



"Fox Tracks"

Fox2/5 Association Vietnam Era Veterans Newsletter Fall 2013





From the President: J.D. Moore

This will be the last newsletter prior to the holidays. I want to wish all the best during this holiday season.

Gettysburg will be upon us before we realize. The registration form is in this newsletter so please return it to Donna as soon as possible. Note we have added the picnic back in on Friday late afternoon/ evening. Everyone enjoyed the informal atmosphere around the pool in Charleston. Donna has let me know she will take payments if a one time payment is a burden to you. Also note there will be a \$10 discount on your registration fee if your registration and payment is received by Sept. 1, 2014. Donna gets as good a deal as she can by early tickets to events and it is not fair for other members to make up the cost when the tickets will be much more at the last minute. I am expecting large numbers from the northeast to defend their turf as the gentlemen of the south march north.

As most of you already know the USS Hue City will host a memorial service in honor of our fallen heroes during the battle of Hue City. This will be held Jan. 31, 2014 - Feb. 2, 2014 (Fri-Sat-Sun) at the Mayport Naval Station in Jacksonville, Florida.

There will be a meet and greet Friday evening, picnic and tours of the ship Sat. and the memorial service Sunday AM followed by a reception. The members that have attended in the past say it is a very moving experience. If you are interested in receiving an invitation please let me know by whatever means available.

I want to thank Rich Horner for presenting the photos during the battle of Hue to our active duty brothers. I hope one day to

cur-

go out and see this in person. I'm sure the rent brothers got pumped up

Love you guys

Semper Fi: JD

Happy Birthday Fox 2/5 Marines



Fox 2/5 Assoc. Reunion Oct. 8th - 12th, 2014



The Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center

The Aspire Gettysburg Hotel 2632 Emmitsburg Rd Gettysburg, Pa 7325

717-334-2755
-www.eisenhower.com

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REUNION TIDBITS....
Distances;

Washington, D.C. 78 mi. Lancaster County, 65 mi. Philadelphia, 150 mi. Baltimore, 61 Hershey, 60 mi. Harrisburg Int'l Airport, 53 mi



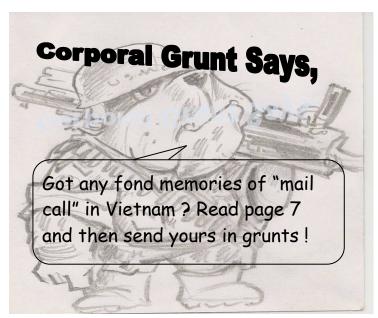
From Bobby Smith; 1st V.P.

I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health or working on getting there. This is the time of the year I like the most because of the Marine Corps birthday meal, then a couple of weeks later the Thanksgiving dinner and another couple weeks after that comes the Christmas feast. A week later New Year's, but some of us couldn't eat much on New Years because of what took place the night before. I remember those days but I think I will keep them as a memory.

By the time you have gotten the newsletter we will have celebrated two of the most important days of the year as a Marine and a Vet. On the 11th, the Purple Heart post of which I am a member will be doing something at Minute Maid Park (Astros baseball park) but I have chosen to go to vet week in Branson. There is a Marine Corp Vietnam unit having a reunion during the first part of the week and I will share those two days with them.

I don't know if I told anyone about the man that lives next door to me but he was in Hotel Company 2/5 fighting in Hue with us. He never wanted to talk about it but last week he finally told me that he wanted to talk to me about what went on in Hue. After I showed him the pictures that I had taken on my trip in '09 he began to open up and he told me that because I was there in Hue he could talk to me about it. It made me feel good because in the six years living next door to him he never wanted to spend any time with me or talk about it. When I left his house he was laughing and said that he hasn't felt this good in years. What I didn't tell you is that he is 100% PTSD.

We will be starting a new year before you know it and that means our reunion will soon be upon us, so start making plans to attend the reunion. I will see you there.



From Forrest Towe: 2nd V.P.

I have been in contact with Fox Co. 1st Sgt. Willie Cisneros III. Here is an update on the Company.

