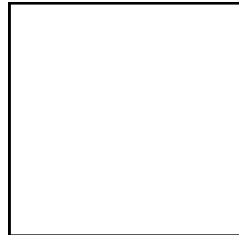


Semper Fi News

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



First Class Mail



GOD BLESS AMERICA

Semper Fi News

Los Angeles County Chapter, Incorporated
1st Marine Division Association

NOVEMBER 2009

Dale Turner, Editor



SEMPER FIDELIS

Happy Birthday Marines " 234 Years "

Join Us in Celebration of 234 years of Defending Freedom
Tuesday, 10 November 2009 1800 - 2100
American Legion Post 507, Spruce Street, Newhall, Ca 91321
Dress is casual, cost is a small donation food is great
SPAM, S.O.S, BREAD PUDDING & BIRTHDAY CAKE

31st Annual L.A. Chapter Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 12th

Join us for a great time and meal.
By Popular Demand
The Windsors will be back for your Holiday listening pleasure.

See page 3 to reserve your seats



Veterans Day
Wednesday, November 11th
Let us thank those who have and are now
Serving Our Great Nation.

THANK A VETERAN TODAY

Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 26th
Wishing a Happy Thanksgiving to all Our Members and their Families.



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—\$30.00	National Life Membership-\$1000.00
Chapter Annual Membership - \$15.00	Chapter Life Membership- \$100.00
Total \$45.00	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: _____

November 2009 Issue

IF THIS IS A RENEWAL, CHECK HERE

ACTIVE DUTY CHECK HERE

Revised 3/3/09



Chapter Mourns The Passing Of GySgt Charles R. Knapp Sr., USMC

March 17, 1927 - October 12, 2009

Charlie was a Life Member of the Association and Chapter. He served with 1st Shore Party in WWII and Korea. He passed away quietly at his home in Granada Hills CA, after a bought with cancer, with his wife Sylvia and son Joseph at his side. Charlie had requested cremation. The services were private.

See Page 6 for more on Charlie Knapp.



Bodfish Chapter "Life Member" Coin - See Page 3

Features

Officers and Directors Page 2 - Grunt Club Members for 2009 / 2010 Page 2 - Upcoming Events Page 3 - Bodfish Skinny Page3
Presidents Message Page 4 - 1-4 Support Page 4 - Message from The Legal Officer Page 5 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

President Emeritus For Life

William "Bill" Ping
(760) 328-5801

Honorary President

Jack Coughlin
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Jr. Past President

Bill Turner
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President Tom Whetzel
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Vice Pres Maury Starr
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(661) 253-1981
Treasurer Bill Turner
(818) 786-5326
Secretary Myrl Wallace
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Membership John Arthur
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Dan Chernin
Chaplain Phil Olivero
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Welfare & Morale Joe Candilora
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Devil Pup Coordinator J.J. Leonard
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1st Bn 4th Mar. Support Coordinator Tom Kelly
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Phil Olivero
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P.O. BOX 220552
Newhall, CA 91322-0252

GRUNT 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

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

*LA CHAPTER	*Ione Lovell
*Mary Anthony	In memory of Bob Lovell
Bob Barron	*Bill Maker
*David Bigbie	Dave Marshall
Joe Candilora	*Charlie Meter
*Dick Cesaroni	*Richard Oldenburg
Gary Condrey	*Sally Parry
*Coleman Coughlin	In memory of her father
*Jack Coughlin (deceased)	Herb Parry
*Howard Crowell	*Don Reid
*Larry Davis	*Jeff Roberts
Ed Demrest	G.J. "Sandy" Sandoval
*Mike Enos	*Francis Shea
Don Farquhar	In memory of Phil Shea
*Terry Garrett	*Chuck Singer
George Hofstetter	*Joe Smith
*Nile Holmes	*Maury Starr
Jasper Hood	*John Stoddard
*Art Jackson MOH	*Zack & Sue Taylor
*Floyd Johnson	Don Tennenbaum
Norm Kellems	*Bill Turner
*Tom Kelly	Charles "Eddie" Turner
*Paul Kim	*Dale Turner
Kathy Lander	*Myrl Wallace
In memory of	*Tom & Diane Whetzel
Richard Lander	*Al Wright
(24)	(22)

