

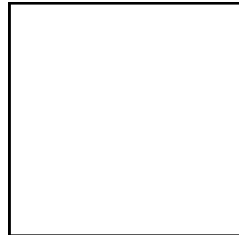
Semper Fi News

Los Angeles County Chapter, Inc.
1st Marine Division Association
P.O. BOX 220552
Newhall, CA 91322-0252



"In God We Trust"

First Class Mail



GOD BLESS AMERICA

Semper Fi News

Los Angeles County Chapter, Incorporated
1st Marine Division Association



APRIL 2010

Dale Turner, Editor

SEMPER FIDELIS

WORDS FROM THE PAST

I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them. Thomas Jefferson

A Message From Our Chapter President

(twhetzel@socal.rr.com) 661-251-7564



Semper Fi Marines and FMF Corpsman Well here it is the April Semper Fi news letter, how time flies, sometime I don't know where the time goes. I think it the same with all of us. Please read the news letter's, and start planning ahead, for the events that you are able to attend this year. And please don't forget Memorial/Corpsman, celebration.

I want to thank our legal officer Dick Cesaroni, for coming forward and taking the job as our Chapter Rep. It's a very hard job to do. You have to be able to attend all the chapter meetings and all the chapter rep. meetings at the national level.

Again Dick thanks for being there for us. I hope to see all chapter members at the Memorial Service in June.

Until next month, Semper FI and Bodfish Forever

Tom Whetzel

Chapter Mourns The Passing Of Sgt. James S. Graham, USMC

8/19/1931—3/9/2010

Jim passed away on Tuesday, March 9th at his home in Overland Park, Kansas. Jim served with F-2-5 in Korea 1950 where he was wounded in action. Jim was a Life Member and longtime supporter of the LA Chapter. Jim is survived by his wife of 57 years Gloria daughters Cathy and Cynthia and son's David and Jimmy

Our condolences to the entire Graham family.

See Editor's corner page 6

The Chapter Welcomes The Following Member Back To
The LA Chapter **GRUNTS CLUB** as a
SUPER GRUNT!!

JOHN MESEURE

Thank You John for your donation of \$200.00
Grunts Club Membership runs for a one year period, Beginning
October 1st and ending on September 30th

Annual Members Become Life Members

Robert Schol

Sgt. I-3-7

Joseph R. Soria

MSgt. L-3-7

Welcome New Chapter Life Member

John H. Allen

Sgt. E-2-11 Vietnam

Recruited by Dale Turner

John is the current President of the Orange County Chapter and fellow retired Law Enforcement Officer.

Note: As of 3/20/10, other than active duty members, the Chapter membership is now all "Life Members".

CHAPTER LIFE MEMBER RUNS FOR COUNTY ASSESSOR

Referred to as "Private Numb Nuts" during Machine Gun School **Dan Kumaus** went on to become the class Honor man.

Many years have passed since his days as a machine gunner in Vietnam to his run for Los Angeles County Assessor. Visit Dan's website at: <http://www.dankumaus.com>

You can also read about his combat action in a book titled "**More Than A Few Good Men**" written by his C.O. , Lt. Col. Robert J. Driver, USMC Ret.

Semper Fi Dan - You've got my vote - Dale Turner, Editor.

FMDA President Responds To Dick Cesaroni's March Article See Page 4

Features

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Spelling and grammar errors are purposely added for those who enjoying finding and pointing them out.

Visit the Chapter Web Site: www.1stmarinedivisionassociationla.org

Los Angeles County Chapter Inc- 1st Marine Division Association Membership Application/Renewal Form

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Membership in the 1st Marine Division Association, Incorporated, is open to anyone who at anytime **honorably served in, is now serving, was attached to, or in support** of the 1st Marine Division. Dues are as noted below, circle choice of membership and mail application and check to: **1st Marine Division Association, Los Angeles County Chapter, PO Box 220552, Newhall CA 91322-0252** (Make check payable to: **FMDA-LA**)

Dues

National Annual Membership - \$35.00	National Life Membership - \$1000.00
Chapter Annual Membership - \$15.00	Chapter Life Membership - \$ 100.00
Total \$50.00	Total \$1100.00

Attention! Active Duty Marines: National Membership is **\$20.00**. Your LA Chapter Membership is **FREE**

Name: _____ Rank: _____ DOB: _____ Last four digits of SSN: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip+4): _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Spouses Name _____ Email: _____

Unit(s) Served With: _____ Dates of Service: _____ Campaigns: _____

List no more than two _____

WWII, Korea, Vietnam ,Kuwait, Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq, Cold War, Peacetime Etc.

