



GOLF COMPANY 2ND BATTALION 5TH MARINES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



DONG HA - CHU LAI – AN HOA – PHU BAI – HUE CITY

Vol. 19, Issue 1

February 2005

Hué City Memorial!

Chaplin LT. Paul N. Rumery, “Chaps Rummy”, the Chaplin from the USS HUE CITY, has informed Limey, (Tony C. our Information Director), that the Hué City Memorial will be held on 8, 9, 10 April 2005 in Mayport, Florida. Due to the deployment of the ship, the memorial will be held in April this year rather than around the 31st of January—the anniversary of the first day of the Battle of Hué City when it is usually held.

The planned itinerary is for a Golf Tournament on the 8th on the base course with a reception following at *Bogey's*. On the 9th, there will be a picnic on the base starting around 1200 through 1500 which is generally followed by a group dinner in the evening with all those in attendance at one of the many fine restaurants in the area. The Memorial Service will be on Sunday, April 10th and is usually held aboard the Ship. The crew generally conducts tours of the Ship for those in attendance who are interested.

At the time this newsletter was written, the keynote speaker for the Memorial was not known. Tony C. will follow-up with any late breaking details via email.

Tony has made reservations at the Best Western Mayport Inn & Suites. This hotel is just down the road (about half a block) from the Comfort Inn (which had been the primary hotel for most of the previous Memorials). Per Tony, “this is the Hotel we stayed at last year, and has nice clean rooms. (It’s still new) It has DSL capabilities for those with DSL and a laptop. The Rates are \$75.00 a night plus applicable taxes. In order to get this rate you MUST mention that you are with the Golf 2/5 Association. This rate is only good if we book Ten rooms or more, otherwise it will increase to \$78.00 per night. If you have any difficulties (which you should not) ask for Kieth Patidar, and tell him Tony sent out this information. There are ten rooms blocked out with plenty more as needed right NOW. To ensure a room of your choice you need to call and make reservations as soon as you can. I told her to put 5 rooms smoking and 5 non-smoking but they can divide it up any way you ask. Don't leave it too late because you might not get the room you want. They have 2 queen size beds as the norm, with king size available. Hotel Web address is listed below this information. It doesn't have a bar but its right close to some.....”

Best Western Mayport Inn & Suites

2389 Mayport Road
Atlantic Beach, Florida, United States, 32233
Phone-Direct: 904-435-3500
Toll Free Reservations: 866-355-3116

Fax: 904-435-2080

Website:

<http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/productInfo.do?propertyCode=10314>

Other Options are:

- **Mayport Comfort Inn**—Rate \$58.00 (the choice of many vets year after year, always good with discounts, but a little older rooms—but also has a bar!)
Phone: **904-249-0313**
- **Mayport Navy Lodge**—904-270-3964 (must be authorized active/retiree space available)
- **Mayport VOQ/BOQ**—904-270-5423 (must be authorized active/retiree space available)

A big “Thank You” to Tony for doing all the legwork in getting the details for the Memorial and arranging for accommodations! *The editor*

President's Message – by Barney Barnes

Greetings Marines,

I trust this cold February day finds you all well and in good spirits. And thanks to that little marmot up in Pennsylvania, PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL, I guess we'll have six more weeks of winter. Does he never see his shadow?

Speaking of cold Februarys, any of you remember 37 years ago and just how cold it seemed to get in Hue City? As I write this tonight, it's Feb. 9 and tomorrow 37 years ago on Feb. 10th, just across the An Cu bridge on the Phu Cam Canal, we lost two great young Marines, TONY “Life Of Riley” THREET & JOHN WAYNE ROWDEN, when my squad triggered an NVA ambush prematurely, by walking up on their flanks. Those two brave Marines weren't even in my squad, but they came to our aid and in doing so, lost their lives. I think about them every day. Who knows what those two gentle heroes might have accomplished in life, the lives they might have led, the families they might have had. May they “REST IN PEACE.”

Had my squad not prematurely set off the ambush though, our losses that day would no doubt have been greater, for the company was heading straight down the road from the Cathedral toward the Traffic Circle where the main NVA force was lying in wait.

I find it hard to believe, except for us that were there that day, you will find no record of that event in any of the Command Chronologies, After Action Reports, etc etc.—at least to the best of my knowledge.

By now, I trust that all of you have received your annual dues notice and acted accordingly. I have asked Rick Mack to provide us with some information as to the particulars of the paying of dues in his Treasurer's Report.

Also, as this is written, VINCE MONTORO, is in Myrtle Beach, scouting the area and gathering information for our 2006 Reunion. As it stands now, we have a block of 40 rooms (Oceanside view) at the POINDEXTER HOTEL. The reunion is tentatively scheduled for the Sept. 20 – 26. Now I know there was some concern from some of our members about us not holding our Reunion in conjunction with the 1st MarDiv any more and also about not having it in the prime summer months. I'll try to answer those two points to the best of my ability. The main reason that we decided to forgo the 1st MarDiv Reunion was simply the cost factor; not all of our membership can pay the \$125 and up a night room rates that they usually charge . . . we voted again in DC to continue with planning and organizing our own reunions. The last two have been held in Sept. and here again, this seems to work out best for the membership as a whole. That's another reason why we only have them every other year, so those who can make it, have plenty of time not only to plan, but also save up for it. Vince is doing a great job of trying to come up with accommodations, events, attractions that are reasonable and of interest to us all. So stay tuned . . .

