



"Fox Tracks" Fox2/5 Association Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, All Eras Newsletter –October 2011



From the President;

In less than a year we meet again, this time in Nashville. Our original plans for the Labor Day period had to be changed as too many of our members were having difficulty with that time frame. The new dates as well as the reservations documents are contained in other parts of the newsletter.

We owe a very large thank you to our second vice president, Bobby Smith, for getting us a great deal and a super location. I need to say thank you to Donna for helping out with the time shift and some of the other details.

This will be the first time we have attempted the reunion outside the usual parameters of the summer months. You will recall that in our business meeting discussions the possibility of a move into other times of the year was predicated on the fact that few of us had school age children to concern ourselves with, and other times of the year might offer better deals and accommodations. We will test that assumption in Nashville!

It has been an eventful year and I expect things will continue to be up until our meeting in Nashville. JD has been working hard on the inclusion of new members to the association as discussed in Cody. Work has proceeded on the new patch as proposed by Tony in Washington....Donna indicates the gear, with the new logo, is ready for order. The electronic version of the newsletter has been a big success.

We are still working on the web site. That has been a painful process, but I have every hope that we will have that in shape before long. We are also working on a shorter version of the newsletter to be dubbed "The Sitrep"...look for that soon.

I note that quite a number of our members are avid face book users. Anything that keeps us communicating works for me! Speaking of that...send your stuff in to Ken so he can include it in either the newsletter or the new Sitrep.

Betty and I are well settled in Florida. It has been quite an experience moving after 32 years in one place. Combine that with a three month trip to Okinawa this summer (you would never recognize it as the same place we went through on the way to Vietnam!) and it has been hectic! My new address and phone number are included elsewhere in the newsletter.

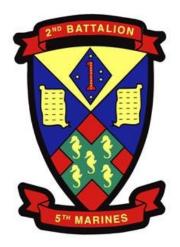
Semper Fi,

Tom











There is only 11 months left until Nashville. Please return your registration forms to Sam and Donna as soon as you can. There will be several agenda items for discussion at the business meeting. With Tom retiring again there will be an election for new 2nd Vice President. Also the location for the 2014 reunion on the east coast will need to be decided. If you have a place in mind be prepared to give a brief on that location.

Our officers were contacted by the current 1stSgt. of Fox Company, 1stSgt Rob Alviso. There were current members of Fox who wanted to know if they were eligible to join our association. I sent him an e-mail stating that they were and Donna sent the last few newsletters to him and information on joining. I know there will be growing pains. Every time I talk to a young Marine, especially one from Fox, I walk away inspired. It is amazing how much we have in common. Basically the only thing that has changed is the language. The June 2011 reunion of the Blackhearts did not develop. I assume because of the lack of organization. This is something we have in place.

Marlene and I just returned from a Mini reunion at Lake Altoona Navy site outside of Atlanta. Second Platoon members from 1968 attended. Our Plt. Sgt. Jeff Brown and Carol came from La., Chris and Maddy Brown from NY, Dennis and Peggy Cadigan from NJ, Kurt and Jance Luedtke from Wisc., Tim and Linda Ciesinski from Ohio, Pablo Contreaus from El Paso, J.D. and Marlene Moore from Orlando, Doc Connelly from Baltimore (Doc great to see you are back), and a special thanks to Terry and Bonnie Lynch, our host from Power Springs, Ga. As a bonus we were able to celebrate Jeff's 70th birthday. Of course Doc gave out malaria pills on Saturday (operational commitment on Sunday). We had a great time as always.

See you in Nashville!







***** Chesty Puller *****

"So they got us surrounded, now we can fire in any direction those bastards won't get away this time."

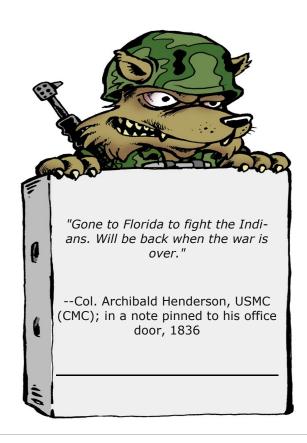
From Bobby Smith;

If hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well. As for us here in Texas we are glad that fall has come. No more high electric bills and all the fires has been put out. We desperately need rain to prevent more fires.

