

# STRIKING SIXTH

## 1st Provisional Marine Brigade Newsletter



Vol. 39, No. 1

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

Spring 2014



### Back to Quantico — October 7- 12, 2014

Hope to see you at the 2014 Sixth Marine Division Reunion!  
See pages 2, 6 and 7 for more information.

Spring 2014

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## Sixth Marine Division Association 2014 Reunion ~ Quantico, Virginia

### PLANS UNDERWAY FOR ANOTHER GREAT REUNION IN QUANTICO

Start making plans for the 2014 Reunion to be held October 7-12 in Quantico, Virginia. We advise you to **make your hotel reservations as soon as possible**. (See page 7 for more information on the hotel.) Last year rooms filled up before the deadline, and some folks had to stay at nearby hotels. You can always cancel — up to 24 hours before your arrival date — if you are unable to make it. If you are planning to fly, it's also a good idea to start checking airfare.

The schedule for the reunion is still being finalized by the planning committee, but you'll find a

tentative schedule on page 6. The final schedule and registration form will be in the summer newsletter, which should be mailed in mid July.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at Quantico this fall!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call one of the members of the Planning Committee:

Lisa Benedetti (440) 442-0386

Connie Houseweart (570) 433-4402

Carroll & Bob McGowan (412) 341-9219

Sharon Woodhouse (503) 799-4455

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## Sixth Marine Division Association 2013 Reunion

### CORRECTION — AND A GOOD REASON TO REPRINT A GREAT PICTURE



1<sup>st</sup> Row: Edwin Cotten, Sam Petriello, Fred Abbott, Anthony Coccio, Watson Crumbie, Sam Ukrop, Marvin Gromley

2<sup>nd</sup> Row: O. B. Aasland, Harry Groves, Bill Twigger

3<sup>rd</sup> Row: Paul Judd, Neal McCallum, Walter Callis, Dick Whitaker, Bob Russell, D. C. Rigby, Andy Sinatra, Alio Benedetti, Fred Bennett, Jim McGuigan, Jack Rice, David Mears

Apologies to Harry Groves, who is second from the left in the second row. The November newsletter incorrectly identified him as Harry Bertram.



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29th Marines	Neil McCallum
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6th Tank Battalion	Sal Mistretta
6th Pioneer Battalion	Marvin Gromley
6th Headquarters Battalion	Vacant
6th Recon Company	Joe Singleton
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**The Striking Sixth Newsletter**

This newsletter is an official publication of the Sixth Marine Division Association and is published for members of the Association.

**The subscription rate is \$10 per calendar year.**

Membership applications, dues, donations, address changes, and record changes should be mailed with an application (see page 26) to:

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**Please make checks payable to:**

Sixth Marine Division Assn., Inc.

For more information, please contact Flo at:

(817) 275-1552 or  
[sxthmardiv@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sxthmardiv@sbcglobal.net)

Annual Dues and Newsletter Subscriptions for 2014 are due now. Remember — you must pay for the newsletter each year, even if you are a Lifetime Member.

**Letters to the editor, materials for publication, suggestions, and feedback can be sent to:**

Carroll McGowan, [chm1423@aol.com](mailto:chm1423@aol.com), 1423 Pueblo Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15228, (412) 341-9219  
Spring 2014

## Message From the President

As some of you know, family is extremely important to me. As you may also be aware, in September I suffered a heart attack and underwent quadruple bypass surgery. I'm happy to report that I am fine now, but during that time, having my family near helped me through my recovery. However, my two grandsons, Air Force Captains Michael LaSorda and Paul LaSorda were deployed at the time in Afghanistan and Qatar.

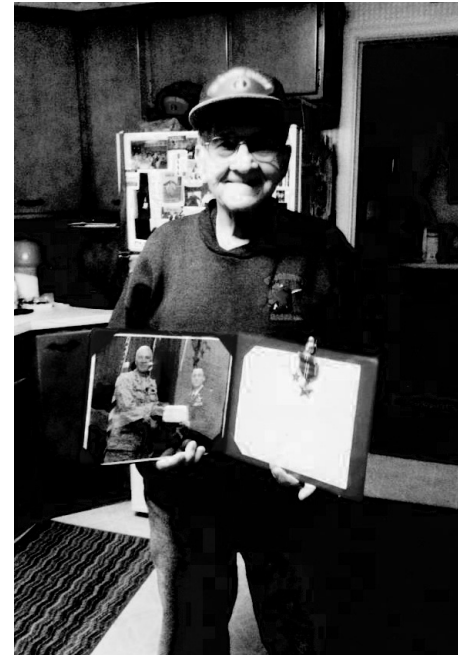
When Michael and Paul were little, I brought them with me to several 6th Marine Division Reunions. The boys were always impressed with the camaraderie and support that the Marines provided for one another. They listened to our stories and attended our ceremonies. They learned to respect those who served their country and those who died for their country. When they were old enough, Michael and Paul decided that they, too, wanted to develop their skills and their character and play a critical leadership role in the defense of their nation. They were accepted into the Air Force Academy, and they continue to be in service to our country.

This past December we were all at my daughter, Jeanne's, Christmas party. My entire family was together to celebrate the holidays. During the party, my grandson, Michael, pulled me aside and handed me a package. Inside was Michael's

Bronze Star Medal (the fourth highest individual military award and the ninth highest by order of precedence in the U.S. Military). The award was given to Michael for meritorious service in a combat zone.

Mike told me that he wanted to give me his Bronze Star because I was an inspiration to him growing up. Mike embraces the values of those in service to their country — of doing your best at all times — and he respects the common bond of all comrades in arms. His gesture of presenting me with his Bronze Star was extremely emotional and meaningful for me, and it is a moment that I will treasure forever.

The 2014 reunion will once again be in Quantico, Virginia from October 7th through the



Sam Petriello with the Bronze Star

12th. I look forward to seeing you and your family there this fall.

~ Sam Petriello  
President

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## Bob Zimmerman Documentary Update

### LOOKING FOR SIXTH DIVISION MARINES TO INTERVIEW

As reported in the summer 2013 edition of the Striking Sixth, lineal descendent Bob Zimmerman is working on a documentary about the invasion of the Okinawa. He has been collecting film footage and pictures from Okinawa, and he talked to Sixth Division Marines at the reunion last August.

Bob hopes to interview more Sixth Division Marines. Please call or e-mail him if you would like to share your memories of the invasion of Okinawa. Also, if you have any pictures from Okinawa that you are willing to share with Bob, please e-mail them to him. If it's easier to mail them, please call or e-mail Bob for his mailing address.

Bob says he really enjoyed meeting everyone at the reunion, and he's planning to attend the 2014 reunion in October.

Here's how to contact Bob:

e-mail: [razfilms@live.com](mailto:razfilms@live.com) - or - phone: 217-649-3590

## Ladies Auxiliary Report

In Columbus, Ohio at the end of February and we still are getting dustings of snow and temps in the teens. I know the rest of the country has also had "interesting" weather events too and I am guessing like me you are anxious for nice weather where we can leave our coats behind. We really didn't mind being "snowed in" this winter. I can say this because our heat did not go out so we were warm. We were also blessed to have a variety of good friends who cleared our long driveway of snow for us and we were also able to watch the deer and rabbits in our yard. One afternoon we watched eight deer munching on trees and anything else they could find.