Applicant's Signature/Date: _____ Sponsor: _____

APRIL 2010
Issue

IF THIS IS A RENEWAL, CHECK HERE

ACTIVE DUTY CHECK HERE

Revised 01/04/10

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President Emeritus For Life

William "Bill" Ping
(760) 328-5801

Honorary President

Jack Coughlin
(818) 782-8156

Jr. Past President

Bill Turner
(818) 786-5326

President Tom Whetzel
(661) 251-7564
Vice Pres Maury Starr
(818) 981-7688
Adjutant Dale Turner
(661) 253-1981
Treasurer Bill Turner
(818) 786-5326
Secretary Myrl Wallace
(805) 937-0156
Membership John Arthur
(661) 297-2125
Legal Officer Dick Cesaroni
(661) 297-2028
Sgt at Arms Charlie Meter
(661) 297-0733
C/Rep Joel Forman
(310) 559-7250

Directors Richard Oldenburg
(661) 821-1683
Norm Kellems
(661) 944-6081
Jimmy Greene
(661) 297-7968
Ed Demrest
(661) 252-2047
Jim Mann
(661) 296-4433
Nile Holmes
(909) 635-8257

Support Personnel

Liaison Officer Heeman S. Lee
To Korean Marines (818) 703-0815
Webmasters Dale Turner
Dan Chernin
Chaplain Phil Olivero
(661) 803-8967
Welfare & Morale Bill Turner
(818) 786-5326
Devil Pup Coordinator J.J. Leonard
(818) 992-1414
1st Bn 4th Mar. Support Coordinator Tom Kelly
(818) 884-5355

Directors at Large

Joseph Smith
(213) 744-4827
Phil Olivero
(661) 803-8967
Anna Brown
(310) 393-1946
Heeman Lee
(818) 703-0815
Paul Kim
(213) 700-4535
Mike "Squidley" Enos
(925) 754-0869

FMDA National President

Mike Carone
493 Sunset Drive
Village of Lakewood, IL 60014
(815) 477-8063
mcaronei1@sbcglobal.net

Deputy Vice President West

Ed Brundage
4019 Via Sema
Oceanside, CA 92057
(760) 721-0914
edbrundage@cox.net

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Col. Len Hayes, USMC Retired
National Headquarters
1st Marine Division Assn.
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FMDA-LA
P.O. BOX 220552
Newhall, CA 91322-0252

GRUNTS CLUB MEMBERS

The following members are major contributors
to the Annual LA Chapter Fundraiser.

Grunt Club status is achieved with a minimum
annual donation of \$100.00

**Grunts Club Members
1 Oct 2009 to 30 Sept 2010**

*LA CHAPTER	Kathy Lander
*Mary Anthony	In memory of Richard Lander
In memory of Tony Anthony	*Ione Lovell
Bob Barron	In memory of Bob Lovell
*David Bigbie	*Bill Maker
Ruth Davis	Dave Marshall
In Memory of Jim Davis	*John F. Meseure
Joe Candilora	*Charlie Meter
*Dick Cesaroni	*Richard Oldenburg
Mark Cleaves	*Sally Parry
Gary Condrey	In memory of her father Herb Parry
*Coleman Coughlin	*Don Reid
*Jack Coughlin (Deceased)	*Jeff Roberts
*Pat Coulter	G.J. "Sandy" Sandoval
*Howard Crowell	*Francis Shea
In memory of Phil Shea	Bill Shedlov
*Larry Davis	*Chuck Singer
Ed Demrest	*Joe Smith
*Mike Enos	*Maury Starr
Don Farquhar	*John Stoddard
*Terry Garrett	*Zack & Sue Taylor
George Hofstetter	Don Tennenbaum
*Nile Holmes	*Bill Turner
*Jasper Hood	Charles "Eddie" Turner
*Art Jackson MOH	*Dale Turner
*Floyd Johnson	*Myrl Wallace
Norm Kellems	*Tom & Diane Whetzel
*Tom Kelly	*Al Wright
*Paul Kim	Terry Young
*Gary Kipp	(26)
Al Kinsley	(28)