In closing, I again would like to thank Tony C for getting out the word to the troops on matters of importance and again thank all of our brothers who have joined our / your Association since last year. We are growing. Keep looking for those lost brother's of ours. Until next time....HAPPY TET. May God bless and watch over each of you.

I love you guys...Semper Fi,
Barney

Upcoming Formations—Reunion 2006

As reported in the last newsletter (Nov. 2004), as a result of a close vote by the membership that responded, Myrtle Beach, SC was selected as the site for our G 2/5 reunion in 2006.

As Barney mentioned, Vince Montoro was recently in Myrtle Beach scouting out accommodations for the reunion. He has already lined up the **Poindexter Hotel** (Ph: 1-800-248-0003).

The dates Vince has lined up are "Wed. Sept. 20 thru Sun Sept. 24. You can come earlier, like say Sunday, or if you come Wed. you could stay a few days past Sunday at the same price—two or three days on either side of the above dates."

Vince's report from his recon: "First things first. The rates for the rooms are ocean view (OV) queen single \$35-40. OV deluxe eff. \$50-55, ocean front (OF) deluxe eff. \$60-65. Both of the delux effs. have full kitchens, the single has a small refrig. and micro. See brochure for Atlantic Coast resorts.. Name of contact there is Sue. If any questions you can call her and make sure you tell her it is for the Golf 2/5 reunion in 2006. Dinner for the reunion is at Caroline's Restaurant right across the street from the hotel. It will be family style or buffet and prices will be determined by menu and style of dinner. Two great shows that you might want to see: Carolina Opry 22 adults or more price is \$25.00 Regular price is \$31.95. This is military group rate. Also Alabama Theatre \$23.00 per person Group rate. Also I inquired

about 2 tours through Sunway Tours. First tour Charleston all day tour taking 2 hours for lunch and walk through open market and tour of the USS Yorktown \$45.00 per person. Contact person at Sunway Tours Robbie White 1-843-293-1773. Second Parris Island \$750.00 for the bus. The more people that take this the cheaper it is per person. Up to 46 people for both tours. If I think of anything else I'll let you know."

Semper FI, Vince

Vince has done a lot of leg-work already and there's still 19 months before the reunion! Thanks Vince! Vince also advises that we will have access to a large room at no extra cost that we can use as a hospitality room for hanging out and holding our Association meetings. We can also set aside time so all the ladies can get together for as long as they wish like we did in Branson. Unfortunately we weren't able to find a place for the ladies in DC and when they did have their get together; they ended up being shuffled around several times which was very disruptive and frustrating for them.

Further details will be provided in the forthcoming newsletters—the editor.

Secretary/Treasurer Report – by Rick Mack

Greetings Everyone!

I would like to begin by first offering my apologies for not having any words of wisdom in the last newsletter. To begin with, things were pretty hectic here as Lisa and I had purchased a newer home and I had my hands full here with moving and all just in time to greet the Christmas holiday. Shortly thereafter came the first birthday of our daughter Samantha and then we rang in the New Year. As I am sure many of you could tell by receipt of your dues notice, I was running a wee bit behind but I did finally manage to get approximately 205 notices sent out. With all of that being said, I do hope that each of you and your families had a wonderful Christmas holiday and that this newsletter finds each of you in the best of health and spirits.

As of this writing I have thus far received 73 returns of the 205 notices that were sent out. Between Larry Ortiz and myself we are doing our best to make sure that we have our members list updated with the most current information and I appreciate the fact that some of you have made me aware



Rick Mack—in "younger days"...

of minor changes that needed to be made on mailing information so that we do not lose contact with anyone. With this being

only my second year as your Secretary/Treasurer, I appreciate your patience and understanding while I get my act together so to speak and once again I thank you for the confidence you have placed in me to afford me the opportunity to continue on as your Secretary/Treasurer.

MIA's

I have received three returns thus far on dues notices to the following Marines with no forwarding address available at this time and ask that if any of you might possibly know of their correct address to please drop me a line with their mailing information so that we do not leave anyone behind while at the same time keeping our contact info updated.

Fred Caldwell (Indianapolis, Indiana)

Thomas J. Crilly III (Iselin, New Jersey)

Terry L. Regelin (Meridian, Idaho)

WELCOME ABOARD

While we have thus far three members wandering about somewhere we have also just recently gained four new members and I would like to take this opportunity to extend a hearty "Welcome Aboard" to Glen Freeman—Williamsburg, OH, Martin C. Steinbach—Burlington, KY, Andrew Sylwestrowicz—Merrillville, OH, and Mark Glasgow—Broadview Heights, OH.

