

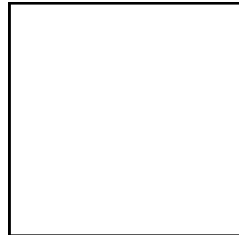
Semper Fi News

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



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GOD BLESS AMERICA

Semper Fi News

Los Angeles County Chapter, Incorporated
1st Marine Division Association



JUNE 2010

Dale Turner, Editor

SEMPER FIDELIS

My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government.
Thomas Jefferson

Mrs. Pat Mills Delivers A Powerful Speech At The First Annual Family Of Warriors Dinner.

Article by Dale Turner, Editor

On May 22 2010 Mrs. Patricia "Pat" Mills wife of 1st Marine Division Commanding General Richard Mill delivered a powerful and inspirational speech to over 170 people at the Universal Sheraton Hotel, Universal City, CA.

Here is her message . Dale Turner Editor

Hello and thank you for letting me spend a few minutes with you this evening talking about a subject that is near and dear to my heart – Marines and supporting their families. Most of you have heard the phrase "If the Marine Corps wanted Marines to have a wife, then they'd issue them one." Well, as you would suspect, many of our combat deployed Marines have wives and children. Tonight, I want to talk with you a little bit about the challenges that many of our Marine families have when their military spouse is deployed.

If you've never been to a Marine Corps Unit homecoming ceremony, then you need to visit one – what a joyous occasion. Watching the families of our Marines and Sailors greet their warriors after a combat deployment is truly something to see. There are emotions on all levels: there are tears, there is laughter, and of course there are lots of hugs and kisses. It's amazing to see a Marine hold his child for the first time or hug his spouse after being apart for the past six months or sometimes a year.

My favorite thing is to watch the excitement of the children knowing that their Dad or Mom is finally home. Well, these spouses and families who remain home while their husband or wife is deployed are my "unsung heroes." These stay-home wives and husbands sometimes encounter significant challenges, and always encounter difficulties while they patiently for their spouses to return. In the 1st Marine Division, we have 45% of our force that is married which is a little over eleven thousand, two hundred married Marines.

There are over eighteen thousand, seven hundred Marines who are E4 and below in the Division, which is 74% of the total force.

Continued Page 3

ANNUAL GRUNT CLUB DRIVE BEGINS

Grunt Club and Super Grunt Club status runs 1 October to 30 September in conjunction with our Chapters annual fund-raising efforts. Your donation is 100% tax deductible and keeps the Chapter moving forward.

For more information contact Dale Turner
661-253-1981 or Email: dalefmda@earthlink.net

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

COL. PAUL DUPRE, USMC RETIRED.

On June 15, 2010 Paul Dupre will become the oldest member of the LA Chapter, celebrating his 96th Birthday.

Colonel Dupre was born on June 15, 1914 and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1940. He retired in 1973 after serving over 33 years.

He participated in combat action in WWII making amphibious landings on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan and Tinian. He also saw combat action in Korea and Vietnam and is an old China Marine. Among his awards he has earned ten (10) battle stars..

His decorations include the Legion of Merit, Silver Star and two purple hearts just to name a few.

Many members may remember Col. Dupre and his wife at the Christmas Parties that were held at Saint Mary's church. There Paul would take to the dance floor and demonstrate some high class ball room dancing. By nights end he would have danced with nearly every lady who fancied to hit the dance floor.

Col Paul Dupre remains just a sharp as a tack.

I recently received a letter from him along with a donation to the Family Of Warriors Dinner. I have had the pleasure to have spoken with him on the phone and look forward to many more of those special moments. Happy Birthday Colonel and Semper Fi Dale Turner Editor

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: _____

JUNE 2010
Issue

IF THIS IS A RENEWAL, CHECK HERE

ACTIVE DUTY CHECK HERE

Revised 01/04/10

Features

Officers and Directors Page 2 - Grunt Club Members for 2009 / 2010 Page 2 - Upcoming Events Page 3 - 1-4 Support Page 3
Presidents Message Page 4 - Message from Squidley Page 5 - Bodfish Skinny 6 - Editors Corner Page 6 - Business Supporters Page 7

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

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

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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(760) 328-5801

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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



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Life Member
Los Angeles County Chapter Bugler

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LIVE TAPS ON REQUEST

25101 Bear Valley Rd. #42
Tehachapl, CA 93561

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

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

Family of Warriors Dinner A Huge Success

Sunday, 23 May 2230 - Emily and I got home around 0900 on Sunday morning following a great event Saturday night at the Sheraton Universal Hotel, Universal City CA. I have so much to say about our First Annual Family of Warriors Dinner. Unfortunately, the deadline to complete this month's issue is fast approaching, mid night tonight, Sunday, 23 October.

