

STRIKING SIXTH

1st Provisional Marine Brigade Newsletter



Vol. 44 No. 1

www.sixthmarinedivision.com

Spring 2019



2019 Reunion — It's Going To Be Historic! Loews Philadelphia Hotel — August 27 to September 1

Imagine staying at one of the top luxury hotels in Philadelphia for **only \$115 a night!** And that **includes all taxes plus two \$25 breakfast vouchers and free parking.** A rate like that for a quality hotel in the center of downtown Philly is nothing short of amazing!

How is this possible??? It's all thanks to **Comcast**, who is sponsoring our reunion and helping to subsidize the cost!!

Comcast has been working closely with our reunion hosts, Buzz Bissinger and Lisa Smith,

to plan a fantastic reunion filled with historic sights, great food, and lots of fun!

See pages 2, 6-13, and 22-23 for more information.



lineal descendant, Buzz Bissinger, and his wife, Lisa Smith

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2019 Reunion — Start Making Your Plans!

- Complete your Registration Form (pages 11-12) **AND** Hotel Reservation Form (page 13).
Please note!!! All hotel reservations must be made through Sharon Woodhouse by July 31 in order to get the special discounted rate.
- Mail **BOTH** Forms to Sharon Woodhouse at the address on the form.

Don't Wait — After July 31, room rates will be MUCH higher and room availability is NOT guaranteed.

QUESTIONS???

Call or email Sharon Woodhouse:
phone: (503) 799-4455
email: sjawoodhouse@gmail.com

DEADLINE — JULY 31

for Registration Form and
Hotel Reservation Form





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6th Engineering Battalion	Vacant
6th Tank Battalion	Sal Mistretta
6th Pioneer Battalion	Vacant
6th Headquarters Battalion	Vacant
6th Recon Company	Joe Singleton
6th JASCO	George McAfee
1st Amphibs	Vacant

MEMBERSHIP MGR.

Florence R. Dornan
Note: While Flo is recovering from a medical issue, Connie Houseweart is covering for her.

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Striking Sixth Newsletter

This newsletter is an official publication of the Sixth Marine Division Association and is published three times each year.

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Subscription checks — as well as dues, donations, address changes, death notices, and record changes — should be mailed to:

Connie Houseweart
258 Sechler Drive
Montoursville, PA 17754

Please make checks payable to:

Sixth Marine Division Assn.

For more information, please contact Connie at:
(570) 433-4402 or almostnuts@comcast.net

**The deadline to send in your forms
for the 2019 Reunion is July 31.
If you miss the deadline, the hotel rate
will rise significantly and we can't
guarantee rooms will still be available.**

Letters to the editor, materials for publication, suggestions, and feedback can be sent to:
Carroll McGowan, chm1423@aol.com, 1423 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228, (412) 341-9219

I'm a Tough Old Geezer

by Gabriel Neely-Streit, *The Southern*, December 11, 2018

When Japanese fighter pilots bombed Pearl Harbor 77 years ago today, Cairo's Bill Eblen was a "boneheaded" 16-year-old, he says, boasting with friends about how he would fend off the next attack with his rifle from home.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps two weeks after graduating high school, hoping for warm weather and tropical music in the South Pacific.

He had no idea what to expect, the 93-year-old told *The Southern*. But of all his options, he thought the Marines were the least likely to get him killed.

"You go over there a snott-nosed kid," Eblen said, "lackadaisical as hell. You don't believe it until it happens. It's gut-wrenching."

April 1, 1945, was his reality check. Eblen and his regiment were dropped into the water just off Okinawa to begin their advance. They scrambled to shore under the cover of American gunboat fire so intense the water "looked like it was boiling," Eblen said.

"I was scared to death," he said. "They probably thought I was shooting dice," by the way his hands were shaking.

Like many veterans of the world's bloodiest modern war, Eblen's deployment was a series

of near-death experiences.

He was nearly killed in training off the island of Guadalcanal when a Japanese submarine ambushed his ship.

Months later, he narrowly avoided the Battle of Iwo Jima, which claimed over 26,000 American lives, and which Eblen firmly believes would have killed him, too.



Bill Eblen, 93, poses with a photograph of himself taken during his service in World War II.

Instead, he was assigned to the Battle of Okinawa. He spent 61 days on the front lines as a radio operator for the 29th Regiment of the 6th Marine Division, calling in airstrikes for other companies as they moved northward.

In that time he came feet away from being killed by a mortar strike, watched a kamikaze pilot dive towards U.S. boats, and called in air strikes on top of his own position, as he was pinned down by enemy fire.

Eblen can laugh about those experiences now, but he knows they changed him.

He was shipped home from China holding the rank of corporal. But back on U.S. soil, he struggled to find a sense of a purpose.

"I was more interested in drinking than doing anything else," Eblen said. He had horrible nightmares and heard scream-

ing. He was easily startled, to the point he warned his young nieces and nephews not to scare him or catch him unawares.

"I could really hurt someone," he worried in those moments. "It was spontaneous."

Over 70 years later, the trauma still affects him some-

times, he said, when something startles him at the Anna Veterans Home where he lives.

In spite of the scars, Eblen is tremendously proud of his military service, as is his family.

"If we all sit down at the table, there's plenty of political differences, but you won't find anyone in our family that doesn't respect the military," said John Profilet, Eblen's brother-in-law.

(continued on next page)

Tough Old Geezer

(continued from prior page)

Eblen married into Profilet's family, also of Cairo, in the 1960s, and found success as an insurance salesman and estate planner. He's an animal lover and a major financial supporter of PAWS, Anna's no-kill animal shelter. One day, he plans to be buried in his blues.

Eblen's first brush with fame came late in life, when he donned his marine dress uniform to attend his niece's 2017 wedding.

He was pushed down the aisle in a wheelchair, holding a sign that read "I'm her something blue," referring to the traditional wisdom that for good fortune a bride should carry, among other things, a blue object with her on her wedding day.

The photos received some 33 million hits on social media, his family said, and Eblen was interviewed by media outlets from across the country, including People magazine. Still, he promises the fame never went to his head. At least he's pretty sure it didn't.

"I'm too damn old to remember!" he said.

These days, Eblen's duty as a soldier is to keep spirits up at the Anna Veterans Home, he explained.

"I'm a big jokester, always have been," he said. "Just get 'em laughing. That's my niche in life, I guess."

There are several other WWII vets at the home, Eblen said. But they're disappearing quickly.

"There's not many of us left to celebrate out here," Eblen said. "We'd like to, but they play taps here more than they do at Arlington National Cemetery. And I don't want to be in that line."

