

STRIKING SIXTH

1st Provisional Marine Brigade Newsletter



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Winter 2007

Reunion Rain Sets Stage for Memorial

By Lance Cpl. Margaret Hughes
(For the Marine Corps News)

NORFOLK, Va. (Oct. 15, 2007) -- On April 1, 1945, the 6th Marine Division took part in the Battle of Okinawa, the bloodiest land battle of the Pacific war. The 6th MarDiv suffered nearly 1,700 casualties (deaths, actually) and more than 7,400 were wounded in action. The Sixth Marine Division Association held their (not quite) final national reunion with various events Oct. 9-14, here to commemorate the battle they and their fellow Marines so bravely fought over 62 years ago.

The memorial service and wreath laying ceremony by Gen. Carl B. Jensen, John Foley and Bill Pierce on the USS Wisconsin was the first main event of the week.

As the skies wept their tears, it reminded many veterans of the first gruesome 18-days (actually later) of the assault. Many would consider rain to be a hindrance at



*Major - General
Carl Jensen*

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GREETINGS FROM OKLAHOMA! WE'LL HAVE A COUNTRY 'WINGDING' WAITING FOR THE SIXTH

We are busy planning for a great Reunion here in Oklahoma City starting on Tuesday, 16 Sep 2008 through the Banquet on Saturday night, 20 Sep 2008. Those of you who were at Norfolk saw our tentative schedule, so here it is for the rest of you.

Tuesday, we will have a Meet & Greet to welcome y'all to our city. Wednesday, we'll do a city tour so you can get an overall view and plan for your free time. That evening, we'll enjoy an Oklahoma Country Wingding at the American Legion Post #73. Thursday, we'll shuttle back and forth to Sgt Grit's so you can purchase all the Marine Corps items you could possibly desire! He only wants 25-30 of us at a time, and his facility is not far from the hotel. That evening, we're planning a Native American Pow-Wow at the hotel. Friday is the Ladies Luncheon and the board meeting. Saturday morning is the Memorial Service followed by the men's meeting. Saturday evening, we'll have a social hour with cash bar followed by the Banquet and Dance.

The Reunion hotel is the Biltmore Hotel Oklahoma at 401 S. Meridian Ave in OKC. The hotel has 509 rooms w/14 handicap accessible rooms. Room price is \$85.40 (\$75 + tax) and will include two breakfasts per room. Make your reservations early! This hotel is very popular with veterans groups. It has three bar lounges and a full service restaurant.

The Hotel number is 1-800-522-6620 or 405-947-7681 or you can check it out at www.biltmoreokc.com.

The city trolley stops in front of the hotel. It is air conditioned and

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Claud Wilkins, U.S. Marine

- And Man of God. He served with A-1-29 on Okinawa and for decades as our association chaplain. "May he rest in peace." Rev. Frank Mack has more on Page 4.

Roll Call

1728 Sixth Division Marines • Present, Nov. 15, 2007
(Or on the Association Rolls. Not all are accounted for.)

Dues and Subscription Fees Are Due Now. \$10 Each



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Marty Essex

like the swallows, and now, all is peace. There have been handshakes all around. Everything is in good shape.

President Marsalek has restructured and named committees he deems important to bring things in line with organizations our size and similar to us. The purpose is to make governance more efficient and more answerable to the membership. It is my

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

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Walter Heuer	4 th Marines
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James May	22 nd Marines
Henry B. Kemp	29 th Marines
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Membership Manager

Florence Dornan

Off With the Old, On With the New

I leave the Association in the strong, capable hands of Judge Edward H. Marsalek. There were bumps on the road during my term, but they flew away

understanding that he believes all officers have behaved with honesty and probity, but that streamlining is needed as we pass into an uncertain future.

I spent almost three years in the Pacific as a rifleman, machine gunner and artilleryman and take pride in my service. Nothing, however, has brought me more satisfaction than the opportunity to be president of the Sixth Marine Division Association. You have been my friends for more than 60 years. As someone said, "We have drunk from the same canteen."

Nothing more needs to be said as I close out my term. I hope to see you all next year in Oklahoma City for what I'm am sure will be a splendid Reunion. Semper Fidelis, my friends.

Marty Essex

President Considers Our Past and Future

I begin with the past. First of all, I would be remiss if I did not thank John Foley for the yeoman efforts that he expended to accomplish a truly and enjoyable and successful 37th annual Reunion in Norfolk. Great job John! I would be even more remiss if I failed to comment on the Memorial Service conducted aboard the battleship USS Wisconsin, which was truly inspiring. It gave me and I am certain—all the other member attendees a reason to reflect, and give pause in remembering and honoring our comrades in arms who have departed to their eternal reward.

When the ceremonial wreath was placed in the water, we achieved the cardinal reason for having and continuing our annual reunions. As Rev. Mack in his role of ceremony narrator so apply stated "the battles we fought will be taught in schools, and we will remain in text books, but it is up to our remaining members and their families and friends to carry on our memories. For when the final flag is folded, WWII will only be a distant memory. We must never forget the gallant warriors we knew."

To me, that moment and those words will be indelibly etched in my mind. Again, thanks John and Rev. Mack, mere words are inadequate to portray feelings that this ceremony generated.

Now to the present, financially the Association appears to be in good shape. We have a full Board, thanks to the ever

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a memorial, but to some Marines here it was a fitting way to say goodbye to their fellow brothers.

Rev. Frank J. Mack, the Sixth Marine Division Association's chaplain and ceremony narrator, spoke of the importance for Marines and Americans to carry on the history of WWII.

"The battles we fought will be taught in schools and we will remain in text books, but it is up to our remaining members and...

The Lance Corporal's errors are understandable after 62 years. Remember, we didn't know much about the Corps' battles in France back when we were wearing the green, and that was only 27 years earlier, and we had members who were there...

their families and friends to carry on our memories. For when the final flag is folded, WWII will only be a distant memory. We must never forget the gallant warriors we knew," said Mack.

After the final role was called and the muster bell rung for all the association members who have perished over the past few years (last year only), members tied ribbons to the ceremony wreath before it was laid into the water.

With the final ribbon tied, the 6th MarDiv wreath was cast over the edge of the ship, and final thoughts and words were said in remembrance. "Bless the brave souls that have given up their tomorrows so we could have our todays," said Mack.

Although the memorial service started off the week-long reunion in a somber mood by paying respects, the following day immortalized these Marines with a dedication ceremony.

The Joint Forces Staff College hosted the association members outside Okinawa Hall library here to dedicate a print of "The Battle for Sugar Loaf Hill." The print depicts the Marines that courageously gave their lives, nearly 3,000 (not that many) to secure the well-defended hill on Okinawa that was essential to capture.

Before the dedication ceremony, the association members had a chance to meet Marines attached to 3rd Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team Company, who displayed various weapons, riot gear and a Humvee. The library was also opened to the members with a display of WWII history and an assortment of weapons used during the war.

After the members had a chance to talk with 3rd FAST Marines and tour the library, the print was dedicated to the college. Jeanne McDonnell, the college's chief of staff, accepted the framed print of "The Battle for Sugar Loaf Hill."

"It is an honor to have this picture dedicated to the college and it is a pleasure to hang this piece on the wall in Okinawa Hall," said McDonnell after accepting the print.

Following the dedication, association members and active-duty Marines walked across the street to talk and exchange stories during lunch at Marianas Hall.

The association concluded this event-filled reunion with a banquet as its final farewell, instilling in the members the effect they had on the Corps.

"Although Marines of today may have changed in many ways, one important thing that hasn't changed is the same spirit of sacrifice," said Cmdr. Stephen P. Beyer, the Norfolk Naval Base command chaplain and a reunion guest speaker. "When you ask a Marine why he chose the Marines, the answer 60 years ago is the same as it is today, 'because I want to serve my country.'"

This may be the final (We're not done yet.) national reunion for the association, but the members will forever have a lasting effect on the Marines of today and the Marines of the future.

GREETINGS FROM OKLAHOMA! WE'LL HAVE A COUNTRY 'WINGDING' WAITING FOR THE SIXTH

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has a wheel chair lift. Myriad Gardens, Bricktown, the Bombing Memorial & Museum are some of its stops. Senior citizen price is 50 cents. Bricktown is a great area to visit. Lots of shops and places to eat like Mickey Mantle's Restaurant and Toby Keith's "I Love This Bar and Grill." A boat ride on the canal is fun. Visit the Bass Pro Shop. There's a wonderful Caihuly blown glass display at the Art Museum, a new History Museum, the 45th Infantry Division Museum and the newly renovated Western Heritage Museum (formerly known as the Cowboy Hall of Fame).

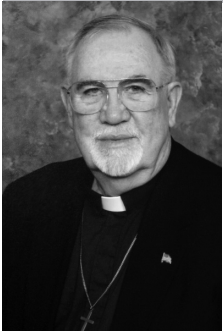
Applications for the events and the hotel rooms will be in the Spring newsletter. The committee consists of Joan Willauer, Jim White, and DC Rigby. SgtMaj Pam Bloustine and Brenda Blair, who many of you met in Norfolk, will assist us with members of the OKC Chapter of the Women Marines Association. If you have any questions, please contact me at (405) 292-3184. Lots to see and do here, and we're all working hard to show you a great time!

Semper Fi, Joan Willauer

SUGAR LOAF PAINTING DELIVERED TO TEXAS

The Sugar Loaf Hill painting, commissioned by Ward Lowing, has been delivered to the Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, TX., according to Bill Pierce, PR Chairman. In addition, a print was given to the command college's Okinawa Room in Norfolk, he said.

Prints are available. Contact Bill at 843-884-5785 or E-Mail him at gyrene629@aol.com.



**A TRIBUTE
TO
CLAUD H.
WILKINS**

Greetings from
your Chaplain!
As many of
you know,
our beloved

Chaplain Emeritus, Claud H. Wilkins, entered into the glorious presence of the Lord on Sunday morning, September 2, 2007. God's vision must have been exquisite that morning because His Holy Word says in Psalm 116, verse 15,..." Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." After his great and loving heart had beat for 82 years, Claud began his joyous and eternal reward in the presence of his Creator and Lord, Jesus Christ. We will miss him, but it's an enormous comfort to know that Claud is now in Paradise.

