



Spearhead NEWS

"Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue"

OFFICIAL
PUBLICATION
of the
5TH MARINE
DIVISION
ASSOCIATION

**67TH ANNUAL REUNION - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
OCTOBER 6 - 8, 2016
HOLIDAY INN SAN ANTONIO-RIVERWALK**

Suribachi flag raisings still focus of attention

By Ray Elliott

When the first flag was raised on Mount Suribachi on 23 February 1945, the Marines and all the troops who had landed on Iwo Jima five days earlier and weren't "otherwise occupied," as one Marine on an Honor Flight told a group surrounding him at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va., cheered and hollered, mistakenly thinking the battle that raged on for another 31 days was over.

And the ships off shore tooted their whistles and fired their big guns, and the sailors cheered and hollered for the same reason.

That first flag was for those who were there.

When the second flag went up, Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal was there to take the photo. It caught the attention of the AP photo editor in Guam, who said when he first saw it, "Here's one for all time," and immediately transmitted the image to AP headquarters in New York. Such an iconic symbol of American victory and freedom was an overnight sensation.

That flag was for the nation.

It also started an immediate controversy because Rosenthal hadn't seen the photo yet when he was asked if he had staged it, to which he replied, "Yes."

That's because he had staged a "gung-ho" photo, as it's been called, of some men on the patrol lining up for a posed shot by the flag that looks as though there was no danger to be concerned about. But in other photos taken on Mount Suribachi that morning more than 71 years ago, Marines are at the ready and on the lookout for the Japanese.

Rosenthal later said he'd have gotten the names of the flag raisers had he known the photo would raise questions about their identities. Which wasn't a consideration at the time. However, Marine photographer Sgt Bill Genaust's film footage captured the second flag raising to support Rosenthal's ultimate statement that the photo was not staged, despite the confusing report at the time.

When the word came out a couple of years ago that two researchers/historians had determined through digital enhancement of the photo and comparison of the men, what they wore, the things hanging from their belts in other photos, etc., that John Bradley wasn't in the second flag rising as had always been thought, I asked an Iwo Jima veteran who was on Mount Suribachi that morning if he could tell me who the flag raisers were. He couldn't.

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THE SPEARHEAD NEWS

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 of the Fifth Marine Division Association*

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NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

Other than your transportation arrangements, everything you need to prepare and register to attend the 67th Annual Fifth Marine Division Association Reunion is in this issue of *Spearhead News*—hotel, registration, tours and fees.

Ivan and Bruce Hammond have set up another great reunion to get together and plan for the future of honoring the service and sacrifices, and preserving the memories of the Iwo Jima veterans of World War II and the Vietnam veterans of the Fifth Marine Division. Hope to see many of you there to help advance the mission and enjoy the camaraderie with the veterans and families.

As you know, the Association is working with the Camp Tarawa Foundation to build a museum on the Big Island where the division trained for Iwo Jima. The Association is planning to carry on long after the last Iwo Jima veteran has passed Final Muster, and we hope that the legacy members and the Vietnam veterans will pick up the mantle and carry on what those before them started.

So we need our membership to grow from among the legacy family members of Iwo Jima veterans and from the Vietnam veterans. Anyone who is interested in perpetuating the stories of those who served in the Fifth Marine Division is also welcome as a member.

Craig Painton, the son of Association Vice President Kathy Painton and whose grandfather George Dunn was killed on Iwo Jima on 19 February 1945, has created a Fifth Marine Division Association Facebook page to which you’re encouraged to join. Craig and others have also established other Iwo Jima-related pages on Facebook: Iwo Jima Veterans and Families, Iwo Jima Survivors and Legacy Members, Iwo Jima-Iwo To and more. You’ll meet some great people and hear some interesting stories.

And there is the Fifth Marine Division Association website at <http://www.5thmarinedivision.com> that was established and is maintained by Eric Krelle.

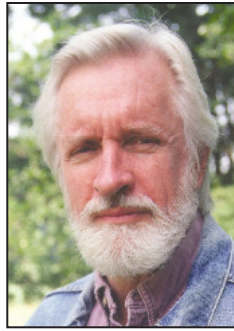
We still have a few copies of the replica *Spearhead Journals* published just after the war. (See the ad in the last issue.) And we’re still collecting past issues of *Spearhead News* and other items for the museum—any kind of memorabilia.

See you in San Antonio.

— Ray Elliott, Secretary

THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Ray Elliott



Gilbert 'Gil' Kahele **May 15, 1942-Jan. 26, 2016**

*"Integrity is doing the right thing,
even when no one is watching." — C.S. Lewis*

Hawaii State Sen. Gilbert "Gil" Kahele wasn't an Iwo Jima Marine veteran. But he was a Marine veteran, and he was a Marine through and through. And you can bet your bottom dollar if he had been old enough and had had the opportunity, he'd have been there on the island with the rest of those who fought and died in February and March of 1945. But he hadn't turned 3 yet when the Fifth Marine Division left the Big Island for Iwo Jima and landed there on Feb. 19, 1945.

Let me tell you why he was so special, though.

Gil was born in a grass shack by the sea on May 15, 1942, at Kalihi, just south of the Hawaiian fishing village of Miloli'i in South Kona. I first met him in March 2015 when we both were on the way to the annual "Reunion of Honor" on Iwo Jima, sponsored by Military Historical Tours. He walked up to the table in the crowded hallway of the Outrigger Hotel on Guam where I was sitting at a table with other writers selling and signing our books through the Pacific Historic Parks while several hundred travelers were getting boarding passes on one of the three chartered flights taking us to Iwo Jima the next day to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Battle for Iwo Jima.

For a couple of minutes, the distinguished looking Hawaiian leafed through my novella, *Iwo Blasted Again*, then stuck out his hand and said, "I'm Gil Kahele. I'll take a book, if you'll sign it."

After I signed the book and handed it back, we continued talking. Before he turned away to go pay for the book, he asked if he could have a seat and talk a bit. He was quite polite and courteous, but also confidant. As we talked, I learned he was a Marine veteran who had served during the same years I did, that he was a Hawaii state senator from Hilo on the Big Island. Which was

interesting since the Fifth Marine Division had trained on the sprawling Parker Ranch for the landing on Iwo Jima after the ranch was leased to the government for a dollar a year. The Second Division had gone there after the bloody battle for Tarawa.

So I told him about plans to build the Camp Tarawa Museum in the old division slop chute outside Waimea or down by the monuments to preserve and perpetuate the memory and honor the sacrifices of the Fifth Marine Division.

He seemed quite interested in the museum—which was great. From the card he gave me, I saw he was the chair of the state committee on tourism and the senate majority whip. The Fifth Marine Division Association was planning to work with the Camp Tarawa Foundation on the Big Island to establish the museum and had talked with Association members and

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Hawaii state senator and Marine veteran Gil Kahele

EDITOR'S DESK

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the trustees of the Parker Ranch about the plans. But that was about as far as it had gone.