We are under a year to the reunion and hope everyone is making plans to be there. By the show of hands in Cody there should be a large turnout. The hotel has a little over 300 rooms so let's take at least half of them.

The original dates have changed, as you know and I hope it didn't mess up plans that some may have already made. However, I had made reservations in September and when I called to change them to the new dates the hotel had made the change for me. Those of you who had booked prior to the date change should double check to be safe.

Semper Fi, Bobby







"Together then, Together Again" Fox 2/5 Association c/o Sam Henderson 4515 US Hwy 50 West Sp # 9 Silver Springs, NV 89429-9382 Mobile: 775-980-9603 Email: deh1262@aol.com

From the Editor,

Nashville is rolling up on us fast. Don't delay make your reservations. Judie and I are anxious for this reunion since we missed Cody. If there are any campers in the crowd there are three campgrounds about a mile from the Raddison. One of which is the KOA where we stayed before out trip to Cody was interrupted.

The article on the Hue City Memorial Service (see page 5) made me think this would be a good candidate for 2014. This might be a good spot for the east coast reunion and possibly a time frame to coincide with the memorial service could be considered as well. St. Augustine is only about thirty five miles down the coast and Daytona about 90. Orlando is within striking distance as well.

Food for thought.

Now lets get our collective heads and a**es wired together on make Nashville a success.

Semper Fi,

Ken



Fox 2/5 Association

"Fox Tracks"

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<u>Note:</u> Anyone interested in any of the above elected/appointed or oth					

<u>Note:</u> Anyone interested in any of the above elected/appointed or otherwise defaulted positions listed above don't hesitate to contact our president/vice presidents and express your interest or ideas.

NOTABLE QUOTES

"It's a funny thing, but, as years go by, I think you appreciate more and more what a great thing it was to be a United States Marine... People will tell me what a shame it was I had to go back into the service a second time, but I'm kinda glad I did.. Besides, I am a U.S. Marine and I'll be one till I die."

--Ted Williams

"No morn ever dawned more favorable than ours did; and no day was every more clouded than the present! Wisdom, and good examples are necessary at this time to rescue the political machine from the impending storm."

--George Washington

Don't you forget that you're Marines! Not all the communists in H-ll can overrun you!"--Col. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, USMC; rallying his First Marine Regiment near Chosin Reservoir, Korea, December 1950

***** In Memoriam; Perry Jones *****

Ellabell, Ga;

Mr. Perry Jerry Jones, 65, passed away Sunday, June 19, 2011, at home. Mr. Jones was a Marine Corps veteran having served in Vietnam. He was an industrial electrician for more than 40 years and a member of Scottish Rite and Landrum Lodge No. 48 in Savannah. He loved nature, riding his golf cart, fishing and helping others. His great love was spending time with his son and granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his parents, Arlie Howard and Felma Williams Jones.

He is survived by son and daughter-in-law, Perry Charles and Anna Jones of Ellabell; brother, James Jones of Brunswick; sister, Sharon Jones of Tennessee.; and beloved granddaughter, Olivia L. Jones of Ellabell.