Forrest

The battalion will be deploying with the 31st MEU in the coming weeks. We have successfully completed our Redeployment Training Program and were evaluated by the 5th Marine Regiment on our Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation.

We received tremendous accolades on our Company's Operations and Abilities during our boat package in August under the guidance of the Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Pacific and Special Operations Training Group in September. Although undersized as a Traditional Rifle Company, We feel whole heartedly that we can overcome any obstacle or challenge that is put before us.

Operationally I cannot divulge what we are set to encounter but that we will be ready for what our Nation has for us.

1stSgt. Willie C. Cisneros III Fox Company, First Sergeant

Battle of Hue Memorial

These are firm dates for the Hue City Memorial, to be held at the Mayport Naval Station in Jacksonville, FL. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, January 31st - Sunday February 2nd. If you plan on attending, NOW is the time to contact our Fox President, JD Moore, so he can compile a complete list of people who will attend to send to LTJG Devan Gurecki. She is the main planner for the event and has worked hard to insure a good time will be had by all and also to honor all those who served in Hue City.

Be sure to give JD the total number of people attending if you'll be going with a group or family.

JD needs this commitment by 11/22. All his contact information is on page 3.

Following is the schedule of events:

Friday January 31st 1730-1830 Welcome Aboard Social Hour (by invi

tation for group leaders and other Distinguished

Guests)

Saturday February 1st Morning Events: Golf Tournament - Supported by

1/5 Marines Association. Spouse and Family Social

Afternoon Events: Hue Memorial Picnic, Tours of

USS Hue City

Sunday February 2nd 0900 Catholic Mass

1030 Protestant Service

1330 Battle of Hue Memorial Service

"Fox Tracks"

"Together then, Together Again"
Fox 2/5 Association
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From the (Co-) Editor,

"Fame" is fleeting.

Ken Kreader and I had a plan when I volunteered to be the newsletter editor at the reunion in Nashville in 2012. He would help me with the first few newsletters and then I would be (somewhat) on my own.

We all know about plans, especially considering our time in Vietnam. Sometimes plans worked. Sometimes they didn't. Most of the time we wondered if we had a plan at all! (No disrespect to our officer brethren.)

Regarding editorship of the newsletter, our plans went awry. That's a good thing for everyone involved with our Fox 2/5 Vietnam Association. Ken and I have worked well together (we think) and will continue to do our best, together, for the forseeable future on the newsletter. I would be lost without Ken's technical prowess.... I break it, Ken fixes it. Ken fixes EVERYTHING. I'm sure there would have been a lot of Association officers screaming "when is the newsletter coming out" without his ongoing efforts to educate me in the ways of how the newsletter works.

I've kidded Ken that he'd better not croak before I do or the newsletter as we know it will be in big trouble.

So without further ado, I officially, and with all due respect, relinquish my title as editor, and become co-editor, something I gladly do. As an Association I believe we all benefit from that partnership.

Keep in mind that our newsletter is only as good as the contributions of our members. Keep those cards, letters, emails, stories and photos coming.

Fame is fleeting, and I couldn't be happier for it.

Semper Fi, Paul Trenn

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Fox 2/5 Web site address: http://2ndbn5thmarines.com/foxco/

Anyone interested in attaining your boot camp yearbook or platoon picture? Dave DeGroat passed along this website.

 $\label{lem:http://www.mcrdmuseumhistoricalsociety.org/platoon-photos-and-grad-books . \\$

Fox Marine Passes

Denton Dove, who served with Fox Co. in 1967-68 died peacefully on November 5th, surrounded by family and friends.

