

# STRIKING SIXTH

1st Provisional Marine Brigade Newsletter



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Winter 2010

## Our Reunions Keep Getting More Efficient

MERRY CHRISTMAS



4TH MARINE REGIMENT  
6TH MARINE DIVISION

*When possible, Christmas Was Observed  
Wherever Marines Were Found*

### SIXTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION – October 10-14, 2010

The Sixth Marine Division Association 2010 Reunion in Las Vegas was a smashing success! Thanks to the efforts of the Essex family – Marty, Marilyn, Bonnie, Joan, Robin, and Rick, to the great OKLAHOMA TRIO: Pam Bloustine, Brenda Blair, and Joan Willauer, and for all the sons' and daughters' services at the Reunion. They all worked together flawlessly to provide the smooth flowing four day and night wonderful event for all of us.

The reunion began for all attendees who flew into Las Vegas when we were met at the airport by the Las Vegas Women Marines Association, and driven to the Orleans Hotel. Upon arriving at the hotel we were checked in and told the location of the Sixth Marine Division Association hospitality suite and were able to sign-in and receive our information.

Sunday night we met at the Association hospitality suite, which was open daily from 12 PM to 11 PM and were treated to cocktails and appetizers at the "Meet and Greet" that was provided for us. We enjoyed some good food, good drinks and good



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**Two Presidents Have Died**  
See Pages 4-5



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# The President's Report



by Ed Marsalek

## NOW HEAR THIS:

### Greetings from Chicago

Being well apprised of the famed motto "what happens in Las Vegas stays in Las Vegas," I refuse to be bound by it. I am forced to violate that rule. We (Sixth Division Marine Association) came, we saw, we partied, we conducted our business and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

The hotel was excellent and the breakfast buffet was simply awesome. The tours together with comfortable buses equipped with the latest handicapped accommodations made for great and memorable tours. This time we saw both faces of Las Vegas, the extravaganza shows with their dazzling lights, sounds of slots together with people seriously working at the goal of a "grand slam." The other side showed the beauty of the desert, as the guide pointed out the century long creation of the Red Rock hills with the constant tribulations of inhabitants of this site for mere existence. Flipping the coin the other tour to the Atomic Commission and Atomic Museum was the complete opposite, a tribute to mankind's advancement over Mother Nature. Both trips drew

highly favorable comments from the attendees.

The hospitality room was filled with activity, unlimited favors, drinks, snacks and even sandwiches brought to your table by lineal descendant volunteers. The ball was equally impressive. The food was outstanding, the music by the Marine Band from 29 Palms and the disc jockey that played our "oldies" were both absolutely great, but the real bonus was a close order drill by "volunteers" shanghaied from the regular members ranks (most entertaining).

Summation: Outstanding, but we all know that these things don't merely happen; they are the product of planning, hard work and dedication. Marty and Marilyn Essex, our hosts, and to the members of their family together with our newest honorary members, Pam Bloustine, Brenda Blair and Joan Willauer, insured the success of the 41st reunion. Believe me, TV's Charley may have had his three Angels, but I'll take our three any day. Of course there were others. To them and all who contributed — I salute you.

I now address the status of the Association. There is much good news. Financially we are sound. We have a full Board, and for the first time in a long while we have people who have expressed a willingness to accept seats as officers. The talk of closing up shop has subsided. Instead of gloomy predictions that we will have no one to serve or carry on because of attrition, we are actually increasing our membership.

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Suggestions are welcome. Submissions should be sent to the editor, Joe Singleton, 122 Camino Capri, Henderson, NV 89012, phone: (512) 695-4295, email: joe.semperhorn@gmail.com

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## Veteran's Day Has Come and Gone, But the Veterans Themselves Carry On

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye.

Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel in the leg or perhaps another sort of inner steel: The soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity.

Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem. You can't tell a vet just by looking.

What is a vet?

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

She or he is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Danang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another or didn't come back AT ALL.

He is the Quantico drill instructor who has never seen combat but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks and gang members Winter 2010

into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor remains unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket, aggravatingly slow, who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

He is a Soldier, Marine, Sailor or Airman, and also a savior and a sword against the darkness, and he is nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

So remember each time you see someone who has served our country. When you see one just lean over and say Thank You.

That's all most people need, and in most

cases it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded.

Two little words that mean a lot, "THANK YOU".

God Bless Our Veterans!

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Ed's Note: Picked up off the Internet

## O.P. Smith: the most underrated General in American history?



Posted By Thomas E. Ricks Tuesday, September 21, 2010

My candidate for the most underrated general in American history is Gen. O.P. Smith, who commanded the Marines at Chosin Reservoir. He is less known than several of his subordinates who were there, notably Chesty Puller and Ray Davis. I don't know why he has been forgotten. I am tempted to say it is because he was quiet and scholarly, hardly fitting the gung-ho public image of the Marines. But Ray Davis wasn't demonstrative, either. What I do know is that the decisions Smith made before the battle, to consolidate his forces, build fortified supply dumps along his line of retreat, and carve out two airstrips, were crucial in getting his Marines to the sea .

You can read all about O.P. Smith in his biography, "For Country and Corps", by Gail Shisler. I've read a lot about Chosin in the last month and found this one of the most illuminating books. I didn't know, for example, that Smith was at odds not only with Army Maj. Gen. Almond,

*continued on page 4...*

**O.P. Smith:** .. continued from page 3...

but also with his own Marine superior, Lt. Gen. Lemuel Shepherd, who essentially told him to go along with Almond's lethally foolish plans. (And while we're on the subject of unrecognized heroes, how about Lt. Col. Jack Partridge, who performed two essential and difficult tasks during the Chosin campaign, first carving out an airstrip that enabled Smith to evacuate 4000 casualties and bring in supplies. Then in an unprecedented operation having bridge spans airdropped so 14,000 Marines and soldiers could head south from Kotori. Smith noted in an interview that Partridge was never promoted to colonel after Chosin. Just how many thousands of Marines do you have to save to make 0-6?) Reprinted from FP/Foreign Policy magazine.

## President's Report

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At the "Vegas" meeting we added two more lineal descendants to the Board. Of the ten Board Officers, three of the ten are the new blood needed to carry on our organization. To those who said we can't do it, "the kids will lose interest," this argument fails. I cite the Daughters of the American Revolution, still in existence after a period in excess of two centuries.

To those of you whose only contact with the Association is by way of reading the Striking Sixth newsletter, consider a Christmas gift to your children and grandchildren by an enrollment in the Association. Dues are \$10.00 a year. Contact Flo Dornan for applications. We are at about 2,357 members presently. Let's make a drive to attain a new high.

Once again, I ask any lineal descendant members who are willing and interested to serve on a committee to contact Marty Essex, who has agreed to serve as our liaison.

That's the good news. In all corporate reports the good news comes first — loud and clear. The bad news comes last with lame excuses. I am happy to report, no excuses are necessary because there is no bad news to report. The ship has left the port and we are at full sail toward our target, i.e. perpetuity of the Association.

Stay well, see you in Cleveland. Semper Fi, Ed Marsalek

# Tom Terpinas, George Niland Leave for Guard Duty Above



Tom Terpinas

### Heart Felt Thanks From Tom's Friend Marion

The Men of the Sixth Marine Division Association: To all of you, I wish to express my gratitude and heart felt pride of being associated with such a fine group of men. Elena, Tom's sister, and myself want to thank all of you for the loving memorial you extended to Tom

Terpinas. He would have been so proud and happy to know so many expressed their sympathy and love for him at this year's reunion in Las Vegas. It was my privilege to serve as your Auxiliary President for so many years. Hope all stay well and happy till we meet again. Love Always and Semper Fi.

Tom's Friend, Marion Bangert

Tom Terpinas is gone. So is George Niland. Both men were presidents of the association. Tom was on his second tour as head man. He wanted so to make the reunion this year and sign off, but it was not to be.

It was cancer that brought Tom down. According to his nephew Mike Lea, he died in his sleep August 11 of this year at 88 years of age in Indianapolis. He was entombed

August 14. Services in the Greek Orthodox faith were held the day before.

A Corpsman with Charlie Company, 29th Marines, Tom ended his military career as a Navy Captain in the reserves. He received his medical degree at Indiana U. in 1952. His first association presidency was in 2000.

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## Outnumbered But Patient, For Help Was On the Way

Moral: Don't screw around with an opponent who's smarter and packs more firepower than you do.

This came from a gent who runs a 2000-acre corn farm up around Barron, WI, not far from Oshkosh. He used to fly F-4Es and F-16s for the Guard and participated in the first Gulf War.

His story: I went out to plant corn for a bit to finish a field before tomorrow morning and witnessed The Great Battle. A golden eagle — big, with about a six-foot wingspan — flew right in front of the tractor. It was being chased by three crows that were continually dive bombing it and pecking at it. The crows do this because the eagles rob their nests when they find them.

At any rate, the eagle banked hard right in one evasive maneuver, then landed in the field about 100 feet from the tractor. This eagle stood about 3 feet tall. The crows all landed too, and took up positions around the eagle at 120 degrees apart, but kept their distance at about 20 feet from the big bird. The eagle would take a couple steps towards one of the crows and they'd hop backwards and forward to keep their distance. Then the reinforcement showed up.

I happened to spot the eagle's mate hurtling down out of the sky at what appeared to be approximately Mach 1.5. Just before impact the eagle on the ground took flight, (obviously a coordinated tactic; probably pre-

briefed) and the three crows which were watching the grounded eagle, also took flight thinking they were going to get in some more pecking on the big bird.

The first crow being targeted by the diving eagle never stood a snowball's chance. There was a mid-air explosion of black feathers and that crow was done. The diving eagle then banked hard left in what had to be a 9G climbing turn, using the energy it had accumulated in the dive, and hit crow #2 less than two seconds later. Another crow down.

The grounded eagle, which was now airborne and had an altitude advantage on the remaining crow, which was streaking eastward in full burner, made a short dive then banked hard right when the escaping crow tried to evade the hit. It didn't work - crow #3 bit the dust at about 20 feet AGL.

This aerial battle was better than any air show I've been to, including the war birds show at Oshkosh. The two eagles ripped the crows apart and ate them on the ground, and as I got closer and closer working my way across the field, I passed within 20 feet of one of them as it ate its catch. It stopped and looked at me as I went by and you could see in the look of that bird that it knew who's Boss Of The Sky. What a beautiful bird!

I loved it. Not only did they kill their enemy, they ate them. Must have been Marine Eagles! One of the best Fighter Pilot stories I've seen in a long time. There are no noble wars — Only noble warriors.

### Bring up the Twelve Pounders Marines!

- all the horses are dead here, sir  
bring 'em up by mule then  
- all the mules are dead here, sir  
well bring 'em up by hand, boys  
- all the battery men are dead here, sir

well I need them Twelve Pounders  
- there ain't no artillery left here, sir

Ed's Note: This came from Bill Pierce.  
Don't know where he got it,  
Don't know where it came from,  
But, it sounds like the USMC.

## Leave for Guard Duty Above

.. continued from page 4...