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	2012 Reur	nion / Meetir	Ig	
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		isic Valley Drive		
	Nashvil	lle, TN 37214		
) 333-3333		
	Reservation Code: Fox 2/5	-	(h Hotel)	
	Sentemb	er 16-20, 2012		
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		Double Occupancy		
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Address:				
Phone:()				
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Checking in Sept2012	Checking out Sept	2012		
How many will be in attendance:				
Spouse or Guest Name:				
Guest Name:				
E-Mail if available:				
What Year in Viet Nam:	If u can remember	_ Plt:		
Prices are:				
Grand Ole Opry Tuesday 9/18	7.00 pm	\$40 x	\$	per persor
Do you need wheel chair access		ф.ю.х		
Banquet (Dinner Buffet) Wed Night	9/19 6:00 p.m.	\$45 x		per persor
Registration Fee:		\$10	\$ <u>10.00</u>	
Dues		\$20 TC	\$ TAL\$	per year
<u>Mail to:</u>	<u>Make Check p</u>		Fox 2/5 Ass	SOC.
Fox 2/5 Assoc.				
% Sam Henderson				
4515 US Hwy 50 West Sp 9				
Silver Springs, NV 89429				
DETAILS/RATES/CHARG	FS:			

Guest Rooms: \$94.00 Flat Rate (Single or Double Occupancy). Each Additional person above double occupancy to a room \$10. Children under 12, free in parents room. Individual Room reservations must be received thirty (30) days prior to arrival accompanied by one (1) days deposit plus tax or guaranteed by major credit card. Deposit sre only refundable for cancellations 24 hours prior to arrival

IMPORTANT: READ CAREFULLY BEFORE MAKING RESERVATIONS:

For reservations call directly to the hotel by calling, toll free: 1-800-333-3333. Advance reservations can be made **after September 24, 2011.**

Please be sure to tell Reservations that you are with Fox 2/5 Marine Corps







Battle of Hue City Memorial Service, Mayport Naval Station

The USS Hue City is stationed at Naval Station Mayport which is in the Jacksonville metropolitan area. October 3rd, 2011 the 20th annual Battle of Hue Memorial Service was conducted. The email below was shared with us by Dave DeGroat. If you copy and paste the link below into your web browser you will read a great story about the remembrance memorial, loyalty and good deeds that transcend the forty plus years since the battle of Hue City.

"From: Nicholas Warr

Sent: Thursday, October 06, 2011 11:49 AM

Subject: 2011 USS Hue City Memorial; Naval Station Mayport, Jacksonville, FL

To all 1/5 Vietnam Veterans,

I just returned from a fabulous weekend down in Jacksonville at this year's USS Hue City Memorial. This year was special, because on Saturday morning our "tour of the ship" became an allday cruise. More to follow in the next issue of *The Fourragere*.

Here's a link to a newspaper article about the Memorial.

http://jacksonville.com/news/metro/2011-10-03/story/vietnamveterans-gather-mayport-battle-hue-memorial-service

Semper Fidelis!

Nicholas Warr, Past President & Chapter Treasurer

1/5 Vietnam Veterans Unit Chapter

1st Marine Division Association

P. O. Box 2680

Hendersonville, NC 28793"

PX Update from Donna:

The patch has been updated. The '2nd' has been corrected and the 'cigarette' has been added back. The new patches and hats should be available by December 1st.

Pricing:	Hats	
	(red or black w/patch)	\$15
	Patches 4"	\$5
	Patches 12"	\$25

All prices include shipping.



Read this excerpt from a Romanian Newspaper. The article was written by Mr. Cornel Nistorescu and published under the title "C"ntarea Americii" meaning "Ode To America") on September 24, 2002 in the Romanian newspaper Evenimentulzilei ("The Daily Event" or "News of the Day").

~An Ode to America~

Why are Americans so united? They would not resemble one another even if you painted them all one color! They speak all the languages of the world and form an astonishing mixture of civilizations and religious beliefs. Still, the American tragedy turned three hundred million people into a hand put on the heart. Nobody rushed to accuse the White House, the army, and the secret services that they are only a bunch of losers. Nobody rushed to empty their bank accounts. Nobody rushed out onto the streets nearby to gape about. The Americans volunteered to donate blood and to give a helping hand.

After the first moments of panic, they raised their flag over the smoking ruins, putting on T-shirts, caps and ties in the colors of the national flag. They placed flags on buildings and cars as if in every place and on every car a government official or the president was passing.