Claud's remarkable tenure as our Association Chaplain began in 1973 and spanned 31 years. In addition to serving the spiritual needs of the Division, Claud also found the time and energy to serve a term as President of the Association in the early 1980s. He also co-chaired Division Reunions in Memphis in 1977 and in Nashville in 2004. Claud's unhampered willingness to serve his Marine buddies is a testament to the loving support he received from Annie, his lifetime helpmate of 60 years. Together, this amazing couple shared their caring presence with others whenever there was a need.

I first became acquainted with Claud at our 1997 reunion in Fort Mitchell, KY. I rather pompously introduced myself as an "ordained" minister and asked him about his religious connection. He humbly

answered, "I'm "just" a layman." Since that time, I discovered that Claud was much more than "just" a layman. He was truly one of God's most faithful servants, who by his quiet and modest demeanor, exemplified the qualities of humility, faith and compassion. With his Godly wisdom, his courageous heart, and his consistent example, Claud made a positive and lasting difference in our lives.

When Claud decided to relinquish his post as Chaplain in 2004, I was thrilled with his endorsement of me as his successor. I consider it an honor to continue rendering the service he gave to his fellow Marines. Claud touched the lives of thousands by his moral commitment to being a good person, and in so doing he has profoundly impacted and affected the hearts of us all. His influence in doing what was right and honorable, and applying it to his own life, will always be remembered. Claud leaves us with an incredible treasury of memories, including his own humble and homespun philosophy.

It's obvious that Claud left the world a better place than he found it over eight decades ago.

It's also obvious that he was a symbol of what is good and decent in our society. How then, shall we remember him? I believe we can best remember Claud, and the legacy he left us, by renewing and rededicating our own commitment to serving one another. May we follow his example in giving back a balanced measure of what we have received from those who preceded us. By our own service we

can perpetuate the memory of this gentle man who gave so much to others during his own lifetime.

Speaking for the entire Sixth Marine Division Association, we offer our love and sympathy to Claud's beloved wife, Annie, who will most keenly feel the pain of losing the loving companionship of her faithful husband. Also mourning the loss of a dear and wonderful dad are Claud's daughter, Ann Hendren, and his son, Mark Wilkins. Please pray that God will comfort and sustain them through their time of grieving. As a loving and dedicated husband and father, Claud was a shining example to all of us. We will remember his faithful optimism, vision, courage, and passion for "his" Marines.

We have lost a dear friend, but we are all better persons for having had the privilege of knowing and loving Claud Wilkins as a brother Marine. The memory of his distinguished service to mankind will remain in the hearts and minds of those of us

Bill Sams Speaks For 15th Marines

To the Wilkins Family: I AM SADDENED!! Claud was a TRUE FRIEND, not only to me but to many members of the Sixth Marine Division Assn. Claud always tried to bring PEACE to rival factors in the Division Association and to the 15th Marine Regiment Assn. He wanted complete harmony among all. I speak for the entire membership of the Fifteenth Marine Regiment Assn. when I say that we lost a "TRUE FRIEND." May the Guard Detail at the Pearly Gates open them wide for Claud!! Semper Fi, Bill Sams

who knew him until the day we are called to join him. May perpetual light shine upon Claud and may he rest in peace. May his soul, and the souls of all faithful Marines, rest in honored glory until we meet again. Faithful to the end, as always, we salute our dear Chaplain Emeritus as we say "Semper Fi" and farewell, dear friend. Sleep well, Claud.

Rev. Frank J. Mack, Chaplain

Dear Annie,

I am saddened to learn that you will not be attending the Memorial Service in Norfolk next week. We will all miss your presence very much. You and Claud were such a major part of the Sixth Marine Division Association for so many years. It will never be the same without you both. It's also regrettable that your son, Mark, can't be present. However, I am pleased to know that your daughter, Ann, will be there to represent you and your family as we honor Claud and the other nearly 150 Marines and spouses that have passed away this past year.

During the Memorial Service I plan to share parts of your email with the others expressing your appreciation for the many kindnesses shown to you and Claud, and for the cherished friendships you and he enjoyed with your many friends through the years. I just wish you could be there to receive the recognition you so richly deserve as the wife of your beloved "Butch."

Please take care of yourself, Annie, and always remember, not only did our Association love Claud as their friend and Chaplain, they also continue to love and cherish you as his beloved wife. I'm sure your devotion and love for Claud contributed greatly to the compassionate and caring person he was to "his" Marines. May God bless you and your dear ones, Annie, and may He bless Ann and watch over her as she journeys to Norfolk to assist us in honoring her dearly loved dad.

Semper Fi, with love from us all,
Frank (and all your many friends)

SANTACROCE, FOLEY GREAT AS TEAM THAT PRODUCED TOPS IN PROGRAMS

The Norfolk Reunion got mostly good reviews with a naysayer here and there, but there was little doubt about the programs on the USS Wisconsin and the Norfolk Naval Base. They were wows.

The credit belongs in part to a host of modern day Marines and, perhaps, a few sailors. The top billings, though, go to an old BAR man and a modern day aviator. Reunion Chairman John Foley found a building on the base named after an old fight that he remembered. It was the Okinawa Building. He decided to find out what it was doing there and why the name.



Foley



Santacroce

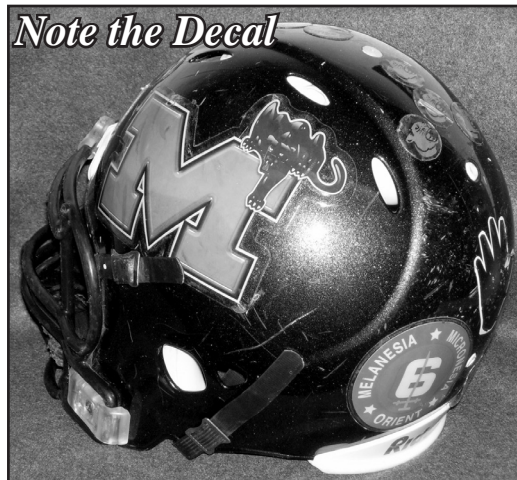
What he found was out-of-this-world cooperation and respect for past Marines, which included a few of the surviving "raggedy ass" Gyrenes of WWII. Col. Santacroce, a fighter pilot doing some ground work, took charge. He and his fellow present-day Marines listened to John's and the Sixth Marine Division's needs and answered with a full-blown charge. The results spoke for themselves with unmatched hospitality.

SCHOOL HONORS SIXTH DIVISION

The Sixth Marine Division has received a unique honor. The Massaponix High School football team of Fredericksburg, VA, coached by Eric Sherry, placed a decal on the helmets of its players and provided links from the school's site to our internet site. The school has also taught something of the division's history to its athletes.

We are the third unit to receive this honor, having been preceded by the Army's Rangers in 2005 and the 761st Tank Bn. in 2006. We were asked to provide a speaker "for the kids," but no 6th Division Marines in the area were available.

This information was provided by PR Chairman Bill Pierce and by Laura Lacey, Division Historian,



PLAQUE RETAKEN

These First Provisional Brigade Marines recovered this plaque from the Japanese on Guam. It now hangs in the new museum at Quantico. From left Col. Mertin F. Schneider, Pfc. John C. Brown, Pfc. Carman J. Catania and Cpl. Joseph J. Maneninio.

Photo courtesy of the "Bazooka Kid," Paolo De Meis, K-3-4.

Young Lacey Now Marine Lieutenant

Sean Lacey

Sean Lacey, son of Laura Lacey, our division historian, has recently been commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He is shown below after the ceremony *Sean Lacey* and dancing at a 2007 Marine Corps Ball. Sean's father is a Marine pilot.



Another brand-new Marine recently finished boot camp at Parris Island. He is the grandson of the late Ben Fish, F-2-29, one of the founders of the association. We have been unable to dig up a photo of the new recruit but have heard that he did well during his recruit training.

A friend of the division, Bob Gannon, also a Marine, who wrote the poem placed at our Quantico Cemetery Memorial, has announced that his grandson, Joel Gannon, is a newly commissioned Marine officer.

Ed's Note: For those who have noticed that Laura Lacey, who normally writes for these pages, has been missing lately. She has been very ill and is just now recovering. We wish her the best and look forward to the return of her column.



Sean Lacey and his date at the 2007 Marine Corps Ball

"The Last Bottle"

The General Shepherd 'Last Bottle' which has been auctioned off at our Reunions for many years is missing. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the bottle please contact Bill Pierce - PR Chairman at 843-884-5785.

Capalare Again At Veterans Day

The Marine Corps League was a feature at Portsmouth, NH Veterans Day ceremonies Nov. 11. Donald Capalare, a fixture at such ceremonies for more than 50 years, took time out afterward to explain to a Portsmouth Democrat newspaper reporter that when he began participating the event was known as Armistice Day, in honor of the ending of WWI.

Capalare, whose three campaign stars include one with the Sixth Marine Division, had some advice to offer younger veterans. "Talk to older veterans," he said. "It takes another veteran to understand what the new veteran is going through and how he can cope with it."

Capalare served with G-2-22.

It's the Sentiment — This tribute to the First Battalion, Seventh, in Cathedral City, CA has nothing to do with the Sixth Division, but some of you may agree with the message:

"If I had it to do over, Had to face it once again, I wouldn't change a moment, And I'd do it with these men." (Photo courtesy of Bill Pierce)



President Considers Our Past and Future

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reliable Andy Sinatra accepting the office of President-Elect. I asked not only the Board Members but all members to put behind them whatever disagreements that had previously arisen—"forgive and forget."

Let us start out and conduct our terms in office in a harmonious manner. Our future is shadowed by the ever looming prospect of possible disbandment. I am asking the Board Members and any other members of the Association to offer their thoughts on how we should proceed in resolving this issue.

Suggestions such as a centrally located permanent site for future annual reunions or setting a definite date for disbandment have been offered. I will place these questions on the agenda of the September Board meeting for their guidance and directions in resolution.

Finally for future matters: For our 38th annual reunion we are "going western" to Oklahoma (Sooner Country). Oklahoma will be celebrating its 100 years of admission to the Union. Oklahoma City, where we will be meeting, literally began with a bang.

