

WASHINGTON DC REUNION SIGN-UP INFORMATION ON PAGES 6-10



ASSOCIATION CONTACT INFORMATION P.O. Box 466 \* Lisbon, Ohio 44432-0466 215-822-9094 \* rogerbacon45@yahoo.com

- 68th Annual Family Reunion, 14-20 August 2023, Washington, DC -

# President's Message



#### March/April 2023

Hey everyone, thanks to my openheart surgery on February 6, we are later than normal with reunion information. For that I apologize. The committee was scheduled to fly to DC for planning on December 6. My doctor called me on December 5 and said I was not going anywhere. After many tests and procedures, it was determined I needed triple bypass heart surgery. My wife, Linda, is the reunion chair and doctors thought she needed to stay close to me through the unknown time during testing.

Now we are looking forward to the reunion and you can sign up now. Check the online signup at caltrap.org or in your new CALTRAP newsletter. We are going to have a great time in DC with many wonderful activities. We will have a new Commandant of the Marine Corps by the time we get to DC. Personally, I am hoping it is the current Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Eric M. Smith. He grew up and went to school in Plano, Texas, where my family and I lived for many years. He graduated from Texas A&M University, where I present a Marine ROTC cadet of the year award every May. I will be communicating with the new CMC to join us as our guest of honor.

Manager Roger Bacon and I are continually pleading with you to come to the reunions. If you are healthy enough to go, please go. This surgery I just had and the annoying side issues, certainly made me even more keen to the fact that health, good or bad, has so much to do with our ability to go to reunions or not. If your health and all other factors are good, please come. We have such a great time.

Please remember that we will be giving you the opportunity to join us in having your name in the Reunion Journal as Dedicated Members. Watch for it in the mail.

And finally, let me address the cold hard facts of Marine Corps Division Associations. Of all Marine Corps

### 2023-2024 Association Officers

President	Bob North
Vice President	
Secretary	Jim Wenzel
Judge Advocate	Ron Thiewes
Sergeant-at-Arms	Joe Deloria
Chaplain	Frankie Harris
Medical Officer	Robert Adams
Chairman (Board of Directors)	Raymond Furlong
Association Manager	G. Roger Bacon
Financial Manager	Pat Conroy
Web Master	Gene Miller

Division Associations, we are by far, head and shoulders, above them all. In fact, most are no longer active associations, and I am very sad about that. Their web sites are mostly outdated with no current activity. That is very sad because we are suffering from the same symptoms. Age and health march on every day. We are not replacing our loses with enough new members. Leadership at the others have suffered from apathy, so they have told me. HOWEVER, here at the Third Marine Division Association, we have great leadership, we are financially strong, and we are active members, including Chapters around the country/ world (Guam), we attend reunions and have meaningful relationships. We communicate with quarterly news-letters, the CALTRAP. We have an amazing, active facebook family. We have a financially strong and active scholarship program. We have amazing reunions where we renew great friendships and have fun together. Please be active and take leadership roles when asked.

I am so proud of this Association. You always respond when asked for support. Remember, we do not sell anything, our only income is from your support. That support comes in different forms such as generous giving, dues, the annual raffle, and the Legacy fund where we can include the Association in our will. Get involved in a chapter. Close bonds and long-time relationships are found there, as well as fun and fellowship. Continue to support this great group of Marines and families. And that's what we are, FAMILY.

Please remember to donate to the live and silent auctions. This helps to offset some reunion expenses. Nice things, please.

I look forward to seeing everyone in DC in August.

Semper Fi,

Robert North, President Third Marine Division Association, Inc.

# WAYS TO SIGN UP FOR THE DC REUNION

- On line at caltrap.org (under Reunion information)
- In this edition of the CALTRAP
- Facebook at Third Marine Division Association

Please note there are deadlines.

Please respond to the Dedicated Member letter from Roger and get your name in the Reunion Journal.

Please consider taking out an ad in the Reunion Journal. Information in this CALTRAP.

The reunion committee has planned an amazing reunion. Something new this time is we are going to the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

## **ASSOCIATION MEETINGS NOTICE**

In accordance with Article 3.5 of the Bylaws of the Third Marine Division Association, Inc., notice is given that the Annual Meeting of the Members will be held at 0900 on Saturday, 19 August 2023, at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel 900 South Orme St, Arlington, VA 22204. In accordance with Article 4 of the Association Bylaws, notice is given that the Association Board of Directors will meet at 1500 Friday, August 18th at the Sheraton Pentagon Hotel also. The Organizational meeting of the Association Board of Directors will be held at 1230, or immediately following the Annual Meeting of Members on Saturday, 19 August, 2023 at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 South Orme St, Arlington, VA 22204.

# SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS

We need to make our Reunion Auctions the most successful ones we have ever had. Start thinking now of what you can donate: big or small, new or old, one or six items. These help us with the Reunion expenses. Please let Linda North or Roger Bacon know you will be bringing items for either auction. Remember that both Auctions are final on Saturday.

# **REUNION COMMITTEE**

The Reunion Committee has worked very hard to plan a memorable reunion in the Washington DC area and we hope you will attend and enjoy the festivities. Please don't forget our silent and live auctions. They are only as successful as the items you donate, so please be generous. We look forward to seeing you in DC. Remember, LIFE IS TOO SHORT, HUG A LITTLE LONGER, LOVE A LITTLE STRONGER, FORGIVE A LITTLE SOONER, AND SMILE A LITTLE SWEETER.



Janida Deith

### PLEASE KEEP RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS!

### Missing DD214 or Military Records

Get a copy of your DD214 or official military personnel record (OMPF)

Discharged 1998 or earlier:

National Personnel Records Center 1 Archives Drive St. Louis, MO 63138 MPR.center@nara.gov or www.archives.gov/st-louis Phone: 314-801-0800 Fax: 314-801-9195

Discharged 1999 or later: Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMRP) 2008 Elliot Road Quantico, VA 22134 www.manpower.usmc.mil/ webcenter/portal/MMRP20/ RecordsRequest Phone: 800-268-3710

*Source: HQMC, M&RA, Separations & Retirement Branch* 

<u>PURPLE HEART</u> <u>STAMPS</u> Captain Richard Black encourages all to use the PURPLE HEART stamps when mailing.



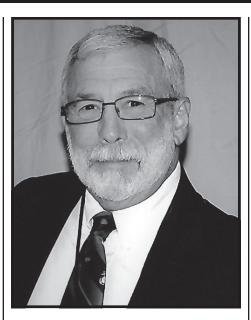
FIDELITY BOL	JGAINVILLE * GUAM * IWO JIMA * VIETNAM * SOUTHWEST ASIA * C WAR ON TERRORISM * AFGHANISTAN * IRAQ * PEACETIME						
	hird Marine Division Association, Post Office Box 466 • Lisbon, OH 44432-0466	Inc.					
<sup>3</sup> DMARINEDIVISION ASSOCIATION	(215) 822-9094						
Dear Association	ו Member:						
A lasting tribute to deceased loved ones or friends may be made through a Memorial Donation to the Third Marine Division Association's GENERAL FUND or MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND. To make your Memorial Donation, complete this form, enclose your donation, and mail it to the Association business office. Your donation will be acknowledged, an appropriate notification will be sent to the person you designate below without indicating the amount of the donation, and you will receive a copy. The Third Marine Division Association, Inc., has been granted tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(19) of the IRS Code. All donations are tax deductible.							
		Date:					
Association Man	lager:						
I	Enclosed is my Memorial Donation of \$						
In Memory of:							
	Designated for the THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S						
GENERAL FU	GENERAL FUND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND						
From:							
Address:							
City:	State: 9-Digit ZIP:						
	Please send acknowledgement to:						
Name (First Nam	ne also, if known):						
Address:							
City:	State: 9-Digit ZIP:						
Relationship to Deceased (if applicable):							
(Please retain this form for use at appropriate time)							

We are attempting to update the e-mail listing of our membership. To assist us please confirm your e-mail by replying to: thirdmarinedivision@gmail.com

### FROM THE ASSOCIATION MANAGER

By the time this issue has been printed, a number of milestones will have occurred. The invasion of Iraq happened 20 years ago; the 50 year anniversary of our withdrawal from Vietnam; and National Vietnam War Veterans Day was proclaimed on March 29. It has been 50 years since President Nixon said "Never have men served with greater devotion abroad with less apparent support at home...and let us honor them with the respect they deserve."

Just after, as these important dates have passed, we will observe the holiday of most reflection with all of us - Memorial Day. Memorial Day is a day we, as the country, come together to honor and remember our servicemen and women who answered America's call to service and paid the ultimate price. Memorial Day is the time for Americans, as one body, to stand up and say "Thank you. We remember you. We are grateful to you." We must remember our fallen.



We honor the loved ones; Mothers, Fathers, Sisters, Brothers, Sons, Daughters and Friends. Every year, families of the fallen are joined together and bound by loss in a way most of us can't even imagine. But military families are something special, aren't they?

What words could possibly be strong enough to convey how truly grateful we are to those who had the courage to do what so many others could not and would not? There are no words...but there are actions.

Take the time, not just for Memorial Day, but every day, to say thank you to our fallen. For those who never left the battlefields, we must hold them up - in our hometowns and honor their memory.

So please, spend some extra time with your loved ones. Step back from the daily stresses and reflect on your freedoms that so many of our sons and daughters died to protect. I'm not asking you to not have a barbeque. I'm asking you to remember why you have the luxury and freedom we enjoy today.