**DID YOU FOGET TO RENEW?
Grunt Club runs 1 Oct to 30 Sept.**

Over the past two past years several of our
Grunt Club members have joined our fellow
Marines and FMF Corpsmen at Heaven's
Gate. Their dedication and generosity to the
Chapter will be forever remembered.
Loved ones may honor their Marine or
FMF Corpsman with an "In Memory Of"
annual donation of \$100.00 or \$200
Call Dale Turner for more on how you can
become a member of the Grunt Club. (661-
253-1981

Semper Fi

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

46 Honored Grunt Club Members for
2009/2010

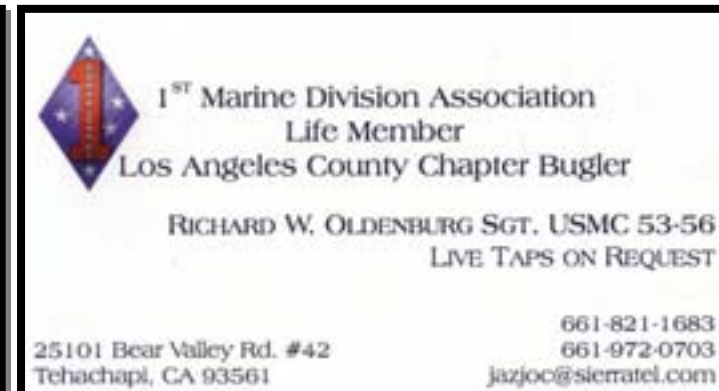


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1ST Marine Division Association
Life Member
Los Angeles County Chapter Bugler
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LIVE TAPS ON REQUEST
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661-972-0703
jazzjoc@sicratel.com
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Tehachapi, CA 93561

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www.hmmilitary.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.**



VINCENZO'S
NEWHALL
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



Dale Turner, Editor

Editors Corner 2009

*Are You Thinking Christmas Party?
I AM!*

Here it is November already and time for me to start finalizing all the details for the 31st Annual Christmas Luncheon.

I truly enjoy putting this event together. It is a time for all of us to gather and share and enjoy the moment of the season and reflect on all the things that have come to pass over the year with fellow Marines, FMF Corpsman, family and friends.

Initially the band "The Windsor's" had been cancelled for this year due to budget concerns. Paying for the band and the finger food had not been a problem prior to last year. The cost was covered out of the 50/50 raffle and silent auction. But last year both took a real dive in guest participation.

However, with that said and after listening to the members and how much they enjoyed the Windsor's I suggested to the President, Tom Whetzel, that we should consider asking them back.. Without hesitation, Tom Whetzel agreed and directed me to "Make It Happen". That's my kind of leader, no Hee Hawing around.

Fortunately as luck would have it the Windsor's had an early afternoon opening on the 12th and will be playing once again for our Holiday listening pleasure.

As Tom Whetzel said in his article, "Please feel free to bring your friends, so they can see how Marines Party".

For \$30.00 per person, tax., tip included you'll find the price hard to beat for a great lunch, live holiday music coupled with the great atmosphere of the "Monterey at Encino." Oh, and by the way "Finger Food" will be served from 1100AM to 1145AM, the cost of which has been donated by one of our members.

So, please consider joining us on December 12th from 11AM to 3PM for a great late morning early afternoon fun filled festive time that is guaranteed to get you in the last minute Christmas shopping mode.

Here is a preview of the meal:

- Turkey or Beef Brisket - Stuffing/Mash Potatoes
- Vegetable - Salad - Pumpkin Pie
- Coffee & Hot /Ice Tea

There will be a no host bar

I sincerely hope that you will join us. When the Chapter receives your check that will be your confirmed reservation. Get it in early and I'll see you there.

Until next month, I bid you Happy Trails,
Semper Fidelis and Bodfish Forever.

Dale dalefmda@earthlink.net 661-253-1981

Charlie Knapp Continued

After serving in the Marines Charlie joined the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department achieving the rank of Sergeant prior to his retirement. Charlie brought his shooting skills from the Marines to LASD.