Additional information was provided by Barbara McNight: "We spent a lot of time talking with Mike...He is a really personable guy. The other nephew is Mark Lea, the guy Tom put through medical school. She added that she and her husband, Association Chaplain Dick McNight, were there for the religious services and one from the Marine Corps League. Much of the service was sung, she said, and Harry recited his poem, "Taps."

A nice and fitting note she said was provided by a driver in a WWII Army uniform, who drove the body to the cemetery in an immaculately restored 1942 pick up truck.

Then the next morning, Tom's sister Elena Lea's church lady friends had a luncheon the McKnights attended. Elena attended the reunion.

George Niland died October 13, 2010 and was buried with military honors. He is survived by his Wife Nancy, 11 children and 31 grandchildren. A veteran of L-3-22, George served as president in 1991. He lived in Taunton, MA, and Bonita Springs, FL. He lived formerly in Easton, MA. He was born in 1926. He was buried at the Immaculate Conception Church and Cemetery in Easton.

Fred Abbott, HQ-2-29, Nick Albanese, C-1-4, Ernie Graustein, I-3-4 and Dave Mears, D-2-29, were in the burial party. This information came from Ernie.

## Scholarships Begin Again

Scholarships for Sixth Marine Divisions 's Lineal Descendants have begun again. The Board of Directors approved an expenditure of \$15,000 provided we were put back on the scholarship list. We had been taken off because we had quit providing more money. Sam Petriello, our newest president elect, said details would be available for the spring newsletter.



## Corpsmen's Corner

by Jack Rice

## Internet Writer Does Admit To Boasting About Marines

by W. Thomas Smith Jr.

11/09/2010

Those of you missing the Las Vegas 2010 reunion also missed a well organized and very laid back occasion. Things went very smoothly for the five of our corpsmen attending. Along with your correspondent, the following were there: Paul Judd, Rocco Lospinuso, Paul Smith and Les Weinstein.

Their wives and some of their children also attended. Though small in numbers we had a great time. We missed several of our regular attendees and feel assured they will return next year. Conflicting plans and illness deterred some from being able to attend.

We were very pleased to have Nancy Mack, widow of our revered Frank Mack, with us. As always she adds so much charm to our outings. Thank you for being there, Nancy.

A breakdown in communications resulted in failure to receive any death notices prior to the reunion. Customarily, I try to keep you informed of fallen compatriots.

The most recent now guarding the streets are Dr. Tom Terpinas, Kenneth E. Morse, Sr. and Lathan Hutchins. Charles W. Ward died in 1994.

Tom was a driving force in the Association and the Corpsmen of the 6th Division group. He advocated the Corpsmen group to become a part of the Association and cease holding separate meetings. This has become a greater opportunity for us to meet with our favorite Marines.

As director of the 6th Medical Battalion I have tried to be the glue to keep us together. I get little feed back. I want to encourage your active involvement. Keep me informed of personal news and news of any nature you feel important or interesting.

As we Marines, active, Reserve, retired, and former, celebrate the 235th anniversary of our birth in a Philadelphia alehouse during the American Revolution (specifically Nov. 10, 1775), three things come to mind: Yes, we Marines boast. We always have — things like “it’s hard to be humble when you’re the finest” — but much of this boasting stems from the pride in our organization’s amazing successes and our hard-won reputation over the past two centuries. And it also comes from the fact that, because we are the smallest and most unique kid on the block, the bigger kids have always tried to knock us down, put us in our place, dismiss us as cult-like and unnecessary, and either absorb us into their own ranks or disband us entirely.

One example of this was Army Gen. Frank Armstrong, who in the late 1940’s – even after the Corps’ stunning performance in World War II – proposed absorbing Marines into the Army, and referred to us as “a small bitched-up army talking Navy lingo.” Decades later, in 1997, Assistant Secretary of the Army Sara Lister proclaimed before a Harvard University audience, “I think the Army is much more connected to society than the Marines are. Marines are extremists. Wherever you have extremists, you’ve got some risks of total disconnection with society. And that’s a little dangerous.”

So you see we’ve had to boast a bit, if for no other reason than to counter our detractors.

Second: I’m reminded of the words of pro-Marine outsiders (non-Marines), who heap praise on us because they are secure enough in their own skins and we are so extraordinarily good at what we do (though some might wish we weren’t so good) that it would be insincere to deny us that praise.

Third: I’m reminded of the enemies of America who praise us in the expression of their fears.

So since this week is our birthday, let me share with everyone – the sheer point of this article – some of that praise from the big kids on the block (who aren’t always thrilled that we exist), the pro-Marine outsiders, and America’s enemies.

We begin with a bit of unintentional praise.

During the 1983 invasion of Grenada, Army Gen. John W. Vessey Jr., then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, picked up a telephone and demanded to know why “two companies of Marines [are] running all over the island and thousands of Army troops [are] doing nothing. What the hell is going on?”

We continue with a bit of matter-of-factness.

James Adams, former CEO of United Press International, describes in his 1989 book, SECRET ARMIES, “Marines with 20 percent of the [American] force ended up occupying 80 percent of the island [Grenada]”

Then in a 1992 study conducted by the Heritage Foundation, it was determined that “for every [U.S.] Army soldier in a combat position, one soldier is behind the lines in such supporting roles as administration and supply; for Marines the ratio is two combatants to one administrator or supplier. As a result, the Marine Corps delivers the most firepower in the quickest time when responding to a crisis...The Marine Corp’s greatest advantage over other services is the speed and muscle with which it can respond to a crisis.”

In 2006, national defense and economics historian Dr. Larry Schweikart — in his book, AMERICA’S VICTORIES — WHY THE U.S. WINS WARS AND WILL WIN THE WAR ON TERROR — describes the performance of U.S. troops during the 2003 invasion of Iraq: “The Marines, given their superiority in combat training and despite their youth (Marines are the youngest, on average, of the enlisted troops) generally fared far better than the regular Army in combat situations.”

Now let’s look at some of the subjective praise based on pure observation.

“The deadliest weapon in the world is a Marine and his rifle.”

— U.S. Army Gen. John J. “Black Jack” Pershing

“The safest place in Korea was right behind a platoon of Marines. Lord, how they could fight!”

— U.S. Army Major Frank Lowe

“U.S. Marines have the swagger, confidence and hardness that must have

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# Bill Steed Offers His Rendition Of Happy Birthday

"America is not at war, the US Marines are at war; America is at the mall."

I am going to spend this Birthday with members of 1/3 in Camp Pendleton-D, 1/3 was the first Unit in Vietnam (Jan 1965).

Happy Birthday!!!!

Damn Marines!

I wonder how many times during Operation Iraqi Freedom that the phrase "Damn Marines," or even "G\_\_\_\_\_n Marines" was uttered? Even in the best of times, Army and Air Force officers have been heard muttering some epithet about Marines, invoking either heaven or hell. Interestingly enough, we Marines find it all rather reassuring, and at times, hell, MOST of the time, amusing as can be.

You see, most of the time, Marines do not go out of our way to be obnoxious; we are just doing what Marines have done for almost (Nov 10th) 235 years now. A good example is the fact that Marines always raise the American flag over mountains or cities they have conquered. From Mt. Suribachi to the City of Hue, and Kuwait City to Baghdad, U.S. Marines have raised the Stars and Stripes — in the latter examples, much to the chagrin of higher headquarters. You don't get these kinds of problems with the Army. So what is it about the U.S. Marines that they stick U.S. flags on everything and do more with less, the less being either really old, or Army hand-me-down equipment? We call it "Esprit de Corps," but it goes much deeper than that.

We learn and maintain legends of the past, which also means living up to all those historical examples. Marine Corps boot camp is the longest of the services; it is where we mold young men and women into the image that we call MARINE. You can be in the Army and the Navy, and you can join the Air Force, but you BECOME a Marine. All of the other uniformed services have songs; the U.S. Marines have a hymn. The basic pattern of Marine Corps uniforms comes from the late nineteenth century; our emblem "the Eagle, Globe and Anchor" has remained largely unchanged since 1868. Winter 2010

The buttons on our dress blues, whites and greens date back to the founding of our Corps. The Marine Corps is the only service that requires its officers to carry a sword, whose pattern dates back to 1805.

The path of being a Marine was established long ago. The Marine Corps was first established on the 10th of November, year of our Lord, 1775 ... in a tavern, over a few tankards of ale. To this day, and no matter where in the world Marines celebrate the founding of our beloved Corps, even if it is only two Marines sitting in a fighting hole somewhere downing a couple of warm beers, the founding of our Corps will be celebrated. Interestingly enough, this act of love is normally much to the confusion of the other services.

A few years ago, a congresswoman from Colorado felt that the Marine Corps is radical and extreme. She contended that the Marine Corps is not politically correct, nor did we Marines seem to be part of the Department of Defense's transition to a "kinder and gentler" military. She was correct ... and the Marine Corps took it as a wonderful compliment.

But, the proof is in the doing, and during Iraqi Freedom the Marines demonstrated what Marines can do. I watched the news with some amusement as a reporter asked a young lance corporal about being in Iraq and under rifle fire. "I love it, sir!" was his response. The reporter was taken aback and asked, "No, really." The Marine then tried to explain that this is what he was trained to do. That he looked forward to doing it ... and was now quite happy to be finally doing it. No doubt in boot camp he was told that he was "a minister of death praying for war." Contrast that with the poor U.S. Army Apache pilots who said that if they had to take life, they would do so "reluctantly." Hmmm ..... you are either a warrior or you are not.

Marines are mission oriented. Live-or-die. The most important thing to a Marine is accomplishing the mission. Whether taking the bridge, river or town, accomplishing the mission is the Holy Grail of being a Marine. How the mission is accomplished is not so important, as it is expected of all Marines to accomplish the mission with the tools available. This is probably why we heard that Marines in one engagement were fighting with knives and bayonets. This was hardly high tech, but it was effective. These Marines now have bragging rights, for they have proven that they talk-the-talk and walk-the-walk.

Marines are practical, as well. I also

enjoyed hearing the two reporters interviewing each other, one embedded with the Army, the other with the Marines. The reporter with the Army noted that the sandstorm had blown down many of the soldiers' cots. The other reporter countered that the Marines did not have this problem because they slept on the ground. The Marine learns to live with what he can carry on his back. He expects to be moved around on the battlefield via his two black Cadillacs (boots). If he is lucky and gets a ride on an amtrack, so much the better, but it is not expected. At the end of a mission, the priority for cleaning is: weapon; then equipment; and finally — body. When the other services talk about "quality of life," they are referring to housing, clubs, gyms, weekend liberty, social engagements, and food. Marines are always talking about better weapons, more training ammo, and better equipment and field training, and then, winning the battle, going on to the next one, and then the next one, and then turning it over to the Army to occupy, Then — finally making it back home alive. For a Marine, THAT is considered to be "quality of life."

All of this translates into combat power. In comparison to the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division, the Marines of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force were very lightly equipped, and yet, they battled through the heart of Iraq, then fought to the center of Baghdad, and then moved on up to take Tikrit, as well — then pushed on up to kill as many of Saddam's retreating forces as they possibly could — before being ordered to stop. And quite frankly they didn't really understand why that order was given. There were still a handful of the elite "Republican Guard" soldiers left. Our idea was to kill 'em all, now, rather than later.