Among the vets, Eblen considers himself lucky to have a family that visits him, and a mind that's still good enough to recite the names and calibers of Japanese artillery from 70 years ago, and track all the players on the current Cardinals roster.

"Most of the guys in here who really got it the worst won't say anything," Eblen said. "They just clam up, they're still so shocked. They don't want to be brought back into that any more."

He's had roommates who barely spoke and others who screamed uncontrollably. Regardless, his approach is the same.

Talk to them. Cheer them up.

"He's a unique person at the veterans' home," Profilet said. "He livens up the guys. He's uplifting."

And still going strong. Aside from a bad back, which is "everyone's" problem, Eblen said he's feeling great and looking forward to his 94th birthday, four days after Christmas.

"I'm a tough old geezer," he said. "A blast from the past."

Flo Dornan Hospitalized

We are sorry to let you know our Membership Manager, Flo Dornan, was hospitalized earlier this year and is just now returning home. We wish her a complete and speedy recovery!

In the meantime, we are working with her children to update the membership roster and newsletter mailing list. As this newsletter went to print, we had not located all of the checks that have been sent in for newsletter subscriptions, membership renewals, and donations.

Our only option was to use last year's mailing list for this newsletter.

While Flo recovers, all membership business will be handled by Connie Houseweart. Her contact information is on page 3.

If you sent in a check for the 2019 newsletter, your membership renewal, or a donation, and the check has not been cashed, please let Connie know. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience.

If you haven't sent in your check for the 2019 newsletter, please send it to Connie.

We encourage you to send get well cards and letters to Flo. Her address is:

704 Cooper Court
Arlington, TX 76011

2019 Reunion — Welcome to Philadelphia!

Everyone knows Philadelphia has history. But who knew it was so welcoming? To give you an idea, here's what James Cuorato, President and CEO of Independence Visitor Corp., told us:

"The city of Philadelphia is as excited as we are to commemorate the Sixth Division. It's wonderful to be involved in honoring these true American heroes. We'll do everything we possibly can to help you make this a memorable time in Philadelphia for them and their families."

And it's not just talk. They are backing it up with offers and donations! This is important, because like other large cities, Philadelphia is expensive. We'd never be able to host the reunion here and make it affordable without major donations.

Along with our Reunion Sponsor, **Comcast Corporation** (see back page), we'd also like to thank

VISIT PHILADELPHIA, Independence Visitor Corp., former Philadelphia Mayor and Pennsylvania Governor **Ed Rendell**, and the wonderful **family of the late James McGuigan** (29th Mar-3-G). It wasn't enough that the McGuigans hosted and generously donated to the reunion in Baltimore last year. They are also contributing to the 2019 reunion in their hometown of Philadelphia! And let us not forget our reunion hosts, **Buzz Bissinger and Lisa Smith** who are doing so much work and generously covering the super expensive hotel parking fees.

It's going to be a fun-filled reunion! We've allowed plenty of downtime, so you can enjoy everything Philadelphia has to offer, including great shopping and restaurants close by our hotel. We hope you can join us!



GETTING FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE HOTEL

The easiest option is to take a **taxi**. It should cost around \$30-35 before tip. The trip is 20 minutes *if* there's no traffic.

The cheapest option is the **SEPTA train**. It costs \$8.00 if you purchase your ticket from the conductor (cash only) or \$6.75 if purchased online or at the station ticket office. The trains leave every half hour between 5:00 am and midnight. The trip takes 25 minutes. Get off the train at the Jefferson Station (the 5th stop after the airport terminals). It's a short walk — two-tenths of a mile — to the Loews Philadelphia Hotel.

GETTING AROUND THE CITY

Don't waste your money on a rental car!

Many places are within walking distance of our hotel. For most everything else, try the **Philly Phlash**. It's an air-conditioned, wheelchair-accessible bus that travels a loop around the city every 15 minutes from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm. It's \$2.00 per ride, or \$5.00 for an all-day pass. Buy your tickets onboard (cash only). You can find the route map online, or pick up a map when you board the bus. It goes to all the major tourist attractions, including the ones mentioned in this newsletter.

And of course there's Uber, Lyft and taxis.

2019 Reunion — Loews Philadelphia Hotel



AMAZING ROOMS RATES

- Doubles and singles are **only \$115** a night
- Room rate **includes all taxes and two \$25 breakfast vouchers** (one voucher for singles)
- Additional adults in room are charged \$25/night
- Rooms have one queen or king or two double beds, a flat screen TV, mini-bar and complimentary internet access
- Check in is 4:00 pm; check out is 11:00 am
- Room rates are available 3 days before and 3 days after reunion dates
- **Limited number of accessible rooms**, so get your reservation form in early if you need one
- Free valet parking (thanks to the generosity of Buzz Bissinger and Lisa Smith)

SURROUNDED BY HISTORY

- Housed in a lovingly-restored, 33-story historic landmark just minutes from great shopping and great eating
- Within 1.5 miles of:
 - Independence National Historical Park
 - Liberty Bell
 - Betsy Ross House
 - Ben Franklin's grave
 - Museum of the American Revolution
 - National Constitution Center
 - Philadelphia Art Museum & Rocky Statue
 - U.S. Mint
 - Reading Terminal Market

ONSITE DINING

- Bank and Bourbon full service restaurant
- Lobby Lounge for drinks and small bites
- POD Market offering fresh pastries, coffee, grab & go salads, snacks, and drinks
- 24 hour room service



IMPORTANT NOTICES — PLEASE READ!

- **Hotel reservations must be made by completing the form on page 13 and mailing it with your check or credit card number to Sharon Woodhouse (address on form). Your credit card will be charged around August 15.**
- **If you call the hotel directly, you will NOT get our discounted rate.**
- **If you make your reservation after July 31, you will pay the normal rack rate, which is significantly higher than our discounted rate. And there may be no rooms available.**
- **The hotel will ask you for a credit card number when you arrive — it is for incidentals only.**

2019 Reunion — Field Trips

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

Battleship New Jersey Museum and Barbecue Lunch

Here's your chance to tour a World War II battleship that played a key role in Sixth Marine Division history! The USS New Jersey, America's most decorated battleship, was directly engaged in the conquest of Okinawa from 14 March until 16 April 1945. As the carriers prepared for the invasion, she fought off air raids, rescued downed pilots, defended the carriers from suicide planes (shooting down at least three), and heavily bombarded the beaches in preparation for the invasion.

