

STRIKING SIXTH

1st Provisional Marine Brigade Newsletter



Vol. 31, No. 3

www.sixthmarinedivision.com

Winter 2006

Planning Already Underway For 2007's Norfolk Reunion

By John Foley

Norfolk Reunion Chairman

The 2007 Reunion is scheduled for Norfolk, VA, Oct. 9-14. It will be held at the Radisson Hotel. This downtown hotel is one of the best. Its central location, surrounded by all kinds of interesting restaurants, bars and tourist sites within walking distance, is ideal for the Sixth Division Association.

The Reunion committee is already far advanced in the initial planning. In fact, much of it was done earlier this

year in hopes that the membership would agree with us that Norfolk is an ideal place for this kind of activity.

One Marine did say to me, "But, Norfolk is a Navy town!"

"That's O.K." I said. "They're friendly now. They've already told me we can use their PX. This isn't the old days. We won't have to fight our way out of the bars."

There are lots of bars, lots of places to eat. There's plenty of easy-to-get-to sightseeing. Steve Kraus, E-2-15, who has

helped at many Reunions and hopes to again this time, has visited the city before. He said, "I've taken the family sight-seeing there. There are tours that explain the ships and the facilities. It's interesting even to a Marine."

Rooms will cost \$89 each. Each reservation will be given two tickets for a full, hot breakfast each day. Marines may come three days early and stay three days later, if they choose, for the same rate.

Any events can be booked on your
Continued on page 7



The Norfolk skyline from the water

Bloodiest Encounter of the Pacific War

Written By
Robert Leibold

I'm currently poring through more than forty books and hundreds of pages of battle action reports in an effort to research and better understand the battle for Okinawa, America's bloodiest—and least heralded—campaign of the Pacific War. What I'm steadily coming to realize is that Okinawa is less a single battle than a hundred vicious struggles wrapped into one, a sprawling, titanic battle which perhaps marks the scene of our armed forces' greatest combined effort of World War II, and perhaps our greatest hour of that war. With the increasing media publicity surrounding the heroic capture of tiny Iwo Jima and its celebrated flag raising, I'm continually amazed that more Americans aren't inclined to take a closer look at Okinawa, a battle that indeed makes Iwo pale in comparison. With newspapers and Internet sites filled to the brim these days with photographs of mighty Mount Suribachi, I went browsing for similar photographs of Okinawa's Hill 50.2, a seemingly innocuous bump on the ground located just beyond the Asa River, in what was once known as "Target Area 7672George." That tiny bump, I was told by my First Marine Division father nearly fifty years ago, cost the lives and limbs of untold thousands of Marines and Japanese. "The final capture of Sugar Loaf," my father had noted, "had cost two countries thousands more men than were expended in the fight for Iwo's Suribachi, and the darkest thing of all is, battles like Sugar Loaf were to be repeated scores of times on Okinawa—over and over again."

In a search for modern-day photos, I happened on your and was appalled at what the Okinawans have since done to Sugar Loaf, site of one of the most noteworthy struggles in Marine Corps history. To survivors of Sugar Loaf—and to survivors of Okinawa nationwide—I say God bless all of you, and thank you.

Reunion Coordinator Recalls Good Time for All Attending

By Marydel Gaiser, Reunion Coordinator

From all aspects, the 2006 reunion was a success....a great time was had by all in Harrisburg.

(Tuesday) The group started arriving and began heartedly greeting old and new friends in the hospitality room, which all during the stay was the place to catch up on the past year and relive memories of times in the Corps.

(Wednesday) A trip to DC was highlighted with a tour of the WWII Memorial followed with lunch at 8th and I in the barracks mess hall. This really brought back memories. Afterwards, the Iwo Jima Statue at the Marine Memorial was visited followed by a well deserved rest on the trip back to Harrisburg. The evening was free to visit in the hospitality room, just relax or take a swim in the nice and warm indoor hotel pool.

(Thursday) The trip was to Gettysburg. It started with a stop at the electronic map for an explanation of the strategic points of the battle. Then a guide narrated a driving tour of the battlefield followed by a generous and delicious buffet lunch at

Continued on page 3



SIXTH MARINE DIVISION
ASSOCIATION
2006-2007
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ELECTED OFFICERS
PRESIDENT**

Martin Essex
2712 Lotus Hill Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89134-7859
(702) 243-9603

messex1946@aol.com

PRESIDENT ELECT

Edward H. Marsalek
1108 W Wellington Ave.
Chicago, IL 60657-4338
(773) 472-0225

marsalek@urbancom.net

SECRETARY

Tom M. Terpinas
8056 Shorewalk Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46236-9541
Tmt6md@comcast.net

TREASURER

Joseph McConville
75 Elm Rd.
Caldwell, NJ 07006
(973) 228-4423
joemcpipe@hotmail.com

CHAPLAIN

Rev. Frank J. Mack
101 S. 6th St.
Keithsburg, IL 61442-0567
(309) 374-2274
revfjmcorgsman@frontiernet.net

CHAPLAIN EMERITUS

Claud Wilkins
3430 Joslyn St.
Memphis, TN 38128-4810
Ao-tuit@webtv.net

EDITOR

Joe Singleton
251 S Green Valley Pkwy #4813
Henderson, NV 89012
(512) 695-4295
joes104183@aol.com

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Sam Petriello
3016 Hemlock Dr.
Norristown, PA 19401-1541
(610) 279-4979

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

James S. White
2209 Holly Ave.
Duncan, OK 73533-2007
Jsw116@aol.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS

William T. Pierce
2020 Arundel Pl.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464-6200
(843) 884-5785

SERVICE OFFICER

Carl Sproatt
103 Lakeshore Circle
Leesburg, FL (352) 357-7027
cjsandjodie@cs.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Harold E. Howell
3407 Curtiswood Ln.
Springfield, TN 37172-4300
(615) 384-0074

piboot1944@bellsouth.net

PAST PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Andrew Sinatra
144 Barbuda St.
Berkeley, NJ 08757-4635
(732) 505-2998

Notes From the President

Thank you for the opportunity of being your president for 2006-2007. I also wish to thank all of the officers and directors who stepped up and volunteered to make this a memorable year. I'm adding a special thanks to Joe Singleton, our reluctant editor, and John Foley, who will take us to Norfolk, VA as our Reunion Chairman.

The Sons and Daughters, 19 of them, showed up in strength with much enthusiasm. Their goal is to help perpetuate the Sixth Division. Marion Bangert, Women's Auxiliary president, Pauline Roberts and myself met with the group and determined where they

would be most appreciated. I appointed Steve Vozella to be my shadow.

In addition, it was determined that each board member,

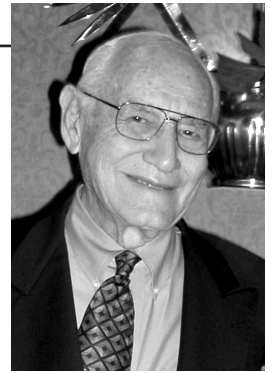
director and the Reunion Chairman would take a shadow. Those affected should contact Connie Houseweart at (570) 433-4402 for the match-up. Anita Bennedetti was named editor for the S/D's. She can be reached at (440) 442-0386. A big thanks to our children.

Now, to my pet peeve: the estrangement of some of our units that hold separate reunions. A letter was circulated in the hospitality room concerning the widow of a 15th Regiment member. She had stated that since that group is no longer having a mini-reunion, she felt lonely with no place to go. Apparently her husband had not told her of the division's annual reunions. This is an example of why it is important for all the regiments and supporting units to attend the division reunion. We'll be here 'til the end.

It is to be hoped that the remaining members of the 15th Marines will now attend the division gathering. I deeply regret that the 22nd Marines are still holding a separate reunion. Why? I do not know, but we miss them. Survivors of smaller units may feel that they will be alone if they attend. Not so. We welcome them and will see that they are surrounded by the friendship of their wartime buddies from other units.

Whole battalions are missing. That is a shame. Only the members of the Sixth Division know the realities of your lives overseas. You may not wish to remember the times, but it is worthwhile, I believe, to remember the friends you lived with under trying circumstances.

I am looking forward to a great year. Semper fi,
Marty Essex, 4-15.



President Essex

The "Striking Sixth" newsletter is an official publication of the Sixth Marine Division Association, 107 Grand Central Ave., PO Box 484, Lavalette, NJ 08735 and is published for members of the Association. "This is not a mailing address."

Subscription rate is \$10.00 per calendar year. Membership applications, dues, donations, address or record changes should be mailed to Florence R. Dornan, Membership Manager, 704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011. Make checks payable to Sixth Marine Division Assn., Inc.

Suggestions are welcome. Submissions should be sent to the editor, Joe Singleton, 251 S Green Valley Pkwy #4813 Henderson, NV 89012, phone: (512) 695-4295, email: joes104183@aol.com

Unit Directors

Walter Heuer	4 th Marines
James McWalters	15 th Marines
Charles Staten	22 nd Marines
Henry B. Kemp	29 th Marines
Vince Matthews	6 th Mtr. Trns. Bn.
Jack Rice	6 th Med. Bn.
Leonard Israel	6 th Engr. Bn.
Sal Mistr.etta	6 th Tank Bn.
Louis Spillone	6 th Pioneer Bn.
Augie LePore	6 th Hq. Bn.
Fred Westphal	6 th Recon. Co.
Ed Marsalek	6 th JASCO
George Tremblay	1 st Amphibs

Directory Committee

Joe Singleton, Chairman
Tom Terpinas

Membership Manager

Florence Dornan

Col. Pickett. That evening was for R and R and more visiting in the hospitality room.