The press was so enamored with the Marines that in the final days of the war they even credited the Marines with deeds actually accomplished by the Army. Little wonder we heard "Damn Marines!" and "Goddamn Marines!" so often.

So — we need to give the Marines some slack when they do something politically incorrect, such as raising the flag or appearing insensitive when killing the enemy. In the field, they look sloppy compared to the Army, but are aggressive in the attack and generally unhappy in the defense. They don't usually like to occupy. Not their jobs. Marines take pride in their work, even if that work is war.

We are just Marines and that is what we do...



conversation as we reconnected with our old friends and caught up on our past history.

The Orleans Hotel provided each reunion participant with a free buffet breakfast from 8-10 AM each morning. The food selection was large, delicious and the service was quick and efficient — what a good way to start each day.

Monday morning, after breakfast, we were ready to hop on a bus to take a tour of Red Rock Canyon. Brenda Blair accompanied the group on our tour bus; she got our group organized and kept everybody happy. The tour guide and bus driver Katherine gave us lots of interesting information about the Red Rock Canyon. We drove through the beautiful and awesome canyon enjoying the beauty of the desert and the natural habitat.

After, our visit to Red Rock we stopped for a tasty buffet lunch at the Marriott. On our return to Las Vegas, our driver included a tour of the Las Vegas strip and information about the hotels and history of Las Vegas.

Also, on Monday some gals opted to go on a Shopping trip with Marilyn Essex, who knows all the great shopping spots in Las Vegas. A couple of the shoppers told me they really enjoyed themselves, and didn't spend too much money either.

On Tuesday, we took a trip to the Atomic Energy Commission. We left the hotel at 7:15 with a snack breakfast provided for our group by the reunion planners. Our tour guide was John Spahn, who has retired from his work for the Dept

of Atomic Energy. John gave us lots of insight into the types of testing done by the AEC, information about testing in the desert, took us to the various test sites, explained the types of equipment, and told us the purpose and results of the tests. A box lunch was provided for all of us that went on the Atomic Energy Commission tour, and we returned to the hotel about 5 PM

Those that attended reported that they enjoyed the Museum where they were given an opportunity to learn some history and examine the exhibits of the museum.

On Wednesday the Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon was held at noon. Our guest speaker at the luncheon was Joan Doubrava, who gave us a wonderful demonstration and tips for accessorizing our wardrobes. We conducted our meeting and new officers were elected: President, Barbara McKnight; Vice President: Connie Houseweart; and Secretary; Sharon Woodhouse. Several officers retained their positions: Treasurer, Pauline Roberts; Sgt at Arms, Joan Willauer, and Parliamentarian, Marilyn Essex.

The Sixth Marine Division Association Board Meeting, met from 12:15 to 2:15. The Sons and Daughters group also met on Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:30 pm.

Wednesday night found us bussed over to the Marine Corps League for a BBQ dinner. After dinner we all met in the hospitality suite. Also, we were delighted to receive photographs from Christina Smith, daughter of Minnie Bell and Bill Sanner, who has

## Don't Forget! Cleveland in 2011. September 6-11

taken wonderful photos of the Sixth Marine Division activities over the last four years or more, and generously gives them to the attendees as a memento. WHAT A GAL!

Thursday morning, after breakfast, we gathered for the Memorial Service held at 10 am. We lost over 110 of our number. It was a very touching service, as Lynda Wiszt, a piper from the Scottish American Military Society Post 777 played "Amazing Grace" and "The Marine Corps Hymn" beautifully right before the benediction.

Our Grand Banquet, Installation of Officers, and Dance was held Thursday evening. The evening began with the Brass Quintet of the 29 Palms USMC Base providing wonderful music during our cocktail hour. They made beautiful music that we all remembered.

Next, we were treated to the Armed Rifle Team Performance by MCJROTC, Basic High School of Las Vegas, Nevada showing us their skills — they were very impressive and talented in their abilities. Hard to believe they were a high school team.

Pam Bloustine, Sgt Major, USMCR (Ret) gave the welcome to the Sixth Marine Division Association and before introducing the guest speaker, mentioned that his Father, Lt Gen Victor H. Krulak had served with the 6th Marine Division as G-3. Pam then introduced his son and our guest speaker, Chaplain Victor H. Krulak, Jr. USN (Ret). Chaplain Krulak had a very distinguished career and gave an interesting speech to the reunion guests.

We enjoyed an excellent dinner at the Banquet, with delicious entrees, some good wine, two desserts, and great service. Once the dishes were cleared away, the music began, and the dinner guests were able to dance to the music of the 40's, 50's and 60's provided by Disc Jockey Mike Fox. What a great time we had!

Hope to see you all next year.  
Semper Fidelis, Joyce Staerkel-Salemi



*O.B. Aasland and Ray Welch*



*Anita Benedetti*



*"Bad" Joan Roman Checks Them In*



*Bus Time*



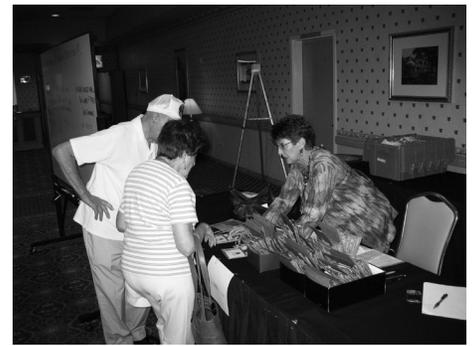
*Load 'Em Up*

## Reunion Notes:

This was a fitting reunion for the 65th year anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa, VJ Day and War's End. Lots of people put forth lots of effort to bring about a most successful event. More money was spent, also, but there will still be a profit, according to reunion chief Marty Essex. Maybe, not much, but the results were worth shaving profits a little. Besides there is always the IRS looking for any money left lying around.

In addition to the dedicated effort from committee members, there were the sons and daughters — and grandchildren — not to mention friends, well wishers, Marines, Marines to be (from a nearby high school) and such organizations as the Marine Corps League and the Women Marines Assn. The Navy also helped out. There was a real-life Corpsman on every bus to the Barbecue.

It took good people, plenty of them, to produce this reunion. Many thanks. JoeS



*More Arrivals*



*Tiffany Woodhouse and Eric Cremeens*



*Barbara McNight and Rev. Victor Krulak Jr.*



*Sam Petriello, Connie Houseweart, John Carter and Tiffany Woodhouse*

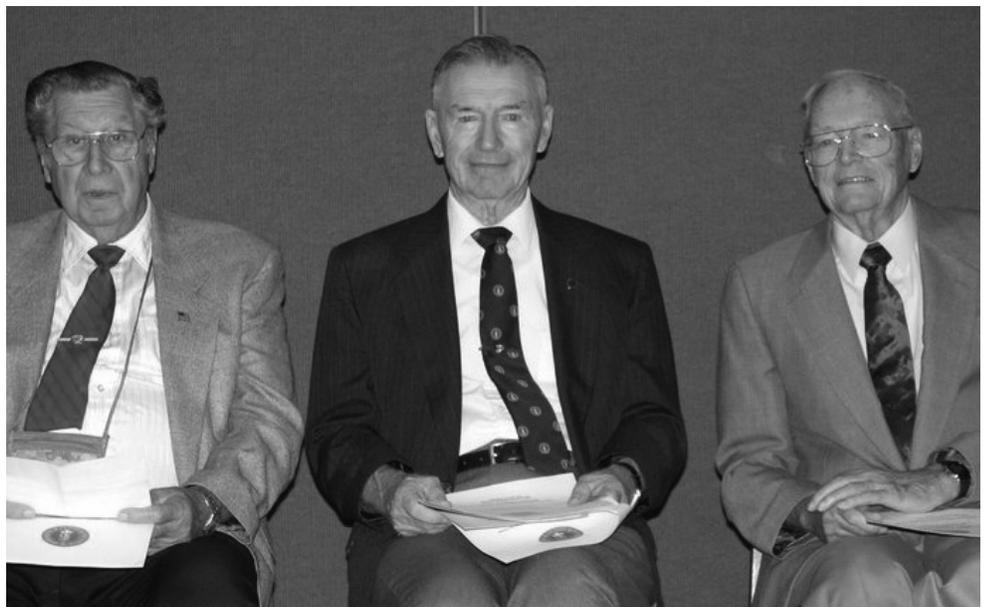
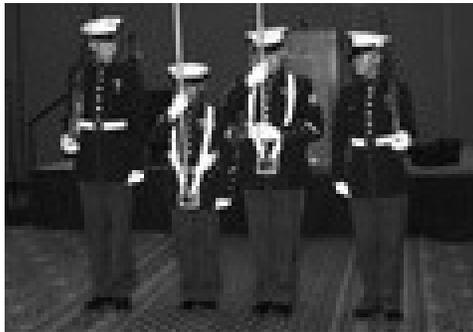
## Editor Reminded How to Be Chewed Out By an Expert

R. Lee Ermy, iconic Marine Gunny, Viet vet and movie character from away back, called me. Actually, he did more than call me. He called me every name in the book. "Look here, you lunkhead, what did you think you were doing, telling my friends in the Sixth that I'm dead. You maggoty yard bird, you make me puke. I want a confession, and I want it now. You fouled up again, you degenerate Boot."

Well, actually he didn't call me. Enough of his friends did or E-mailed me; just because I picked up a story off the Internet that said he was dead when he wasn't and put it in the newsletter. All right! I should have checked. Yes, I was dumb, stupid even. What's new?

I will admit, I should have known better. I've been at this a long time to still be making these boo-boos. I really made a doozy a couple years ago; only Bill Twigger knows the truth. But, Ermy is enough for now. I'll confess to the old one next issue. JoeS

# Reunion Photos



# Reunion Photos



Photos by Christina Smith



## Reunion Lives On As Time Goes By

As time goes by, the vivid memories of the Striking 6th begin to fade to nostalgic feelings and specific moments. But, we will be able to capture some of the history, the forgotten stories, and the life altering moments of the Striking 6th. During the reunion, some of you took the opportunity to recount the good, the bad and other memories from your time with the 6th. Soon, a complete DVD, which recaps the reunion, retells your personal stories and details the history of the division will be sent to your home. We hope that your voice and stories will be heard for generations to come.



Purdy Was Not Alone — Bob, H&S, 6th Engrs, so far as we know, was an alert Marine on Okinawa and no enemy ever sneaked up on him. But on a hunt in North Dakota he didn't dream there was another nearby hunter on the prowl. The photo was self-taken, and it wasn't until the next morning that he discovered either he or the elk was potential Puma prey.