At high noon on April 22, 1889, a gunshot signaled the start of five Oklahoma land runs. Before noon and night, 10 thousand claims were filed and Oklahoma City was born. Today, the population is more than half a million and they are all saying, "Welcome Sixth Marine Division Association." The town should be jumping. Practice the two step and "come on down."

The reunion committee is hard at work making the necessary arrangements to guarantee that you will have the customary and fun-filled time. Please, make your reservations as early as possible so the committee can arrange for adequate transportation and finalize other arrangements that are contingent upon the number of attendees.

The weather should be great.

See you all in Oklahoma.

Semper Fi

Ed

Division Memorial at Museum

The Museum of the Pacific in Fredericksburg, TX, early home of Adm. Chester Nimitz, has more Sixth Division material than the recently acquired print, Sugar Loaf Hill. There is also a Memorial Brick in the courtyard with the legend "Sixth Marine Division, Presidential Unit Citation."

Individuals may buy bricks for display. A plaque inside additionally honors the division.

Winter 2007

A Note From the Auxiliary President:

Hello Everyone,

I hope all who attended the reunion in Norfolk, VA. arrived home safe and sound. It was a busy but enjoyable place to spend some time.

The memorial service aboard the USS Wisconsin was impressive. Claud Wilkins, our Past Chaplin, will be greatly missed. His widow Anne is a big part of the Ladies Auxiliary and we missed her presence at this year's meeting. The Wilkins attended the reunions for many years.

The Sons and Daughters did a superb job on the Hospitality Room. Thank you so much for all your help. Mr. T.N. Laurange deserves a big Thank You for the donation of two paintings to the Ladies Craft Table. They were beautiful and greatly appreciated.

As your president, I must again apologize for the disastrous luncheon. I was told it was due to lack of communication between myself and the committee. Please forgive me. Things in Oklahoma City will be 100%. I promise.

Joan Willauer is one of the Reunion Chairman and also Sgt. of Arms for the Ladies Auxiliary. I am confident the Oklahoma Reunion will be first class. I hope to see more attending our Ladies meeting in 2008. We are not getting younger and the memories and stories shared at the Reunions are precious. Time spent together can never be replaced. If health permits, I will see you in Oklahoma in 2008. Till we meet again.

God Bless and keep you all.

Semper Fi, Marion Bangert



Marion Bangert

"We are the United States Marines, and for two and a quarter centuries we have defined the standards of Courage, Esprit, and Military Prowess."

Gen. James L. Jones, USMC; 10 Nov. 2000

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL MARINES!

(From the Royal Marines)

Oh Lord,

I've not been too careful

In things that I've said and done.

I've boasted too much of my nights on the spree

And games of pontoon that I've won.

But I've always done my duty,

Wherever it might be,

Ashore with the gallant commandos

Or out with the fleet at sea.

So, when Gabriel blows his last trumpet

And the reaper, His harvest doth glean,

Remember, if I've been a sinner,

At least, God, I've been a Marine.

By Jack Rice



The Norfolk Reunion of our Association was, as usual, a great event. We had a great program, fine facilities, good food, good weather and, most importantly, fellowship to brag about. The total number of our corpsmen's group was 11, which challenges the 13 of FOX Company, 29th. There were some surprise attendees which will be covered in the next issue of THE SICK BAY. Stay tuned.

Our group continues to be well represented in the leadership of the organization in several capacities. Interest is high and you are encouraged to participate in our activities to any extent you can.

We are very indebted to John Foley for enabling us to have one of the best Sick Bay Hospitality Suites ever. John was able to have this to be a cost-free room. We will follow the same routines when we meet again in Oklahoma City next September.

Your help is needed now. During the next few months I will be attempting to complete a membership list of current and past members. This will include an up-to-date mailing list for our publication, THE SICK BAY. There are about 30 on it now, some of whom we never hear from. There may be others we need to include.

Bear in mind that it is costly to send materials to those on the list, and only those interested assume all costs. I will be calling on some of you to help me with the roster. I want to reach those "lost" in recent years. I am using this article, which will be in the Striking Sixth and should be read by all active members.

I am requesting all of you to let me know if you want to be on our mailing list. Do so by letter, telephone or E-Mail. I would like to see double the number we now have, if not more.

I want to have several issues of THE SICK BAY each year.

Contact information:

Jack Rice, 3649 Buckskin Trail, East, Jacksonville, FL 32277

Home - 904-744-0921 Cell - 904-874-6379 Email - JaxJack77@aol.com

Mail Call

Dear Mr. Bill Pierce, Thank you for your appreciative (and unexpected) note. Believe me, it was my pure pleasure and privilege to be in the midst of the Striking Sixth and to hear but a few of the tales first hand. I enjoyed the evening and the camaraderie immensely, and thank you for the opportunity to be surrounded, however briefly, by living icons of the Corps. The deeds, glory and brave sacrifices of the storied Sixth Division will never be forgotten, so long as a single Marine can draw a breath. That's a fact, not hyperbole. As you know so well, no institution treasures and guards its history more meticulously or with greater pride and purpose than our Corps...and may it ever be so. With the greatest respect and admiration, Semper Fidelis, C.E. Jensen, major general, USMC, deputy commander, USMC Forces Command.



Dear Bill (Pierce): After the Norfolk Reunion, I accompanied Marty

Essex to the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico. We were just leaving the car when two gentlemen approached us. They had seen Marty's division baseball cap and windbreaker. They introduced themselves as two brothers whose father was a cousin of General Day. They were at the museum researching Day's Marine activities. I promised them to contact you to see if you could help them. If you can, please contact David Templeman at 636-227-4882 or at tmplmn@charter.net. They would also like to hear from anyone who knew the general when he was Corporal Day of the 22nd Marines.



Hello. I was referred to you by Bill Pierce. I am looking for anyone who may have known my father (deceased age 62) from World War II. He was John B. Carfi, a Pharmacists Mate Third Class, in the 2nd Battalion, 29th Marines, 6th Marine Division. He was at Guadalcanal Aug of '44 and sent to Okinawa from there. He was injured on May 18th, 1945,

I assume it was during the battle of Sugar Loaf Hill. He was then sent to the USS Samaritan and then to the USN Hospital #10. We are not sure where that hospital was located. Bill suggested if I give you this info you can put something in the newsletter, perhaps. Sincerely, Donnalyn Carfi, Harvest Talent Management 212-721-5756 www.harvesttalent.com)



Dear Mrs. Dornan. It was good talking to you today. I wanted to alert you that I was sending you the names of our six children and send you their membership dues plus mine. None of our kids were in the military. The 6th Div. Assoc. newsletter will keep them up to date about the Corps. I joined the Corps after high school graduation in 1943, sent to San Diego for Boot Camp and to Pendleton for 1st Marine Raider training. I have a group photo of part of the 1st Raiders being formed as a part of the reformed 4th Marine Regiment on Guadalcanal Feb., 1944 and will send it soon. I did my original 4 yr. tour, went into the Marine Reserve until called again into active duty in Aug., 1950. I was assigned to the 5th Marine Regiment until I was hit in (the) head with mortar shrapnel and lost my right eye on 10 June, 1951. My gratitude to the Navy Corpsmen as they saved a lot of Marine lives in every war the Corps were involved in. It was a great 8 years of a lifetime of character building experiences. The Marine Corps is the very best. Semper Fi,
Carl W. Clark, USMC, Sgt. Retired,
9075 N Hartman Ln, Tucson, AZ 85742



Dear Mrs. Dornan. It saddens me to inform you that my husband, George A. Thompson, passed away March 4, 2007 from lung cancer. He was with C Company in the 6th Tank Battalion. He was born March 2, 1925 in Chicago and celebrated his 82nd birthday two days before he died. He joined the Marines at 17 and after graduating from H.S. in 1943, he went to basic training at Jacques Form in San Diego and then went to Guadalcanal. He landed on Okinawa April 1, 1945 and after Sugar Loaf Hill and other battles, he went to Japan for the occupation. He was discharged in April, 1946 after

spending time at the Naval Hospital in Great Lakes, IL to repair an old wound. He leaves behind 5 children, 12 grandchildren and 6 great grandkids. We would be celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary this September. Because of his love of family, country, the Marines and freedom, he was a true patriot to the end. Hopefully you will have all this information in time for the summer "Striking 6th" and for the memorial ceremony on the USS Wisconsin. I will write to Joe Singleton with some additional info and possibly the Rev. Mack. George was a life member and hope you continue to send the "Striking 6th. Sincerely, Alison M. Thompson
6207 Linda Vista Blouvard,
Missoula, MT 59803 • (406) 251-4267
(Note from the Membership Manager: Unfortunately the notification came after the Newsletter deadline but George was memorialized on the USS Wisconsin.)



I'm searching for any information on my uncle, Frank (Francis) Crilley of Pennsylvania, who was killed on Okinawa on May 20, 1945. He was in the 3rd Bn, 4th Marines, (my 84 year old father, Frank's older bother, provided this information). Frank's death notice reads: Pfc. Frank Crilley of the U.S.M.C. who was killed in action on May 20, 1945 on Okinawa, lost his life aiding a buddy in distress, according to a letter written by Chaplain William F. O'Neill to his mother. The young Marine left his foxhole and was killed instantly, the Chaplain's letter stated. He was buried with full Catholic ceremonies in the Sixth Marine Division Cemetery on Sugarloaf Hill. Do you have any suggestions as to how to get this information out to surviving Marines of Okinawa? I know this is a HUGE long shot, but I have to at least try. Thanks for your assistance. Diane Crilley Shearer, crilley69@hotmail.com



Mrs. Dornan, Enclosed is my check for \$50.00 for subscription to the Striking Sixth Newsletter overdue since 2004. Thank God I wasn't so forgetful putting a deflection change on the gun sight 63 years ago! I enjoy and appreciate

the Newsletter very much. Thank you so much for your work and dedication. Respectfully, Donald L. Wagoner, 15th MAR-1-A



Dear Mrs. Dornan, I would like any information on the whereabouts or any information of Pfc. Charles E. McMullen, wounded 10 June 1945 on Hill 55 Okinawa. He was from somewhere in Georgia. Aaron J. McDowell
5558 FM 2966, Yantis, TX 75497-3178
(903) 383-7752



Dear Mrs. Dornan, Excuse my lateness but I've been very ill and now disabled. I miss going to the Reunions - it was such fun with Stan. I am sending \$20 for two years so I don't forget next year. I'm 83 years now and just hope to keep enjoying the newsletter. Thanks for all your great help. Sincerely, Eileen Galazka, 1131 S Softwind Loop, Lecanto, FL 34461



Flo, Please renew my newsletter for another year. We can't make it to the reunion - my wife doesn't travel very well anymore. Too far to drive and we don't want to go through the hassle of flying anymore. Maybe the next one will be closer to us. M. E. Corbitt, K-3-22,
PO Box 367, Moody, TX 76557



Dear Mrs. Dornan, Enclosed find check for the Newsletter. Also we would like to inform you that Joe Cheeseman is now in a nursing home. The address is Joe Cheeseman, Friends Billate Health Care Center, Room 612, 1 Friends Drive, Woodstown, NJ 08098. He is not in good health but has been improving some. His son called to let me know. Maybe you can let the Chaplain know. Thanks, Arthur W. Bishop, Jr., 2020 Chicora Rd, Chicora, PA 16025



A very long letter was received from Ray Uccelletti in which he wishes to send his regards to all the Sixth Marines and especially to - Buzzy Fox, John Foley and Joe McConville. Ray Uccelletti - 15th Marines,
1549 Chalk Ave., Blue Bell, PA 19422

Florence!