This event far surpassed my expectations. The networking that was developed during the cocktail hour and following the event has assured us a long lasting event that will go to support the families of our Marines and Corpsman during their deployments.

Our Chapter, the **Los Angeles County Chapter, Inc.** continues to lead the way in innovation, creativity and a Semper Fidelis spirit that demonstrates to all our dedication to our fellow Marines, the "Blue Diamond" and our Corps.

I had the pleasure to spend some quality time with Mrs. Patricia Mills.

I have heard that behind every great leader is a great lady. This is truly the case in General Richard Mills case. As the editor I felt compelled to share Mrs Mills spach with you. She "**hit the mark**" in getting the message to those in the audience who are in a position to lend their support.

I sincerely hope that our Board of Directors will see the value in continuing this great event and will vote to go forward with the **Second Annual Family of Warriors Dinner**.

In closing I would like to once again salute the first four recipients of the coveted Los Angeles County Semper Fidelis Award.

Edward P. Roski Jr., Kent R. Valley, Captain Dale Dye and Dr. Edward M. Feldman, LtCdr, USNR.

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

Bodfish President Comes Out Of Seclusion

On May 15th the **RECON** Tactical Undercover Monitoring Team (**RECTUM** Team) was called into action once again to provide security for the Internationally Famous Bodfish Chapter President.

Bodfish "IAS" President Bob Martinez pinned on his Presidents medal on and hung his bone from his neck and attended the LA Chapter Corpsman-Up and Memorial Service.

See Bodfish Sentry article on page 6 column 2.



BODFISH SKINNYor just plain BS



Bob "IAS" Martinez, President

This is your "IAS" president Bob Martinez,

I write this letter in hopes that it finds all of you in good health and in good spirit. I would like to thank LA Chapter President Tom Whetzel and his Adjutant, Dale Turner and all the LA troops for hosting the memorial service. I would like to thank all of the troops that showed up to this event. We had a great time and the food was delicious! I would like to welcome the new members into the chapter and hope to see you at some of the outings.

Past Bodfish President Mike Squidley Enos is starting his Bodfish Hospitality Room fundraising for the August reunion in San Antonio Texas. Be sure to read his article in this edition on page 5.

I hope those of you who can afford to attend the reunion in San Antonio will do so. I have been told that Bodfish member Tex Stiteler has really helped the Bodfish Chapter out by providing us with a Hospitality Room at no cost to the Chapter. We thank the Alamo Chapter for their support. Those of you who do attend will find that you can drink and snack at an affordable price in our Hospitality room a small daily donation can keep your libations flowing all night.

I also hope to see all of you at the annual campout at Del Mar in October. I hope now that Mr. Squidly is feeling he can join us at Del Mar.

I would like to add that I spent some time with Al and Bill Kinsley. Al is feeling much better so I hope to see him at Del Mar as well.

Hope to see you all soon.

Until next time,
Your IAS President,
Bob Martinez

Oorah! And Bodfish Forever!!

P.S: Our condolences go out to Mr. and Mrs. Nels Potter on the loss of their son.

Mrs. Pat Mills Delivers A Powerful Speech from Pg1

bases and stations have robust family readiness centers with counseling and other services. We have legal assistance, Chaplains, medical support, financial counselors; Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, wounded warrior programs, educational opportunities, respite care for families with special needs children, and even educational experts who interface with civilian school districts. You can see that this robust support network, which is significantly different than even ten years ago, is our way of "taking care of our own." The FRO progSome of the challenges for our military families include PCS moves, which often cause the loss of spouse employment, single parenthood, which means having to leave children with a caretaker when the military member deploys, deployments which turn a married couple into a single parent for six to twelve months, and loss of second jobs for increased income when the military member deploys. We have Marine families on food stamps, getting food from food lockers, using state and federal programs such as reduced lunch prices for children, and collecting Women, Infant, Children, or WIC benefits. Most of the family challenges equate to some type of financial difficulty.

For example, let's talk about a married Lance Corporal. A Lance Corporal who is married with two children takes home roughly one thousand, seven hundred dollars per paycheck if he lives off base. If he lives on base, then he takes home about \$850 per paycheck. A two bedroom apartment or house in Oceanside runs about thirteen hundred a month, plus utilities and cable and phone, which is probably another three hundred dollars. If you do the math, that's sixteen hundred dollars in expenses every month. With a little over \$800 every two weeks, this young family still has to buy food, pay for 1 or 2 cars, buy car insurance, life insurance, clothing, household goods, and occasionally take a vacation. As you can imagine, it's very tough to make this budget balance. Many of these young Marines work second jobs when they are home in order to support their family's needs.

We see them delivering pizzas, working at all the fast-food establishments at nights and on weekends, and working at Wal-Mart's, Targets, Home Depots, and Lowes. This second income becomes crucial to the family maintaining their existence without going into debt with credit cards or loans.

