



Spearhead NEWS

"Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue"

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the 5TH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

**62ND ANNUAL REUNION - BRANSON, MISSOURI
OCTOBER 12 -15, 2011
GRAND PLAZA HOTEL**

LtCol Tom Kalus, USMC (Ret.)

New Association president a Mustang

New Association President Tom Kalus, Aiea, Hawaii, enlisted in the Marine Corps on 12 January 1944 and attained the enlisted rank of master sergeant (E-7) by July 1952. He was commissioned a second lieutenant on 6 February 1953 and retired as a lieutenant colonel on 1 November 1970. This Mustang is a three-war veteran.

After the Iwo Jima Campaign and following Japan's surrender, like many of our members, Tom was sent to Japan and spent the next nine months there before sailing for the U.S. in July 1946. Returning to Cleveland, Ohio, he found the job market overloaded with returning veterans and elected to re-enlist. He was assigned to the HQ USMC Communications as a code clerk. Now a sergeant, he applied for and received a Top Secret Security Clearance. Soon, he and nine staff NCO were selected to attend the first enlisted cryptographer's class at Camp Del Mar, Calif.

Following graduation, he was assigned to Signal Company, First Marine Division, and in August



Janet and Tom Kalus

1949 to the newly activated Fifth Marine regiment. A year later, the Fifth Marines sailed for Korea and participated in battles along the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon Landing, the Liberation of Seoul and the Chosin Reservoir Campaign.

Returning home in March 1951, he was assigned to Marine Air Wing Group 15 at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro, Calif.

In October 1952, Tom left for Quantico, Va., where he successfully completed the Officer Candidate Course and was commissioned a second lieutenant on 6 February 1953. Following Officer's Basic School and Communications Officer's School, he was transferred to MACS El Toro, Calif. The next nine years found him serving different West Coast units, including two Inspector-Instructor tours in Long Beach and Los Angeles.

In 1959, now a captain, Tom was transferred overseas to Okinawa as Executive Officer, Signal



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SPEARHEAD NEWS

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NEW PRESIDENT

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Company, Third Marine Division. Following this one-year unaccompanied tour, Tom returned to the U.S. in August 1963 and was assigned Executive Officer, Radio Relay & Construction Company, Seventh Communication Battalion at Camp Pendleton. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to major and assigned the Company Commander. He served in this billet until June 1965 when he was transferred to Hawaii as company commander, Marine Barracks, Naval Air Station (NAS) Barbers Point.

In August 1966, Tom was promoted to lieutenant colonel and in July 1968 was transferred to Force Troops in 29 Palms, Calif., as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4. In August 1969, Tom was ordered overseas to Vietnam as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-6, First Marine Aircraft Wing. Near the end of his tour, he was informed that his next duty station would be on the East Coast, and after deliberation, he elected to retire.

Shortly after Tom retired, he accepted a job as recreational director at NAS Barbers Point. He continued a career as a military recreator for the next 21 years, working for the Navy and Army, retiring in 1991.

During war and peace, Tom's wife Janet was a homemaker, concerning herself with the care of their four children. When all four were well on their way in school, she decided to pursue her own education, earning not only a BA and MA but also a PhD. She taught in the public sector (high school) for 16 years, and for the past 21 years has held the position of English professor at Chaminade University.

Tom and Janet have four children, six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

During the business meeting at the Biloxi reunion, the members voted on three different sites for the Association's 2011 annual reunion: San Antonio, Texas, (September 2011), Washington, D.C., (February 2011), and Branson, Mo., (October 2011). Branson was the unanimous choice. The reunion will be Wednesday, 12 October, through Saturday, 15 October, at the Grand Plaza Hotel.

For those who wish to come early and/or stay late, the hotel is making the discounted group rates available three days before and after the reunion dates, based on availability. More reunion information will be provided in following *Spearheads*. The wealth of activities available in Branson can be easily researched by visiting ExplorerBranson.com.

THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Ray Elliott



Worldwide efforts to honor and remember service

Shortly after the reunion in Biloxi, about which John Butler has written eloquently in this issue, I headed out to Camp Tarawa on the Big Island of Hawaii and on to the Philippines on what was to be part of a journey to retrace the route GySgt John Basilone took from his time in the Army before World War II and training before the Iwo Jima campaign that took his life.

This leg of the trip was outstanding, and I was looking forward to Guadalcanal and going back to Iwo Jima again with Military Historical Tours (www.miltours.com). That leg was to have come later. Landing in Honolulu, I caught a short hop over to Hilo. Camp Tarawa Marine Corps League newsletter editor Jim Browne asked me why I went to Hilo rather than Kona on the leeward side of the island closer to where the Fifth Marine Division trained.

The answer was simple: I wanted to drive to the west side over the Saddle Road and past Mauna Kea, the 13,796-foot mountain peak, the highest point on the island, that many of the troops had taken after landing in Hilo. The road to reach the other side is obviously better than it was back in those days, but it is still a rough but scenic route and still under construction.