“My father bought some of the buildings from Camp Tarawa after the Marines left for the Occupation of Japan and the camp later closed down,” Gil said, “and build a fishing shack near Kalihi where I was born near the fishing village of Miloli’i.”

On Mount Suribachi the next day, I introduced him to Bob Mueller, an Iwo Jima veteran, paramarine and buddy of Ira Hayes from boot camp and Bougainville. Bob was part of a four-man patrol with D-2-28 that had climbed the eastern side of Suribachi on the morning of 23 February 1945 and was on the volcanic mountain when the flags were raised. When Gil heard that Bob knew Ira Hayes and was on the mountain, he gave him a small handful of coarse salt and they walked quietly around the monument where the flag was raised 70 years ago and sprinkled a little salt in the Hawaiian custom to rid negative energies and to keep them away.

The senator and I kept in touch about the museum after the trip. Then he emailed that he was coming to the Fifth Marine Division Association reunion in Virginia Beach, Va., last September. At the reunion, we talked more about the museum, and he later asked Bob, Duane Tunnyhill (another Iwo veteran) and me to accompany him to the Gen Douglas MacArthur Museum and burial place in Norfolk.

After that, we stayed in touch regularly. He sent photos of a December visit to Arlington National Cemetery, the Marine Corps War Memorial and the grave markers of Michael Strank, Ira Hayes and Andrew Haldrane with the caption: “Paid my respects in early December.”

Later that month, he emailed to say that Bob Mueller had sent him information on the Iwo Jima Memorial Service and Banquet on the West Coast in February and that he planned to attend. Then he called in early January and said we should take point on the museum project and submit a grant to the state. The deadline was Jan. 22, which didn’t leave much time. His aide sent the grant information; I got the draft started and sent it to Association Vice President Kathy Painton, who lives on the Big Island and did the yeoman’s work and got it completed in time to meet the deadline.

Gil called to see how the grant was coming. I emailed him on Jan. 15 that I had proofed the final



Kahele with *Spearhead News* editor Ray Elliott at the 2015 FMDA Reunion in Virginia Beach, Va.

draft and sent it back to Kathy and she would meet the deadline. He emailed again on Jan. 19 and said, “That’s great.” But I wouldn’t see him in California.

The next day, he went to the hospital and died on Jan. 26. He had never said a word about his health.

That’s the way he was. It wasn’t about him. It was about the good of the people, the good of the community, the memory of the sacrifices of those who served in the Fifth Marine Division. He was described as “a soft-spoken but relentless advocate for Hawai’i Island.” That was true of his interest in the Camp Tarawa Museum.

“If the museum is built on the site of the old Slop Chute,” he said one day, “we could build a walkway from there down to the monuments and the entrance there to the Parker Ranch. Or we could build a plantation-style building there at the entrance with a small parking lot.”

Gil had met with Parker Ranch personnel to talk about plans for the museum.

After one trip out to the site from his Hilo home to meet with someone, he called and said he’d looked off to the hill on the right where the Marines trained as Mount Suribachi and thought, “What a great place for a flag or a replica of the Marine Corps War Memorial from Joe Rosenthal’s photo. It’d be there for people to see, people who will never get to Iwo Jima to see where the flag was raised.”

Former Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie described Gil as “honorable, forthright, loyal. When he was your friend, he was your friend forever.”

No question about that. I was stunned by the news of his death. I had just known him for only a few months, but I felt like I had known him forever. He was the real deal and had the kind of integrity C.S. Lewis was talking about.

Meeting Louis Lepore, A-1-27



Two years ago, Ray Elliott sent me the names of four Iwo Jima veterans who were in the same unit (A-1-27) as my brother when he was KIA on Iwo Jima.

I was only able to connect with Louis Lepore at the time, and since then, two of the other three have expired. I have been communicating with Louie by phone and mail and requested that he meet me in San Diego this past February when I was there for the Camp Pendleton Reunion of Iwo Jima veterans.

After exchanging calls and letters with Louie for several years, meeting him in person was just great. He is a pleasant gentleman and a very proud retired Marine. The Mount Suribachi flag raising was on his belt buckle and on the watch he wore. His personalized license plate is A-1-27. He is definitely a “gung-ho” Marine.

Louie is a widower whose beloved wife of many years passed several years ago. He is a very active and healthy 92 years young, playing golf every day and participating in golf contests. He also likes to take river cruises at various locales around the country.

Louie did not know my brother; however, he was on Hill 362A during the battle. When we met this past February, he told me several things about Iwo Jima and Hill 362A. He brought me pictures of Camp Tarawa and around Waimea town where they trained for Iwo, and an old *Spearhead* magazine. It was very thoughtful of him and very much appreciated.

He has many other artifacts he has saved from his service in the USMC and is willing to donate some of these things to the Camp Tarawa Museum for future displays.

I feel very honored to have this retired Marine and wonderful gentleman as a friend, and I am looking forward for our next meeting later this summer.

— Jimmie Watson
Arabi, LA

Family looks to connect with others from father's unit

It is with sadness that we share the passing of our father, James F. Moore, F-2-26 on April 17, 2016.

We noticed in the Fall/Winter Issue of *Spearhead News* the passing of John Wagstaff and Col Frank C. Caldwell who may have been members of our father's unit. Our dad was incredibly proud to have been a Marine, but never spoke in detail to us of his own military service. Is there any way for us to contact family members of these other deceased Marines to try to gain more information or is there any account we can access that would give us more insight as to the specific locations our father's unit might have been during his enlistment?

We would deeply appreciate any scrap of detail that might help us piece together this part of our father's past.

— Kimberly Moore Hackett
Richard James Moore
pandkhackett@embarqmail.com

All the men of Iwo Jima should be remembered

I just read the article on MSN about the soldiers that raised the flag on Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima. My father was a Marine in the Fifth Division and [was] just a quarter-mile away when the flag was raised. He didn't speak much about that battle until I was putting together a beautiful article for our newspaper celebrating my parents' 65th wedding anniversary in November 2015.

My father's name was Calvin Coolidge Speegle Sr. (5THTANK), and he was among the men in the tanks that day. We now know that he didn't speak much about that battle, as well as others including his fighting

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FLAG RAISINGS

Continued from page 1

“Nobody worried about who raised the flags,” he said. “That came later. We had other things to worry about.”

And now the Marine Corps has weighed in to look at the evidence and make a decision as to whether Bradley was one of the men. The bottom line is that the flag was raised, and it rallied the men on the island and the people back home. Who raised it didn’t matter at the time until the storm of publicity turned those initially identified into reluctant celebrities—which didn’t do them any favors.

And it shouldn’t matter, really. It took everybody on Mount Suribachi that morning and everybody involved in the battle to get the men there to raise the flags. Both flags.