(Friday) The ladies held their luncheon Installation of Officers and prizes.

After a day of reliving memories in the hospitality room there was a fantastic evening with "Frank Sinatra." All who attended had a great time remembering Frankie's tunes and what they meant to them. The performance was by Richie DeSimone and he really did look and act like Frankie. A fantastic show. That same evening there was a private dinner for Fox Company, 29th.

(Saturday) A Memorial Service was held in the hotel that morning. A color guard presented Colors, followed by a solemn service conducted by Rev. Frank Mack. He gave an inspiring talk after which the names of members who passed in the last year were read. Their names were noted with the ringing of a bell. The Colors were retired and Joe McConville piped the group out. There wasn't a dry eye in the place.

The General Session Business meeting followed. Norfolk was chosen as the site for the 2007 reunion which will be hosted by John Foley, Reunion Chairman.

The evening was reserved for the final banquet with guest speaker Col. Mark Pizzo followed by Installation of New Officers. A delicious meal was had by all. The raffle prize winners were chosen. "Lenny, The Groove Machine" played a selection of songs from the 40/50 era for dancing, singing along or just listening. Many danced as others sang along to the great old tunes. Quite a few stayed to the very end to enjoy the music.

(Sunday) was the day to say good-bye for another year...and God willing see each other again in Norfolk.

Number Attending	300
6th Division Marines	146
Wives	96
Guests	58
And a few small grandchildren	
Washington Trip	192
Gettysburg Trip	122
Musical	128
Ladies' Lunch	55
Banquet	200

Association Funds

Harold Howell, as president at that time, changed accounting procedures in a letter to the Executive Board September 7. Portions of that letter are reproduced below.

"Some time ago, to simplify association bookkeeping, we established that, in general, funds received would be assigned to the General Fund.

"The exceptions to that assignment would be restricted to special specific activities as designated by the individual making the offering.

"Unfortunately, over the past two years, there have been some misdirected contributions which could reflect poorly upon the Association. Specifically, a contribution made to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Harry Simes, one of our founders, by his daughter has not been forwarded to that body. There are others. In addition, those who have made such contributions may have claimed a tax deduction; an action the Association faulted by not properly responding to the designated action.



Fox Tops — Fox Company of the 29th leads the Division in company attendance at Reunions year after year. The names will vary, but the tradition lives on. The 2006 attendees, back row from left, Bob Walker, Bill Twigger, Wally York, Jack Rice, Bill Sanner, Neil McCallum, Delmer Asbury, Don Peterson, Henry Kemp, Dick Whitaker. Front row from left are Ken Wells, Charlie Stringham, Howard Terry, Pete Howell, Bob Sherer, George Schadt.

SIXTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION HARRISBURG REUNION FINANCIAL REPORT

WASHINGTON TRIP	INCOME RECEIVED	\$8,775	BUSSES & LUNCH	\$5,040
GETTYSBURG TRIP	" "	\$4,585	BUSSES	\$4,156
LADIES LUNCH	" "	\$1,100	HOTEL COST	\$850
SINATRA SHOW	" "	\$1,280	ENTERTAINER	\$475
BANQUET MEALS	" "	\$7,235	HOTEL COST & DJ	\$5,205
SHOPPING TRIP	" "	\$225	BUS	\$180
		\$23,200		\$15,906

COSTS FROM ALL EVENTS \$15,906

PROFIT \$7,294

REGISTRATION FEES \$3,700

TOTAL \$10,994

TOTAL REVENUE \$10,994

- Shipping packages, two wooden crates with flags to Norfolk
- Van for wheel chairs pick up and return to VA
- Banquet meals for color guard guests
- Replace wheel chair from VA that was switched.
- Printing memorial service programs, taps list, two sided banquet programs.
- Refunds to all, for over payment and those that could not attend reunion
- Liquor, beer, soda, and snacks
- Clean hospitality room, refresh ice glasses daily
- Table decorations, name tags and holders
- Gratuities

\$4,200

\$10,994 - \$4,200

TOTAL PROFIT \$6,794

Mrs. Brown gave \$1500 to Holiday Inn the reunion used this seed money. That amount comes off profit.

\$6,794

- \$1500

PROFIT REUNION \$5,294

Comments - The hotel gave complimentary one suite with two bedrooms and meeting space and pull out couch. Pres Howell and son had bedroom with two beds. I had the single bedroom. Buzzy Fox had the pull out couch. The switched wheel chair was given to Buzzy Fox as the VA would not accept it. The profit would have been much larger if the old prices for the Washington trip \$60, no lunch, which meant for trip and lunch over \$4,000 more. The Gettysburg trip which was \$52 with no lunch would have been a profit extra of \$3,780. All this money was passed on to the Marines and Families. The other complimentary rooms 1 for every 50 guests registered. On a non cumulative basis, which means if you do not have 50 on any night you get no rooms comped. The count does not roll over to the next night. We received 10 room nights. Joseph McConville, Piper 5 nights; Marydel Gaiser, Reunion Planner 6 nights.

This report submitted by John J Foley November 23, 2006

You Can Effect Changes In Our Newsletter Content

*A short message from the
membership Manager:*

I hope everyone enjoyed the last two excellent Newsletters. How about sending Joe Singleton an e-mail or letter and let him know how much you enjoyed it — or didn't. It is sometimes difficult to publish a newsletter without input from the members both pro and con. Let him know what you liked reading and want to see more of or what you didn't like. Being an editor is difficult without some direction from the readers.

I was glad to see members who realized they had not paid for the Newsletter and sent their \$10 for next year. Once again I want to remind everyone to check the top line of their address label; it reads your unit/status, dues status and newsletter subscription status. Life members, too, must pay for the newsletter or risk not receiving the next copy. The Association cannot afford the cost of sending to those who have not subscribed.

The U.S. Postal Service continues to return more and more newsletters at a cost of .75 each for lack of a deliverable address. If you move, please advise me of your new address and if you know of a buddy who has passed, call or write me a note to let me know so he can be properly memorialized. When I placed a list of "missing members" a few issues ago, I learned that most of them were deceased and had never been reported.

Reminder: If you are heading south for the winter, let me know your winter address. The newsletter is sent third class and will not be forwarded. I am just beginning to receive winter addresses and those members are assured of continuing to receive the Striking Sixth while relaxing in the sun.

Anyone with questions and changes, including their dues or subscription status, feel free to call me at (817) 275-1552 or e-mail me at sxthmardiv@aol.com or write me at 704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011-5550.

Flo Dornan, Membership Manager

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Another role that the "greatest generation" has played has been to serve their communities both actively and as role models. Recently I was told no other generation has volunteered as much. Toys for Tots was started by Marine reservists in 1947 — I'm sure participants from WWII



Laura Lacey

I was the product of the Depression and the Dust Bowl, a Kansas boy, who watched the boys of WWII go off to battle and return home. Like all of our neighbors, my family knew what it was to do without, yet relatively speaking we did all right. We had a roof over our head and after my Dad lost his farm he was able to find work as a caretaker for a cemetery and later worked in a local munitions factory. There were those who needed more than we did and those who had more.

In high school as a freshman who lived out from town I would often wait by the road hoping someone would offer me a ride to school. I found a steady ride with a girl a few years older than myself, who would often stop and pick me and my cousin up in the mornings. I was awed by her; she was older and neat as a pin, so other than 'thank you' few words were exchanged.

My town was one of the many WWII towns that had an airbase, the Olathe Air Station, and from an early age I was fascinated with the military men, especially the Marines associated with the base. As a teenager I joined the reserves at the base and as part of the reserve unit VMF-215 was required to help the Marines deliver Toys for Tots. At that time the toys were seldom new but instead were used toys that had been refurbished by the local firemen. It is always both a gratifying and sobering experience, to see the delight on the children who without the help of the community and the Corps would have so little for the holidays.

It was almost dark as we made the drive down a long dirt drive to a house that had seen better days. It was filled to the brim with multi-generations of children. The father had been badly hurt in a farming accident and one daughter and her children were also in residence. The children squealed with delight, "new" bikes and baby dolls insured children of a Merry Christmas and the understanding that they mattered. In the shadows smiling at her younger siblings was a neat as a pin, quiet junior from Olathe High School---my ride.

I quietly returned to the truck not wanting her to see me and possibly be embarrassed, hiding my own shame at having sponged a ride for so long from someone who had less than me. Yet, also understanding the difference that Marines make when for a short time every year they lay down their warrior mantles and become Santa to thousands of children.

A year never passes that I do not think of that family, in dire straights, that young generous girl and the bounty that the Marine Corps brings. It is probably one of the reasons I became a Marine and send my financial contribution every August. This program which began in 1947 makes a difference in many lives—I know.

Story written by Laura Lacey for her father Roy Homan.

Just a Note By Laura Lacey

Just a note for the newsletter. I have arranged for the Young Marines at Quantico, 8 to 18 year olds, who model the Marine Corps organization, to take care of the memorial area at Quantico National Cemetery. This will be an ongoing quarterly project. This will greatly

help the overtaxed attendants and will make sure the Sixth Marine Division Memorial there is maintained perpetually.

Additionally Bill Sams, I-3-15, asked that I make sure Tom Tibbs, I-3-15, is mentioned in the next newsletter. Tom was Bill's "right hand man" in the organization of the 15th yearly, biyearly reunions that began before

the Sixth started holding divisional get-togethers.

Tom had been his lively, helpful self at the last reunion in Baltimore just two weeks before his death. Another of the finest now guards the streets of heaven. All who knew him feel his passing and the privilege of having known such a fine man.