Thank you for all that you have done for the Association. Also all the people who keep the Newsletter on the map! Thank you one and all! God bless and Semper Fi!

Walt Gresavage
32 Wrick Avenue, Titusville, NJ 08560



Flo, Enclosed please find my check for \$30 which will pay for the Striking Sixth Newsletter through 2008. Glad your article brought my attention to this matter. Served as Lady Marine from April, 1943 to October, 1945. I am a widow of a special member of the Corps, Lt. Jay N. Myers who served in the Marines from 1941-1945 and every day during the invasion of Okinawa and then to Tsingtao with 4th Marines, 2nd Battalion - deceased 7/12/1999. Enjoy reading all the news in your Newsletter and thank you for the great memories of that very special 6th Marine Division. We had fond memories of attending your Reunion in Salt Lake City 10 or 12 years ago. Sincerely-Semper Fi, Elizabeth (McKinnin) Myers
4608 Ledgement Dr, Salt Lake City, UT 84124



Dear Ms Dornan, Enclosed is a check #3131 for \$20 which I think pays my dues and the Newsletter subscription for this calendar year (2007). I thought I had paid these but a search failed to locate a record of any payment. (You did pay and are now paid for both through 2008. Flo) In addition, I want a copy of the "Sugar Loaf" painting described in the last newsletter. As I am not sure about where to order it, it is my hope that you can spare the time to jot down the necessary information that I need to make such a purchase. I have enclosed a stamped and self-addressed envelope to facilitate this task. It so happens that a Louisville high school has a Corps R.O.T.C. unit and if I can get a suitable size I intend to have it framed and present it to that group. Of course I want my own print as well. Just a comment, it has been 62 years since I carried radio and telephone communications on and around Sugar Loaf, Half-Moon, Horse Shoe and Charley Hills but the experience

is still fresh in my memory. I can't say that the reproduction in the newsletter is an accurate representation of that memory but it certainly captures the spirit of the action. As a communicator, I was pleased to see what appears to be a radio operator with an SCR 300 on his back with another Marine speaking on the handset. Sincerely,
Merle R. Likins
1223 Summit Ave., Louisville, KY 40204



Dear Flo, Enclosed is check for two additional years subscription for the "Striking Sixth" Newsletter in advance. See enclosed info sheet. It's kind of saddening to read about plans to deactivate the association, but most of us are now in our eighties and age is something we can do nothing about. It's been 64 years since I became a Marine. "May God be good in his blessings to all." Semper Fi, John B. Conley
30 Liston Rd, Buffalo, NY 14223-1337



Bill and Laura: I just wanted to drop you a line and ask a favor. If anyone is planning a trip to Okinawa, please have them contact me. Please use all email addresses or phone numbers. That way I can make sure my schedule is clear, and I can take care of anyone who is coming. I missed Mr and Mrs. Bertram (29th Marines) at the port today due to a problem with my MCCS E-Mail. (I got the word late and they didn't know that I would be there. I tried to catch them as they got off the ship but they got past me.) If I am notified as soon as plans are made there will be no problem. When vets or family come to Okinawa they may want to see certain sites that are getting more and more difficult to find. If they need help I am here for them. I would hate to think that someone came all the way back to visit the battlefields and couldn't find what they are looking for. If anyone has Don Honis's address I have some stuff that I promised I would send him. Bill, Did you get the DVD and the Magazines?

Contact information:

iceberg0445@aol.com
majikpol@aol.com
majewskic@okinawa.usmc-mccs.org

Phone numbers:

09057319402 cell phone
0988317463 home

It doesn't matter what time you call me. If I am on a tour, I can't answer but leave a message and your number, and I will call you back. If it is the middle of the night, it's no problem. Some things are more important than sleep. Thank you and Semper Fi, Chris.



Joe; My name is Garry Collins. My father was a hospital corpsman serving with the 6th. Right now I am looking at my tattered copy of The History of the Sixth Marine Division (pub. 1948), which my dad gave to me following my birth in June of 48. He wrote on the inside. "To my son Thomas Garry Collins, I hope he enjoys it." Glenn L. Collins Phm 3/C USNR, Co. E, 2nd. Bn., 4th Regiment, 6th Marine Division." I have enjoyed it and have carted it around for the past 59 years. Dad will be 81 on October 29. He and my mother are living in Winston-Salem, NC. He has suffered some health problems during the past few years but is doing fairly well. He never spoke at length with me about his experiences with the 6th. He only shared that with other Veterans. With the recent airing of "The War" he did open up a little. He says he will never forget the smell, which he described as a mixture of gun powder, bodies and hot steel. I will make him aware of your web site and hopeful he will contact you personally. Thank you for your service. Semper Fi. Marine. Garry Collins.



We attended the Reunion at Norfolk and feel we must voice an opinion. It was the most unorganized reunion we have ever attended. Registration was supposed to be on Tuesday from 12 PM to 5 PM. There were no greeters at the registration table and no one to register us. By mid-afternoon we located Mr. Foley and were registered. We asked what time the bus would be leaving for the Memorial and were told, "it's being worked on." The departure time was never posted. By word of mouth, we learned it would be 8:30 AM. The departure time for the Wednesday program was not posted, either. Again we heard by word of mouth it would be 8:30 AM, which changed to 8 AM. With only

one bus available, the program had to be postponed for one hour to enable the bus to return to the hotel and pick up the remaining attendees. Upon our return we went to the Hospitality room. We found only liquor and beer, no non-alcoholic beverages or snacks available. The Luncheon Cruise was cancelled, money refunded along with a letter written by an angry and disgruntled Reunion Chairman. The schedule listed "additional activities to be announced." There were none. We decided to leave before the Membership Meeting, therefore do not know if Oklahoma was chosen for the next Reunion. We did have an opportunity to speak with Joan Willauer and were given a complete schedule of events for each day of the Oklahoma Reunion. It is well organized and hopefully the membership approved it for the site of the next Reunion, if there will be a next Reunion. Semper Fi,
Wally Pechtel, B-1-22,
and Lillian Pechtel,
209 Sunbird Sq., Sebring, FL 33872



"Dear Rev. Mack, I want to let you know how very much your compassionate letter of sympathy means to me. I have read it over and over again and find it a great comfort. I have shared it with our sons. We all want to express our appreciation to you. My husband, Charles, was always so proud to have been a Marine and he dearly loved his country. Today, October 10, would have been our 55th wedding anniversary. I have been so blessed to have shared this many years with a truly good man! May God bless you! Sincerely, Marilyn Harpole."



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



Joe, My father served with the 6th Marine Division, 15th Marines, 3rd

Continued on page 13

Battalion and H & S Battery. His name was Robert B Sherman from Des Moines, Iowa. I believe he was a crew member on a 90MM AA gun. He was at Guadalcanal for training, landed on Okinawa, and at Tsingtao China. Another member of the 6th Marine Division put me in contact with you about putting this information in the Striking Sixth quarterly newsletter. I would like to hear from anyone that served with my father.

Thank You, Bob Sherman

13201 Knox, Overland Park, Kansas 66213



Dear Bill Pierce, Dick Whitaker surprised me yesterday morning with an inspiring, awesome framed print of the Marines from your unit in Okinawa raising the "Final Battle Flag." Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. As a Marine infantry officer with 3/8, 2ndMarDiv, I spent six months on Okinawa with my rifle platoon and after training there, I can't imagine what it was like to see fellow Marines fight and die clearing the brutal terrain of well-entrenched Japanese soldiers. To receive this motivating print from a WWII combat Marine is a true honor. Thank you for your service and Semper Fi. Ned Forney, Director of Education and Volunteer Coordinator, Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum. nforney@patriotspoint.org. **Ed's Note: The museum is aboard the USS Yorktown, Mt. Pleasant, SC.**



From: Buford Cates

bufordcates@sbcglobal.net

To: HTaylor25@aol.com

Harold (Tayler), thanks so much for your E-Mail of 08/02/07. It really meant a lot to me to know how my brother Billy died. I can't tell you how much I appreciate being told by one of his combat buddies. Do you know whether any members of the Second Squad, Third Platoon are still living? Also, I read with great fascination the newspaper articles, which you sent about C/1/29 during the battle of Sugar Loaf Hill. I was especially pleased to see the photograph in one of the articles, which depicted my brother with you and other Marines. Actually, this particular

photograph is the only non-posed photo (other than a few childhood pictures) I have ever seen of my brother! To me, this was a real big deal! Buford. **Ed's Note: Watson Crumbie, C-1-29, also corresponded with Buford.**

Billy Cates Reported Killed.

Marine Corp. Billy Byers Cates has been reported killed in action on Okinawa, his father, Buford A. Cates, 5501 Stanford, has learned. He was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, and had completed one semester at the University of Texas when he enlisted in the marine corps. Following his "boot" and line training at San Diego, he was sent overseas in 1943.

After receiving battle wounds during the invasion of Saipan, he was sent to Guadalcanal to recuperate. When recovered, he was transferred to the Sixth Division and sent to Okinawa.