Browne, a retired fireman from Southern California who says he may have been the last Marine wounded in the Korean War, moved to the Big Island a dozen years ago and is dedicated to preserving the history of Old Camp Tarawa and is initiating a “Boots on the Ground” tour of the area. If you’re ever interested in that, he can be reached by e-mail at barefoot.one@hawaiiintel.net. The tour takes about three hours and includes a stop at the memorial along the road at the entrance to the Parker Ranch and the area separating the 27th and 28th Marine Regiment areas — the 26th was billeted across the road, Browne said.

Frankly, there is little left to see from the gate and only a building or two that was there in 1944-

45. But those of you who trained there or who was as fortunate as I was at having a good guide like Browne can sharpen the imagination and you can close your eyes and imagine hundreds of Marines running about, training for the invasion of Iwo Jima and climbing the hill (or mountain) off to the right of the 28th area that was about the height of Mount Suribachi or going on liberty.

I e-mailed Bill Madden (E/2/27) from Kona and told him about the tour and what I’d seen. “Your e-mail brings back some memories, some good, some bad,” he wrote back.

From the Big Island, I headed back to Honolulu and on out to the South Pacific and the Philippines where I took a tour of the Bataan Death March route, visited the old Sangley Point Naval Station where I was stationed at Marine Barracks — the Cavite Naval Yard was bombed by the Japanese on Dec. 8, 1941, and the USS Sea Lion was sunk just off the point, the first submarine sunk in World War II — toured the Intramuros (The Walled City) area of Manila where John Basilone was stationed with the Army’s 31st Infantry prior to enlisting in the Marine Corps and attended a Veterans’ Day Ceremony at the Manila American Cemetery.

It’s the cemetery that is of special interest.

After the ceremony, SgtMaj Hubert Caloud, USMC (Ret.), assistant superintendent of the cemetery, took me to the graves of three Marines and a name etched on the wall of one buried at sea. Three of these four men were Fifth Division Iwo Jima Marines. One was Pvt Randall C. Bonovitch, who was with the 31st Replacement Battalion and is listed in the *Spearhead* book as WIA. However, the cemetery record says he died from shrapnel wounds in both legs incurred on D-Day and was buried at sea.

Pfc Edgar O. Anthony, I/3/26, is listed as KIA in *Spearhead*, with a date of death of 3 March 1945 on his marker and in cemetery records. Pfc Paul W. Watson, B/1/28, is listed in cemetery records and on his marker as dying on 4 March 1946 — the date on which he was declared dead. Caloud said that Pfc Watson was actually killed on 3 March 1945, and his remains were not identified until 1949.

Both Anthony and Watson were brought to Manila as Unknowns because the identification lab was still in operation there at the time.

Another Marine, Pfc Sam F. DiMartino, died on 8 October 1944, on Emirau Island. He was with the First

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Opportunity available for the honor of editing this newsletter

It's been an honor for me to edit *The Spearhead News* for the last two and a half years. I was only 5 years old when World War II was over, but it wasn't long before I knew that my family's friend and neighbor, Oral "Ben" Correll (or "Smokey" as he was also known) was a Marine veteran of Iwo Jima (A/1/28) who had been wounded early in the battle in the shadow of Mt. Suribachi and had seen the flag waving in the breeze as he was being hoisted up the side of a hospital ship on the morning of Feb. 23, 1945. That was one of the highlights of his life.

Ben was a man I looked up to from my earliest memory of him. And when former *Spearhead* editor Bert Clayton asked me to take the job and I agreed, one of the first pieces I wrote was about Ben and my memory of him and some of what he'd told me. From then on, I tried to write or run stories about Marines like Ben and the stories he told me about the men who took the island against almost insurmountable odds and helped preserve the freedom we enjoy as Americans.

Now, for a number of reasons too lengthy to mention here, the time has come for me to move on and let someone else have the honor of editing the newsletter. So I'm putting it out here so anyone interested in the job can contact the officers and express an interest before the October reunion in Branson, Mo., which promises to be a good one — I've been asked about why we don't go to Branson several times before the location of the next reunion has been determined.

Prior to that reunion, the reunions on both coasts are taking place on the Feb. 19 anniversary of the landing on Iwo Jima. The Iwo Jima Association of American (IJAA) is dedicated to continuing the memory of the sacrifices those who fought and died there through the legacy families of sons and daughters and descendants and interested people and historians. At the IJAA reunion and symposium, the BAR on the BEACH will be dedicated on Feb. 18, 2010, in Semper Fi Memorial Park on the grounds of the Marine Heritage Museum in Triangle, Va.

That statue is also going to help perpetuate the memory of the Fifth Marine Division long after *The Spearhead News* is laid to rest. As editor, I've proposed the idea of going all the way back to the first issues of the newsletter and putting together a collection of articles in one or more books that preserve the written record of the recollections of the members of the Spearhead Division for posterity. There are members who apparently have every issue. But there is no collection or archival collections to maintain the written records. I'm hopeful that an anthology will be done.

And there are other aspects of the division and the Association left to do, if there is anyone willing to pursue it. Even if those things aren't on the agenda, the job of editing the newsletter is available. It's a worthy endeavor, and I hope someone is willing to take on the job.