Harry and I got to spend Christmas in Connecticut with our son Tim and his family as we all went to visit with the newest family member Eden, who is our first great grandchild. She was born six weeks early on 11 December. We figured she just wanted to be here for Christmas. I know many of you Marines are old hands at having great grandchildren but this was the first and I am sure you can remember how special they are.

I am guessing that the reunion committee has been busy planning an interesting time for us all in October. I am hoping they will be able to fit a Ladies Luncheon into the busy schedule this time. I am looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones once again.

Hello again to all Wives, Descendants and Marines,

~ Barbara McKnight  
Ladies Auxiliary President

## Chaplain's Report



All of us easterners have been dealing with heaps of snow all over the place, traffic jams, and cars stuck in drifts from snow plows. I look forward to meeting all of you again this fall, when I hope the weather will be better.

So far I have only been notified of two deaths, and I am sure there will be more, so keep me and Flo Dornan posted. Also I still need names and addresses of those confined to nursing homes.

I see the direction our country is going, and I don't like it. It seems that the special interest groups are winning and all who oppose their agendas are accused of being bigots. Let me remind all of you who is in charge of this world and what we can expect if we don't keep the commandments.

As the Apostle Paul said, "If we think we have no sin, the truth is not in us, for all have come short of the Glory of God." We all need to realize we are not perfect, and we need to pray for forgiveness and ask for guidance in our lives, for our family and our friends.

We all are saddened when a friend or family member passes away, and part of our remorse is that we have not taken time to call or visit when they were still with us. "As in Adam, all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive." The good part of that statement is, "Not a hair of our head will be lost and we will be as we were before we aged." But, don't get too anxious to go before your time.

I still have some cards for lineal descendants, and I will bring them to the reunion this fall for those who were not there last year.

Your friendly Chaplain,  
Harry McKnight.



# Sixth Marine Division Association Reunion

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day	Time	Event
Tuesday October 7	10 am – 7 pm 10 am – 10 pm	Registration Desk Hospitality Room
Wednesday October 8	9 am – 5 pm 8 am – 10 pm 12 pm – 3 pm 4 pm – 5 pm 7 pm – 9 pm	Registration Desk Hospitality Room Lunch – Globe & Laurel Restaurant Wine Tasting – Holiday Inn Board Meeting
Thursday October 9	9 am – 5 pm 8 am – 10 pm 9 am – 3 pm 6 pm – 8 pm	Registration Desk Hospitality Room Quantico Base & Archives Tour with Lunch BBQ – Holiday Inn Patio
Friday October 10	9 am – 5 pm 8 am – 7 pm 10 am – 4 pm 7 pm – 9 pm 9 pm – ???	Registration Desk Hospitality Room National Museum of the Marine Corps General Meeting Auction...FUN...FUN...FUN!
Saturday October 11	9 am – 2 pm 8 am – 2 pm 11 am – 1 pm 5 pm – 7 pm 7 pm – 11 pm	Registration Desk Hospitality Room Ladies Auxiliary Lunch Memorial Service – Semper Fi Chapel, Museum Dinner Banquet – Leatherneck Gallery, Museum
Sunday October 12	11 am	Check out Goodbye until 2015



Neal McCallum, Phuong Riles



Sharon Woodhouse, Marvin Gromley, Lisa Benedetti



Minnie Belle Sanner, O.B. Aasland

# Sixth Marine Division Association Reunion

HOLIDAY INN QUANTICO CENTER ~ 3901 Fettle Park Drive, Dumfries, VA

## Room Rate

\$108.90 per room per night, single or double occupancy (includes all taxes). This rate is also available three days before and three days after the event.

## Hotel Amenities

- Rooms have a microwave, refrigerator, hair dryer, iron, ironing board, desk and 32-inch flat screen TV.
- Rooms have one king bed or two queen beds, and all are non-smoking.
- Seven wheelchair accessible rooms are available.
- Free parking
- Free high speed internet throughout the hotel
- Fitness center and outdoor pool
- Check in is 4:00 p.m. Early check in may be available. Check out is 11:00 a.m.

## Making Reservations

- Call 703-441-9001 (hotel's direct line) or 800-HOLIDAY (central reservations).
- Mention the Sixth Marine Division Association Reunion or group code WW2 for the special rate.
- Have your credit card in hand when you call. Your credit card guarantees your room, but it will not be charged until you get there.

**Deadline for reservations is September 1, 2014.** After that date, reservations will be taken on an availability basis only. Cancellations will be accepted up to 24 hours before arrival date.

**If you have any questions** or need help making reservations, contact Sharon Woodhouse at 503-642-2429.

Hotel Website: <http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/dumfries/dumva/hoteldetail>



## Directions to the Hotel

If you are driving:

- From I-95 North or South, take exit 152B.
- Turn left on Van Buren Road.
- Turn left on Fettle Park Drive.
- The hotel is located on the right.

From the Train Station:

- The Amtrak train station (WDB) is 4 miles north of the hotel. Cabs are available at the station.

From Reagan National Airport (DCA):

- The airport is 30 miles northeast of the hotel.
- Take George Washington Memorial Pkwy North for 1.2 miles.
- Merge onto I-395 South towards Richmond.
- I-395 South becomes I-95 South.
- Take Exit 152B and follow driving directions above.

From Dulles International Airport (IAD):

- The airport is 34 miles northwest of the hotel.
- Take VA 28 South.
- Take I-66 West.
- Take A 234 South.
- Turn right onto Van Buren Road and follow driving directions above.

## Transportation from the Airport to the Hotel

Since there is no host family living in the area, we are unable to provide transportation for those flying. However, the Holiday Inn recommends two shuttle services. Rates start at \$60 per person from Reagan and \$75 per person from Dulles. Additional passengers are about \$10.

## GM Sedan

- Call 571-221-6960 about a week before leaving.

## SuperShuttle

- Reserve online at [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com).
- Or call 800-258-3826.
- Reservations are recommended, but you can also go to the ticket counter at the lower level of either airport and purchase a ticket there.

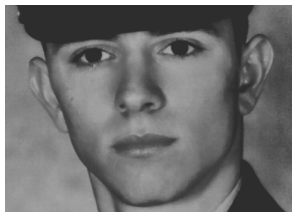
# The Warriors—and Families—We Honor

SGT. AARON WITTMAN WAS KILLED IN JANUARY 2013 IN AFGHANISTAN. REMEMBER HIM ON MEMORIAL DAY.

by Tom Manion, *Wall Street Journal* 5/4/13

Life hasn't been the same since my son, Travis Manion, was killed in Iraq. But even in the saddest of times, the strength of other military families is an inspiration.

I think about warriors like Marine Capt. Adam Brochetti, who served two perilous combat deployments to Afghanistan. In February 2013, Capt. Brochetti found himself standing at the top of a mountain in Vietnam.



Army Pfc. Frank Brochetti

Adam flew halfway around the world to honor his uncle, Army Pfc. Frank Brochetti, who was 20 years old when he was killed on the Nui Ba Den (Black Virgin Mountain) on April 8, 1972. Despite never getting the chance to meet his uncle, Adam has always felt a strong connection.

"There was never a time when Frank's name wasn't brought up, especially by my grandmother," Adam recently told me. "His death had an irrevocable effect on her that we could clearly see, even as young kids."

When Adam and his relatives finally reached the top of the Vietnamese mountain, they placed Frank's picture on its peak and shared in a moment of silence. Adam took a jar of earth home with him to give to his grandparents, a memento from the ground where their boy died.