Directors Meeting Minutes

At the request of Chaplain Frank Mack, the representative of the Sons and Daughters was invited to address the Directors prior to the meeting. She restated the message previously given by Jean Steed—Essentially, that the youth are ready to aid and assist the Association in any way, but we must let them know where and how.

President Howell opened the meeting by asking the Chaplain to give the invocation.

President-elect Essex led the body in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll call of Officers and Directors was called by the Secretary. The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was not required since they were published in the Newsletter. The reports of the officers were called for by President Howell. President-elect Essex had no report to give.

Secretary Terpinas reported that although he had the recorder, it probably was not functional. He added that he would attempt to make notes as the meeting proceeded and make available the essence of business as he was able to recall. Treasurer McConville reported the status of the General Fund as of 09/01/2006 (\$38,109.89), and the Overflow Account as of 09/2006 (\$63,930.18).

Because the President could not access his e-mail, the Editor's report was not given. The request of the Directory Chair for additional funds was presented to the body and approval for an additional \$3,000.00 was proposed and passed, providing for a total funding of \$7500.00.

Judge Advocate Petriello reported on a proposed by-laws change to allow a proportional regular membership to Sons and

Daughters having served in the military services. He also reported on the granting of scholarships to descendants of our members in the amount of \$36,750.00 for the 2006-2007 academic years.

Public Relations Chair Pierce reported on his activities of the year, as well as the status of the painting of Sugar Loaf Hill and the plaque to be attached to the frame when presented to the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico in 2007.

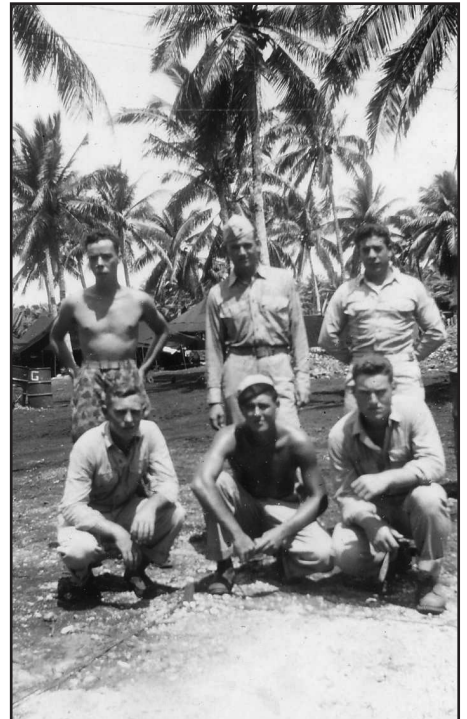
Service Officer Sproatt was unable to be present, but had sent his stock of Urn Markers to be made available as decided by the Body. Immediate Past President Sinatra served as Sgt. At Arms for the meetings, and performed his duties admirably.

President Howell presented an agenda which asked the body to consider and approve: Condition of the Quantico Memorial and the need to provide for maintenance and repair, renewal of Membership Manager Agreement. This was approved with an increase of \$35.00 monthly effective 11/01/2006.

Another portion of the agenda was the authorization of payments to entities designated by Member et al (scholarships, Directory), which was also approved and the Treasurer prepared a check to Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation and the format of newsletter last page to delete scholarship donation and direct such donations be mailed directly to **mcfs, Trenton, NJ**.

There was an orderly election of Unit Directors prior to General Meeting. Officers' reports were prepared in writing and given to Secretary Terpinas.

Remember...



On the 'Canal, '43 — Rich Glassbrenner sends this photo of some 75 mm pack howitzer troopers from the First Provisional Brigade. They were later part of the 15th Marines. From left, back row, Snyder, John Yaskovich, Ross Vallia. Front row, Glassbrenner, Chuck Wentz, unknown.

Subscriptions For 2007 Due

Subscribers who do not pay their \$10 annual subscription fee for the Striking Sixth will no longer receive the newsletter. We are pruning the list from 3000 to 1700 this issue.

Membership Minutes *Cut Short by Recorder Failure*

The meeting was called to order by President Harold Howell. Benediction was held by Chaplain Rev. Frank J. Mack. Election of officers: Martin Essex was named incoming president. Howell took the past president slot. Other members of the executive committee ran for re-election with the exception of Striking Sixth Editor Joe Singleton, who was re-elected anyway. The other officers were also returned to office.

The only changes among the Unit Directors were George Scott for the 4th Marines and Albert Stoel for the Tankers. There were reports. Sam Petriello, Judge Advocate, reported "a good year" for our scholarship efforts, \$21,000 being remitted to

qualifying students.

John Foley agreed to put on the 2007 Reunion at Norfolk, VA. He was congratulated for the success of the 2006 Reunion at Harrisburg. It was agreed that Joan Willauer would be considered for the 2008 Reunion to be held at Oklahoma City.

The Ladies Auxiliary agreed to provide an additional \$500 for the Directory and \$500 for scholarships. This abbreviated and admittedly incomplete version of the minutes occurred because of equipment failure.

Tom Terpinas, Secretary

6th Marine Reunion

I hear the reunion was a big success. Please stay tuned to our web site for an upcoming reunion report.

Site Updates Coming Soon

I have had a pile of great historical material, which Bill Pierce sent me long ago, when he took over as web site liaison. At that time, he sent me some great Sixth Marine Division information, which will enrich the web site greatly. I never got the time to type it all out and scan all maps, etc. He has kindly offered to do it all himself and email it to me. So I am putting the whole package in the mail back to him – feeling very guilty as I do so! Thanks to him we will have LOTS of new material on the site soon. A quick copy and a paste is all it will take to get it online, so keep looking to the site for all the new material. It will, as always, be next to the “new” icon.

Need web site Help?

Go to the bottom of any page and see my name in small print “Lucy Young” (blue and underlined).

Clicking on it will open up an email, which will reach my inbox in seconds. I will reply with answers as soon as I can.

Internet Joke

I always enjoy sharing the great USMC humor we find online, for those who perhaps don't have internet or email, or those who don't surf the net much. This one is supposedly a true story, though I could not find anything definitely proving or disproving the fact that this interview took place.

USMC General

vs.

NPR Reporter

FEMALE INTERVIEWER:

So, General Reinwald, what things are you going to teach these young boys when they visit your installation?

GENERAL REINWALD:

We're going to teach them climbing, canoeing, archery, and shooting.

FEMALE INTERVIEWER:

Shooting! That's a bit irresponsible, isn't it?

GENERAL

REINWALD:

I don't see why, they'll be properly supervised on the rifle range.

FEMALE

INTERVIEWER:

Don't you admit that this is a terribly dangerous activity to be teaching children?

GENERAL REINWALD:

I don't see how. We will be teaching them proper rifle discipline before they even touch a firearm.

FEMALE INTERVIEWER:

But you're equipping them to become violent killers.

GENERAL REINWALD:

Well, you're equipped to be a prostitute, but you're not one, are you?

The radio went silent and the interview ended.

Gotta love the Marines.

To contact Andy & Lucy Young

P.O. Box 1428

Tomball, TX 77377

E-mail: lucy@texasnova.com



Lucy Young

A signed print of the Final Battle-Final Flag painting has been given to the Wright Museum of Wolfeboro, New Hampshire by Bill Pierce, association PR Chairman. The print changed hands last July.

Brother Building Memorial

— for Robert W. Kohler, Sixth Marine Division corporal killed at Sugar Loaf, May 19, 1945 with the assistance of. Dick Kohler of Dallastown, PA brought his family to Harrisburg to meet veterans of the battle and learn more about the Okinawa battle. Bill Pierce hosted the Kohlers and provided some items for the memorial.