Denton died of lung cancer in connection with Agent Orange exposure. Keep Denton and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Our Reunions Since

1989.....Year Location East/Central/West

1989 Washington D.C. East

1991 Gulfport, MS Central/South

1992 Reno, NV West/South

1994 Baltimore, MD East/North

1996 Wisconsin Dells, WI Central/North

1998 San Diego, CA West/South

2000 San Antonio, TX Central/South

2002 Charlestown, SC East/South

2004 Reno, NV West/South

2006 Branson, MO Central

2008 Washington D.C. East

2010 Cody, WY West/North

2012 Nashville, TN Central







Hue Vet Presents Photos

Rich Horner, a Fox Company and Hue City veteran, presented these three framed photos of the fighting at Hue to the current Fox Company at Camp Pendleton in September. Rich was the 2nd platoon commander at Hue and was wounded the day these photos were taken and was awarded the Silver Star for his actions.







This summer JD Moore forwarded me an e-mail from the current Fox Company Commander Captain Jordan P. Jones asking for prior members of Fox Company to help them maintain the "Living Legacy" of Fox Company by building a living history of Fox Company for display in the duty room in their barracks.

I had several pictures taken in Hue City by the French photographer Cathy Leroy that Chis Brown had sent me several years ago. Three were 11"x14" photos taken on Feb 1st. One of these photos appeared in the February 16, 1968 Life Magazine.

I had the three photos framed and contacted Captain

Jones to make arrangements to bring the framed photos to Camp Pendleton and present them to the Company. I had the privilege to present the pictures, but I told Captain Jones that the pictures were from all the Fox Company Vietnam Veterans.

On September 26th my younger son Derek and I drove down to Camp Pendleton and spent the afternoon with Fox Company. After lunch in the chow hall Captain Jones and his staff took us on a tour of the Company Area. They had weapon and equipment displays set up and Marines at every stop to explain and demonstrate the display.

Following a tour of the Barracks which included two Marines showing us inside their quarters, Captain Jones had the entire Company assembled for the presentation of the Framed Pictures. After the presentation I had the privilege of addressing the Company and doing a Q & A in an Assembly Room. Afterwards we went outside to have the group picture taken.

We felt very honored to spend time with these particular dedicated Warriors of our Corps. It was an eerie feeling looking out on the faces of those Marines who were all young enough to be my grandsons.

For my son Derek, whose older brother is a Career Marine, it was a great experience for him also. He has a better appreciation of what this Marine Corps is all about.

Semper Fi, Rich Horner

Note: For a complete list of Silver Star winners from Fox Company in Vietnam see page 9.

Gettysburg reunion notes:

Please give some advance thought for the next reunion location. If you have one enter it on your registration form (page 10) for mailing to Donna.

Sending your registration in early will save you \$10 and allow some good counts for the hotel, the bus tour and possible barbeque after the bus tour.

The tour includes a licensed guide who will be with you the whole tour. They are entertaining and knowledgeable. Don't miss it. It is money well spent.

The hotel has free shuttle service to and from some noted spots. In addition there is a "free" (there is some talk about assessing a small fee) transportation called Freedom Transit. Learn more about this at 'ridethetrolley.com'.

When you register at the hospitality suite you will receive a welcome bag from the "Gettysburg Convention & Visitors bureau. It will have a Visitor's Guide, Discovery map, Gettysburg postcards and a discount sheet especially for Fox 2/5.

Useful websites;

Hotel - 'www.eisenhower.com'



It's less than a year until the Gettysburg reunion - 2014!





Rod Gurganious Gets His Trac-Chair

Thanks to Bill O'Reilly and Steve Danyluk of the Independence Fund and God I got my ...trac-chair today.

When I saw Mr. O'Reilly talking about the Independence fund and the trac-chair program I thought that I would give it a shot. I sent an email and after some documentation and a few telephone calls I got an email that said "you are approved".

What a thrill! I have never asked for, or ever got, anything for free before. The man who runs and founded the Independence Fund calls himself Luker. He's sort of a mysterious character. He doesn't like to call attention to himself, it's all about the wounded warriors. There are very few pictures of him and here's the amazing thing about his Independence Fund, 99% of the money goes to veterans.

