

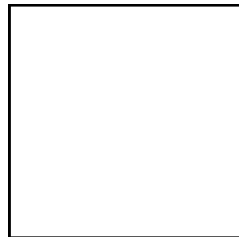
# Semper Fi News

Los Angeles County Chapter, Inc.  
1st Marine Division Association  
24415 Lisa Kelton Place  
Newhall, CA 91321



"In God We Trust"

## First Class Mail



GOD BLESS AMERICA

# Semper Fi News

Los Angeles County Chapter, Incorporated  
1st Marine Division Association

March 2009

Dale Turner, Editor



SEMPER FIDELIS

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

Semper Fi Marines and FMF Corpsman

I hope this message finds everyone in great health. If I did not see you at the Bodfish campout, I guess you were not there. Sorry about that, you missed a great time. It was held at the same time of the year, to honor John Loomis's birthday. I know it's not the same as being at Tar Spring Ranch, but some day it will be. Things change with time and so does the chapter. We all need to work together, and make things happen. I hope to see more of you at the next events coming up. There will be a dedication of the Horses the Chapter purchased for the USMC Mounted Color Guard on Saturday, April 18th at the Equestrian Center in Burbank. I hope there will be a good turn out from the Chapter. See page 3 for more information.

I hope you all can make our Memorial Service, and to honor our Corpsman. Also we will be celebrating the 30 years of the founding of the L.A. County Chapter. I know some of you can remember back then, when it all started, and all the great leaders of the chapter, and how they made it, what it is today.

Until next month, Semper FI and Bodfish Forever



### 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, 24415 Lisa Kelton Place, Newhall CA 91321** (Make check payable to: FMDA-LA)

#### Dues

National Annual Membership—\$30.00

Chapter Annual Membership - \$15.00

**Total \$45.00**

National Life Membership-\$1000.00

Chapter Life Membership- \$100.00

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

March 2009  
Issue

IF THIS IS A RENEWAL, CHECK HERE

ACTIVE DUTY CHECK HERE

Revised 7/23/08

#### Chapter Mourns The Passing of Francis Ann Lewis

April 23, 1924 - Jan 29, 2009

Fran served many years as the Welfare and Moral Officer for The LA County Chapter.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years Norvel.

There were no services. Fran was cremated and now sits at home with Norvel until the time they will be laid to rest together at San Fernando Mission Cemetery.

See page 6 for more on Fran.



#### Mike "Squidley" Enos Elected Bodfish Chapter President

Outgoing Bodfish President Coleman Coughlin passes "The Bone" to newly elected President Mike "Squidley" Enos. Squidley is filled with so much emotion that for about five seconds is lost for words. To bad it didn't last longer.



#### To the Members of the Los Angeles County Chapter, Inc. of the 1st Marine Division Association.

As the China Marines continue our mission here in and outside of Fallujah, Iraq and having just crossed over the half way mark, I would like to extend my personal thanks to every member of the association. The support that you have shown to the China Marines and specifically the family members over these past 4 months has truly been inspiring. It is through your continued selfless dedication to serving those who serve today that demonstrates that the "Semper Fi" attitude still runs deep within your veins. Individually there are probably too many to thank and list here but I would like to personally recognize Tom and Molly Kelly as well as all of those who assisted with the Holiday Commissary Gift Certificates, Christmas Party, Baby blanket and new mom care packages. I am certain that I haven't listed everything you all accomplished for the families of 1st Battalion, 4th Marines but please know that your efforts are appreciated and have continued to ensure that because his family is well taken care of, a Marine is able to focus on his mission here in Iraq. Continued on page 4

#### Features

Officers and Directors Page 2 - Grunt Club Members for 2008 / 2009 Page 2 - Upcoming Events Page 3 - 1-4 Support Page 4  
Bodfish Campout Photos Page 5 - Editors Corner Page 6 - Bodfish Skinny 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](http://www.1stmarinedivisionassociationla.org)**

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

**President Emeritus For Life**  
William "Bill" Ping  
(760) 328-5801

**Honorary President**  
Jack Coughlin  
(8181) 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** Joe Candilora  
(909) 596-1894  
**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**  
Frank Lindstrom  
479 W. Eagle Lake Dr.  
Maple Grove MN. 55369-5528  
Res: 763-951-3422  
Fax: 763-951-3427  
Email: felsah@aol.com