The fact that the flags were raised is what’s important—then and now.

But as soon as the Marine Corps announced that it would conduct an inquiry to determine if the men in the photo were correctly identified, the coverage of the initial report picked up dramatically.

Then came the comments: agreements, disagreements, conspiracy theories about why the “mis-identification” had stood for nearly 70 years and more.

A retired Marine officer emailed, “I am finding this hard to believe or accept, and it bothers me tremendously that a story like this will take on a life of its own, perhaps besmirching the reputation of not only Mr. Bradley, but generally the Corps for permitting a falsehood (if true) to persist.”

No doubt, it is difficult to determine who did what when more than 70 years ago. Regardless of the outcome of the Marine Corps investigation, the Fifth Marine Division Association and President John Butler have taken the following position:

“The Fifth Marine Division Association is not focused on the individual identities of the flag raisers pictured in the iconic photograph of the famous event atop Mount Suribachi on 23 February 1945.

“Our Association is focused on, and dedicated to, preserving the legacy of the extraordinary battle record of the Fifth Marine Division and the legacy and memory of all the men who fought on Iwo Jima and in Vietnam. We are dedicated to the remaining surviving veterans of those battles, and to supporting the family members—the sons, daughters, wives, brothers, sisters, and others whose lives were so affected forever.

“The Association’s goal is to preserve the Division’s legacy for posterity and is proud that

members of the Fifth Marine Division had the honor of raising both flags on Mount Suribachi. Through our newsletter, our annual reunions, the prospective museum on the Big Island, and now a website and social media presence, we hope to bring continued interest in this legacy and to continue to bring family members of fallen heroes together.”

That’s the true legacy of the flag raisings and the image that Joe Rosenthal’s quick eye was able to capture during a pivotal time in our world’s history.



AP photographer Joe Rosenthal’s iconic image of the second flag raising

FMDA assists ROTC unit to help honor fallen Marine in Repatriation Ceremony

By Morey Butler

A storage unit owner discovers an American flag, a Purple Heart medal and personal letters in an abandoned unit in a small town near Foley, Ala. Not knowing what to do with these items and not willing to discard them, he keeps them in his possession for another four years.

By happenstance, he mentions his dilemma to a friend who has a son in JROTC at Foley High School. Both men agree that the JROTC unit would be a suitable repository and unknowingly set in motion the saga of Pvt Samuel L. Brock.

Col Sherry Douglas, senior instructor of the Air Force JROTC unit, sees an opportunity for her cadets to do a community service project and assigns her cadets the mission of locating family members of the fallen Marine. The investigative trail leads to a cemetery in Amarillo, Texas, where Pvt Brock is buried. Contact is established with the last immediate surviving member, Lonnie, who was 13 years old when his brother enlisted in the Corps. Lonnie relates that their mother never recovered from Samuel's death and that it wasn't until 1948 that his body was returned for burial in the local cemetery.

He also reveals that his mother and two other siblings moved to Alabama years ago and are all deceased. He confirms that all the items recovered from the storage unit are Samuel's. He anticipates that the items will be mailed to him, but Col Douglas has another thought in mind.

She contacts Marine Corps Headquarters, and the buck gets passed around until somehow she makes contact with our Fifth Marine Division Association "flag bearer," Ray Elliott. Ray assures her that assistance is on the way, and he contacts John Butler, our current Association honcho. He and Ray do a little investigative homework and discover Pvt Brock was assigned to the 31st Replacement Bn. of the Fifth Marine Division and is indeed one of its fallen Marines.

His date of death, 28 February 1945, puts him in the vicinity of hill 362A, where too many Marines met their fate. Casualty rates taking that hill did not allow time for replacements to be known by name or unit designation recorded. Grim, but factual. Pvt Brock was just three months into his 18th year.

Col Douglas requests a Fifth Marine Division

Association member attend the Repatriation Ceremony 21 February 2016 as the guest speaker. Ray has a commitment in California during that time, and John is scheduled to attend the IJAA meeting starting the 19th of February. I get the assignment because big brother always looked my way to give me things to do when we were growing up, and the years haven't changed his habit. He assured me that the two-hour drive from Gulfport, Miss., to Foley wouldn't over tax me, and my 20 years of experience as a senior instructor of a JROTC unit would put me back in familiar territory.

Little did I know then what a special occasion it would become.

The first thing I think of is to call Mary Beth, Leonard Nederveld's daughter, who lives with him and her mother, Celine. Some of you Association members may remember that they were the hosts of the 61st Reunion in Biloxi, Miss. Leonard, now 90, is eager to go and, as always, it is a special honor for me to be in the company of an Iwo Jima Marine.

My very next thought is to contact the cadre of the JROTC unit and find out what they wanted me to talk about. MSgt Howard, the Air Force instructor, suggests I describe the battle of Iwo Jima. When I ask how much time I have to do that, he says to keep it to about five minutes. I figure right then that the assignment is going to be pretty difficult.

The ceremony is held in the town's civic center, a relatively new and spacious facility. I am on stage, sitting next to Lonnie Brock and his wife. Leonard is resting easy in the front row of approximately 300 seats occupied by a sizable crowd, including a group from the local Marine Corps League.

The master of ceremony is a JROTC cadet. He introduces everyone on stage and asks that we stand for the Presentation of the Colors. Two cadets sing the National Anthem. Their performance rivals anything I have ever heard before. Following the Retirement of the Colors, a cadet functioning as a chaplain, leads us in a prayer. The MC then directs a platoon-size element of cadets to stand and recite the Cadet Code of Honor. Their recitation lasts more than a minute and is in absolute unison with each and every cadet eagerly participating.

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FINAL MUSTER

("Roll Call of the Reef")