With an all-volunteer military force, many Americans no longer share a connection with the nation's fallen heroes, veterans and military families. As only about 1% of the population serves in uniform, and little attention is paid to continuing post-9/11 sacrifices, incredible stories are often overlooked.

Army Master Sgt. Jennifer Loredo was serving in Afghanistan when her husband, Staff Sgt. Eddie Loredo, 34, was killed in a June 24, 2010, roadside bomb attack. After accom-



Army Staff Sgt. Eddie Loredo

panying his flag-draped casket home, Jennifer summoned the willpower to explain the tragedy to her kids.

Today, the Gold Star wife and active-duty soldier helps other military families cope with tragedy and stress. Her own remarkable courage is an inspiring example.

After Army Sgt. Aaron Wittman was killed in Afghanistan on Jan. 10, 2013, the Washington Post headlined a Feb. 8 article "First U.S. casualty of 2013 buried in Arlington Cemetery." But to Sgt. Witt-



Army Sgt. Aaron Wittman

man's parents, who both served in uniform, their 28-year-old son was much more than a statistic.

"The importance of this young man's life was not that he was the first casualty of 2013," said Aaron's dad, Duane Wittman, an Army major now retired.

Like his parents, sister, brother and sister-in-law, Sgt. Wittman put on a uniform and dedicated his life to protecting others. After he was killed while fighting back during an enemy ambush, soldiers told the Wittmans that they were still alive because of Aaron.

Despite knowing that their son lived and died a hero, the grief the Wittmans have experienced since January is often unbearable.

"I always thought I would be the first one in this family buried in Arlington," Duane said.

Aaron's headstone was recently inscribed with the family's abridged version of a Bible verse: "Blessed is he who lays down his life for others."

Sgt. Aaron Wittman and Staff Sgt. Eddie Loredo were buried in the same section of Arlington National Cemetery as my son, where they are surrounded by their brothers and sisters in arms, as well as fallen heroes and family members from the eras of other conflicts.

No matter which generation gets the call, patriots have always been ready to serve. Because of their

*continued on next page*



# Harry McKnight Remembers Okinawa

My wife asked me why there were not more of the 29th Marines at the reunions. I told her that more than half of those in the four companies that fought did not survive. The "Battle of Sugar Loaf Hill" started May 15, 1945 and was a disastrous day for the 29th Marines. Five hundred and fifty-one men of the 29th Marines died at Okinawa, the highest number of dead in a single battle for any Marine regiment during WWII. Out of C Company's 252 men, two days into the battle of Sugar Loaf, only 50 were still alive.

I was in H Company with Bob McTureous and Don Mahoney. As we approached Sugar Loaf, we got separated. Don went to G Company. Sgt. Hudson put McDermott, Lincoln Lewis and me in a machine gun squad, along with John Wells, Harvey Gerry, and Ed Jones. The machine gun squad had worked their way around to a

ridge overlooking Sugar Loaf about 400 yards to our front. John introduced himself to me and from then on my name was "Mac."

On the 17th, H Company was pinned down on the forward slope of Sugar Loaf by a Nip machine gun. Each time the gun paused, our guys would start up the hill and the gun would again pin them down. John had a pair of binoculars, and I asked if I could use them. I watched the episode of the machine gun and the response, then noted that when the gun paused, a Nip would run from the gun position towards the top of the hill and return to the gun position. He would pass between two openings in the rocks, and I started timing him. He was going back for more ammo to keep the gun firing. I told John that I would fire at the second opening when the Nip passed the first. My thoughts were, "400 yards is 1200 feet. My

rifle M1 velocity is 2700 feet per second," so I fired and got him. John yelled "Hey! Great shot, Mac." On the 18th, the battle for Sugar Loaf Hill was won. We started to the south towards Naha.

I will fast forward to the last two casualties of H Company.

After we made our last landing of the war on the southern end on June 4, 1945, we set up the gun by a sea wall to keep the Nips from getting behind us. I got word that Mahoney was wounded on the 5th, and on the 7th McTureous was hit. Mahoney told me it was like getting hit in football. He lost consciousness and woke up in the hospital ship. A Corpsman had come out to help Mahoney and was shot and killed, landing on top of him. Mahoney lost two ribs and half of his right lung and was in the hospital for eight months. He is still living and has been to

*continued on next page*

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## The Warriors—and Families—we Honor

*continued from previous page*

sacrifices, Memorial Day is a holiday of unparalleled significance for the nation. But if we want brave men and women to continue stepping forward, we must understand and appreciate what people like Adam, Frank, Aaron, Eddie, Jennifer and their families have sacrificed to preserve the freedoms we enjoy.

This Memorial Day, reach out in your neighborhoods and communities to honor your city or town's heroes and their families.

Share their stories so future generations will understand the cost of freedom. Bring your families and friends together for a moment of silence, and put a face on those who have paid the ultimate price.

When I think of my son, I see the face of a young man who wanted to make a difference. By following the selfless examples of the heroes no longer with us, we can make a difference too.



Marine First Lt. Travis Manion

*Col. Manion, retired from the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, serves on the board of the Travis Manion Foundation. His son, Marine First Lt. Travis Manion, was killed in action in Fal-lujah, Iraq, on April 29, 2007.*

# Harry McKnight Remembers Okinawa

*continued from previous page*

one of our reunions. Bob McTureous died on the hospital ship on his way to Saipan. Bob earned the Medal of Honor as recorded in the history of the battle. Fighting was fierce, and each day was the same — move forward and cover the advancing company with machine gun fire. On the 17th of June, near the end of the fighting, we got the word that our squad was to slip out after dark. But first we had to proceed up the hill on our left and set up the gun to cover the valley where a Nip machine gun unit was causing trouble. I said to John, “Boy this is nuts. Not only do we have to fool the Nips, but our guys too. After dark, anyone out of his foxhole is the enemy.” John agreed, but orders were orders. As we slipped out and began to crawl, I thought all the Nips on the island could hear my heart pounding. When we got to what we thought was our assigned position, we dug in for the night. In the morning John looked at a bush right over our foxhole. He said, “This is a funny looking bush,” and pulled on it. It came out of the ground and revealed the muzzle of a 47mm cannon. If it had fired, we would have been killed by the muzzle blast. Then we got word we were on the wrong hill and were told to wait until night and sneak to the hill on our left. Not again? Oh well. We found a dirt trail leading up to the top of the correct hill. As we crawled along, we heard the “clink” of a Nip striking a grenade on his helmet. We hugged

the ground waiting for it to go off. Silence... Finally John said, “Mac? What?” I whispered, “Made in Japan, thank God.”

Jones and Gerry set up the gun beside a tree, and Gerry saw the Nip positions near the bottom of the hill. “Hey look,” he said, “They are waving at us and think we are Nips too. Wave at them.” So we did. They were having a meeting. I was near a big tree with exposed roots, McDermott was right beside me to my right, and John was to our left. I saw a Nip run up the hill and throw a grenade at where we had been. I counted nine Nips camouflaged with branches, and I had a clear view.

Gerry said, “Here we go,” and began firing at them. But after three rounds the gun jammed and they responded with everything they had. Gerry yelled, “Oh, I’m hit.” It turned out to be a round that hit our gun and bounced into him. It did not break the skin but made a big bruise. Some of us started throwing grenades, but some hit trees and were bouncing back at us. “Knock off the grenades!” Jones yelled. We were now pinned down on the skyline where no Marines want to be.