On every occasion, they started singing their traditional song: "God Bless America!" I watched the live broadcast and rerun after rerun for hours listening to the story of the guy who went down one hundred floors with a woman in a wheelchair without knowing who she was, or of the Californian hockey player, who gave his life fighting with the terrorists and prevented the plane from hitting a target that could have killed other hundreds or thousands of people.

How on earth were they able to respond united as one human being? Imperceptibly, with every word and musical note, the memory of some turned into a modern myth of tragic heroes. And with every phone call, millions and millions of dollars were put in a collection aimed at rewarding not a man or a family, but a spirit, which no money can buy.

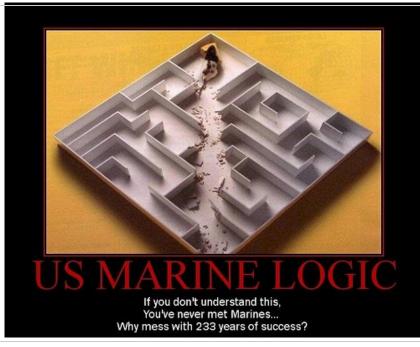
What on earth can unite the Americans in such a way? Their land? Their galloping history? Their economic Power? Money? I tried for hours to find an answer, humming songs and murmuring phrases with the risk of sounding commonplace.

I thought things over, but I reached only one conclusion...Only freedom can work such miracles.





Thanks to Paul Trenn for this and several other motivational posters. I'm not sure whether this is as much motivational as it is a visual definition on how it's done.



Searching for Fox 2/5 members

I am looking for Marines that served with my father in Viet-Nam from January 31, 1967 to February of 1968. His name is Sergeant Michael Linde from Jersey City, NJ. He was with Fox 2-5. He was in Hue City for the Tet Offensive, Da Nang, and Phu Bai. He received 3 purple hearts. If anyone has any information on anything, please let me know. I'm trying to get him reconnected with guys he served with.

Richard Linde

Bits of Viet Nam Memorial Wall Info:

- The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth , Mass. Listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

- There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.

- 31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.

- 12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.

- 5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old.

- One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.

- The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop. 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts. In quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, stalked deer in the Apache National Forest . And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.

- 39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.

Gulf War Claims Deadline

Week of September 19, 2011

For Gulf War Veterans with certain ailments like: Chronic fatigue syndrome; Firbromyalgia; Functional gastrointestinal disorders; and other undiagnosed illnesses the current deadline for when the condition must have "appeared" is on or before December 31, 2011. If you have any conditions that are "undiagnosed" and you did a tour in the Middle East, this could apply to you. The VA is working to extend the deadline to December 31, 2018. If this occurs, it will be great news for veterans and military members who develop symptoms after the 2011 cut-off. However, since there is no guarantee that the deadline will be extended, veterans suffering from undiagnosed conditions are encouraged to talk with their Veteran Service Officer about filing a disability claim for these conditions.

Check out the Military Advantage Blog to get more information

Courtesy of Rod Gurganis' Fort Fidelis Ranch via Military.com Some things never change.

It has been forty plus years since we have stirred the sh***ers. This must be technology that cannot be improved upon. If it ain't broke don't fix it.

Alex Kandic shared pic via boston.com/big picture.





2nd Battalion, 5th Marines News:

From the Battalion Buzz Newsletter September 2011 which can be found on the website, http://www.i-mef.usmc.mil/ external/1stmardiv/5thmarregt/2-5/. Go to this website to read the entire newsletter plus up to date info. On the !st Mar Div and it's many units.

Message from the Battalion Commander

2/5 Families and Friends,

This month we commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the attacks against the United States in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC by those who would deny all freedom-loving people what they value most. We remember the victims, their families and the heroes of that day. We are also mindful and grateful for the sacrifices of the men and women who have given the full measure of devotion in defense of this country. We owe a great debt of gratitude to them and their families.