Now, the Lance Corporal deploys and his family is left behind to try and make ends meet with a significant loss in income because the Lance Corporal no longer has that second job... Reality hits home and the cost of everyday items such as baby wipes, pampers, baby food, and milk still exist, and are financially more difficult to attain. Birthdays and Christmas still come and go while the Lance Corporal is deployed. Fortunately, we have many generous sponsors who help with some of the basic needs for these families until that Lance Corporal comes home. The role these volunteers – the role you play in our military community is invaluable, and we cannot thank you enough.

The Marine Corps invests millions of dollars in Family Readiness Programs to assist families. We hire civilians as Family Readiness Officers, or FROs for each squadron and battalion or higher unit. That FRO is trained to know where and what assistance can be provided and the FRO remains at home when the unit is deployed so that they can assist the Commander in providing support to the families. Our ram has helped the commands in strengthening, creating more resilience, and providing and giving predictability to the families; in so doing, family preparedness is as much a part of the pre-deployment training requirement as an infantry battalions' training in the desert. However, it still takes more support. Fortunately, as mentioned earlier, we have so many generous individuals and organizations that donate time, money, and gifts to help our military families.

Continued on Page 4

2010 Calendar of Events

JUNE

LA Chapter Recruiting Booth

Saturday, June 5, 2010 0800 –1500
LAPD/ VTAC Car Show and Safety Fair
Warner Center Park,
5800 Topanga Cyn Bl. Woodland Hills
If you would like to help man the booth contact
Dale Turner @ 661-253-1981

AUGUST

Bodfish Hospitality Room San Antonio, Texas

The Bodfish Hospitality Room will
open on Monday, August 23rd
and will remain in operation until
Sunday, August 29th

The FMDA National Reunion officially
starts on Re

SEPTEMBER

Orange County Chapter LUAU
Saturday, 25 Sept. 2010
1:00pm to 6:00pm

Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station
Seal Beach, CA
\$20.00 Per person

Live Polynesian Entertainment
Hawaiian Food

Barneys Beach House On The Base
There will be a 50/50 raffle.

OCTOBER

Del Mar Campout
Camp Pendleton, CA
October 1 - 3, 2010

Due to an increase in cottage and campsite prices
We can not give a total cost for the weekend.
More information to follow.

A Message From Our Chapter President Tom Whetzel

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

Semper Fi Marines and FMF Corpsman

The Memorial Service and the Corpsman Up BBQ, I thought went real well, with a good turnout. Not only was the food good, but seeing old friends, to me, made the day. I personally want to thank our FMF Corpsman for coming, and Joe Candilora, for his very kind words about our chapter. He gave true meaning of the bond between Marines, and FMF Corpsman, that no one on the outside could understand.

I also want to thank the Orange County Chapter Marines, Chuck Wiley, Dave Marshall and Gene "Ski" Witkowski for joining us for the Memorial Service and the Corpsman Up BBQ

The Family of Warriors Dinner was a great success, and I want to thank Dale Turner, and his committee, with Iris Caplan for making this happen. The proceeds will go to support the families of the deployed Marine and FMF Corpsman from the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines. I hope as a chapter we will continue on with this great event. The Chapter Officers and Directors will be voted on this soon.

San Antonio is our next big outing. For those of you who are going to the Reunion I hope you will support the Bodfish Hospitality Room. Your support along with a donated 1.75 bottle of your favorite libation will help to get off to a good start.

June starts our Annual Chapter Fund-raising Drive. Our Chapter Fund-raising Chairman, Dale Turner will be getting the word out. Again this year we will have a drawing at the the Del Mar Campout to be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010. Be sure to get your donation in early. You will receive one entry for every fifty dollars you donate or for five chances for \$200.00.

Please keep in mind that the Annual Fund-raiser and Grunt Club is the Chapters' "Life Blood".

Until next month, I bid you, Semper FI and Bodfish Forever
Tom Whetzel



Mrs. Patricia Mills Delivers A Powerful Speech continued from page 3

Many of our local cities have adopted a battalion or military unit to sponsor. When the unit is deployed, the city throws parties for the families, collects toys for Christmas, donates household necessities such as diapers, baby wipes, and formula. This generosity is very much appreciated. Americans everywhere show appreciation for the sacrifices of our military servicemen and their families, and I personally know many of the Southern California people and organizations that help our military families. What you do every day is critical for our families and provides that much needed support when our Marines are deployed. I believe the military family is a vital part to the "pillar of readiness." In other words, a stable family environment helps a Marine when he is deployed by allowing him to concentrate on his mission at hand; thus, increasing combat readiness. The Marine Corps understands that taking care of Marine families is a force multiplier and that's why we've invested so much to improve the lifestyle of our Marines and their families. The spouses who remain home when their Marines deploy are my heroes. They accept the long deployments, the loneliness, the forced single parenthood during the deployment, and even the financial difficulties. Any help that we can provide to them is well worth the effort.