He had been a Rifle and Pistol Expert in the Marine Corps and taught those skills to his fellow Marines.

Charlie became a member of the Sheriffs Pistol Team and received many awards for his shooting ability.

Charlie spent most of his career on the LASD in vice. He loved vice and "hooking and booking" the bad guys. He soon gained a reputation among the bad guys. He was known to them as

"The Infamous Doctor Knapp"

Following his promotion to Sergeant Charlie eventually ended up at Central Jail as a Watch Supervisor. He remained there until his retirement in March 17, 1982.

Charlie was preceded in death by his son Charles Jr.. He is survived by his wife Sylvia, Sons, Joseph, Craig, Brian, James and Daughters, Suzie, Paula, Charlene and Marcanne.

The Chapter extends its heart felt sympathy to the entire Knapp Family.

As mentioned on page one Charlie was cremated and his ashes placed at sea in a private ceremony.

The family may hold a Tribute in honor of Charlie in the near future for family, close friends and his Marine and Law Enforcement family.

**Charlie, Until we all meet again,
Semper Fi Marine. D.T.**

The below is for Sylvia who loves the words to TAPS.

**Day is done, gone the sun
from the lake, from the hill
from the sky,
All is well, safely rest. God is nigh.**

**Thanks and praise for our days
'neath the sun 'neath the stars
'neath the sky.
As we go this we know. God is nigh.**

2009/2010 Calendar of Events

November

Marine Corps Birthday
Tuesday, November 10th
American Legion Post 507, Newhall, CA
1730 - 2100

Price: Small Donation

December

31st Annual Chapter Christmas Party
Monterey At Encino
16821 Burbank Bl, Encino, CA
Saturday, December 12, 2009
Time: 1100 - 1500

Cost : \$30.00 per person

Tables for 8 may be purchased for \$240.00

**LAST DAY TO RESERVE A SEAT OR TABLE IS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 7th**

Those members who purchase a table will be entered into a drawing. The winner of the drawing will receive a table for eight at the 2010 Christmas Party Luncheon.

The LA Chapter Christmas Party Luncheon is a very enjoyable event. The Chapter works hard to keep the cost at an affordable price while at the same time insuring that the members receive a quality meal.

Please considering joining us this year and please feel free to invite family members, friends and neighbors.

JANUARY 2010

LA Chapter General Meeting
Odyssey Restaurant, Granada Hills, CA
Saturday, January 9, 2010 1030 AM
\$35.00 per person
Price includes tax tip and valet parking

Bodfish Campout 2010

Presidents Day Weekend
12-14 February 2010
Piru Petroleum Club. Britt Park, Piru CA
RV & Tent Camping limited
Electrical Hook Up 10.00 per day

Lodging

Best Western La Posada Motel
(Located 10 minutes from the Campsite on Hwy 126)
827 Ventura Street, Fillmore, CA 93015
1-805-524-0440

Call direct and ask for the Bodfish, 1st Marine Division Rate
Jay & Connie Kim, Proprietors

BODFISH SKINNY

.....or just plain BS

This months article by Bodfish Past President and Chapter Rep. Dale Turner



Our Bodfish President Mike "Squidley" Enos has been tasked with so much this past year that the Office of Bodfish President is taking a toll on the poor Squid.

The office of Bodfish President is a demanding one thus the reason for the one year limitation as President.

Two years would be a killer for most. Besides the body can only absorb just so much libations.

The Past President Campout was a success. As we sat around the campfire debating who the next Bodfish President would be it became evident to us all that the number of qualified candidates to select from are very few. Those most qualified were smart enough not to show up to be evaluated. However, after three hours of pondering it over a decision was made. With our libations raised high in hand we poured them upon the campfire with a toast of "Semper Fi and Bodfish Forever" and the white smoke arose from the fires flame and a new Bodfish President was born.

You'll have to join us in February 2010 during Presidents day weekend to find out who the poor "IAS" Marine or Corpsman is.