**Deputy Vice President West**  
Jerry Johs  
26965 W. Mohawk Lane  
Buckeye, AZ 85396  
928-252-6096  
Email: Geronamo01@aol.com

**Nat'l Executive Director**  
**Col. Len Hayes, USMC Retired**  
National Headquarters  
1st Marine Division Assn.  
410 Pier View Way, Oceanside, Ca 92054  
(760) 967-8561  
E-Mail Address  
oldbreed@sbcglobal.net

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Send or Email Articles to:  
Semper Fi News  
Dale Turner  
24415 Lisa Kelton Place  
Newhall, CA 91321-2341  
DALEFMDA@earthlink.net

Chapter Mailing Address:  
FMDA-LA  
24415 Lisa Kelton Place  
Newhall, CA 91321

**GRUNT CLUB MEMBERS**

The following members are major contributors to the  
Annual LA Chapter Fundraiser.  
Grunt Club status is achieved with a minimum donation of  
\$100.00

**Grunt Club Members**  
1 Oct 2008 to 30 Sept 2009

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| *American Legion 507                | Kathy Lander<br><i>In memory of</i><br>Richard Lander |
| *LA CHAPTER                         | Ione Lovell<br><i>In memory</i><br>of Bob Lovell      |
| *Jim Anderson                       | Jim & Sheryl Lovell                                   |
| *Mary Anthony                       | *Bill Maker   |
| <i>In memory of</i><br>Tony Anthony | Dave Marshall   |
| Bob Barron                          | *Bob McKee  |
| *D. Bartoletti                      | *John Meseure   |
| *Michael Bernstein                  | *Charlie Meter  |
| *David Bigbie                       | Jerry O'Brien   |
| *Paul Blum                          | Richard Oldenburg                                     |
| *Bob Bobst                          | *Don Reid   |
| Joe Candilora                       | *Marlene "Sam" Reiss                                  |
| Mary Cathy                          | *Jeff Roberts   |
| *Dick Cesaroni                      | *Dick Rogge   |
| Gary Condrey                        | *Tom Rohrbach   |
| *Coleman Coughlin                   | *Rusty Russell  |
| *Jack Coughlin                      | G.J. "Sandy" Sandoval                                 |
| *Pat Coulter                        | *Richard Sams   |
| *Howard Crowell                     | *Francis Shea   |
| Ruth Davis                          | <i>In memory of</i><br>Phil Shea                      |
| <i>In memory of Jim Davis</i>       | Bill Shedlov  |
| Ed Demrest                          | *Chuck Singer   |
| Max Felser                          | Maury Starr   |
| *Terry Garrett                      | *Zack & Sue Taylor                                    |
| *Jim Hackett                        | Don Tennenbaum  |
| *George Hatzidakis                  | *Bill Turner  |
| George Hofstetter                   | Charles "Eddie" Turner                                |
| Nile Holmes                         | *Dale Turner  |
| *Jasper Hood                        | *Myrl Wallace   |
| *Art Jackson                        | *Tom & Diane Whetzel                                  |
| *Floyd Johnson                      | *Al Wright  |
| *Jerry Johnson                      | Terry Young   |
| *Tom Kelly                          | (32)  |
| *Paul Kim                           | (32)  |
| *Gary Kipp                          |   |

This past year 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.

*Semper Fi*

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

**64 Honored Grunt Club Members**  
For 2008/2009



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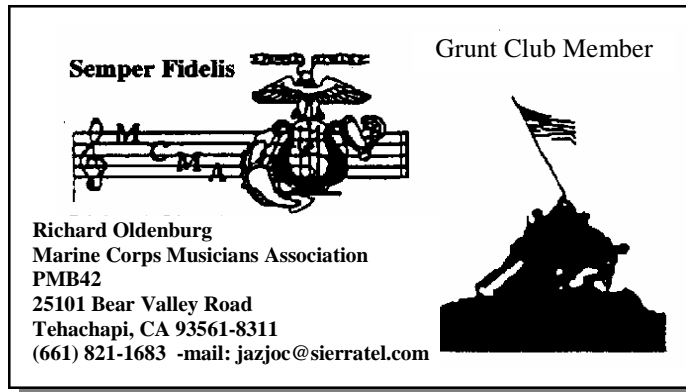
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**ALPINE VILLAGE**  
Harbor Freeway at Torrance Bl  
Food - Shopping - Fun  
**Hans & Teri Rotter**  
"ICONS of Alpine Village"  
"Marines and FMF Corpsman always welcome"  
Relatives by appointment  
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5150 Broadway #473, San Antonio, TX 78209