Semper Fidelis,
Ray Elliott

Newsletter prompts enjoyment and memories

Just a few lines to let you know I sure enjoy my copy of *The Spearhead News*. Certainly brings back lots of memories of Iwo.

I was a squad leader (Hdq. 2nd Batt. 26th Marines) 81mm mortars. I made the 36 days to become a survivor of Iwo. As we said, we fired lots of rounds and made a lot of holes, and according to our observers, we did a lot of damage killing some of the yellow boys.

I sure remember the order came to fire some smoke shells as the Fourth did not move on our left

flank, so we had to give cover for the Fifth to tie in the lines. The wind caused the smoke to rise, and we lost a lot of people as they were exposed to the Jap machine gunners. The next smoke shells did a better job with different coordinates and saved a lot of Marines. That was a bad day for us.

The funny thing was we had only fired smoke shells at Camp Pendleton on an exercise and set off a huge brush/grass fire to halt the whole program. We all became firefighters that day.

Happy to read the newsy articles from former Marines, and the memory is still accurate because, as they say, we were there. Glad to hear much of the history is being

passed down to sons and daughters and grandchildren to the battle of which many say was “36 days of hell.”

Sorry I am too old (88) to do much traveling any more for the reunions, but nice to read the accounts of those who do attend.

Keep up the good work. I always look forward to the next copy coming in the mail. Thanks to (Secretary) Ted (Overgard) for making sure I get my copies.

– Gibson B. Stephens Jr. (Sgt.)
Woodstock, Ontario
gbstephens@rogers.com

Condolences to Code Talker’s family

Please accept and pass on our condolences to Marine [Allan Dale] June’s family on behalf of the Fifth Marine Division Association. I am a former, twice-elected president of the FMDA, and we always enjoyed the Code Talkers’ appearances whenever they were able to attend our reunions. No one could ever forget their great Western uniforms with the fringe. I believe there was about a dozen Code Talkers who were in the Fifth Marine Division on Iwo Jima. As in previous campaigns, they always distinguished themselves. At the reunions, it was always a pleasure to hear Mrs. Begay sing the Star Spangled Banner in English, and then followed up in Navajo.

– James (Jim) M. Frado Sr., D-2-26
jjoto@windstream.net

Remembering LZ Margo

Re: LZ Margo – I was one of the lucky ones who was unwounded, physically. You brought me back there. Incredible.

– Cpl. Dave Hunt
dagr0311@warwick.net

Looking for map resource that confirms father’s recollections

My dad, Paul L. Jones, was wounded on 23 February 1945. He was in I Company, 3/27. I remember him telling me that his unit was between the two airfields when he was hit.

Some time last year, I happened on a map that showed the position of the 27th Marines and probably

everyone else on that data. The map corroborated my dad’s comments. I would like to use it in a memento; my dad died in 2007. Sadly, I do not seem to have downloaded the graphic. Does anyone have any idea about where on the Internet I might find it?

In addition, I am always interested in finding anyone who may have known my dad. The only names I recall are Glenn Schuler (or Shuler) and “Gilbert.”

– Dave L. Jones
dave.l.jones@earthlink.net

Reader appreciates connections

Great issue. Good to see the picture of the survivors. I was glad to make contact with Lois Hyndman, thanks to your book review, and to read her book. John had an absolutely phenomenal recovery after a wound that is nearly always fatal. What a guy! Thanks for the job you are doing with the *Spearhead*.

– Craig Leman
lemann@onid.oregonstate.edu

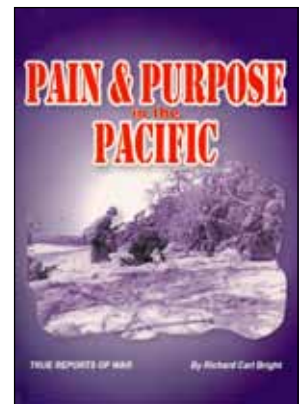
New book about the war in the Pacific

I just spoke with Claro Bergevin (5TH TANK), whom I met on the Military Historical Tours trip to Iwo Jima last March. I may have met you during that trip, too, but if so, we didn’t have the opportunity to converse. Claro mentioned your name in conversation as we spoke today.

He mentioned you are a newspaper man. I am sending you a book. Claro contributed his story and pictures, and much of what he sent me is included. (He actually has enough stuff to write a book just about what he has gathered over the years.) He is an amazing man.

I would be honored if you would say a nice word or two about this book to all those veterans and good folks on your list.

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THE EDITOR'S DESK

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Marine Air Wing (VMS 142) and served with Tom Henderson, a member of the Marine Corps League to which to belong. I mention this because Tom had asked me how to find out where his comrade was buried — they buried him on Emirau at the time of his death.

Anyone wishing to find where a comrade, friend or relative is buried can send an e-mail with the person's name to The American Battle Monuments Commission in Arlington, Va., and request information by e-mailing info@abmc.gov or checking the website at www.abmc.com. There is a request form for relevant information so that a photo of the marker and a lithograph of the cemetery where the decedent is buried can be provided.