Before I close, I have to take one minute to brag about the performance of our Marines and Sailors in Afghanistan. My husband, Rich, tells me that the Marines are performing magnificently in a very tough counterinsurgency environment. Our top leaders knew what they were doing when they put the Marines in the toughest part of Afghanistan – the heartland of the Taliban fighters and the center of the opium drug trade. Our Marines, to include the 1st Marine Division (Forward), are reducing opium growth, fighting Taliban insurgents, protecting the Afghan people, training Afghan police and military, helping to create governance, and developing economic growth – what a huge task! One good news story that demonstrates the great things that Marines are doing in Helmand Province is that our Marines are involved in the construction and refurbishment of many schools. In December, no schools were operating in Helmand; now 30% of 300 schools in Helmand are open and have children attending school.

Tonight, I want to thank the 1st Marine Division Association, a great "band of brothers," for all you do for our Marines and their families, and especially the Los Angeles County Chapter. As a "Family of Warriors," there is no better camaraderie or outreach program. You help our Marines and Sailors through donations, scholarships, mentorship, and friendship.

So tonight, I salute you. Thank you.

Bodfish Hospitality Room San Antonio 2010

Dear L. A. County Chapter members and Bodfish Chapter members:

A message from your Junior Bodfish Chapter Past President.

The purpose of this letter is to enlist your support and actions as comrades, friends, and fellow Bodfishers.

GOOD NEWS!

We've secured a Bodfish Chapter Hospitality Room for the San Antonio reunion from August 23rd to, and including, August 29th. Through donations, I know we can handle the associated expenses involved.

We worked with Tex Stiteler, Reunion Co-chairman and Mielsa Van Winkle of the hotel staff to insure members and their guests have a great experience, plus have a place to mingle and enjoy themselves throughout the reunion.

REQUEST TO YOU

At every reunion with a Bodfish Chapter Hospitality Room, we've had overwhelming support through monetary donations from chapters and individuals. Should you desire to donate specific items for the auction/silent auction that would be great also. We want this reunion to be a memorable, pleasurable and productive event not only for our chapter members, but for all attendees.

DETAILS OF DONATIONS

Please send all donations to:



Mike Enos – Event Coordinator
3901 Eagleridge Drive
Antioch Ca. 94509

Make check payable to: Mike Enos
In MEMO write: Bodfish Hospitality Room – San Antonio

DONOR RECOGNITION

\$50.00 to \$99.00 - Donors will receive the highly treasured Bodfish Recognition Button

\$100.00 to \$199.00 - Donors will receive a Bodfish Recognition Button and their name will be listed on the Special Recognition Plaque in the Hospitality Room

\$200.00 to \$299.00 - Donors will receive all of the above, plus a choice of a gift. (The coveted *Bodfish Forever Pin* or the colorful, 4" *Bodfish Forever Patch*)

\$300.00 or more - Donors will receive all of the above, plus a personalized, autographed picture of the current, 2010 Bodfish Chapter President.

Donations in ANY amount are always sincerely appreciated and will help offset the costs of any room expenses, decorations, snacks, and refreshments. As always, active duty Marines and FMF Corpsmen are not allowed to donate. We old farts will take care of them.

Just to keep you informed on how far your donations go – any excess funds and leftover refreshments from the San Antonio reunion will be used to stock the "Bodfish Saloon" at our annual Bodfish Campout in February.

Thank you for your help.

Semper Fidelis & Bodfish Forever,

Mike Enos - (925) 754-0869/shortstick3901@aol.com



Molly and Tom

Support the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines

Our first diaper/baby wipe drive of the season was held on 15 May in conjunction with the Memorial/Corpsman Up BBQ.

A BIG THANK YOU to all those members who participated, especially Carol Ratcliff who made 9 baby blankets. With the cash donations received at the BBQ, Molly and I will be purchasing diapers prior to our delivering them and the blankets to Camp Pendleton later this month. There is still time to participate by sending a check to the chapter (with "1/4 support" in the comment line).

The Battalion deployed in May as part of the 15th MEU. With the deployment, our support of the families is even more critical. Multiple events are being planned by the Family Readiness Officer which we hope you are able to attend. Two such events are Sunday, 27 June where care packages will be assembled with items that have been donated to the MEU and a "New Moms/Moms To Be Party" on Sunday, 11 July. At this time we are planning on attending both activities. If you like to join us or would like further information, please contact us at (818) 884-5355.

If you have any additional ideas for support activities please contact us.

Upcoming support activities for 2010 include:

- Assemble Care Packages – June
- New Moms/Moms To Be Party - July
- Beach Day Potluck – July
- Diaper/baby wipe drives – September
- 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
1-818-884-5355
t.takelype@att.net