Marine Corps Captain Steve Danyluk got the idea when he was assigned to the Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Battalion at Camp Lejeune North Carolina. The VA doesn't give combat wounded veterans anything like an allterrain wheelchair. He thought that it's important for these young men to get outside and enjoy life. Teaming up with Bill O'Reilly, over 10 million dollars has been raised for the project. After feeding the deer, Doug from Carlson Mobility and I went down to the river for the ultimate trac-chair test. This tank will go anywhere. I made it down a 50 foot, 40 degree bank with no problem at all. The thing runs over downed trees like they aren't even there. It can go through water about ten inches deep and the batteries underneath are submersible as well as the charger. A wonderfully innovative way for differently abled people to get outdoors and enjoy life.

Thank you to Carlson Mobility, Luker and Bill O'Reilly, Truly Outstanding Americans. http://www.independencefund.org/

Semper FI.

By: George Rodney Gurganious

Note: In a congratulatory note, Dave Brown suggested to Rod that he may now want an 1812 MOS (tanks) or 1833 (amtracs).

Rod's reply was "Thank you so much, Captain. I'll take 1833 but if you're giving them away, why not both. All the best, Rod."

Happy "Trac-ing" from all of us at Fox 2/5!

Thanks to Rod and Dave for sending this along.

Gettysburg—Things to do Not necessarily battle related.

++++++++++++++++++++

Breaktime Massage

THE source for therapeutic massage in the Gettysburg area.

Gettysburg, PA

Catoctin Breeze Vineyard

Catoctin Breeze is a boutique vineyard and winery operation producing small lots of fine quality Maryland wines.

Thurmont, MD

Gettysburg Community Theatre

Gettysburg Community Theatre is a not-for-profit community theatre organization offering performances and classes year-round in musical theatre.

Gettysburg, PA



A Reunion At The Ullman's



This fine group of Marines and corpsman gathered at the Ullman's in Howell, MI August 15th-18th.

Left to right (Standing) Sam Easterbrook, Gordie Kosibucki, Bill Ulman, Dale Nachreiner, Sam Jimenez, Dave Michael, Pete Korn, Billy Walker, Marv Carpenter, and Doyle Newsom. Easterbrook & Walker were first timers. Mike Malanowski attended but isn't in the photo.



How many corpsmen does it take to treat a bee sting?

Don't take offense all you corpsmen out there. Just an attempt at a little humor.

Actually Doc Martin, (prone position) is being stitched up by Doc DeMarco on the left and assisted by Doc Yeager (face blocked by a hand) and an unknown corpsman with the bush hat on.

This took place while rounding up unexploded ordinance in a position east of the An Hoa airstrip. Joke was he sat on a bayonet. What really happened I know not.

Does anyone know the unidentified corpsman or the story behind the needlework?

Quang Nam Province 1969

Photo contributed by Mike "Ski" Malanowski

PX The patch has been updated. The '2nd' has been corrected and the 'cigarette' was added back. The new challenge coins available now:

Hats (red or black w/patch) \$15

Patches 4" \$ 5 Patches 12" \$25

Challenge Coin \$10

Gunny

Shirts \$15 2 for \$25



"The defense of a nation is the duty of all it's citizens, but, service as a Marine is the honor of it's elite..."



"Mail Call"

I was fortunate to be included in an email "thread" about mail call in Vietnam. For those of you who aren't familiar with computers, an email thread is simply an email, or letter, sent on the internet to a group of people. If one of that group of people who received that email wanted to comment on the subject matter, that would start a "thread".

When we got mail in Vietnam (nearly always) it was "manna from Heaven". It could lift your spirits immensely, even under the worst of conditions.

This "mail call" thread started with a picture sent to Chris Brown depicting just such a joyous moment. Following is that email to Chris and the thoughts that followed, of other Fox 2/5 Marines on the subject:

I remember the mail like it was yesterday. And the packages as well.

Fond memories of getting a bunch of mail at one



time!	Mostly	great	news with	n an oc	casior	nal Dea	ar Joh	ın
but all	in all we	e waite	ed for our	name	to be	called	with a	anx
ious h	earts!!	S/F	Chuck					

Mail was always a great lift in the day. Fortunately I received a good amount of letters. Packages are another story. I loved getting them because they always contained socks and some goodies to share. However after I rotated back to the world I came to find that I received

probably 25% of all sent. My wife sent one a week and I got maybe one a month. Don't think that many got lost.