ABOVE & BEYOND

A special note of thanks to the following members for their added generosity:

Vern Arndt, Barney Barnes, Joe Barry, Edward Benavidez, John Boiros, Pat & Jerry Brown, Bill Buchanan, Anthony C. Cartledge, Danny Cholewa, Richard E. Cobb, Mike Copeland, Emmanuel Credo, Bennie Davis, George H. Doucette, Charles M. Ervin, Mike Frank, William F. Gavin, Marc N. Glasglow, Georgia Hall, Steven L. Hancock, Bill Harvey, George Haught, Michael J. Henehan, Ronald B. Johnson, Don LaJeunesse, Richard Lahan, Alex London, Arthur (Jesse) Lyon, Lance Machamer, Thomas Marshall, Charles L. Meadows, Larry Ortiz, General Peter Pace, Ronnie L. Powers, Ron Rawlings, John J. Rearick, Dale Roberts, Joseph Rowe, Robert A. Setlak and James E. Weiland.

As was mentioned above with the numbers I have provided you can see that we are still quite behind on the receipt of our membership dues so please get your 2005 dues sent in as soon as you possibly can and to all of those who have already responded a big "thank you" for your continued support. If any of you are in need of assistance due to financial difficulties please let me know. As I understand it Vince Montoro has been hard at work already making preparations and plans for the reunion to be held at Myrtle Beach, SC in 2006 and the USS Hue City Memorial reunion held down Florida way is just around the corner for all those that may be able to attend. Thanks Vince and keep up the fine work and an added thanks to Tony C. (aka Limey) for all the work he has done on the Hue City reunion and all that he has done for us as our information officer.

As of late we have had a lot of correspondence between the Officers of the Executive Board here as well as our Web Master (Tom Hohmann) and I would like to take a moment to extend to them a heartfelt thanks for keeping me informed and for their dedication and support. There is an awful lot of behind the scenes communications that takes place occasionally to insure

that the association and its membership are not left in the dark. Thanks Guys!

Keeping In Touch

Please make sure that if you have had any changes in your residence mailing address and/or your email address that you drop me and Larry Ortiz—the editor, a line with that info so that we do not lose our contact information with you (***Contact information for Rick and Larry is provided with the list of Officer's names on the second to last page of the newsletter***). It's important that we do not lose touch with each other as time goes by so please keep this in mind if you have recently had any changes or if you anticipate any moves in the future to put us on your list of priorities. All of my contact information on the Golf 2/5 web site is current so I may be reached via standard USPS mail, email or I can be reached via the telephone as well.

Speaking of keeping in touch ... I would like to make contact someday via telephone with Keen B. (Dutch) Hermany and Dennis R. Parrish so if you are reading this please drop me a line or call me with your phone number and I will get right back with you. It's been an awful long time and I sure would like to hear your voices.

Well, as the old saying goes "all good things must come to an end" so I guess with that in mind I will close for now with wishes for the best to all of you and your families. God bless and stay safe!

"Semper Fi"

Rick Mack

P.S. Rick will provide a status of Association funds in the next issue of the newsletter.

Association Business

As Rick reports, he has sent out dues notices to 205 former G 2/5 vets we have on our Association roster. To date he has received renewals from 73 vets and additional donations from some of the members which is approximately a 36% return so far.

Since Barney has been President of the Association, he and I have coordinated on the mailing of each newsletter and made the decision to send the newsletters to the entire list of names on the Association roster and not only to those members who paid their dues. One of Barney's chief goals, that I fully support, is to make the G 2/5 Association an inclusive organization. Despite the many reminders in each newsletter for Association members to either send in their membership fee or yearly renewal dues, we've never had greater than about 45% of the membership actually paying their dues.

Barney's and my decision to continue to send the newsletter to the entire roster is because we believed, maybe incorrectly, all the vets we had on the roster wanted to be a part of the G 2/5 Association. Since the newsletter is our primary means of disseminating Association news, we assumed all the G 2/5ers would share that same interest in reading about their friends and reconnecting at one of the reunions. Another reason we decided to send the newsletters out to the entire roster is we found out that dues notices had not been sent to non-paying members for some time and we thought it wasn't fair to exclude those who hadn't received a dues notice.

As I've also stated in several issues, which is worth repeating again, none of the Association officers are paid anything for their service. The funds collected are used 100% to defray the cost of the printing and postage for the newsletters and some funds are used for the bi-annual reunions. All the funds collected are used to keep our G 2/5 Association a viable organization.

Since all G 2/5 vets on the roster (approximately 205) have received their dues notices this year, it's a simple task to write out a check and send it in to Rick for your yearly dues. Hopefully more will be sent in before the next issue of the newsletter.

After this issue, the Association officers have decided that this will be the last issue of the newsletter sent to the entire roster and from here on out, the newsletter will only be sent to our dues paying members.

We realize we may have mistakenly been sending it to vets we have on our roster who have no desire to participate in the organization and have consciously decided not to pay their dues and join the Association. We certainly don't want to try and force anyone to be a member and respect everyone's right not to participate.

However, if there are vets out there who would like to receive the newsletter but can't financially afford the yearly dues, please let me or one of the other officers know and we'll keep you on our mailing list.

