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Summer 2007

Uncertain Start Overcome As Norfolk Reunion Nears

By Joe Singleton

Once again, the Reunion process got off to a rocky beginning, but like last year in Harrisburg, PA everything has fallen into place in time to promise Sixth Division Marines, wives, children and friends an exceptional experience in the old navy town of Norfolk, VA that has also become a modern resort.

Reunion Chairman and ex-President John Foley, K-3-4, reports that all the gears are working, and everything has fallen into place. With the able assistance of active-duty Marines, the atmosphere is conducive not only to great vacation time but remembrance of times past and comrades long gone.

The Reunion scene will be at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Norfolk Oct. 9-14 as previously reported. It will begin on a Tuesday and end Sunday. More information is available in the application forms on Pages 4 and 5.

There are departures from past experience, John said. The Memorial Service is being held on Wednesday instead of the usual Saturday. The battleship Wisconsin, site chosen for this solemn occasion, was available only on that day. With concurrence from the association chaplain, the Reverend Frank J. Mack, K-3-22, John determined that the location on a fighting WWII warship was more important than the day it would be held.

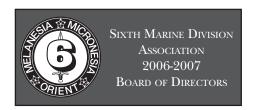
There are no tours or other excursions planned. John said that there are too many nearby things to do in this old seaside liberty town to attempt squeezing everyone into the same boat. At one time, he had a cruise scheduled, but he canceled it because of scheduling conflicts and lack

ASSAULT ON SUGAR LOAF



This black and white reproduction of a portion of "The Battle for Sugar Loaf Hill" is all we could squeeze into this edition of the "Striking Sixth." The 6' x 8' painting commissioned by Associate Member Ward Lowing and supported by Past President Ray Schlinder, K-3-22, and PR Chairman Bill Pierce, Wpns-29, has been completed and, in a change of plans, will be presented to the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, TX. The painting had been planned for the Marine National Museum in Quantico, but transportation difficulties interfered, Bill Pierce said. The museum in Texas really wanted the painting, he added, as they are building a 40,000 sq. ft. addition to increase their displays. Color prints will be made for sale to Association members.

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Marty Essex

President Marty Seeks Look at Our By-Laws

My term president as was going to be a return to civility. It was going to be a

controversy-free administration. Good will and regard for all. As Alf Landon put it in a presidential race, "a chicken in every pot." He was being literal, but you get the idea.

That was before I ran into two major unanticipated difficulties that illuminated endemic problems with our association: first and foremost is

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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

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Florence Dornan

the failure of our membership to help manage diverse interests. Second are our Byzantine by-laws, which appear to have been tortured to near death by 40 years of changing this and that to the point that they fail to make any sense in spots.

Let's examine the first problem to arise. The membership voted to spend up to \$7500 for a new Directory. The treasurer, not believing in the project, refused to issue the check. A special board meeting was called and voted almost unanimously to direct the treasurer to issue the check. He failed to do so.

The bylaws call for a finance committee to supervise the treasury. If we had such a committee, it could have enforced the board's decree. If there has been such a committee in recent years, it has escaped my notice. When I took this post, I didn't even know there was such a thing.

That's my fault. I should have studied the by-laws. There are plenty floating around, most of them out of date. We seem to change them annually. I am familiar with them now; Sam Petriello, our judge advocate sent me a copy.

Last year, when I was presidentelect, I did nothing, learned nothing, just like all the other presidentselect in recent years. For example, I didn't know that the president-elect is supposed to be chairman of the finance committee.

We need new blood. We need to fill out our committees. Which brings us to the next problem I ran into while trying to be an active president.

I wanted to fire the Reunion site chairman, for what I considered to be good and sufficient reasons. He is also the Reunion chairman. In fact, I did fire him from both jobs. That was before I found out that I couldn't fire him under our by-laws. The rule is that no member can be disciplined and no officer can be fired without a hearing before the Board of Directors and two/ thirds in favor.

That's not a bad rule, but what about committee chairmen? I am

Continued on next page

Association Rules Need Tweaking?

By Joe Singleton, Editor

Reading the minutes in the newsletter is about like weeding your garden: dull as dirt. This applies to by-laws and anything relating to same. Sometimes, I'm told, it's necessary.

It may be that it is too late to worry about the governance of our association. Possibly, its time to sit back, relax and let someone else do it. The trouble is someone else is getting harder and harder to find. In addition, if someone takes on a thankless job, there is no guarantee that he will pay attention, much less perform.

Judge Advocate Sam Petriello ran a piece in the last edition of this newsletter offering by-law changes which would make Sons and Daughters eligible to vote and hold office. That might be a solution to our aged malaise. It can be voted on at the Norfolk Reunion this coming October.

If this works, and they take hold, they can eventually change the by-laws to suit themselves. In the meantime, we need to leave them something sensible and reasonable for starters. I'll admit that it will be mentally stifling, but we need to make one last effort, before doddering into old age, to clean up these arcane rules and regulations. (I hate rules and regulations myself.)

For those Marines still alert enough to keep reading, here are some items in our by-laws that a casual observer has found peculiar. I will examine some of those affecting recent events.

The president must "make all contracts and agreements..." In another place, the reunion chairman will "sign and execute (necessary) contracts..." There is a provision that the president can delegate this authority in writing. When is the last time you think that has happened?

The Reunion Advisory Committee, is to be headed by the committee chairman (site chairman), and two others named by the president. Where are the two others? Who are they? They and the chairman are to serve three annual turns, one to be replaced or reappointed each year. Can any of them be fired? Maybe not. Maybe these committeemen cannot be touched. Apparently, they answer to no one.

The by-laws state that the president can appoint and fire committee members "at his pleasure" except for the "Reunion Advisory Committee."

The Reunion Advisory Committee will provide "general guidance" and "suggest" a reunion chairman to the president. That word "suggest" means to me that the president has the last word on that appointment. It appears that he can fire him, too.

In other words, the president can't touch the advisory chairman, but he can fire the actual reunion chairman. What happens when they are the same person, as now? Yikes!

This is going on too long, but a few words from the by-laws about the treasurer's refusal to write a check for the Directory seem to be indicated. "He (the treasurer) and the president shall sign, make and endorse...all checks, drafts, warrants and orders for payment of money...under direction of the Board of Directors."