# CALTRAP

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### Association Web Site: www.caltrap.com

### NEED A REPLACEMENT MEMBERSHIP CARD?

If your membership card has been lost or is suffering the ravages of old age, a replacement is available from the Association Manager.

Both Life Member and Annual Member cards for regular and associate members are available.

Replacement membership cards can be obtained by forwarding a check or money order for \$5.00 made payable to: Third Marine Division Association and send to Third Marine Division Association, P.O. Box 466, Lisbon, OH 44432-0466.

The price for the card includes postage and handling.

#### Sheraton Pentagon City

800-325-3535

#### Location

900 South Orme Street Arlington, Virginia 22204

#### **Reservation Information**

Please call the number above and reference the Third Marine Division Association or click on the link below:

https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservationlink.mi?id=1666903138155&key=GRP&app=resvlink

Group Name: Third Marine Division Association

*Reunion Dates:* August 14 – 20, 2023

*Rate*: \$131 (+14.25% taxes - currently) \*Rate includes breakfast for up to 2 guests per day

*Cut-off Date:* 7/14/23 Late reservations will be processed based on space availability at a higher rate.

**Cancellation Policy:** Cancellation must be received 48 hours prior to arrival date or there will be a charge of one night's room plus tax.

#### Parking & Shuttle Information

Parking for the hotel is available at a reduced rate of \$10.00 per night for overnight guests.

#### **Reagan National Airport Shuttle**

Operating Hours: 6 am – 11 pm 6:00 am - 9:00 am 9:00 am - 11:00 pm DCA Airport Terminal BC customers have the option to use Door 4 and/or Door 7 for shuttle pick-up. There is a sign on the curbs that say Hotel Shuttle Pick Up

#### Pentagon City Mall Metro Station Shuttle

Operating Hours: 9:30 am - 9:45 pm Runs once an hour at 30 minutes after the hour Go upstairs from the Metro Station and walk out to the curb and the shuttle pulls up right there.

#### Wheelchair Rental

ScootAround rents both manual and power wheelchairs by the day and week. Please call (888) 441-7575 or visit <u>www.scootaround.com</u> for details and to make reservations.

#### **Reunion Registration**

To register for the reunion please re-visit www.events.afr-reg.com/e/3mar2023

#### THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC. 68<sup>™</sup> ANNUAL AUGUST 14-20, 2023 SHERATON PENTAGON CITY

#### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 15**

1200			Hospitality Room open throughout the reunion	
1300	-	1800	Reunion Registration open	
1930	-	2230	City Lights Tour	

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

0700	-	0730	Reunion Registration open	
0900	-	1500	National Museum of the Marine Corps - Quantico	
1400	-	1800	Reunion Registration open	
1700	-	2100	Meet and Greet Dinner / Memorial Service	
			Cash Bar Available	

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

0800	-	1230	Arlington Cemetery/Vietnam Wall – Valid ID	
			Required	
1000	-	1130	Reunion Registration Open	
1500	-	1600	Ice Cream Social	
1700	-	1730	Memorial Scholarship Fund Meeting	
1730	-	1800	Finance Committee Meeting	
1800	-		Unit Meetings	

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

0830	-	1400	Naval Academy Tour and Lunch - Valid ID	
			Required	
1400	-	1600	Reunion Registration open	
1500	-	1600	Board of Directors Meeting	
1800	-	2300	8 <sup>th</sup> and I Marine Barracks Evening Parade – Time is	
			Subject to Change	

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

0900	-	1200	Membership Business Meeting
1000	-	1400	Hillwood Estate and Gardens Tour
1230	-	1330	Board of Directors Organizational Meeting
1330	-	1400	Chapter Presidents Meeting
1400			Silent Auction Closes!
1800	-	1900	Cash Bar
1900	-		Banquet / Program

#### TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 15: CITY LIGHTS EVENING TOUR

We'll begin a driving tour of the nation's capital. Planned in 1790 by Pierre Charles L'Enfant, it is a city of broad avenues, circles, squares, and landscaped gardens. See Arlington Cemetery, Pentagon, Capitol Hill, then drive along the Mall where many of the museums of the Smithsonian Institution are located. See the beautifully lit Washington Monument with its circle of flags waving in the breeze. Across the Tidal Basin, see the Jefferson Memorial, a tribute to the author of the Declaration of Independence and one of our founding fathers. See and hear about many more buildings, as our guide introduces you to the history and architecture of Washington, DC. Both the city's buildings and monuments are beautiful when lit up at night. Especially impressive is the WWII Memorial, the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II. It's a "must see" at night.

### 1930 board bus, 2230 back at hotel \$49/Person includes bus and guide.

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16: NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS - QUANTICO

Open to the public in 2006, the National Museum of the Marine Corps is a lasting tribute to U.S. Marines — past, present, and future. Situated on a 135-acre site adjacent to the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia, the Museum's soaring design evokes the image of the flag-raisers of Iwo Jima. World-class interactive exhibits using the most innovative technology will surround you with irreplaceable artifacts and immerse you in the sights and sounds of Marines in action. You'll see permanent galleries and temporary exhibits. Enjoy lunch on your own at Tun Tavern. Seating is first come, first serve. You may wish to make dine a little earlier or a little later. If you would like to make reservations, you can call 571-248-5643.

#### 0900 board bus, 1500 back at hotel.

\$75/Person includes bus and escort. Lunch on own.

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 17:**

#### ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY AND VIETNAM VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

Board the bus for a trip to Arlington National Cemetery. There, board an open-air tram with stops at President John F. Kennedy gravesite, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Iwo Jima Gate, General Pershing Gravesite and Arlington House. Enjoy time on your own to visit the Welcome Center upon arrival and before you depart. Next stop will be to visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This US national memorial honors service members of the U.S. armed forces who fought in the Vietnam War. In the same area you can also visit the Vietnam Women's memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial and the World War II Memorial.

0800 Board bus, 1230 back at hotel \$59/per person Includes bus and escort

#### \*A valid state or government issued photo ID is required for entrance to Arlington Cemetery

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 18:

#### NAVAL ACADEMY TOUR

Upon arrival at the United States Naval Academy, enjoy a quick visit to the Visitor Center and Gift Shop, overlooking the Annapolis Harbor and Chesapeake Bay. Make sure to check out the exhibits or watch a 13-minute film and get those souvenirs before the start of your two-hour tour. The tour, designed for those who participated in U.S. Miliary operations with a focus on the Academy's role in supplying officers in various conflicts. Includes an interactive PowerPoint presentation and Step-on Guide.

Following the tour, get ready to enjoy lunch on campus.

#### 0830 board bus, 1400 back at hotel

\$75/Person includes bus and escort and lunch

<u>\*Everyone aged 18 and older must present a valid, unexpired, original U.S. government photo I.D. card (such as a Driver's License) or an original unexpired Passport to enter USNA grounds.
<u>A Digital Driver's License does not meet the requirements to enter the installation. You must present a physical ID to the USNA Gate Guards. All States are REAL ID ACT compliant through May 3, 2023.</u>
<u>Unaccompanied minors without ID will not be permitted to enter. General visitors will be screened with a magnetometer and have their bags X-rayed or visually inspected at the security checkpoint.</u></u>

#### 8<sup>th</sup> & I MARINE BARRACKS EVENING PARADE

After dinner on your own, board bus for the Marine Barracks (8th & I Streets). You'll be directed to your reserved bleacher seating. Marines from the Barracks will give a history of the Barracks and a preview of what is to take place during the parade, which begins at 8:45pm. As the "Oldest Post of the Corps," Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., established in 1801, has performed military reviews and ceremonies since its founding. The present-day Evening Parade was first conducted on July 5, 1957. Observe the ceremonies that have been the tradition of Presidents and past Commandants of the Marine Corp that will include ceremonial Drum and Bugle Corps, Silent Drill Team, the US Marine Band, and the Marine Corp mascot "bulldog."

#### 1800 board bus, 2300 back at hotel – This Time is Subject to Change \$59/Person includes bus and escort.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 19:

#### HILLWOOD ESTATES AND GARDENS

As a decorative arts museum in Washington, D.C., United States. The former residence of businesswoman, socialite, philanthropist and collector Marjorie Merriweather Post, Hillwood is known for its large decorative arts collection that focuses heavily on the House of Romanov, including Fabergé eggs. Other highlights are 18th- and 19th-century French art and one of the country's finest orchid collections. Enjoy some free time exploring the gardens and special exhibits before taking a guided tour. Enjoy lunch on your own at Merriweather Café with To-Go items or enjoy dining outdoors in the gardens.

#### 1000 board bus, 1400 back at hotel \$37/Person includes admission, tour, bus and escort. Lunch is on your own.

#### Driver and Staff gratuities are not included in the tour prices. Please be at the bus boarding area at least fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled time. All tours require a minimum of thirty-five people, unless otherwise noted.

NOTE: There is a limit of one hydraulically lifted scooter or wheelchair per handicap accessible bus. If you use a scooter but can climb the steps to board the bus, either you and/or a person traveling with you must be able to put the scooter in the bus's luggage compartment. Due to liability issues, drivers and tour guides cannot assist with scooters.

#### CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For reunion 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 (\$10 per person). Reunion 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 Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757)625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code.

#### THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM – August 14-20, 2023

Listed below are 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.events.afr-reg.com/e/3mar2023 (3.5% fee added to credit card transactions). All forms and payments must be received by mail on or before July 15, 2023. After 7/15, registrations 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: THIRD MARINE DIVISION

#### **OFFICE USE ONLY** Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_

Inputted \_\_\_\_\_ Nametag Completed \_\_\_\_

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY	\$ PER PERSON	# OF PEOPLE	<u>TOTAL</u>
Tues., 8/15 – 1930-2230	City Lights Tour	\$49	#	\$
Wed., 8/16 – 0900-1500	National Museum of the Marine Corps - Quantico	\$75	#	\$
Thurs., 8/17 – 0800 – 1230	Arlington Cemetery/Vietnam Wall – VALID ID REQUIRED	\$59	#	\$
Fri., 8/18 – 0830 – 1400	Naval Academy Tour and Lunch – VALID ID REQUIRED	\$75	#	\$
Fri., 8/18 – 1800 – 2300	8 <sup>th</sup> and I Marine Barracks Parade	\$59	#	\$
Sat. 8/19 – 1000 -1400	Hillwood Estate and Gardens Tour	\$37		
	Meal Functions			
Wed., 8/16 - 1700-2100	Meet and Greet Dinner – Featuring Southern Fried Chicken - Memorial Service	\$27		
Thurs., 8/17 – 1500-1600	Ice Cream Social	\$9		\$
	Annual Banquet (Cash Bar at 1800)			
Sat., 8/19 - 1900-2200	Please choose your entrée for the Saturday Banquet:			
	Short Ribs Braised in Red Wine	\$69		
	Roasted Chicken with Parmesan Cream Sauce	\$69		\$
	Vegetarian – Portobello Raviolli	\$65		\$
Price if received by 7/15/23	REGISTRATION FEES MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE	\$ 25		\$
Price if received by 7/15/23	REGISTRATION FEE for kids under 18, Active Duty, WWI	FREE		
	Vets & their spouses and Medal of Honor Recipients.			
Price if postmarked after 7/15/23	LATE REGISTRATION FEE (no exemptions)	\$ 35		\$
	ONSITE PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE. This	\$ 45		\$
	applies to all onsite registrations. No exceptions, no			
	exemptions. PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE			
Total Amount due to Armed Fo			\$	

FIRST

LAST

CIRCLE: WWII / KOREA / VIETNAM / GULF WAR / ACTIVE DUTY /PEACETIME

1<sup>st</sup> TIME ATTENDEE? YES □ NO □

□ 3<sup>rd</sup> MARINE DIV. ATTENDEE? UNIT INFO (EXAMPLE: 1/3, 3/3, 12<sup>th</sup> Marines, etc.)

SPOUSE & GUEST NAMES (IF ATTENDING)\_\_\_\_\_

STREET	ADDRESS

CITY

PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_STATE \_\_\_\_\_\_ZIP\_\_\_\_\_\_

@

\*DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

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

## THE VALUE OF ATTENDING OUR MILITARY REUNIONS

#### By Dan Doyle

53 years ago, in February of 1969, I returned to "the world" from Vietnam. I was released from active duty in October of that same year. Those were very difficult times. The war was unpopular, and the frustrations and anger of those who were against it often spilled over in negative ways on those of us who had served. As a result, most of us simply acted to that negativity by closing down, trying to put our experiences somewhere in the back recesses of our minds. We simply put our heads down and got on with our lives.

Over the span of the next four and a half decades, I got married, had children, and made a successful and happy career for myself in teaching, and the memories of Vietnam and the friends I met and served with there faded. On occasion, though, particular memories, or the faces of a few of those then 18-year-old young men I served with, would pop into my consciousness, but they would recede again just as quickly as I went on with my daily life. Still, I always felt a kind of curiosity about those friends who I had known and who had survived that hell with me there.

About seven years ago, one of those friends contacted me out of the blue. He had been looking for me for years apparently. He was a fellow Navy Hospital Corpsman who, like me, had been transferred to the Fleet Marine Force after our Hospital Corps training. We met each other for the first time the day we arrived in Vietnam. That was in early January of 1968, shortly before the Tet Offensive began. We were assigned to the same unit, Bravo Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

At that time, Bravo Co. was attached to the 26th Marines at a forward air base called Khe Sanh. We arrived there at the beginning of the 77-day siege. In early April, after the siege, our company was sent to Quang Tri to join the rest of the battalion there. For the next seven months, we went out on many small, six- to eight-man patrols with our separate teams until late October.

After three months at Khe Sanh enduring the siege and ten months in the field humping through the bush on patrols with our teams, we were transferred together to serve out the last couple of months of our tours at the hospital, Charlie Med, also in Quang Tri. My friend rotated back to the world before me due to a medical issue, and that was the last I saw of him for the next four and a half decades, until he contacted me by phone and talked me into going to a Khe Sanh Association reunion in Nashville, TN.

I had trepidations about going to that reunion, but it proved to be much more powerful, meaningful, and important than I could have imagined. I then began attending the 3rd Recon Bn. reunions after that, as they were with the men I knew best, those with whom I had the most connections and shared experiences. It is the men of Bravo Co. 3rd Recon, with whom I went through that 77-day-long siege, that drew me to these reunions.

For the past 5 days, 1 have been in Dayton, Ohio, attending my 3rd Recon Bn. reunion. We are all in our mid-70s now. We are thicker and slower than we were when we served with each other in Vietnam in our late teens and early twenties. Many of us are slowed by the various realities of aging, but when we get together, it is always with the camaraderie that we formed back in our youthful Vietnam days. It is as deep and abiding as that of real brothers. One of the realities we face now is our own nearness to life's ultimate reality, death. Since our last meeting, before the Covid pandemic, we lost some 26 of our Recon brothers. There are fewer of us each year.

Why do we go to these reunions? Why are they important? For me, there was, in the beginning, a curiosity. I wondered what those men I remembered over all those years looked like, what they had done with their lives. But in going to these reunions now for the last few years, I have had some questions that had nagged at me over those decades about particular events, or individuals I had known, and those I had taken care of when they were injured. I got clarification on some of my memories.

I had wondered, over all of those years, if anything I did back then, under those terrible circumstances, had made a difference or not. As a Corpsman, in combat situations, you do what you can for your buddies, then they are medevaced, and often you never see them again. You often do not get to hear how they did afterward. They go home, and you go on with your next patrol, and the one after that, and at the end of your tour, you go home. Things fade into the background and over time become only vague feelings. "Did I do well?" "Was I a good Corpsman?" "Did I make a difference for my Marines when

#### Continued from page 11

I was there?" These unanswered and maybe unanswerable questions lingered in the back of my mind for all those years.

In going to these reunions, being with my brothers, remembering the things we went through together, hearing their perspectives on those memories, and remembering the men we lost at Khe Sanh, my memories have been clarified for me, and I have found real closure to so many of them. I have found both peace and gratitude. And I have enjoyed the conversations and the laughs over a lifetime of stories with my brothers.

In Vietnam, when we were in our late teens and early twenties, we had been thrust together from every corner of the country. We came from every class, color, and circumstance that can be found in this country. We became a unit, and it wasn't that those distinctions no longer existed, but they were subsumed by the reality of our mutual dependence, our mutual need to survive the realities of war. When we get together now, those distinctions are still there, but for the few days that we are together, they are again put aside by the fact of our shared memories in the midst of war. We are brothers-in-arms, fellow veterans, friends.

Maybe that's why we go to these reunions. Maybe it is to remember that, for a few months, or a year, we found ourselves thrust into circumstances no human being should ever have to know or experience, and during those times we were able to rise above the petty realities of everyday life in service to one another, in a cause greater than ourselves.

The fact is that no matter who we are now, or what we have done over our lives after our wartime experiences, we can look back and say with confidence that we did something of great consequence when we were young men long ago. To quote King Henry V's St. Crispin's Day speech to his outnumbered troops before the battle of Agincourt in Shakespeare's play, "Henry V":

"This story shall the good man teach his son; And Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by, From this day to the ending of the world, But we in it shall be remembered-We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; For he to-day that sheds his blood with me Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile, This day shall gentle his condition; And gentlemen in England now-a-bed Shall think themselves accurs'd they were not here, And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks That fought with us upon St. Crispin's day."

### MARINE LITTORAL REGIMENT CONCLUDES HISTORIC EXERCISE, SET TO JOIN STAND-IN FORCES: 'FROM THIS POINT FORWARD, WE ARE INTEGRATING THEM INTO OUR OPERATIONS

#### 14 MAR 2023 | 1st Lt. Isaac Liston3rd Marine Division CAMP COURTNEY, OKINAWA, JAPAN --

MLR-TE marked the first field training exercise featuring a MLR with all of its subordinate battalions integrated into a Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) operating as a Stand-in-Force (SiF).

The 3d Marine Division deployed its forward command element from Okinawa, Japan to Naval Amphibious Base Coronado where it functioned as an "intermediate headquarters" – a MAGTF headquarters providing command and control of the SiF, to include 3d MLR and several other units, linking it to the U.S. Navy Fleet and other joint forces.

"This exercise represented an inflection point for us in that, up to this point, we have been focused on developing the MLR capabilities. We are now transitioning from just developing capabilities to having a capable unit that we are integrating into the Stand-in Force today," said Maj. Gen. Jay Bargeron, 3d Marine Division Commanding General.

The exercise consisted of three progressive phases: unit-level training, Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations (EABO), and an unscripted force-on-force evolution known as the MAGTF Warfighting Exercise (MWX).

Phase I consisted of high-intensity unit level training that challenged and sharpened various warfighting capabilities. The 3d Littoral Combat Team conducted combined arms live-fire ranges, the 3d Littoral Anti-Air Battalion took part in live air-defense scenarios, and the 3d Littoral Logistics Battalion completed multifunctional logistics training and experimentation including employing the Tactical Resupply Unmanned Aircraft System.