For those non-paying members who will no longer receive a copy of the newsletters in the mail, the newsletters will be available on the G 2/5 website. *The editor*

Additional Reunion Comments

In the November 2004 Newsletter, I included several commentaries from vets who attended their very first G 2/5 reunion in Washington, D.C. in September. Due to space limitations, I was unable to include comments received from Vern Arndt in that issue. Vern Arndt's comments:

• **Vern Arndt**—After Action Report- It was my first Golf 2/5 reunion. I experienced many feelings during the festivities. I had attended an Aerial Observer reunion in 2000 but that was a different experience as compared to this Golf Co. 2/5 event. "Grunt" life was totally different! So were the reunions! There was the anticipation and anxiety after the many months of planning and waiting the date. Then it comes and you finally have the face-to-face meetings with our brothers of 37 years ago and the many new faces, some of which I knew through email contact. And some kick-off we had on Friday evening! Attending a "Happy Hour" hosted by the General Peter Pace and wife! What a gracious gesture by the Assistant Chief of Staff at their historic home at Fort Myer! What an honor!

I tried hard to forget so many things through the years or at least not dwell upon them. It was kind of like crawling in a hole and pulling the cover in after you all these years. At the reunion, I found myself trying and wanting to remember. What do others remember? Lots of emotions flowing.... Perhaps I will finally determine whose names go with the faces that I have been looking at on the many slides and pictures I had taken in 1967. Some of our attendees were walking history books of events and information.

Our reflections and discussions included these 1st. Plt. events: June 1967, a well-aimed sniper's bullet claims a Cpl. Sqd. Ldr.; July- an accidental grenade discharge in a ville near Antenna Valley claims one Marine and 2 civilians and wounds many; September- a booby-trapped artillery round claims a Machine Gun Sqd. Ldr.; November- an enemy ambush in Antenna Valley on Operation Essex claims several Marines. I have ten names of wounded or KIA recorded in my diary but the current record from Essex shows 5 KIA. Confusion??? Could I have done something more to prevent casualties? The sorrow and guilt you feel as a leader regardless of rank when you lose someone. During this reunion I learned that presumed "friendly" artillery on Opn. Essex, that claimed the life of a 1st Plt. Cpl., actually turned out to be "enemy" mortar fire. Does it matter? The result was the same. Yes, it did matter. It wasn't a "friendly" mistake. Friendly mistakes were never nice, but they happened. They are part of war and life. Ask Forrest Gump.



Lt. Pete Pace & Vern Arndt

I could associate real well with Bill Buchanan after reading his book "Full Circle". I have given it to my son to read so he might gain better insight and understanding of the War, and perhaps the old man. It was pleasure to meet the author and have some words with him. I also extend my gratitude and respect for Colonel Bates who talked about his personal feelings and experiences in Nam and more recently, in Iraq. He created a stir in the belly about duty, honor and dedication to the cause of freedom. This is exactly what the Marine Corps is about! Esprit de Corps! John Bates personifies the "Marine character" to me. I feel the utmost respect for all Marines who serve and sustain the physical and mental pains, or give the ultimate sacrifice of life or limb in defense of people's liberties and freedoms throughout the world.

For me, it was truly a significant emotional event having attended the reunion. The hook up with my 1st Plt. Troops Jesse Lyon, Ron Powers, Mike Smith, and Golf Co. Officers, Lts. Bill Harvey and Dan Moore was especially rewarding. And, we also made many new acquaintances. My heartfelt "thanks" for job well done to the G Co. 2/5 staff for organizing this reunion. Semper Fi Marines! God Bless! Vern Arndt

In Our Thoughts and Prayers . . .

- **“BAGHDAD, Jan. 26 --** A Marine Corps transport CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter crashed during a sandstorm in western Iraq early Wednesday, killing 30 Marines and a sailor in the deadliest single event for U.S. forces since they invaded Iraq nearly two years ago. There were no survivors among the 30 Marines and one Navy corpsman in the CH-53 Sea Stallion helicopter that crashed near Ar Rutbah, about 220 miles west of Baghdad.”

When I heard this news headline, I felt that too familiar feeling that I felt 37 years ago almost every day when I heard the name or names of one or more of my brother Marines who had been killed or wounded when we were in some God-forsaken place in the Nam. It's a feeling that's hard to describe but it's a feeling you get in the pit of your stomach. That sick feeling, at least for me, is accompanied by a nauseous feeling and this overwhelming feeling of sadness that would engulf my whole being.. That's the feeling I got when I heard about that chopper going down and when I hear the daily death toll from Iraq. It took on even more of a personal note when I learned that one of the casualties was the nephew of one of our G 2/5 brother's, Joe Rowe. In Joe's own words . . . the editor.

From: Joe Rowe JosephRoweJ@aol.com

**1st Lt Travis J. Fuller**

than to die with his men in defense of our freedom.

Please remember him at your places of worship and at times of reflection.

I will keep you all informed of his final arrangements and would be honored to hear from you in my hour of despair.

Joseph Rowe
525 Klondike Rd.
Charlestown, RI 02813

Obituary from “Town of Tolland” Website:

Granville resident, Travis Fuller, son of Joanne and David Fuller of Main Road, was killed in Iraq in a helicopter crash that killed 31 Americans, on January 26th.

Dear Brothers G2/5:

I'm writing to tell you all the terrible news my family received this morning. My Nephew, 1st Lt. Travis J. Fuller C. Co. 1-3 USMC was killed in Iraq when the helicopter he and his platoon were flying in crashed outside Fallujah on January 26, 2005.