Some 93,246 veterans are buried in American World War II cemeteries around the world, and are closed for new burials except for the remains of U.S. war dead that may still be found in those battle areas. Individuals who are missing in action or lost or buried at sea, like Pvt Bonovitch, are commemorated individually by name on the Tablets of the Missing. There are 94,132 names of U.S. servicemen and women from the two

World Wars, Korea and Vietnam on those tablets.

It is gratifying to see how the final resting places of those who gave their lives for freedom and the area on the Big Island where the Second and Fifth Marine Divisions trained for their campaigns in the Pacific are being cared for and preserved so that posterity will know of their sacrifices.



Above, Pvt Randall Bonovitch is a Fifth Division Marine listed on the Tablets of the Missing in the Manila American Cemetery in the Philippines. Below are the markers of two other Fifth Division Marines: Pfc Edgar Anthony and Pfc Paul Watson.



Minutes of the Oct. 21, 2010, Fifth Marine Division Business Meeting in Biloxi, Miss.

President Leonard Nederveld called the meeting of the Fifth Marine Division Association to order at 1:15 p.m. Joyce Overgard read the minutes of the September 2009 meeting held in Houston, Texas. They were approved as read. Ted Overgard gave the Treasurer's Report. A little more than \$65,000 is in the checking account. In December 2009, a purchase of 50 troy ounces of gold was made for \$61,000. It is now worth \$68,000. The membership voted not to sell the gold at this time.

Ted also mentioned that we now have a competent back-up person for the secretary's work. He is now being paid \$150 a month. Ted has asked that his pay be raised to \$200 a month. Membership voted and approved. After brief discussion, Trustee Mike Dietz suggested we approve giving \$25,000 to the Wounded Warriors group. A vote was taken: the result was 41 to 4 in favor. On the suggestion to give \$10,000 to the Camp Tarawa Foundation, the vote was 44 to 4 in favor.

Ivan Hammond reported that the BAR on the Beach project is now fully funded, and the dedication will take place in Quantico, Va., on Feb. 18, 2011.

Three different sites were presented as possible locations for the 2011 reunion:

— Col Bill Rockey suggested Washington, D.C., for a joint reunion with the Iwo Jima Association of America (IJAA) in February 2011.

— Ivan Hammond told about a possible reunion in San Antonio, Texas, which he is willing to oversee, but not to run.

— Tom Kalus suggested holding it in Branson, Mo., in October 2011.

The above three locations were voted on with the following results: Branson, Mo., 35; Washington, D.C., 11; and San Antonio, Texas, 4. The 2011 reunion will be in Branson, Mo.

New president Tom Kalus will have his completed work on the Constitution and By-Laws ready to be printed in the next Spearhead News.

Leonard Nederveld moved to adjourn at 2:40 p.m.

— **Ted Overgard**
Secretary

FINAL MUSTER

(*"Roll Call of the Reef"*)

BOUDREAU, James D. **5TH JASCO** 06/11/10
CAROTHERS, Harry **F-2-27** 05/31/10
COLBERT, Leonard J. **H-3-28** 07/03/10
DOOLEY, Bill **HQ-3-26** 01/09/10
FARRIS, Ott C. **B-5TH MT** 09/01/10
FOWLER, John Robert **5TH TANK** 11/03/10
McCAFFREY, John R. **D-2-26** 03/31/10
McCOY, Edgar Allen **2ND BOMB DISP** 05/15/10
McGUIRE, William F. **D-2-27** 09/28/10
MORAINE, Richard E. **HQ-2-28** 10/03/10
OVERMYER, John Calvin **I-3-28** 08/16/10
PONSTEIN, Jack **D-2-28** 12/21/10
PRACTH, Gilbert E. **L-4-13** Unknown
ROBERTSON, William T. **C-1-28** 03/29/10
SIMMONS, Garland **HQ-28** 10/10/10
THESSIN, Harold C. **I-3-13** 03/29/10
WILHELM, Lou **H-3-27** 08/08/10



NEW MEMBERS

BUFFALO, Philip C. **H&S 5TH TANK**
MATHIS, Barbara **ASSOC**

Life Members

FARRIS JR., Ott C. **ASSOC**
HOWARD, Dean E. **H&S MT**

Secretary's Corner

Our next reunion will be held in Branson, Mo., in 2011. If someone would want to hold a reunion in 2012, you or an associate must present your idea and location to our membership at our next business meeting.

We very much appreciate your letting us know of a change of address as soon as you can do so. Do tell us, also, and Final Musters you may learn about.

My wife and I would like to turn this secretarial job over to another person or persons, if we can find someone who is well qualified. The individual must be computer competent and very dedicated to our Association. You are paid for the work you do. Anyone who might be interested — man or woman — do let me know. My phone number is as follows: 870-391-3654, or write me at P.O. Box 1775, Harrison, AR 72602.