Built in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, the USS New Jersey was launched on December 7, 1942. After serving in the Pacific theatre during World War II, she saw action in Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon, and the Persian Gulf. She earned 19 battle stars, nine of them during World War II.

Decommissioned in 1991, the New Jersey returned to her birthplace in Philadelphia for restoration. In 2001, she opened as a museum just across the river from Philadelphia in Camden, NJ.



USS New Jersey

We'll enjoy a 90 minute guided tour followed by a delicious barbecue lunch on the top deck. *Please note that areas below the deck are not wheelchair accessible, but there is a lounge on deck where you'll be able to watch video footage of the ship in action.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

Philadelphia City Tour, Independence Hall and Lunch at City Tavern

Calling all history geeks! Hop on the bus for a guided tour of Philadelphia where history is around every corner.



Liberty Bell with Independence Hall in background

After seeing the city's top sights, we'll park the bus at Independence Hall where our nation was born. Nearly 250 years ago, 56 courageous men gathered here to sign the Declaration of Independence. Eleven years later in the same room, delegates to the Constitutional Convention created and signed the U.S. Constitution. We'll stand in that very room during a guided tour of the building!

Just across the street is the Liberty Bell, our next stop on the tour. Although the bell is cracked, it's message of liberty still rings out to all.

Our final stop is the City Tavern, housed in a replica of the historic 18th Century building that stood on the same site. Frequented by the Founding Fathers, the City Tavern was the site of the first anniversary celebration of Independence Day on July 4, 1777. John Adams called it "the most genteel tavern in America," and we know our group will be at their genteel best as they dine on authentic 18th Century fare. We're counting on Rick Willauer to lead the way!

2019 Reunion — Field Trips

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

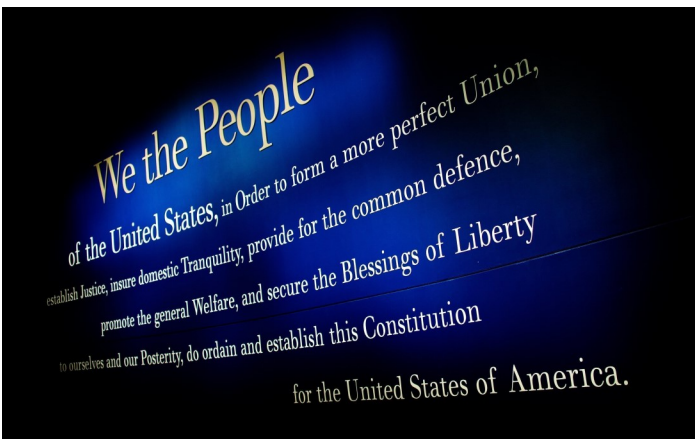
National Constitution Center with Box Lunch

Celebrate the greatest vision of human freedom in history — the United States Constitution! Just a quick bus ride from our hotel, the National Constitution Center brings the Constitution to life through interactive exhibits, rare artifacts, films, and photographs.

We'll begin with *Freedom Rising*, a stirring multimedia production that takes you from 1787 to the present as a live actor narrates the American quest for freedom. Then you're free to walk around the center at your own pace.

The Story of We the People, the National Constitution Center's main exhibit, guides visitors through milestones in American history and helps them appreciate what it means to be an American. Be sure to stop by Signers' Hall where you can walk among 42 life-size bronze statues of the Founding Fathers on the final day of the Constitutional Convention.

All this history is bound to make you hungry. Not to worry — we'll have boxed lunches ready for you at the museum. We recommend the Philadelphia cheesesteak. You cannot leave Philadelphia without consuming at least one Philly cheesesteak! (Unless you are a vegetarian, in which case you can choose a garden salad instead.)



SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

Grand Banquet at the Museum of the American Revolution

The Marines of the Sixth Marine Division fought to preserve our freedom. How fitting that this year's Grand Banquet will be held at a museum that honors the Americans who fought to create our nation and secure our freedom.



Washington's restored field tent at the Museum of the American Revolution

Opened just two years ago, the Museum of the American Revolution tells of the history and continuing relevance of the revolution. From the "shot heard 'round the world" in Concord in 1775 to the adoption of the Constitution in 1789, this museum tells the story of the American Revolution through original artifacts, immersive galleries, interactive displays, and recreated historical environments. It's a unique location for us to honor the Sixth Division veterans on the final night of our reunion.

Along with a delicious dinner and inspirational speaker, we'll enjoy a few laughs. What's in store? Some traditional Philadelphia entertainment. What does that mean? We have no idea. But Buzz promises it will be wonderful, strange, memorable, and fun!

2018 Reunion -- Schedule

Cost per person

Registration Please register in the Hospitality Room after you arrive. **\$25.00***
 Someone will normally be there to register you from 9:00 am
 until the evening each day, except during field trips.

Breakfast will be served in the Bank and Bourbon Restaurant from 6:30-10:00 am each day

Tuesday, August 27

3:00 pm-10:00 pm 6thMarDiv Hospitality Room
 6:00 pm-8:00 pm **Meet and Greet Reception with Ben Franklin** **\$10.00**
 (snacks included)

Wednesday, August 28

8:00 am-10:00 pm 6thMarDiv Hospitality Room
 10:00 am-3:00 pm **Tour and Barbecue Lunch on USS New Jersey** **\$49.00**
 4:30 pm-8:00 pm **Barbecue Dinner at the Home of Jim and Theresa McGuigan** no charge

Thursday, August 29

8:00 am-10:00 pm 6thMarDiv Hospitality Room
 10:00 am-3:30 pm **Philadelphia Bus Tour, Independence Hall, Liberty Bell,** **\$35.00**
and Lunch at City Tavern
 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Executive Board Meeting

Friday, August 30

8:00 am-6:00 pm 6thMarDiv Hospitality Room
 11:00 am-2:00 pm **Tour and Box Lunch at the National Constitution Center** **\$20.00**
 6:00 pm **General Meeting and Auction** no charge
 (heavy hors d'oeuvres included)

Saturday, August 31

10:00 am **Memorial Service** with color guard, bag piper and bugler no charge
 6:00 pm-9:00 pm **Grand Banquet at the Museum of the American Revolution** **\$49.00***
 dinner, guest speaker, officer installation, and entertainment

***Hospitality Room Registration and Dinner Banquet are FREE for Sixth Division
 Marines and their wives/significant others and widows.**

2018 Reunion -- Registration Form

Please complete **both sides** of this form.