Seemingly the Board's order to pay would have settled the matter, but it didn't. It has been suggested that the board's decision was illegal. A quick glance at the by-laws indicates only one possibility of illegality. The by-laws state early on that "The governing body of the association is the Board of Directors." This is repeated later almost word for word.

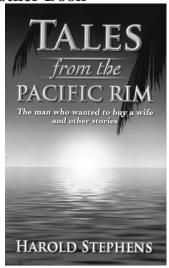
However, there is a clause, which states, "The executive committee shall be empowered to act for the board...between meetings of the board." I believe a careful reading shows that it is permissible for the executive committee to substitute for the board but not required.

Phew! There's more, but by-law reading is not in my MOS. I'm bushed and running out of space.

HISTORY AVAILABLE

Dear Bill (Pierce): The 22nd Marines Assn. thanks you for the review of its history in the Sixth Division newsletter, which has resulted in a response from several members. The Association has established a single price for the work at \$27, including color pages. Semper Fidelis, William L. Leman, judge advocate.

Another Book



This book is fiction, and it doesn't seem to be about Marines. It is by a Marine, however, from Fox Company, 29th Regiment. Since it is by Hal Stephens, the company's most prolific writer, it should be worth a look. Hal writes mostly about the South Pacific and the Southeast Asian littoril, according to the blurb from Wolfenden Publishers, 78--A Redwood Dr., Garbenville, CA. 95542. A compilation of short stories, the "Tales" involve "what happens when a man wants to buy an Asian wife," or "when an American woman wants to impose her ideas of liberation on an Asian woman" and other stories from the region.

President Marty Seeks Look at Our By-Laws

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supposed to appoint them, and I can fire most of them except, you guessed it, the chairman of the Reunion Advisory Committee, the one we usually refer to as the site chairman. He has his own individual fief. He reports to no one, and acknowledges no restrictions, at least under current practice.

I thought I could fire him, so I did. Then I sought to find out what agreements he had made with firms and others in Norfolk, a logical step in my opinion. This caused a disruption and possibly harmed Reunion attendance. I regret that.

All of this needs to be hashed out at Norfolk, which I believe can be an outstanding Reunion. If there are still any who care about this association enough to serve on committees or run for office, let them step forward. Others who attend can express their interest by voting.

Marty Essex

SIXTH MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC. The Radisson Hotel, Norfolk, Virginia 2007 Annual Reunion - October 9 to October 14 REGISTRATION

Name		Spouse/Guest Name			
Address		City		StZip	
Phone		Email			
Company		Battalion	Regiment		
SCHEDULE OF	EVENTS:				
Tuesday 10/09/07	6:30 AM 12 PM	Free breakfast in hotel dining Registration until 5 PM Member (Spouse no charge) Guests (Number@ \$20 Hospitality Room Open throu) each)	icket. \$ 20.00 \$	
Wednesday 10/10/07	6:30 AM 9:00 AM	Free breakfast in hotel dining room. Use issued tickets. Memorial Service aboard USS Wisconsin. Active Marine Unit in support. Marine Color Guard. Wreath Laying. Marine bugler plays Taps with Joe McConville on pipes.			
Thurs. 10/11/07	6:30 AM TBA	Free breakfast in hotel dining room. Use issued tickets. Luncheon at Norfolk Naval Base. USMC static infantry Display. Active Marines join us at Club Atlantis for lunch. Details at Reunion. Registration at Hospitality Room. Sons & Daughters Meeting (Time to be announced.)			
Friday 10/12/07	6:30 AM 10 AM 12 PM	Free breakfast in hotel dining room. Use issued tickets. Registration at Hospitality Room Board of Directors Meeting Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon (Number@ \$20 each) \$			
Saturday 10/13/07	6:30 AM 9 AM 5:30 PM	Free breakfast in hotel dining Men's Membership Meeting Banquet Dinner (No host bar Chicken Prime Rib F	·)		
MAKE CHECK	PAYABLE TO S	SIXTH MARINE DIVISION AS	SSN., INC. TOT	AL \$	

Mail to John Foley, 5161 Forest Glenn Drive, Spring Hill, FL 34607 Phone: 352-686-6209

THE SIXTH MARINE ASSOCIATION 2007 REUNION Radisson Hotel Norfolk, Norfolk, VA. October 9, 2007 – October 14, 2007

ARRIVAL DATE:	_ DEPARTURI	E DATE:	
NAME:			
ADDRESS:			
CITY,	STATE:	ZIP:	
PHONE:	E-mail:		
Single, Double, Occupancy: \$8	89 per night	ţ	
Please check preferred accommodations:	King Bed	Two Beds _	Handicap
-	Smoking	Non-Smokin	g
Please complete this form and return it v \$89.00 to:	vith a deposit in	the amount of	one night's lodging
Radisson Hotel Norfolk 700 N	Monticello A	venue Norf	olk VA 23510
OR: Call 1-800-333-3333 – or – (757) 6	627-5555		
Be sure to mention 6th MARINE REL	UNION TO BE	GIVEN THE \$8	39.00 RATE.
DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS <u>SEP</u>			
be taken on availability basis only. Cancella	ations will be acce	epted up to 72 hou	ırs before arrival date.
One night's lodging (\$89.00) will be CHARO	GED if cancellation	on is after that tim	1e.
Reservations will be taken on a first-come, first availability! Hotel check-in is 3:00 pm - check		-	tions early to assure
<u>AIRPORT SHUTTLE</u> : Please call the hotel di arrival to schedule your Airport Shuttle pick up your departure as well			

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Confirmation will be provided by the *Radisson Hotel Norfolk*.

End to Directory Game Due at Norfolk Meet

By Joe Singleton, Chairman, Directory Committee

The first half of the contest between Treasurer Joe McConville and the Association's Board of Directors has ended. Both sides went to the dressing room with Joe leading, 1-0. The next half will be played at the membership meeting this October when President Marty Essex asks for a vote. Joe has indicated that he will honor it, either way.

Las Vegas bookies have not yet posted a line. "Too close to call at this time," one said. When Joe refused to write a check covering printing the new Directory, authorized at the 2005 Reunion in Las Vegas and reauthorized at Harrisburg in 2006. President Marty Essex called a virtual board meeting (by mail). The board, immediately and nearly unanimously replied, "Joe, write the doggone check." That was the gist of it, anyway.