Planning Already Under Way For 2007's Norfolk Reunion

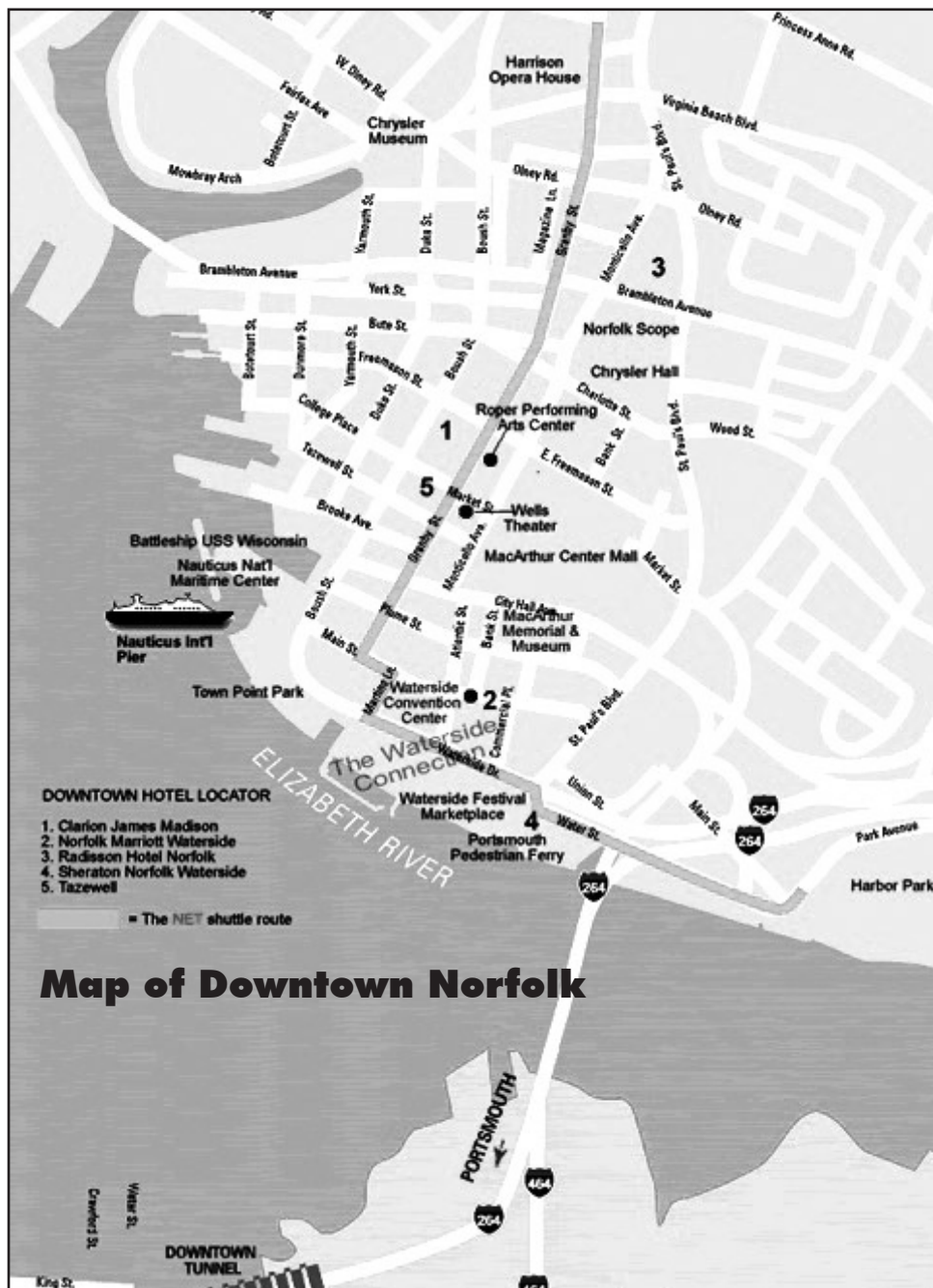
Continued from page 1

own with the assistance of the convention and business office. Association events may include a luncheon cruise of the harbor and other activities. There will be a full hospitality room each day and night. There will be an 800 number for reservations.

All will be revealed in the spring issue of the Striking Sixth in time for reservations at what promises to be one of the best ever Reunions. I hope to see you there.



The Chapel of Four Chaplains in Philadelphia has given its Legion of Honor Award to Charlie G. Monnett, 29th Marines, of Greensboro, NC. That isn't all. Monnett has also been awarded a third bronze star for his Marine Corps League ribbon signifying 20 years of membership at the Greensboro Detachment.



Map of Downtown Norfolk

Directory Delayed

By Joe Singleton, Directory Chairman

The new Membership Directory has been held up because of a financial problem resulting from the way it was planned at the Las Vegas Reunion. Based upon the cost of the 2003 Directory, it was determined that the \$4500 budgeted would be sufficient. It wasn't.

Time had passed, inflation had increased and our printer at the time, Finisterre, was no longer offering us his low rates. In fact, Finisterre was no longer willing to do it under any conditions as our print quantity is too small for big presses.

There are firms that would do it for the money offered, however, we didn't know what kind of quality we would be getting. Some are so shady, we couldn't be sure that we would get anything for our money.

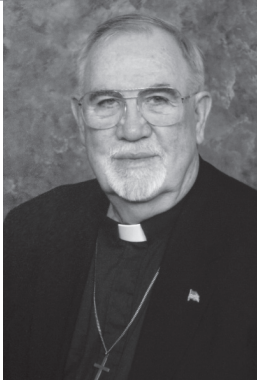
It was the women of the Division who were the driving force behind the new directory to be delivered

at the Harrisburg Reunion. The Women's Auxiliary ponied up \$500. Joan Roman threw in another \$500 and a widow, who prefers not to be named, offered \$1000. The association added \$2500.

President Harold "Pete" Howell, apprised of the situation, requested another \$3000 from the Board, which was approved at the recent Reunion. The blow was softened by another \$500 from the Auxiliary. There were additional smaller donations.

The total was deemed sufficient by the Directory Committee, which also includes Tom Terpinas. The new book should be in the members' hands in the first quarter of 2007. The pages will fit into a three-ring binder, which the recipients will have to provide for themselves.

The information it contains will be updated as the board directs.



Rev. Mack

Greetings from your Chaplain! Our 36th annual Reunion, held this year in Harrisburg, PA. was one of the best

ever. This was mainly due to the dedicated and outstanding efforts of John Foley, who coordinated our activities with the helpful planning resources of Marydel Gaiser. One of the great things about reunions is the opportunity to gather and again experience the camaraderie we once shared with our brother Marines. This renewed fellowship enables us to draw inspiration and strength from one another. Even though our opinions may differ from time to time, we are willing and able to diplomatically resolve those differences.

The reunion was filled with many highlights. The tour of the Gettysburg battlefields reminded us of a time when our great Republic was terribly fractured. The visit to the World War II Memorial reminded us of our own youthful endeavors to preserve our country's freedom. The stop for lunch at the Eighth and I Barracks and to witness the performance of the Silent Drill

Platoon was also an inspiring moment. The drive by of the Iwo Jima Memorial reminded us of our own flag raising event at Okinawa on June 22, 1945, as the island was about to be declared secured.

Our Memorial Service was again a very solemn tribute to our honored dead. We called the roll and "rang the bell" for 173 Marines and 17 beloved wives. This was by far the largest final roll call we have ever had. We were blessed to have seven families present for the final tribute to their loved ones. This honored group included four wives, one husband, three sons and six daughters. We joined our hearts with theirs as together we offered our last respects to 190 dear souls who have now taken up a new residence in heaven. May perpetual light shine upon them, and may their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

We were again reminded of the availability of the Sons and Daughters Group. Mrs. Peggy O'Herin, President of the SDG and daughter of Harvey Anderson, spoke to our Executive Board and offered the assistance of her group in providing functional support to our Association. She asked the Board to advise the SDG about ways they could help the Association in the future. It's now up to us to use the talents of our sons and daughters. This

group represents our future as an organization. Shortly, we will be forced to yield the battle flags of the Sixth Marine Division to a younger generation. Let us do so proudly and allow our sons and daughters the great privilege of continuing our distinguished legacy.

We owe a big "thank you" and a debt of gratitude to Harold "Pete" Howell for his outstanding leadership during the last year. "Pete" faced and overcame some distressing challenges during his second term as our President. Congratulations are also in order for our new President, Martin Essex of Las Vegas, and for our President-Elect, Edward Marsalek of Chicago. As brother Marines, let us pledge our loyal support to Marty and Ed during their respective terms as President of our Association.

When our reunions end it's always difficult to bid everyone "so long". For those of you who Nancy and I were unable to hug or shake hands with, please know that you are very dear to us. Among our treasured blessings is the fact that we are able to share our love and friendship with all of you. Our prayer is that you and your dear ones will have a wonderful holiday season filled with joy and peace. Semper Fi, and God bless you.

Rev. Frank J. Mack

Mail Call

Sir: I read with great interest the article On Page 12 of the latest issue of the Striking Sixth newsletter regarding the Marine on Sugar Loaf Hill. I was in C Co., 6th Tank Bn. During the battle of Okinawa I was principally a tank gunner. During the action at Sugar Loaf our tank was approached by an individual who contacted us via telephone on

the outside rear of our tank.

He informed me that he was going up the hill to look around and requested covering fire. He then went around to the front of our tank and appeared in my gun sight. I observed him to be armed with a B.A.R. and .45 automatic holstered on his hip. He began his ascent up the hill while I fired my .30

co ax machine gun approximately 4-5 feet over his head. I ceased firing when he was near the crest and continued observing him in my gun sight. He walked along the crest firing the B.A.R. Apparently he used up the ammo as he ceased firing and drew his .45, fired several rounds and then ran pell-mell down the hill toward our tank.

Continued on page 10

Sons and Daughters on a Roll, Regrouped and Ready to Act

Submitted by Anita Benedetti

*Daughter of Pfc. Alio J. Benedetti, 22nd
Marines.*

My sisters, Melinda, Lisa, & I attended the October 2006 Harrisburg Reunion with our parents, Al & Angela. We enjoyed renewing old acquaintances and making new ones as we met and chatted with our parents' contemporaries. It was also very important to us to see the W.W. II Memorial on the National Mall with Mom and Dad.

On Thursday morning, 10/26/06, Peggy Anderson O'Herin sent word around that interested children of Veterans were asked to meet in the Hospitality Room that evening at 19:00 hours. There, Martin Essex, Associate President-Elect, Marion Bangert, Women's Auxiliary President, and Pauline Roberts, Auxiliary Treasurer

explained to an enthusiastic and highly interested group of more than 20 people some areas of concern they had regarding the current Association and its' future. John Foley, Reunion Site Chairman, was also asked for his input.

Those of us at the meeting then "signed on," in effect renewing our commitment to helping our 6th Division Marines now and in the future with whatever they would like us to do. President-Elect Essex said he would like someone to "shadow" him as president and a "son," Steve Vozella volunteered. Mrs. Bangert already has a "daughter" shadow, Donna Mollica. Mrs. Roberts asked for another responsible person on the Auxiliary bank account and "daughter" Connie Haynes Houseweart raised her hand. We found out that help is needed at the reunions for the registration table, setups in the hospitality room, and

with supply runs, etc.