Send form with a check made payable to 6th Marine Division Assn.
to Sharon Woodhouse at 14150 SW Hart Road, Beaverton, OR 97008 **by July 31.**

Name _____ Spouse/Guest name _____
If lineal descendant, of whom _____
Mailing address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home phone (____) _____ Cell phone (____) _____ Email _____
Company _____ Battalion _____ Regiment _____

Check all that apply to you:

- Attending my 1st reunion I will NOT be staying at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel
 Use cane or walker Use wheelchair Use motorized wheelchair
 Will take wheelchair on field trips
 Special dietary needs: (please specify) _____
 Other special needs: (please specify) _____
 Willing to pick up veterans and wives/widows at the airport (must provide cell phone above)
 Will bring auction item Willing to help as needed

YOUR TRAVEL PLANS

Will be arriving in Philadelphia by _____ on _____
(mode of transportation) (arrival date)

For Sixth Division Marines, wives and widows who are traveling with no family members only:

Do you want us to pick you up at the airport? _____ We would be happy to do so!

Arrival info:

Airline: _____ Flight # _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Departure info:

Airline: _____ Flight # _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Cell phone # while traveling: (____) _____

For all others:

There is a SEPTA train that leaves from all terminals of the airport and travels to city center in about half an hour. Or you can taxi or uber. See page 6 for more information.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO

Contact name: _____

Relationship to you: _____ Phone: _____

Please complete the reverse side

2018 Reunion -- Registration Form, page 2

Registration 6th Division Marines, wives & widows -- FREE # ____ (for planning)
 All others -- \$25 per person # attending ____ x \$25 = \$ _____

Tuesday, August 27

6:00 pm-8:00 pm **Meet and Greet Reception with Ben Franklin** # attending ____ x \$10 = \$ _____
 (snacks included)

Wednesday, August 28

10:00 am-3:00 pm **Tour & Barbecue Lunch on USS New Jersey** # attending ____ x \$49 = \$ _____

4:30 pm-8:00 pm **Barbecue Dinner at the McGuigans** # attending ____ (for planning)

Thursday, August 29

10:00 am-3:30 pm **Philadelphia Bus Tour, Independence Hall,
 Liberty Bell, and Lunch at Old City Tavern**
 Please indicate # and lunch choice -----> Chicken Madeira # ____ x \$35 = \$ _____
 Beef Bourguignon # ____ x \$35 = \$ _____

Friday, August 30

11:00 am-2:00 pm **Tour and Box Lunch at National Constitution Center**
 Please indicate # and lunch choice -----> Cheesesteak # ____ x \$20 = \$ _____
 Garden Salad # ____ x \$20 = \$ _____

6:00 pm **General Meeting and Auction** # attending ____ (for planning)
 (heavy hors d'oeuvres included)

Saturday, August 31

10:00 am **Memorial Service** # attending ____ (for planning)

6:00 pm-9:00 pm **Grand Banquet, Museum of the American Revolution**
 Please indicate # and dinner choice -----> Meat # ____ x \$49* = \$ _____
 Fish # ____ x \$49* = \$ _____
 Vegetarian # ____ x \$49* = \$ _____
****Note: dinner is free for Sixth Division
 Marines, wives/signif. others & widows***

Total due for all events.....\$ _____

Make check payable to: 6th Marine Division Assn.
Please mail completed form with your check by July 31 to:
 Sharon Woodhouse
 14150 SW Hart Road
 Beaverton, OR 97008

Questions? Contact Sharon Woodhouse -- sjawoodhouse@gmail.com or (503) 799-4455

2018 Reunion -- Hotel Reservation Form

You must complete this form to secure your hotel reservation.

Please send the form with your credit card number *or*
a check made payable to 6th Marine Division Assn.
to Sharon Woodhouse at 14150 SW Hart Road, Beaverton, OR 97008 **by July 31.**

FIRST ROOM:

Name for hotel reservation _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone (____) _____ Cell (____) _____ Email _____

Arrival date _____ Departure date _____

Number of people in room: _____ Adults (18+) _____ Children (0-17)

Bed type (check one): _____ one queen or king bed _____ two double beds

Check if needed: _____ Accessible room _____ Rollaway bed (charge may apply) _____ Crib

SECOND ROOM:

Name for hotel reservation _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone (____) _____ Cell (____) _____ Email _____

Arrival date _____ Departure date _____

Number of people in room: _____ Adults (18+) _____ Children (0-17)

Bed type (check one): _____ one queen or king Bed _____ two double beds

Check if needed: _____ Accessible room _____ Rollaway bed (charge may apply) _____ Crib

PAYMENT INFO

_____ I am enclosing a check made payable to 6th Marine Division Assn*

_____ Please charge my credit card: **(Please note your card will be charged around August 15.)**

Credit card number: _____

Name on card: _____

Expiration date: _____ Security no. _____
(Month) (Year) (3 digits on back of card)

Note: Rooms reserved after July 31 will NOT get the special discounted rate.

***If you are writing a check:**

Check should be for total # room nights (number of rooms x number of nights) multiplied by \$115, plus additional \$25 charge per person per night for 3rd and 4th adult (18+) in each room. Make check payable to **6th Marine Division Assn.** Please call Sharon Woodhouse at (503) 799-4455 to verify correct amount.

From the Historian's Corner

TUN TAVERN, BIRTHPLACE OF THE MARINE CORPS

Tun Tavern was built by Samuel Carpenter in 1685 as a "brew house." It was in Philadelphia on the corner of Water Street and Tun Alley, near the waterfront. At the time, tun meant a "cask" of beer, a barrel etc. Hence, Tun Tavern, which would go on to serve both not-so-savory characters and some of the greatest leaders in American history.

Although Tun Tavern no longer exists, there is a sign near its original location that honors its historical legacy. If one wants to experience a tavern of that time period, there are a number of taverns along the east coast that are similar in their construction.

Yet none have the lineage of Tun Tavern.

George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and many members of the Continental Congress all raised a pint and conducted business in Tun Tavern. In fact, it acquired the nickname "Governors Club." Ben Franklin used it as a meeting place for the Pennsylvania militia.

Tun Tavern quickly developed a reputation for serving fine beer. According to food lore, the first Philly Cheese Steak was served there. It also gained distinction as the birthplace of the first American Masonic Lodge. The St. John's Lodge No. 1 of the Grand Lodge of the Masonic



Temple held its meetings at the tavern, and Ben Franklin was the third Grand Master. In 1747, another organization was founded within its walls – the St. Andrews Society, a charitable group dedicated to assisting poor immigrants from Scotland.