ADAMS, Charles M. - **F-2-26** - 2/9/2013
 ARMENDARIZ, John M. - **A-1-28** - 12/31/2015
 BELCHER, Henry C. - **I-3-26** - 7/30/2014
 BENARD, Jaques - **VMO-5** - 9/3/2009
 BERNSTEIN, Samuel I. - **5THPION** - 12/27/2015
 BOWDEN, Lester - **C-5THMED** - 7/31/2010
 BOWLES, Frank L. - **K-4-13** - 7/17/2015
 CHAPMAN, Daryl F. - **HQBN** - 12/30/2014
 COLEY, TC Sr. - **WPNS-28** - 12/3/2015
 GEROW, Henry I. - **5THENGR** - 12/15/2015
 GLASSHAGEL, George W. - **HQ-2-28** - 12/24/2015
 GODFREY, Richard B. - **E-2-28** - 7/28/2015
 GOERG, Herbert - **WPNS-28** - 2/8/2013
 GUNDER, Robert E. - **G-3-28** - 11/26/2015
 HINDS, James A. - **5THRECON** - 10/8/2015
 HUDDLESTON, James M. - **G-3-28** - 9/24/2014
 KOBEL, Eugene B. - **5THENGR** - 2/3/2015
 LAROCCO, Andrew - **A-1-13** - 2/6/2013
 MANN, Melvin - **I-3-27** - 2/20/2015
 MOORE, James F. - **F-2-26** - 4/17/2016
 MUGIANIS, George K. - **E-2-13** - 1/25/2011
 MYKRIS, Mike N. - **F-2-28** - 3/24/2016
 ROGERS, Joseph W. - **F-2-13** - 11/25/2011
 RONDERO, Peter J. - **F-2-27** - 7/22/2014
 RYAN, Sidney G. - **WPNS-28** - 3/1/2016
 SCHLOESSER, Robert E. - **5THMED** - 11/15/2015
 SHELLEY-Aaron "A.J." - **C-1-28** - 3/21/2016
 SPEEGLE SR., Calvin C. - **5THTANK** - 3/19/2016
 STAVELY, Robert A. - **HS-4-13** - 2/6/2016
 STRATTON, Leonard "Keith" - **HQ-2-28** - 4/6/2011
 VON BEHREN, Ovian W. - **B-1-28** - 1/3/2015
 WALTERS, Donald W. - **F-2-28** - 10/10/2015
 WEAVER, Delmar E. - **HS-5THENGR** - 12/23/2015
 WELLS, John "Keith" - **E-2-28** - 2/11/2016
 WILLIAMS, Tom - **H-3-26** - 12/3/2015
 ZAHARAN, Joseph P. - **F-2-13** - 6/20/2012

Send Final Muster notices (including name, unit and date of death) by email to talespress@talespress.com, by USPS to Association Secretary Ray Elliott, 2609 N. High Cross Rd., Urbana, IL 61802, or by calling 217-384-5820.

PVT BROCK

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The school superintendent and principal are then introduced. Both speak briefly about their pride in the AFJROTC units' perseverance to untangle the mystery of Pvt Brock's personal items and their effort to develop a Repatriation Ceremony. Their pride was certainly warranted and earned by the cadets.

Unknown to me at that time was the fact that these young high school students raised enough money to cover airfare for the Brock family. They also enlisted community support to offset costs of lodging. I then found it was my turn to speak.

Following my comments, two cadets on stage unfolded the flag that had covered Pvt Brock's casket many years ago, and presented it to the audience. They refolded it, and then one cadet, with tears on his face and with a trembling voice, presented it to Lonnie Brock. Each and every movement in the flag unfolding, refolding and presentation was "by the book" and the way it is supposed to be done. We all stood as the bugler played Taps.

Two other presentations followed: a beautiful wooden shadow box containing Pvt Brock's personal items and Fifth Marine Division mementos I had given to Col Douglas for the Brock family; and an album which had been professionally covered in the style of a Marine field uniform. We all stood as "America the Beautiful" was sung by two different cadets. They were just as professional and good as the previous pair.

Folks, it doesn't get any better than what I witnessed. Patriotism glowed like a burning hot ember that afternoon. Lonnie asked to speak. He did an excellent job of expressing his heartfelt thanks to the community, and particularly to Col Douglas and the AFJROTC unit. The Brock family was knocked out of their socks and truly very, very appreciative.

If you want to know what I said about you old Iwo Jima Marines, then show up for the 67th Reunion. I did introduce one of your buddies, Leonard. I instructed him to stand up and face the audience. Everyone stood up and gave him a wild round of applause. We both would still be there if I had not given them the order to sit down.

You Iwo Marines would have been impressed.



A Marine's memories of Iwo Jima

By Jack Orth

A great Marine friend of mine who now lives in Texas was not quite 18 when he hit the beach on Iwo Jima on Feb. 19, 1945.

Since Feb. 23, 1945, was the day the American flag was raised on Mount Suribachi, I contacted Paul Merriman, and he filled me in on one of the toughest battles in military history—Iwo Jima. This is his story:

“I landed on Iwo Jima with the 31st Infantry Replacement early on D-Day right behind the first assault guys of the 27th Regiment. We were pinned down a lot from rifle fire from Mount Suribachi on the left and the high ground on the right.

“After we had landed and packed the beaches (three Marine divisions), the Japanese artillery started dropping shells on us.

“It was just a killing zone the first three days and nights. Then on the fourth day, around 10:30 a.m., we looked up on Mount Suribachi and saw an American flag! Our Marines had taken the hill. We yelled and hollered, the 600 ships around us rang their bells and honked their horns.

“We felt that we were losing, and then there is a flag! We were excited, we were renewed, there was a chance to win. It was the greatest day of my life.

“Later, around 2 p.m., a second, larger flag replacing the first small flag was raised, resulting in the famous photo by Joe Rosenthal. The battle had just begun—it lasted 28 more days—and most of the flag-raisers were killed in the next few days.

“Around March 1, about six of us were sent up to close caves with dynamite, torching passed-over bunkers, killing snipers, mopping up, then we went back into the front line.

“We battled and moved ahead daily, slow progress, terrible casualties, very rugged terrain. The Japanese kept coming into our foxholes at night until we got a war dog. He would growl, and they stayed away.

We loved that dog!

“On March 10, our company (about 30 guys, down from over 200) just rose up and charged ahead, shooting and yelling like a Banzai charge. The Japanese behind a ridge in front of us rose up and mowed us down. We retreated back behind the ridge, but I got left out there, crouched behind a big rock with another Marine half on top of me.

“The Japanese kept shooting at us, slowly chipping away the rock. The other Marine named Alfred Ciccocelli said, “I’m gettin’ outta here,” and raised up to go and was shot in the head—dead—falling over me.

“The Marines, trying to help, started to throw grenades over us at the Japanese, and the Japanese began throwing grenades back over us on the Marines. Japanese grenades are not so deadly.

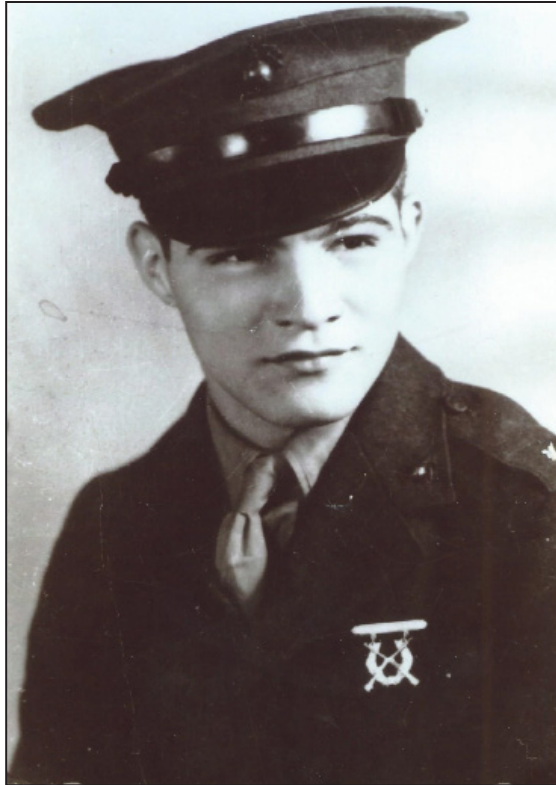
“Then a U.S. Marine “pine-apple” grenade landed beside me. A Japanese soldier had thrown it back. I turned away, it exploded, and one of the 40 pieces got me in the lower back. I reached around and felt warm blood. During a

lull, I disarmed my weapon and stripped down, said a prayer and rose up to run back, got about four steps, fell and Marines reached up and pulled me down with them. The corpsman put a bandage on me and gave me a shot of morphine. After dark, a Jeep came and took me to a medical unit.