Connie Houseweart will also be the CONTACT person for the renewed Sons & Daughters; any Associate Officer wanting to ask for help should contact Connie at 258 Sechler Drive, Montoursville, PA 17754, (570) 433-4402, or almostnuts1@comcast.net. She will in turn contact individuals from the Sons & Daughters to recruit the help needed. We would like to show a strong, united front for our moms & dads so anyone interested in joining should contact Connie to be added to the list.

At this point we are ready, willing, and able to help the Association whenever President Essex sends us the word. In closing, we would like to assure the members that the Sons & Daughters of the 6th Marine Division have indeed regrouped!

Active Sons/Daughters

Connie Houseweart - Contact Person
258 Sechler Drive
Montoursville, PA 17754
almostnuts1@comcast.net
570-433-4402

Anita, Melinda & Lisa Benedetti
6039 Wilson Mills Road
Cleveland, OH 44143
440-442-0386
afbene2003@yahoo.com

Scott Anderson
1693 35th St. N.
Sarteli, MN 56377
320-253-6340
Homedesignez@juno.com

Lori A. Clemenger
108E 6th Ave.
Raeford, N.C. 28376
Lori.A.clemenger@mail.sprint.com

Leo Gattoni
64 Akers Ave.
Montvale, N.J. 07645
leog123@optonline.net
201-930-9064

Patsy Herr
349 Herr Lane
Montoursville, PA 17754
570-435-2802
mamaherrfive@hotmail.com

Bonnie Essex Hillegass
8585 W. Verde Way
Las Vegas, Nevada 89149
hillegass@cox.net
702-243-0338

Barbara Titus Kaplowitz
16 Briarwood St
Parsippany, N.J. 07054
973-334-2168
btkaplowitz@optonline.net

Toni Rice Keys
5741 Dutch Creek Dr.
Raleigh, N.C. 27606
919-303-0760
trkeys@nc.rr.com

Anita Martindale
4242 40th st. N.E.
Naples, FL 34120
239-774-7539
cdspots@aol.com

Donna Mollica
P.O. Box 152
Arlee, MT 59821
406-370-3358
donnam@blackfoot.net

Peggy O'Herin
64551 E. 350 Rd.
Jay, OK 74346
918-786-8478

Gail Shoemaker
4803 Hobaugh Ave.
Munysville, PA 15668
724-733-0670
Shoemakerq@upmc.edu

Jack and Melissa Veldhoff
3385 47th
Hamilton, MI
269-751-5835
JackVeldhoff@yahoo.com

Steve Vozella
54015 Starlite Dr.
Shelby Twp, MI 48316
stozella.Mich.com

Mary & Larry Walker
411 Tryon St.
Burlington, N.C. 27217
336-228-7127
mwnana34@bellsouth.net

Carolyn Warren
407 E. Park St.
Henrietta, TX 76365
940-538-4308

Rosemary Burke Wheeler
8250 Rt. 32
Cairo, N.Y. 12413
518-622-2666
rburkewheeler@verizon.net

Wartime Keepsakes:

Once Again, Old Friends, Dig Into Your Seabags

Once again, those Americans who sacrificed so much during World War II are being called upon to share their personal possessions that recall that poignant, tragic, exciting, terrible and yes, even romantic time in their lives.

The Florida State University Department of History has taken on the formidable task of collecting, preserving and assimilating those articles which describe and depict the day to day existence in the War years, 1941-45.

Collection of these materials is made difficult because of the strong emotions which attach to the memorabilia of the period. Reluctance to part with the reminders range from embarrassment to extreme modesty. The war years were a time of great emotional freedom and actions were unfettered by the consequences of an uncertain future. Today, more than 50 years later,

Continued on page 10

Association Funds...

Continued from page 3

"...At this time, I am directing our membership manager to prepare a listing of those checks designating specific recipients received during the last two years. The purpose is to rectify the errors.

"When I have received that listing, I shall submit the totals and the designated recipients to our treasurer for preparation of Association checks to be forwarded."

The letter also dealt with the Directory, which ran into financial difficulties. That situation is explained in a companion article. — The Editor

By Jack Rice



WE DID IT!

We had another very successful meeting in conjunction with the Reunion. Everything went well. Harrisburg was a wonderful site, the trips to Gettysburg, the World War II Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial, the Marine Barracks at 8th and I, the Silent Drill team, Hershey Town, Amish Country, etc. etc., etc. added so much to all of the events. We are most

fortunate to be a part of the great Sixth Marine Division.

Attendance was slightly less than last year but there were more family members attending. The hospitality suite was well used. Many thanks to all whom, not only made cash contributions, but helped with other arrangements.

It is appropriate to mention the attendance of Don and Marguerite Brining and members of their family. Don had attended all meetings of the Striking Six until his health failed him. He missed two reunions but was able to be with us in Harrisburg. Another very regular attendee was Carl Sproatt. For the second consecutive year Carl was unable to attend due to health problems. It is sincerely hoped that both will be with us in Norfolk in 2007. Suffice it to say that we all seem to be a little worse from wear and tear but doing pretty good for being 80 years old or older.

Look for further information in the next issue of THE SICK BAY.

I don't know the author but here is a true-to-life poem.

To each ill-founded claim they make
The corpsman has the answer
Be it abdominal pain or bellyache,
Sarcoma or plain cancer.

Pyorrhea or dental caries
And ills of all descriptions;
The corpsman technique never varies,
Each gets the same prescription.

"Just take a pill, or three, or five
Before, or after eating
And if you find you're still alive,
The dose is worth repeating."

So be it fever, or be it chills,
One phrase I'll shout the louder.
"Corpsman, you can take your pills"
I'd rather take a powder!!"

Once Again...Continued from page 9

these personal accounts will give historians an unsterilized view of those events which changed the world forever.

Unfortunately these precious items are being lost daily. Those who chronicled the events are well into the winter of their lives and in many cases the significance of the materials are unrecognized by later generations.



Statue to Honor Corpsmen, Medics

Statue Planned to Honor Corpsmen and Medics

Throughout America's wars, selfless men and women have served risking their lives to give medical aid to our wounded during battle. Driven by a need stronger than self preservation, to take care of the wounded, combat medics and corpsmen represent some of the bravest people our country has ever known. Regardless of the branch of service, or when or where they served, all members of the US military know someone they call "Doc."

A national memorial to honor these heroes is long past due. Plans are now being made to build the National Combat Medical Memorial and Youth Education Center to honor these men and women who served during all conflicts from the Civil War to the Iraq War, saving our fighting men and women.

For more information on the project, please visit our website www.medicalwamemorial.org. Please take the time to watch the power point presentation narrated by R. Lee Ermy.

Mail Call *Continued from page 8*

After he had cleared the crest, I began firing again and observed several long grenades being thrown over the crest from the reverse slope. Some of the grenades seemed to bounce along with him, but he outran them. He reached our tank unharmed. He got on the phone, thanked me and disappeared.

I had no idea of who this man was until reading the Striking Sixth article. I believe him to be the bravest person I have ever seen, or he was nutty as a fruitcake. Sincerely, Everett L. Deibler, 5119 NE 42nd St., Kansas City, Mo. 64117-2013, edeibler@kc.rr.com **Ed's note: According to the previous article in the Summer Edition, the lone assailant was a Cpl. O'Connor, MG Platoon, 1-3-22.**



Joe, I just want to tell you that you have done a great job and I appreciate your effort as well as many others do. At our age, I'm 82, you are correct to pass the baton or change the guard. I hope that the letter will be carried on for more generations. Thanks again. Semper Fi, Marj and Alex Davies. **Ed's Note: I got volunteered again, Al and Marj. Thanks for the kind words.**



Hi, Joe: And Kudos for another interesting, informative edition (Summer 2006). Hope you change your mind about retiring from your post as Editor anytime soon. In the meantime, I'm e-mailing you to volunteer my services as a "field correspondent." I have several topics in mind that might be of interest to our members, as well as an approach to a humor column. I would be glad to "audition" my ideas for your review, should you think they might add to the enjoyment of this fine publication. Hang in there, ol'buddy; we need you! Semper Fi. Lee Carmedelle; member #5728; Corporal, 6th Jasco; Radioman, Naval Gunfire Spotting Team on Oki; mostly with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines. carmadelle@netscape.com



Would you mind posting this in your next newsletter? I am looking for anyone who may have served with my father in Okinawa. His name was Larry C. Franzoi, he was a Corpsman attached to the 6th Div., 29th Marines, "C" Company. You can reach me at my e-mail address at franzoi@charter.net. I have been putting together records for our family that I have received from the National Record Center, but am looking for anyone who may remember him and any other details.

Continued on page 11

Kazian Essay on Sixth Officer Makes 'Military' Magazine

Leon H. Kazian, C-1-4, has written an essay extolling Lt. Col. Harold C. Roberts, who was then serving as C.O. of the 18th AAA Battalion, an outfit that also claimed Kazian before he joined the 4th Marines. The essay was published in "Military" magazine.

Apparently Roberts was an enlisted Marines' officer, who thought nothing of sending his troops through the chow lines while holding his officers back. He also was to be found, shirt off, loading ship and doing other things that endeared him to his men. Serving later with the Sixth Division's 22nd Regiment, Roberts fell victim to a sniper on June 18 at Hill 69.

In Kazian's words, "Col. Roberts had served God, flag and country in WWI, WWII and had been awarded three Navy Crosses in addition to other awards and commendations. He exemplified the words, 'First in war and first in peace' within the hearts of his fellow Leathernecks and will be remembered by his men as a gentleman and real Marine."