Dear Joe: I hope you're doing well. It was great to see you and all the guys in Las Vegas last month. I remember you said that November 10th was the cut off for any articles for the next newsletter. I don't know if you'd have room for this or care to run it, but I ran the Marine Corps Marathon on 10/31 and raised \$6000 once again for Operation Homefront, a non profit organization that supports the troops, the families they leave behind and the wounded warriors when they return. You may recall I did this last year too, choosing \$6000 as my fundraising goal to honor the 6th Marine Division. But before I ever heard of Operation Homefront, I was running the Marine Corps Marathon to honor the 6th MarDiv. Specifically the 3rd Platoon of H/3/29, which was my Dad's platoon. About 30 years ago my Dad got a letter from Warren Martin, who was in the same platoon. Warren drove over to Butler, PA from New Jersey and he presented my Dad with a silk flare parachute with all the names of the original members of that platoon. Warren and a Marine named R.J.Reilly had illustrated this when they were stationed in Tsingtao. Of the 48 names, 16 were KIA and an additional 26 were WIA. When my Dad passed away in 1999 it occurred to me that now I would have to be the guy who kept their memory alive. So I wrote all their names on the back

of my shirt and wore it when I ran the marathon. I've kept it up ever since then. A few years ago I looked up Warren Martin with the help of Dan Cantwell, Sam Petriello and Andy Sinatra of the Norristown 6th MarDiv Breakfast Club. I found Warren in a VA Hospital in New Jersey. I told him how much that piece of silk meant to me, I showed him the shirt I wear in the marathon and I gave him my finisher's medal. He looked at the medal, sized me up and cracked "I'll bet you didn't win!" We had a good talk and we parted with the usual "Semper Fi!" A USMC photographer took this picture in 2007. I recently found out that Airgas, the company I work for, included this picture in our latest annual report (Operation Homefront is one of our big charity partners). It's good to see that the 3rd Platoon is getting some recognition after all these years. Semper Fi, Bob McGowan, chmcg11@aol.com



Hey Joe, Just a quick note to ask about the small article in the summer edition of Striking Sixth regarding the death of R. Lee Ermey. I am a little amazed that someone did not check this out first before publishing this. Not only is he not dead but is very much alive and still making appearances. I checked this at: [http://urbanlegends.about.com/od/celebrities/ss/r\\_lee\\_ermey\\_death\\_notice.htm](http://urbanlegends.about.com/od/celebrities/ss/r_lee_ermey_death_notice.htm) in case someone would need to make a retraction in the next issue. Most of us Vietnam Vets are surely checking out at an earlier age but let's not rush it. Thanks for taking time to read this and I hope it helps clear up the misunderstanding. Regards, Rick Hyman, Son of Sgt. Warren G. Hyman, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Regiment, Co. K, 6th Marine Division. Ed's Note: There is a retraction, apology and answer in this issue to the letter writers, phone callers

and others who have pointed out this ridiculous mistake. I might also add that I am glad the Gunny is still with us. I will try to do better in the future.



From:iceberg0445@aol.com  
To:GYRENE629@aol.com  
Subj: Quinn update

Bill (Pierce), About 2 years ago I sent you some pics of our crew cleaning off the walls at Okinawa's Peace Prayer park. In the pictures was a blond guy named Ian Spurgeon. Ian has taken a Job at DPMO (Defense Prisoner of War / Missing Personnel Office) I forwarded him all of the information on PFC Quinn and the ball is starting to roll. Initially I contacted JPAC in Hawaii but they had a pretty full plate. Ian is coming back to Okinawa in December, and we are going to do a site survey on the Quinn site and another site at Kunishi Ridge. You had mentioned another MIA at Dakeshi Ridge. Can you resend me the info on that one? The more we have here, the bigger the chance that they can send a whole team over for recovery. The Quinn site is a rough one for just our crew here, and we need support as you could see by the pictures. The cave was in really bad shape and looks ready to collapse again, but with government support we can hopefully get a team out here for a full excavation. I will keep you informed as time goes by. Semper Fi, Chris



In a phone call to Flo Dornan Richard Lynch asked that anyone who served in the 22nd Mar-2-HQ (Communications Platoon) and remembered him, to please contact him at (608) 249-1280 or write to him at 101 Bradford Lane, Madison, WI 53714-2307.

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In a phone call from Dick Leier I (Flo Dornan) was asked to post Charlie Stein's address so his friends can contact him. He will not be able to answer many notes or cards but the contact will make him happy to know he isn't forgotten. I receive many calls requesting Charlie's information and I think this will make many folks happy. Charlie is living at the Sullivan Adult Care Center, 256 Sunset Lake Rd, Liberty, NY 12751.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Mail Call



Harry McKnight Parade Marshal

HarryM1677@aol.com

To: L4rats@lauralacey.com

CC: gyrene629@aol.com

Subj: Flags of Honor

Laura, I was invited to participate in the "Ohio Flags of Honor" as a veteran of WWII at the Dennison Depot museum in Ohio. It was a famous train stop in WWII in Ohio where the military men would be given doughnuts, coffee and cookies when the train stopped. The father of a soldier, who was killed in Iraq, established this program to honor all Ohio military men and women from Ohio by purchasing a flag and on the flagpole was their name rank and branch of service. They also placed a white cross in the field next to the field of flags. My granddaughter had honored me as a veteran in the local paper and included my poem "White Crosses." The director of the museum called and asked if I would be the feature speaker and read the poem. When I agreed they also asked if I would be the Grand Marshal in a Ticker Tape parade through the twin Cities of Dennison and Urichsville. They also had my son Tim, their local MD, to lay the ceremonial wreath. It was fun and I met one Marine from the 22nd who had his son bring him in his wheel chair. He had read the local paper and recognized my name. I did not have a Marine uniform but they said my Air Force one would be fine. My driver for



Harry McKnight Speaker

the parade was hoping to drive a Marine since her husband was also a Marine but had died a few years ago. Strangely he was one of my son's patients. This was right after Tom's funeral in Indianapolis. I'm sending two photos and I hope they get through OK. Harry McKnight, H-3-29

Dear Mr. Singleton, my father, Hugh C. Lipsius, served in E-2-29 of the Sixth Marine Division during the battle of Okinawa. I recently received from his brother seven letters he had written to his mother and one of his sisters. The letters were dated from just before the invasion until just after he was leaving Okinawa to go to Guam. The paper the letters were written on has become very fragile, and most of them were written in pencil, so they won't copy well. I can type up the content of the letters however, and wanted to know if you would like this or excerpts from the letters. He does talk about his experiences in each one. I recently joined the Sixth Marine Division

Association as a linear descendent. I have spent the last year researching the 6th's involvement in that horrible battle in order to find out what my father went through and to share this information with the rest of my siblings. These letters, which had been tucked away in my Grandmother's Bible and were recently found, were a Godsend. Please let me know if you want any of this information. Sincerely, Cynthia Lipsius, 71 Commonwealth Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216, 716-605-436. cindylips58@hotmail.com Ed's Note: Cynthia, if you will go through the letters and pick out something you believe is significant or particularly interesting, we will give it every consideration. Photos, too.

★

david seligman <confused132@yahoo.com>

to joe.semperhorn@gmail.com

date Wed, Aug 25, 2010 at 9:33 AM

subject info about my grandpa

Mr. Singleton, I am looking to see if anyone knew my Grandfather Don Seligman. He and I trade stories about the military and I was hoping to surprise him with a few about himself that he might have forgotten. He was an infantryman assigned to the JASCO (Joint Assault Signal Company) in 2 Bn., 4th Marine Rgt. He was with the 6th during the invasion of Okinawa and through their stay in China as well. Thank you for your help, David Seligman

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Christmas Gifts from the 6th Marine Division Store

2011 calendars have arrived. We've updated and added new products to the store for the reunion. These new products are in addition to the hats and caps, mugs, steins, mouse pads, teddy bears and more. All have the unit name and/or a USMC insignia. <http://www.cafepress.com/6mardiv>

## Mail Call

Dear Joe: Wondering if anyone recalls this incident: On the morning of July 21, 1944, I was assigned to Chaplain Donald W. Mayberry who had received permission from General Shepherd to detach ourselves from Brigade headquarters to LST 478. On the morning of the landing we were told we could not board one of the landing crafts because of lack of space, so the Chaplain got us onto a command boat, which gave the signals when to head for the beach. When we learned that this boat would get no closer than 1000 yards from the beach, Chaplain Mayberry asked the coxswain to go along side one of the amtracks, which we did, and we leaped from the boat onto the amtrack. We no sooner left the command boat when Japanese artillery opened fire but missed the boat. We were now with elements of Co F, 2nd Bn, 22nd Regt., and landed on Yellow Beach 2, and immediately caught fire from the Orote Peninsula and artillery fire from our south. We advanced inland but as we got close to the village of Agat we were stopped by Japanese shells, and I recall the Battalion Commander called for an airstrike. As we waited, a group of four Corsairs appeared overhead. The first three released their bombs directly over our heads and dropped them on the enemy ahead of us. However the fourth plane released his bombs behind us and they fell on Co. F. On their second run the exact same thing happened, the fourth plane dropped his bombs behind our lines causing fatalities and injuries. I recall the Bn. Commander yell out, if they return shoot that fourth plane down. Fortunately they did not return.. We stayed with Co. F until we reached the entrance to Orote, at which time I came down with a bad case of dysentery and wound up in a field hospital. I'm just wondering if there are any members of Co. F who recall this incident? if so I would like to hear from them. Sincerely, Vince J. DiPentima (vdipentima@cfl.rr.com.

★

E-Mail From Connie:



Joe Criscitello

Division during my research. Needless to say, what I learned touched me deeply. My heart ached for the young men who lost their lives on Okinawa and throughout all battles of WWII. After the war (1946) my Dad came back here to upstate NY and met my mother Audrey and together they had 13 children (one of these children is now serving as a Chief Financial Officer appointed by Barrack Obama). My Dad died in 1996, but I believe he left an indelible mark on the world after the war. Ed's Note: Connie is an artist. She wants to do semi-custom T-Shirts for Sixth Division Marines. She has cleaned up and redone the Sixth and 29th insignias. They look good. I imagine she could do the same for the 22nd and 4th Marines. As to the 15th, I don't know if they have one. She can be reached at Connie Criscitello, 1096 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Apalachin, NY 13732 or mcmjuly@gmail.com.



Connie Criscitello

Joe, Just wanted to let you know that my 6th Marine Division Logo Art was inspired by extensive research I did into my Father's (Cpl James Criscitello, 6th Marine Division, 15th Artillery Regiment, Howitzer Pack Battalion) WWII service. I learned quite a bit about the 6th Marine

Bill Pierce suggested that I contact you. I am searching for information on 1st Lt. Harrison Phillips (Phil) Klusmeier, Executive Officer of Company C, 6th Tank Battalion, who was KIA on 05/15/45 at Sugar Loaf Hill. I am a pharmacy historian working on documenting the lives of 170 pharmacists and student pharmacists who died on active duty during WW II. Phil Klusmeier was a graduate pharmacist from South Dakota State. He enlisted in Jan., 1942 and was allowed to graduate in May before reporting to Quantico. An article about the project is attached. Thanks for your help. Dennis B. Worthen, PhD, Lloyd Scholar, 1723 Old Farm Drive, Loveland, OH 45140 —513/583-5163 — dbworthen@fuse.net.

★

Dear Mr. Pierce, what you did meant more then you'd ever guess. Thank you so much for your letter to my son john who is in boot camp. It means more than words can express. Sincerely, John's mother.