I looked at the roots of the big tree and thought I could slowly slide my rifle through. It would be covered by the tree roots. So I moved slowly to the tree and got my rifle in position and began picking them off one by one. McDermott would keep score after I would shoot. “9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2...” Where was the last



Assault on Sugar Loaf Hill

one? He must have been well camouflaged. Someone called up to ask who got the Nips, but I just said there is one more left. A few minutes later the word was, “the Sergeant says lets go.” McDermott stood up to go, and I yelled, “McDermott, get down! There is one more.” He just said, “Yeah, yeah,” and took a shot right through his forehead just above his eyes. Lincoln called for the Medic, but I knew it was no use. About ten minutes later, Lt. Hallencamp came up and stood in front of me and said, “Good job men. Let’s move out.” I started to warn him, but he took a hit on his right arm. The slug went into his right elbow, down his arm, and out his wrist.

Lt. Hallencamp sent a fire team around the hill, and they got the last Nip. These were the last two casualties of the 29th Marines that I am aware of. (There could have been more since we also did some mopping up.) The island was declared “won” on the 22nd of June. I found out later that Charlie Lee was wounded on the 18th of May on Sugar Loaf and died on the 18th of June.

~Harry McKnight

# A Tradition of Sacrifice, From Yorktown to Ramadi

IT WAS NOT THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE THAT GAVE US FREEDOM, BUT THE CONTINENTAL ARMY

by Leif Babin, *Wall Street Journal* 5/23/13

In 2006, my SEAL Task Unit deployed to Ramadi, Iraq. Among the rubble-pile buildings, bomb craters and burned-out hulks of vehicles, we experienced firsthand the harsh realities of war. We fought alongside the U.S. Army's Ready First Brigade of the First Armored Division to take Ramadi back from a brutal and determined insurgency.

Combat is hard. It is alarmingly violent, ear-shattering, dirty, exhausting and ugly. It is marked by chaos and confusion and self-doubt. But combat also highlights the determination and sacrifice—and courage—of those who persevere. Through such times, an unbreakable bond is formed with brothers-in-arms.

Those bonds were tested greatly as our task unit suffered the first SEAL casualties of the Iraq War: Marc Lee and Mike Monsoor. Later, Ryan Job died of wounds received in combat. These men were three of the most talented and capable SEALs I have known. They were also loyal friends. Their loss is deeply personal to their families and to their SEAL teammates. As Marc's and Ryan's platoon commander, I bear the crushing burden of responsibility. I will forever wish that I could somehow take their place.

As a result, Memorial Day is deeply personal—to me, as it is to any veteran, to any military family. It is a time of mixed emotion: solemn reflection and

mourning, honor and admiration for those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country.

Let's remember on Memorial Day—and every other day, for that matter—that America did not become a nation without a fight. Last week, I found myself in Washington, D.C., admiring a bronze statue of George Washington. The statue shows him as a general, astride a horse, sword drawn at the ready. This was Washington as a true American leader, inspiring those around him by showing that he too was willing to risk death for the cause of victory. The statue brought to mind the thousands of soldiers who marched with him into battle against the British, facing seemingly impossible odds.

It was not the Declaration of Independence that gave us freedom, but the Continental Army. America was born from conflict,

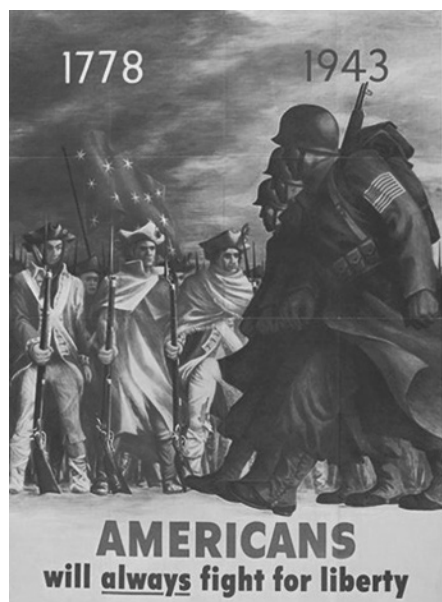
delivered by soldiers willing to pay with their blood the tremendous cost of freedom.

The dead did not wish to be martyred. They no doubt longed to return to their homes and families. But they believed in the "glorious cause," something far greater than themselves. Despite knowing the dangers before them, they followed Gen. Washington into the fray even when victory seemed hopeless and the cause all but lost.

In America today, there are those who believe that under no circumstances is war the answer. Violence only begets more violence, we're told. The unstated message: Nothing is worth fighting and dying for. History disagrees.

Knowing firsthand the hardships of combat gives me all the more reason to admire and stand in awe of those who marched with Washington and gave their lives for the United States of America. Most will never be depicted in bronze, but their sacrifices matter. The legions of American warriors since then who sacrificed their lives have not done so eagerly, nor have they done so blindly. They acted willingly because they believed in a great nation that is worth fighting and dying for.

Memorial Day is a living monument to them, a recognition of freedom's cost. May we never take those sacrifices for granted.





### THIRD IN A SERIES:

## Searching for My Dad's Buddies

by Bob McGowan

My Dad was a squad leader in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, H/3/29. All my life I heard about my Dad's men who were killed on Okinawa, most of them on May 14, 1945 in one costly assault on a little hill off to the left flank of Sugar Loaf. Like most Marines, my Dad spoke of them by their last name only: Soper, Martin, Laney, Pallo, Judge, and so forth.

The first Marine that my Dad lost was Pfc William Laney. It was May 13<sup>th</sup> and the Platoon was dug in on the far left flank of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, looking across a valley at the hill that would later be known as the Horseshoe. Dad got the squad all dug in, and for once he felt comfortable leaving them alone so he could do some reconnoitering on his own. He leaned over Pfc Laney's foxhole to exchange a few words with him, and then he took off.

Dad found an old wall next to a tree that afforded an excellent view of where the Japanese might approach their position. Three Japanese soldiers soon appeared carrying a heavy machine gun on a tripod. They never saw my Dad, and they never got to use that machine gun on his men.

Suddenly a tremendous explosion rocked the area from where my Dad left his squad. He went racing back to find his men standing around the body of Pfc Laney, who had somehow tripped a tank mine that had been missed by the mine sweepers. My Dad and the rest of the squad, with great grief and respect, wrapped him up in a poncho and made sure that he was taken care of. Then my Dad went off by himself and cried like a baby. He didn't want his men to see him like that.

Within 24 hours, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Hank Johnson, Sgt. Pallo, Cpl Martin, Cpl Soper, Pfc Josephus Judge and a dozen other members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon would join Pfc Laney by giving the ultimate sacrifice.

After my Dad died in 1999, I wanted to know more about the men he served with. I got Pfc William H.

Laney's full name from the Honor Roll in the back of the Green Book. I looked up his name on the internet and found a Gold Star Mothers page with a picture of him and some details about his home

and family. I read that the funeral service was held at the Mountain Springs Church in Monroe, NC and that he was married and had a daughter named Betty. I wrote a letter to the Church asking if they knew any Laney's. Sometime later I received a call from a Mrs. Ida May Laney Moore, Pfc Laney's sister, who gave me the name and number of Pfc Laney's daughter, Betty. I immediately called Betty and introduced myself. I learned that she was only six months old when her father died. She knew nothing about the circumstances of his death or even where he was buried. I told her everything my Dad had shared with me. I ended by telling her my dad thought her father was a good Marine and that my Dad cried like a baby when he was killed. Then we both cried.