— **Ted Overgard**
Secretary

Fifth Marine Division Reunion in Biloxi a family-oriented event

By John Butler

Seventy-seven Spearhead Marines and their family members registered and attended the 61st annual Fifth Marine Division Association reunion held at the IP Casino & Resort in Biloxi, Miss. The reunion (Oct. 17-21) was hosted by Association President Leonard Nederveld and his wife, Celine. They were assisted by Morey Butler of Gulfport, the second son of LtCol John Butler CO of 1/27, who was KIA during the fighting on Iwo Jima.

A hallmark of this reunion was the attendance, participation and contribution of Spearhead family members, including children and widows of departed Spearhead Marines. Among this group were Bonnie Haynes, widow of MajGen Fred Haynes who recently passed away; Col Bill Rockey and his son Bill Jr., son and grandson of LtGen Keller E. Rockey, the Spearhead's esteemed commanding general and founder and first president of the Division Association; Diane Hawkins, niece of GySgt John Basilone; John and Morey Butler; John Scatchell; and others whose fathers were Fifth Division Marines.

Attendees requesting transportation pickup and assistance were met at the Biloxi/Gulfport airport and driven to the hotel, where they received instructions on the hotel layout and the locations of the hospitality room and other designated areas for the memorial service and banquet. A van was rented for that purpose during the entire period and was used as needed to pick up arrivals, late-arriving baggage, medicine from local drug stores or whatever was needed. On the last day, those requesting transportation to the airport, which was some distance from the hotel, were accommodated. This was a very helpful service because contract bus/van shuttle service was time inconvenient and taxis were expensive.

Major activities during the week included a shrimp trip and tours to the John C. Stennis Space Center in Hancock County, Miss., and the

National World War II Museum in New Orleans.

The one-and-a-half-hour shrimp excursion provided 31 Fifth Division Marine veterans and family members with the opportunity to see how shrimp and other bottom dwellers are caught using a drag net. In addition, they collected a tan and were treated to the balmy waters on the edge of Mississippi sound. No cases of seasickness or evidence of the much-publicized oil spill were reported.

Forty-two reunion attendees participated in a four-hour tour of the John C. Stennis Space Center 35 miles west of the IP Casino Resort. The center is home to America's largest rocket engine test complex where all rocket main engines are tested. It is also home to more than 30 government agencies and private companies. Locals in the area have adapted to the loud, rumbling sounds of engine testing, and those who live next to the facility don't have to shake their martinis.

The 47 Spearhead Marines and family members who participated in the New Orleans tour of the National World War II Museum were treated to a special day that was clearly a highlight event.

The one-and-a-half-hour bus drive was comfortable and interesting, even to those that have visited "N'awlins" on previous occasions. En route to



John (left) and Morey Butler (right) talk with a tour guide and Pearl Harbor survivor from the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.



Al “Pog” Pagoaga and John Scarfo, both E/2/27 and at left, and Wesley Plummer, H/3/28, on right, were among those who attended the 61st Annual Fifth Marine Division Reunion in Biloxi, Miss., in October. (Photos by Ray Elliott)

the museum on Interstate 10, the bus passed The Pearl River Basin on the border of Louisiana and Mississippi, a huge wetland area that supports a vast and varied ecosystem. Next, the bus crossed Lake Ponchartrain on the newly constructed bridge, still undergoing some modification, and then passed through the bleak and uninhabited urban areas on the outskirts of East New Orleans. This was a stark reminder of Katrina’s impact to that area. Finally the bus passed by the Superdome before arriving at the museum located in the heart of the city near the Mississippi River. Upon arrival, attendees were met by tour guides who were extremely courteous and knowledgeable Pacific War veterans. One of these gentlemen was a 92-year-old veteran of Pearl Harbor and the entire Pacific War at sea.

Leonard Isacks, a grandson of one of the Spearhead’s fallen warriors and a local resident, also welcomed everyone upon arrival and remained with the group throughout most of the day. Leonard, who had previously greased the skids for our visit with the museum, covered all the entry fees for nonveterans (family members) and all costs associated with viewing the extraordinary World War II documentary, “Beyond All Boundaries.” The dramatic sound and visual effects in this 36-minute film catapulted viewers into the heat of battle and the historic events of World War II. The comfortable seats in the theater shook with artillery barrages, gunfire and the rumbling of tanks.

Leonard’s contributions to make the museum visit special to all the attendees surely deserve a Bravo Zulu and appreciation from the Association.

Following the film, the attendees enjoyed a lunch of Cajun specialties including jambalaya, gumbo, shrimp etouffee, and a variety of “po boy” sandwiches.

Departure from the museum around 1530 just before heavy traffic and the end of the workday included a side trip through a section of the French Quarter,

including Jackson Square and the French Market.

Bus driver Calvin Collins, a 20-year retired USMC 1st Sgt, was hand-picked by the contracting bus company for the Stennis and New Orleans museum tours. This former Marine’s personable and friendly USMC demeanor created a Marine family atmosphere that put the icing on the cake for everyone on what would have otherwise been just a long bus ride. His knowledge of the area and tour guide commentary throughout was another bonus.