Please send his family a card or an Emailed message through me.

Travis loved being a Marine Grunt and I know he would have it no other way,

Travis graduated from Southwick Tolland High School in 1996 and was known to many people in Tolland.

1st Lt. Travis J. Fuller, 1978-2005 GRANVILLE - U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lt. Travis J. Fuller, 26, died Wednesday January 26, 2005 in a CH-53 Helicopter crash in Iraq, during operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was born in Springfield, grew up in Granville and graduated from Southwick-Tolland Regional High School in 1997. Travis was co-captain of the wrestling team and was a member of the cross-country team and Boys State. He graduated from Mass Maritime Academy where he also ran cross-country. Mass Maritime Academy will be renaming their September Invitational 5-mile Invitational Cross Country Race to the Travis J Fuller Cross Country Invitational. He was commissioned in June of 2001 and was based in Kaneohe Bay in Hawaii. He was also deployed in Cambodia, Thailand, North Korea, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. He leaves his parents, David and Joanne (Ayotte) Fuller of Granville, two sisters, Jennifer Francis and her husband Robert of Bowdoin, ME, and Rebecca Fuller and her wife, Patricia Grant of Roslindale; and his grandmothers, Jean Ayotte of Agawam, Marilyn Fuller of Granville, and Jean Jinks of Tolland. The Funeral Mass will be Monday at 12 Noon in St. John the Evangelist Church followed by committal services with Full Military Honors in the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. Calling hours at the Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home will be Saturday 4-8 pm and Sunday 2-5 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Granville - Tolland Citizen's Scholarship Foundation for the Lt. Travis Fuller Memorial Scholarship, P.O. Box 215, Granville, MA 01034-0214.

Published in The Republican on 2/3/2005.

Memorial Scholarship Established: The family has announced it will set up a Lt. Travis Fuller Memorial Scholarship through the Granville-Tolland Citizen's Scholarship Foundation. Contributions should be made to the fund by sending a check made out to the **GTSF** and mailed to PO Box 214, Granville, MA 01034.

On behalf of the G 2/5 Association, I want to express our sincere and deepest sympathies to Joe Rowe and the family of Lt. Fuller. May God Bless Lt. Fuller and the other Marines and the Corpsman who were killed in that helicopter crash and their families and loved ones. May they rest in peace . . . ! the editor.

- ***Also in our thoughts and prayers . . .***

I have known Raymond (aka “Jerry”) G. Murphy for many years. Jerry is a Medal of Honor recipient awarded his MOH for heroism in Korea in 1953. I first met Jerry when he worked with his brother who owned the only bowling alley in Santa Fe, NM when I was growing up. Some years later, he married my sister-in-law's sister so I got to know him better as an extended family member. Jerry and his wife, Mary Ann, and their son moved to Albuquerque in the early '70s where he worked as a Veterans Service Officer for the Veterans Hospital in Albuquerque for 25 years. In the past few months, I learned from my brother, Jerry Ortiz and my sister-in-law, Terry, that Jerry Murphy has been ill with PTSD and dementia. He has been hospitalized for about

two and a half months. At present, the doctors have been able to adjust his medications and he has been calm and comfortable for about the last three weeks. Many veterans have gone to visit him and his volunteer co-workers check in on him at the Veterans Hospital in Albuquerque. Jerry retired from the VA about seven years ago and right after he retired, he volunteered to work at the hospital and did that up until his illness became worse. *the editor*

Here is Jerry Murphy's bio and Medal Of Honor Citation:

Born: January 14, 1930 Pueblo, Colorado

War: Korea

Rank: Second Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Company A, 1st Battalion, **5th Marines**, 1st Marine **MURPHY, RAYMOND G.** Division (Rein.)

Location of action: Korea

Date of action: February 3, 1953

Medal received from: President Dwight D. Eisenhower

Official Citation: *For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a platoon commander of Company A, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Although painfully wounded by fragments from an enemy mortar shell while leading his evacuation platoon in support of assault units attacking a cleverly concealed and well-trenched hostile force occupying commanding ground, Second Lt. Murphy*

steadfastly refused medical aid and continued to lead his men up a hill through a withering barrage of hostile mortar and small-arms fire, skillfully maneuvering his force from one position to the next and shouting words of encouragement.

Undeterred by the increasing intense enemy fire, he immediately located casualties as they fell and made several trips up and down the fire-

swept hill to direct evacuation teams to the wounded, personally carrying many of the stricken marines to safety. When reinforcements were needed by the assaulting elements, Second Lt. Murphy employed part of his unit as support and, during the ensuing battle, personally killed two of the enemy with his pistol. With all the wounded evacuated and the assaulting units beginning to disengage, he remained behind with a carbine to cover the movement of friendly forces off the hill and, though suffering intense pain from his previous wounds, seized an automatic rifle to provide more firepower when the enemy reappeared in the trenches.