Over the last month your Marines and Sailors have executed a demanding training schedule in preparation for our anticipated deployment. In addition to training, we have taken some time to have some fun with our families during Jane Wayne Day. We participated in a memorable Patriot Day event with our adopted city, Rancho Santa Margarita, pausing to reflect on September 11, 2001 and interacting with the residents there. We also spent an evening discussing the upcoming Predeployment Training Program with our families to ensure everyone is aware of the busy schedule during upcoming months. If you did not make the September town hall meeting we will hold others in the future. I hope you will take advantage of these opportunities to meet other family members, ask questions of the battalion leadership and gather valuable information about the resources available to you.

I would like to extend a Bravo Zulu (Navy speak for "job well done") to all the men of 2/5, our family readiness team and our friends who support our activities. The Marines and Sailors are focused and motivated. They know what they are training for and display tremendous professionalism in all they do. To those Marines, Sailors and families who helped us during the Patriot Day please accept my appreciation for your help in making that day the unmitigated success it was. I would also like to thank Operation Help a Hero for their continuous support. The child care provided by those volunteers made our Jane Wayne Day fun for spouses and children. Your support during Patriot Day was remarkable and we appreciate all you do.

Over the next few months the pace will quicken and our focus will sharpen. While preparing our Marines and Sailors we must also devote ourselves for preparing our families. I encourage you all to begin now on your Family Care Plans. These take time, careful thought and some prior coordination to ensure we are prepared for deployment. I also encourage you to get involved in our family readiness program. We are always looking for spouses, parents and friends to get involved in the 2/5 family as assistants and volunteers to help us develop a program that meets the needs of all of our families.

SgtMaj Solari and I appreciate all you do at home to ensure our Marines and Sailors can focus on the mission before us. Your role is central to our success on the battlefield.

God bless America and Semper Fidelis. *LtCol Jason S.D. Perry* Commanding Officer



Message from Fox Company

Fox Company Family,

As usual, during a work-up for a deployment your Marines and Sailors are participating in a whirlwind of activity. They spend most of their time training in the field to prepare themselves and their fellow warriors for the rigors of the job ahead. The men are conditioned for the long field evolutions and hard training. The wives, friends and families of these Blackhearts are called upon to keep things on track on the home front, without the help of their Marine or Sailor. Some families are seasoned pro's and some are 1st timers. We know that taking care of everything, often on their own, including finances, childcare, home up-keep, jobs, security, everyday headaches, and anything else Murphy can through your way is a difficult and daunting task. I am impressed every day by the hard work and dedication of Marines and the families who support them. I hope to help them prepare for the long periods of separation from their loved ones in any way we can. Often information is the key, and knowing who to talk to, and where to get assistance is what can make us successful. Fox company staff is poised ready and willing to answer question, direct assistance and help the Blackhearts families in any way. Let us know what we can do through your Marine, or through the Family Readiness Programs.

The more involved Marines and Sailors families can be in the Fox Company Family Readiness Program, the stronger the unit will be in combat and at home. Please help Fox Company build a strong foundation of families helping each other through this deployment and training cycle. Congratulations to the Marines who have recently joined Fox Company and the most decorated battalion in the Marine Corps. Please extend our warmest welcomes to your families.

I hope all of you enjoyed the long labor day weekend and had enough time with your Marines to tied you over during the extended training period this month. Your Marines are building on skills with their Platoons that will bring them success in the future deployment.

I want to personally thank the Marines that have allowed me the privilege of re-enlisting or promoting them this month. The dedication and commitment that these Marines show to this Country, this Unit, and the Marines to their right and left is an amazing thing to behold and I am honored to be a part of these Marines lives

during those critical moments in their lives.

Blackhearts Capt Travis R. Martin







HISTORY OF THE DOG TAG

The Civil War provided the first recorded incident of American soldiers making an effort to ensure that their identities would be known should they die on the battlefield. Their methods were varied, and all

were taken on a soldier's own initia-Mine's Run in northern Virginia, names and unit designations on clothing. Many soldiers took great



Their methods were varied, and all tive. In 1863, prior to the battle of General Meade's troops wrote their paper tags and pinned them to their care to mark all their personal belong-

ings. Some troops fashioned their own "ID (identification) tags out of **pieces of wood**, boring a hole in one end so that they could be worn on a string around the neck.

