John Simmons, Bobby Smith, Forest Towe, Porfirio Trevino, Bill Ulman, Roger Ungrey, Ed Van Valkenburgh, Ted Varena, Larry Wainscott, Roger Warren, and James Wright.

There were several men that usually make the reunion. We missed you this year. Hope you can make the 2006 Reunion in New Orleans.