*continued on next page*



Final resting place of Pfc William Laney

# Searching for My Dad's Buddies

*continued from pervious page*

Later on, I was able to meet Betty and her son, Jeff. I gave her one of our Sixth MARDIV grave markers, and we talked about what our fathers and their buddies had endured on Okinawa.

On Veterans Day 2012, I stopped by Betty's house and presented her with my finisher's medal from the Marine Corps Marathon that year. I run it every year in memory of my Dad and his buddies from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon. Hanging on the wall was a picture of her Father in his dress blues smiling down on us, framed in a beautiful old oval frame. Betty gave me a twin copy of that beautiful frame, and that evening when I got home I placed my Dad's picture in it. My Dad and her Dad were certainly brothers in a sense, and so I figure that Betty and I are like long lost cousins. I'm sure glad we finally met.

Semper Fidelis,  
Bob McGowan  
USMC 1973-1976



MacArthur signs Japanese surrender instrument aboard battleship USS Missouri on Sept. 2, 1945.

# Nippon Landing

Well the Marine Corps has done it, the war is now over.  
There will be no more fighting, we're sitting in clover,  
Since old Dug-out Doug, in the company of God  
Has landed at last on Japanese sod.

With the Bible in one hand, swagger stick in the other,  
With his wife and children, his father and mother,  
MacArthur arrived on the Japanese scene-----  
On the road that was built by the U.S. Marines.

Yes, MacArthur arrived with big ultimatum,  
And five general stars, though he doesn't half rate 'em.  
In his freshly pressed suit and gold-laded hat  
And a corset to hide his abdominal fat,

In his custom-made shoes with spit polish gleaming,  
His Hollywood profile, for the cameras was beaming.  
He stepped from the plane just as smart as could be;  
The first thing he saw was-----A MARINE PFC!

Old Doug made a speech and he told the wide world  
How he and his doggies our flag had unfurled,  
O'er the soil of Japan----told how he had won it.  
The Marine just grinned-----he knew who had done it.

The Emperor arrived and bowed to the deck,  
But not to MacArthur----to the big Leatherneck.  
While Douglas was seething in jealousy's throes,  
The Marine left on a date with Tokyo Rose.

The Brass Hats have left for the USS Missouri  
To sign the surrender---they were all in a hurry.  
They all signed the pact, but it wasn't official;  
The MARINE PFC hadn't signed his initial.

The Generals and Admirals then started a search.  
The entire delegation was left in a lurch.  
They found him at last, in his salty white khaki,  
On the Emperor's throne drinking Imperial Saki.

That's really what happened and out here we know it,  
Though newsreels and papers most likely won't show it.  
In the future you'll read a United States history,  
And the present day truth will show up, as a mystery.

And where is MacArthur?-----Well----I don't like to tell,  
But you'll find it out later, so I might just as well.  
He's in Base Marine Boot Camp, and trying to be  
Promoted from Army General to MARINE PFC.

*Author, unknown, is believed to be part of the 1st Battalion,  
4th Marines amphibious force that landed at Yokosuka, Japan  
Naval Base on August 28, 1945*

# MAIL CALL



## George Taylor

Hi Flo,

Hope you had a very Merry Christmas and have a blessed New Year.

I wanted to let you know that George Taylor, 6<sup>th</sup> Recon Co passed away 12/14/2013. His son called me this AM, and I was sure sorry to hear it.

I wish I could make the reunions. It's not the same alone as you know, and my ole body doesn't respond like it used to.

I want to thank you for all you do and all Jack did for the Division – really nice.

Semper Fi,  
Fred Westphal  
307 W 34<sup>th</sup> Street S  
Wichita, KS 67217

## Bill Roscioli

Hi Carroll,

My father was in the Sixth Division, and I would like to hear from any of his friends or anyone who can remember him. He was born July 14, 1924 and died in March 1999. Below is the information I have on his service:

*William (Bill) Charles Roscioli  
Hometown: Philadelphia, PA  
Enlisted: April 24, 1943  
Discharged: December 31, 1945  
Served in: Sixth Division; I Company;  
3d Bn; 22d Marines; Field Music Cpl  
Participated in landing on Okinawa  
April 1, 1945; landing and occupation  
of Tsingtao Shantung Province, China  
October 12, 1945 to ?  
Received Asiatic Pacific Ribbon; Victory Medal Alnum #352*

Lisa Roscioli  
lisarosc@verizon.net



## New Book by Kevin Murray

Lineal descendent and lifetime 6MarDiv Associate Member, Kevin Murray sent us a flyer about his new book:

*The 1st Fighting Irish: The 35th Indiana Volunteer Infantry.*

As noted in the Summer 2013 newsletter, Mr. Murray also wrote a book about his father's experience in WWII.

For more information, contact Mr. Murray at:  
Kevin.Murray@indy.gov.



## Remembering a Fallen Marine

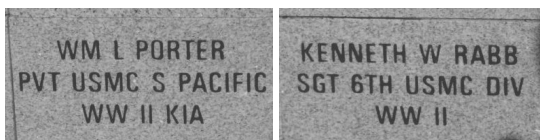
Ms. McGowan,

A memorial brick has been placed in the McDowell County (North Carolina) Salute to Veterans in memory of William Porter. He died on Half Moon, along with Sgt. Lawrence Sutton — motor shell, direct hit. I was there.

Pvt. Porter's remains are buried in a Cleveland, TX cemetery.

Sincerely,  
Kenneth W. Rabb

Editor's note: McDowell County, NC erected the Veterans' Memorial Wall as a lasting tribute to veterans, both alive and dead. The wall is made from bricks that each have a veteran's name.



McDowell County, NC Veterans' Memorial Wall



# MAIL CALL



## Rolla Jack Magruder II

Good afternoon! My name is Jack Magruder, and I'm writing to ask you about my grandfather, Rolla Jack Magruder II, who was a US Marine with the 6th Marine Division during Eniwetok and Okinawa. I have his Sea Bag and it reads "Magruder, 6th Marine, 'Dog Battery.'"

My grandfather passed away some 15 years ago, and I am now doing research to put together some pieces of his Pacific Campaign with the Fighting 6th. From his stories, I recall that he was a Corporal, but was a Sgt. for a while until he was "busted back down to Corporal for brawling on shore." :-)

If anyone has any information about my grandfather, or any sources I could check to find more information, please contact me via e-mail.

I'm reading a book right now called *Stay Off the Skyline* by Laura Homan Lacey about the advance of 6th Marine Division during the Battle of Okinawa, and I am really enjoying it. The book is compiled from eyewitness experiences of veterans with the Fighting 6th, and it has been fun for me to envision my grandfather somewhere in their midst.

Thank you so much,  
Rolla Jack Magruder IV  
[jmagruder@crossroadschurch.net](mailto:jmagruder@crossroadschurch.net)

Editor's Note: The book Jack refers to was written by Sixth Marine Division Historian, Laura Lacey, and is available at Amazon in paperback and Kindle editions.

## Always a Marine!

Hi Flo,

Surprise! I have enclosed Jim's dues and newsletter fee for 2014.

Jim is doing fine – he's now 88. He has good days and bad days, but he never leaves the house without his 6th Marine cap.

Always a Marine!!!