On Thursday morning, the last day of reunion events, a memorial service and color presentation was held. A Marine Corps Color Guard, provided by the Instructor Inspector (I & I) staff, 3rd platoon, Company A, 4th Amphibious Amtrac Battalion, posted colors. The bugler who played a superb rendition of Taps was from the same unit. Attending chaplain for the memorial service invocation was Cdr Ronald Durham, CHC USN (Ret). Leonard Nederveld read the names on the final roll call of Spearhead Marines who have gone on to guard heaven’s streets since the last reunion.

The events following the memorial service included the Board of Directors Executive meeting, Women’s Business meeting and the General Business meeting.

At the Executive meeting, a number of issues were discussed by current trustees, board members and officers. There was some disagreement on several issues, but it was resolved that the “BAR on the Beach” project was a done deal and that the dedication would occur at the Quantico Heritage center during the Iwo Jima Association of America’s (IJAA) annual reunion and symposium scheduled between 17-21 February 2011. The actual dedication will occur at the site of the statue in Semper Fi Memorial Park at the Heritage Center on 18 February.

Tom Kalus, an Iwo Marine and retired USMC

lieutenant colonel, was elected next year's Association president. By unanimous vote, Morey Butler was awarded lifetime membership in the Division Association for his stalwart and energetic support of Leonard and Celine Nederveld prior to and during the reunion. It was also unanimously affirmed that associate members, mainly family members of Spearhead Marines, would be allowed to vote in future meetings.

Col Bill Rockey and I, both associate members of the Division Association and also IJAA board members, advised the Board that IJAA was committed and positioned to support the Fifth Marine Division Association by offering it the opportunity to hold future reunions in conjunction with the IJAA's annual reunion in Washington, D.C.

While the full details on how this could be implemented were not laid out, all were assured that the Division Association would have autonomy and an area would be set aside for their own meetings and activities, while at the same time they could participate jointly with the IJAA in the tours, lectures and activities scheduled by IJAA. It was also pointed out that a number of Fifth Division Association members are already members of both organizations and attend both reunions. Having future reunions in conjunction with the IJAA was presented as an alternative to the operational and economic difficulty of holding reunions with fewer and fewer members able to attend and contribute.

At the well-attended General Business meeting, three proposals (that included the IJAA proposal) for next year's reunion were presented and submitted to a vote. The winning proposal, advanced by Tom Kalus with support from Trustee Milton Dietz, to have the next reunion at Branson, Mo., received the most votes, followed by the IJAA offer. A proposal by Ivan Hammond to hold the reunion in San Antonio, Texas, received the fewest votes.

The main concern about the IJAA proposal was traveling in the wintertime; however, the IJAA offer remains open and may be considered as an option for reunions in the future.

Both meetings were lively events with good participation and vigorous debates and comments from trustees, board members, officers and attending members.

The last event on the schedule was the closing banquet with 114 attendees, including guests and others not registered for the entire reunion. Among those guests were family and friends of Fifth Marine Division Marines,

including two of LtCol John Butler's grandsons, their wives and a nephew and his wife from New Orleans.

Colors were again posted by the I & I Marines from the Amtrac unit in Gulfport. Congressman Gene Taylor, representing the Biloxi-Gulfport area, made a brief appearance and spoke to the attendees at the banquet. Taylor, a senior member of a veterans committee in Congress, was honored to be invited as a banquet guest. Unfortunately, a prior engagement precluded him from remaining at the banquet.

Morey Butler was master of ceremonies and introduced the guest and speakers, one of whom was me, his older brother, whom he roasted in a brotherly manner.

Col Bill Rockey, son of Gen Rockey, spoke to the attendees about the great pride his father so often and eloquently expressed about the men of the Fifth Marine Division in World War II, and that commanding the Fifth Marine Division was his most treasured experience.

As my father's eldest son, I made the closing speech about my long connection with the Fifth Marine Division from the time I was 5 years old and watched wide-eyed as my father's battalion passed by on the Broadway Pier in San Diego to the ships which took it to war. Receiving my dad's posthumous Navy Cross on my seventh birthday and reading *The Spearhead* from cover to cover when I was only 10 years old were part of my lifetime connection with the Fifth Marine Division and Iwo Jima.

As a prolific reader of modern military history and World War II, I said I knew of no better led, trained and prepared division in World War II than the Fifth Marine Division with its blend of hand-picked officers, combat veterans, Raiders and Paramarines, and new men yet to taste combat.

It was a personal speech from the heart from a son forever connected to the Fifth Marine Division and the Marines who went to war with my dad.

This was indeed a unique family-centered reunion. Leonard and Celine Nederveld definitely achieved their goal of hosting a reunion that was a Fifth Marine Division family event.

Their effort and hard work to plan and preside over the reunion, with assistance from my brother, created "lagniappe," which in Cajun French means something special, which this reunion surely was.

A big salute to Leonard and Celine, who adopted my brother, or might it be the other way around?

Morey Butler contributed to this account of the reunion.



Workers install the “BAR on the Beach” statue in Semper Fi Memorial Park at the Marine Corps Heritage Museum in Triangle, Va. The statue, sculpted by Robert Eccleston and based on a Col Charles Waterhouse painting, will be dedicated on Feb. 18.