★

### WIT & WISDOM CONTAINED IN MILITARY MANUALS

Aim towards the Enemy'

Instructions printed on U.S. Rocket Launcher

When the pin is pulled, Mr. Grenade is not our friend.'

- U.S. Marine Corps

Cluster bombing from B-52s is very, very accurate. The bombs are guaranteed always to hit the ground.'

- USAF Ammo Troop

'Whoever said the pen is mightier then the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons.'

- General MacArthur

# Remembering a Marine, Edgar ‘Punch’ Parker

By Robert Kelly - Goss

The Daily Advance

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

A 30-minute documentary remembering one local man’s experience during World War II is now available for viewing on YouTube. Edgar “Punch” Parker was one of a very small handful of men to survive what has been described by some as the “bloodiest” battle in the Pacific Theater, the “Battle of Okinawa.”

Growing up in Elizabeth City there were perhaps few people that would inspire Robert Poole Jr. as did Parker. Parker grew up around his family’s meat packing business and country store, was a meat inspector, a junk dealer and most importantly to Poole, a scoutmaster.

“He was involved in scouting for decades,” says Poole, who is now director of the Jones Performing Arts Center at Louisburg College. “We went on lots of camping trips. He was a great mentor. Just the best guy you ever met in your life.”

Parker was a U.S. Marine who served in The Battle of Okinawa, shortly before the

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Ann Parker, daughter in law of Punch Parker has developed a memorial to his memory. A link to the site has been placed in the [SixthMarineDivision.com](http://SixthMarineDivision.com) web site.

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war’s end. It was that experience that inspired Poole to create a 30-minute documentary about Parker and his time with the Marine’s 6th Division.

Poole says Parker, who died in 2007, would share tales of his experience from time to time. He also recalls growing up next door to Parker, and playing with his sons. The boys would play together and from time to time marvel at Parker’s collection of military artifacts.

Over the years, the boys would ask Parker questions about his experience in the war.

It was an experience, Poole says, that Winter 2010

would lead Parker to declare that life is worth living, and worth defending.

The documentary, which can be viewed on YouTube in three parts, is based upon a tape-recorded interview Poole did with his old scoutmaster. The state of North Carolina was looking for stories for a proposed book — a book that was never published — consisting of veterans’ experiences.

It’s a moving story about not only one man’s harrowing experience, but also about the triumph of the U.S. Marines in what was surely one of the war’s most difficult offensives.

“It was really the D Day of the Pacific,” says Poole. “About 1,400 ships were involved and an enormous amount of troops.”

Parker was his company’s bugle player, and an infantryman. It was April 1, 1945 when the invasion of Okinawa, 400 miles south of Japan, took place.

Officially dubbed “Operation Iceberg,” the U.S. Navy would sustain the largest loss of life and ships in its history. The total loss of life was devastating. An estimated 12,000 American lives had been lost during that battle, and at least 36,000 were wounded.

For Item Co., 29th Marines of the 6th Division, 250 men went in and only 60 survived.

“My job was many things, but one of them was to carry messages to all the platoons,” Parker told Poole in his interview. “I’d either run phone lines or carry the message by voice.

“It was just about night, and I had to take the password to everybody, because you couldn’t holler it across the field. After dark, you don’t move because you’ll get shot. I was out there on a point, and I just made a beeline across a little gallery to save time. Next morning I woke up and looked out across where I had run. There must have been anywhere from 100 to 150 little silver metal points sticking up out of the ground.”

Parker had unknowingly passed through a minefield in the dark, unscathed by what could have taken his life.

To view the documentary, go to [YouTube.com](http://YouTube.com) and enter Tribute to Edgar “Punch” Parker, WWII Pacific Marine.

Ed’s Note: This is an abridged reprint from the Elizabeth City newspaper.

## General Lejeune’s Birthday Message *continued from page 23...*

has been in action against the Nation’s foes. From the Battle of Trenton to the Argonne, Marines have won foremost honors in war, and in the long eras of tranquility at home, generation after generation of Marines have grown gray in war in both hemispheres and in every corner of the seven seas, that our country and its citizens might enjoy peace and security.

In every battle and skirmish since the birth of our corps, Marines have acquitted themselves with the greatest distinction, winning new honors on each occasion until the term “Marine” has come to signify all that is highest in military efficiency and soldierly virtue.

This high name of distinction and soldierly repute we who are Marines today have received from those who preceded us in the corps. With it we have also received from them the eternal spirit which has animated our corps from generation to generation and has been the distinguishing mark of the Marines in every age. So long as that spirit continues to flourish Marines will be found equal to every emergency in the future as they have been in the past, and the men of our Nation will regard us as worthy successors to the long line of illustrious men who have served as “Soldiers of the Sea” since the founding of the Corps.

JOHN A. LEJEUNE,  
Major General  
Commandant



John A. Lejeune, January 10, 1867-November 20, 1942, is the former Commandant of the Marine Corps and Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute. This was the first Birthday Announcement.

# Wish You Marines a Happy 235th Birthday

By Arthur Herman

They stormed the shores of Tripoli in 1804 and the beaches at Tarawa in 1943 and Iwo Jima in '45. They fought America 's foes house by house in Hue in 1968 and in Fallujah in 2004. They died at Belleau Wood, halting Germany 's last great offensive in World War I. Every day, they fight to stem the tide of Taliban resurgence in Afghanistan. But in the halls of the Pentagon, they may be fighting their most desperate battle yet.

They're the United States Marines. Two hundred thirty-five years ago today, the Continental Congress authorized the creation of the corps, which quickly evolved into America's most reliable fighting force and the toughest unit in the US military. Generations of young men, and now young women, have passed through the Marines' unique 13-week boot camp at the Parris Island and San Diego recruit depots, where they're prepared body and soul for a love of country as well as of combat — and a love for the traditions of the Marine Corps.

That's why they are easy for a historian to love. It's why the 1st Marine Division takes pride in being called the "Old Breed" — where "old" means upholding the sometimes unfashionable values of honor, duty, courage and sacrifice. That's why some of us would feel a whole lot safer if President Obama had done his 13 weeks at Parris Island because right now, this administration is casting a shadow over the Marines and their future. When Navy Secretary James Forrester watched Marines plant the flag on Mount Surabachi on Iwo Jima, the most iconic image of World War II in the Pacific, he told Marine Gen. Holland Smith, "That means a Marine Corps for the next 500 years." His prediction is looking premature. Back in August, Defense Secretary Robert Gates ordered a massive review of the Corps' future role, due out in December. In Pentagon speak, "review" usually means "get ready for cuts," and this is no exception.

Gates has been quoted as saying that the Marines have "gotten too big" since the Iraq and Afghanistan wars grew their numbers from 175,000 to 202,000, and "too heavy, too removed from

their expeditionary, amphibious roots" as during World War II. Too many Marines "have never stepped aboard a ship." That's fine, except Gates has also mused about whether big amphibious operations like Iwo Jima or Inchon are even feasible any more in the age of long-range anti-ship missiles and whether the money spent on ships, helicopters, landing vehicles and planes for close air support of Marines attacking from the sea might be better spent elsewhere.

Today's Pentagon is focused on saving money, no matter what. If the Marines are best suited for one kind of warfare, and that warfare is becoming obsolete, that begs the obvious question: Why have Marines at all? Yet here, Gates' view of history is distorted. The Marines have never been just a fighting force that existed to land and die on beaches. They literally wrote the book on counterinsurgency back in 1940, the "Small Wars Manual," based on their 180-year experience fighting in remote jungle and rough terrain environments from Latin America to the Philippines and North Africa.

The Marines pioneered the strategy of not just fighting an enemy but understanding his mind-set and culture, as well, a huge advantage in counterinsurgency operations, which is why Marines have led the way in the surges, both in Iraq and in Afghanistan. Five times past administrations have tried to take down the Marines, and five times they've failed. President Harry Truman was the last to publicly talk about dismantling the Corps to save money. Then as (one hopes) now, Marines were too tightly woven into the fabric of American life to let that happen. And the Marines soon proved how wrong Truman had been in the Korean War, during the landings at Inchon and at Chosin Reservoir, where the Old Breed fought off 8-to-1 odds against the Red Chinese army in 40-degree-below-zero weather, and won 17 Medals of Honor.

Still, the Marines have an even more powerful enemy in the Obama White House. Gay activists pushing to end "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" see them as the last bastion of resistance to a social ethos that puts personal rights

over teamwork and self-sacrifice, and tolerance over group cohesion. Yet that warrior ethos has been why presidents have been able to say, "Send in the Marines!" in response to sudden crises around the world for more than 200 years.

Some argue that, today, this role can best be done by such special forces as the Navy SEALs. But Marines are trained not just to fight but to die if necessary, to the last man. They are our American Spartans — and like the Greek Spartans of old, their tradition of courage and self-sacrifice is the ultimate guardian of our freedom.

We tamper with the Marine Corps at our peril. The Corps' new commandant, General James Amos, needs to defend it against those who would end or reduce it, for budgetary or ideological or other short-sighted reasons. It's not just the Corps that's at stake, but our nation. (Reprinted From New York Post November 10, 2010 Pg. 29)

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## We Do Have Friends

As a pro-Marine outsider, who still remembers the General Orders, let me extend my congratulations and best wishes to our Marines on their 235th birthday!

While we may be proud and respect all of our armed forces, the Marines should hold a special place in our hearts because they best exemplify the "warrior code." They are truly unique within America's arsenal and carry on the best of the ancient traditions of the most successful military forces of all time.

They exhibit the discipline of the Romans, the proficiency of the Spartans, the brotherhood of the Sacred Band of Thebes, the honor of medieval knights and the determination and courage of The Light Brigade!

We all should thank God that these fine and dedicated fighters, motivated by love of America and trained to a razor's edge, are on our side!

[www.thelastjump.com](http://www.thelastjump.com)

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## WIT & WISDOM CONTAINED IN MILITARY MANUALS

'If the enemy is in range, so are you.  
- Infantry Journal

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'It is generally inadvisable to eject over the area you just bombed'  
- U.S. Air Force Manual

Striking Sixth

## Internet Writer..

*continued from page 6*

been in Stonewall Jackson's Army of the Shenandoah."

— A British military observer's report

"Marines have it [pride] and benefit from it. They are tough, cocky, sure of themselves and their buddies. They can fight, and they know it."

— U.S. Army General Mark Clark

And lastly, let's look at a few examples of how America's enemies have traditionally perceived us.

During the Korean War, Chinese premier Mao Tse Tung was so concerned about the combat prowess of the 1st Marine Division that he issued a death contract on the entire division, which he stated, "has the highest combat effectiveness" of any division in the U.S. armed forces. "It seems not enough for our four divisions to surround and annihilate [the 1st Marine Division's] two regiments," Mao said in orders to the commander of the 9th Chinese Army Group. "You should have one or two more divisions as a reserve force."

During the same war, a captured North Korean officer confessed, "Panic sweeps my men when they are facing the American Marines."

Years later during the first Gulf War, Iraqi soldiers nicknamed their U.S. Marine foes, "Angels of Death."