After two weeks of training, the 3d MLR transitioned into Phase II where it performed EABO across a contested and distributed maritime environment as part of a Stand-in Force. 3d MLR utilized four expeditionary advanced bases (EABs) to include a "sensing" EAB at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton providing airspace surveillance and control. Two "fires" EABs, one at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow and one at Camp Pendleton, enabled the 3d MLR and 3d Marine Division to coordinate and deliver lethal and non-lethal multi-domain fires in support of naval operations. The 3d MLR headquarters signals intelligence and electronic warfare section operated from an EAB on San Clemente Island to identify adversary composition and disposition and to obfuscate friendly forces from adversary collection.

The 3d MLR employed a combat operation center within Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms where its Marines synthesized data generated from the EABs. To further enhance battlespace awareness, the 3d MLR employed a reach-back fusion cell, outside the weapons engagement zone. The cell included various information, intelligence, and targeting capabilities.

"MLR-TE provided us with an unprecedented opportunity to train as part of a Stand-in-Force," said Col. Timothy S. Brady Jr., commanding officer of 3d Marine Littoral Regiment. "We operated as an MLR, prosecuting targets as a multi-domain fighting force in support of the joint force and 3d Marine Division."

For Phase III (MWX), the 3d Marine Division provided command and control for the MAGTF operating as a SiF successfully defending key maritime terrain against a near-peer adversary assault force composed of a reinforced 7th Marines. As an intermediate headquarters connected to the SiF to the Fleet, the Division leveraged its forward position, sensing, and fires capabilities to expand the reach of naval and joint forces. Units making up the SiF included the 3d MLR; 3d Battalion, 5th Marines; a light armored reconnaissance company, an artillery battery, support from numerous Marine Corps aviation assets, and other elements.

"The Marines trained hard and performed extremely well," said Brady. "We finished the exercise as a more capable, lethal, and ready warfighting force."

#### Continued from page 13

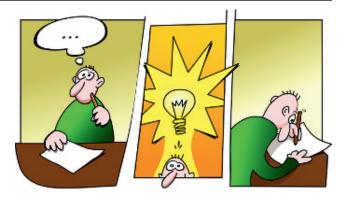
The scenario required the MLR to apply adaptive decision-making, conduct assured command and control, execute a targeting cycle, perform logistics in a contested environment, and synchronize operations across all domains.

"The MLR is capable today, and it will be more capable tomorrow. From this point forward, we are integrating them into our operations," said Bargeron.

3d MLR and 3d Marine Division will take their refined tactics, techniques, and procedures to exercise Balikatan 2023 where they will train alongside the Armed Forces of the Philippines to enhance its combined capabilities with an important and strategic ally.

### THIS COLUMN IS FOR YOUR STORIES

STARTING A COLUMN JUST FOR YOU. TELL US YOUR STORIES. NOT LOOKING FOR YOUR LIFE STORY, BUT BRIEF STORIES WHILE YOU WERE IN THE COPRS.



Email them to RLNPLANO@HOTMAIL.COM or ROGERBACON45@YAHOO.COM, or mail them to: **Stories, P.O. Box 466, Lisbon, OH 44432-0466** 

September 1959, I was a nineteen year old PFC with 313n/12th Mar, headquartered at Camp Hauge, Okinawa. I was assigned to 4.2 inch mortar group and our battalion moved to Mt Fuji base camp on Japan's main island, Honshu. Aboard Navy ship LST, we the Marines in an exercise went over the side, down the new into the Higgins boats and did amphibious landings. In the afternoon of one particular day, we were permitted to go ashore via the Higgins boat A buddy and I walked into the suburbs of Yokahoma/Yokosuka. We went into a local bar for food and drink and to talk to the local girls. While there, I overheard a male with a British accent a few booths from us. Encouraged to hear an English speaking person, I went over, introduced myself and my friend to him and we chatted He explained to us that he was from Great Britain, had his own ship in the harbor, had just come around Cape Horn in Africa and was traveling up the Coast After some time he invited us to come to his ship, telling us that he had all the food, drinks and girls aboard that we might like. We went, surprised at the galleon type vessel with a very large, high rear area, similar to the Columbus fleet The very large living room type area was plush, carpeted with stuffed couches and plush chairs and tables, very impressive. A number of his onboard hands were very accommodating and brought us what he had offered\_ He suggested to us that after he moved up the Coast, he would be going into the Mediterranean and out to Britain and then across to New York and suggested that he would love it if we could join him as he lacked any English or Americans aboard his ship. My immediate thought, though I had some beers in me, was that 'missing a movement" with the Marines would end very badly. We talked for a while and I was aware that we had to take the last transfer boat back to our ship, a short cab ride away by ten pm. I explained that to him and said we had to leave so we could be back on time. He kept at his effort to convince us to stay. Again, my Marine friend and I explained we couldn't. I got up off the very comfortable couch, walked across the carpeted floor and felt the floor unbalanced. I looked out a port opening into the dark and saw that we had drifted away from the pier where the ship had been docked. Quickly realizing this was a 'shanghai' attempt by our British host, I got angry, jammed him up against the wall, threatened him if he didn't move us back to the pier, thinking quickly that I didn't want to have to dive in, get wet and swim back, though only twenty or thirty yards. After getting very physical with him, he called one of his men in and told him to tie up again, which they did. My friend and I felt great relief walking down the plank onto the pier and back to the road, finding a cab, and dashing to the last returning shuttle boat. The thoughts that went through my mind at the time are still unforgettable.

- Michael Dowling

### MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND (MSF) APPLICATIONS FOR 2023-2024 DUE NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 2023

The MSF Board of Trustees has announced the application, eligibility requirements, and MSF Plan for the next academic year 2023-2024 are available on the Association website https://www.caltrap.org/3rd\_MarDivAssoc/MSF.asp

The applicant's Sponsor may be a parent, grandparent, great grandparent or the legal guardian of the applicant, OR a recently discharged Veteran, and be a Association member in good standing for at least two (2) consecutive years immediately prior to the date of the first MSF application and continue such membership for the entire period of the applicant's assistance.

This is a post-high school scholarship program for the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of Assn members and recently discharged Marines having served in their career at some point with the Third Marine Division and US Naval Service. The 2023-2024 scholarships awards have been increased based solely on financial need. MSF Trustees may increase a scholarship more based on special circumstances. No scholarship will be based upon race, national origin, religion, sex or orientation, disabilities, or course of studies, if the applicant is otherwise qualified.

Scholarships may be awarded for any approved course of study in an accredited college or university, and approved post-high school trade school institution. Applicants must be enrolled in each semester for not less than twelve (12) credit hours. Applicants may also be married. Scholarships will not be given in excess of four (4) years of undergraduate study except for:

- Those undergraduate accredited degree programs where the undergraduate requirement is at least 150 credit hours or five (5) years of undergraduate study for graduation.
- Awards will not be given in excess of four (4) years of undergraduate study except for: Those postgraduate accredited degree programs where the applicant has been an MSF awardee for three (3) or less undergraduate years of study and has graduated at or before the end of the third year of undergraduate study.
- The MSF Board of Trustees also amended the Plan as follows: In the event a "Midyear (late) applicant" applies for a spring semester scholarship these amounts shall be reduced by Fifty Percent (50%). This is effective for the current academics year 2022-2023

The MSF was established in 1969 to honor the loss in the Republic of Vietnam on 14 Nov 1967 of Third Marine Division Commanding Officer Major General Bruno A. Hockmuth. To date 838 scholarship awards of \$701,000 have been presented to deserving applicants based solely on financial need. Each year the prestigious LtCol Richard E. Jones USMC (Ret) scholarship in the amount of \$1,200 is also awarded.

The family of LtCol Jones, in memory of his service to his Country, Marine Corps, and the Association generously funds this scholarship annually for the applicant with the greatest financial need.

Donations of any amount may be sent to 3MDA MSF c/o Association Manager PO Box 466 Lisbon, Ohio 44432-0466. In addition, contributions to the scholarship fund can be made on the Association website via Pay Pal, http://www.caltrap.org/3rd\_mardivassoc/donations.asp

For questions please contact: MSF Secretary ThirdMarDivAssn@aol.com Semper Fidelis

DELIT

### HONORING ALL MARINES

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

#### **"SEMPER FIDELIS"**

Paul E. Peterson Wpns. Co. 1st Bat. 9th Mar. January 1955 -- March 1956

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+Roy I. Gerken 1971-73 +Gen. Raymond G. Davis 1973-75 +Charles R Powers 1976-77 +Col. Edward F. Danowitz 1977-79 +Leo A. Farrow 1979-81 +BrigGen James P King 1981-821 Col Warren H. Wiedhahn 1982-84 +Harold K. Noble 1984-86 +SgtMaj M. W. (Bill) Krueger 1986-88

+Col Jerome W. Brown 1988-90 +Joe Garza Jr. 1990-92 LtCol George R. Gay 1992-94 +Harry L. Gardner 1994-96 Capt Ronald R. Burton 1996-98 +Royal Q, Zilliox 1998-00 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt John H. Rine Jr 2000-02 Deane C. Taylor. 2002-04 William J, Erwin 2004-07



+Philmore A. Wiley Jr. 2007-09 MajGen Gordon C. Nash 2009-11 Jeffrey A. Dement 2011-13 Peter A. Post 2013-15 MajGen David F. Bice 2015-18 Robert L. North 2018-Present

+Deceased

### 2022-2023 MSF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES NOTES OF THANK YOU

Below are thank you notes for the current academic year from the students the MSF Board of Trustees would like to share with the Assn Members.