Camp Tarawa Foundation
The Big Island of Hawai'i

November 4, 2010

To the Fifth Marine Division Association:

On behalf of the Camp Tarawa Foundation's board of directors, we thank you for your very generous donation of \$10,000, dated October 29, 2010.

Your donation will help facilitate our goal to create a museum to preserve and educate the public about Camp Tarawa and its place in our nation's history during WWII.

The Camp Tarawa Foundation is incorporated in The State of Hawai'i as a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation, and as such, your donation is fully tax-deductible.

For more information, please contact:
Jim Browne, Chairman
Camp Tarawa Museum Committee
(808) 883-0069
barefoot.one@hawaiiantel.net

Again, thank you for your support,
Marianne Falkner
Executive Financial Officer

IWO JIMA MEMORIAL SERVICE & BANQUET
Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, CA
February 17-19, 2011

Veterans of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions and Support Units are invited to a three-day celebration on the West Coast commemorating the 66th anniversary of the Marines landing on Iwo Jima. Information from the Iwo Jima Commemorative Committee was previously sent to members.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Ramada Inn in Carlsbad, Calif. (760) 438-2285

For more information, call Gail Chatfield at (858) 792-8897. Reservation deadline is Feb. 10.

H&S Co 26th Marines

Command post on Iwo Jima, 1945



For their historical value and for any Marines who were there, SSgt Hank House of Williston, Vt., submitted a number of photos to share with readers. For example, above is the defiladed area of the regimental command post for H&S Company, 26th Marines, on Iwo Jima in March 1945 that was dug out by a bulldozer. "Bullets would often hit into the banks just above our heads," House writes. "Col Graham, the regimental commander, and his immediate staff operated from the tent tucked against the cliff in the rear center of the picture."



"This was the regimental sickbay," House writes. "A canvas stretched over a wrecked Japanese plane." Pictured are (standing left to right) Dr. Botsch, PhM Thoennes; (kneeling in tent) PhM Tucker; and (kneeling) Chief Neubauer, PhM Miller and PhM Stranz.

Son seeks information on Pfc Grinde

Paul Ardon Grinde (beavers@epud.net) is looking for anyone from F Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Marines, from the Fifth Marine Division (Iwo Jima) who may have known his father, Pfc Ardon Emmett Grinde, have pictures of him or served with him at any point. He plans to visit Camp Tarawa during a trip to Hawaii in March and appreciates any information.

**IWO JIMA VETERANS ASSOCIATION
FEBRUARY 17-20, 2011
ARLINGTON AND QUANTICO, VIRGINIA**

Thursday, February 17

2:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**
6:00pm - 8:00pm Welcome Reception

Friday, February 18

7:00am - 7:30am **Reunion Registration Open**
8:00am - 4:00pm NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS
COMMEMORATION and DEDICATION
5TH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
"BAR ON THE BEACH" MEMORIAL
8:00am Board Bus for National Museum of the
Marine Corps
11:00am 66th Commemoration Ceremony
12:00pm Self-Guided Tour & Lunch on your own
2:30pm Board Bus for Wreath Laying Ceremony
3:00pm Wreath Laying Ceremony at Marine Corps
War Memorial
4:30pm - 5:30pm **Reunion Registration Open**
6:00pm - 8:00pm No Host Cocktail Reception and "Show & Tell"

Saturday, February 19

7:00am - 8:30am Breakfast
8:30am - 3:30pm Symposium and Panel Discussion
9:30am - 11:30am LADIES TOUR OF THE HOME OF THE
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS
12:00pm - 1:00pm Symposium Lunch with Guest Speaker
7:00pm - 9:30pm Official Anniversary Banquet

Saturday, February 19

Farewells and Departures

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date (January 25, 2011), Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$15 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the group registration fee (\$10 per person) and non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$15 per person). **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities. Each must be cancelled separately.

IWO JIMA 66th ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below is the registration cost for the Reunion and Symposium. Please enter how many people will be participating and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/iwo66. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **January 25, 2011**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
322 Madison Mews
Norfolk, VA 23510
ATTN: Iwo Jima 66th Anniversary

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

CUT-OFF DATE IS 1/25/11

	Price Per	# of People	Total
<u>TOURS</u>			
FRIDAY: NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS COMMEMORATION and DEDICATION 5TH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION "BAR ON THE BEACH" MEMORIAL	\$ 35		\$
SATURDAY: LADIES TOUR OF THE HOME OF THE COMMANDANT <i>(This tour is free; please provide the total number of people attending)</i>		#	
<u>MEALS</u>			
SATURDAY: SYMPOSIUM LUNCH	\$ 32		\$
SATURDAY: BANQUET <i>(Please select your entrée below)</i>			
Prime Rib	\$ 54		\$
Chicken Marsala	\$ 40		\$
Mandatory Per Person Registration Fee	\$ 25		\$
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAME

Note: Correct names and addresses are very important because of the prominent position of some of our guests. You will be required to go through metal detectors at the Museum.