Just opened my mailbox and the Nov. issue of WWII was there. It's got an 8-page article on Sugar Loaf, by Bill Sloan, author of the upcoming book, "The Ultimate Battle." Scanned it and the following names popped out: Majors, Schlinder, Rutkowski, Courtney, Houston, Fincke, Woodhouse, Mack. Looks to be all 2nd Bn, 22nd Marines. **Ed's Note: The writer either didn't give his name or I lost it.**



Hello -- My brother, 2nd Lieutenant Braxton (Brack) Bryan, USMCR, joined the 4th Marines on Guadalcanal and fought in the Okinawa campaign, KIA near Naha on 23 May, 1945. He had a flamethrower and mortar platoon in Charlie Company. I'm looking for anyone who knew him and would be willing to correspond with me about him. I'd also like to find anyone who knew my brother-in-law, BG Regan Fuller, USMC, who fought in several island campaigns, starting with Guadalcanal. Also anyone who served with me in the 2nd MarDiv and later the 2nd Force Recon Company in 1958-62. I'm getting a little elderly and need to make contacts! All the best,

and thanks for your help -- Semper Fi -- Jonathan Bryan

7815 Middy Lane

Alexandria VA 22306

703-765-3583

jonathanbryan@cox.net

www.nonetheless.us

Ed's Note: Bill Pierce, our PR chairman, suggests posting your letter in Leatherneck magazine and on our internet site. He is also sending you a 6th MarDiv grave marker and a print of the final flag raising of WWII by 6th Division Marines at no charge. He adds that you might want to join our association.



Sir. My father is a veteran of the 6th Marine Division and also a life member of your organization. His name is Harry Weachter, C-Engr. Bn. I'm in the process of assembling a 'shadow box' for the medals of his World War II service and I'm asking for your possible assistance with additional information. I'm using as a guide the History of the 6th Marine Division, which illustrates the awards issued the Division for its distinguished service. My question is simply this: Are you, or any or your members aware of any other medals or citations issued that are not listed in this publication. Or is anyone aware of any government regulations or documents which can verify the issuance of medals or awards. In closing I'd like to make you aware of a web site where I was able to purchase a video of the Japanese surrender ceremony to the 6th Marine Division in Tsingtao in 1945. My father has viewed this tape with extreme interest. Perhaps other members of the Division (or their families) would also be interested. The URL is: <http://www.militaryvideo.com/store/store.cfm>. Here can be found hard to find actual footage taken by marine combat cameramen. I thank you in advance for any assistance you may be able to provide.

Regards,

Mark W. Weachter

Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

Frazer, PA,

Production Support

Phone: 1-484-563-1650

6th Marine Division Association Annual Meeting of Members October 13, 2007 Radisson Hotel Norfolk, Virginia 37th Reunion

President Martin Essex called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

Reverend Frank Mack stated that when he was growing up on a farm, his father had mules that did not always pull together. However, the draft horses were a team and always pulled together. There is nothing wrong with disagreeing, but the members must agree to disagree. He asked everyone to stop the dissension and pray that there is agreement. He then gave the invocation.

President Elect Ed Marsalek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Essex appointed Andy Sinatra as the Sgt. at Arms.

Secretary Tom Terpinas took the roll call:

All officers were present except Editor Joe Singleton, Service Officer Carl Sproatt and Past President Harold "Pete" Howell. All were excused.

Secretary Terpinas declared a quorum was in attendance.

President Essex stated that the Meeting Notice was published in the spring and summer issues of the newsletter. He had a copy available. *Tom Terpinas and Frank Mack moved to accept Proof of Meeting Notice. All in favor, motion carried.*

George Hettinger, seconded by George McAfee, moved to accept the reconstructed minutes of the October 2006 Annual Meeting. *All in favor, motion carried.*

Report of Officers: These reports are covered in the Board of Directors Minutes.

Reports of Committees:

Scholarship: This report is covered in the Board of Directors Minutes.

Reunion: John Foley stated President Howell appointed him as the Reunion Advisory Committee Chair, and he also took over the chairmanship of the reunion for Norfolk since he was planning it. He cannot please everyone. He also stated this will be his last reunion. Marydel Gaiser, who more or less planned the Harrisburg reunion, has submitted a proposal for Myrtle Beach, which he will present later. As both the reunion site chair and reunion chair he is not accountable to anyone. He is to do the job and do it right. After it is over he makes a report and accounting and turns it in.

Mr. Foley then read an anonymous letter addressed to him that was not complimentary and accused him of not working with President Essex. This reunion has been a success because of Colonel Santacroce at the Norfolk base. Some expenses for this reunion will be covered by this Association. Again, after the end of this reunion, he will no longer be chair of the Reunion Committee. President Essex stated he did not know anything about the letter. While he and Mr. Foley have not gotten along, he appreciates what Mr. Foley has done and thanked him.

Nominations: President Essex reported that as there was not a Nominating Committee he urged members to volunteer for positions as the work has to be done and everyone is of the same age.

President Essex stated the next President is Ed Marsalek and then opened the floor for nominations for the following positions:

President Elect – Mr. Petriello nominated Andy Sinatra who accepted the nomination. As no other nominations were made, Mr. Horvath, seconded by Mr. Gorman, moved to close the nominations. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Foley, seconded by Mr. Gorman, moved to have the President cast the vote for President



Bill Pierce

Secretary – Reverend Mack nominated Tom Terpinas who accepted the nomination. As no other nominations were made, Mr. Foley moved to have the President cast the vote for Secretary, seconded by Mr. Horvath.

Treasurer – Mr. Horvath nominated Joe McConville who accepted the nomination. As no other nominations were made, Mr. White moved to accept by acclamation, and it was seconded.

Chaplain – Mr. Foley nominated Reverend Frank Mack who accepted the nomination. As no other nominations were made, Mr. Terpinas moved to accept by acclamation, seconded by Mr. McAfee.

Editor – Mr. Vojnar nominated Joe Singleton. Mr. Marsalek moved to accept by acclamation, seconded by Mr. Foley.

Judge Advocate – Nominated and moved to accept by acclamation Sam Petriello who accepted the nomination, seconded by Mr. Volje.

Membership Chairman – Mr. Terpinas nominated and moved to accept by acclamation Jim White who accepted the nomination, seconded by Mr. Horvath.

Public Relations Chairman – Mr. Marsalek nominated Bill Pierce who accepted the nomination. Mr. Foley moved to accept by acclamation, seconded by Mr. Horvath.

Service Officer – Mr. Foley nominated Carl Sproatt and moved to accept by acclamation, seconded by Mr. Horvath.

Unit Directors – President Essex asked *Tom Terpinas* all the units to split out to elect a Director. Mr. Marsalek suggested in order to save time all the current Unit Directors take a form he prepared and fill out the name of the person elected by each unit as the director then turn it in to the Secretary. Joe McConville then suggested calling out the current Unit Directors' names and see if they accepted the position again this year. Someone raised the issue that they are supposed to be elected by the unit.

Joe McConville called the name and asked for an acceptance to continue.

Walter Heuer – 4th Marines - Yes

James McWalters – 15th Marines - Yes

Charles Staten – 22nd Marines, was not present and in ill health.

Henry B. Kemp – 29th Marines - Yes

Vince Matthews – 6th Mtr. Trans Bn. – was not present. Rev. Mack stated Mr. Matthews would like to serve again.

Jack Rice – 6th Med Bn. - Yes



Tom Terpinas

Committee Appointees

Named by President

Acting upon the requirements of the Bylaws as set forth in Article X, President Edward Marsalek has named members of the 2007-08 standing committees as follows:

Resolutions:	George McAfee, chairman; all unit directors.
Reunion Advisory:	D.C. Rigby.
Reunion:	Joan Wilhauer and Jim White.
Membership:	Alio Benedetti, chairman; O. B. Aasland, Richard Roberts.
Bylaws:	Sam Petriello, chairman; Eric Turner, Dan Cantwell.
Awards:	Floyd Hill, chairman; Emil Wroblicky, Steve Kraus.
Scholarship:	Sam Petriello.

Leonard Israel – 6th Enger. Bn. – was not present and no other members of the unit were present.

Sal Mistretta – 6th Tank Bn. - Yes

Louis Spillone – 6th Pioneer Bn. – was not present.

Augie LePore – 6th Hq. Bn. – was not present.

Fred Westphal – 6th Recon Co. – was not present.

Dick Roberts – 6th JASCO - Yes

George Tremblay -1st Amphibs – Yes

Mr. Terpinas suggested that the Directors not present be contacted by phone.

The 22nd Marines met to elect a new Director. James May was elected.

Old Business:

Directory: Mr. Marsalek stated that the Board of Directors recommended that a new Directory be approved at a cost of up to \$7500. *Jim White, seconded by Charles Monnett, moved to accept the bid to print the directory and mail it at a cost of up to \$7500.* Mr. Terpinas showed how the directory would look. It is in a 3 ring binder format and people can put it in their own binders. This format would make it easy to update. It would be sent to all members after it has been updated as of January 1, 2008. Discussion was held on how often the updates should be done. *George Hettinger, seconded by Andy Horvath moved to have annual updates. All in favor, motion carried. Vote on motion to accept the bid, all in favor, motion carried.*

Sons and Daughters: President Essex reported that there is a proposed by-law change that the Board of Directors recommends that the Sons and Daughters have the right to hold an office and have voting privileges in the Sixth Marine Division Association. If passed, the by-laws would be changed to include both male and female language. He asked for a motion to approve the recommendation of the Board to give the Sons and Daughters full regular membership in the Association.

Mr. Foley mentioned that the federal tax status of the Association requires that 90% of the members be military veterans. 10% can be wives and friends. If this proposal is passed then the tax status becomes null and void as does the corporate account with the State of New Jersey.