I would like to begin my formal thanks for all the help I have received throughout the years. Starting with the first year, I had no real understanding of what kind of undertaking college would be. I was moving a thousand miles away and living on my own, it seemed that hundreds of problems presented themselves at every turn and never seemed to end. One great relief to this wave of troubles was knowing I had the Third Marine Div Assn Vets and MSF behind me, the MSF financial aid taking a massive weight off my shoulders and allowing me to continue forward with a bit lighter load. Then was another period of questioning, the COVID years of schooling. Not knowing what classes looked like each semester and moving back home presented its own unique challenges that had not really been seen before, allowing me to once again, be thankful for the financial aid. It provided relief in a time that not only had me worried but seemingly everyone else in my life worried as well. I cannot understate how much of a boon that level of relief was during those turbulent times. Moving into my junior and senior years I had accrued more confidence, I had made it out of the COVID classes and was moving onto the "true" college experience. Higher-level classes, more freedom, and work had provided their own challenges and I was ready to meet them. This portion of schooling was defined by not only support but also the growth I was allowed under the wing of the MSF assistance with this most recent year being exemplary of this. Not only had this year been kind to me throughout my growth but it was also kind to the MSF that sought to extend this kindness to me. A spring award increase, a gesture that I will be grateful for an untold amount of years. I hope to pay back even a portion of the kindness afforded to me by the MSF throughout my life, and I cannot say for certain I would be where I am at without them. Thank you MSF Trustees past and present who have provided me the support I've needed to not only push past my challenges but also thrive under them.

Semper Fi, Jean-Luc K. We can't thank you and the committee enough for this incredible support these past four years Jeffrey K. (Father)

Dear MSF Board of Trustees, My name is Bryan and I was awarded a scholarship for the 2022-2023 school year. I wanted to thank you all for the very generous decision to increase the monetary award for the second half (Spring 2023) of my scholarship award. This scholarship money will really help my family and me to continue to afford my schooling. As everyone knows, the price of college is very expensive and nerve-wracking to think about. Generous scholarships like the scholarship the MSF awarded to me really help to alleviate the financial burden on my family.

Thank you again, MSF for the generosity, Bryan L.

Thank you so much for the MSF award and especially the generous increase (Spring 2023) in my scholarship! I appreciate it so much and plan to continue working hard in all of my classes at the University of New Hampshire. I absolutely loved my first semester and cannot wait for the second to start.

Thanks again, Molly M. Wow! This is amazing news! We are so grateful! Thank you SO MUCH! Sarah M. (Mother)

Good Afternoon, MSF Trustees: Hello, this is Tianna one of the recipients of the 2022-2023 3rdMDA Scholarship Fund. I am writing to personally thank you for the 2nd payment increase (Spring 2023) to my University this semester. I am so grateful for the significant help with my college tuition from the MSF to relieve the stress of college debt after completing my nursing degree. With this increase, I have been able to have less worry about completing my major degree, nursing, as well as my minor, Spanish. I would also like to tell you that I had a very successful first semester and my second semester is going great so far also, and I am looking forward to the next three years at Quinnipiac University. With the help of the MSF, I am more motivated, appreciative, and extra hard-working to continue this path, and a great start. Thank you again for providing me with the support for a significant college experience and schooling,

Tianna R.

Dear MSF: I sincerely want to thank you for the additional scholarship funds that have been awarded to me for Spring 2023. I am so grateful for your continued generosity, it means a lot!! The MSF board has been such a blessing to my educational journey and to my debt free journey, and I cannot express my gratitude enough!

Karina G.

Editor's Note: This is a summary of Karina's application comments: "Karina has had a successful career since graduating with a degree in accounting in 2018. She has been financially independent from her parents since 2019 and will receive no financial support from them. She believes the Bible teaches against debt and will fund her education through her full and part time work. Accordingly she used her savings to totally pay off her student loans of \$28.0k in 11/2021. Psalm 37:21 teaches: "The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives."

Dear MSF: I just wanted to reach out to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of your generous 3rd Marine Division MSF award. I also wanted to thank you for your generosity in increasing my scholarship amount for the (Spring 2023) school semester. Because of this scholarship I am able to focus on my studies that are very important to me. This motivates me to maintain my GPA and complete my degree in accounting. Again thank you very much for your generosity, I am so grateful to be a recipient. Thank you,

#### Alison L.

Dear MSF Board of Trustees: I would like to take this opportunity and thank you for the additional substantial financial aid this spring semester of 2023. I would also like to thank you for the financial aid for my entire four years of college here at the University of Rhode Island. I am excited to graduate in May of this year and can't thank you enough for your contributions. This is especially important because of my grandfather's Marine Corps service, his name is Edward Grenke. Thank you very much and best wishes. Sincerely,

#### Cameron R.

You too can contribute to future scholarships, why wait? You may do this with PayPal online at the Assn website https:// www.caltrap.org/3rd\_mardivassoc/donations.asp PayPal allows you to make payments using a variety of methods including: PayPal balance, a bank account, PayPal Credit, debit or credit cards, and rewards balance. Or by mail to: 3MDA MSF, c/o Association Manager, P.O. Box 466, Lisbon Ohio 44432-0466. Checks, Wire Transfers, Money Orders Only

Semper Fidelis MSF Board of Trustees.

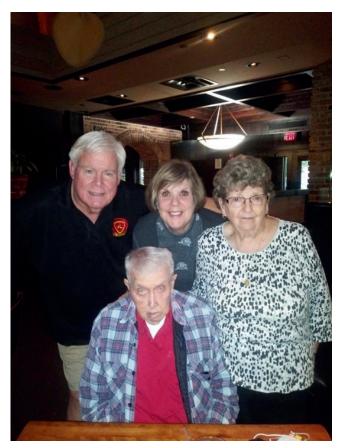
### MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND TRUSTEES SALUTE OLIVER WESLEY SMITH FOR HIS GENEROSITY

On page 30 of the April — December 2022 Caltrap there was a tribute to Oliver Wesley Smith the Association's oldest member, who would have been 100 on December 16, 2022.

We are very fortunate that Oliver remembered the Memorial Scholarship Fund in his estate planning. He designated the sum of \$46,400 to be paid to the MSF to continue funding scholarships for the members and their descendants of the Association and recently discharged Marines and Naval personnel.

Oliver Wesley Smith passed away on June 21, 2022. "PeeWee," as his family knew him, was born on December 16, 1922. In September 1942, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps., fighting in the Pacific Theater in World War II. He was seriously wounded during the Liberation Invasion of Guam in 1944. After healing from his wounds, for which he received the Purple Heart, he was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps on April 4, 1945.

In December 1998, he married Phyllis Arsenault LaLonde (Association Associate Member) and embraced her large family as his own. Together they enjoyed traveling, playing



Continued on page 18

#### Continued from page 17

bridge and especially being involved with numerous Marine Corps Association activities. Oliver loved God and God loved him. He enjoyed serving others through various ministries at his church, spending time with family and friends, woodworking, fishing, gardening and playing his harmonica.

Oliver was a Texas Chapter icon who helped to establish the Chapter while serving in most of the offices. He was always at the twice-yearly Texas Chapter reunions, as he loved to engage with people, and tell stories. He also never missed the Association national reunions. Many of you remember Oliver and his harmonica. Oliver was known as a mentor and hero to generations of people including local Marines. Even into his 90's, he continued to plan on the future events. Association President Bob North and his wife Linda enjoyed taking Oliver and Phyllis all over Texas to the Chapter reunions and to Veterans Day meals. In his travels, he would always "work the room" at restaurants and always had his WWII Marine cap on and would greet people with "It's hell getting old" and then tell them his age. We will really miss Oliver and his harmonica. It was good to see Phyllis in San Diego.

Semper Fidelis

MSF Board of Trustees

### THE ASSOCIATION RECIEVED A \$2000 BEQUEST FROM THE TRUST OF THOMAS ALBERT MORTON TO OUR OPERATING FUND. PLEASE READ TOM'S OBITUARY: OBITUARY FOR TOM MORTON

Thomas "Tom" Albert Morton died at his home on August 26, 2022 at the age of 72 years old. Tom was born in Kansas City, Missouri on August 8, 1950 to Albert and Naorna Morton. He graduated from Oak Park High School in 1968. He was the first person to bench press 300lbs at his high school and placed 3rd in the National Amateur Athletic Union Jr. Olympic competition in the 16-17 age group. He was a fitness enthusiast his whole life and often competed in body building competitions as a teenager. After graduating, he immediately joined the U.S. Marine Corp and served a combat tour in Vietnam as a Grunt and was fondly given the name "Moose" for his physical strength. Once home, he was discharged from the Marines and joined the Kansas City, MO Police Department. However, his heart was with the marines and decided to reenlist Tom then joined the San Diego County Sheriff's Department in 1978 and was affectionately given the nickname "Bull". While working for the sheriff's department he attended and graduated from San Diego State University. He retired as a detective after serving over 30 years. Additionally, Tom served over thirty-four years in the Armed Force. USMC, USMCR, USAR, ARNG, USCGR and USCG. He graduated from the Air Force Combat Interrogators Course and was watch standard qualified as an Intelligence Specialist in the Navy. After 9/11, he served as a Special Agent in the Coast Guard Investigative Service. He was a its member of the VFW, American Legion, Marine Corps League, AMVETS, 3rd Marine Div. Association and Fleet Reserve Association. Tom loved his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; his country; the Marine Corps; his family and his friends. Tom enjoyed spending his mornings at the gym working out and his aftenoons at the American Legion talking with his "buddies." Tom was baptized by complete submersion in the Pacific Ocean off Camp Pendleton on May 19, 2002. Tom is proceeded in death by his father, Albert Morton and his mother, Naoma Morton. He is survived by his brother, Dennis Morton (Sharyn); his sister, Patricia Morton; three nieces, Kay Hubbard; Kristin Kainu (Mike); Andrea Welborn (Gabe) and four great nieces, Olivia Hubbard, Lauryl Hubbard, Mikayla Kainu and Kathryn Kainu.