After reaching the base of the hill, he organized a search party and again ascended the slope for a final check on missing marines, locating and carrying the bodies of a machine gun crew back down the hill. Wounded a second time while conducting the entire force to the line of departure through a continuing

barrage of enemy small-arms, artillery, and mortar fire, he again refused medical assistance until assured that every one of his men, including all casualties, had preceded him to the main lines. His resolute and inspiring leadership, exceptional fortitude, and great personal valor reflect the highest credit upon Second Lt. Murphy and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

Bio: Raymond Murphy graduated from Pueblo Catholic High School in 1947. He attended Fort Lewis Junior College, Durango, Colorado A&M, and is a 1951 graduate of Adams State College, Alamosa, Colorado where he majored in physical education. While in college, he played varsity football, basketball and baseball. Murphy enrolled in the Marine Corps Reserve in May 1951, and entered Officers Candidate School at Parris Island, South Carolina the following month. Commissioned a second lieutenant in September 1951, he then was ordered to Officers Basic School at Quantico, Virginia. Completing the course the following February, he was transferred to Camp Pendleton, California, for advanced training before embarking for Korea in July 1952. In Korea, he served with the 5th Regiment of the 1st Marine Division until he was wounded.

After treatment aboard the Danish hospital ship *Jutlandia*, the American hospital ship *Repose*, and later in Japan, he was returned to the U.S. Naval Hospital, Mare Island, California in March 1953. He was promoted to first lieutenant that same month.

Murphy returned to Pueblo after his discharge from the hospital, and was released from active duty April 7, 1953. He was promoted to Captain on December 31, 1954 and was discharged from the Marine Corps Reserve on December 28, 1959.

Of Note: In addition to the Medal of Honor, Murphy has been awarded the Silver Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, and the Korean Service Medal with two bronze stars.

Murphy's 5th Marine regiment is the Marine Corps' most decorated regiment.

Note: I've included this information on Jerry Murphy because not only is he an extended family member and a friend, but because he is a Marine brother and I thought the G-2/5 Association would have an interest in one of our heroes. As part of his bio above states, he was part of the **fighting Fifth!**—the Marine Corps' most decorated regiment!

Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers for a full and speedy recovery—*the editor*.

Additional notes: While researching Jerry Murphy on the internet, I came across many interesting facts of which I wasn't aware. For one thing, Pueblo, Co is home to four living recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor - America's highest award for military heroism. The honoraries are as follows: Drew D. Dix, Raymond G. Murphy, William J. Crawford, and Carl L. Sitter.

The Medal holders have been honored with streets and parks named for them, parades and homecomings, however, all four came home to Pueblo for the March 18, 1998 unveiling of a display at the new Pueblo Convention Center. This display features uniforms and replica medals of each man inside a glass case with a speaker that tells about each man's heroism. The



display is open to the public during the hours of the Pueblo Convention Center.

In addition, The *Pueblo Chieftain* newspaper owner and publisher Bob Rawlings, working with Bill Coors, the Coors Foundation, plus other Foundations in Colorado has raised money to commission bronze statues for a memorial that will depict each of Pueblo's four Medal of Honor recipients. This Medal of Honor Memorial will be placed in "Heroes Plaza" outside Pueblo's new Convention Center, in downtown Pueblo. The address is 320 Central Main Street.

Highlighting the Memorial will be an 8 ½' high bronze sculpture of each of the Pueblo heroes: William Crawford, Army- WWII; Carl Sitter, Marine -Korea; Raymond G. "Jerry" Murphy, Marine-Korea; and Drew Dix-Army Special Forces - Vietnam. Additionally, behind the sculptures on the wall of the Convention Center will be 3,410 names of all the recipients since this prestigious award began during Civil War days.

The Memorial was unveiled Thursday, September 21, 2000 when the Congressional Medal of Honor Society came to Pueblo for the National Annual Convention. The Convention dates were September 19-24, 2000.

Lest We Forget. . .!

<i>PFC John K. Tooke</i>	<i>KIA 10/9/68</i>
<i>Cpl. Eddie Lee Weekfall</i>	<i>KIA 12/4/67</i>
<i>PFC Thomas M. Blystone</i>	<i>KIA 8/2/67</i>

Let us also not forget our brave Marines, Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and allies who have made the ultimate sacrifice on Operation Iraqi Freedom!

From your Webmaster—Tom Hohman:

Hello everyone! I haven't written anything for our newsletter in a long time, so when Larry asked me if I would like to I jumped at the chance. Who better than me can give you some information about our Association web site, and the 2/5 site which it is part of. The Golf Company area can be reached directly at: <http://golfco.2ndbn5thmarines.com>.

I have been Webmaster over 10 years now and I consider it an honor to be allowed to provide an Internet presence for our Association. I provide the site at no expense, and want to thank a few anonymous (Jay) donors for their thoughtfulness. Our Association offered to pay for some of the costs in 2000 but I never took them up on it. As long as I can afford it I will keep it that way.

The web site started as a simple page located on a member page or two on AOL and has grown to a full-fledged site with almost 350 megabytes of data and photos, and countless pages of information and 2/5-member info from all eras. When I originally contracted for the web space I thought it would be a long-time before we would ever fill it up, but a recent check on our usage showed we are close to that figure. On AOL I did the G 2/5 page, then was contacted by a professional web designer about combining it with a 2/5 site he started - which I did and later "inherited" when he had to move on due to time constraints (thank you Steve!). There were a lot of features I had no idea how they worked, but learned quickly. Now I am doing a num-

ber of sites for veteran organizations, all at no charge for the design work - my way of giving back for all that I have received.