Mr. Petriello reported that something has to be done in order for the Association to continue. This proposal was made to include the sons and daughters as full members. Under 501(c)(19) of the IRS Code, 97.5% of the group must be in the military or be veterans. This leaves 2.5% for non-veterans. Some of the sons and daughters are military veterans. So some others can be brought in. The Association needs help. It can dissolve and just meet without all the formality. One place could be chosen for every

year. If not, something else needs to be done. Maybe it would not be tax exempt, but it would be non-profit. Many other organizations have been around for many, many years. If sons and daughters are not brought in, after three years when the current officers are finished with



Answered the Call—Lisa Benedetti, second from left, shown here with her family on the USS Wisconsin, went the distance for the Association by taking the minutes of three meetings at the Norfolk Reunion. Secretary Tom Terpinas requested her help when he learned that she is an experienced minutes chronicler. Left, Lisa's uncle Paul Licurs, next to Lisa on her left, sister Anita, father Alio, mother Angela and sister Melinda. All are Benedettis except Licurs. The three sisters belong to Sons and Daughters.

their terms, he doesn't know what will happen. Reverend Mack suggested that possibly the sons and daughters could form a sub-group within this Association and then they could also continue after all the Association members are no longer around. Mr. Foley said the IRS would accept that.

Mr. Marsalek stated he did a lot of research and that when this group was formed it was so that the Association would go on in perpetuity. This change would keep the Sixth Division going. If nothing is done, then the Association would have to disband. He believes that the subgroup would be complicated. Perhaps the recommendation could be accepted with the understanding that the Board would review the tax ramifications.

Frank Mack moved that the Board recommendation for full membership for the sons and daughters be approved, providing that the IRS provisions are reviewed and satisfied, seconded by Sal Mistratta. All in favor, except one opposed, motion carried.

Some discussion on the tax status was discussed. Mr. Marsalek suggested that it would not be a big deal if the tax exempt status was lost, because at this point the Association does not really need to be tax exempt. Mr. Petriello will discuss this with some lawyers. Mr. Pierce stated that at the Sons and Daughters meeting they felt like we were against them. He told them that it was felt that they might take over. They adamantly denied that was

what they wanted to do, they only wanted to help. Mr. Pierce further stated that this Association is finding it hard to find people to take positions, although some members still have the energy to do things. If the sons and daughters are brought in then the Association will continue forever. Mr. Essex emphasized that they want to help us, not take over.

Mr. Marsalek stated for the record that the by-laws would be amended so lineal descendants would be qualified to be full members of the Association pursuant to the research on the tax status issue. A Special Board meeting will determine this issue and members will be notified through the newsletter.

Mr. Marsalek announced that he would hold another meeting per the by-laws immediately after this meeting for organizational purposes. He asked everyone to stay.

Mr. Pierce mentioned that the Board authorized \$1000 to be donated to The Okinawa Museum for maintenance and upkeep.

New Business:

Membership Manager Agreement

John Foley, seconded by George Tremblay, moved to accept the contract for Flo Dornan for Membership Manager for 2008 in the amount of \$235 per month and vote by acclimation. All in favor, motion carried.

Reunion Site Presentations

President Essex stated that last year Oklahoma City was approved as the 2008 reunion site. He asked for the presentation. Retired Sgt. Major Pamela Bloustine reviewed the tentative schedule for Okalahoma City for 2008 that the Women Marines Association would like to host. Many groups in the city are honored to be able to sponsor an event for the reunion. The Biltmore Hotel will be used and the room rate is \$75.00 and totally handicap friendly. The dates are September 16 to 20, 2008. President Essex stated this site was accepted at the 2006 Reunion in Harrisburg, but needs to be approved again this year due to lack of minutes. *George McAfee, seconded by Andy Horvath, moved to accept by acclamation the proposal for the 2008 Reunion in Oklahoma City. All in favor, motion carried.*

Mr. Foley stated that the reunion organizer

for 2006, Marydell Gaiser prepared a proposal for 2009 for Myrtle Beach for a resort on the beach with a room rate of \$71.00. He mentioned some particulars. He stated he has not been approached by anyone else with a proposal. *George Hettinger, seconded by Rudy. Vojnar, moved to accept by acclamation the proposal of Myrtle Beach for the 2009 Reunion. All in favor, motion carried.*

President Essex reminded everyone that both the membership dues and the subscription dues should be paid by the end of December. President Essex thanked everyone for a good meeting.

Adjournment 11:50 a.m.

Submitted by, Tom Terpinas, Secretary

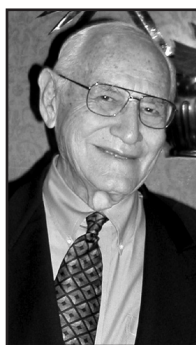
Editor's Note: These minutes were edited for brevity. Complete (minutes of all three meetings: finance, board, membership) unedited versions may be had from the Membership Manager for \$11.50 and a self-addressed envelope. Checks should be made out to the 6th Marine Division Assn.

**6th Marine Division Association
Finance Committee Meeting
October 12, 2007
Radisson Hotel
Norfolk, Virginia Reunion
9:10 a.m.**

Ed Marsalak, President Elect and Chair called the meeting to order. Present were Sam Petriello, Judge Advocate, Tom Terpinas, Secretary and Joe McConville, Treasurer. Pete Howell, Past President was absent and excused. Also present was Lisa Benedetti to record minutes.

Chair Marsalek stated he had met with Treasurer McConville earlier to request a meeting and was asked why it was necessary. Chair Marsalek stated that it was solely to satisfy the mandate of the bylaws of the Association, Article 10, Subsection 9 that states that the Finance Committee duty is to supervise expenditure of association funds and to conduct an annual audit of the funds for the association. He made it clear that this was the only reason the meeting was called and not that someone asked for it.

Treasurer McConville distributed and reviewed the Financial Statement for September 2006 to September 2007 (attached). The ending balance for the general fund was \$33,046.81 and the overflow account was \$72,335.37. Judge Advocate Petriello commented that it



Marty Essex

no, but the overflow account earns more interest than the general account. He commented that when he and his wife took over the treasury from Treasurer Seifert after the 2001 reunion the Association was broke.

Secretary Terpinas, seconded by Judge Advocate Petriello, moved to find that the accounts appear to be in order and accurately state the financial status of the association.

Vote on motion: All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Submitted by Tom Terpinas, Secretary

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**6th Marine Division Association
Board of Directors
Annual Meeting
October 12, 2007
Radisson Hotel
Norfolk, Virginia
37th Reunion**

President Martin Essex called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

Reverend Frank Mack gave the invocation.

President Essex appointed Andy Sinatra as Sgt. at Arms.

All officers were present except Editor Joe Singleton and Past President Harold "Pete" Howell, both excused.

Unit Directors were also in attendance, as well as Reunion Chair John Foley.

President Elect Marsalek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

was nice to see a profit from the Harrisburg reunion of \$6794. Treasurer McConville stated that was due to the hard work of John Foley. Judge Advocate Petriello asked if there was a Certificate of Deposit. Treasurer McConville stated

Secretary Terpinas declared a quorum (50% of the membership present) was in attendance.

President Essex stated that the Meeting Notice was published in the spring and summer issues of the newsletter. He had a copy available. *Mr. Terpinas and Reverend Mack moved to accept Proof of Meeting Notice. All in favor, motion carried.*

President Essex stated that due to lack of minutes from the last meeting, electronic devices were being used today to record and Lisa Benedetti was present taking minutes. He asked that everyone state name and position when speaking.

Report of Officers:

President Martin Essex: No report.

President Elect Ed Marsalek: The Finance Committee met this morning to conduct an audit. The committee submits that the accounts appear to be in order and accurately state the financial status of the association (meeting minutes attached). According to the by laws, this was an internal audit. Mr. McConville, treasurer, was asked if he would like the discretion to hire an outside firm for an audit. He stated that it might be a good idea. A by-law change would be needed to Article 10, Subsection 9. Mr. Marsalek and Reverend Mack moved on behalf of Mr. McConville, this amendment to the by-laws: *The Treasurer, unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors, may retain a firm of certified public accountants to perform a certified audit of the books and records of the Association.* Reverend Mack asked if the Treasurer would now hire an accountant. Mr. White felt that the internal audit should be accepted. Mr. McConville had asked that this authority be given to the treasurer, so no aspersions would be made. Mr. Marsalek emphasized that no one had questioned Treasurer McConville's integrity. The audit was done according to the mandate of the by-laws, he said.

All in favor of the motion to recommend the by-law change to Article 10, Subsection 9, motion carried.

Secretary Tom Terpinas: He purchased a recorder, which will be an official recording device. It is available for anyone to use for meetings. He will keep it. The question of reimbursement for this cost was tabled until later on the agenda. There was a question of where the Seal of the Division was kept. He also has that seal.

Treasurer Joe McConville: He distributed a copy of the Financial Statement for September 2006 to September 2007, which will be published

in the newsletter. There are two accounts. The general account balance is \$33,046.81 and the overflow account is \$72,335.37 for a total of \$105,382.18.

Mr. Petriello, seconded by Mr. White, moved to accept the report of the Treasurer and commended Joe and his wife. All in favor, motion carried.

Chaplain Frank Mack: His duty is to bring comfort to families on their bereavement. He sends personal letters and tries to include any information he has on that member. This year the bell at the Memorial Service was rung for 131 Marines. Reverend Mack stated that he spends approximately \$250-300 per year, but that it is his donation to the Association. The past chaplain of many years, Claud Wilkins, recently passed away and the Memorial Service was dedicated to him.

Reverend Mack stated that he noticed the Regimental Flags were missing from the Memorial Service. Mr. Foley replied they were here at the hotel, but none of the Unit Directors picked them up. President Essex



Ed Marsalek

Editor Joe Singleton: President Essex reported that Mr. Singleton would like someone else to take over this position, but will continue if he has to do so.

Judge Advocate Sam Petriello: He reported that according to the by-laws, in order for an amendment to be made there must be 30% of the membership or 100 members present at the General Meeting. Mr. Foley stated there were approximately 150 members present. Mr. Petriello suggested that the number of members that need to be present at the Annual Meeting be reduced to 50 members, as so many members are passing away. Mr. Petriello, seconded by Mr. Terpinas, moved to recommend that *Article VII, Subsection C - Quorum and Article XIX - Amendments of the By-laws be amended to read that the number of members that need to be present at the Annual Meeting be 50 members. All in favor, motion carried.*

Membership Chairman Jim White: Flo Dornan is the Membership Manager, while he is the Membership Chairman. He reviewed the report prepared by

Mrs. Dornan (attached). There are 2,486 members inclusive of the various categories (i.e. regular, associate)

Some people send Mrs. Dornan their dues and include money for scholarships. Mr. White has requested that when this happens, Mrs. Dornan should return the check to the sender and ask that it be split out and sent to the scholarship organization, the remainder sent to the association. The Judge Advocate approved this procedure.