However, the most notable birth of all was that of the Marine Corps on November 10, 1775. Yes, the Marine Corps was really founded in a tavern. Samuel Nichols, who had received his commission in the Continental service 18 days before (and is considered to be the first Commandant of the Marine Corps), was assigned the job of commissioning two battalions of Marines by the Continental Congress. He began the process in none other than Tun Tavern. He appointed then-proprietor Rob-

(continued on next page)



sketch of the original Tun Tavern

Tun Tavern

(continued from prior page)

ert Mullan to be his number one recruiter. Recruits were lured by the promise of a beer and the opportunity of a job.

Although they were unable to recruit a full two battalions, the Marines served admirably throughout the Revolutionary War. Following the war, they were put on moth balls for a while because their services were seen as unneeded. They did, of course, rise again and become part of the American story. That story began with the Corps' noble birth at Tun Tavern, and it has been carried down throughout its history. It is a story that Marines everywhere are honored to tell.

Source: *Warrior Culture of the U.S. Marines*, copyright 2001 Marion F. Sturkey



Spring 2019

Chaplain's Report



My message is keep the commandments, attend your church, help someone in need, and read the Bible.

I was in the hospital for a clot and had a bad reaction to the antibiotics — I was on the

Starship Enterprise standing beside Spock. I asked him why I was there, and he told me he had Scotty beam me up for a special operation. I'll bring a photo of me and Spock to the reunion!

Your friendly Chaplain,
Harry McKnight

From the Editor



August will find Bob and me headed east on the Pennsylvania turnpike on our way to Philadelphia. I made this trip many times as a child as my family drove across the state to visit my grandparents each summer. There were three of us kids in the back seat. We had no air conditioning, no video games, no iPads, and no seat belts. We passed the time searching for out-of-state license plates and counting the light bulbs in the tunnels. Of course, we also bickered and whined and asked incessantly, "Are we there yet?"

To break the monotony, we stopped for lunch and bathroom breaks at Howard Johnsons. My mom packed some

snacks, and we drank sodas to keep cool. When we were finished, we threw our trash out the window!

Bob and I will have it easy. We'll put on our seat belts, turn on the A/C, and listen to Sirius radio. We'll stop for bathroom breaks and snacks, but not at Howard Johnson's — alas the orange roofs are no more. Of course, we'll throw our trash in the appropriate receptacles.

One thing won't change — I'll be just as excited to see all of you as I was to see my grandparents and cousins back in the sixties. Bob and I think of you all as our second family, and we treasure the time we get to spend with you.

I hope you can come!

~ Carroll McGowan



Jean and Bill Steed Meet Up with Peter MacDonald at his 90th Birthday Party!

Hi all. I truly loved pouring over the last several 6th MarDiv newsletters on line. Great job...and sorry to have missed the Baltimore Reunion. Certainly want to consider the 2019 reunion!

Soooooo: Bill and I just attended the 90th birthday party of Peter MacDonald, our 6th MarDiv Navaho Code Talker. It was a cast of 1000s from politicians to family and friends! A fabulous video of his life played as the backdrop to the speeches and dinner. It included a picture I took of Peter with General Laster at the 2017 Reunion.

One of the gifts Bill and I brought Peter (in addition to a hard copy of the Fall 2017 Striking Sixth newsletter) was a 6th Marine Division hat. He was also presented with a headdress by a chief of a different Indian tribe...very poignant moment. It was truly an amazing, emotional day.

I'm sending a photo of Peter with Bill and me at the big 90th Birthday party. Poor Peter....everyone wanted a picture with him. That man has more energy than men half his age, heavens!!

Respectfully,
Jean Steed



Bill Steed, Peter MacDonald and Jean Steed



22nd Mar-2-G

My company, Adept Word Management, transcribes oral histories. We're working for the National WWII Museum in New Orleans on an oral history for the late Jack Houston (22nd Mar-2-G). The video is available here: <https://www.ww2online.org/search-page?keyword=Jack%20Houston>. The annotator has summarized what Mr. Houston said, but we're transcribing the actual oral history.

Mr. Houston is talking about some of the men he served with: Erv or Irv Vortel, First Lieutenant Dale Barry, Rocco Pelalium/Pelarieri, and a guy named Malooley? Mr. Houston says that he walked passed the body of Mr. Malooley: "I'm walking along, and I see this body laying there, a young kid. His name

was ??? 1:09:13 (s/l Malooley). He was shot right between—right in the forehead, and he was the runner for our captain. He'd been killed a couple days before." They were on Sugar Loaf Hill on Okinawa.

I'm heartbroken that Mr. Malooley gave his life, but we can't seem to verify the spelling of his name.

Please let me know if you have any information on these gentlemen. Thank you so much.

Beth McLaughlin
President
Adept Word Management, Inc.
beth@adeptwordmanagement.com



Jack Houston (22nd Mar-2-G)



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.

Barlow, James R.	6 th Marine Division	10/28/2018
Clark, Jack M.	1H&S40	10/29/2018
Houston, Jack W.	22nd Mar-2-G	unknown
Kite, Joseph W. Jr.	29 th Mar-HQ-H&S	04/03/2019
Portera, Alice Arthur	widow of George Arthur & widow of John Portera	12/13/2018
Sinatra, Andrew A.	22 nd Mar-1-C	03/21/2019

We know this list is incomplete. If you sent in a TAPs notice that is not shown here, we ask that you send it again to Connie Houseweart so we can include it in the summer newsletter. We apologize for the extra work.

Reporting Deaths

Deaths should be reported ASAP to:

Connie Houseweart, President
(570) 433-4402
almostnuts@comcast.net

AND

Harry McKnight, Chaplain
(614) 866-3456
harrym1677@icloud.com

Andy Sinatra, President Emeritus

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Andy Sinatra, who served two terms as President of the Sixth Marine Division Association.

Andy was preceded in death by his beloved wife Wanda, and he is survived by two daughters, one son, five grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.



Andy Sinatra & Sam Petriello

One of the defining characteristics of the Greatest Generation is their work ethic, and Andy was no exception. He began working at age 11 at a dairy in New Jersey, and he never stopped. Andy was also an excellent leader and enjoyed serving his community.

As anyone whoever met Andy will tell you, there was more to him than work. He loved to laugh and had a fantastic sense of humor! Andy was also a great

singer, and he brought down the house at the 2008 reunion when he sang "For Once in My Life."

One of Andy's favorite stories happened during his evacuation from Okinawa after being wounded. Someone on the airplane saw his name tag and told him there was another celebrity onboard. As it turned out, Tyrone

Power was piloting the plane! Andy was taken to the cockpit to meet him. According to Andy, Tyrone Power was a great guy.