And during the 2004 U.S. assault on the Iraqi city of Fallujah, an intercepted radio transmission revealed the enemy's utter fear of America's few good men.

"We are fighting, but the Marines keep coming," shouted a panic-stricken Al Qaeda insurgent to his commander. "We are shooting, but the Marines won't stop."

Happy Birthday, Marines, and Semper Fi!

Mr. Smith is a contributor to Human Events. A former U.S. Marine rifle-squad leader and counterterrorism instructor, he writes about military/defense issues and has covered conflict in the Balkans, on the West Bank, in Iraq and Lebanon. He is the author of six books, and his articles appear in a variety of publications. E-mail him at [marine1@uswriter.com](mailto:marine1@uswriter.com).

Winter 2010

## 6th Division's 'Brute' Was a Major Combatant With a Minor Body

NY TIMES November 9, 2010

How a Little Man Became a Big, Big Marine in World War II and Beyond

By DWIGHT GARNER

BRUTE

The Life of Victor Krulak, U.S. Marine

By Robert Coram

Illustrated. 374 pages. Little, Brown & Company. \$27.99.

When the legendary Marine Corps general Victor Krulak was a boy, his father, a jeweler, gave him two pieces of advice. The first was: "Nobody ever learned a bad habit from a horse." The second: "You will be short, and you will be bald. But you don't have to be fat."

General Krulak (1913-2008) took both lessons to heart. He became a skilled bareback rider. And although he was a mere 5 feet 4 inches and 116 pounds in November 1933, his final year at Annapolis, so small and light he needed a waiver to become a commissioned Marine, he was fanatical for the rest of his life about being fighting trim. (He never quite went bald.)

Fighting is the operative word. General Krulak was equal parts Patton, Popeye, Rahm Emanuel and the Great Santini; he packed the snorting personality and irritable drive of 10 men into his tiny, squirming physique. The nickname "Brute," first applied ironically, came to fit him perfectly. As one awed soldier put it, "That is the biggest little man I have ever seen."

The military historian Robert Coram captures General Krulak's striding march across the Marine Corps, and across the American century. It's a work of popular military history that's at times ragged and hectoring, but always plainspoken and absorbing.

General Krulak's is not a simple story to tell. During his long career with the Marines (he ultimately became a three-star general), he didn't accomplish one great thing but played a signal role in many, many great things. He was a man who made his superiors look good. He was the corps's fox, not its hedgehog.

He was posted to Shanghai as an intelligence officer during the Japanese incursions of the 1930s, and during World War II he led a battalion on a daring

raid in the Solomon Islands, though his Marines were vastly outnumbered. (Some of the men were rescued in a PT boat skippered by John F. Kennedy.) He was a mastermind of the Okinawa invasion as deputy in charge of operations for the Sixth Marine Division..

General Krulak's mind was as fit and wiry as his body. He was a driving force behind the development and adoption of the drop-bow Higgins boat, used for amphibian landings, a boat that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower said "won the war for us." He was a pioneer in the use of helicopters, seizing on their potential as early as the 1940s and putting them to use in Korea. He advised Presidents Kennedy and Johnson on Vietnam. He was repeatedly involved in rescuing the Marine Corps from government plans to disband or weaken it.

General Krulak seemed to be everywhere. He was one of those men who simply slept less, and wanted more, than others did. He was so fearful of not being tall enough to join the Marines that — as one famous story about him goes — he had a friend whack him on the head with a piece of lumber so that the resulting lump would enable him to meet the height requirement.

**Ed's Note: This review has been somewhat abbreviated.**



*If They Recall Us...*

# SIXTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

## Annual Meeting Minutes The Orleans, Las Vegas, Nevada Thursday, October 14, 2010

President Elect Ed Marsalek called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He explained that for the first time this year, this was an open meeting and everyone was invited to attend. However, he stated that only Regular members could vote, the rest were guests. Ed also stated that membership goes up as lineal descendants continue to join. He suggested that the parents sign up their children for membership in the Association as a gift. This would help perpetuate the Association. He said that he and his wife are giving their children and grandchildren memberships this year. The lineal descendants are stepping up to the plate more each year and are doing a good job. President Elect Marsalek appointed Dick Roberts and Andy Sinatra as Sergeants at Arms.

### Roll Call

#### **Officers:**

Secretary Lisa Benedetti took the roll call:

President – Vacant

President Elect – Ed Marsalek Present

Secretary – Lisa Benedetti Present

Treasurer – Harold Walters Present

Chaplain – Harry McKnight Present

Editor – Joe Singleton Present

Judge Advocate – Sam Petriello Present

Membership Chairman – Jim White Absent and excused

Public Relations Officer – Bill Pierce Absent and excused

Service Officer – Marty Essex Present

Past President – Andy Sinatra Present

Past President Emeritus – Ed Marsalek Present

#### **Unit Directors:**

4th Marines George Scott

15th Marines James McWalters

22nd Marines Bob Russell

29th Marines Henry B. Kemp

6th Mtr Trans Bn Vince Mathews - Absent

6th Med Bn Jack Rice

6th Engr. Bn. Leonard Israel - Absent

6th Tank Bn Albert Stoel

6th Pioneer Bn Marvin Gromley

6th Hq. Bn Augie LePore - Absent

6th Recon Co. Fred Westphal - Absent

6th JASCO Dick Roberts

1st Amphibs

George Tremblay -  
Absent

President Elect Marsalek stated that the units will elect their directors later in the meeting for 2011.

Secretary Benedetti declared a quorum was in attendance (at least 30 members).

#### **Proof of Meeting Notice:**

President Elect Marsalek stated that the Meeting Notice was published in the spring and summer issues of the Striking Sixth. He had a copy available.

Past President Andy Sinatra led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain Harry McKnight gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes of October 31, 2009:

Jack Rice, seconded by Ken Wells, moved to approve the minutes of the October 31, 2009 Annual Meeting as published in the winter issue of the Striking Sixth. All in favor, motion carried.

#### **REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

President: No report, as the position was vacant.

President Elect – Ed Marsalek: Everything is going smoothly, so he had no suggestions.

Secretary Lisa Benedetti: The minutes will be signed and certified now that they have been approved.

Treasurer Harold Walters: The financial report for November 28, 2009 to September 30, 2010 was reviewed (attached). The balance for total assets was \$91,880.31. President Elect Marsalek stated the Association has a good balance and needs to spend some of it. He would like to assign lineal descendants to a committee to research worthy veterans' organizations where veterans might need help and that the Association might make donations to. He asked members to let him know of any groups or persons and he would assign the task. The IRS tends to watch organizations with large balances.

Chaplain Harry McKnight: As many people know, Bill Stites fell at the last reunion and had to go home. He came out of the surgery fine, but he is not doing well now. Chaplain McKnight asked all members to let him know of any members who are sick, in nursing homes or who pass away. He needs as much detail as possible, as he sends letters and cards.

President Elect Marsalek mentioned

that the lineal descendants could help with this. Perhaps they could be on a committee to also help with inquiries from the outside as to how to find out information on relatives, etc. This takes a lot of research. He asked for volunteers.

Editor Joe Singleton: The newsletter is under budget and is usually on time. He got help from Robin Essex Starr this year and Flo Dornan has helped him every year and he thanked both of them. Ed added that Joe also helps with research on inquiries.

Judge Advocate Sam Petriello: No report.

Membership Chairman Jim White: President Elect Ed Marsalek reported for Jim White. Jim would like to continue as Membership Chairman. The membership manager's report for 2010 was reviewed (attached). The total membership is 2,357 with the various classifications. The regular members total is 1,533.

President Elect Marsalek mentioned that all these reports were reviewed and discussed at the Board meeting and the information was being shared with all the members.

Public Relations Bill Pierce: President Elect Ed Marsalek stated that Bill Pierce does a lot of work on this. He is constantly researching things. Our website is one of the best with all kinds of information. Bill would also like to continue as chairman.

Service Officer Marty Essex: No report.

Past President Andy Sinatra: Andy explained that last year he had several family issues, which is why he could not attend the reunion. He was sorry to miss it.

Past President Emeritus Ed Marsalek: No report.

#### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

Resolutions: Sam Petriello read a resolution that the Board approved at its meeting.

Whereas, the bylaws state in Article VI, Officers and Their Election, Section C, Election and Term. that members shall hold office for the term of one year or until their successors are elected; and

Whereas a vacancy in the Office of President was created by the death of the President; Therefore, be it resolved that the current President

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Striking Sixth

## Annual Meeting Minutes

*continued from page 18...*

remain in office for the 2010-2011 term.

2010 Reunion: Marty Essex thanked everyone who helped on this year's reunion and there were a lot. He hoped everyone had a good time. A round of applause was given.

Awards: Sam Petriello read the honorary membership section of the bylaws, Article 5, Section A (5) and stated that the Board granted honorary membership to Pam Bloustine, Brenda Blair and Joan Wilhauer. All of them have gone above and beyond on behalf of the Association.

Membership: No report.

Scholarship: Sam Petriello reported that \$27,000 was originally donated to the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation in Princeton, New Jersey and it has awarded \$243,000 to lineal descendants to date. A new general took over a few years ago and because so much has been awarded, the Foundation suspended awarding any more scholarships to this Association. The Board approved donating \$15,000 to the Foundation with conditions. Sam thinks the scholarships are a good way to keep the Association name alive when future generations continue to get scholarships. President Elect Marsalek added that the Association wants to make sure that there is something in writing before the money is donated that states that the scholarships will be given to grandchildren. Sam mentioned that lineal descendants include grandchildren and right down the line. Ed would like it in writing.

Ken Wells commented that he feels the membership should approve the committee reports.

Nominations: Andy Sinatra asked for two volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Ken Wells and Rick Essex volunteered.

President Elect Ed Marsalek stated that for the election of the Unit Directors he would read off the current director and ask each unit to name a director at this time.

### Unit Directors Elected:

4th Marines	George Scott
15th Marines	James McWalters
22nd Marines	Bob Russell
29th Marines	Henry B. Kemp
6th Mtr Trans Bn	Vacant

Winter 2010

6th Med Bn	Jack Rice
6th Engr. Bn.	Vacant
6th Tank Bn	Albert Stoel and Sal Mistretta
6th Pioneer Bn Gromley	Marvin
6th Hq. Bn	Vacant
6th Recon Co.	Vacant
6th JASCO	Dick Roberts
1st Amphibs	Vacant

Andy Sinatra read the nominations for all officers and stated that all had accepted.

President – Ed Marsalek

President Elect – Sam Petriello

Secretary – Lisa Benedetti

Treasurer – Harold Walters

Chaplain – Harry McKnight

Editor – Joe Singleton

Judge Advocate – Bob McGowan

Membership Chairman – Jim White

Public Relations Officer – Bill Pierce

Service Officer – Marty Essex

President Elect Ed Marsalek asked if anyone else was interested, as nominations could be taken from the floor.

Jack Rice, seconded by Ken Wells, moved to close the nominations. All in favor, motion carried.

Ken Wells, seconded by Richard Whitaker, moved for a unanimous vote. All in favor, motion carried.

The question was raised if the shadows/aides should be named at this time. President Elect Marsalek did not think it appropriate at this time, as it may only make for confusion.