FIRST _____ LAST _____ EMAIL _____

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) _____

GUEST NAMES _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____ PH. NUMBER (_____) _____ - _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? YES NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. NUMBER (_____) _____ - _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES NO ARE YOU FLYING? DRIVING? RV?

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays)**. Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/iwo66

SHERATON NATIONAL HOTEL – ARLINGTON, VA
(888) 627-8210 (703) 521-1900

The Sheraton National Hotel is located at 900 S Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204. The hotel is approximately 5 miles away from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) and 27 miles away from Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD). Call the hotel directly for accurate driving directions. The hotel is on high elevation overlooking many Washington, D.C. famous landmarks and is just blocks from the Metro, The Pentagon, Ft. Myer, and Arlington Cemetery. Downtown Washington, The Kennedy Center, Crystal City, and the National Airport are just five minutes away. Complimentary shuttle van service departs every 30 minutes to and from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Metro at The Pentagon, and Pentagon City Fashion Center. The hotel has handicapped accessible rooms which are based on availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your reservation. We recommend that you *reconfirm* these special requests before arriving at the hotel.

The Sheraton National has 408 deluxe guest rooms with individual climate controls; an HD TV with in-room movies, and video check-out. Rooms offer in-room coffee makers, hair dryers, and irons/ironing boards. Guests can enjoy a rooftop indoor swimming pool (9:00am-10:00pm weekdays, 9:00am-9:00pm weekends), sundeck (9:00am-10:00pm daily), and an exercise room. The exercise room features Stairmaster, LifeCycle, and weight resistance equipment. The hotel is offering complimentary parking for all reunion attendees who are registered hotel guests. There are 390 parking spaces available with a six-foot ceiling height. Check-in time is 3:00pm; check-out is 12:00 noon.

The **Potomac Restaurant**, with seating for over 200 features unique culinary creations for breakfast, lunch, and dinner from prime steak to fresh seafood and exotic desserts, we will dazzle you with the best dining experience in Washington, D.C. Open from 2pm until midnight, the **Potomac Lounge**, adjacent to the restaurant, offers an inviting and social atmosphere for lunch, dinner or light fare. Catch your favorite game or the latest news on one of two large elevated flat screen televisions or the 42" plasma television positioned behind the bar. Room service is available daily from 5:00am-12:00am.

Complimentary shuttle van service departs every 30 minutes from 6:00am-11:00pm to and from Washington-Reagan National Airport. Go to the Ground Transportation area of the airport to catch the shuttle. SuperShuttle offers transportation from Dulles International Airport and Baltimore/Washington International Airport. Please contact them at (202) 296-6662 or (800) BLUE-VAN for more information and/or reservations.

Oversize vehicles or RVs can park in the hotel's satellite parking lot across the street from the hotel; but if you require RV hook-ups please contact Harmony Place located on 8018 Richmond Road, Alexandria, VA 22306, which is about 8 miles from the hotel. Call (703) 360-4460 for information, reservations, and directions. There are no campgrounds in Arlington County.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Please call their toll-free number at (888) 441-7575.

Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.

----- CUT HERE AND MAIL TO HOTEL -----

IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC – HOTEL RESERVATION FORM
REUNION DATES: FEBRUARY 17-20, 2011

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (if available) _____ TELEPHONE # (_____) _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ TIME _____ AM/PM DEP. DATE _____

_____ # OF ROOMS NEEDED _____ # OF PEOPLE IN ROOM _____ HANDICAP ACCESS
_____ KING BED _____ 2 DOUBLE BEDS

In the event room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned.

RATE: \$99 (10.25%)

CUT OFF DATE: 01/25/11; Reservations received after this date will be processed on a space available basis, at the prevailing public rate.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled by 4:00pm the day prior to arrival. If guest does not check-in OR has not cancelled their reservation by 4:00pm the day prior to arrival, 1 night's room & tax will be charged to the guest's credit card.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

_____ AMEX _____ DINERS _____ VISA _____ MASTER CARD _____ DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) _____

Mail to: Sheraton National Hotel, 900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204 Attn: Reservations or
Please visit the online reservation website: <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/IJA>

FIFTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Ted Overgard, Secretary
 P.O. Box 1775
 Harrison, AR 72602-1775

FIRST CLASS U.S. Postage PAID PERMIT NO. 1 FAYETTEVILLE, AR

Forwarding Service Requested

**5th Marine Division Association
 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

All annual memberships expire on 31 December. Please renew on time.

New member () Renewal () Associate ()

Served with: _____
 Co. Bn. Reg.

Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Mail to:
 5th Marine Division Association
 Ted Overgard, Secretary
 P.O. Box 1775
 Harrison, AR 72602-1775

Date of birth (for Life Membership): _____

Office Use Only

LGR		LF	
DB		NM	
CRD		FM	
ADS		NL	

Dues (please check):

- () Annual \$ 25.00
- () Lifetime \$ 150.00
 age 64 and under
- () Lifetime \$ 100.00
 age 65 through 79
- () Lifetime \$ 50.00
 age 80 and over
- () General Fund \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

(Make checks payable to: 5th Marine Division Assn.)