A memorable one, and most liked by the guys, came from my dad. In it was an Ajax liquid detergent bottle but instead of soap it was loaded with cherries and bourbon. Wow, they were potent as they had absorbed about 95% of all the bourbon. The hooch was happy that day.

Semper Fi,	Ken	

My Dad wasn't quite as Creative as yours and sent my Jack Daniels in large plastic Listerine Bottles. Mom kept me in Q-Tips, Strawberry Cheesecake, Colgate toothpaste and huge round blocks of mild cheddarcheese. Lt. Tom Martin's Third-Herd (Including HIM & I!) would all have to squeeze out HARD little turdlets for about two weeks before normalizing back to our commonplace dysentery following a Momma Nelly Anderson "care-package"! Great reprieves from our erstwhile vacation living conditions. I do believe that "Mail Call" was the highlight of our lives - Eight Days a Week! http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VadngOGKIP0

Yes Ken. I remember mail call and the joy that it brought to all of the real Brothers
Best Regards, Semper Fi & USMC - FOREVER!

David H. "Andy" Anderson

I was one of those fortunate Marines who received a fairly steady supply of mail and packages, even though I was still getting mail from one of my aunts addressed to MCRD.

Naturally, correspondence from family was the most important mail but thanks to one of my fire team members from Oklahoma, I began a pen pal relationship with a female cousin of his that lasted from December of '68 until I rotated in October '69. Paula was funny and smart, pretty and witty. Her letters were a constant source of enjoyment, a pleasant distraction from the rigors of our daily existence, to say the least.

I thanked her for all those letters by showing up unannounced on her doorstep in Tulsa shortly after I got home. I had a wonderful breakfast with Paula and her family, including my first experience with grits.

Wonderful memories.

Paul Trenn



Sam Jones and his wife, Margaret, were regulars at our reunions until Sam's death. Margaret

still attends reunions when possible.

At a recent gathering at the Masonic Lodge in San Diego where Sam was a long time member, and with



Margaret in attendance, two local Marines received the "Sam Jones Memorial Award" in a fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Project.

Below, his lifelong friend and fellow combatant, Tony Marengo, eulogized Sam in our newsletter in 2010.

There couldn't be a better Marine guarding those pearly gates!

Sam Jones Memorial Award Ceremony

GUNNERY SERGEANT, SAM JONES, THE MARINE







Born: February 19, 1929 Entered into Rest: November 1, 2010 Entered the US Marine Corps: October 1946 Retired: April 1968

Sam was a Veteran of Korea and the "Frozen Chosin Reservoir". He served in Vietnam, 1966 to 1967. Among his awards are the Bronze Star with "V" Device for Heroism involving combat with the enemy, and, being twice wounded, two Purple Hearts.





Reprinted from the: Fox 2/5 Association-Vietnam Newsletter - November 2010

Gunnery Sergeant Sam E. Jones USMC Retired, passed away at his home today, November 1, 2010 at 1130 am.

Sam was one of the meanest, cantankerous Gunnery Sergeants (Gy. Sgt.) in the Marine Corps that always had every Marine's welfare and concern at heart. He just never tried to show it. He was a professional Gy. Sgt. that not only took care of the Marines in his charge but the Company Commander and Officer's as well.

I remember leaving Vietnam the first time in 1967 and saying to myself "If I ever see that man again it will be to soon". We have been the very best of friends since that day and lived only 30 to 40 minutes away from each other. My children always addressed him as Uncle Sam. When they were small he and Margaret would take them to the amusement park. Sam from time to time would give them a little grief.

He never faulted or complained about anything in his life that did not work out. He just would say "I have no one to blame but my-self."