An intimate family service will be conducted at Mount Moriah Terrance Park in Kansas City, Missouri.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to your local VFW or American Legion.

### U.S. MARINE CORPS DEACTIVATES 3D BATTALION, 3D MARINES

#### 31 JAN 2023 | 1st Lt. Erin Scudder3rd Marine Division MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, HI, UNITED STATES --

MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII—3d Battalion, 3d Marines cased its colors during the unit's deactivation ceremony at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Jan. 13, 2023.

3/3 first activated June 1, 1942 at New River, North Carolina, as 5th Training Battalion assigned to Division Special Troops, 1st Marine Division. During World War II, 3/3 participated in the battles of Bougainville, Northern Solomons, Guam, and Iwo Jima.

On Nov. 1, 1943, 3/3 stormed the beaches of Bougainville. Within 5 days, the battalion pushed 5,000 yards inland and secured 10,000 yards of beach. After 15 days of brutal combat, 3/3 broke out of the jungle and connected a road they had previously constructed with the Numa Numa Trail enabling continued support of the front lines. After 52 days of fighting through pain, sickness, and complete exhaustion, 3/3 was relieved.

3/3 also participated in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. During the Global War on Terrorism, 3/3 completed three combat deployments to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and three combat deployments to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Deactivation is not an unheard of occurrence in the illustrious history of this battalion. V33 has deactivated twice previously," said Lt. Col. Felix Guerra III, commanding officer, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines. "Prior to previous deactivations, this battalion fulfilled the needs of the Marine Corps to include participating in major combat operations. Today, we have safeguarded this battalion's legacy. Although the battalion's colors will fold on 13 January and the monitors will disperse the Marines and Sailors throughout the service, the memory of 3d Battalion, 3d Marines will never be extinguished."

3/3 recently returned from its latest deployment to Okinawa, Japan where they participated in the Korea Military Exercise Program 22.3, Fuji Viper 22.5, Resolute Dragon 22, and multiple Alert Contingency Marine Air-Ground Task Force drills. Throughout the deployment, 3/3 trained alongside key allies across the first island chain, strengthening international partnerships, mutual security, and the ability to respond to crisis throughout the Indo-Pacific.

"The modern battlespace is more complex than ever before," said Col. Timothy Brady, commanding officer, 3d Marine Littoral Regiment. "The U.S. Marine Corps will continue to progress and modernize the force to remain the premier crisis response force. I know our Marine Corps is in good hands with the Marines of America's Battalion spread throughout the Corps."

In accordance with Force Design 2030, the U.S. Marine Corps deactivated 2d Battalion, 3d Marines and 3/3 to allow for the transformation of 3d Marines to 3d Marine Littoral Regiment that took place March 3, 2023.

3d MLR is optimized for conducting Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations in support of the Joint Force with allies and partners in austere and distributed maritime environments. The MLR is composed of a Littoral Combat Team, Littoral Anti-Air Battalion, and Littoral Logistics Battalion.



WE NEED SOMEONE TO PLEASE STEP UP AND TAKE OVER THE REUNION JOURNAL. YOU WILL HAVE LOTS OF HELP BUT WE NEED A LEAD. PLEASE CONTACT ME - BOB NORTH (rlnplano@hotmail.com). To be clear, that's: RLNPLANO@HOTMAIL.COM Thank you very much.

## WHAT IS THE REUNION JOURNAL

The Reunion Journal is designed to highlight | a battalion, a family member, a business card? multiple information regarding the Association | Regardless of what it is we honor your wishes.

and Marine Corps, letters from the Commandant, Secretary of Defense and the Navy, Governor of State and Mayor of reunion location. Plus, all dedicated page entries, numerous submissions honoring Marines past and present, business ads of companies loyal to the Marines, etc. And a major article relating to the history of the Third Marine Division.

Anyone can submit an ad, memorian, etc. Would you like to remember a fallen Marine, or a Marine you served with,



For those who have not seen a Journal, it is a professional publication and well received by all. Everyone who attends the reunion or places a submission will receive the journal.

This is another avenue of supporting this wonderful Association as well as promoting your business or honoring those who have meaning to you.

For all of you who through the years have supported this endeavor, THANK YOU.

## **CALTRAP** Advertising Member Assistance

Help your Third Marine Division Association by asking your local businesses, tourist, convention or recreation activities to advertise in the *CALTRAP*. Following is a suggested note to send to potential advertisers. Make copies, attach to the *CALTRAP* Advertising Contract, sign, and send it to those businesses and organizations who might want to advertise in the *CALTRAP*.

If you own a military-related business, please consider spending your advertising dollars here. We support our veterans.

Dear

The Third Marine Division Association's quarterly newsletter, the *CALTRAP*, reaches a worldwide audience of active duty, retired and veteran Marines, Sailors and families. The readers often enjoy travel, leisure, outdoor, and hometown activities along with brand loyalty. Please consider advertising in the *CALTRAP*. A contract agreement is on page 26 for your convenience.



# CHAPTER Happenings



# **TEXAS CHAPTER**

The Texas Chapter is having our fall reunion in the Longview, Texas area. We chose there so it would be close to James and Mary Krodel. It would give them a chance to meet us there or we could go see them while we are there. Mary told me they would like to meet us in Longview. We have a nice group registered and will report in the next CALTRAP.

Semper Fi, Bob North

### WISCONSON CHAPTER

Hello to everyone from the Eastern Front. Wendy and I are back in England, but we will see you in Washington DC in August. On Monday January 23 I gave a talk and a DVD to the Minster Lovell History Club — Vietnam, 1968.

The DVD was from the Wisconsin Vietnam Museum. It is Wisconsin veterans recalling oral history of 1968 in Vietnam. We had 60 people stop up. I got a haircut and put on my Dress Blues. I started by having all the veterans stand up. We are the 1% who served a Nation. I had a table set up with books, maps, pictures and things on Agent Orange. I did an introduction and then played part II — 1968. It was well received and at times a tear jerker. After the DVD we had questions and other veterans related some of their stories. This is the third one and we ended the session with a raffle. People were very interested in the history of Vietnam.

Semper Fidelis John A. Lindquist

# 1/3 CHAPTER

Message from Ken Burkitt and Don Bumgarner (Past President 1/3 Association)

We are going to have the Reunion with the 3rd Marine Division Association in Washington DC from August 14th to

20, 2023. Looking back at last year's reunion in San Diego, it was one of the best reunions we have had. There were many first timers, as well as spouses and family of

some of our brothers. We all did have a great time. This next reunion should be a good one too.

In San Diego last year, the 1/3 Marines and Corpsmen and family accounted for over 50% of the attendees - which was great. We hope to have as good a turn out in DC again this year. Since we are all a year older with more medical issues to face, we hope that all that are healthy enough to attend, will make it to the Reunion. We know you will not be sorry, and the brotherhood we share will help heal any issues you still might be dealing with.

A small group of Charlie Company has been getting together for the past few years in small Mini-Reunions. Don's daughter, Leslie, has been has been coordinating everything. It is amazing the bond we share with each other and our wives and daughters have also bonded. Looking back at our Days in Nam, we formed a bond that we lived; each caring, supporting, and protecting each other, like we were REAL Brothers. That bond was more than we realized at the time. All of us, after returning home, went different directions, and our Nam days were not talked about.

Through the years, we have had the opportunity to meet a lot of older WWII Marines, and hear their stories. We listened to Smitty's harmonica many times - he had attended at least 22 Reunions. We Vietnam Veterans are now the majority of remaining veterans. We have lost a lot of our Veterans, who are now guarding the Gates of Heaven, and are losing more each year. Again, if you are healthy enough to travel, hope you plan to attend the DC Reunion.

We have heard from widows and children of some of our KIA who plan to attend this reunion in DC. Most of the new ones from last year also said they planned to attend again this year. DC is a great place for the reunion, with lots to do and see. It is always neat to go to the Wall. There are a lot of 1/3 Marines and Corpsmen on that Wall.

We encourage all 1/3 Marines and Corpsmen to plan to attend the Reunion. As usual 1/3 will have a "Bunker" to meet and share stories. We look forward to seeing all you folks there.

God Bless America, Semper Fidelis, Ken and Don

#### Continued from page 21

#### National Viet Nam War Veteran's Day March 29, 2023

The start of the war in Vietnam was a catalyst for a social uprising that has never been seen before in our country during our generation. Still to this day, the subject of the war comes up in subdued tones, in some public forums as past history that has faded out overtime and remembered only as America's defeat in Vietnam.

There were confusing reports and questionable justification given for America's direct involvement, and hasty decisions were made by officials at the highest level of our government to commit troops to the conflict.

Some officials and military advisors ignored the lessons of the Indo-China war and the defeat of the French. They advocated the so called "Domino Theory" that if Vietnam fell to the communists, all of Indo-China will fall which eventually did happen for a number of reasons.

We as U.S. military men and women, didn't question why we were called upon to go to a place many of us knew nothing about.

We as U.S. Marines were trained to fight and prepared to defend our country wherever we were sent.