President Elect Ed Marsalek asked for the nomination and election of two members at large to serve on the 2011 Nominating Committee. Ken Wells and Rick Essex volunteered to serve.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Reunion Site 2011:

Anita Benedetti reported that the 2011 reunion would be held September 6 - 11, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio. It is a historic, boutique hotel right downtown and the staff would be very attentive as this group would be its main customers. The room rate is \$105 and is guaranteed for three days before and three days after

the reunion and includes a complete breakfast off the menu. She reviewed several aspects for Cleveland. There are lots of things to do and see and she stated she hoped to see everyone there.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Membership Manger's Contract:

President Elect Ed Marsalek stated that Flo Dornan presented a contract for 2011 for the same rate of \$300 per month as last year. Ed again mentioned that if everyone encourages their children to join, the membership could double. It is only \$10.00 a year and an additional \$10.00 to receive the Striking Sixth. The Board approved the contract at its meeting.

Presentations for Reunion 2012:

Sharon Woodhouse asked if there was any interest in holding the reunion in Portland, Oregon. If there were, she would start pursuing the matter. Ed stated that more information would be needed in order to make a decision.

Flo Dornan stated that there has been talk for years of having a simultaneous reunion with the 6th Marines and the Raiders. The Raiders will be holding its reunion at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa, Florida, September 11 - 16, 2012. It has offered the military rate of \$92.00 to the 6th Marines also, although that is subject to change. She reviewed several of the concessions, including separate hospitality rooms and bringing in liquor and snacks. Flo said there had been some opposition, but she thinks it is workable.

Sal Mistretta, seconded by ?, moved that the decision for the 2012 reunion be delayed until 2011 when both Portland and Tampa can give a full presentation and anyone else. All in favor, motion carried.

President Elect Ed Marsalek thanked everyone for coming knowing that it is not easy.

Adjournment 2:25 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Lisa Benedetti  
Secretary

**Lineal Descendants Meeting**  
**October 13, 2010**  
**6th Marine Division Reunion**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada**

**Minutes**

(This meeting was actually in two parts as we had to adjourn for the first busload of barbecue goers. It was reconvened on the afternoon of the 14th with a much smaller attendance.) The initial meeting was opened and people welcomed by spokesperson, Connie Houseweart. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves. There were a few veterans and their wives in attendance; most notably the Essexes, the Stoels, Mrs. Marsalek, Mrs. Bangert and Mrs. Walker. The count at one point was 28; a few of the organizers were called away.

Mr. Martin Essex addressed and welcomed the group saying how wonderful it was that we had gelled and solidified as an organization. He said he realized that many of us were there to support our own parents and that was certainly reason #1. But, he also urged us to consider another equally important reason for existing and that really big reason was to work to keep the whole organization alive.

Mrs. Marian Bangert spoke about how grateful she and the Ladies Auxiliary members were to have so many of the female lineal descendants take an interest in their group by attending the luncheons and volunteering to help the officers. There followed a discussion of our duties/mission/vision. It was decided that our group should have 2 functions:

1. Supporting our veteran families at reunions,
2. Acting as historians/archivists of our families stories.

It was felt that we could best perform our duties by forming subgroups or committees within our membership according to our strengths, talents, & time available.

For the reunions, these subgroups were seriously considered:

1. Volunteer Chair
2. Hospitality Room Chair
3. Registration Desk Chair

4. Transport Chair
5. Event Chair
6. Miscellaneous Duties Chair

At the 2nd meeting, these people were named/volunteered to work with the 2011 reunion's organizers:

- Hospitality Room – Connie Houseweart,  
Registration Desk – Sharon Woodhouse,  
Transportation – local persons,  
Events – local persons,  
Miscellaneous Duties – Kay Newill.

We also discussed changing the term “shadow” to “aides” in regards to supporting & learning the various roles of the association leadership. The question of job descriptions was answered by the fact that they are in the association bylaws although they aren't very detailed. It was then strongly suggested that current “aides” build a job description as they go through this year and be able to turn it in at next year's reunion.

Finally, Ms. Houseweart called for specific people to fulfill our elders' request for aides to the various association offices. The list of “aides” we came up with is as follows:

- President – Steven Vozella  
Secretary – Tiffany Woodhouse  
Treasurer – James Rigby  
Chaplain – Richard Essex  
Editor – Robin Essex Starr and Ken McCormack  
Membership – Sharon Woodhouse  
Public Relations – Datina Rinn  
Ladies Aux. Pres. – Sharon Woodhouse

It was understood that volunteer aides were going to introduce themselves to their chosen officers before the reunion broke up.

Lastly, the lineal membership called for specific titles for our leader and note taker. Hence, Connie Houseweart is President of Lineal Descendants and Anita Benedetti is Secretary of same.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anita Benedetti, Secretary  
November 8, 2010

**A MESSAGE FROM THE**  
**MEMBERSHIP MANAGER**

This was a historical reunion in Las Vegas for the Sixth Marine Division Association and it was a joy to witness it all! For the first time, widows and wives were able to attend the General Meeting. We sat in the back and were not able to vote but we now have a better understanding of the workings and visions of the Sixth Marine Division Association. All Regular members and Associate Lineal Descendants members were invited to vote on all proposals and motions brought to the floor and everyone seemed happy with the changes. It was a long time coming but worth the wait.

President Marsalek suggested that members give memberships to the Association to their sons, daughters and grandchildren as Christmas presents. Shortly after arriving home from Las Vegas I received membership enrollments for the four Marsalek children from President Marsalek. He indeed followed his own suggestion. How about more of you enrolling your children and grandchildren and watch our membership rolls grow as we replace our Marine members that we lose daily.

We have an excellent example of a family joining the ranks of the Association. Oliver R. Welch (29<sup>th</sup> Mar-2-F) has ten family members enrolled in the Association. All his granddaughters, grandsons, great granddaughters, great grandsons and even his son-in-law are Associate members and Associate lineal descendants of the Association. The latest addition to Oliver's family members was his newest great grandson, Nolan, who was enrolled at the reunion as a lifetime member and was born 8/26/2010. We appreciate Oliver Welch and his family ethic.

The membership of the Sixth Marine Division Association voted three new Honorary members: Our three lady Marines who co-chaired our second reunion, Oklahoma City and now in Las Vegas - Joan Willauer (Associate member and now Honorary), Pam Bloustine and Brenda Blair. Welcome ladies; we appreciate you.

*continued on page 21...*

Striking Sixth

## A MESSAGE FROM..

*continued from page 20*

It's that time of year again when I ask you to part with \$10 for dues and/or newsletter fees. Check your newsletter label to be sure you are paid for 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Flo Dornan  
Membership Manager

### Membership Status as of 11/15/2010

Regular Members	1,537
Associate Members	656
Lineal Descendants	175
Honorary Members	11
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>2,379*</b>
(Dues paid since 2007)	

### 6th MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION Financial Report Nov. 28, 2009 thru Sept. 30, 2010 INCOME

<b>Balance Forward from 2009</b>	<b>9,010.83</b>
Interest	1,173.00
Received from Dornan	
Dues	2,050.00
Subscription for Newsletter	4,220.00
Donation, General	665.00
Donation, Newsletter	125.00
Donation, Directory	135.00
Donation, Memorial Markers	60.00
Sub Total, Dornan	7,255.00
Reunion 2009 + Essex Winnings	3,690.00
Other	-
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>12,118.89</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	
Flo Dornan Contract	2,950.00
Bill Pierce PR	536.94
Newsletter	8,701.46
Memorial Markers	-
Fees	157.03
Supplies	2,007.74
Postage	46.68
Donations	1,100.00
2009 Reunion	28.00
2010 Reunion	2,500.00
Investments, CD & M Market	-
<b>TOTAL Expense</b>	<b>18,027.85</b>
<b>Check Book Balance</b>	<b>3,101.87</b>
Money Market To Date	18,778.44
CD, Principal, interest to Check	70,000.00
Total Assets	91,880.31

*Harold E. Walters, Treasurer*

### Money Market Savings

38,755.39 Bal 11/30/2009  
(20,000.00) 12/2/2009 Transferred to CD

18,778.44 Total, Money Market 8/31/2010  
70,000.00 CD Principal on 7/31/2010 interest is direct deposit to Checking Account

Winter 2010

## NEW MEMBERS

BECKER, Gene, ID #6116  
Nephew of Louis Yellen  
6th Marines-HQ Co, Assoc. LD  
5517 Commanche Way  
Madison, WI 53704-1025  
(608) 241-9865

CARLSTROM, Patricia, ID #6101  
Daughter of Gordon J. Ingles  
9th Amphib-C, Assoc. LD  
2341 Warren St  
Eugene, OR 97405-1167  
(541) 683-5573  
[mommapatc@gmail.com](mailto:mommapatc@gmail.com)

COX, Shirley R., ID #6106  
Daughter of George J. Mareda  
6th Marine Division, Assoc. LD  
1829 S. Battin St.  
Wichita, KS 67218-4415  
(316) 682-8914  
[shirl18@cox.net](mailto:shirl18@cox.net)

CREMEENS, Nolan M., ID #6111  
Great Grandson of Oliver R. Welch  
29th Marines, Associate LD  
(Born 8/26/2010)  
850 Addison Drive NE  
St. Petersburg, FL 33716-3442  
(727) 288-7473

EWERT, Robin, ID #6108  
Daughter of Harry J. Sandlaufer  
29th Mar-3-Mortar, Associate LD  
30 Robert Drive  
Short Hills, NJ 07078-1507  
(973) 258-0757  
[kbeck1@aol.com](mailto:kbeck1@aol.com)

HOYT, Nathan S., ID #6104  
4th Mar-1-A, Regular Annual  
80 Great Plain Road  
Danbury, CT 06811-3930  
(203) 743-2172  
[nathanhoyt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nathanhoyt@sbcglobal.net)

LAMBERT, Arden J., ID #6099  
Son of John Lambert  
4th Mar-3-I, Life Assoc. LD  
1041 English Avenue  
Turlock, CA 95380-5900  
(209) 535-6057  
[Jeoltrane50@yahoo.com](mailto:Jeoltrane50@yahoo.com)

MARSALEK, Carolyn, ID #6114  
Daughter of Edward H. Marsalek  
JASCO, Associate LD  
1108 W Wellington  
Chicago, IL 60657-4338  
(773) 472-0225  
[marsalek@urbancom.net](mailto:marsalek@urbancom.net)

MARSALEK, Diann, ID #6115  
Daughter of Edward H. Marsalek  
JASCO, Associate LD  
1108 W Wellington  
Chicago, IL 60657-4338  
(773) 472-0225  
[marsalek@urbancom.net](mailto:marsalek@urbancom.net)

MARSALEK, Edward F., ID #6112  
Son of Edward H. Marsalek  
JASCO, Associate LD  
41084 N Karen Ct  
Antioch, IL 60002-2202  
(847) 838-5228  
[nickm99@comcast.net](mailto:nickm99@comcast.net)