**Semper Fidelis** Grunt Club Member  
Richard Oldenburg  
Marine Corps Musicians Association  
PMB42  
25101 Bear Valley Road  
Tehachapi, CA 93561-8311  
(661) 821-1683 -mail: jazjoc@sierratel.com

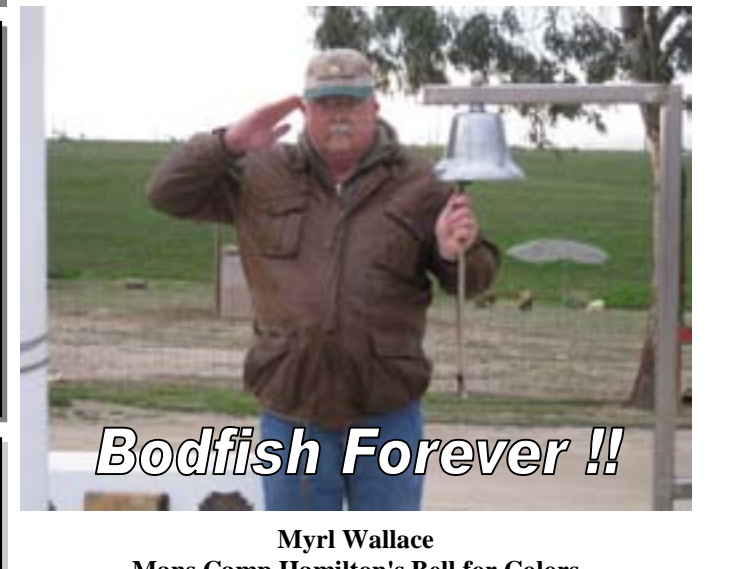


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**VINCENZO'S**  
NEWHALL  
24504 Lyons Ave. • Newhall, CA 91321  
Restaurant: (661) 259-6733  
Where the Semper Fi Mailing Squad meets.

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



**Bodfish Forever !!**  
Myrl Wallace  
Mans Camp Hamilton's Bell for Colors



## Editors Corner 2009

*“Fran’s dedication and service was second to none”*

Dale Turner, Editor

The passing of Fran Lewis fell heavy on my heart as Emily and I leaned of her passing in a letter written by her husband and best friend of 55 years Norvel.

Fran was US Navy all the way. Her father served in the Navy during WWI so it was only fitting that she would join the Navy and become a “Wave”.

WWII broke out in Fran's seventeenth year. After graduating from high school Fran found herself like her father before her at the US Navy recruiting office ready to serve her country.

Soon she would ship off to Hunter College in New York receiving her training and preparing for her first duty assignment. After completing her training as a Dental Assistant Fran was assigned to Camp Pendleton, CA. There she found herself surrounded by Marines and Sailors that would become a great part of her life in the then and long after.

Fran was at home as she tended to the Marines and Sailors at Camp Pendleton, Base Hospital during WWII.

Fran was discharged from the Navy in 1946 and in just a short time joined the California Highway Patrol where she served as a radio dispatcher for 33 years. Her last assignment was the Newhall CHP office.

Fran was one of two radio dispatchers on duty the night the four Highway Patrolmen were gunned down and murdered in Newhall. She stood by her radio handling incoming calls and assisted with the coordination for nine-teen straight hours.

Fran's dedication and service both in her profession with the CHP and veterans service groups was second to none.

Like her mother Fran belonged to many Clubs and Associations. Fran served as President Waves National San Fernando Valley Unit #86, 1st Marine Division Association,,

American Legion, President of the Radio Dispatchers Association, Native Daughters of the Golden West, Charter Member of the Women in Military Service just to name a few.