Dear Members and Friends:

Our Reunion in Harrisburg was great. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make it come about. We shared a moment of silence to remember our departed members and our friend and past Parliamentarian, Bobbi Norman. A donation was made of \$500 to the Scholarship Fund in their memory. A donation of \$500 was also made to the Directory Fund.

We drafted a letter to be sent to Clint Eastwood, expressing our concerns over the lack of publicity given to the invasion of Okinawa, which we feel was the bitterest and longest battle waged to gain control of a Japanese island. A petition was signed by all that attended, as we feel it is about time the 6th Division should get the recognition it so richly deserves.

The trip to Washington, D.C. to see the WWII Memorial was one to remember. The day was cold and windy, but the memories gained were well worth the trip.

It was great to see old friends again and to share in the memorial to say goodbye to old friends who will come no more. I would personally like to thank the men for inviting me to attend their meeting and for letting me speak. We will help in anyway we can to keep the 6th Division in operation.

Our new officers for 2006-2008 are as follows: President- Marion Bangert, Vice President- Marilyn Brown, Secretary- Joyce Staerkel, Treasurer- Pauline Roberts, Chaplin-Shirley Judd, Guard-Joyce Willauer, and Parliamentarian- Marilyn Essex.

Till we meet again, Semper Fi, Marion Bangert.



Marion Bangert

Mail Call *Continued from page 10*



Marty Essex: While reading your message in the summer newsletter about scholarship recipients, I thought you might be interested in news about two of them. My son and daughter both received scholarships from the Sixth Marine Division many years ago. If I remember correctly it was in 1973 when Joel Gallun and 1974 when Jan Gallun Roth received their scholarships. They both graduated from the University of Maryland and have had successful careers. I just thought you might like to know that some still remember. Marjorie Gallun, associate member.



Dear Joe: I wish to report another good Marine has passed away. Charles E. Gallen, E-22. A veteran of the Okinawa campaign and service in China, he is a life member and one of the first to join the Reunion. I'm a friend of the Gallen family. I thought I would help by sending this notice so he would be remembered in the newsletter.

Charles, 1920-2006, leaves his wife Betty of 66 years of marriage, two sons and a daughter. Sincerely, a former Marine.



Dear Joe: I have enclosed an obit from the Kansas City Star. I didn't know this man personally, but I noticed he served with the Sixth Division. He sounded like he had it all together, Best, Jim Harwood, 4th Regiment.

Ed's Note: We appreciate information of this kind. Laurence Joseph Lynch died in Kansas City at 82.



Walter Heuer, H&S-4, writes that the St. Louis Post-Dispatch has reported the death of John L. Hitt, H&S-22, on 8-24-06. A member of the Marine Corps League, Hitt is survived by a daughter, Sherri Krueger. He was 89 and a widower.



Dear Mrs. Dornan: Enclosed is my check for the newsletter for 2005 and 2006. Sorry, I forgot to send it in on time, but we are all getting older and so is my memory. Use the

extra money for someone who perhaps cannot afford the subscription fee or for whatever you deem appropriate. Yours truly, Earnie Holt, I-3-22



Martin Essex: ShisaLion.org requests your assistance in finding 13 artifacts from the Ryukyuan Kingdom missing following World War II. We hope to return them to Okinawa. We have pictures of the artifacts on our web site. Please, visit. Thank you. Jed Oyasato.



Missing Crown of Okinawan Kings

Continued on page 12

BOOK REVIEW: The Timid Marine

This book of fiction is apparently autobiographical. Written by Joseph Lanciotti, perhaps of the Third Battalion, 29th (that was never made clear), it covers the trials and difficulties of a "combat fatigued" Marine on Okinawa.

This reviewer was going to give it a paragraph at best once I learned that the protagonist was a high school dropout poet. That's enough in itself to anticipate imminent psychosis. There turned out to be more to the book than I expected from this unenthusiastic draftee with an attitude.

To set the scene, the writer allows that he was just a poor kid from Jersey whose draft number came up. He wasn't sure why he then volunteered for the Marine Corps, apparently a bad decision.

After an unfortunate tour at the Boston Navy Yard, he headed overseas on the Sea Bass, destination Guadalcanal and the Sixth Division. The landing on Okinawa is as confusing to the reader as it apparently was to our tormented Marine. From here on until late June it is blood and guts without relief. To give credit where due, the writer is more than candid; you know he's telling you exactly how he felt about the whole thing.

Sugar Loaf (again not quite clear) was too much for a lot of people, including "Lance." He joined the crowd heading for the rear. He admits his fear and disgust after 60 years in a published novel, this reviewer believes, because he considered it a justifiably rational act. Apparently, cowardice was not really a factor, he just had enough of the "Butcher Shop," though he did return to the line later and fought until the end.

His views of China were just as gritty. He tells how it was if you looked critically at the society that surrounded the troops there. He did find relief from self-righteousness in friendships with Russian and Chinese residents of Tsingtao, made in part through his desire to learn the Chinese language.

The book has value. The writer bares it all. He deserves credit for that, but you have to get past the misspellings, grammatical errors, some awkward phraseology and, above all, the aforementioned attitude. Lanciotti also wrote "River Island." Publisher is iUniverse (www.iuniverse.com), paperback price is \$16.95—Joe Singleton

Subj: OKINAWA NON-BATTLE CASUALTIES

Date: Wednesday, May 1, 2002 9:28:46 AM

From: GYRENE629 (Bill Pierce)

During the 82-day battle for Okinawa the 4 army and 2 Marine Divisions experienced a total of 26,211 non-battle casualties. This is interesting as that totals out to be (in numbers) one division! With 7,373 killed and another 31,807 wounded that totals another 2 divisions. Some wounded did return to their respective divisions as we know. But that still totals out to be almost 3 divisions! That is a very high amount of combat men to be lost in just an 82 day period. One wonders what landing in Japan would have been like.

Also interesting is that of the non-battle casualties, the 1st Marine Division had the most with 5,101, which is one fourth of a division! The 7th Army Division suffered the second highest with 4,825, the 6th Marine Division with 4,489 was the third highest.

Another interesting stat is that the 2nd Marine Division had more men MIA (Missing in Action) than any other Division. This is due no doubt to the loss of men when a Kamikaze slammed into their LST during the feint or fake landing on April one.

BOOK REVIEW: "History of the 22nd Marines"

By Harold P. Hamman - 22nd marines.

Edited by Bill Lemen - 22nd marines

Reviewed by Bill Pierce:

In reviewing this book I found it thoroughly enjoyable and well documented. This is a fine spiral bound book, some 258 pages of thoroughly researched and accurate history. The book covers the 22nd Regiment from the date of inception, through the Marshalls, Guam, Okinawa and China, to the disbanding of the Sixth Division.

It is chock full of maps, photos, historical references and even Japanese photos and data. Transport ship photos and relevant information are made available, and even a copy of a 'chow pass' is there. This is a wonderful endeavor and a well worthwhile purchase.

The book is available at \$25.00 in black and white and \$27.00 in color, including tax. For shipping and handling, add \$3.50.

To order send check/money order to
Bill Lemen

2105 S. Cynthia, Apt B-124

McAllen, TX 78503

Phone: 956-992-0305 Fax 956-631-0738

E-Mail: lemenbm@aol.com

Death Notices Should Be Sent To Flo Dornan

The membership manager handles all notices of this type. Mrs. Dornan then notifies the chaplain and any others who should be contacted. Her address, phone number and E-Mail address are on the last page of this newsletter. Those who wish to publish biographical or other additional information in the Striking Sixth should additionally notify the editor, whose address is on Page 2.

Mail Call *Continued from page 12*



From: Warriorsstory@aol.com

To: GYRENE629@aol.com

Subject: 6th marine history

Date: Mon, 30 Oct 2006 6:42 PM

I just read your web site on the medal of honor for 6 members of the 6th Marine Div in WW2. As a WW2 historian, free lance writer, and student of military history, I enjoyed reading of the valor of your fellow Marines and Corpsmen. I was born in 1945, and served in Vietnam when I was 20 (1965-66) in the weapons platoon of

the 9th Cavalry. As a fellow combat vet, I salute your service in the "big one", WW2. I plan on more follow up research of the 6th Marine Division. Best wishes-Mike Kelley, m/sgt. ret.



Gentlemen: My father, Hazel Lane Kent, known as H.L. or Hazel was with the Sixth Marine Division on Okinawa. He landed on Easter Sunday. He was later in China or Japan. He was a sergeant when it was over. I am looking for anyone who might have known him then. My Dad died January 27, 2002 of a stroke. He was 20 at the time of

Okinawa, about 5'9" and skinny. He came from Live Oak, FL. I know one thing: every good quality I have came from my Dad and from his Marine experience.

William Mallory Kent, attorney,

1932 Perry Place, Jacksonville, FL 32207.

Phone, 904-398-8000;

E-Mail, kent@williamkent.com;

web site, www.williamkent.com.



Continued on page 13

Dear Joe,

I'm sorry that you have chosen a well-deserved retirement. I, and I am sure that 99.9 % of the membership, appreciate the superbly professional job you have done as Editor of our Newsletter. I think your solution to the problem is excellent, and I have a suggestion.