The board vote directing the treasurer to write the \$7500 check was yes-22, no-1, abstention-1, no response-2. Voting yes- Essex, Marsalek, Terpinas, Mack, Singleton, Petriello, Sproatt, Howell, Sinatra, Heuer, McWalters, Kemp, Mathews, Rice, Israel, Spillone, Le Pore, Westphal, Roberts, Tremblay, Staten, Mistretta. Voting no-Pierce. Abstaining. White. No returns-McConville, Wilkins. The Bill Pierce "no" was based on his stated belief that the membership should vote again. The results were mailed to the treasurer, return receipt, June 3. He was given until June 18 to reply. He received it June 8.

Now, Joe is a Marine through and through. He says what he means. He means what he says, and what he says is "No!" He does have a reason, which is that since there were no official minutes of the past two meetings, it is his duty not to write this check for a Directory that has not been, in effect, authorized. That was his stated opinion the last time I talked to him.

I didn't argue with him any of the times we talked. I could have said, "Joe, if actions taken at those meetings aren't official, then you're not the treasurer, and there was no Reunion in 2006." I didn't do that because, he might have replied, "You're not on the directory committee, and Marty is not president."

I could see where this would lead. Shades of Abbott and Costello. ("Who's on first?") The Directory could have been done a bit cheaper. I'm responsible for the extra cost. I wanted it to be a little classy. It's probably the last representation of a pretty good outfit. I thought we ought to do what we can. The work was done by Flo Dornan, our membership manager, and done well. It was beyond her contractual duties, but she received no payment.

If the membership OK's the Directory this one more time, it will be the same \$7500 approved last year, or a little less if done this year. If there is any extra money, it will be returned to the treasury. It's loose leaf and will be kept upgradeable. We can mail out the deaths, etc. and phone and address changes every year, so you can keep track of who's still around and where they are. If you want a complete upgrade, we throw the newest version in the printer, mail it and charge you \$10 or \$20, depending upon cost.

Uncertain Start Overcome As Norfolk Reunion Nears

Continued from page 1

of a favorable contract. A two and one-half hour bus ride to the new Marine Museum in Quantico was considered but finally dropped.

The shipboard Memorial Service should be outstanding, John said, especially with the active-duty Marine support planned. More Marine activities are planned for Thursday at the Norfolk Navy Base to be followed by luncheon on the base. Apparently, cost will be determined by the individual lunch order.

One change from the past should really suit attendees. Early risers will get free breakfast, beginning at 6:30 AM, through Saturday. The ladies luncheon will be Friday, while the Sons and Daughters Meeting will be Thursday. The 29th Marines Fox Company plans its usual luncheon, according to Dick Whitaker, company runner.

John wants to remind everyone flying in that free hotel transportation is available but only if prior arrangements are made.

Wisconsin Earned Five Stars in Pacific

The Battleship Wisconsin (BB64) is a fitting place for our Memorial Service at the forthcoming Reunion. The latest battleship to join the Fleet, Wisconsin softened up Okinawa before the landing and later in April, took part in protecting naval units offshore from kamikazes and provided troops ashore with supporting gunfire.

The ship, with its nine16-inch rifles and a host of smaller weapons, fought in four other battles from the Philippines to Iwo Jima and the Japanese Mainland. Refitted upon the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, it provided fire support there for the First Marine Division and other units.

Decommissioned in 1958, the Wisconsin had been our last active-duty battleship, ending a gallant naval tradition. This information was taken from the "Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Vol. VIII.

Pacific War to Be Scene Of New Series on HBO

"The Pacific" is a World War II television mini-series, being produced by HBO, which is currently in development. It is the successor to Band of Brothers, which focused on American involvement in the European Theater of Operations during World War II; the new series will be about the Pacific Theater of Operations.

"The Pacific" will not be associated with any of the characters from Band of Brothers and is to be based primarily on two memoirs by U.S. Marines: "With the Old Breed" by Eugene Sledge and "Helmet for My Pillow" by Robert Leckie. The series will tell the stories of the two authors and celebrated Marine John Basilone, as the war against the Empire of Japan rages.

"The Pacific" is being spearheaded by Bruce McKenna, who was one of the main writers of Band of Brothers. Hugh Ambrose, the son of Band of Brothers author Stephen Ambrose, will serve as a project consultant. Production is supposed to begin in August. Ed's Note: This information comes to us courtesy of Dick Whitaker, F-2-29, and Wikipedia Encyclopedia.

China Marines Considering The End Game

By Bill Pierce, PR Chairman

The China Marines have begun talking about the end game, the final years of their association. Perhaps it is time for our Sixth Marine Division Association to also consider the merits of their suggestions.

As the saying goes, "We ain't gittin' any younger." Reunion chairmen and committee members are hard to come by. Workers of any sort are in short supply. Where will replacement officers come from when the present ones have had enough?

Following are suggestions reported by Bill Soper, China Marines Association president in their newsletter. They are worth thinking about, and I have suggested to our board and President Marty Essex that it would be wise to put them on our forthcoming Board of Directors agenda.

- Consider a permanent reunion site that we can use every year.
- Begin thinking about the formal dissolution of our association.

The permanent site would be used until we would decide to end reunions and our formal association. Probably, we want to use professionals for the details, ending many likely difficulties.

Picking a year to dissolve the Association would make it easier on the planning.

This would not be the end of our brotherhood. Informal groups could still exist for whatever purposes they might desire to follow. Rump reunions could continue as long as members wanted them. We could continue our newsletter as a smaller bulletin to report deaths and any other information of interest.

We need to begin considering a permanent reunion site soon. Next year, if we go to Oklahoma City as has been mentioned, it may prove to be our last of the old-style reunions. As to disbandment, we know it's coming. We need to begin preparing.

E-Mail Seeks Information On 22nd Regiment Marine

I have been in contact with Bill Pierce regarding information about my father who served in the 6th Marine Division, K-3-22. His name was Orester Nesseth, and he was on Okinawa from May 28, 1945 until June 21, 1945. Then he was in Tsingtao, China until his discharge.

Bill advised me to have my father's information included in the 6th Marine Division newsletter, so that I may be able to find out more information about his service, specifically about his time on Okinawa.

I hope you can help me. I have attached some pictures of my father from Tsingtao, and some other information.