One of the most recent additions is a new robust message board system (<http://www.2ndbn5thmarines.com/php2bb/>), which I only installed a few months ago and already have been able to realize some of the possibilities for its use. I went to this new system because spammers had been flooding the old board and there was nothing I could do to prevent it. The new boards have many features, such as user registration, which has eliminated the spam and allowed easy removal of anything added in the future. I like the ability to categorize topics and also the ability to post pictures into messages. I won't go into a lot of detail about how to do things, most of that is located in the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) at the top of the message board page. If you will take a few moments to check out the new boards, I would appreciate it. Also, if you have suggestions for topics or areas of interest let me know that too so I can add it. The old message boards provided a link for the current 2/5er families to share information, but it was hard to find information. The new boards are much easier to locate information (there is a search function), and topics are very easy to keep together. Send me e-mail (at any of my web site addresses) or post a message in the suggestion board topic.

The 2/5 site was originally begun for members of the Vietnam Era, but since the recent hostilities in the Middle East began many parents, families and returning veterans have posted to the members areas. I welcome that since we are a Band Of Brothers, past - present - future. The families were frantic at the beginning of deployments, searching for information about their loved ones. I hope you agree. I did get some former 2/5ers who complained about non-Vietnam people listed on the Member Pages, which I was going to accommodate by creating separate pages for the different eras, but that is very time consuming and I haven't been able to finish yet. I will continue to go forward on that project, not to segregate but to make it easier for 2/5 Marines to locate someone from their time in the Corps.

I was able to get a flavor of the last reunion in D.C. from the newsletter and photos Larry Ortiz sent me (thanks Larry!). I haven't posted the photos yet, but they should be there by the time this newsletter reaches you. There were 250 of them, and are pretty large - needing to be edited & cropped. When they are posted you will be able to get a full resolution of any photo by just e-mailing me the photo name. The last newsletter I tried a different method of posting it to our web site, trying to retain the formatting that Larry spends so much time on and allowing web visitors to be able to print a copy just as it was created. The link is on the Association's Home Page (link is at the top of this story), and it can be downloaded as a PDF (Portable Document Format by Adobe - the free reader is on their site, <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>).

I am going to do my best to make the next reunion in Myrtle Beach, SC. You will find the upcoming reunion information is posted on the message boards under "2/5 Vietnam" in "Forum News and Information." My wife has been ill for a long time and not able to travel, one of the reasons I missed the D.C. Reunion. We are hoping she will be well enough to go to Myrtle Beach. Her parents live in Bristol, VA so we will try to make it

a big trip and see them and also visit the Wall. That would be my first trip to the Wall in D.C., so I'm hoping I get a chance to see it during that trip.

Well, I didn't think I was going to get this much of a story for Larry, and here it is already quite long. I know there was more I wanted to write about, but maybe I can put a story in each newsletter rather than trying to cover it all in one. Keep your powder dry and watch your six!

Semper Fi!

Tom Hohmann (tomh47@aol.com)

THE FEW, THE PROUD

THE UNITED STATES MARINES—by Mike Ervin

I moved to West Virginia in the spring of 2004. The logo on the state license tags says it's Wild and Wonderful. Having viewed some of the local surroundings I know the term Wild is accurate. And, living where I do in the quiet solitude with the Shenandoah River as my rear guard buffered by a Shannandale Springs Wildlife Management Area beyond, I know Wonderful is just a few strokes by kayak away.

The commute isn't that bad. I awake at 0230 for the 75 mile ride and, although I arrive usually an hour ahead of time, the time passes quickly with the other men I travel with. I live near two fairly infamous historical parks: Harpers Ferry and the Antietam Battlefield. I haven't been to Antietam yet but that will come with Spring.

My daily journey takes me over the Shenandoah as it merges with the Upper Potomac to form the main stream from Harpers Ferry to the Chesapeake Bay. I pass from West Virginia into and out of Virginia into Maryland all within a span of 2 miles. It was in this passing in the evening that I noticed a United States Marine Corps flag heralding me from atop a knoll inside a graveyard at the foot of Bolivar Heights. I took notice and made a pledge to go visit the sentinel's call.

Time would have it that I would be traveling alone on this particular day and, although Winter's chill was in the air, the bright crisp sunny day was perfect to honor my pledge. So, today I stopped to visit.

As it turned out, this graveyard stood watch over the Town of Harpers Ferry peering directly east down the mainstream of the Potomac as it cut thru the gap I call the "Gates of Hell. If you read Civil War history, the military engagement at Harpers Ferry pitted poorly positioned Union forces in or around the town with the Confederate Forces holding all the high ground: Bolivar Heights to the rear, Loudoun Heights to the southeast, Maryland Heights to the northeast, the confluence of the rivers barring any other escape route, and Jackson holding the left flank along the valley floor of the Shenandoah to the south. The ensuing bombardment must have been Hell.