Why not have every subscriber to the Newsletter kick in money to pay Ms Dornan's salary? Divide her salary by the number of subscribers and I'll bet the amount of the donation will be next to nothing for each person. As a "lifer" I know I don't pay a yearly subscription fee, but I'll go for \$10.00 a year towards the lady's salary if you like the idea. Semper Fidelis and have a wonderful retirement. Doug Macdonald, 2-E-15-6th dougmacdonaldpm@aol.com) **Ed's Note: Thanks for the kind words, Doug. A paid editor was not considered this time. I will pull one more year, and that's it.**



Dear Mr. Pierce: Thank you so much for sending the Sixth Marine Division Memorial plaque. I am going to put up a memorial for my Dad, and this will be a part. He was a Marine from the tip of his toes to the tip of his head 'til his dying breath. The Marine Corps League did a great job at Dad's funeral, complete with regular Marine pallbearers. We will miss him always. Bobby McGraw and Family, Taft, TN



Enclosed is a check for another year of the Striking Sixth newsletter. Keep up the good work; I really enjoy reading it. If you find room in the newsletter, the enclosed article may be of interest. Kenneth Parr, 1537, D-2-29. **Ed's Note: We couldn't find room for the article this time, maybe later.**



Hi Bill (Pierce)-Marie: Hope you're in good shape and enjoyed the Reunion. I have enclosed an article (from the Appleton, WI newspaper) on Iwo's flag raising. The guy didn't put the photo of me holding the Okinawa flag raising picture. I guess he thought it would take away from his story on Iwo. They did mention it in the article, though. Have some happy holidays and we hope to see you soon. Love you guys. Semper Fi, Ray and Mugg (Schlinder), K-3-22.



My Name is Jack Seiwel and I am a

member of the Marine Corps League Detachment #428. I am contacting you on behalf of Morris DreGoria who was with the 6th Division, 29th Regiment during the battle on Okinawa. He has no computer but he longs to hear from anyone from his outfit. I will supply him with the 6th Division patch and information I have from the computer but he needs to have someone contact him by either phone or by mail such as you from the 29th Regiment or anyone from the 6th Division. so he could keep in touch or you can contact me via e-mail. I and Morris would sincerely appreciate any assistance you could provide. His Phone # is 570 459 0204 and his address is 1501 E. Broad Street, Hazleton, PA 18201. Thank you and Semper Fi.



A young man who used to mow my yard and is now a Marine in Iraq saw this article in a Marine magazine, recognized me and sent a clipping, which shows my picture and tells about battles I was in on three islands 62 years ago. Two other Marines in the photo were killed in later actions, one at Guam and one on Okinawa. I am lucky to be here. Bob Tuohy (also known as Faris Tuohy). Ed's Note: Unfortunately we couldn't reproduce the photo, which showed a "filthy exhausted" Tuohy and two others drinking coffee on a transport immediately after securing Eniwetok Atoll with the 22nd Marines.



Mr. Essex: My grandfather, Bob Waring, D-2-29, recently passed along an excerpt from your newsletter where you expressed interest in what the recipients of the Sixth Marine Division scholarships have achieved. I was fortunate enough to receive the scholarship each of my four years at Villanova University. While on scholarship I had the opportunity to study at the London School of Economics in the summer of 2003. I graduated Cum Laude from Villanova, double majoring in Accountancy and Management Information Systems. I work for Pricewaterhousecooper LLP in Philadelphia. I plan to become a CPA and Certified Information Systems Auditor. I am also considering a graduate degree. Above all, I seek to take advantage of the opportunities presented to me to further help and protect others that are the result of those who have served our country in the military. Warm regards, Chad Waring.



Dear Florence: Enclosed check for \$10 for 2005 newsletter. Sorry that I didn't send it before, but the last 18 months has been hectic. 2004 was not a good year as I had colorectal surgery. Betty, my wife, had a

major stroke June 21 of last year. Lost my last two brothers, a sister-in-law, a brother-in-law and my wife's mother. I had Betty in a nursing home for five months but didn't like the care she was getting, so I brought her home and took care of her myself. I have my hands full, but being married to her for 61 years, I feel like it's my duty to take care of her. She would do it for me. Semper Fi, Ellis E. Brumbaugh, H&S-29, (517) 699-4494, ellisbrumbaugh78@aol.com.



Dear Mrs. Dornan: I am a life member. I may be delinquent in payment for the newsletter. I just received the Summer '05 issue. The attached \$30 check may be used to pay for my delinquency, if any. If there is a surplus amount, add it to your newsletter fund for someone else's subscription fee, so they won't miss a much-valued issue, or to any other needy fund at your discretion. Sorry to make your large job larger, but I'm in a stage of Alzheimer's and will appreciate it if you will handle this for me. Herbert J. Menier, 1st Prov. Marine Brigade, 4th Regt., 15th Regt.



Dear Florence: Please excuse the familiarity. I am enclosing a check to cover the newsletter and for any other purpose. I was saddened to learn of Eddie Tomaiolo's passing. We had spoken many times on the phone. I first met him at a Reunion in 1977. He is missed. Is there any way you can put me in touch with the Breakfast Club president or other officers. I wonder if they will allow me to come to one of their meetings. I do not own a computer and am computer illiterate. Semper Fidelis, Rocco V. Greco, Hq-3-29.



Dear Ms. Dornan: According to the label on my newsletter I am delinquent in my subscription, and I must concede that it is right as my last payment was in December, 2002 for the year 2003. Since I have continued to read it, I want to pay for 2004 and 2005. To avoid a repetition of this embarrassment, I will also pay for 2006. I thank you for your service to the association. Semper Fidelis, Lester C. O'Quinn, A-6th Tank Bn.

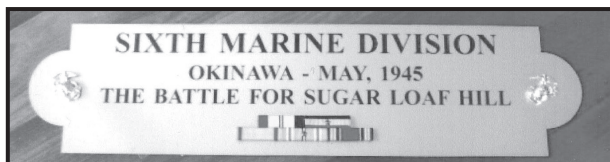
Continued on page 14

New Members

ACCROCCO, Victor E., ID #5949, Nephew of Joseph F. Accrocco, Assoc Annual
 DAILEY, Douglas L., ID #5937, Nephew of Leonard Lee Rogers, Assoc Annual
 DeGREGORIA, Morris F., ID #5941, 29th Marines, Regular Annual
 ESLINGER, Lloyd, ID #5939, 29th MAR-1-A, Regular Annual
 FOURNIER, Park, W., ID #5946, 29th MAR-6th Tank-C, Regular Annual
 HILLEGASS, Bonnie E., Daughter of Martin Essex, Associate Annual
 HOUSEWEART, Connie, ID #5936, Daughter of Pat Haynes, Assoc. Ann to Life
 HYNES, Matthew V., ID #5942, 6th Ser Bn, Regular Life
 MARSHAK, Lawrence, ID #5950, 4th MAR-3-L, Regular Life
 MONTGOMERY, William A., ID #5948, 15th MAR-1-H&S, Regular Annual
 MOORE, Clayton A., ID #5420, USO Tour Guide, Assoc Annual to Associate Life
 MURRAY, Kevin, ID #5947, Son of Albert Francis "Kelly" Murray, Associate Life
 REQUA, Suzanne J., I.D. #5938, Daughter of William Stone, Associate Life
 SPROATT, Doris R, ID #5944, Wife of Carl Sproatt, Associate Life
 PEARSON, Charles B., ID #5945, 4th MAR-2, Regular Annual
 WALKER, Mary W., ID# 5940, Wife of Robert J. Walker, Sr., Associate Life
 WALKER Sr., Robert J., ID #5636, 29th MAR-2-F, Regular Annual to Life
 WARREN, Carolyn M., ID #5952, Daughter of John Warren, Associate Annual
 YAHN, H. L., ID #5943, 29TH MAR-1-C, Regular Annual

6th Vet Has Attended Last Earthly Reunion

Dear Mr. Singleton: It is with heavy heart that I need to inform you that another proud Marine of WWII has fallen and gone home to be with his Lord. Richard Darwin Bailey, HQ-1-29, died July 25, 2006. He enjoyed attending many Reunions of the 6th Division and the highlight of his life was to return to Okinawa in 1995 to celebrate the 50th year of victory over Japan. So he will not be attending any more earthly Reunions, May God bless all the remaining brave Marines of WWII. Sincerely, Irma Bailey (wife), 1415 Tulane Dr., Davis, CA 95616



Plaque Ready — This plaque will be attached to the Sugar Loaf Battle painting frame being prepared for completion by spring. The project is being financed by Ward Lowing at no cost to the association. Prints will be available.

Mail Call *Continued from page 13*



Dear Mrs. Dornan: Somewhere along the line, I missed the fact that life members who receive the Striking Sixth Newsletter must pay \$10 a year to continue receiving it. Enclosed check is for \$20 to cover my subscription. Does this cover two years or do you have to order yearly? How do I know when to order in the future? I would hate not to receive the newsletter because it is a great publication, and I would miss it. Sincerely, William H. Warnecke Jr., B-1-22



Florence: I just received the Summer, 2005 edition. I always enjoy reading it as my husband Leo did. The 6th Division was a highlight in his life and seeing his "buddies" at the Reunions meant a lot to him. Enclosed is an extra \$20. Please use as you see best for the association. Best regards, Gloria Johnson, widow of Leo Johnson, H&S-22.



Here is my \$10 for the Striking Sixth newsletter and an additional \$10 for a newsletter for someone less fortunate. If you have an extra 6th Division car decal, I would appreciate receiving one. The one on my car is faded. Thank you, Forrest Goodrich, B-6th Pioneer Bn.