Semper Fi

Bold Plus* Denotes Super Grunt Status
\$200.00+ donation

54 Honored Grunt Club Members for
OCT. 1, 2009/ SEPT 30, 2010

Thank You For Your
Continued Support

Sgt Grit
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IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, CRESTY WOULDN'T WANT IT.
GRUNT.COM
888-NOV-1775 (888-668-1775)

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Retired

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steve@quailvalleysilkscreen.com

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www.VietnamBattlefieldTours.com

5150 Broadway #473, San Antonio, TX 78209

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glennh@pfeilerassociates.com

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Direct (909) 993-5808 Cell (909) 374-6083

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1-800-555-3526
www.hmmilitary.com

1ST Marine Division Association
Life Member
Los Angeles County Chapter Bugler

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LIVE TAPS ON REQUEST

661-821-1683
661-972-0703
jazzjoc@sierratel.com

25101 Bear Valley Rd. #42
Tehachapl, CA 93561

Bob Wexler
Cat Wexler
T. G. Wexler
Owners

24504 Lyons Ave. • Newhall, CA 91321
Restaurant: (661) 259-6733

Where the Semper Fi Mailing Squad meets.

Present this Ad and receive a LARGE pizza
for the price of a medium
Offer Good only at the Newhall Vincenzo's

PLEASE CUT THIS OUT AND SAVE IT

Upon the Death of Member of the Chapter the Family shall
instruct the Funeral Director to call the below number and
provide the listed information to Headquarters Marine Corps.

Funeral Honors
1-866-826-3628

- Name of Funeral Director
- Name of Funeral Home and Phone Number
- Name Of Deceased Marine
- Date Of Funeral

**A Burial Detail will not be provided
unless the above is complied with.**



Dale Turner, Editor

Editors Corner 2010

Another Great Marine Reports To His Final Duty Station.

A dear friend, and great Marine, Jim Graham, passed away on March 9th..

I first got to know Jim through Jack Coughlin back in 1995. Over the years Jim and I would talk by phone or correspond with short card notes. I had the pleasure of finally meeting Jim at a FMDA reunion in Kansas City. After the Reunion our friendship blossomed.

In the past year or so I have wrote an article about a young Marine who had been befriended by an older Marine who helped him during Christmas with a gift of cash. The young Marine was looking to get his new bride a special gift. The old and young Marines paths crossed on Christmas Eve 1952

That young Marine was Jim. The Marine who extended his generosity was his Commanding Officer Colonel A.H. Marks. Jim would always refer to him as a "compassionate person".

Jim has left his mark with me and I'm sure with many who truly knew him.. For the past five years or so Jim would mail me a crisp \$50.00 bill. With the instructions to find a young Marine and his family and pass that act of compassion and generosity along as the old Marine ,Col. Marks, did so many years ago.

Once I found our your Marine I would call Jim and announce to him, "Mission Accomplished"

His story and his own act of compassion and generosity will stay with me until we meet again at our final duty station. I will always think of him when I extend that same generosity to a younger Marine.

I had the pleasure today (3/22/10) to speak with Jim's wife Gloria. What a neat lady. I truly enjoyed our talk.

Let me now share with you a summary of Jims life that he prepared for me prior to his passing. (Note: Jim planned ahead, as we all should do.)