MARSALEK, Nick, ID #6113  
Son of Edward H. Marsalek  
JASCO, Associate LD  
41084 N Karen Ct  
Antioch, IL 60002-2202  
(847) 838-5228  
[nickm99@comcast.net](mailto:nickm99@comcast.net)

Mc CORMACK, Ken, ID #6102  
Son of James H. McCormack  
29th Mar-2-G, Assoc. LD  
4208 N Rogers Rd  
Spring Valley, CA 91977-1219  
(619) 997-0176  
[kenmac1@cox.net](mailto:kenmac1@cox.net)

MILLER, Ralph, ID #6107  
Nephew of Robert L. Miller  
15th Artillery, Associate LD  
1240 Walnut Terr  
Boca Raton, FL 33486-5567  
(561) 391-4319  
[ramille@bellsouth.net](mailto:ramille@bellsouth.net)

O'HARA, Mary Jane, ID #6100  
Daughter of Gordon J. Ingles  
9th Amphib-C, Assoc. LD  
27 W 17th Ave  
Eugene, OR 97401-4012  
(541) 686-3553  
[ohmj777@aol.com](mailto:ohmj777@aol.com)

RINN, Alfred, ID #6105  
15th Mar-3-H&S, Regular Annual  
43 College Dr #2E  
Jersey City, NJ 07305-1054  
(201) 435-4969  
[drinn@optonline.net](mailto:drinn@optonline.net)

SANDLAUFER, Douglas, ID #6109  
Son of Harry J. Sandlaufer  
29th Mar-3-Mortar, Associate LD  
73 Mountain Ave  
Llewellyn Park, NJ 07052  
(973) 736-5888  
[dsandlaufer@yahoo.com](mailto:dsandlaufer@yahoo.com)

SENERFITT, John R., ID #6103  
29th Mar-F, Regular Annual  
P.O. Box 1  
Holland, TX 76534-0001  
(512) 818-2230

WHALEN, Robert C., ID #6110  
Son of John W. Whalen  
22nd Mar-1-B, Associate LD  
7511 E 54th Street  
Tulsa, OK 74145  
(918) 665-2571

## **TAPS:**

All of us in the Sixth Marine Division Association extend our sympathy to the family and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

<b>NAME</b>	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>DATE OF DEATH</b>
AUDET, Frieda	Widow of Robert Audet	Unknown
BISCANIN, Albert E.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3-I	7/25/2009
BISHOP, Arthur W. Jr.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3-I	7/09/2010
BRENNAN, Paul D.	15 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-D	7/30/2010
BRUNTLETT, Arch F. (John)	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-2-B	7/28/2010
BRUNTLETT, Evelyn	Wife of Arch F. Bruntlett	6/03/2010
BUCKLIN, Marie	Widow of James I. Bucklin	8/07/2010
COTE, Adrienne	Widow of Paul Cote	7/14/2010
CRISCITELLO, James (NM)	15 <sup>th</sup> Artillery-G	3/08/1996
DeMAR, Edmund H.	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Division	Unknown
DUNER, Richard (NM)	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-HQ	10/8/2009
ENDRES, Raymond J.	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar-1-C	8/14/2010
GABLER, Helen D.	Wife of Bob Gabler	6/10/2010
GRECO, Rocco V.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-3-HQ	Unknown
JACKSON, James L.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-HQ	8/21/2010
KENDELL, Trudy	Widow of Raymond Kendall	Unknown
LABARGE, Frank J.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3-I	10/27/2010
LONG, Jerry F. (NM)	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar-3-K	8/20/2010
McGOWAN, Gladys	Wife of Robert McGowan, Sr.	10/8/2010
McCARTHY, Timothy F.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-3-G	2/13/2010
MILLER, Ralph J. "Doc"	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-1-HQ	7/24/2010
MYLER, Bernard E. (NM)	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Division	1/03/1998
NILAND, George H.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3-L	10/13/2010
OLSON, Russell	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-F	Unknown
OWEN, SR., Thomas B.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-3-K	12/19/2008
PEARCE, Donald C.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-HQ	7/31/2010
SCHNURR, John C. (NM)	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Div. Corpsman	Unknown
SIEVERTSON, William	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-E	5/24/2010
SLUSSER, Max E. (NM)	4 <sup>th</sup> Marines	9/24/2010
STATEN, Mildred	Widow of Charles Staten	8/23/2010
TAYLOR, Robert C.	4 <sup>th</sup> Marines	2/14/1994
TERPINAS, Thomas M.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-1-C (Corpsman)	8/11/2010
VOZELLA, Dora	Wife of Ralph Vozella	Unknown
WAGONER, Frances	Wife of Donald Wagoner	3/05/2010
WALKER, Harold L.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-2-F	9/21/2008
WALKER, Robert Jack	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-F	7/06/2010
WALL, Robert T.	22 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Marines (JASCO)	12/10/2004
WALTERS, Josephine C.	Companion, Robert B. Pringle	10/26/2009
WARREN, John Henry	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Division	6/25/2010
WATERFIELD, Robert (NM)	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Division	Unknown
WEALAND, Lowell R.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-D	Unknown
WEEKS, Velma (Liz)	Widow of Otis Weeks	10/00/2010
WESTPHAL, Betty	Wife of Fred Westphal	8/27/2010
WILHARM, John	6 <sup>th</sup> Tank-C	Unknown

(NM) designates non-member.



**Raymond Endres**

**Dies at 85**

Raymond Joseph Endres, 85, died of complications from Parkinson's disease at the North Avenue Retreat in Fair Oaks, Calif. August 14, 2010. Born Sept. 7, 1924 in Faribault, Minn., to Raymond George Endres and Marie E. Savoie Endres, he earned a bachelor's degree in education from St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn., in 1949; a master's degree in education from Montana State University, Billings in 1951; and a Ph.D. in education from the University of Oregon, Eugene in 1961.

Ray enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve December 12, 1942, and entered the Naval Air Training program. When the program was halted in August, 1944, he enlisted in the Marines. He was assigned to the 6th Marine Division on Okinawa. On August 9, 1951, he married Bonnie Joy Cattnach, who preceded him in death March 18, 1998 after 46 years of marriage. He was Director of Student Teaching upon his retirement from Sacramento State University in 1988. Ray was an active member of local Catholic churches.

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# General Lejeune's Birthday Message



**General Lejeune's Grave**

Marine Corps Order No. 47 (Series 1921) HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS Washington, November 1, 1921

The following will be read to the command on the 10th of November, 1921, and hereafter on the 10th of November of every year. Should the order not be received by the 10th of November, 1921, it will be read upon receipt.

On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of Continental Congress. Since that date many thousand men have borne the name "Marine". In memory of them it is fitting that we who are Marines should commemorate the birthday of our corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history.

The record of our corps is one which will bear comparison with that of the most famous military organizations in the world's history. During 90 of the 146 years of its existence the Marine Corps

*continued on page 15...*

## Membership Application and Change of Address

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 Phone (\_\_\_\_)-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
 His unit within Division, if known \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mail to: Florence R. Dornan, Membership Manager, 704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011  
 Email: Sxthmardiv@aol.com Phone: 817-275-1552

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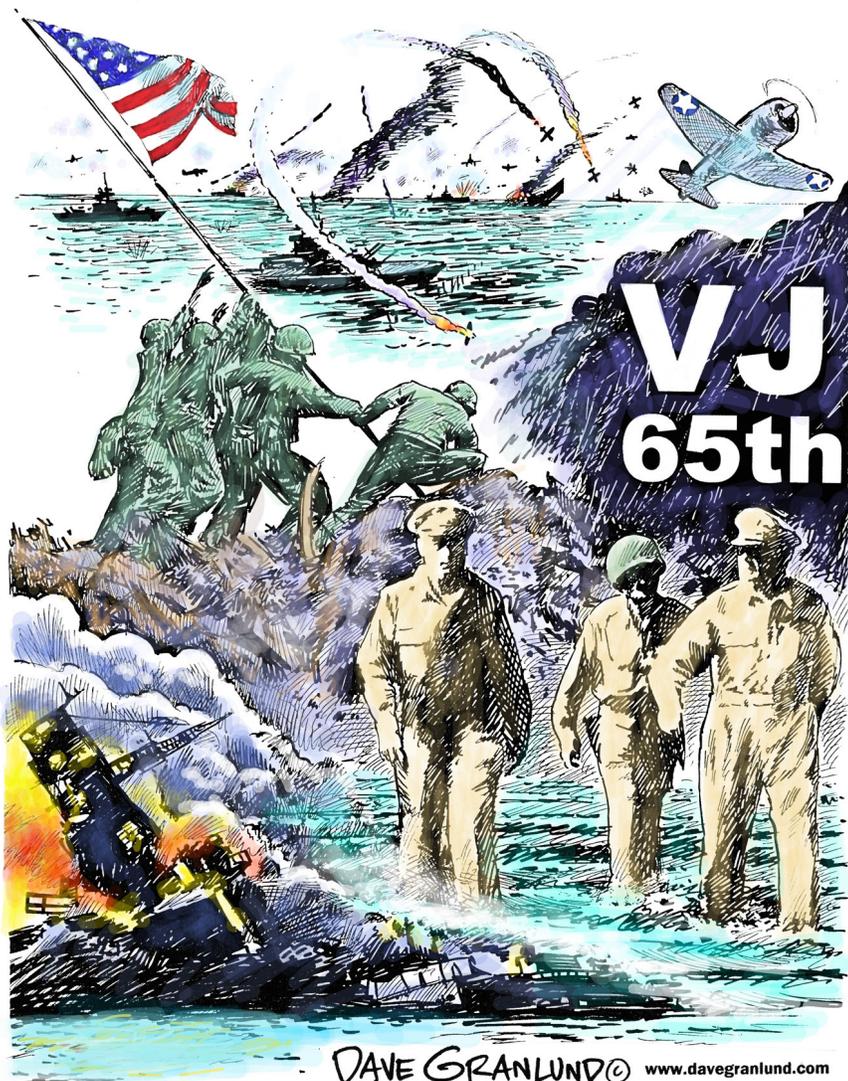


Striking Sixth Newsletter

Winter 2010

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## The first Striking Sixth

– newsletter of this year came out in the spring and was dedicated mostly to the war and Sixth Division combat. The summer edition told of war's end and the peace that followed was supposed to be in this edition, but that would take a series of books, DVD's and movies; too ambitious by far.

So we will note the end of 1945 and 2010 with Dave Grunland's art work. The subject matter isn't quite on the mark for Marines. It was chosen because it is good, it does an excellent job of describing the War in the Pacific and Dave let us use it for free.

The problem was that MacArthur's wading ashore in the Philippines nearly canceled the deal. It reminds of the Marines' attitude toward the famous general. While trying to hang on to Guadalcanal during those trying times in 1942, they used to sing about him:

We asked for the army to come to Tulagi,  
But Douglas MacArthur said, "No!"

He gave for a reason, it isn't the season,  
Besides there is no USO.

Anyhow, let's close out the 65 years since VJ Day and the Battle of Okinawa by remembering the Marines of the Sixth for what they did a long time ago. We must also congratulate the wives and children who have stuck it out with them through these many years since. We can do this again for the 70th year in 2015. See you then.