Fran served for over twenty years as the Chapters Welfare and Moral Officer.

I must say I was always pleased to hear from her. Many of us would give her our VFW, MCL and American Legion “Get Well & Sympathy cards” so she would have them on hand to mail out to our members and family. In 2001 following her stroke she was assisted with her duties by Joe Candilora

Just a bit of trivia, Fran was the member who suggested that we use Encino Glen for our annual Christmas Party. She paved the way for the great time we have had over the past years at Encino Glen now know as Monterey at Encino. In fact that was the last event Fran and Norvel attended following her stroke some four years ago.

Fran will be missed and for those of us who had the honor and privilege of knowing her a smile will come to our face along with a feeling of warmth every time she is thought of and remembered for all that she did for the Chapter and for all the Veterans

I spent the better part of an hour talking Norvle. He finds it hard at times now that Fran is gone. He hopes to attend the memorial Service on Saturday May 16th.. He has requested to be added to our mailing list and looks forward to future issues of the Semper Fi News.

Until next month I bid you Happy Trails and Semper Fidelis

**Dale**

dalefmda@earthlink.net  
661-253-1981

## Bodfish Skinny ....

or Just Plan BS



BODFISH FOREVER is not just an idle remark or some inane rhetoric. It is a statement of a fact. The Bodfishers will continue on and strike out to new venues. This was evident this past week as nearly one hundred gathered at Camp Hamilton in Bakersfield for the annual Bodfish Campout. A big thank you to Glenn Denton and his crew for all of their help in putting everything together. Also, to Mike “Squidley” Enos for all of his work in setting up and manning the Bodfish Saloon.

On Wednesday night about twenty of us went to a Basque Restaurant and had a great meal. Basque food is very popular in the Bakersfield area and we all enjoyed ourselves. On Thursday, we made a pilgrimage to the town of Bodfish and made our way to the little town and swelled the population of 1,670 by about .01%. Thanks again to Glenn and Bodfish Bales for being our tour guides.

On Saturday we had the annual Bodfish Meeting and the old officers were kicked out of office and Coleman Coughlin became a Past President. New Officers were, President: Mike Enos, VP Larry Davis, Treas: Marty Vasquez Sec: Tom Martin Bodfish Camp Gunny: Bob Barron, Chapter Rep: Dale Turner and Glenn Denton will be the Grounds Keeper. Congratulations to all.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year,

Jack Coughlin

Bodfish Past President & BS Editor



Jack and Coleman Coughlin pose in front of the Bodfish Command Sign just hours before Coleman's end of term as Bodfish “IAS” President.

This makes three Coughlins who have held the title Bodfish Past President. Tommy Coughlin was the first Coughlin to claim the title.

## FMDA-LA Calendar of Events

### USMC Mounted Color Guard



The Los Angeles County Chapter, Inc. working in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Wild Horse and Burro Program, and the United States Marine Corps Color Guard (USMCMCG) has adopted five Palomino horses over the past five years. The most recent adoption, of three Palominos, took place on May 27, 2008.

GySgt Pete McConnell, SNCOIC of the Mounted Color Guard, selected the three horses from a group of wild horses cut out by BLM. The horses have completed their break-in training in Reno, Nevada and are now ready to begin their Marine Corps training at Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow CA.

On Saturday, April 18, 2009 the horses will be presented to the USMCCMG by the BLM at a ceremony to be held at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, 480 W. Riverside Drive, Burbank, CA 91506. The program is scheduled to begin promptly at 2PM (1400). For those who would like to attend it is suggested to arrive early, NLT 1300.

One of the new horses will be named in honor of the Bodfish Chapter. The selected name as of this printing is “Bodfish Reno”

Due to the large number of 1st Marine Division Association members across the country who belong to the Internationally Famous Bodfish Chapter we felt that it was most fitting to name the horse in honor of all those who are proud members of the Bodfish Chapter.

Semper Fi and Bodfish Forever OORAH!!  
Dale Turner, BFPP and BF Chapter Rep.