When I took him to the Veterans Administration Hospital last Tuesday for a scheduled appointment the doctor said to Sam "That is a good friend you have there". Sam replied "Ah, he's been a thorn in my side for a long time". Or maybe it was a lower part of his anatomy he was referring too, I was afraid to inquire further.

I always thought the Marine Corps made a mistake in not making Sam a Gunnery Sergeant E-9. He could have taught so many Staff Sergeants what it meant to be a Gurinery Sergeant.

He was also the Master of "One Liners" and Yogi Berra quotes could not hold a candle to "Old Gunny Sam's" sayings. He pulled out of the air.

We were at the DMZ a fire base known as Con Thien. We had a 2nd Lt. reporting in to Fox Company, Captain Burgett. At that moment we experienced some enemy incoming mortar rounds. Sam grabbed the Captain and pulled him into the fox-hole Sam had dug. The Lt asked the "Gunny, where is my hole" The Gunny replied "Lt. you are standing in it. All you have to do is take the dirt out of it".

Sam was always fair in dealing with anyone. In combat he tried to maintain his game face but in his heart he was affected by every-one of the losses we sustained. While at the DMZ Sam was shot in the shoulder and never mentioned anything. Late that night when everyone was secured back at the Fire Base he distributed what food and water remaining at the Command Post to the platoons and then had his wound tended too.

I will sorely miss my "Old Friend" and I hope he does not tick off Saint Peter before it is my turn to report for duty. I know Sam will have everything organized up there, an assigned rack for all of us that served with Sam or knew him.

Sam Jones was a great Marine and a great friend. May he rest in peace.

Semper Fidelis,

Tony Marengo Fox 2/5



Update Gettysburg Reunion 2014

The **ASPIRE Gettysburg Hotel** is centrally located in Gettysburg on US Route 15, just south of the Gettysburg National Military Park and adjacent to the Gettysburg Family Amusement Complex which features 2 go cart tracks, mini golf, family picnic areas, indoor sporting areas, pool tables and a large video arcade. Guests of the **ASPIRE Gettysburg Hotel** are provided a complimentary local shuttle with service to the Gettysburg National Military Park, downtown historic Gettysburg and other local attrac-

Things to do near the ASPIRE Gettysburg Hotel

The following lists provide an overview of local attractions and destinations close to our hotel

Historical Points of Interest

The David Wills House

tions.

Visit the historic site where President Lincoln drafted the now famous Gettysburg Address. Located at the Gettysburg National Military Park.

Eisenhower National Historic Site

Tour the historic home, barn and grounds of the former President Dwight D. Eisenhower

Gettysburg National Military Park

Enjoy battlefield tours, horseback riding, hiking and biking. The park is also home to the Gettysburg National Cemetery, the final resting place for those who lost their lives during the Battle of Gettysburg.

American Civil War Wax Museum & Gettysburg Gift Center

The historic Battle of Gettysburg is recreated with life-sized dioramas and a digitally enhanced Battle room exhibit.

Shopping

The Outlet Shoppes at Gettysburg

This outlet mall is home to over 70 amazing stores, delicious eateries, and a movie theater.

Gettysburg Farmer's Market

Head to Lincoln Square on Saturday mornings to pick up fresh fruits and vegetables, baked treats and other locally made goods.

Sports & Entertainment

Gettysburg Family Amusement Complex

Located on the property, the Gettysburg Family Amusement Complex offers Mini Golf, Go Carts, Laser Tag and more..

The Links at Gettysburg

Enjoy a round of golf at this popular course rated one of the "best places to play" by Golf Digest. The 18-hole course features dramatic views, natural rock formations, elevated tee boxes, and sloping greens all adding up to a day of world-class golf for players of every skill level.

Ghost Tours

Explore favorite haunts, myths and historical facts on the various Ghost Tours, offered throughout Gettysburg. Some Ghost Tour providers even include popular evening tours that include historic homes, battlefields, and haunted cemeteries.

Adams County Winery

In nearby Orrtanna, 15 minutes west of Gettysburg, enjoy a day of wine tasting, or attend one of the many concerts, festivals and special events hosted at this picturesque winery.