Well Andy, Tyrone Power was not the only great guy in the cockpit that day! We give thanks that you survived your injuries, lived a long life, and contributed so much to the Association over the years. Thank you and rest in peace, Marine.

RIP Joe Kite

Could there be a nicer guy than Joe Kite? The answer is no. Sadly for us, he is now guarding the gates of heaven and no doubt sharing his bright smile and warm and friendly personality with the angels.

Joe passed away on April 3, right before we went to press. His son reports that two days before his passing, Joe asked if the newsletter had come yet because he wanted to make sure they booked their room for the reunion. We love that story! Of course, we loved everything about Joe. We will miss you in Philadelphia, Joe!



Joe W. Kite Jr. with his son Joe L. Kite at 2017 Reunion in Phoenix

SIXTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting Minutes
Hilton Baltimore BWI Airport, Baltimore, Maryland
Thursday, August 23, 2018

President Connie Houseweart called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. and welcomed everyone. She appointed Bob McGowan as Sergeant at Arms.

Roll Call:

Secretary Benedetti took the roll call.

Officers:

President – Connie Houseweart	Present
President Elect – C. Houseweart	Present
Secretary – Lisa Benedetti	Present
Treasurer – Sharon Woodhouse	Present
Chaplain – Harry McKnight	Present
Editor – Carroll McGowan	Present
Judge Advocate – Bob McGowan	Present
Membership Chair – Jim White	Absent and excused
Public Relations – Jim Monbeck	Present
Service Officer	Vacant
Immed Past Pres – C. Houseweart	Present

Unit Directors:

4 th Marines – George Scott	Absent and excused
15 th Marines	Vacant
22 nd Marines – D.C. Rigby	Present
29 th Marines – Neal McCallum	Present
6 th Motor Transportation Bn	Vacant
6 th Medical Battalion	Vacant
6 th Engineering Battalion	Vacant
6 th Tank Bn – Sal Mistretta	Absent and excused
6 th Pioneer Battalion	Vacant
6 th HQ Battalion – Joe W. Kite	Absent and excused
6 th Recon Co. – Joe Singleton	Absent and excused
6 th JASCO – George McAfee	Absent and excused
1 st Amphibs	Vacant

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

President Houseweart stated that the Meeting Notice was published in the 2018 spring and summer issues of the Striking Sixth. A copy was available.

Judge Advocate Bob McGowan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain Harry McKnight gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes of August 18, 2017:

Connie Houseweart, seconded by Jim Rigby, moved to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2017 Annual Meeting as published in the spring issue of the Striking Sixth. All in favor, motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

President Connie Houseweart: No report.

Secretary Lisa Benedetti:

The minutes will be signed and filed now they have been approved.

Treasurer Sharon Woodhouse:

The report covered the period of August 20, 2017 to August 20, 2018 (attached). Beginning Balance of \$43,114.90, Revenues of \$16,055.00, Expenses of \$36,000.19, Ending Balance of \$23,169.71.

Chaplain Harry McKnight:

When reporting a death, please give him an address of the nearest relative, so he can write a letter of condolence.

Editor Carroll McGowan: No report.

Judge Advocate Bob McGowan:

More grave markers were recently found by Mike Lea, the nephew of Tom Terpinas. There are about 40 bronze markers with nothing on the back. If any veterans or family members would like one, please see Bob. He will distribute them in the future.

Membership Chairman Jim White:

President Houseweart reported for Jim White. She reviewed the membership report (attached). Total membership is 1,827 members as of August 11, 2018. Connie reminded everyone their subscription dues of \$10.00 for the newsletter are due at the end of the year in order to continue to receive the newsletter. These are in addition to the membership dues. These should be sent to Membership Manager Flo Dornan.

Public Relations Officer Jim Monbeck: No report.

UNIT DIRECTORS' REPORTS: No report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Nominations Committee:

The Nominating Committee included Connie Houseweart and Patty Payne. Connie presented the slate of officers for 2018-19 as follows:

President – Connie Houseweart
President Elect – Connie Houseweart
Secretary – Lisa Benedetti
Treasurer – Sharon Woodhouse
Chaplain – Harry McKnight
Editor – Carroll McGowan
Judge Advocate – Bob McGowan
Membership Chair – Jim White
Public Relations Officer – Jim Monbeck
Service Officer – Vacant

Connie asked for any nominations from the floor.

Barb McKnight inquired if Jim White should remain as Membership Chair, as Flo Dornan has been submitting the reports and does a great job.

Anita Benedetti, seconded by Frank McBride, nominated Flo Dornan to be the Membership Chairman. Flo accepted the nomination.

(continued on the next page)

Annual Meeting Minutes

(continued from the prior page)

2018 Reunion:

Sharon thanked Patty Payne for hosting this reunion. There were 70 people registered this week for the various outings, with 84 signed up for the banquet.

Membership:

President Housewart stated the Board of Directors approved the Membership Manager's contract for 2019 for Flo Dornan. She has now been nominated to be the Membership Chair.

Bylaws Committee: No report.

Finance Committee:

President Housewart reported the committee met pursuant to Article X (9) of the Bylaws of the Association. The books were reviewed, and the committee finds that the financial records and reports are in order.

ELECTIONS:

Officers:

President Housewart asked for a motion to approve the slate with the change for Membership Chair.

Tiffany Leggett, seconded by Kay Newill, moved to close the nominations and cast a vote for the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee with the change for the Membership Chairman of Flo Dornan. All in favor, motion carried.

The following were elected officers for 2018-19:

President Elect – Connie Housewart
Secretary – Lisa Benedetti
Treasurer – Sharon Woodhouse
Chaplain – Harry McKnight
Editor – Carroll McGowan
Judge Advocate – Bob McGowan
Membership Chairman – Flo Dornan
Public Relations Officer – Jim Monbeck
Service Officer – Vacant

Unit Directors:

President Housewart reviewed the current Unit Directors and asked if there were volunteers for any of the vacant positions. Oscar Soifer volunteered to be Director for the 6th Medical Battalion.

Unit Directors for 2018-19:

4th Marines – George Scott
15th Marines – Vacant
22nd Marines – D.C. Rigby
29th Marines – Neal McCallum
6th Motor Transportation Bn – Vacant
6th Medical Battalion – Oscar Soifer*
6th Engineering – Vacant
6th Tank Battalion – Sal Mistretta
6th Pioneer Battalion – Vacant
6th Headquarters Battalion – Joe Kite
6th Recon Co. – Joe Singleton
6th JASCO – George McAfee
1st Amphibs – Vacant

*New director for 2018-2019

Jim Rigby, seconded by Frank McBride, moved to approve the Unit Directors. All in favor, motion carried.