- James L. Graham 8326 Hadley St. Overland, Park, KS 66212-2722
- Born in Kansas City, KS August 19, 1931
- Enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1949
- Served in Rifle Company F-2-5 Korea 1950 (WIA)
- Served Aboard the USS Worcester CL 144 1951-53
- Married Gloria on November 3, 1952 (Married 57 years)
- Founder & Director of the Chosin Few 1982-1985
- President Kansas City Chapter, FMDA 1983-1986
- Life Member Marine Corps heritage Foundation
- 1985 Former Marine Of the Year, Kansas City Area.
- 1986 Mr. Marine of Kansas City.
- 1993 Chaplain of the USS Worcester Association.
- Jim was also a Life Member of the VFW, DAV, MOPH, Marine Corps League, American Legion and 1st Marine Division Association.
- He was also a member of SAR, The Boy Scouts of America and various Historical Societies.
- Jim was laid to rest in Overland Park, KS at the Antioch Pioneer Cemetery.

It should also be noted that Jim was one of the first members of the Los Angeles County Chapters prestigious "Grunt Club"

Until we meet again, Semper Fi Marine.

Happy Trails, Semper Fidelis and Bodfish Forever.
Dale dalefmda@earthlink.net 661-253-1981



BODFISH SKINNY



.....or just plain BS
This is your "IAS" Bodfish President Bob Martinez
"A Man Of Few Words"

hoping that everyone enjoyed the campout as much as I did.

Although I did win the 50/50 raffle I didn't get to keep much with all those card sharks! I'm hoping you all will spread the word about how enjoyable the camp out was in hopes to see a bigger turn out for the next one.

Wishing everyone and their families a safe and happy St. Patrick's Day and Easter. By the way do to an increase in Bodfish Security I don't have Email and my phone is bugged and restricted.

Semper Fi and Bodfish Forever

Bob "IAS" Martinez

Your Bodfish President Feb 2010-Feb2011

NO FIREWORKS THIS 4th of JULY FOR MANY CITIES

Independence Day ,4th of July the birth of our Nation a time to remember and celebrate our great countries independence. Yes, we are just ninety days away from the 4th of July.

At a time when the budget belts are tightening many cities will be cutting back by eliminating the costly fireworks displays. Most of us can understand the need to eliminate some of the high costs of celebrating. I can live with the elimination or reduction of "Fireworks".

But get this! One town plans to cancel their 4th of July parade. Now that just seems un-American to me., especially when that town is a Military town and many of it's citizens have and are now defending our freedom.

Now if this happened in Berkley, CA it would not have surprised me. But it is going to happen in Oceanside, CA. That's right. Don't believe me just call City Hall or the Chamber of Commerce.

What's my source of this unbelievable news. Well two, one is the Spring 2010 issue of the Oceanside Magazine, page 7 "Event Calendar". I quote, "Due to budgetary constrains there will be NO 4th of July activities and NO Fireworks Displays on July 4, 2010, in Oceanside." This notice appears six times throughout the magazine

My second source, my best and most reliable, is from long time LA Chapter Supporter Mary Cathy, owner of H&M Military Supplies.

Now Mary told me that it is not the money because the Patriots and merchants in Oceanside will come up with the funding. The city has closed it's ears and appear to have buried their heads in the sand.

It does not seem to matter to them that those families at home while their Marines and Sailors fight for our freedom on foreign soil will be denied the honor of an Independence Day Parade.

I spoke with members of the 1st Marine Division Band and they too were shocked to hear of the 4th of July cancellation.. As one Marine said, " We always march and play the Marines Hymn in the Oceanside 4th of July Parade ."

Call and Sound Off:
Mayor Jim Woods, City Of Oceanside 760-435-3065

Councilmember's

Jack Feller (760- 4356)

Jerry Kern (760-435-3032)

Ester Sanchez (760-435-3044)

Or the Chamber of Commerce at 760-722-1534

Semper Fi

Dale Turner, Editor

Support the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division



Molly and Tom Kelly

As the battalion and their families gear up for the deployment of the BLT in May, more activities are being planned from pre-deployment briefings to a family picnic. The chapter has been invited to participate in any or all of the activities. Sat. 27 March is a family gathering and lunch in the South Mesa I Housing Area. This is a give-away/exchange day for clothes, toys and household items. Have you started your Spring cleaning? Contact us for further information. On Thurs., 8 April, there will be a BLT Family Day at Lake Oneill from 1p.m. to 4p.m. This is always a lot of fun. Molly and I plan to attend, if you would like to join us let us know.