Mr. White recommends that Mrs. Dornan's contract be extended as she has done an excellent job. The proposed contract was presented.

Reverend Mack asked where memorial money should be sent. Mr. McConville stated it should be sent to Mrs. Dornan, and then it is deposited in the general fund.



John Foley

Public Relations Bill Pierce: The job is to get recognition for the Sixth Division and keep the memory of it alive. *The Ultimate Battle* is due out this month. It pertains to Okinawa. Mr. Pierce gave the author names for contact and several members including Reverend Mack are mentioned. There is an article on it in the November WWII Magazine.

The Massaponik High School Football Team in Fredericksburg, Maryland, is wearing the Sixth Marine Division emblem on its helmets all season to honor the Division.

The Sugarloaf Hill painting is completed. It will be donated to the National Museum of the Pacific War in Texas. It will be framed and installed in November. Prints are available for purchase. A dedication will be held in the spring. Ward Lowing has said that he would pay for the frame, which could run between \$1000 and \$1200, but Mr. Pierce feels Mr. Lowing has done enough. Mr. Pierce mentioned that the original Final Flag painting is missing. He is trying to find it and it should be placed in the Okinawa Room at Quantico when found. A bronze plaque has been placed at the Tommy Oliver football stadium in Panama City, Florida. He was a member of the 29th Marines.

Mr. Pierce stated he tries to get veterans to speak to different groups when he gets requests, but is not having a lot of luck. The Final Battle/Final Flag print in the name of the Sixth Marine Division has been placed in the education room at the USS Yorktown. Memorial markers are

sent out to families for gravesites.

The Okinawa Museum is open. 60-70% of it is dedicated to the Sixth Marine Division. Approximately 1500 people visit it a month. The Association sent \$1000 to it last year and he would like to see more support for it. President Essex requested that the donation be made again. *Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Terpinas, moved to donate \$1000 to the Okinawa Museum. All in favor, motion carried.*

Andy Sinatra, a past president, asked that the cost of the frame be approved also. *Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Terpinas, moved to approve up to \$1500 for the purpose. All in favor, motion carried.*

Mr. Pierce stated that the Sixth Marine Division has an Internet site that has a lot of information and great links for families trying to trace members. Mr. Pierce is the web manager. There is a webmaster, Lucy Young, who makes approved changes.

Service Officer Carl Sproatt: Markers are mailed when he is notified. He sent approximately 50 out this year.

Andy Sinatra. asked if the memorial plaques the Sixth Marine Division donated to Quantico and the one in Hawaii are being taken care of. Mr. Foley said yes. At Quantico, a unit of young Marines has been assigned that task.

Past President Pete Howell: No report.

Past President Emeritus Andy Sinatra: No report.

Reports of Committees:

Nominations: Mr. Petriello stated that the past three presidents form the nominating committee. Those who want to run for office should submit their names. Names can also be submitted from the floor at the general meeting.

Resolutions: No report.

Membership: No report.

Bylaws: Mr. Petriello stated there was one proposed change on the number of members needed at the general meeting and one item under Old Business pertaining to the Sons and Daughters.

Scholarship: Mr. Petriello reported that 13 grandchildren were awarded approximately \$3800 each. \$59,105 was awarded in total this year. Since 2002 there have been 63 Awards in the amount of \$177,785. The Association has sent about \$23,000 to this organization.



Andy Sinatra

Old Business:

President Essex stated that because of the lack of minutes from the last Board meeting, the member directory was not done. He showed the directory as compiled by Mrs. Dornan. It would be sent to all members after it has been updated as of January 1, 2008. It is in a 3 ring format and people can put it in their own binders. Mr. Singleton and Mr. Terpinas are on the committee. President Essex got a bid from



Sam Petriello a printer in Las Vegas for printing, mailing and postage for up to \$7500 for 2000 copies. Copies would be sent to members in good standing and there would be extras on hand. *Reverend Mack, seconded by Mr. White, moved to recommend to the general membership acceptance of the bid to print the directory at a cost of up to \$7500.* Reverend Mack stated that he uses the directory all the time and it needs to be updated. The last directory was done in 2003 and there have been many changes since that time. Some discussion was held on asking people for donations for the directory. An insert could be sent with the directory to this effect. Also discussed was when updates would be done. President Essex stated Mrs. Dornan would make the changes annually. As e-mail addresses are not included, perhaps a separate list of these could be included with the directory.

All in favor of the motion to recommend, *motion carried.*

Mr. Petriello reported that 4-5 years ago a proposal was made to include the sons and daughters as full members. He is proposing that the bylaws be changed to allow them full membership, which would include voting and holding office. This would allow the Association to continue when the veterans are no longer able to fulfill the positions. He also mentioned that the gender language in the by-laws would change, since daughters would now be included. Mr. Marsalek said that the bylaws were meant to be updated as time went on and policy and direction changed. The only other option would be to disband. He went to the Raiders Reunion. They have lineal descendants as officers, and they set up the reunions. The veterans relax and enjoy them. If this amendment is approved then he would like to appoint one or two sons and daughters to a veteran for training. This route would enable the Association to continue longer.

If not, he sees maybe two more years for the Association. He fully supports the idea and asked members to vote yes.

Mr. Terpinas added that there is not much choice, disband or continue with help. They would work with the current officers to gain administrative experience and some already are doing so. Mr. Pierce feels it is a difficult situation, as some members feel they can still function well. It was said the charter only allows Sixth Marine Division military members. Mr. Marsalek disagreed and stated that the Association is governed by the bylaws. Mr. Petriello added that only 2.5% of non-military members are allowed for tax purposes, but the number of active sons and daughters according to his calculations, should not affect the non-profit status. He has the proposed changes, which were written by a lawyer, a parliamentarian and himself. Reverend Mack also had mixed feelings, but sees that the torch needs to be passed.

Mr. Pierce stated that he got the sense at the Sons and Daughters meeting last night that the sons and daughters have an enormous amount of pride in their fathers and this would be an honor to them to be allowed to do this. President Essex added that they need to be given something to do, or they are going to turn away.

Reverend Mack moved to recommend to the general membership that the bylaws be amended to grant full membership in the Sixth Marine Division Association to lineal descendants. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

Discussion on reimbursement of some expenses to officers was held. It was decided that none would be made. These would be treated as donations.

Mr. White, seconded by Reverend Mack, moved to accept the contract for Flo Dornan for Membership Manager for 2008 in the amount of \$235 per month. All in favor, motion carried.

President Essex thanked everyone for a good meeting.

Adjournment 12:05 p.m.

Submitted by, Tom Terpinas, Secretary.

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Too Many Do Not Understand This

A veteran - whether active duty, retired, national guard or reserve - is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America," for an amount of "up to and including my life." That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand.

Unknown author, contributed by Bill Pierce

Directory Again Due in February, One Year Later

The last and probably (hopefully) final Directory should begin arriving at member's addresses in February, 2008. That's if all goes well for a change.

Held up by constantly rising prices and a mistake or two by the Directory Committee, it was saved by former President Marty Essex, who persuaded a printer friend to cut his charges to the bone.

Cost to the association will be almost \$7500, of which about \$2800 has been covered by donations. It would be really nice if the membership could come up with that much again in additional donations. This request is being made only to those who can afford it.

The Directory has been controversial because of its cost. If the association continues to hold reunions, as I believe it will, they will cost more and more if we use professionals to run them, and produce less and less revenue as we decline in numbers.

Joan Willauer, who is hosting the Oklahoma City Reunion, may be the last free host who is capable of doing the work unless one or more of the Sons and Daughters step up.

When the printing bill is paid, the association should have a little less than \$100,000 in the bank. The newsletter is costing something less than \$10,000 a year. It should be possible to begin cutting back on that within a year or two, but with potential reunion deficits on the way, it won't take long to go through that hundred grand.

Oh, yes, if more members would subscribe to the newsletter, that would help, also.

Joe Singleton, Directory Committee

6th Marine Division
Financial Statement
General Fund
September 2005 to September 2006

September 2006		Expenses	
Bank Balance	37,706.45	100.27	B. Pierce-Exp.
Deposits	838.50	94.77	F. Dornan-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.71</u>	200.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
	38,547.66	<u>42.73</u>	J. Singleton-Exp.
	<u>- 437.77</u>	437.77	
	38,109.89		

October 2006		Expenses	
Balance	38,109.89	3,500.00	M. Gaiser-Contr.
Deposits	1,128.00		
Interest	<u>3.02</u>		
	39,240.91		
	<u>- 3,500.00</u>		
	35,740.91		

November 2006		Expenses	
Balance	35,740.91	104.12	B. Pierce-Exp.
Deposits	1,244.44	2,035.00	Scholarship Fund
Interest	<u>2.56</u>	35.00	Stop Payment Fee
	36,990.47	2,174.12	
	<u>- 2,174.12</u>		
	34,816.35		

December 2006		Expenses	
Balance	34,816.35	200.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
Deposits	520.00	209.81	B. Pierce-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.46</u>	200.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
	35,338.81	270.00	F. Dornan-Exp.
	<u>- 3,217.94</u>	<u>293.51</u>	J. Foley-Exp.
	32,120.87	2,000.00	Foley, Seed Money
			B. Pierce-Exp.