“Next morning, I was on an ambulance C-47 plane to Guam, one week in a tent hospital there, then a hospital ship to Honolulu. It took about a week. I fully recovered in three months at the Pink Naval Hospital at Pearl Harbor and was sent to rejoin my unit back training on the big island of Hawaii.

“After the war, I was able to contact Ciccocelli’s family and explain in detail what a great Marine he was.

“A day doesn’t go by that I don’t think of all the Marines I served with. I salute them often.”



Paul Merriman

Published as a guest column online in The Florida Times-Union in Jacksonville, Feb. 24, 2016. Used with permission.

in the Korean War, because he lost friends in those battles as well as killing the enemies. What veteran of war would openly discuss the atrocities that they not only witnessed but were a part of?

My father recently passed away at the age of 91 on March 19, 2016, and my mother passed away 20 hours later on March 20. As in life, they are forever together in heaven. They were the wind beneath our wings, and we are going to proudly lay him and my mother to rest with veteran honors.

The picture of those men raising the flag has its place in history, and no matter who they were—they were part of the thousands of men that day who

conquered that part of the island. My father, as well as all of the men who were a part of that historic day, should and will always be remembered. I just wanted to pass this piece of information on to you because, like my father, I'm sure that there are so many more like him that kept being a part of war in a locked place inside their hearts. My entire family is so very proud of what he accomplished and thanked the lord and his guardian angels for keeping him a part of our lives that day and every day that followed. We salute you, Dad!

— Carolyn K. Speegle-Shaver
Fairbanks, AK
S_C_SHAVER@hotmail.com

Corpsmen, then and now

By Steve Lopardo

My dad, Fio Lopardo, was the second company commander of H-3-28 on Iwo Jima. I only saw him cry twice. The first time was when we were watching a documentary on the battle that pictured the Fifth Division cemetery. The other time was when he was telling me about the courage of the corpsmen on Iwo, whom he called “The Bravest of The Brave.”

Dad recounted late in the battle how a corpsman crawled out from his foxhole under fire to aid a wounded Marine. “Just as he got to him and started to pull him back, he got hit. He got up again, and pulled the Marine closer to us, but got hit again. The third time he got up, he was killed. I wrote him up for the Medal of Honor, but they ‘only’ gave him a Silver Star. I guess by that point in the battle it was just too common.” A few weeks earlier, another corpsman in the same company, Jack “Arkie” Williams, was killed and awarded the Medal of Honor for doing the same thing.

Several years ago, I attended dinner celebrating the Marine Corps birthday. John Lyttle, also a member of H-3-28, stood up to give a toast and share his story. He told of being hit by a sniper in Bloody Gorge, and a corpsman darted out under fire, dodging from rock to rock, eventually reaching him and keeping him alive. John wasn't able to talk long. He got choked up and had to sit down because he was crying.

Recently I met “Kalin”, a 27-year-old corpsman who has served three tours in Afghanistan and Iraq. Kalin's eyes lit up when I asked him if he'd like to meet Leo Tuck, an Iwo Jima corpsman. Leo landed on

Red Beach in the early waves on Feb. 19 and made it through the entire battle with the 27th Marines. Kalin said, “Oh yes. That would really mean a lot to me. They are our heroes.”

We met for dinner, and Kalin gave Leo a corpsman challenge coin. Leo gave Kalin a vial of sand from Iwo. I just sat and listened as an older brother and younger brother talked about their common bond. The both said they went through combat, “for their buddies.” Both then and now, the Marines called them “Doc” and they never bought their own drinks.

They talked about medical equipment they carried into battle and what they could and could not do to treat wounds. Kalin said, “I wish you had in your bag what I carry now. It could have saved so many more Marines.”

Leo talked about the little bottles of brandy the corpsmen carried on Iwo, “but they didn't last very long. The whole battle was a fog of endless casualties, one after the other.”

Kalin talked about staying awake continuously for three days with a small squad of Marines on an isolated mountaintop in Afghanistan, fighting to keep alive a Marine who lost both legs to a land mine. “I kept telling him to stay with me, not to give up. Never give up. And he made it. We still keep in touch today.”

Leo doesn't move as fast now as he did on Iwo, and Kalin gently, almost reverently, escorted him back to his car. They both said it meant a lot to meet each other, and talk about the old and the new. Some things have not changed in 70 years, and I understand why strong men sometimes cry.

CAMP TARAWA MUSEUM UPDATE

The Camp Tarawa Museum project suffered a setback when Hawai'i State Senator Gil Kahele passed away in late January. Gil had been negotiating with the Parker Ranch trustees to acquire the land for the museum and had encouraged me to write a 'Grant in Aid - Land Acquisition and Site Development' request for state funds.

Gil's son, Kai Kahele, has been appointed to fill his dad's senate seat and has vowed to continue to work with the Camp Tarawa Foundation and the Fifth Marine Division to see that the Camp Tarawa Museum becomes a reality.

Hawai'i State Rep. Cindy Evans and Camp Tarawa Foundation CEO Bob Strickland have met with other legislators to petition for their support for the Camp Tarawa Museum project. At this time, we are awaiting the final decision from the legislative Ways and Means Committee regarding how much funding we can expect to receive from the state.



This is all that remains of the original Quonset hut that served as the 28th Regiment Slop Chute.

I have explored pricing for a Quonset hut to replace the original one that was dismantled in September, so we are set to proceed when the funding is determined and an agreement with Parker Ranch trustees has been finalized.