What we experienced in Vietnam, and remember, is the unheralded courage and sacrifice of those comrades we served with and the many that we lost.

It has taken far too long for our country to recognize and honor those who defended freedom there.

In contrast, the South Vietnamese people, military and civilian refugees, did not forget what we did to help them. And to this day, remember us for our sacrifices and assistance to help save their country and help get thousands of them to America; to Freedom!

We Marines stand proudly as Vietnam War Veterans. We served our country when called upon.

Thank you, for your exemplary fighting spirit and service in carrying on the highest traditions of the U.S. Marine Corps during the war in Vietnam. God bless you.

Semper Fidelis Gerald F. Reczek Col USMC (Ret) Charlie Six

Hello Marines and Corpsmen,

Tomorrow being the "National Viet Nam War Veterans Day", Col Reczek requested I add a few words myself. Being involved in the 1st Battalion 3rd Marines Association and the Third Marine Division Association for a long time now, I feel honored to follow Col Reczek. Both Associations have been in my life for about 20 years now. Being involved, I do enjoy managing the web site for 1/3 Marines (www.onethreemarines.com), attempting to find other Marines, and going to the Reunions where we have a chance to Bond again.

I returned Home from Vietnam after my tour with Charlie Company 1/3 in mid March 1968. I was proud to have served in Vietnam, but realized very soon that folks at home did not support us much. No one seemed to want to talk about Vietnam. I attended Jr College, got my Degree, then went on to a career in Law Enforcement. I worked with many Veterans that had served in Vietnam, in the different branches of Service. Also a few Marines, but we Marines did not talk about Vietnam much either.

I'm very happy, that the Government finally set a Day aside to Honor All of Us Vietnam Veterans. Tomorrow being that day, I am Proud to be Honored by the folks around here. I live in S/W Missouri. There are a bunch of Veterans that live back here. A lot like I do wear their cover or cap, displaying their branch of service. I always thank them for their service, and talk about our time in Nam.

I want to THANK all the Marine and Corpsmen Veterans, and also The Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard Veterans for their time serving in Nam. Enjoy the Day, and know Our Country finally honors and supports us. Remember to wear your cover or cap, and accept the good wishes.

Thanks for your time, have a Great Day! Semper Fidelis, Don Bumgarner (Charlie Company 1/3, 60mm Mortars -The Captains Artillery, Vietnam Feb 67 to Mar 1968).

Greetings to ALL Viet Nam Veterans

Tomorrow being National Viet Nam Veterans Day my company commander retired Col. Reczek asked that I give my

#### Continued from page 22

view. Like Don and 24 others we joined 1stBn 3rd Marines in Okinawa Feb 67. We deployed to Viet Nam in April on SLF (Special Landing Force.)

I returned home in Feb of 68. Extended 2 years and returned to Viet Nam in Feb. of 70 Were I served with 4thCAG (Combined Action Group.) and finished my tour with Lima 3/5.

While stationed at Marine Barracks Great Lakes we were on standby because of the riots in Chicago. After my second tour I made the mistake of getting out.

A few years later being a history buff I started looking for information on Viet Nam Watching a documentary on Viet Nam they were talking to a former NVA. He stated that it didn't take them long to realize that communism wasn't going to work.

Don, Roger Bacon, Bill Taylor and myself went back a few years ago and toured Hanoi and I Corps. In Hanoi we got our picture taken with several former NVA. They wanted to know if people were being nice to us and if we were having a good time. We saw no animosity while we were there. From there we went to I Corps were we served our time. We went to as many of the areas were we pulled our operations. Some were easy and others were very hard.

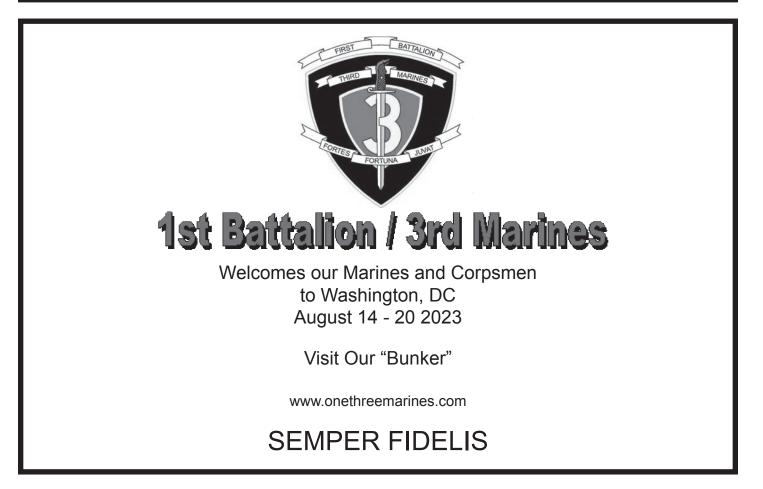
I have been going to our reunions for several years and it is one of the best things I could have done. I would encourage each and every one to go to our reunions.

Like Don, I want to Thank ALL Service Members (Marines, Corpsmen, Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard) that SERVED in Vietnam. Hope you enjoy OUR Special Day.

Semper Fidelis Ken Burkitt C1/3 67-68 ,4th CAG, Lima 3/5 70-71

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

When you move or when a change of address is contemplated an early notification to our Association Manager will ensure the continuity of the delivery of your Caltrap. To save confusion and extra work, it is requested that anyone on active duty, changing base or going overseas or who expect to be discharged give their permanent home address in the states when filling out their application for membership.





# NEW MEMBERS Welcome Aboard

**Tillman, Michael;** Barryton, MI; F2/4, 1971-72 \*\*\*

Lake, Edward; Houlton, ME; C1/3, 1968-69; Arnold Ewings \*\*\* Gibson, Albert; Trappe, MD; C 3rd Med, 1957-58 \*\*\*

> Milligan, Jack; Hixson, TN; C1/3, 1966-67; Don Bumgarner \*\*\*

Deloria, Danielle;

Marinette, WI; Associate Member; Sister-in-Law to Joe Deloria, Sr. \*\*\*

IF YOU WANT YOUR CALTRAP SENT TO YOU ELECTRONICALLY INSTEAD OF SNAIL MAIL, EMAIL EITHER: rogerbacon45@yahoo.com OR RLNPLANO@HOTMAIL.COM

### INVITATION TO EVERYONE IN THE THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION FAMILY:

WE HAVE A THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION FAMILY FULL OF GREAT PEOPLE, FULL OF HEROES, FULL OF BROTHERS-IN-ARMS, FULL OF SUPPORTERS. TO CONTINUE TO BE STRONG, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THIS ASSOCIATION. ANYONE CAN HELP. WHILE WE NEED NEW MEMBERS, WE ALSO NEED OUR EXISTING MEMBERS TO STEP UP AND DO SOMETHING TO HELP SUSTAIN THIS AMAZING ASSOCIATION. CHAPTERS NEED AN INFUSION OF VOLUNTEERISM. CHAPTERS ARE IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER, SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

WE ARE A STRONG ASSOCIATION NOW, BUT WE HAVE TO STAY INVOLVED TO SUSTAIN IT. JUST A LITTLE HELP GOES A LONG WAY. IT IS FULFILLING WORK. EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING. I AM INVITING YOU NOW TO EMAIL ME AT <u>RLNPLANO@HOTMAIL.COM</u>.

### THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SEMPER FI, Bob North, President

Final



Life Member Lawrence Davis; Colorado Springs, CO; 1/3/12, 1944-45; Died 1/26/2023 \*\*\*

Care of Our Own Alberto Cortez; Holland, OH; G3/3, 1968-70; Died 9/10/2022 \*\*\*



Life Member Maj Jerry Baird; Lakeside, CA; BLT 226, 1968-69; Died 4/17/2022 \*\*\*

Honorary Life Member LtCol Floyd Hudson; Callao, VA; XO,S 1/5, 2/9, 1961-62; Died October 2022 \*\*\*

Formation

Life Member Robert Tharp; Sapulpa, OK; HQ 4/12, COM HQ/BN, 1956-59; Died 3/4/2023 \*\*\*

> Life Member Charles Luhan, Jr.; Chicago, IL; D11th Eng BN, 1967-68; Died February 2023 \*\*\*

Let us remember those who have gone on before us And let us thank God that such men lived Jheir duty was to serve – your duty is to remember

# We're on Facebook!

Check out our Facebook Group Page. Go online to Facebook, search Third Marine Division Association, click on the Association's Group Page. Ask to join and continue the conversation.

### ADVERTISING DISCLAIMER

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The *CALTRAP* is the primary internal information vehicle for the Third Marine Division Association, Inc. It is mailed nationwide and overseas to Association members, major Marine Corps commands, supporters, and advertisers. Please consider purchasing an ad. It helps support YOUR Third Marine Division Association.