January 2007		Expenses	
Balance	32,120.87	235.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
Deposits	3,390.00	2,373.47	Leesburg Printing
Interest	<u>2.67</u>	<u>27.77</u>	B. Pierce-Exp.
	35,513.54	2,636.24	
	<u>- 2,636.24</u>		
	32,877.30		

February 2007		Expenses	
Balance	32,877.30	10.00	Service Charge
Deposits	1,455.00	235.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
Interest	<u>2.31</u>	245.00	
	34,334.61		
	<u>- 245.00</u>		
	34,089.61		

March 2007		Expenses	
Balance	34,089.61	24.01	B. Pierce-Exp.
Deposits	910.00	122.95	F. Dornan-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.54</u>	<u>235.00</u>	F. Dornan-Mgr.
	35,002.15	381.96	
	<u>- 381.96</u>		
	34,620.19		

April 2007		Expenses	
Balance	34,620.19	235.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
Deposits	505.00	21.52	B. Pierce-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.63</u>	<u>351.41</u>	F. Dornan-Exp.
	34,519.89	607.93	

May 2007		Expenses	
Balance	34,519.89	235.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
Deposits	534.59	60.44	F. Dornan-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.59</u>	<u>3,159.48</u>	Leesburg Printing
	35,054.48	3,454.92	
	<u>- 3,454.92</u>		
	33,541.20		

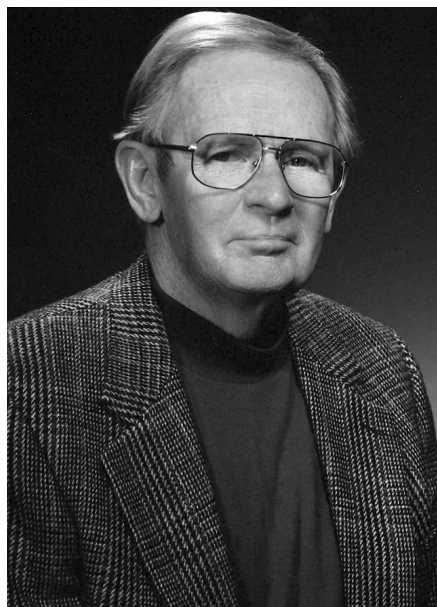
June 2007		Expenses	
Balance	31,599.56	38.98	
Deposits	2,310.00	58.01	
Interest	<u>2.35</u>	<u>173.72</u>	
	33,911.91	320.71	
	<u>- 320.71</u>		
	31,541.15		

July 2007		Expenses	
Balance	33,541.15	235.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
Deposits	1,103.25	48.65	B. Pierce-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.66</u>	235.00	F. Dornan-Exp.
	34,647.11	54.95	B. Pierce-Exp.
	<u>- 744.17</u>	<u>170.57</u>	F. Dornan-Exp.
	33,892.94	744.17	

August 2007		Expenses	
Balance	33,892.94	235.00	F. Dornan-Mgr.
Deposits	2,177.00	48.01	B. Pierce-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.50</u>	37.56	J. McConville-Exp.
	34,082.44	23.72	B. Pierce-Exp.
Expenses	<u>- 3,858.32</u>	3,423.28	Leesburg Printing
	32,214.12	<u>90.75</u>	B. Pierce-Exp.
		3,858.32	

September 2007		Expenses	
Balance	32,214.12	174.50	B. Pierce-Exp.
Deposits	1,050.00	<u>45.06</u>	B. Pierce-Exp.
Interest	<u>2.25</u>	219.56	
	32,403.37		
	<u>- 219.56</u>		
	33,046.81		

Overflow Account	
September 2006 — Bank Balance	63,930.18
Interest Received	1,611.00
Harrisburg Reunion Receipts	6,794.00
September 2007 — Bank Balance	72,335.37



W. Roger Jamieson

Jamieson Was On The Hill That Night in May...

W. Roger Jamieson, F-2-22, died on June 3, 2007 after a brave battle with metastatic prostate cancer. He was 85. Enlisting in the USMC in 1942, he retired from the Corps in 1952 having attained the rank of Captain.

Roger participated in the invasion of Guam, where he was the liaison officer to Maj. Gen. Lemuel Shepherd. He then landed on Okinawa April 1, 1945. After working in headquarters and seeing the truckloads of Marines come back K.I.A., our dad volunteered for front line duty. Little did he know what he had asked for.

Lt. Col. Woodhouse sent our father and 25 buck privates up Sugar Loaf Hill on May 14. Our dad followed Major Courtney up the hill and saw him fall later that night. The Marines held the hill until dawn when they were called off. Only 9 Marines survived that evening. Dad believed he lost all the men under his charge that night.

Dad recovered from his wounds and attempted to return to the front lines when he was hit by a sniper.

Our dad came home from the war and raised a family and spent most of his business career working in the aerospace defense industry. He is survived by his wife, Betty, four children, 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. One grandchild, Roger, preceded him in death.

Dad had a chance in June, 1995 to revisit Sugar Loaf Hill, this time under friendlier conditions. He found some closure to old war wounds. The only other Marine he has met since from that night of battle is Lt. Ed Pesoley. If anyone else was there and survived, our family would love to hear from you.

Our father, once a Marine- always a Marine, was proud of his association with the 6th Marine Division. We were proud of him and will miss him every day.

Sincerely, Jay A. Jamieson, Associate Life Member 6th Marine Division Association.
jkjamieson1@comcast.net

MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP MANAGER

For the first time in many years, my husband and I attended the Reunion and were able to see old friends we haven't seen in years, and I was able to meet those I work with as membership manager. I can now put a face on those I talk to on the telephone and send and receive email messages.

Now the Reunion is over, new officers are in place and we are about to begin a new year. You should give the officers your support and cooperation, as well as pass any ideas you may have to help make the Association the best that it can be. Also, since this is the start of an Association new year, now is the time to turn your newsletter to the very back and check your label to be sure your dues and newsletter are paid through at least 2008. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Some time ago the membership was offered a book, "The Sixth Marine Division, The Striking Sixth" by Turner Publications if they were assured a minimum of 150 books would be sold. Unfortunately there was not enough interest in the book and only about 25 were reserved. Therefore, this book will not be printed or offered.

Joe Singleton, the editor, has requested that I

accumulate birth dates of regular members, those who served in the 6th Marine Division, life and annual. Sometime in the future we may surprise you with a list of those having a birthday during the time from one newsletter to the next. I would suggest if you have email, you send me a message with that information (and be sure to sign your name) to sxthmardiv@aol.com. Or, you can send me a note by mail when you send in your dues and/or subscription check. Or, you can simply call me at 817-275-1552.

Happy Holidays to Everyone! Flo Dornan

Membership Numbers as of Nov 14, 2007:

Regular Life	1,598
Regular Annual Members - Current*	130
Associate Life	569
Associate Annual Members - Current*	57
Associate Sons & Daughters	101
Honorary	6

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 2,461

Current* - Dues are paid for 2005 through 2010

Taps

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
AKANS, Robert C.	6th JASCO	2/22/2007
ASARO, John	4th MAR-2-G	8/24/2007
BREWSTER, Daniel	4th MAR-3-L	8/19/2007
BROWN, Howard T.	6th MAR DIV-HQ-HQ	0/00/2007
CLAY, Robert (NM)	Unknown	9/05/2007
GEHRKE, Edward A.	15th Marines	2/04/2005
GOSS, Richard C.	4th MAR-2-G	9/30/2006
HARPOLE, Charles R.	4th MAR-HQ-Dog Plt	6/21/2007
HEISTER, Milton	6th Marine Division	0/00/1999
HOOPER, Clyde (NM)	29th MAR-H&S/S&S	12/30/1991
HORGAN, Joseph A.	22nd MAR-2-F	9/24/2007
IRWIN, Charles E.	4th MAR-1-HQ	7/14/2007
JAMIESON, W. Roger	22nd MAR-2-F	6/03/2007
JEFCOAT, James R.	15th MAR-4-HQ	7/11/2007
LAUSER, Lee	6th Marine Division	6/01/2004
MICHAEL, Frank E.	22nd MAR-3-I	9/17/2007
MITCHELL, Harold D.	22 MAR-2-E	8/14/2005
MORGAN, Richard E.	29th MAR-HQ	10/29/2007
MURRAY, Norman E.	22nd MAR-1-A	6/14/2007
MYERS, Jay	4th MAR-2	7/12/1999
NOWAK, James A. (NM)	22nd MAR-2-F	0/00/2007
OSLAND, Ronald Henry	22nd Marines	7/14/2007
PAULSON, Gordon N.	22nd MAR-2-F	7/22/2007
PEARSON, John H.	22nd MAR-3-HQ	4/21/2007
ROME, Gordon L.	22nd MAR-3-K	8/23/2007
RONEY, T. Faye	6th Tank Bn-B	4/20/2007
RUCKER, Jettie - NM	`	11/06/2003
SINATRA, Wanda	Wife of Andy Sinatra	9/20/2007
SLOCUM, James L.	4th MAR-3-K	10/04/2007
SRYGLEY, Clayton R.	4th MAR-3-L	7/13/2007
ST. CLAIR, Earl	29th MAR-2-E	10/15/2007
STEVENS, Robert E.	22nd MAR-3-I	2/14/2007
STILES, Neil P.	4th MAR-2-G	11/01/2007
THOMPSON, George A.	6th Tank Bn-C	3/04/2007
TRENT, Bill E.	22nd MAR-3-K	12/14/2003
VERGA, Arthur L.	15th MAR-4-K	9/16/2007
VOJTECH, Joseph F.	15th MAR-2-H&S	5/22/2006
WAHL, James E.	29th MAR-H&S	10/19/2003
WEINTRAUB, Leonard E.	29th MAR-3-HQ	7/03/2007
WILKINS, Claud	29th MAR-1-A	9/02/2007
ZAIDAIN, Sam P.	6th Recon Co	1/00/2007

New Members

BROWNING, Nancy, ID #5980, Daughter of Carl W. Clark, Associate Annual
 COLLINS, Rebecca, ID #5991, Daughter of Richard C. Gross, Associate Annual
 FAULKENBERRY, Karen, ID #5981, Daughter of Carl W. Clark, Assoc. Annual
 FILIPEK, Walter V., ID #5979, 29th MAR-1-C- Regular Life
 GUTHRIE, Louis, ID #5911, 4th Marines, Regular Annual to Regular Life
 HENGST, Mary Jo, ID #5994, Daughter of Maurice Vail, Associate Annual
 JAMIESON, David L., ID #5995, Son of W. Roger Jamieson, Associate Life
 KRUEGER, Sheri, ID #5986, Daughter of John L. Hitt, Associate Annual
 MAYNARD, Mike, ID #5982, Son of Carl W. Clark, Associate Annual
 MEYER, Pam, ID #5983, Daughter of Carl W. Clark, Associate Annual
 MOHN, Kelly J., ID #5988, Granddaughter of John L. Hitt, Associate Annual
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Winter 2007

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6th Marine Division Association

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