Virginia White  
9 Hurlwood Avenue  
Merritt, FL 32953



## Membership Information

To: Florence R. Dornan

My husband, Clyde R. Bower, has been a Life Member for many, many years, but in our move to our retirement home I lost track of the newsletter. Please put him back on the mailing list with the enclosed check for \$10.00.

He is 88 years old and in failing health, but he would enjoy having me read the newsletter to him.

I hope you still have all his military information.

We have a son living in Argyle, TX, and Clyde has a brother, Karl, living in Arlington, TX.

Thank you,  
Doris Bower  
800 Hausman Road, Apt 263  
Allentown, PA 18104-8495  
Phone: 610-435-2035

Note from Membership Manager: Members are never removed from our roster, and all information is kept permanently.



## Tough Marine Recovering

Dear Florence,

I'm enclosing a check for \$10 to renew Fred's subscription to the Sixth Marine Division newsletter, which we always look forward to! Especially the last one which had many very good pictures of our family and friends. I'm sorry if this renewal comes late, but we were somewhat distracted as Fred fell and is suffering the results of a very severe concussion. But he is a tough Marine, of course, so recovery is a given!

See you at the next reunion in Quantico.

Merry Christmas,  
Fred and Mary Abbott  
124 Dover Street  
Medford, MA 02155-2322



## Did You Serve with Pat Roberts?

Thanks Florence for your help. I called most of the officers listed in the Striking Sixth to no avail.

If anyone reads this and was in Platoon 949 San Diego 1943 or 2nd Separate Int Btn on Saipan and Tinian or 1st Btn A Co. Sixth Marine Division on Okinawa or Northern China Surrender – I would like to hear from you.

Semper Fi,  
Pat Roberts  
1091 Country Club Road  
Elberton, GA 30635  
Phone: 706-283-2468,  
Cell: 706-567-6141



## From the Historian's Corner

DeWITT JORALEMON (15th MAR-3-H&S): MARINE, FAMILY MAN, PATRIOT

In September another of the “greatest generation”... a Marine... went to guard the streets of heaven. He went to join his comrades in arms and friends from a long and productive life. It was personally a hard goodbye for me because he had become father, mentor, often editor, and my biggest fan—DeWitt Joralemon.

De was a unique individual, yet he exemplified all that one can appreciate about the WWII generation. He understood duty and the value of reputation and giving one's word. He was successful professionally. Like many of his contemporaries, he had very little in the way of a future in the early 40's, but he worked hard. He finished high school early, and was working and going to school prior to Pearl Harbor. His mother would not sign for him to be a Marine, so instead he joined the Merchant Marines, and when he was old enough he joined the Corps. As I helped his wife Betty sort through his effects, the items he had kept all his life were Marine memorabilia. Being a Marine was what defined him and what he was proudest of in his life. He, like many others in post-WWII America, took advantage of the GI Bill, and that afforded him a successful career and an equally successful retirement.

He was a family man: he was married sixty-seven years and raised children who are productive members of society. He served others; he was a member of Rotary, served as the editor of the Striking Sixth and served in various capacities on numerous committees in his community. He also served as the chairman of the Sixth Marine Division Memorial at Quantico. He gave of his expertise, his time and his money for four years to make the memorial a reality. He was proud of his achievements, but always gave credit to others and was self-effacing.

De represents all that was good about the generation born in the 20's, raised during the tough times of the Depression, and who went on to save the world.

These men and women can be defined by integrity, dedication to family, living productive lives, and service to others. I will miss De's guidance, and our nation will be missing a great deal when these special men and woman are gone. However, they leave us something to aspire to be more like. They will be who we remind future generations of, and they leave us great memories. I know that I will be forever grateful.

~Laura Lacey



DeWitt Joralemon with his wife, Betty

Striking Sixth



# 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.

BLODGETT, Walter (NM)	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Division	12/00/2012	
BURKE, Thomas K.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-2-E	10/24/2013	
CETOVICK, Paul	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-F	01/00/2014	
COFFMAN, Joseph T.	29 <sup>th</sup> Engineering-C	09/08/2013	
GATTONI, Evelyn	Widow of Leo Gattoni	04/07/2013	
GOETZ, Frank	15 <sup>th</sup> Mar-3-I	00/00/2010	
GIAMMANCO, Salvatore	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar-3-L	06/22/2013	
HASKINS, Dallas (NM)	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-2-F	11/29/1961	
HILL, Ethel	Wife of Floyd Hill	03/00/2013	
HOLEMAN, Nathan F.	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-C-6th Engineering	12/19/2013	
HULSEY, Mark (NM)	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Division	09/00/2003	
JORALEMON, DeWITT	15 <sup>th</sup> MAR-3-H&S	09/02/2013	
KAMINSKI, Walter	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar-1-B	08/08/2013	
KNAPIK, Robert J.	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3-L	12/07/2014	
KRAUS, Stephen J.	15 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-E	08/18/2013	
MACDOUGALL, Vicki	Widow of Daniel MacDougall	03/15/2014	
MATHEWS, Vincent *	6 <sup>th</sup> Amphib Motor Trans	08/30/2013	*Note: Vince was buried in his Marine Corps uniform!
MAYO, Harley W.	15 <sup>th</sup> MAR-2-D	11/17/2013	
MILLER, J.D. (NM)	6 <sup>th</sup> Marine Division	12/16/1958	
NESSETH, Orestes J. (NM)	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3	10/04/1979	
PROPHITT, Mydris	Wife of Ben Prophitt	03/17/2014	
PURDY, Robert J.	6 <sup>th</sup> Engineering - H&S	03/18/2014	
RICHMOND, Florence	Widow of John Richmond	09/03/2013	
RICHMOND, John C.	15 <sup>th</sup> Mar-2-HQ	08/15/2013	
STOVER, Don (Smokey)	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3-I	07/00/2013	
TAYLOR, George	6 <sup>th</sup> Recon	12/14/2013	
VRETTOS, Peter	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar-3-HQ	07/00/2013	
WOOLMAN, Cleota	Widow of Billy Woolman	02/15/2014	
YOUNG, Andrew	Honorary	12/08/2013	



## Andrew Young

We offer our condolences to Lucy Young, Webmaster of the Sixth Marine Division, on the death of her husband, Andrew, late last year. Lucy is pictured here with Andrew.



# From the Historian's Corner

## THE BRUTALITY OF THE JAPANESE IN WORLD WAR II

In the world today, it is easy to forget that the Japanese were a very different people during the pre-World War II era. The post-war reconstruction of Japan has forged a lasting ally for America with Japan. However, prior to WWII, fueled by nationalism, the Meiji Restoration, and the warped bushido code, the Japanese people were very different than they are today.

The war in the Pacific was a very different war than the war in Europe. Factors for that were numerous and combined to make the Pacific Theater bloody and bitter in ways that have not been duplicated. Often when a German or an Italian looked at an American they were looking at someone who could have easily been a guest at their table back home. That was not the case in the Pacific. Most Americans and Europeans shared a common culture and ancestry. The cities of Europe were places, at least in name, that were familiar to most Americans. Not so in Asia. The jungles of the Pacific Theater did nothing to remind the fighting men of the west of the civilized world.