– Kathy Painton, Vice President

FIFTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC. Financial Statements As Of April 30, 2016 (Cash Basis)

Statement of Income and Expense:	2016 YTD	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
INCOME							
Dues & General Fund	7,985	9,895	3,534	2,343	2,600	3,709	6,096
Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	209
Advertising	-	-	-	170	170	-	-
Reunion	-	9,849	16,317	7,099	-	1,782	5,403
Operating Income	<u>7,985</u>	<u>19,744</u>	<u>19,851</u>	<u>9,612</u>	<u>2,770</u>	<u>5,491</u>	<u>11,709</u>
Gain on sale of investment (gold) ¹	-	-	-	3,765	-	7,760	-
TOTAL INCOME	<u>7,985</u>	<u>19,744</u>	<u>19,851</u>	<u>13,377</u>	<u>2,770</u>	<u>13,251</u>	<u>11,709</u>
EXPENSES							
Spearhead Newsletter (Production & Distribution)	897	5,394	6,059	8,868	9,537	10,645	4,764
Administrative Services	3,000	12,000	11,000	8,625	6,682	9,314	14,051
Office & Other Expenses	1,512	1,467	1,744	558	587	856	1,429
Reunion	-	7,080	15,218	8,801	2,000	-	-
Boots Thomas Memorial (see article in Spearhead)	-	4,849	-	-	-	-	-
Grants Paid - Camp Tarawa Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
Grants Paid - Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000
Total Operating Expenses	<u>5,409</u>	<u>30,790</u>	<u>34,021</u>	<u>26,853</u>	<u>18,806</u>	<u>20,815</u>	<u>50,480</u>
TOTAL NET INCOME/(LOSS)	<u>2,576</u>	<u>(11,046)</u>	<u>(14,170)</u>	<u>(13,475)</u>	<u>(16,036)</u>	<u>(7,563)</u>	<u>(38,772)</u>
ASSETS (End of Calendar Year)							
Bank Account	\$ 33,570	\$ 30,994	\$ 42,040	\$ 56,210	\$ 33,085	\$ 49,121	\$ 56,684
Investment - Gold (at cost)	-	-	-	-	36,600	36,600	36,600
Total Assets	<u>33,570</u>	<u>30,994</u>	<u>42,040</u>	<u>56,210</u>	<u>69,685</u>	<u>85,721</u>	<u>93,284</u>
LIABILITIES							
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NET WORTH	<u>\$ 33,570</u>	<u>\$ 30,994</u>	<u>\$ 42,040</u>	<u>\$ 56,210</u>	<u>\$ 69,685</u>	<u>\$ 85,721</u>	<u>\$ 93,284</u>

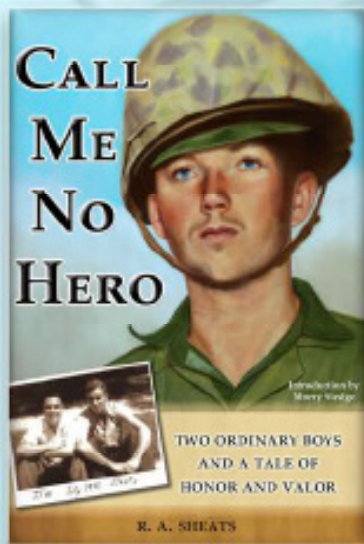
¹Gold proceeds sold on 8/16/2013 was \$40,365.

“Ernest ‘Boots’ Thomas is the epitome of a national hero.”

Lt. Gen. Lawrence Snowden, USMC, WWII

CALL ME NO HERO

Two Ordinary Boys and a Tale of Honor and Valor



An epic WWII tale of courage, leadership, and self-sacrifice

To order online, please visit
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Monticello, FL 32345

(Please include \$3.99 for postage and handling.)

Prefer a digital format? Enjoy the **Kindle ebook** version of *Call Me No Hero* available at Amazon.com!

Author: R. A. Sheats

Format: 6x9 Hardcover

Pages: 322

Retail: \$30.00

Spearhead discount:
\$24.95

ISBN: 978-1938822-55-1

Call Me No Hero is the true story of Platoon Sergeant Ernest “Boots” Thomas, a young man who enlisted in the Marine Corps at the outbreak of WWII. A drill sergeant for many years at Parris Island, Thomas saw his first combat on the volcanic shores of Iwo Jima, where he and his platoon raised the first of two American flags on the summit of Mt. Suribachi. Thomas’ part in the flag-raising catapulted him into national fame, a fame that would quickly be overshadowed by his heroic death.

With the use of letters, journals, and other first-hand accounts, *Call Me No Hero* brings to life this captivating tale of valor, self-sacrifice, and the solemn duty of honoring those who have fallen.

www.bootstthomas.com/Spearhead.html



Features color photographs and illustrations

One of the Marine Corps' finest hours

By Jim Dey

The News-Gazette, Jan. 24, 2016

One need not be a genius, or even a pseudo-intellectual, to know that war is hell—the body counts speak for themselves.

But having an understanding is one thing, and being buried in the grim details is quite another.

War is, indeed, hell, and the men who fight often are ordinary G.I. Joes trapped in extraordinary circumstances.

Khe Sanh, the site of the late 1967/early 1968 siege involving 6,000 U.S. Marines surrounded by 20,000 North Vietnamese troops, was described as “hell in a small place.”

Gregg Jones' book, *Last Stand at Khe Sanh: The U.S. Marines' Finest Hour in Vietnam*, is the story of that three-month stand conducted at the height of the Tet Offensive in South Vietnam, the nationwide attacks in which Vietcong and North Vietnamese troops failed to win the war even as they achieved a public relations triumph.

In the big picture, the epic battles at Khe Sanh were characterized to a worldwide audience as North Vietnam's attempt to repeat its 1954 defeat of the French at Dien Bien Phu. President Lyndon Johnson and top U.S. military commanders were determined not to let that happen.

But for the grunts on the ground, the contest was a day-to-day struggle for survival, fending off daily sniper, mortar and artillery attacks interspersed by full-scale assaults by enemy troops. Much of the time, Americans were required to live in underground bunkers and move about their embattled turf in trenches.

At best, life at Khe Sanh was miserable, filthy and depressing. At worst, life there meant death.

It's a sad story, but what a story it is. Jones hits the nail on the head when he characterizes the Marines' determination as the Corps' finest hour. Other soldiers in other battles may have been just as courageous, but no soldiers anywhere could have been more courageous.

So, too, were the North Vietnamese, who fought with amazing determination, courage and skill. Before

they finally threw in the towel and pulled out, North Vietnamese soldiers died in astounding numbers, many of them vaporized in relentless B-52 attacks.

Jones' book carefully weaves the big picture in with the smaller one—the [Marines] themselves. He tells of life, death, heroism, foolhardy courage and, occasionally, what would be regarded as failures of nerve under deadly extremes.

This fine book offers a very human story of [Marines] living under inhuman conditions in a war most Americans would prefer to forget. Those who read it will find the story of Khe Sanh unforgettable.

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Editor's Note: Under the command of the Third Marine Division, the 26th Marine Regiment fought at Khe Sanh from 21 January to 9 July 1968.



Update on West Coast Iwo Jima monument progress

Iwo Jima Monument West is aggressively fundraising to procure \$10 million to move the monument across the U.S. this fall or next spring and store temporarily at Pendleton as it will be the last thing to be placed on its pedestal.

Some parties are looking to have it purchased by a third party and donated to Iwo Jima Monument West.