Mark your calendars for the campout and keep your eye on future issues of the Semper Fi News to learn more about the 2010 Bodfish campout.

This we know for sure; 1. We will have a Bodfish Campout in Piru, CA 2. The Mounted Color Guard will be in attendance. 3. The Best Western, La Posada Motel in Fillmore is the offsite lodging location (They have 40 rooms, so book early). 4. We will be doing our own cooking.

5. There is a building on location that will handle 200 people. 6. It has a Galley and an outside open pit BBQ for our Bodfish cooks and cook strikers.

7. There is limited RV parking with electric hook ups (12) (\$10.00 a day) Tent and RV dry camping w/o hook ups is free. 8. The location is the perfect setting for an afternoon auction. 9. Howard "Bodfish" Bales will be attending with his famous "Bodfish Top Hat" and will be sleeping under the stars. 10. Come see Bob Barron in his glory, he has been named the new Bodfish Gunny Emeritus.

So you now have ten (10) good reasons to attend. Don't miss out on this one, for if you do, you'll be kicking yourself in the ass for quite sometime.

So you now have ten (10) good reasons to attend. Don't miss out on this one, for if you do, you'll be kicking yourself in the ass for quite sometime.

Semper Fi and Bodfish Forever.

Newly Appointed Bodfish Camp Gunny, Dale Turner

(Yeah! I got suckered in)



*Bodfish Chapter
"Life Member" Coin
\$20.00 + 5.00 mailing
To order contact
Dale Turner*



A Message From Our Chapter President, Tom Whetzel (twhetzel@socal.rr.com) 661-251-7564

Saeplus Exertus
"Often Tested"

"Semper Fidelis"
Always Faithful

"Frater Infinitas"
Brothers Forever

"Spam"

United States Marines

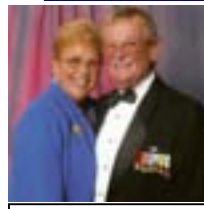


Semper Fi Marines, FMF Corpsman and Happy Marine Corps Birthday

I hope all of our members had a great year so far, time is getting short. Next up is the Marine Corps Birthday, November 10 at the American Legion Post 507, Newhall, Ca. I hope to see all you there for the Spam dinner.

All of you that were at the Day at the Races this 15th day of October, I want to thank you for your attendance. It was a great time, and could not have happened without the help and support of our Legal Officer, Dick Cesaroni. Dick goes all out to set this event up every year. He even made sure that we had the buffet this time, and believe me it was great. Enough food was served to feed the 1st Battalion 4th Marines.

Next up is our 31st Annual Chapter Christmas Party, at the famous Monterey at Encino. It will be a great time. So get your table or your seats early. Please feel free to bring your friends, so they can see how Marines Party.



Molly and Tom Kelly

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

When it rains it pours! August and September were such busy months that we hardly knew what date was what. October is the exact opposite. It was an extremely quiet month as far as our support activities.

We are currently gearing up for our Annual Holiday Commissary Gift Certificate Drive. This is our major support activity of the year. Last year we raised over \$2,300 and were able to give 90 families commissary gift certificates to assist with the holiday meals. This year our goal is to provide certificates for 100 families. The drive begins NOW and ends with the Chapter's Christmas luncheon on Dec 12th. If you are unable to attend the Christmas luncheon, please send your support checks to FMDA-LA and put 1/4 support in the comment line. Any and all donations are truly appreciated.

The chapter is invited to attend the 1/4 Marine Corps Birthday Ball, which will be held on Sunday, 8 November, at the Pechanga Resort in Temecula. Tickets for the event are \$75 per person. A discounted lodging rate has been negotiated. This is an opportunity to not only celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday on a formal note but to also give the Chapter members an opportunity to interact with the active duty Marines and Sailors of the Battalion. Please contact me if you are interested in attending. Molly and I are planning on attending.

Just to let you know what has been happening with the Marines and Sailors of the 1/4, they have just returned from Exercise Mountain Warrior in Bridgeport, CA. They spent a month in high altitude training and did a superb job of meeting all challenges and accomplishing every mission. In the words of XO, Major Clark, "the feedback from ... the training personnel of Mountain Warfare Training Center was great. Many said we were the best battalion they have seen. Keeping in mind that many of these instructors have trained 8 or more battalions – this is a high compliment."