Another opportunity to support the families of the 1/4 is through the "United Through Reading" program. New or gently used preschool and/or elementary storybooks are being collected for the ship's library. The Marines and Sailors will be able to read a book to their child, sibling, cousin, etc. on video. These videos will then be sent to the child. This is a great way for both of them to stay connected during deployment. Please contact Molly or me with your new or gently used storybooks prior to April 30th and we will make sure they are delivered.

Upcoming support activities for 2010 include:

- Deployment Activities – May
- Diaper/baby wipe drives – May/June and October
- Family Battalion Picnic – Summer '10
- Holiday Gift Certificates – November/ December
- "Welcome Home" Activities – December
- Baby blankets/clothes/toys – Ongoing
- Manufacturer Coupons – Ongoing

Thanks again for all your support in keeping with the spirit of the Corps.

Semper Fidelis,
Tom Kelly
818/884-5355
takellype@att.net

2010 Calendar of Events

APRIL

1st Marine Division Band Building Dedication
April 24, 2010 1030

Main Side, Camp Pendleton, CA

The building is being dedicated to MSgt William "Bill" McClung, former bandsman and 1st Marine Division Drum Major.

MSgt McClung was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously for his actions during the Chosin Reservoir Campaign.

The Los Angeles County Chapter's donation of the display of medals awarded to MSgt McClung will enhance the entrance hallway of the McClung Memorial Band Building.

All members are invited to attend.

MAY

Family Of Warriors Benefit Dinner

Sheraton Universal Hotel, Universal City, CA
Saturday, 22 May 2010 1800—2200

Honoring

- Dr. Edward Feldman, MD (USN)
- Mr. Edward Roski, Chairman & CEO Majestic Reality (USMC)
- Mr. Kent Valley, Senior VP, Majestic Reality (USMC)
- Captain Dale Dye, Actor / Technical Advisor (USMC)

Members will soon be receiving a sponsor menu . You can help by selling a \$250.00 dinner ticket and or a Sponsor AD

Net profit will go to support the families of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines

For more information contact Dale Turner at 661-253-1981

JUNE

Corpsman Up! & Memorial Service

When: June 19, 2010

What time: 1100 - 1500

Where: VFW Post 6885

16208 Sierra Highway, Canyon Country, CA

Price: \$15.00 per person

Chapter FMF Corpsman are free!!

Please order your tickets early

**A letter from Michael J. Carone, National President, 1st Marine Division Association
(815) 477-8063 - mcaroneill@sbcglobal.net**

**This letter is in response to the Article by “Legal Beagle” on page 6
of Los Angeles Chapter Semper Fi Newsletter, March 2010.**

Allow me to state the facts to the best of my knowledge and recollection when I was Deputy Vice President Central during Pendas term as President of the Association from 2005-2007.

Mike Sisk, former Treasurer of the 1st Marine Division, removed, without approval, the sum of \$500,000 + from the Scholarship Fund and transferred it to another account at Wachovia Bank. On March 31, 2007, he was reprimanded by the Board of Directors (BOD) at their meeting and told to return the funds. Mike Sisk did not return the funds. Some time later Pendas convinced Wachovia bank to return the funds. Pendas had Bob Montgomery form a committee to investigate and recommend action. Censure was recommended and they requested Mike Sisk to attend the BOD meeting on August 27, 2007. Mike Sisk did not attend. The BOD voted to censure Mike Sisk. Pendas read the letter of censure at the BOD meeting. The letter of censure was printed on page 28 in the Old Breed News Oct-Nov-Dec 2008.