2019 Nominating Committee:

President Housewart asked for nominations of two members at large to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2019.

Sharon, seconded by Mary Brauer, nominated Tiffany Leggett.

Sharon, seconded by Barb McKnight, nominated Mary Brauer.

All in favor of the two nominations, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentations for Reunion 2019:

Buzz Bissinger spoke about being a lineal descendent, and he is now writing a book about the 6th Marine Division framed around a game called the Mosquito Bowl played by the 4th and 29th Regiments on Christmas Eve in 1944. It is really a book about America where everybody came together for a common cause. He would like to hear the stories of the veterans to preserve them for future generations. He offered to host the 2019 reunion in Philadelphia. It is a great city and America's first city. He would be proud to host it. There is a lot to do there and the Marines were formed in the city.

Connie mentioned that she would be attending a seminar of places to host reunions in the Quantico/Manassas area and would report back next year for potential future reunion sites. Sharon mentioned that a book was found that listed the first reunion in 1971, so 2020 would be the 50th reunion.

Connie asked for a vote for Philadelphia. All in favor, motion carried.

Patty Payne explained how the trip to Washington, D.C. would proceed tomorrow, along with the parade at 8th and I with the reception for the veterans at the Commandant's house and the rest of the group eating at the chow hall. Saturday, the Memorial Service will be in this room as well as the banquet. She asked all veterans to sign the green book for the speaker at the banquet.

Sharon mentioned that there is a picture available of the group taken at the Spirit Cruise tour. If anyone would like a copy, please see her.

Chaplain Harry McKnight gave the benediction.

Jim Rigby, seconded by Kay Newill, moved to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Adjournment 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by,
Lisa Benedetti
Secretary

(see next page for Attachments to the Minutes)

ATTACHMENTS TO 2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

SIXTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2017-2018

Beginning Balance August 20, 2017		\$43,114.90
Revenue		
Membership dues/newsletters/donations	1,887.00	
2017 Reunion	1,247.00	
Auction and 50/50	2,795.00	
2018 Reunion	9,436.00	
2018 Calendars	80.00	
Scholarship \$\$, Sam Petriello's memory	610.00	16,055.00
Expenses		
Printing of newsletters	3,021.50	
Membership Manager	2,954.99	
2017 Reunion	18,373.51	
2018 Reunion	11,299.25	
2018 Reunion refund	184.00	
Misc. (postage/ink/paper/new checks)	166.94	(36,000.19)
Ending Balance August 20, 2018		\$23,169.71

MEMBERSHIP MANAGER 2018 REPORT

To: Jim White, Membership Chairman August 11, 2018
From: Flo Dornan, Membership Manager

After removing deceased members, those lost by "bad addresses" and those who have requested to be dropped from their membership, there are 1,827 members on the roster. The following is based on those 1,827 names as of August 11, 2018 with annual dues paid from 2016:

Membership:

Regular Life Members	1,000
Regular Annual – Current	26
Associate Life Members	620
Associate Annual – Current	7
Associate LD Life Members	134
Associate LD Annual – Current	26
Organizations: 6; Honorary Members: 8	<u>14</u>
	1,827

There are a total of 445 members whose newsletters have been returned by the USPS without a new or forwarding address and an additional 54 members who requested to be dropped from the membership because of health issues or because all their friends are gone. There are 228 widows who are associate members and 30 are up-to-date on their newsletter subscriptions for 2018.

Newsletter Subscriptions:

The following are the number of currently paid subscribers to the newsletter as of August 11, 2018:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019-27</u>
Regular Members	23	22	59
Associate Members	6	11	11
Associate LD Members	16	23	8

Respectfully submitted,
Florence Dornan
Membership Manager

cc: Connie Houseweart
Lisa Benedetti

Donations

General Fund

Ralph D. Weston

Newsletter Fund

Ralph D. Weston

Memorial Marker Fund

Ralph D. Weston

How to Become a Member of the Sixth Marine Division Association

An Application for Membership is on the next page and can also be found on our website — sixthmarinedivision.com.

Complete the application and mail it with your check to:

Connie Houseweart
258 Sechler Drive
Montoursville, PA 17754



Flo Dornan and Doreen Walker at the 2018 Reunion

Membership Application / Change of Address Form

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____ Spouse Name _____

Street Address _____ Apt _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

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

Company _____ Battalion _____ Regiment _____ Other _____

If this is a change of address, enter your 4 digit ID#, which is on the left above your name on the mailing label _____

Old Street Address _____ Apt _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

If you are applying for membership as an Associate Member, provide name of relative who served with the Sixth Marine Division:

Relative's Name _____ Relationship _____

His unit within the Division, if known _____

Annual dues (\$10 per year).....Check if Member _____ or Associate Member _____Amount due: \$ _____

Life Membership (\$75).....Check if Member _____ or Associate Member _____Amount due: \$ _____

Newsletter Subscriptions

Subscription to the Striking Sixth Newsletter of the Sixth Marine Division (\$10 per year).....Amount due: \$ _____

Annual dues and subscriptions to the newsletter are based on a calendar year.

Additional copies of the newsletter are \$3.50 per issue.

Donations

General Operating Fund Contribution.....Donation: \$ _____

Newsletter Fund Contribution.....Donation: \$ _____

Website Fund Contribution.....Donation: \$ _____

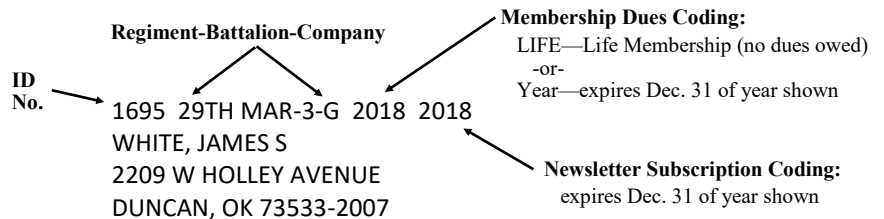
Make check payable to Sixth Marine Division Assn. Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to: Connie Housewart, 258 Sechler Drive, Montoursville, PA 17754

E-mail: almostnuts@comcast.net Phone: (570) 433-4402

Please remember: Membership dues are separate from Newsletter subscriptions. To continue receiving the Newsletter, you must pay for a subscription each year, even if you are a Life Member of the Association. Check the back of the newsletter to see when your current membership and newsletter subscription expires. See coding instructions below.