The commercial sector saw the demand for an identification method and provided products. Harper's Weekly Magazine advertised "Soldier's Pins" which could be mail ordered. Made of silver or gold, these pins were inscribed with an individual's name and unit designation. Private vendors who followed troops also offered ornate identification disks for sale just prior to battles. Still, despite the fact that fear of being listed among the unknowns was a real concern among the rank and file, no reference to an official issue of identification tags by the Federal Government exists. (42% of the Civil War dead remain unidentified.)

The first official advocacy of issuing identification tags took place in 1899. Chaplain Charles C. Pierce, who was tasked to establish the Quartermaster Office of Identification in the Philippines, recommended inclusion of an "identity disc" in the combat field kit as the answer to the need for standard identification. The Army Regulations of 1913 made identification tags mandatory, and by 1917, all combat soldiers wore aluminum discs on chains around their necks.

By World War II, the circular disc was replaced by the oblong shape familiar to us today, generally referred to as "dog tags." Since then, some myths have arisen in connection with the purpose of the identification tags. One of the more common myths involves the reason for the notch on the tag issued between 1941 and the early 1970's. Battlefield rumor held that the notched end of the tag was placed between the front teeth of battlefield casualties to hold the jaws in place. No official record of American soldiers being issued these instructions exists; the only purpose of "the notch" was to hold the blank tag in place on the embossing machine. The machine used at this time doesn't require a notch to hold he blank in place, hence, today's tags are smooth on all sides.

Thee sole purpose of the identification tag is stated by its designation. Tags found around the neck of a casualty, and only those tags found around the neck, stay with the remains at all times tags found any place besides around the neck are made note of in the Record of Personal Effects of Deceased Personnel, and placed in an effects bag. They are not removed unless there is a need to temporarily inter the remains. If there is only one tag present, another is made to match the first. If the remains are unidentified, two tags marked "unidentified" are made. One tag is interred with the individual, the other placed on a wire ring in the sequence of the temporary cemetery plot. This enables Graves Registration personnel to make positive identification of remains during disinterment procedures; when the remains are disinterred, the tag on the wire ring is removed and placed with the matching tag around the neck.

The Department of the Army has developed and is currently testing a new tag, which will hold 80% of a soldier's medical and dental data on a microchip. Known as the Individually Carried Record, it is not intended to replace the present tag, but rather to augment it as part of the "paperless battlefield" concept.

This development is in keeping with the Army's dedication to positively identify each and every fallen soldier. The yellow TacMedCS being tested by the Marines uses radio frequency technology, electronics and global-positioning systems to pin-point wounded.

The Armed Forces make every possible effort to eradicate discrepancies and remove doubts about casualties, not least those doubts that families may hold concerning the demise of their loved ones. In recent years, a near perfect record of identifying service members who have died in the line of duty has been achieved, a far cry from the 58% rate of identification that stood during the Civil War. The ID tag has, been and remains a major part of the reason for this record. Are you wearing your ID tags today? Too many military personnel, particularly those who are part of the peacetime force stationed in CONUS *(Continental United States)*, forget how vital those tags can be, forget that as soldiers they are always on the line. Wearing your ID tags is one of the easiest actions you can make towards achieving total readiness, so take those tags out of your dresser and put them around your neck. Remember -the simple information contained on that small aluminum tag can speak for you if you can't speak for yourself; it could mean the difference between a positive identification and an uncertain future for those who survive you, should your identity be "...known only to God."

We've come a long way from tying pieces of wood around our necks.

This article was written CPT Richard W. Wooley was Chief of Individual Training. Graves Registration Department (now the Mortuary Affairs Center), U.S. Army Quartermaster School, Fort Lee, Virginia.

From Chris Brown,

<u>Note:</u> Illustrations and pictures had to be edited out for space considerations



COLUMN COLUMN