During President Lindstrom's term from 2007-2009, Mike Sisk continuously questioned and attacked the reports from our auditing firm West Rhode & Roberts. The auditing firm incurred over \$10,000 in costs defending themselves from Sisk. If the auditing firm discontinued their service to the Association, it would cause the Association irreparable harm and great difficulty in attempting to retain another auditing firm. Because of the above, some members of the Executive Committee decided to initiate the procedure to expel Mike Sisk from the Association. Mike Sisk was sent a letter and advised to attend but did not attend the special BOD meeting on August 27, 2009 to expel him from the Association.

The results of the special BOD meeting, as stated by Dick Cesaroni, are correct and **Mike Sisk was not expelled from the Association**. The results of the meeting were published in the Oct-Nov-Dec 2009 issue of the Old Breed News on page 15. It states, “The Directors were reconvened on August 29, 2009 at 1100. It further stated, “The directors reviewed the case of Mr. Sisk and voted to retain him as a member of the 1st Marine Division Association.”

Our by-laws in Article II: Membership G/ state, “A member may be expelled or suspended for improper conduct by a two-thirds vote of the Directors present at any meeting of the Board of Directors, provided a quorum is present, but only after reasonable opportunity to be heard shall have been given to the member to be so dealt with.”

Mike Sisk chose not to attend. I believe he would have been informed if he was expelled, but not if he was found innocent.

In answering the last comment, a special BOD meeting was held in Oceanside in January 2007 to censure Pendas for various violations of the by-laws. Pendas chose not to attend. The BOD voted to censure Pendas. I have never seen a copy of the censure letter and it was not published in the Old Breed News.

In closing, I have responded to all of your remarks. I believe that continuing to dwell on past history is counter-productive because all past Association administrations have made mistakes and the ‘bone yard’ is full of them. Leave it to some future archeologist to “dig up the bones.”

As President of the 1st Marine Division Association, I sincerely hope that we can put past mistakes and grievances behind us and all come together as brothers united to face the future challenges that are ahead of us.

Semper Fidelis
Michael J. Carone



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER LEGAL BEAGLE

**Dick Cesaroni , Legal Officer
Email: dick_rose@sbcglobal.net
661-2972028**

FYI: This site is a complete listing by state and city of those who perished in Vietnam. It is basically a virtual wall of those lost in Vietnam.
<http://virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>. I submit these small items just in case you or someone you know might be interested. Granted some of this information on certain sites for some type on benefits applies only to those that are in a lower income bracket but you just may know of someone that it may help.
If you do not want to see any of this info just email me and let me know and I will take your comments under consideration. I probably won't stop submitting them but at least you and I know that you do not approve of my First Amendment articles. Additionally:

How to obtain missing military medals.

One of three options applies for an individual who does not have his or her Purple Heart, or other military decorations:

1. Received a Purple Heart, or another decoration, has lost it and wants it replaced. He/She must write to:

National Personnel Records Center Medals Section
(Army, Marine Corps Navy or Air Force Reference Branch)
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

2. Has not received a Purple Heart, but believes his military records include evidence of his having received the Purple Heart, or any other decoration. He must write to and provide a copy of the Standard Form 180. The form and other information is available on line at the site below the address:

National Personnel Records Center
Military Personnel Records
9700 Page Avenue
St Louis, MO 63132-5100
<http://vetrecs.archives.gov>

3. Did not receive a Purple Heart and his military records do not reflect that he rated a Purple Heart. He must complete the Application for Correction of Military Record (DD Form 149, May 2005) and mail it to.

Marine Corps & Navy

Board For The Correction of Naval Records
2 Navy Annex, Room 2432
Washington, DC 20370-5100
Phone (703) 614-1402 or 2133

Army

Commander, PERSCOM
Attn: TAPCPDA
Alexandria, VA 22332-0471

Air Force

Headquarters
Air Force Personnel Center
FPC/DPPPR
550 C Street West, Suite 12
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

The application will have to be accompanied by proof or evidence, such as newspaper articles, statements of witnesses, medical records, or other pertinent correspondence.