There have been more contacts with FOX News to do a story related to Memorial Day or possibly Flag Day—which is the actual birthday of “Iron Mike” Mervosh (who will be a young 93).

At the Oct. 31 unveiling of the winning design by Fentress Architects (who did the magnificent, award-winning Marine Corps Heritage Museum in

Triangle, Va.) in Newport Beach, Calif., we had 13 Iwo Jima veterans with us. Three of them spoke: Bill Behana (Fifth Marine Division), “Doc” Raybeck and Jim Scotella (Fifth Marine Division). Lt. Gen. Terry Robling (USMC retired) and the former head of Marine Forces Pacific gave the keynote, which can be seen on the website.

The website features more than two hours of Iwo Jima veterans speaking. Visit www.marinesoniwojima.com.

For 24-hour messaging, call: 844-IWO-JIMA.

We ended in memory of Iwo veteran Chuck Amador, who went to Marine Corps heaven on Jan. 2.

– Laura Dietz

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

ANNUAL MEMBERS

BURKART, Judith Lee – Dallas, TX

DAY, Evelyn – Needles, CA

DOWN, James – Winchester, MA

FULMER, David W. – North, SC

JACOBS, Marilyn S. – Los Angeles, CA

PAYTON, Corey – League City, TX

PAYTON, Eric – Santa Fe, TX

LIFE MEMBERS

BELL, Gene E. – Banning, CA

BOOSINGER, David R. – Youngstown, OH

HAMPTON, Janey – Laramie, WY

HARVEY, T. Fred (C-1-26) – Kosciusko, MS

KOBEL, Theresa M. – New York, NY

MADERO, Paul (H-2-26) – Hacienda Heights, CA

MOLEK, Eugene (5THENGR) – Colorado Springs, CO

MUELLER, Rudolph T. (F-2-26) – Indianapolis, IN

PENROD, David L. (HQ-3-26) – Beaver Creek, OH

PERPICH, Charles C. (4THMARDIV) – Lester Prairie, MN

SLEDGE, James S. – Monticello, FL

WALL, Cynthia Spence – Wilmington, NC

WALTERS, Michelle – Royal Oak, MI

MEMORIAL MEMBERS

ADAMS, Betty – Fayette, MO

BELCHER, Leanne – Atlantic, IA

DAHL, Betty – Vancouver, WA

GEROW, Louise – Winter Park, FL

GLASSHAGEL – Wilma, Oxford, OH

GODFREY, Patricia – Waverly, GA

GOERG, Rita – Medford, WI

HINDS, Barbara – Walpole, MA

HUDDLESTON, Vivian – Muncie, IN

KORSMEYER, Betty – Rushville, IL

LAROCCO, Lillian – Warwick, RI

MANN, Estelle – Pittsburgh, PA

MYKRIS, Shirley – Hemet, CA

ROGERS, Mrs. Joseph W. – Fairfield, CA

STRATTON, Beatrice – Wyoming, MI

WEAVER, Norma – Harleyville, PA

Thank you for helping to preserve and perpetuate the legacy of service and pride in the Fifth Marine Division Association. Please encourage others to join us!

Looking forward to welcoming you to San Antonio this fall

Our Hammond family welcomes you to San Antonio Oct. 6-8 for the 67th reunion of our Association.

The Holiday Inn Downtown Market Square is offering the room rate listed in the write-up three days before and three days after our reunion. The hotel is offering free parking and free continental breakfast for two people daily. This will allow you to visit and see more of San Antonio. The Spanish Mission tours are great, and the trips on the River Walk are outstanding.

The Alamo is about five blocks from the hotel.

On Friday, we will be traveling to the War of the Pacific/Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg, about 60 miles from San Antonio.

We look forward to seeing you and believe you will enjoy your visit to San Antonio.

If you have any questions, please call me at 409-770-4249 or email me at sgthambone@verizon.net.

Please place your ads in the reunion journal by Aug. 15, 2016.

Semper Fi,

Ivan Hammond

Learn more about

Reunion keynote speaker Dennis Blocker

Dennis Blocker was born into an Air Force family and, as such, has traveled the globe. He had the privilege of attending DOD schools all over the United States and Iceland. A tremendous love of country and an appreciation of the military were instilled in him early on.

Blocker has worked in San Antonio emergency rooms for the past 17 years as a medic. Twelve of these years were in a Level 1 Trauma Center. In his spare time, he researched his grandfather's WWII service to fulfill a request by his mother. What Blocker discovered was an untold story of WWII in the Pacific.

Over the past 15 years, he has interviewed more than 300 WWII veterans who were associated with his grandfather's gunboat group. The research also



Keynote speaker, author and historian Dennis Blocker

uncovered more than 400 letters written by men who were killed in action at Iwo Jima. This research has led to the publication of the book, *The Heart of Hell*, written by Mitch Weiss—who was approached by Blocker regarding the amazing story.

Blocker has served as the Pacific War historian for the National Landing Craft Infantry Association for the past 10 years. He has enjoyed a close relationship with the National Museum of the Pacific War, where he has been active in preserving WWII history and encouraging veterans and families to donate their WWII stories and memorabilia to the museum.

Recently Blocker spoke at Auburn University and at the Alabama State Archives in Montgomery. These venues were well attended, and feedback has been very positive. He has also had speaking engagements for the Navy League in San Antonio and Austin and is the keynote speaker for the National Museum of the Pacific War's Memorial Day service in 2016. To date there are more than 20 venues booked for speaking engagements, and momentum is building.



ADVERTISING CONTRACT FOR FIFTH MARINE DIVISION REUNION JOURNAL

- To be published in the Fifth Marine Division 67th Annual Reunion Journal, Oct. 6-8, 2016
- Distributed to all members of the Association & solicitors.
- Advertiser agrees to make immediate payment by check or money order, payable to Fifth Marine Division Association, with submission of the ad and understands that the Association will pay no commission to any agency or individual.