The graveyard I visited is called St. Peter's Cemetery. That's somewhat romantic: St. Peter's (Cemetery) looking down at the Gates of Hell. I'm not quite sure of its age but some of the oldest and yet readable stones date to the early 1800's. I parked the truck along 340 and eased my 57 year old bulk up the knoll to where my life long guide-on was positioned. My expectations were that I would find a Marine with a quiet marker giving standard data: name, rank, DOB, and DOD probably of the Vietnam era.

What I found was a Marine of the usual genre: young! I began to read the headstone. There was a marbled bench to one side and, as I sat to reflect on this young soldier, I began to marvel at the surroundings he'd been blessed to view. It seemed as though, even though he had gone before us, he'd been positioned again to guard this nation with the flag as his mantle and the Hymn as his mantra. The inscription on his headstone is as follows:

Luke Quinn Private USMC

Born in Ireland in the year 1835

Came to United States of America at the age of 9 years

Enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Nov 23, 1855

Wounded Oct 18, 1859 while participating in the storming

Of the Engine House, one of the buildings of the US Armory

And now known as John Brown's Fort during the John Brown Raid at Harpers Ferry

Erected by the Western Section of the Richmond Diocesan Union Of the Holy Name Society

As I stood to leave I turned and, with the crispest salute, bid him thanks and farewell. I no longer have to wonder who among us stands watch over me as I pass along my busied way.

Several questions came to mind as I retraced my steps down the slope. Why did he join? Probably some slick recruiter. No, he probably joined the same way I did. He felt committed. What was it like back then? Probably not much different then it was for us: bad food, little sleep, hurry up and wait, who thought up this plan, where's the mail, and who's Jody?

I do know one thing. Someone cared enough about this man. Maybe it was his name? Or, just maybe some other Marine was just carrying on a time worn tradition to remind me and anyone else who come to visit Luke what it means when we say "Semper Fi" and "Never Forget".

Mike Ervin

14Dec04

Updated E-Mail Addresses

A large majority of the G 2/5 Association members are hooked up to the internet and are on our Information Director's, Tony Cartledge, e-mail list. Those who are on his mailing list know he is a wealth of information on many topics of interest of Association members. He has asked that I remind members who change their e-mail address to e-mail him with your new address. We all change internet providers frequently or change our e-mail addresses due to the spam overload. So, if you'd like to stay connected and receive valuable information on Association issues or other Veterans issues, please e-mail Tony when you have a change in e-mail address. Tony can be reached at: USMC-Vietnam-Grunt@att.net, the editor

Missing In Action

We have lost touch with the following G 2/5 vets. Their last known city of residence is also provided below.

- Baker, Ferrall L.—Laguna Niguel, CA
- Caldwell, Fred—Indianapolis, IN
- Crilly III, Thomas J.—Iselin, NJ

- Coltri, Jr., Bruno R.—Lyons, IL
- **Delgado, Paul A—Greeley, CO**
- Dillenburg, Clyde – St. Joseph, MN
- Dima, G. E. – Spokane, WA
- Faircloth, Michael E.—Deatsville, AL
- Gates, William L.—Gainesville, FL
- Graham, James M. – Gibsonia, PA
- Huber, Jim – Charleston, MD
- Jasper, N. J.—Vinton, CA
- Lippencott, Jeffery – Wilmington, DE
- Lucas, Larry – Beattyville, KY
- Marsden, Richard W.—Camdenton, MO
- McColloch, James H. – Charleston, SC
- McGuinness, John C. – Anthony, FL
- McNeil, Mike A.—Iowa City, IA
- Moore, Dave H. – Herndon, VA
- Moore, John H. – Payson, AZ
- **Reglin, Terry—Meridian, ID**
- Robinson, Arthur T.—Bronx, NY
- Schaefer, R. A – Walkerton, IN
- Sutton Jr., Horace – Lumberton, NC
- Woggin, John A. – Hilton Head, NC

The names bolded are new MIAs since the mailing of the last newsletter and dues notices. If anyone has a current address for any of these MIAs, please advise the editor.

*Additional G 2/5 Photo from the
September 2004 Washington, D.C. Reunion*



Dale Farnham, Lt. Pete Pace & Vince Montoro*

Note: Vince Montoro is our Reunion Chairman for 2006. Shortly before the Sept. 04 reunion in DC, Vince lost his left “pinky” in an accident at his job. Now Vince gives “high fours” instead of fives. He’s back at work now as an *office pogue!* He reports that losing his pinky hasn’t slowed down his typing any as he only types with two fingers anyway ☺. *The editor*

Golf 2/5 Website Address

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Golf 2/5 Association Membership Form: (New Members Only)

Name _____ AKA _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone(____) _____ Work Phone(____) _____ E-Mail Address _____

Years Served _____ Platoon/Squad _____ MOS _____

Optional: Wounded / Date _____ Location _____

Dues: \$25.00 first year; \$20.00 per year thereafter. If you are on 50% or more disability, just send \$10.00 first year and \$10.00 per year thereafter. If these amounts are a financial hardship, contact Rick. We want everyone to be a part of the Association.

Mail New Membership Forms to: **G 2/5 Association, c/o Rick Mack, P.O. Box 367, Seneca, MO 64865**

**Golf 2/5 Association
c/o Larry S. Ortiz
7064 Scripps Crescent
Goleta, CA 93117**

Address Correction Requested

First Class