The bushido code, which even as late as the Sino-Russo War and WWI had been honorable, now was a vile excuse for barbarism. Many authors, including William Manchester of the Sixth, and Eugene Sledge, have describe the feelings they had for the Japanese. The Japanese were brutal in ways hard to understand, writes Samuel Hayes in a *Soldiers Tale*: "They (the Japanese) were a fanatical enemy, that is to say, they believed in their cause with an intensity little understood by post-war Americans—and possibly many Japanese, as well." In the Pacific War the fighting was no holds barred, no quarter given or taken. The Japanese were cruel and brutal, and the American fighting man's self-preservation required him to fight accordingly.

The first thing that was hard for the Americans to understand was the Japanese suicidal intensity. They wanted to fight to the death. Dick Bush, MOH and beloved member of the Sixth, com-

mented that "It's difficult to fight an enemy when they want to die and you want to live." The Japanese had been ordered to die for the Emperor and to do so brought great honor to their families.

Additionally, the common Japanese soldier was inhumanly treated by his officers and staff NCO's, which reinforced cruelty to others. No other example best displays the Japanese brutality than their treatment of POW's. Pictures such as the one of Australian pilot, Sergeant Leonard Siffleet, being beheaded in in Papua, New Guinea, and the Bataan Death March, immediately come to mind.

In researching my latest book, which is about a Marine who survived and escaped the horrors inflicted on the Fourth Marine Regiment in the Philippines by the Japanese, I was again reminded of the monsters that ruled the Japanese psyche during this period. One story in particular, from the book *Ghost Soldiers: The Epic Account of WWII* by Hampton Sides, has led to much thought on this topic. In the book the author reminds his readers that the death ratio in European POW camps was about four percent, compared to the twenty-seven percent that was common in Japanese POW camps. More importantly, in the waning days of WWII (August 1944), the Japanese War Ministry had given the order, which became known as "August 1 Kill-1 All Order," that all remaining POW's were to be killed. Men who had survived numerous years in captivity were to be executed. One incident that Sides' book recounts occurred at a POW camp in Palawan, Philippines, where about 150 remaining POW's were made to dig "air raid" trenches for themselves. The camp commander had explained that since American bombing raids were becoming more frequent, the men needed some form of cover. One day the air raid sounded and the men were rushed by their captors into the trenches, and then tin covers placed on top of the men as they crouched in the "shelters". Shortly after, the Japanese guards/executioners poured gasoline into the trenches and set them on fire. Most of the men died horrible deaths, although a

*continued on next page*

## Letters from the Attic by Charles Young (15th MAR-HQ-H&S)

Charles Young, WWII corpsman and member of the Sixth Marine Division, adds insight for those interested in the “greatest generation” with his new book *Letters from the Attic*. Young who has written several books, including *Luck of the Draw* about his experiences on Okinawa, now allows readers a glimpse into young servicemen’s experiences at the time but more importantly, into the relationships of families and friends of servicemen during World War II.

*Letters from the Attic* is just what the name implies. While rummaging through old papers in his attic he finds letters from the 1940’s. So begins a walk through his past and then on to a search for many of those long lost friends. The book is those letters from the attic in chronological (mostly) order. This is a great primary resource for anyone interested in this pivotal period of American history. It is not a military history book but instead an inside look into the culture, vernacular and feelings of the time. One cannot help but be amazed at the innocence of America, and although these were and had been trying times, it reminds the reader that Americans were united and proud of their country.

The letters from his parents and siblings demonstrate not only deep family bonds but an undercurrent of the worry that must have been a daily part of life for those with loved ones serving overseas. Friends’ letters, both young people stateside and serving in the military, are fun and give the reader glimpses into many aspects of wartime life. One is also reminded that each generation of young people have their own way of speaking—their own lingo. The book is a great source of social and cultural history. It also covers Young’s time in training, war, and as part of the occupation force, yet it does not offer a great deal of combat detail. As Young explains in the book, censorship for one thing prevented such details, “We were under a tight news blackout. We did not know what was going on in Europe or Asia. I was in Guadalcanal for eight months and couldn’t even

mention the name of the island.” He goes on to explain that there were other reasons as well, for the lack of detail: a sense of duty to protect those back home. “...do you think folks back home wanted to hear about the stench of rotting corpses on the battlefield, the flies and the maggots?”

The book is a great source for historians and would also make a great gift for anyone who has an interest in World War II. The underlying love story and the experiences of Young make for an engaging read.

~Laura Lacey

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## The Brutality of the Japanese

*continued from previous page*

few did escape to tell the tragic story. Such brutality to the weak and defenseless seems unimaginable today, but such actions occurred throughout the Pacific.

There are those who do not understand “the greatest generation’s” reticence in forgiving the Japanese. But the brutality of the Pacific Theater is the primary reason. Today it is easy to look at ancient Japan or post-war Japan and understand that there is much to admire about Japan and its people. However, for a brief time in history, events like the Rape of Nanking, Bataan, Corregidor, Okinawa and Palawan demonstrate how bad mankind can be. It is a reminder that we must always be mindful that fanaticism can lead a nation into a manic state and that world apathy can lead to young men having to pay the ultimate price.

Books that I recommend on this topic are: *The Rape of Nanking* by Iris Chang, *Japan at War* by Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore Cook, *We Band of Brothers* or any of the other books on Bataan, the aforementioned *Ghost Soldiers*, *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand, *Fly Boys: A True Story of Courage* by James Brady, and of course...*Stay Off the Skyline*.

# New Plaque Honors Sixth Marine Division

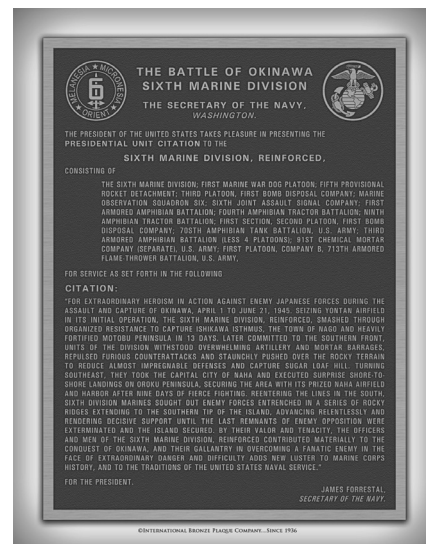
## SEE IT AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

A bronze plaque dedicated to the 6<sup>th</sup> Marine Division is being installed on the Memorial Wall of the National Museum of the Marine Corps (NMMC) on April 10, 2014. To those familiar with the layout of the NMMC, the Memorial Wall runs adjacent to the parking lot between the NMMC and the Chapel. The plaque measures 28" X 36" and

was cast by the International Bronze Company, which has done a lot of work at the NMMC.

A formal dedication of the plaque is being planned for the Reunion this October, most likely after the Memorial Service on Saturday.

In the meantime, if you are visiting the Museum, stop by and see it.



## From the Editor

Happy Spring! At least I think it's spring. As I sit here in Pittsburgh on March 30, it's 34 degrees and I see a coating of snow on the grass outside. But the weatherman says it will be 70 in two days, so I remain hopeful.



It was a very long winter, and it seems like a long time since the last Striking Sixth hit our mailboxes. I am still trying to develop a workable

schedule for these newsletters. Ideally, I would like to have the newsletters reach you in the second half of March, July and November. However, sometimes I am dependent on the availability of reunion information, hence the April (and not March) delivery of this newsletter. Nevertheless, I will try my best to stick to the March, July, November schedule going forward.