Check your address on the back cover to see if your membership and newsletter are paid up to date.
 If there is no barcode on your label, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Please contact your Post Office.



The City of Brotherly Love

Philadelphia's Phounding



William Penn

In 1681, Charles II of England granted William Penn a charter for the Pennsylvania colony.

As a Quaker, Penn had experienced religious persecution. He was an early advocate of democracy and promoted the concept of religious tolerance. In fact, he founded Pennsylvania as a beacon for religious freedom.

In 1682, Penn founded the city of Philadelphia as the capital of the Pennsylvania. He chose the name Philadelphia because it means brotherly love in Greek.



statue of William Penn atop Philadelphia City Hall

Philadelphia's Phabulous Phood

Philadelphia is known for a wide variety of excellent restaurants and ethnic food. Consider a trip to Chinatown, the Italian Market in South Philly, or Reading Terminal Market— where you'll find a huge variety of food. And it's right by our hotel!

Philadelphia specialties include:

- Soft Pretzels
- Hoagies
- Stromboli
- Scrapple
- Tastykakes
- the famous Philly Cheesesteak—thinly sliced beef-steak and melted cheese on a long hoagie roll—yum!



Philly cheesesteak

The cheesesteak originated at Pat's King of Steaks in the 1930s. Pat's is still operating in the Italian Market section of South Philadelphia, just 1.6 miles from our hotel. Across the street is rival Geno's Steaks, founded in 1966. But you can find cheesesteaks everywhere in Philly!

Philadelphia Phirsts

- 1st zoo in the US
- 1st lending library
- 1st hospital
- 1st daily newspaper
- 1st stock exchange
- 1st business school
- 1st modern International Style skyscraper — the PSFS building, which is the building our hotel is in!

Other Phun Phacts About Philadelphia

- Largest city in Pennsylvania and 6th most populous city in the country
- Site of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and the U.S. Constitution in 1787
- Temporary capital of the US from 1790-1800, while Washington D.C. was under construction
- Original home of the TV show *American Bandstand* with Dick Clark (it moved to Los Angeles in 1964)
- Home to more than 80 colleges, universities, trade, and specialty schools
- Birthplace of the United States Marine Corps. Oorah!



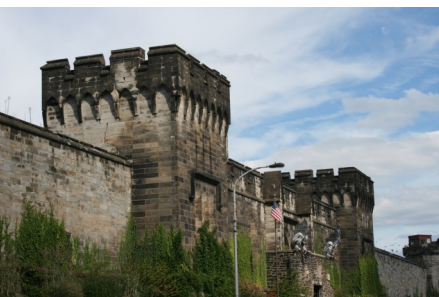
Places to Visit in Philadelphia

Reading Terminal Market



One of the oldest, largest, and best public markets in the country, Reading Terminal Market is just a block and a half from our hotel. It houses more than 80 vendors, including some who have been there since it's founding in 1783. Eat in, take out, or just wander. You'll find meat, seafood, cheese, prepared food, baked goods, chocolate, ice cream, herbs, coffee, spirits, and more! Open Mon-Sat 8-6, Sun 9-5.

Eastern State Penitentiary



Open between 1829 and 1971, the Eastern State Penitentiary once housed the notorious criminals gangster Al Capone and bank robber Willie Sutton. Today it's a fascinating museum!

United States Mint

Did you know that half of the nation's coins and most of its commemorative medals are struck in the US Mint in Philadelphia? They make 1.5 million coins per hour! Take the tour and see how it's done. Unfortunately, they don't give out free samples, but it is free to tour.

Elfreth's Alley

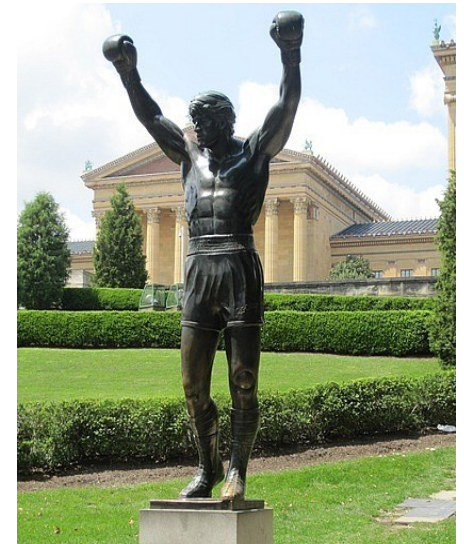


Step back into history with a walk down America's oldest continuously inhabited street. Thirty-two houses line the narrow cobblestone street.

Nearby is the **Betsy Ross House** where Betsy may — or may not — have sewn the first United States flag. Either way, it's a chance to see inside one of American's earliest homes.

Put on headphones and take the self-guided tour narrated by Steve Buscemi. You'll hear former guards, wardens and prisoners talk about what life in prison was like back in the day.

Philadelphia Art Museum and Rocky Statue



Long recognized as one of the top art museums in the country, the Philadelphia Art Museum houses an extensive collection of European, American and Asian art.

That said, the museum is perhaps better known today as the place where Rocky Balboa ran up the steps in the 1976 film *Rocky*. In fact, there is a 8.5-foot bronze statue of Rocky at the bottom of the steps. (Perhaps you remember the statue from the movies *Rocky III* and *Rocky V*.)

This is your chance to run up the steps and snap a selfie with your arms raised just like Rocky!

Note: There's a music festival in front of the museum August 31 and September 1, so don't plan to visit the museum or run up the steps those days.

Sixth Marine Division Association

704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011



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Striking Sixth Newsletter

Spring 2019

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Special Thanks to Comcast for Sponsoring our 2019 Reunion!



Comcast Center, headquarters of Comcast Corporation in Philadelphia

You probably know that Comcast, owner of **Xfinity**, delivers the best in TV, Internet, voice, mobile, and home management to consumers throughout the country. But did you also know it is the **nation's leading corporation in support of veterans**? Comcast has a proud history of hiring and supporting the military community, dating back to its founding by World War II U.S. Navy veteran, Ralph Roberts.

Between 2015 and 2017, Comcast hired more than 10,000 military community members. They are committed to hiring an additional 11,000 veterans,

military spouses, and National Guard and Reserve members by the end of 2021. Comcast is also a founding partner of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's *Hiring 100,000 Military Spouses* campaign. The campaign is raising awareness of military spouse unemployment and encouraging employers to commit to hiring military spouses.

Thank you, Comcast, for your work in support of veterans and their families! And thank you for sponsoring and generously supporting our Reunion this summer!