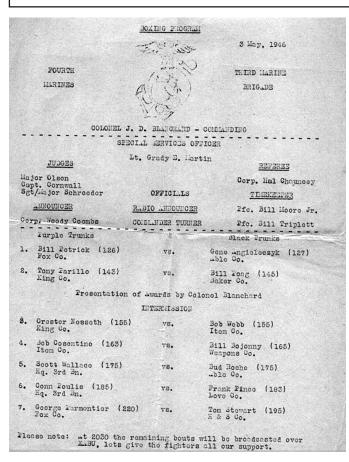
Thank you,

Jim Nesseth

LCP - USMC

1984 - 1988

jim.nesseth@minco.com

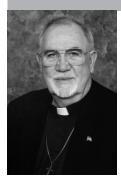




Orester Nesseth is on the right in this photo taken in Tsingtao. We don't know who the Marine is, but but he may be from K Company, also. Their Chinese "friends" names are not known. Orester may have served some time in China as an MP. He joined the Marines in 1943 and went through boot camp at San Diego. He went to Okinawa with the 63rd Replacement Draft.

This 22nd Regiment Fight Card may bring back memories to some. We do not know if Orester won or lost.

By Rev. Frank J. Mack



Rev. Mack

Greetings from your Chaplain! Have you ever thought about what America means to you? As the day celebrating our independence was observed,

I thought it might be well for us to remember the unmatched freedomsyouandIhave enjoyed all our lives. For 231 years our nation has enjoyed an incomparable way of life no other nation on earth has ever dreamed of. Just look at our spacious skies, our amber fields of grain, our purple mountain majesties, our acres of fruited plains and our alabaster cities gleaming in the brilliant sunshine. Only God could have given us these material blessings.

But God has given us much more than the things we can see and touch. He has placed deep within the heart of every loyal American citizen, the unquenchable desire for freedom. From our earliest days as a country, we have vowed that no one will ever destroy our freedom, our liberty or our unmatched form of government. Our freedom must be preserved at all costs, even to the shedding of our blood or the loss of our individual lives. Because of this, it becomes easy to understand why we have so many "heroes of history" who have defended our country as members of the United States Marine Corps.

Yes, America has had many heroes as the song I referred to above continues, "For heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life". Our nation has an infinite number of heroes. Among combat veterans, many who are highly decorated for valor above and beyond the call of duty, you will always hear them say, "The real heroes are the guys who didn't come home, those who didn't survive." If that's taken literally, then America lost over 400,000 heroes in World War II alone. A staggering number when you equate it to what the cost of freedom really is.

Today, just as our families of origin did in World War II and we did during Viet Nam, tears are again being shed daily by wives and husbands, mothers and fathers, and families of our nation's fallen warriors. Again, it's overwhelming to think of the young lives that are being sacrificed in the name of freedom. It reminds us of another time in our history when anarchy tried to destroy our beautiful land. Yet, as the song says, we still stand tall, undimmed by human tears. As memories of our countless heroes ebb as the years go by, we must stand stronger than ever to make sure they are never forgotten.

What then should America mean to us? It should mean that we live in a nation that God has blessed as He has no other land in history. We are blessed to live in the United States, a country that heroes have died for and patriots have offered their lives for since the birth of our Republic in 1776. Now, our way of life is threatened again. May we highly resolve that the deeds perpetuated by the

evildoers from abroad never fade from America's memory. We have been blessed throughout our lives, but most of all we are privileged to live in a country where freedom is a birthright for rich and poor alike.

In closing, just a few words about our 37th annual reunion, scheduled to be held in Norfolk, Va. from October 9 through October 14, 2007. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find registration forms for the reunion and hotel accommodations, plus a schedule of events. I urge you to make your commitment to attend as soon as possible in order to help John Foley, our reunion chairman finalize the activities. John, in true Marine fashion, has given his all to insure that this reunion will be one that you will enjoy as well as remember for a long time. Semper Fi, and may God bless you.

Rev. Frank J. Mack

Premier Questions Okinawa Suicides

by Shigemi SatoSat

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe faced protests as he marked the 62nd anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa amid outrage over the conservative leader's views on wartime history.

Ahead of his trip to the southern island chain, Okinawa's assembly demanded the education ministry acknowledge that the imperial army forced local people to commit suicide rather than surrender to US invaders in the 83-day battle.

The ministry instructed publishers in March to delete references in high school history textbooks on the forced suicides for lack of documentation — despite witness accounts backing up the allegations.

Abe, who has led a drive to build a "beautiful nation" proud of its history, used his speech to address one of the island chain's top concerns, the heavy US military presence unseen anywhere else in Japan. 2007 Agence France Presse.

Sons and Daughters Remember The Words of Lt. Col. Jean Steed

Sons and Daughters:

This is just a recap of what we should be. If no one minds I'll use the words of Jean Steed as she puts it so well.

The Sons and Daughters Group Goals

- Help Division members enjoy the benefits and camaraderie of their organization today, and specifically ensure them a carefree time at the annual reunions. The Sons and Daughters Group will help Division officials plan the reunion, then facilitate its execution.
- Bolster both Division membership and its coffers by joining the 6th Marine Division Association as Associate Members.
- Unlike other Marine Divisions that served during WW II, the Striking Sixth is unique: it is the only Marine Division formed and disbanded overseas. There is no active duty or reserve 6th Marine Division today and no organization to whom the 6th Division's "baton" can be passed. It is up to the offspring to embrace the "baton." The first step is for sons and daughters to formally join the Division.
- Work with the Division Historian and other key personnel both within and outside the Division to keep the history of the 6th Marine Division burning bright for generations to come. The aging warriors' voice concern over who will keep their collective history alive when their last member has passed on. One way to ensure the Division's memory continues is the engagement of their offspring now.
- Proposed Structure: We envision the offspring adjunct functioning as a structured team under the umbrella of the existing 6th Marine Division. The plan has the offspring standing-up as an operational structure to shadow that of the existing 6th Marine Division. Thus, for each elected/appointed Division officer/chairman, there will be a designated Son/Daughter (S/D) assistant action officer (AO). This AO manages a supporting team of other S/Ds. The AO/team mission is to serve as a supporting staff, brainstorm and plan with Division officials, ensure mission accomplishment, and ease the burden on Division members during the year and at the annual reunion. Depending on the level of response from the offspring, it would be great for each of the Division's unit directors to have a sons-daughters support staff, too.