Hersheypark

Enjoy a full day of family thrills at Hersheypark, featuring 60 rides like the Skyrush coaster, plus live shows and entertainment just one hour from Gettysburg.





Fox 2/5 Vietnam Silver Star Recipients

As co-editor of the newsletter I've had numerous good suggestions from members as to what would potentially be good newsletter material. In recent months someone suggested I write a brief history on the most decorated regiment (and Fox company "unofficially" the most decorated Company) in the Marine Corps, the 5th Marine Regiment, so I did a little research on the internet.

When JD informed me that Rich Horner won a Silver Star at Hue and that fact wound up in the newsletter I thought it would be a fitting companion article to list all the Silver Star winners from Fox Company in Vietnam.

It goes without saying that it would probably take a big crowbar to pry the fact from any of these recipients that they won a Silver Star. Maybe it's time they take a well deserved bow;

Captain David B. Brow 30 September 1968

Captain George S. Burget 13 October 1966

Corporal David L. Collins 1 February 1968*

Captain Michael P. Downs 3 February to 7 February 1968

Second Lieutenant Donald A. Hausrath Sr. 3 February to 4 February 1968*

Staff Sergeant William B. Henderson 24 March 1967

Private First Class David J. Keif 4 February 1968

Staff Sergeant Anthony H. Marengo 26 January 1967

Second Lieutenant William R. Melto 30 September 1968

Private First Class Keith M. Moser II 2 June 1967*

Staff Sergeant Benjamin Palacios Jr. 22 May 1968

Private First Class Jesus R. Perez 23 June 1968*

Lance Corporal James L. Spencer Jr. 6 February 1968

Corporal David G. Theriault 2 February 1968

Lance Corporal Gary R. Townsend 30 September 1968*

Gunnery Sergeant Edward J. Vanvalkenburg 7 February 1968

Note: It was recently brought to my attention by Tony Marengo that "Gunny" Sam Jones was put in for a Silver Star at Con Thien in 1966 but it was somehow lost in the paperwork.

2014 Reunion / Meeting

Fox Company 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division ASPIRE HOTEL & SUITE 2634-A Emmitsburg Road Gettysburg, PA 17325 Oct 8th 12th 2014

Name:					
Address:					
City:					
Phone: ()	How n	nany will be in att	tendance:		
Reservation made	or Name of Hotel				
Checking in Oct	2014 Chec	king out Oct	2014		
Spouse or Guest Name:					
Guest Name:					
E-Mail if available:					
Do you need wheel chair acces Registration Fee: -\$10 Discount if reservations are n Banquet Dinner Buffet* Sat 11 a Bar-B-Que* Fri 4pm TBI Tour Etc. Fri 10am Dues		\$ 20 \$ -10 \$ 40 x \$30 x	\$20.00 \$\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	per form per person per person per person per year	
Mail to: Make Check payo Fox 2/5 Assoc. % Sam Henderson 3908 Cypress St Silver Springs, NV 89429-9394		2/5 Assoc.			

DETAILS/RATES/CHARGES:

IMPORTANT: READ CAREFULLY BEFORE MAKING RESERVATIONS:

For reservations call directly to the hotel by calling, 1-717-334-2755

Room rate is \$99.00 plus tax.

Please be sure to tell Reservations that you are with Fox 2/5 Vietnam Veterans CUT OFF DATE TO MAKE RESERVATIONS WITH HOTEL IS: Sept 8, 2014

An Ode To A Marine

Ask a Marine what's so special about the Marines and the answer would be "Esprit de Corps," an unhelpful French phrase that means exactly what it looks like - the Spirit of the Corps. But what is that spirit? And where does it come from?