The battalion will be continuing their training by deploying to Exercise Mojave Viper at 29 Palms on 11/11 returning on 12/11. This is in preparation for their MEU deployment in May. There will also be several At-Sea periods in Feb., Mar. and Apr. The rest of our scheduled activities to date are:

- Nov 8 – 1/4 Birthday Ball @ Pechanga Resort
- Nov/Dec – Holiday Commissary Gift Certificates
- Ongoing – Manufacturer Coupons & Baby Blankets

When you do good things, good things follow. We are blessed to have so many who want to help us with our mission of supporting the families of 1/4. Thank you for all your support in keeping with the spirit of the Corps.

Semper Fidelis,

Tom Kelly
(818) 884-5355
takellype@att.net

Receiving and dispersal of donations to the Chapter

There have recently been some concerns and questions regarding the handling of donations to our Chapter so I will attempt to clarify the procedure.

If a member wishes to write a check to any of the charitable organizations that we support (e.g. ¼ Marines, Mounted Color Guard, Grunt Club, etc) we ask that you to make the check payable to L.A. County Chapter, Inc – FMMA and in the "Remarks" section at the lower left portion of your check just write in the organization you wish the money to go to. The check is then mailed to the Chapter Headquarters P.O Box 220552, Newhall, CA 91322-0252 C/O the Treasurer, Bill Turner .

Our treasurer will then record it and deposit it in the Chapter checking account. Or the check may be handed directly to any one of the Chapter Officers or Directors who will give the check to the Treasurer.

If any cash donations are donated to the Chapter for a particular organization (e.g. the 1/4 Marines, Toys For Tots, etc) then that cash must be counted and given to the Chapter Treasurer who will record it and deposit it in the Chapter checking account.

All monies (cash or check) coming into the chapter must go to the Chapter Treasurer so it can be recorded and deposited and accounted for.

When the representative of a particular organization wants to get that donated money for the organization that he/she represents then he/she must contact the Chapter Treasurer who will write them a check. If the representative makes any purchases for that organization from the money received from the Treasurer then a receipt "must" be obtained and that receipt is turned over to the Chapter Treasurer.

If any person or organization requests a receipt for their donation for tax purposes they must contact the Chapter Treasurer who will confirm the donation and then issue them a receipt for the amount donated.

These are our rules and the rules of the IRS. Any Officer or Director receiving any cash money please turn that cash directly over to the Chapter Treasurer. Do not just pass it on to the intended organization or it's representative. As a Charitable Tax Free Corporation these are the rules we must abide by.

We do appreciate each and every donation to our Chapter and the organizations that we support.

Any questions or comments please contact me.

Dick Cesaroni – Chapter Legal Officer @ dick_rose@sbcglobal.net 661-297-2028



Another LA Chapter DEVIL PUP

This past summer my Grandson, Ean Singer, had a real dose of "Marine Corps" reality. He applied for and was accepted into the Devil Dogs program. Prior to his reporting day, July 16th, he had very mixed emotions. He had heard all kinds of horror stories from friends who had attended. He resolved that he was going to give it his all and make everyone proud.

They slept in tents, ate in the mess hall, had MRES, ran obstacle courses and long distances, marched/swam in the ocean, dove off 30 foot towers, attended training lectures and practiced defending the country against the enemy in paint ball wars.

For the final challenge they hiked up Old Smokey where they spent the night. Hey Marines, does this sound familiar?

On July 25th he graduated in a ceremony at Camp Pendleton, 16 pounds lighter and with a tendency when addressed to respond, **YES SIR**

Some of you may recognize him from his attendance at Bodfish and Del Mar. I believe that his exposure to the Marines in this organization helped him to maintain his positive perspective when the DI's started screaming. He'd heard it all before.

His platoon Sgt told me that his sea stories were very colorful. Especially the ones about Bodfish and Homer!

A Proud GrandPA
Semper Fi
Chuck Singer