There's only one other thing I (Connie) would like to add. If the questionnaire is filled out please send it to me, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Connie Houseweart, 258 Sechler Drive, Montoursville, PA 17754 almostnuts1@comcast. net. I hope to see you all at the upcoming Reunion in Norfolk. Ed's Note: Steed's previously published article has been edited and abridged.



Thievery on Guam

The legends shown on the side of this World War II memorial on Guam have been stolen. It is supposed the high price of metal is the reason. Brigade veterans who fought on Guam and have since returned, may remember this site.

Women's Auxiliary

Hi AGAIN. It's always a pleasure and privilege to keep in touch with all the members and friends.



Marion Bangert

I celebrated Memorial Day placing flowers on family members and my Joes' graves. It's always a heart wrenching event. I went to the local V.F.W. to help put out the wreaths on the graves of the fallen comrades and to help with the annual breakfast for the men of the Post.

There is a great deal of discussion regarding the new Directory. Some are of the opinion that it is unnecessary due to the loss each year of many members. Some feel that the new members that have joined must be considered and have available the information necessary to those in command to get the help they may need. Our job is to support and help the 6th men's association where and when needed. Nothing more. Any opinions should be talked over and the men can voice their opinions at the regular meeting.

Weather here in the northeast is great. Flowers are blooming, trees all in bud and the spring breeze heavenly.

The Quantico get together was excellent. We visited the museum, walked the brick walk, found Joe's brick, took pictures, enjoyed the memorial service at the 6th memorial and the nightly get-togethers at the cross roads on base. Thank you. Tom McKinney for all the effort put forth to make it a memorable and wonderful time for all who attended.

You women must think about a slate of officers for 2008. Give it some serious thought. Choose wisely and let your choices be known. Write, call or get to one of the officers before the luncheon in October.

Hope to see you all at the reunion in Norfolk. Until then, God bless each and everyone.

Semper Fi. Affectionately,
Marion Bangert

CORPSMEN'S CORNER

By Jack Rice



It may be a little too early to be packing for the Norfolk reunion but it is not too early to start preparing for the trip. A record number of corpsmen and their guests are expected. Don't miss the boat!!

John Foley, Reunion chairman and honorary member of the Corpsmen's group, has been working hard to help us secure a suitable place for a Hospitality Suite and success is all but guaranteed. Thanks, John.

There is excitement in the air. The schedule of events is second to none. For me this is THE Navy town and, having never been there, it should be a real experience for both Corpsmen and our Marine friends.

We will also have a "new" group of corpsmen to join us. The 112th Seabee Battalion is holding their annual reunion at the same time and place. John Foley has been in contact with them and learned that several corpsmen and their guests will more than likely be at the Reunion. Invitations have been extended to them to join with us in our Suite.

The 112th NCB served in Hawaii, the Marianas, Okinawa and the rest of the Ryukus 1943-1945. During WWII, the 112th NCB served as part of the massive 50,000+ Seabees construction effort on Okinawa, much on occupied Japanese territory secured by the 6th Marine Division. We welcome them as guests.

Between now and the Reunion it is hoped that a suitable directory of the 6th Medical Battalion will be completed. If there are any changes in your status, please let me know. E-mail jaxjack77@aol.com or 904 744 0921.

I AM A NAVY CORPSMAN

I am a Navy Corpsman. I possess the stamina and enthusiasm of youth and the wisdom and experience of an old man. I am three parts Doctor, One part Nurse, Two parts Marine, one part Yeoman, three parts Mother, yet I am 100% Sailor. I am unemployable to the civilian world in my given profession yet have been the very lifeline for countless Marines, Soldiers, and Sailors since 1778. I have carried Marines from battlefields—and have been reverently been carried myself by Marines who mourned my passing like that of a Brother or Sister. I am Young. I am Old, Brave, Scared and Scarred. My title has changed over the years: LOBLOLLY BOY, SURGEON'S STEWARD, PHARMACIST'S MATE. CORPSMAN, IDC, yet with all the changes I am still simply known as "DOC."

I have celebrated peace; yet felt the sting of War on the seas, in Jungles, in foreign cities, in Washington, DC and on the Beaches of every shade of sand—white, tan, coral and black. I have raised hell on liberty, hope in the midst of Battle and the OLD GLORY on Iwo Jima. I have removed appendixes on submarines and limbs in the midst of Battle and many other procedures far above and beyond what I am expected to do by the normal practice of medicine because it had to be done in order to save the life of a Marine or Sailor in battle or under ice, far from a doctor's care.

I have ignored my own wounds to the point of death in order to stay at my station treating the wounded of my Nation, Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Air Force. I have the highest number of Medals of Honor of any corps in the Navy, most of them presented to my wife, children or mother because I was already in heaven at the time.

I am proud to know in my heart that every Marine who has ever fought and every Sailor who has gone to sea in ships owe their lives to those they simply, yet respectfully, know as "Doc."

(The author is unknown to me, copied from some papers on hand.)

Mail Call

Joe, Would you PLEASE correct my address in the BOARD OF DIRECTORS section of the newsletter. We have been moved over a year. I get calls saying "I wrote you but the letter came back." The current address is 3309 Neil Drive, Bartlett, TN 39134-0806. E-mail and phone remain the same. Thanks for the good work you do. Semper Fi, Claud.



Dear Mrs. Dornan, I apologize for the "tardy check" enclosed of \$20. Due to severe "ongoing" medical problems, I have been unable to drive, fly and unable to attend any reunions (college, military, etc.) for decades.

Sincerely and Semper Fidelis!!!

Donald P. Lewis, HQ-2-22,
187 Union St., So. Weymouth, MA 02190-2854

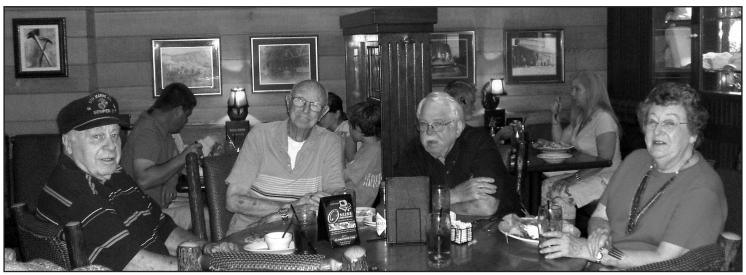


Dear Rev. Mack: Thank you for the beautiful letter you sent about my late husband Pete. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, greatgrandfather and always a Marine. He was a hero to me and our girls. Your words truly captured my feelings and were a great comfort to me and our whole family. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers, reminding us we will see Pete again in a better place. I am sure you have had to write many families of our Sixth Marine Division Association with the passage of time since WWII and our smaller numbers each year. Please know your letters are a welcome relief and a blessing to your fellow Marine families.