The Marine Corps is the only branch of the U. S. Armed Forces that recruits people specifically to fight. The Army emphasizes personal development (an Army of One), the Navy promises fun (let the journey begin), the Air Force offers security (it's a great way of life). Missing from all the advertisements is the hard fact that a soldier's life is to suffer and perhaps to die for his people and take lives at the risk of his/her own. Even the thematic music of the services reflects this evasion. The Army's Caisson Song describes a pleasant country outing; over hill and dale, lacking only a picnic basket. Anchors Aweigh, the Navy's celebration of the joys of sailing, could have been penned by Jimmy Buffet. The Air Force song is a lyric poem of blue skies and engine thrust. All is joyful, and invigorating, and safe. There are no land mines in the dales, nor snipers behind the hills, no submarines or cruise missiles threaten the ocean jaunt, no bandits are lurking in the wild blue yonder.

The Marines' Hymn, by contrast, is all combat: "We fight our Country's battles," "First to fight for right and freedom," "We have fought in every clime and place where we could take a gun," "In many a strife we have fought for life and never lost our nerve."

The choice is made clear. You may join the Army to go to adventure training, or join the Navy to go to Bangkok, or join the Air Force to go to computer school.

You join the Marine Corps to go to War! But the mere act of signing the enlistment contract confers no status in the Corps. The Army recruit is told from his first minute in uniform that "You're in the Army now, soldier." The Navy and Air Force enlistees are sailors or airmen as soon as they get off the bus at the training center. The new arrival at Marine Corps boot camp is called a recruit, or worse (a lot worse), but never a MARINE. Not yet, maybe never. He or she must earn the right to claim the title of UNITED STATES MARINE, and failure returns you to civilian life without hesitation or ceremony.

Recruit Platoon 2210 at San Diego, California trained from October through December of 1968. In Viet Nam the Marines were taking two hundred casualties a week and the major rainy season and Operation Meade River had not even begun. Yet Drill Instructors had no qualms about winnowing out almost a quarter of their 112 recruits, graduating only 81. Note that this was post-enlistment attrition. Every one of those 31 who were dropped had been passed by the recruiters as fit for service. But they failed the test of Marine Corps Boot Camp! Not necessarily for physical reasons. At least two were outstanding high school athletes for whom the calisthenics and running were child's play. The cause of their failure was not in the biceps nor the legs, but in the spirit. They had lacked the will to endure the mental and emotional strain so they would not be Marines. Heavy commitments and high casualties not withstanding, the Corps reserves the right to pick and choose whether you are seeing a truck driver, a computer programmer or a machine gunner or a cook or a baker. The Marine is amorphous, even anonymous, by conscious design. The Marine is a Marine. Every Marine is a rifleman first and foremost, a Marine ... First, Last and Always! You may serve a four-year enlistment or even a twenty-plus-year career without seeing action, but if the word is given you'll charge across that Wheatfield! Whether a Marine has been schooled in automated supply or automotive mechanics or aviation electronics or whatever is immaterial.

Those things are secondary - the Corps does them because it must. The modern battle requires the technical appliances and since the enemy has them, so do we. But no Marine boasts mastery of them. Our pride is in our marksmanship, our discipline, and our membership in a fraternity of courage and sacrifice. "For the honor of the fallen, for the glory of the dead," Edgar Guest wrote of Belleau Wood. "The living line of courage kept the faith and moved ahead."

They are all gone now, those Marines who made a French farmer's little Wheatfield into one of the most enduring of Marine Corps legends. Many of them did not survive the day and eight long decades have claimed the rest. But their actions are immortal. The Corps remembers them and honors what they did and so they live forever. Dan Daly's shouted challenge takes on its true meaning - if you lie in the trenches you may survive for now, but someday you may die and no one will care. If you charge the guns you may die in the next two minutes, but you will be one of the immortals.

All Marines die in either the red flash of battle or the white cold of the nursing home. In the vigor of youth or the infirmity of age all will eventually die, but the Marine Corps lives on. Every Marine who ever lived is living still, in the Marines who claim the title today.

It is that sense of belonging to something that will outlive our own mortality, which gives people a light to live by and a flame to mark their passing.

Passed on to a Marine from another Marine and to his friends!

SEMPER FIDELIS

Contributed by Tony Marengo