Dear Florence: First I and the 6th wish to thank you for all the work you do for the association. Second, on my 6th newsletter address it states 2003 for the newsletter. I was sure that I paid up for 2005, but I've been known to forget, so I'm sending a check for 2005 and 2006 (\$20). I am also sending a check for \$25 for the Memorial Marker Fund in memory of J.C. Caldwell, my foxhole buddy from I-3-4. J.C. was a 3rd Raider Battalion Marine and a helluva fighter. He passed away in April of this year (2005). Semper Fi, Fritz Bennett.



Hope this doesn't mess up the bookkeeping. I usually send this payment in the first of the year, but I can't remember if I did this last time. If I've paid for '05, then apply it to '06. If I haven't, then I'll try to remember next year. I appreciate all the good work you are doing. Jackson Etter, E-2-22.



Don't know how you found us, but glad you did. We have moved two times in the past year and a half. During moving we lost all our Striking Sixth addresses. I'm sending dues for '04, '05 and '06. We are lifetime members. Thanks so much for the Summer '05 magazine. Al and Dorothy Wilson, C-1-29.



Dear Flo: Enclosed you will find my check to cover cost of the annual newsletter fee for 2006 to keep me in good standing. Also, I have enclosed the original copies of the 2004 Winter Striking Sixth newsletter and also the Spring-Summer copy of the 2005 mailings. In checking the two there is a distinct difference in the information provided immediately above my name, as you will note. Perhaps the omission of "all" of the information by the printer is why so many of the members state they didn't receive their newsletter and/or why so many are returned. I can't help but noticing how the "mail call" section has been cut back so drastically since that was where friends had a chance to "sound off." For those able to make the annual Reunion, there was ample coverage, but for those of us who cannot attend the news reported has changed quite drastically. Please, check out why there haven't been any corrections on the addresses. Sending the best of health and everything else so vital to "seniors" as the numbers keep adding up on the calendar of life. May God Bless. Semper Fi, John B. Conley, H&S-15.

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.

Taps

NAME	UNIT	DATE OF DEATH
AKIN, Jr., Glenn T.	6th JASCO	7/17/2006
ARCHER, King	22nd MAR-2-E & 3-K	7/31/2006
BAILEY, Richard D.	29th MAR-1-HQ	7/25/2006
BORCENK, Frank	29th MAR-3-G	5/27/2004
BRAKEMAN, Walter G., NM	6th Marine Div.	9/2004
BRILL, David J.	15th MAR-4-M	9/25/2006
COCCIO, Dorothy	Wife of Anthony Coccio	11/28/2005
CIFARELLI, Angelo D.	22nd MAR-2-G	11/21/2000
CLASGENS, Leon	29th MAR-2	Unknown
DAVENPORT, Dave	Dir. Battle Museum of Okinawa	11/07/2006
DIETZ, Warren C.	1st Prov Marine Brig	8/01/2006
GACH, Roman	15th MAR-4-M	3/06/2006
GALLAGHER, William J., NM	22nd Marines	9/07/2006
GALLEN, Charles E.	22nd MAR-2-E	8/22/2006
HIATT, George E.	29th MAR-3-I	Unknown
HITT, John L.	22nd MAR-H&S	8/24/2006
HOPE, Harold M.	4th MAR-3-I	12/31/1998
JONES, Thomas	22nd MAR-2-HQ	9/17/2006
KAMINSKI, Robert D.	4th MAR-HQ-Comm	7/20/2006
KELLER, Roger J., NM	6th Marine Div.	5/27/2006
LIND, Glenn L.	6th Motor Transport Bn	1/06/2005
LINDSEY, Douglas F.	4th MAR-3-I	6/15/2006
LYNCH, Laurence J.	22nd MAR-2-H&S	6/19/2006
MACK, William	22nd MAR-1-D	8/28/2006
McGRAW, Robert L.	22nd MAR-1-C	8/09/2006
McPHERSON, John	29th MAR-1	Unknown
MENGEL, Doris J.	Wife of Gordon H. Mengel	8/05/2006
MILONAS, Timothy S.	29th MAR-1-C	9/08/2006
MURPHY, Vernon J.	6th Recon Co	1/00/2006
NAPLES, Kay	Wife of Michael F. Naples	9/29/2006
NEINSTEDT, Harry	4th MAR-3-K	6/14/2006
RANNE, JR., J. A.	29th MAR-1-A	9/08/2000
RODRIGUEZ, Joel Q.	29th MAR-2-E	Unknown
RYAN, Thomas B.	29th MAR-3-I	6/12/2006
SADIN, Sidney A.	15th Marines	Unknown
SANDS, Albert J.	6th Engineer Bn, H&S	9/15/2006
SIEFERT, John R.	Son of Richard Siefert, 29th Mar	5/29/2006
SMITH, Francis X.	29th MAR-2-D	6/12/2006
WAGONER, George L.	6th Pioneer Bn-HQ	2/06/2006
WALENTA, Louis J.	22nd MAR-1-A	6/30/2006
WILLIAMS, Fred L.	4TH MAR-HQ	12/25/2005
YANDLE, Howard A.	6th Engineer Bn-A (Corpsman)	6/02/2006

RETRACTION: In September of 2004 Harold T. Stanley (22nd Mar-1-C) was reported as deceased, reported in Taps and memorialized at Las Vegas in 2005. Harold questioned why he didn't get his Newsletter and we are happy to report he is alive and well and receiving his Newsletters.

Dave Davenport, caretaker of the Battle Museum of Okinawa along with his coworker Chris Majewski, and longtime friend of the Sixth Marine Division died November 7 on Okinawa.

Davenport had suffered from an illness for some time before his death. Following cremation, his ashes were taken to the family tomb, according to Majewski. A memorial ceremony was scheduled for the 17th to be attended by family, friends and American military personnel. An Air Force honor guard was planned for the event, and it was hoped that a Marine band would be present. A Marine bugler was to be requested for Taps.

One or more Sixth Division Marines indicated that they would participate in private ceremonies synchronized with the Okinawa event in honor of their friend.

Too late for TAPS. two deaths were reported without many details. Joe Smith, F-2-29, of Stephenville, Texas and George Tibbs, I-3-15, will be missed.

Donations from Caring Members, Families and Friends:

DIRECTORY:

MORRIS, Enos Ray
HEUER, Walter
HUTCHINS, Robert L.
LA HAYNE, Elden
PATTERSON, R. T.
SAKOWICZ, William J.
SLADE, Donald A.
SPROATT, Carl J.
STATEN, Charles & Mildren
IMO Pat Haynes
WARNECKE, JR., William

GENERAL FUND:

BURAZIN, Michael T.
CHRISTOPHER, Calvin
CLEMENTE, JR., Joseph
CROSS, Carol P.
DeGREGORIA, Morris
FENN, Richard C. (Above and beyond)
HIBBARD, John M.
HUTCHINS, Robert L.
KEENAN, John M.
MITCHELL, A. Robert
MORRIS, Enos Ray
SAKOWICZ, William J.
SMITH, Mary W.
IMO Robert H. Smith, Sr.
SMITH, JR., Robert H.
IMO Robert H. Smith, Sr.
STATEN, Charles & Mildred
(Above & Beyond) IMO Kay Naples
STINES, JR., Charles

LIFE CARD:

SPROATT, Carl J.

MEMORIAL MARKER FUND:

CLEMENTE, JR. Joseph
MORRIS, Enos Ray
PIVARUNAS, Walter A.

NEWSLETTER:

DAVIES, Alexander (Above and beyond)
BRENNAN, Jean D.
FELICE, Joseph
STINES, JR., Charles

SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

CLEMENTE, JR., Joseph
MORRIS, Enos Ray
PHIPPS, Ralph J.

6th Marine Division Association

Membership Application and Change of Address

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____ Spouse 1st Name _____
 Street Address _____ Apt/Bldg/Lot _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____
 Phone ()- - E-mail Address _____
 Company _____ Battalions _____ Regiment _____ Other _____
 If Change of Address, your 4 digit ID# _____ (On mailing label - top/left above name)
 Old Address _____ Apt _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____
 If applying for membership as an Associate Member, provide name of relative who served with the Sixth Marine Division:
 _____ Relationship _____
 His unit within Division, if known _____
 Annual Dues (\$10/year) _____ *Member _____ *Associate _____ \$ _____
 Life Membership (\$75) _____ *Member _____ *Associate _____ \$ _____
 Subscription to Striking Sixth newsletter of the Sixth Marine Division (\$10) _____ \$ _____
 Additional copies of newsletter: \$3.50 each
 Optional Donations *Subscription and annual dues are based on calendar year.*
 Membership Directory Contribution \$ _____
 Memorial Medallion Fund Contribution \$ _____
 General Operating Fund Contribution \$ _____
 Make check payable to the Sixth Marine Division Association Total \$ _____
 Mail to: Florence R. Dornan, Membership Manager, 704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011
 Email: Sxthmardiv@aol.com Phone: 817-275-1552

NOTICE
Subscription
Fee of
\$10
Payable
Now

CHECK YOUR LABEL

Membership/Dues Coding:
 LIFE= Life Membership (Owe no dues)
 2002= Annual Membership Dues
 Expires Dec. 31 of year indicated

Regiment-Battalion-Company
ID Number → 1695 29th Mar-3-G
 James S. White
 2209 W. Holley Ave.
 Duncan, OK 73533-2007

Newsletter Subscription
 Expires Dec. 31 of year indicated

DELIVERY POINT BARCODE

Check your name and address (zip code, Apt/Bldg/Lot No.) Notify the Membership Manager if you find an error.

Important: If no barcode appears on your label, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

6th Marine Division Association
 704 Cooper Court Arlington, TX 76011



Striking Sixth Newsletter

WINTER 2006

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Permit #1040
 Leesburg, FL
 34748