Sincerely, Amy Velasquez
Ed's Note: Each month our Chaplain
Rev. Frank J. Mack receives about
five letters of this type following
his writing of approximately 15
letters of condolence. We will try
to run at least one every month.
This one regards Pete Velasquez,
G-2-22, veteran of both Guam and
Okinawa.



Can't Make It This Time, Hope to Have Lunch Again



Once there were forty to fifty of us Sixth Marine Division members who would meet at Tony's restaurant in Los Angeles for breakfast. Many of the breakfast gang have reported to Heavenly Guard Company. I received a phone call from Len Cotton's daughter inviting me to meet Cotton, C-1-29, left, and Dr. Frank Haigler, L-3-22, next, for lunch. I am seated next to my wife Jayne Alice. We met, had lunch and compared notes. The three of us Marines came to the conclusion that we are not physically able to make it to our 2007 Division Reunion. Cotton's daughter took the pictures. We plan to do the lunch bit again real soon, if we are still around.

SEMPER FI AND GOD BLESS. — Jack Hoag, JASCO.



All-Time Champs

Fox Company, 29th Marines has got to be the uncrowned champion of Reunion turnouts. Year after year, this motley crew produces 10 or more members at their annual luncheon arranged by Company Runner Dick Whitaker. Back row, from left, Ken Wells, Charlie Stringham, Howard Terry, Pete Howell, Bob Sherer, George Schadt. Front row, from left, Bob Walker, Bill Twigger, Wally York, Jack Rice, Bill Sanner, Neal McCallum, Delmer Asbury, Don Peterson, Henry Kemp, Dick Whitaker. All told, counting numerous replacements, Fox had 621 lost souls. Known survivors total 54 grateful Marines, of whom 16 showed up for this photo in 2006.

Citizen Emil Tops In Pacific Palisades

The Palisadian-Post newspaper in Pacific Palisades, CA has named Emil Wroblicky "Citizen of the Year" for making "a lasting contribution" to the city in the previous year. The former member of the Third Amphibious Battalion and current member of this association had previously been named California Legionnaire of the Year for 2001.

They must really like Emil in this upscale California coastal city in Los Angeles County. He had previously been awarded a lifetime achievement award by the paper for his "dedicated passion for bettering the world around him." At least two issues of the paper had him in a color photograph on the front page.

The issue following the awards party at the American legion devoted the entire top half of the front page to Emil and others at a Legion shindig in his honor. It said the audience was sold out.



Mail Call Continued from page 10

From: Buford Cates
bufordcates@sbcglobal.net
To: joes104183@AOL.com
Cc: GYRENE629@aol.com
Subject: Cpl. BILLY BYERS CATES, "C"
Co., 1st BN, 29th REG, 6th USMC Div
-- kia 15 May 1945 @ Sugar Loaf
Hill. I would appreciate your placing
some kind of notice in your Newsletter
requesting anyone who might have
known my older brother, BILLY BYERS
CATES, to contact me via E-mail.
Thanks.



Bill (Pierce), I got the box with the post cards in it the other day. They are outstanding! I can't wait to get into the books. I have the first Sugar Loaf print being framed right now. As for any more I will take as many as you can get. I can sell them for a donation, the same as I do the DVDs. The museum is open, however I am holding off on doing and sending out the DVD for everyone until I get the Marine Room done. I spent a week and a half down there, some days up to 16 and 17 hours a day, and still didn't have

enough time to get everything done. I still need to label and get some write ups on the wall and I want to make sure the Marine Room is done right. I am doing a small section on Iwo Jima as well. I have been picking up relics from the island to preserve here in the event that Iwo goes off. The island was rising about 30 centimeters (1 foot) a year from about the 50's through the 70's. In the two months before I went in January it rose the same 30 centimeters. I worry that the island, being still active, might blow and we will lose all the history. Anything you send me will be well taken care of. I am a big believer in family history as well so whenever someone makes an offer I tell them I would love to have items for display but make sure that family comes first. If there is someone in the family that wants to keep an item and they are going to take care of it, that is the place for it. Thanks again for everything that you and everyone else does to support us. I will keep the flame burning.

Semper Fi, Chris Majewski, Okinawa Museum.



Okinawa Museum Scene

One of several photos sent to Bill Pierce by Curator Chris Majewski. See his E-Mail in Mail Call.

Hi Joe: Thanks for taking on the newsletter to keep us going. I know handling some of these people can be very stressful. We appreciate you. Buzzy Fox.



Joe: Thanks for all you do for the Division. Semper Fi, Your Recon Buddy, Betty and Fred Westphal, 2444.



Hi, Joe! How are you? The parents and I are pretty good. I found the online newsletter for Dad on Sunday, so he and Mom and us "daughters" could get a better idea of days to get off from work and be gone from home, etc. His buddy Sam Adams has called and was wondering if Dad had the hotel info and prices. Now, he does! Good work on the publication! Hope the paper issue comes soon, too. Do you know if it's been mailed yet? Found my article and guess 'MY' Uncle Sam went AWOL, huh? Still turned out well, I think. Just hope it gets some results!!! I noticed my byline wasn't on the article. Was that intentional or a boo boo? Well, we are all looking forward to the reunion in October. Will you be there, too? Hope to meet you then. Take care. Just me, Anita Benedetti. afbene2003@ vahoo.com.

Ed's Note: Yes, the editor did drop the byline, but he didn't mean to do it. Anita wrote the first of what we hope will be many Sons and Daughter articles Your byline will make it next time, Anita.