Annual Advertising Rates	<u>Colors</u>	Single Issue Advertising Rates	<u>(</u>	<u>Colors</u>
Full Page (7-1/2" x 10-1/8"), \$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,300.00	Full Page, \$, 275.00	\$	600.00
Horizontal 1/2 Page (7-1/2" x 5-1/16"), \$ 500.00	\$ 800.00	Horizontal 1/2 Page (7-1/2"x5-1/16"), \$, 130.00	\$	400.00
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One-Quarter Page (3-3/4" x 5-1/16"), \$ 300.00	\$ 600.00	One-Quarter Page (3-3/4"x5-1/16"), \$, 80.00	\$	200.00
One-Eighth Page (3-3/4" x 2-1/2"), \$ 150.00,	\$ 300.00	One-Eighth Page (3-3/4"x2-1/2"), \$, 40.00	\$	150.00
Business Card (3-1/2" x 2"), \$ 100.00	\$ 250.00	Business Card (3-1/2"x2"), \$, 30.00	\$	100.00

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Lisbon, OH 44432-0466

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**ROGER BACON** 

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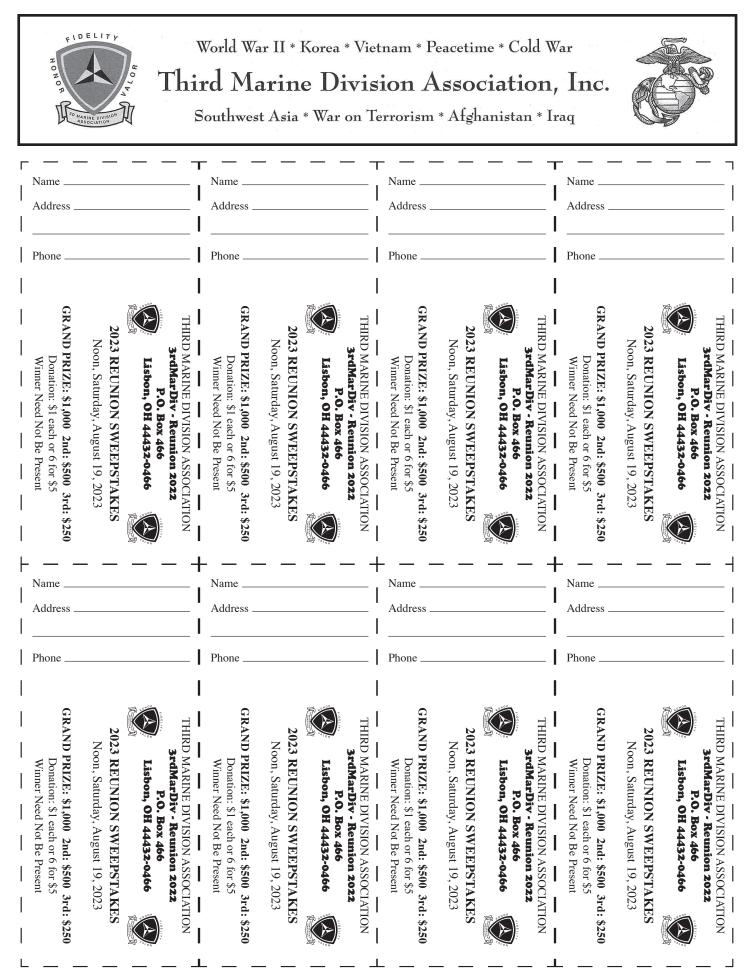
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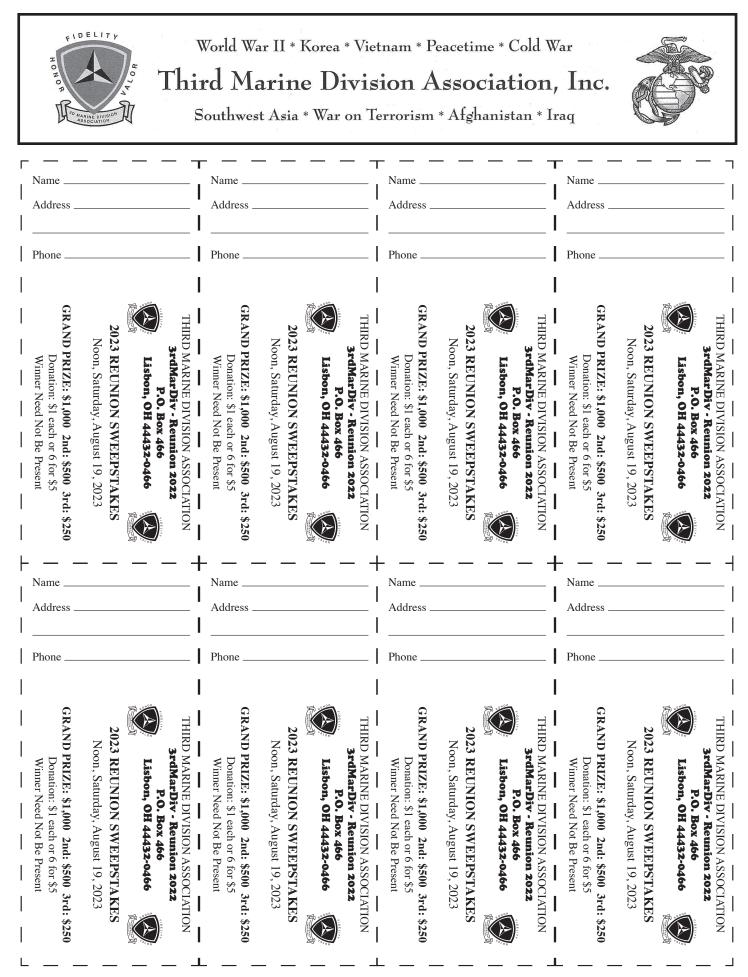
#### 2023 REUNION JOURNAL FORM Personal—Business (Ad, Memorial, Recognition)

The Reunion Journal is always a highlight of the Association's reunions. The Journal is mailed nationwide and overseas to Association members, major Marine Corps commands, and those submitting to Journal.

Standard Black & White Full Page (7 1/2" X 10 1/8" Horizontal 1/2 Page (7 1/2" X 5 1/16") Vertical 1/2 Page (3 3/4" X10 1/8") One-Quarter Page (3 3/4" X 5 1/16") One-Eight Page (3 3/4" X 2 1/2") Business Card (3 1/2" X 2") Association Member Non-Member Memorial Ad (1-3/4" X 3/4") <u>Special Position &amp; Color</u>	\$375.00 \$200.00 \$200.00 \$125.00 \$75.00 \$40.00 \$60.00 \$25.00	Memorial Ad Size: (1 3/4" X 3/4") \$25.00 In Memory of all Marines Vets Parton (1) resent Your Fellow Arrene Joe Smith Business Card Ad Size: (3 1/2" X 2") \$35.00 Assoc. Member / \$60.00 Non-Member The Insurance Group Ltd. 1235 West Virginia Street Very Very Unitana 444. 7
Center Two Pages (B&W) Additional Charge for Color (process ink) Bleeds (Full page ONLY) — 15% addition	Ű	CHECK PAYABLE TO: Third Marine Div. Assoc. Inc. MAIL CONTRACT, AD AND CHECK TO: The Third Marine Div. Assoc. Inc. PO Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432 OUESTIONS ? EMAIL: Robert North rlnplano@hotmail.com
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In the event the Reunion is cancelled on account of COVID-19 concerns or an event beyond the control of the 3rd Marine Division Association, and printing of your ad in the Reunion program can be canceled, you will be refunded your prorata share of payment for your ad





# 68th Annual Family Reunion will be August 14-20 2023 in Washington, DC

### RAFFLE

Our reunion committee is hoping you will support the reunion by not only attending, but also by **buying and selling raffle tickets**\*. The drawing will take place on Saturday, August 19th, at the General Membership meeting. The funds raised will help deploy the costs of the reunion with the balance going into the General Fund helping your Association to carry on its proud tradition. We ask for your continued support. Because of members like you, your Association continues to thrive.

There will be three prizes (and the winners need not be present): First Prize is \$1,000.00 cash. Second Prize is \$500.00 cash and Third Prize is \$250.00 cash. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. TICKET STUBS AND CHECKS must be returned **no later than August 10, 2023** to the Third Marine Division Association, P.O. Box 466, Lisbon, OH 44432. Checks/money orders must be made payable to: Third Marine Division Association.

# NOTE: MAKE SURE WE CAN READ THE NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER ON EACH TICKET.

Winners agree to comply with all IRS regulations regarding raffle winnings. The winner of the first prize of \$1,000 agrees to furnish The Third Marine Division Association Inc. with a fully completed and signed IRS Form W-9 before claiming their prize.

> \*Which are printed on the preceding pages. We ask that you <u>make copies of these tickets</u> <u>and buy and sell as many as you can.</u>

#### THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

, Name:						
, NEW Mailing Address:						
	: State:					
, NINE-DIGIT ZIP Code:	NEW 1	Telephone #: (	)			
PRINT ALL INFORMATION, CLIP THIS FORM SO THAT YOUR CURRENT MAILING LABEL IS ON THE REVERSE AND MAIL TO THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 466, LISBON, OH 44432-0466 **Postal regulations require use of NINE-DIGIT ZIP Code as of October 1996**						
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 <u>ASSOCIATE Membership:</u> Open to those who are legal dependents, parents, spouses, or relatives of those persons, living or deceased, who are or were eligible for Regular Membership.

#### **ANNUAL DUES**

Regular and Associate members ...... \$35 yearly Five-Year Dues ..... \$150 Active Duty Personnel ...... \$7.50 yearly

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All Ages ...... \$500

Installment Life Member Payments of \$50 each, or balance due, may be made over a two year period. Installment Five Year Member Payments of \$50 each, or balance due, may be made over a two year period. **Web Site: www.caltrap.com** 

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### -- MAILED OUT 15 MAY 2023 --

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Application Date							
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Active [	Duty Retired	Reserve	Former	Associate			
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City and State		Nine-Digit ZIP Code					
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How did you hear about Association/Sponsor My Active Duty USMC/USN Rank was							
My check for \$ is enclosed for:, Annual Regular Dues (\$35) , Annual Associate Dues (\$35)							
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