Name (Firm/Individual) _____ Co _____ Bn _____ Regt _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Email _____

Phone Home _____ Cell _____

All ads are black and white **ADVERTISING DEADLINE: August 15, 2016**

Advertising Rates

Specifications (trim size 8.5" wide x 11" deep)

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|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Full Page | \$250 | Full Page Ad : 7" wide x 10" deep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Half Page | \$150 | Half Page Ad: 7" wide x 4 7/8" deep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quarter Pg | \$100 | Quarter Page: 3 3/8" wide x 4 7/8" deep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Eighth Pg | \$50 | Eighth Page: 3 3/8" wide x 2 3/8" deep |

I am submitting:

- Camera-ready ad (must be actual size and ready to scan with **NO** changes.) Any ad submitted as camera-ready but proves not to be camera-ready will be adjusted at the discretion of the publisher to fit the size ordered.
- Suggested layout, but please alter as needed to fit space.
- What I want my ad to say. Please use your creativity to make it look good.
- Photo(s) # _____ (prefer black and white photos; please put name and address on a label on the back of each photo.)
- Other artwork _____
- Other _____

Mail check and ad form to:

**Ivan P. Hammond, Fifth Marine Division Association
P.O. Box 2312, Texas City, TX 77592-2312**

**Photos and text can also be sent electronically to: sgthambone@verizon.net
Advertising questions? Call: 409-770-4249**

5TH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION
OCTOBER 6-9, 2016
HOLIDAY INN MARKET SQUARE – SAN ANTONIO, TX

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:30am - 10:30am	Breakfast in Hotel Restaurant (for two included in your room rate)
1:00pm - 5:00pm	Reunion Registration Open
1:00pm - 10:00pm	Hospitality Room Open and Entertainment

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

6:30am - 10:30am	Breakfast in Hotel Restaurant (for two included in your room rate)
7:30am - 8:00am	Reunion Registration Open
8:30am - 3:30pm	FREDERICKSBURG/NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR
5:00pm - 10:00pm	Hospitality Room Open

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

6:30am - 10:30am	Breakfast in Hotel Restaurant (for two included in your room rate)
9:00am - 10:45am	Business Meeting
11:00am - 12:00pm	Memorial Service
6:00pm - 7:00pm	Cash Bar
6:30pm	Iwo Jima Survivors Group Photo
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Banquet Dinner

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

6:30am - 10:30am	Breakfast in Hotel Restaurant (for two included in your room rate)
	Farewells and Departures

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

FREDERICKSBURG/NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2016

Enjoy a scenic ride to Fredericksburg to tour the National Museum of the Pacific War which is dedicated to everyone who served in the Pacific under Admiral Nimitz. The Museum includes over 34,000 square feet of indoor exhibit space including the George Bush Gallery, Admiral Nimitz Museum, Plaza of Presidents, Veterans' Walk of Honor, Japanese Garden of Peace, Pacific Combat Zone, and the Nimitz Education and Research Center. A 43,000 square foot expansion was added in 2010, where you can explore the impressive display of Allied and Japanese aircraft, tanks, guns and other artifacts made famous during the Pacific War campaigns. Enjoy lunch at THE Auslander Restaurant on Main Street (across the street from the Pacific War Museum). There is shopping nearby on Main Street for those interested.

8:30am board bus, 3:30pm back at hotel

\$46/Person includes bus, guide, and admission. Lunch on your own.

\$38/Person for WWII Veterans. Includes bus, guide, and admission. Lunch on your own.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, 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 non-refundable AFR registration fee. **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.

5TH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event 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/5thmarine2016 (3.5% will be added to total). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before September 6, 2016. 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: 5th MARINE

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Date Received _____
 Inputted _____ Nametag Completed _____

<i>CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/6/16</i>	Price Per	# of People	Total
TOURS			
FRIDAY, 10/7: FREDERICKSBURG/NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PACIFIC WAR	\$46		\$
FRIDAY, 10/7 (WWII VETERANS): FREDERICKSBURG/NATIONAL MUSEUM	\$38		\$
BANQUET			
SATURDAY: BANQUET <i>(Please select your entrée)</i>			
6 oz. Sirloin Steak	\$48		\$
Chicken Marsala	\$45		\$
Parmesan Crusted Tilapia	\$45		\$
Vegetarian Entrée	\$39		\$
MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE			
Covers hospitality room and various reunion expenses	\$40		\$
Total Amount Payable to Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT YOUR NAMETAG TO READ

FIRST _____ LAST _____

5TH MARINE DIV. VETERAN? YES NO **CIRCLE ONE:** IWO JIMA VIETNAM UNIT (ex. E-2-28) _____

FAMILY MEMBER OF 5TH MARINE DIV. VETERAN? YES NO OTHER _____

CONNECTION TO ASSOCIATION _____ UNIT OF CONNECTION _____

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) _____

GUEST NAMES _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PH. NUMBER (____) _____ - _____ EMAIL _____ @ _____

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? (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY). YES NO

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-4:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. By submitting this form you will be enrolled in our monthly newsletter subscription. To opt out of this service, please check the box.

REGISTER ONLINE AT www.afr-reg.com/5thmarine2016

HOLIDAY INN SAN ANTONIO DOWNTOWN MARKET SQUARE

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

(210) 225-3211 or (877) 834-3613

<http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/san-antonio/satal/hoteldetail>

Location

318 West Cesar E Chavez Blvd, San Antonio, TX 78204
Located in downtown San Antonio, right in the heart of the city; with close proximity to Market Square and the famous Riverwalk

Reservation Information

Call the number above and reference "5th Marine Division Association Reunion" or visit online reservation link www.afr-reg.com/5thmarine2016 and click on the hotel link at the top of the page to make hotel reservations.

Group Name: 5th Marine Division Association

Reunion Dates: October 5-9, 2016

Nightly Rate: \$103 + tax (currently 16.75%) Includes Hot American Breakfast Buffet for up to 2 guests per room daily. Group rates are available three days before and after the arrival/departure dates, based on space and rate availability.

Cutoff Date: September 6, 2016 Late reservations will be processed based on space availability at a higher rate.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellation must occur no later than 24 hours prior to arrival date to avoid a cancellation fee of first night's room and tax.

Parking & Shuttle Information

The Holiday Inn will provide complimentary parking for all attendees staying at the hotel. Airport shuttle transportation is provided by City Tours, Inc-GO Airport Shuttle. Shuttle departs from the airport from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. daily and departs frequently from downtown hotels beginning at 4:00 a.m., reservations required. Currently, rates are \$19 per person one way and \$34 per person roundtrip. Shuttle tickets are sold at the baggage claim area at Terminal A and Terminal B. To make reservations and verify rate information, please call (210) 281-9900 or visit www.citytoursinc.com/airport-shuttle. All prices are subject to change, and you will need to verify pricing when making reservations.

Wheelchair Rental

ScootAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Please call (888) 441-7575 or visit www.scootaround.com for details and to make reservations. The hotel also has a couple of manual wheelchairs available for rent that are complimentary for any guest who requires them. They are first come, first serve.

Oxygen Tank Rental

Oxygen Concentrator Inc. offers oxygen tank rentals by the day and week. Please call (877) 303-7062 or visit <http://www.oxygenconcentratorinc.com/oxygenrentals/sanantoniooxygenrentals.htm> for details and to make reservations.



FIFTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Ray Elliott, Secretary
2609 N. High Cross Rd.
Urbana, IL 61802

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5th Marine Division Association MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

New Membership () Renewal () Legacy () Associate ()

Fifth Marine Div Service: _____
Co. Bn. Reg.

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

Mail to: 5th Marine Division Association
Ray Elliott, Secretary
2609 N. High Cross Rd.
Urbana, IL 61802
or email talespress@talespress.com

Date of birth (for Life Membership): _____

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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.)