Dear Sir: My dad was with the division from Sept., '44, when it was formed on the Canal. He left in Jan. '46 from Tsingtao and was discharged. He was very ill when the first Reunion was held in Atlantic City. and could not attend. He passed away in 1971. My dad was very proud of his service in

Continued on page 13

the 6th. He served with 6th Motor Transport Bn., D Company. He never said much about the war. I visited the Marine Corp Museum last month and was disappointed. Little attention is paid to the 6th Marine Division, Okinawa or North China. My dad was Cpl. Joseph W. Crowley. I served with the 1st Marine Division, 1st Marines in Viet Nam. I am a member of the Sons and Daughters. Semper fi, Thanks, much. Joseph M. Crowley. Jc2463239@yahoo.com



His name was Cpl. James Elbert La Cook of Coffeeville, Mississipi, D Company, 2nd BN, 29th Regiment, 6th Marine Division. He was my maternal great uncle (grandmother's brother). He was KIA June 8, 1945 on Okinawa. He was wounded twice in other engagements before being killed and was awarded the Purple Heart with a gold star. According to my grandmother, who is no longer living, he was killed when he went back to help a fellow Marine who had been wounded. The Marine he went back for survived and apparently visited my great grandmother, Ida Mae La Cook, after the war. I am trying to find the Marine he went back for or anyone who may have known Cpl. La Cook. No surviving relative has the name La Cook as he was the only son in a family of 6 sisters, one of whom was my grandmother, then Lillie Mae La Cook. Josh Frev

Frey_joshua@hotmail.com. Semper Fi and Thanks again.



Dear Florence, It's hell to get old and forgetful but enclosed you will find a check for renewed membership.

Thanks for your time and effort for the 6th Div.

Best, Jim Harwood, HQ-1-4, 504 McDowell, Odessa, MD 64076



Dear Flo, Am enclosing a check for my delinquent newsletter dues. Guess I never paid much attention to the back page and info on the dues, even for Life members. Sorry about this but will keep up to date in the future. Thanks for your hard work in keeping things moving. Tell Jack I said Hi and Semper Fi, J. D. Green, K-3-4.



Dear Flo, Enclosed is my check for the newsletter and my dues. My husband was a member of the 6th Div, 22nd Marines, 1st Prov. Brigade and was wounded twice - once on Guam and also on Okinawa. Unfortunately, he passed away on 1/23/1999. His devotion to the Marine Corps lives on in our hearts. God bless you for your work. Sincerely, Lillian Gracik, widow of Joseph, 143 Hoon Rd, Butler, PA 16001



Dear Florence, I would like to make a donation in memory of my buddy, David Brill, who passed away last year. He and I served together in the 15th Marines. We became good friends all those years with him and his family. I would like him to be remembered. His wife Sally Brill, resides at 1920 Graham Ave., Apt. 304, St. Paul, MN 55116. Thank you for your kindness in doing this for me. The very best to you. Sincerely, With love and prayers, Henry M. Hojna, M-4-15, 40515 Eschenburg, Clinton Twp, MI 48038



Dear Florence, once again I am late with my dues, for which I apologize. It seems that everything I do lately is late. Suffering the stroke last September gives me an excuse. Fortunately it was minor and I am able to do most of the things I had done before. Enclosed please find check for \$20, ten for dues and ten for the paper. And of course my thanks to you for all that you do for the organization. Sincerely, John F. Lally, HQ-1-22, PO Box 37, Garland, ME



Dear Florence: Please discontinue sending me the newsletter. At 87 I do not see a familiar name and do not foresee attending any activity. Besides that I lost all interest in my Marine past. Lots of credit for your contribution to the 6th. Semper Fi, Joseph Bystry, Jr., F-2-22, (127 Newton Rd, Northfield, CT 06778-2305) Note from the Membership Manager: Anyone who knows Joseph might want to put out an effort to contact him. He sounds as though he could use a Marine buddy.



Dear Mrs. Dornan, I am enclosing a check for the Newsletter for another year. It is both physically and financially impossible for me to attend the reunion, but I would like going. Bob and I met when I was stationed in Portsmouth. Our 60th wedding anniversary would be this month. I think Bob was one of the first corpsmen to join the association - the second reunion in Atlantic City. I'm sorry he missed the CORPSMAN'S CORNER. We have two grandsons in the Corps: Cpl. Brad Kitts, somewhere in Iraq and his brother, LCPL. Tim Kitts stationed in Okinawa. Bob (Hart, H&S, Pioneer Bn.,) would be so proud of them. Sincerely, Mildred Hart, 837 Hampshire Rd, Drexel Hill, PA 19026



Dear Mrs. Dornan, Enclosed is my check for my newsletter subscription fee, plus, as usual, an additional \$10 for someone who cannot afford it. Please, excuse my lateness, but as time goes on my memory gets worse. Thank you. Earnest Holt, I-3-22, 52 N Hilltop Dr, Churchville, PA 18966-1332. From the Membership Manager: We can forgive your lateness from someone so giving.

New Members

COX, Marion Beth, ID #5973, Daughter of Barney Cox, Associate Life DAY, Jim A,. ID#5978, Son of James L. Day, Associate Life DERRICK, Joanne, ID #5967, Niece of Francis J. Chelland, Associate Life GRIGGS, Truman M., ID #1821, 22nd Mar-1-A, Annual to Regular Life HORTON-BILLARD, Theodore, ID #5974, 22nd Mar-2-G, Regular Annual PALENO, Katherine, ID #5969, Sister of John B. Quinn, Jr., Associate Annual PALENO, Larry, ID #5970, Nephew of John B. Quinn, Jr., Associate Annual ROMAN, Joan, ID #5794, Daughter of Martin Essex, Associate Annual to Life SARRIA, Sue Hill, ID #5972, Daughter of James T. Hill, Associate Annual SCHIKOWITZ, William M., ID #5965, 6th Marine Division, Regular Annual SCHROER, Paula S., ID #5976, Daughter of Dale C. Bieber, Associate Annual SNYDER, Cheryl J., ID #5977, Daughter of Jack A. Snyder, Associate Annual SPAULDING, Roger, ID #5971, 4th Marines-2-G, Regular Annual STARR, Robin H., ID #5968, Daughter of Martin Essex, Associate Life WEBERLING, Dorothy, ID #5966, Daughter of Clyde Hooper, Associate Annual WILLIAMS, Scott, ID #5917, Son of John R. Williams, Associate Annual to Life

Membership Numbers as of July 9, 2007:

Regular Life	1,625
Regular Annual	358
Associate Life	575
Associate Annual	66
Honorary	6
S&D Associate Life	39
S&D Associate Annual	77
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	2,746

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP MANAGER

OUCH!! was my first reaction to the postal increase but as I learned more about it, it was bad on one hand and pretty good on the other. **The bad:** The cost to mail newsletters first class jumped from 87 cents each to \$1.14 because they are mailed in a large envelope which now costs more. **The good:** The cost to have a newsletter returned with a change of address or other reason why it was not deliverable is now 50 cents and had been 75 cents. Also, the cost for a mass mailing for a non-profit organization is also less. Once again let me stress how important it is that you send me your new address when you move - even temporarily - and help us keep the mailing costs down.