~Carroll McGowan  
(412) 341-9219, chm1423@aol.com

## Message from the Membership Manager

I was comparing the membership status numbers from October 2013 to date, and it would appear that we have a number of members who have not sent in their dues and/or newsletter payments for 2014. As you know, you can check your newsletter label to find your expiration date (see the bottom of page 22).



I received an interesting phone call from Oscar Soifer. Oscar is always fun to talk with, and he always has something he has been thinking about. He will soon turn 90, and he was thinking about the next reunion, hoping his health will allow him to travel. Since many members have seen the museums and attractions in Quantico and the DC area, he thought the Sixth might profit by putting on a program tracing the history of the division.

Our regular members are familiar with the history of the Sixth but many wives, widows, children and grandchildren, etc. do not realize that the Sixth Marine Division was the only Marine Corps division formed and disbanded outside the confines of our United States. The division was formed to fight one battle – Okinawa – and it consisted of mostly battle-seasoned Marines brought together from other units. I think this program would be worthwhile and very interesting to the families of the Marine members. Oscar said he would be willing to talk to anyone about such a project. He will be returning to Ohio in April and can be reached at 937-274-3227.

Spring must be finally near because we are beginning to have days warm enough to spawn thunderstorms. For once I think everyone has seen enough winter.

Respectfully submitted,  
Flo Dornan Membership Manager  
(817) 275-1552, sxthmardiv@sbcglobal.net  
704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011



# Volunteer Needed: Sixth Marine Division Webmaster

We are looking for a volunteer to enhance and maintain the 6th Marine Division website. Time required is approximately 5-8 hours per month.

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

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

## Membership Status

@ March 28, 2014

Regular	1,202
Associate	589
Lineal Descendant	153
Honorary	8
Total Membership	1,952

## Newsletter Subscribers

@ March 28, 2014

Paid for 2013	176
Paid for 2014	190
Paid for 2015-2023	126
Honorary Members	8

## Donations

*Many thanks to those listed below:*

### DIRECTORY

Rush, Ted  
Stringham, Charles  
Weston, Ralph D.

### LIFECARD DONATION

Martin, Gillian  
McGuigan, James

### MEMORIAL MARKER FUND

Dunbar, Douglas  
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### NEWSLETTER FUND

Roberts, R.P.  
Zenichi, Yoshimine

### GENERAL FUND

Adkins, A. S.  
Burleson, Helen  
Clemente, Joseph  
Durr, David E.  
Fair, Joseph  
Fenn, Richard\*  
Knerr, John  
Lestelle, June\*  
Murray, Kevin\*  
Robertson, Norman  
Rowe, Wayne  
Rush, Ted

\*above and beyond

## New Members

KRANZ, Terrance J., ID #6198  
Son of Thomas Kranz, 4<sup>th</sup> Mar-3-HQ  
Annual Associate LD Member  
Spouse: Anne  
40 Delewinski  
Stafford, VA 22556  
575-494-5005

MARTIN, Gillian, ID #6178  
Son of Kenneth E. Martin,  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mar-2-B  
Annual to Life Member,  
Associate LD  
3833 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue W  
Seattle, WA 98199-1507  
206-284-7324  
[gilmor@att.net](mailto:gilmor@att.net)

McGOWAN, Carroll, ID #6199  
Daughter-in-law of Robert W.  
McGowan, 29<sup>th</sup> Mar-3-H,  
Life Member, Associate LD  
1423 Pueblo Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228-1605  
412-341-9219  
[chm1423@aol.com](mailto:chm1423@aol.com)

ROBERTS, John V., ID #6197  
Son of Richard Roberts, 6<sup>th</sup> JASCO  
Life Member, Associate LD  
788 Ashton Hollow  
Catawissa, PA 17820  
570-799-0418  
[jrob53@yahoo.com](mailto:jrob53@yahoo.com)

STEED, Jean, ID #5694  
Daughter of Dan Dereschuk,  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mar-2-G  
Reinstated as Life Associate LD  
Spouse: Bill  
7507 E Roy Rogers Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266-2164  
480-518-0077  
[jean.steed@azmoves.com](mailto:jean.steed@azmoves.com)

SUDDDES, Michael G., ID #6200  
Son of Thomas Suddes, 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar-2-F  
Life Member, Associate LD  
Spouse: Adele  
14 Horseshoe Drive  
Plainville, MA 02762-1611  
508-699-7594  
[msuddes@comcast.net](mailto:msuddes@comcast.net)

WILLAUER, Richard, ID #6007  
Son of Edward B. Willauer,  
22<sup>nd</sup> Mar-H&S  
Annual to Life Associate LD  
Spouse: Dee  
356 Rowe Road  
Dodgeville, WI 53533  
608-935-3541

ZIMMERMAN, Bob, ID #6201  
Son of Al Zimmerman,  
29<sup>th</sup> Mar-HQ-HQ (6<sup>th</sup> Recon)  
Annual Associate LD  
Spouse: Brenda  
600 E Ficklin Street #108  
Tuscola, IL 61953  
217-649-3590  
[razfilms@live.com](mailto:razfilms@live.com)



# Membership Application / Change of Address Form

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Battalion \_\_\_\_\_ Regiment \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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

Old Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Relative's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

His unit within the Division, if known \_\_\_\_\_

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

Life Membership (\$75).....Check if Member \_\_\_\_\_ or Associate Member \_\_\_\_\_.....Amount due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Newsletter Subscriptions

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

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

Additional copies of the newsletter are \$3.50

## Donations

Membership Directory Contribution.....Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Medallion Fund Contribution.....Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Make check payable to The Sixth Marine Division Association** Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Florence R. Dornan, Membership Manager, 704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011**

*E-mail: Sxthmardiv@sbcglobal.net Phone: (817) 275-1552*

**Please remember: Membership dues are separate from Newsletter subscriptions.**

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

Check your address on the back cover to see if your membership and newsletter are paid up to date.

*If there is no barcode on your label, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Please contact your Post Office.*

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DUNCAN, OK 73533-2007

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# Jacksonville Loves a Parade

## JACK RICE PROUD TO BE PART OF 2013 VETERANS DAY PARADE

Jacksonville, Florida loves a parade – so reports Jack Rice (6<sup>th</sup> Medical BN-C). In fact, their Veterans Day parade is the largest in Florida and one of the largest in the nation. Jack first participated in the parade in 2012, when he represented the Jacksonville Semper Fidelis Society with his friend Jack Wroten, an FMF Corpsman with the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division in Korea and owner of a red Mercedes convertible. The two Marines were in the parade again on Veterans Day 2013, which was a typical Florida day — lots of sunshine and large, enthusiastic crowds. Jack says the feeling of patriotism in the air was difficult to describe, but definitely fabulous.

During the two-hour wait in the Gator Bowl parking lot before the parade got underway, the two Marines took turns snapping pictures of each other with some awesome cars and friendly clowns. Looks like fun!



The Jacksonville Semper Fidelis Society is an association of Marines whose purpose is to maintain the camaraderie, esprit-de-corps and sense of purpose that identifies the United States Marines. They believe that the Marine Corps



values of honor, courage and commitment, coupled with the historical tenacity of Marines to accomplish their mission, are traits that are worthy of respect and emulation.

Pictured: Jack Rice in yellow hat, Jack Wroten in red hat



# Sixth Marine Division Association

704 Cooper Court, Arlington, TX 76011



## Striking Sixth Newsletter

Spring 2014

*CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED*

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## Never forget...



They shall not grow old,  
as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning,  
We will remember them.