In the last newsletter President Essex offered a book called "The Sixth Marine Division, The Striking Sixth." In order to publish this book, Turner Publishing Company requires assurance that we will order a minimum of 150 books. If you haven't ordered your book(s) yet, please contact me at 817-275-1552 and tell me how many you wish to order. We are far from our goal of 150 books.

Associate Members. The creation of the Sons and Daughters began only about five years ago. Before that time the offspring of members were joining as associate members with no other special designation. By talking to members and receiving letters from them, I am now finding many associate members that really are Sons and Daughters and I am changing their designation. Associate Members, please look at your newsletter label and if you are the son or daughter of one who served in the Sixth Marine Division and your label only indicates "Associate" instead "Assoc SD", please contact me and I will be happy to correct your status. I truly believe we have MANY more Sons and Daughters in our Association than we know and we are trying to get an accurate count. Other associate members who are friends and family of our Sixth Marine Division Marines are welcome to have a part in our Association.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the Reunion in Norfolk. Make your plans to attend NOW. Flo Dornan

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
BERENDES, John A.	4th MAR-2-H&S	Unknown
BERG, Marshall R.	15th MAR-2-E	6/26/2005
BROWN, Martin	6th Engineer Bn-A	4/22/2003
BUNNER, Delmar B.	6th Marine Division	10/19/2000
CALDWELL, James J.	29th MAR-2-E	Unknown
CARNE, George A.	6th Tank Bn-C	5/21/2007
CASAMER, Donald M.	29th MAR-2-D	2/28/2007
CLARK, Clarence J.	4th Marines	6/20/2006
DRISCOLL, Raymond M.	29th MAR-3-I	4/21/2007
EMINGER, Hazel	Wife of Meredith Eminger	3/16/2007
GARLAND, SR, Edgar R.	29th MAR-3-I	0/00/2005
GARNET, Daniel D.	22nd MAR-1-A	7/11/2006
GORACOFF, Maurice ("Mike")	29th MAR-3-H	4/15/2007
GOOD, Max	4th Marines	6/20/1998
HUDSON, W. Ray ("Chicken")	22nd MAR-3-L	6/20/2007
HYMAS, George W.	6th Marine Div.	0/00/1999
JENNINGS, Lawrence	Associate member	5/26/2007
KEDLER, Andy S.	4th Marine Air Wing	Unknown
LAVERY, Thomas J.	6th Medical Bn	5/14/2007
LONG, Fred D.	6th Engineer BN-A	4/08/2007
LUCAS, Marcel R.	4th MAR-Wpns	5/09/2007
MANNER, Richard F.	15th MAR-3-K/15th MAR-1-A	5/19/2007
MORGAN, William Turner	22nd Marines	1/25/2005
NEWTON, Donald H.	29th MAR-1-A	9/15/2006
PARKER, Norman E.	29th MAR-H&S	12/15/2005
SANGUINO, Louis NM	6th Marine Division	Unknown
SMITH, George J.	6th Pioneer BN	7/06/2006
TROVATO, Anthony NM	6th Marine Division	Unknown
ULRICH, Paul E.	4th MAR-3-L	3/12/2007
VELASQUEZ, Peter F.	22nd MAR-2-G	2/24/2007
VONGREJ, Louis	15th MAR-2-E	6/02/2007



New Member - Ted Horton-Billard, a recent arrival to the association, has quite a history. A Brigade replacement on Guam, he served later as platoon sergeant with G-2-22 on Okinawa, where he was awarded a Purple Heart. This photo was taken at Shantung University in Tsingtao, where he was one salty-looking brig warden. He didn't explain the switch in work assignment but did avow that he never used the cane on a prisoner while overseeing the 22nd Regiment brig. He carried it following an injury, he said. Ted and his wife Carmen live in Banning, CA

Donations from Caring Members, Families & Friends:

DIRECTORY:

CLEMENTE, JR., Joseph JOHNSON, Donald WALKER, SR., R. J.

GENERAL FUND:

ACCROCCO, Daniel
BLEDSOE, Joe T.
CLEMENTE, JR., Joseph
COLLERAN, Daniel
DAVIS, Vernon E.
EWING, Jr., Joseph
GIANVITO, Joseph
HIBBARD, John M.
HOJNA, Henry IMO David Brill
JOHNSON, Donald
MALINOWSKI, Theodore
RODRIGUEZ, Joseph
SOIFER, Oscar
TRAVERS, James

LIFE CARD:

DERRICK, Neil LOCKWOOD, Pamela SOIFER, Oscar VALLE, Raul

MEMORIAL MARKER FUND:

CLEMENTE, JR., Joseph JOHNSON, Donald KELLY, Marion STILES, Neil P.

NEWSLETTER:

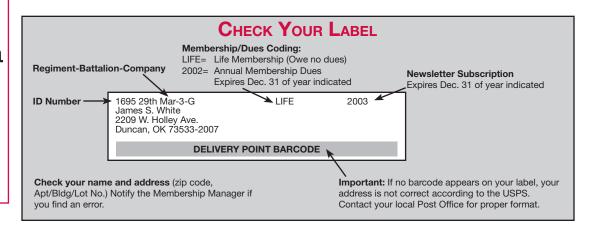
SCHLINDER, Ray

6th Marine Division Association

Membership Application and Change of Address First Name_____MI___Last Name____ ___Spouse 1st Name ____ Street Address _____ _____ Apt/Bldg/Lot _____ City 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) State Zip+4 City 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 Subscription and annual dues are based on calendar year. **Optional Donations** Membership Directory Contribution\$ Memorial Medallion Fund Contribution.....\$ Make check payable to the Sixth Marine Division Association Mail to: Florence R. Dornan, Membership Manager, 704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011 Email: Sxthmardiv@aol.com Phone: 817-275-1552

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Striking Sixth Newsletter

Summer 2007

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