## 2009 Calendar of Events

### April

**USMC Mounted Color Guard**  
Presentation of Newly Adopted Horses  
Purchased By LA County Chapter  
Saturday, 18 April 2009  
Burbank, CA

### May

**Memorial/Corpsman Celebration**  
VFW Post 6885  
Sierra Highway  
Canyon Country, CA  
Saturday, May 16th  
\$18.00 Per Person

### August

**FMDA Reunion**  
August 24—29 Anaheim Marriott, CA

### September

Del Mar Campout  
Camp Pendleton, CA  
September 11, 12, 13, 14  
Price: TBD

### October

Day At The Races  
Thursday, October 15, 2009  
Price: TBD

### 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



Continued from Page 1

Additionally, know that the Marines of Task Force 1/4 have participated in some historic operations while on this deployment. Your Marines have been operating in a time of transition, going to a Provincial Iraqi Control, Post SOFA or Security Agreement arena, as well as Provincial elections that saw no violence not only on Election Day but for the week running up to it. We look forward to seeing members of the 1st Marine Division Association upon our return. God Bless you and your families. Semper Fi

China 6  
LtCol Eric C. Hastings

**THANK YOU FROM THE FAMILIES OF 1-4 MARINES**

**Amanda Ensign:**

Thank you so much for our gift certificate. You have truly helped us this Christmas Season! Many Thanks and God Bless.

**The McCown's:**

Thank you so much for all that did for us this holiday season. Your gifts and kindness made our season happier. May you find happiness in the new year and all the years to come!

**Erika Garbol:**

Thank You so Very much. Thank you for your generosity!

**Debbie Flowers:**

On behalf of my family, I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for your most precious gifts. Words alone cannot express the gratitude we have for your thoughtfulness. Please know that we will put the money to good use especially now in this volatile economy. For you to still want to give to our Marine Corps is greatly appreciated. I pray that God will bless you and your families this New Year. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generosity.

**The Van Daele Family:**

**Mike, Erin, Lorelei, Nicholas, Decker and Sophia:**

I just wanted to thank you so very much for thinking of our family this Christmas-time.

My children adored their gifts and the commissary gift check came in very handy!☺ Your kindness and generosity mean so much to me and will not be forgotten. Thanks for all that you do! Happy New Year and Bless You!☺



The battalion will be returning from Iraq in May and preparations are being made for their homecoming. One of these activities is creating a "Welcome Home Banner" from the chapter. If you would like to place a word of thanks or a signature on it and cannot attend the newsletter get-together, please write it on a clean piece of cloth with a Sharpie pen or indelible marker and mail to Molly. She will be putting everything on the banner and will make sure it is hung in plain sight when they return. Our address is:

Molly Kelly  
23501 Candlewood Way  
West Hills, CA. 91307

Our 2009 scheduled support activities are:

- \* May – Homecoming Activities – Single Marine and Family
- \* May – Memorial Service/ Corpsmen Recognition - Diaper/Baby Wipe Drive
- \* Sept – Del Mar Campout – Diaper/Baby Wipe Drive
- \* Nov/Dec – Holiday Commissary Gift Certificates
- \* Ongoing – Manufacturer Coupons & Baby Blankets

I would like to thank all the members and friends of the chapter who have sent their concerns, prayers, and cards on my recent surgery. The support has been very much appreciated and shows just what a family we are. Thanks for all your support in keeping with the spirit of the Corps.

Semper Fidelis,  
Tom Kelly

**Bodfish 2009**

Outgoing Bodfish President Coleman Coughlin poses inside the "BS" next to the entrance that was adorned with the Bodfish Chapter banner.



The Bodfish Saloon "BS" was a great hit. Mike Enos did a outstanding job of decorating it and keeping it well stocked. LA Chapter First Lady Diane Whetzel stands watch with her artic parka while waiting for the pending storm. (60 MPH winds with freezing rain)



Marty Vasquez & Gene Wuestenfeld

**Out with the Old**

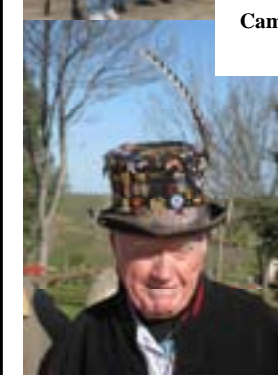


Camp Gunny Bob Barron Sounds Off Fall In! EyeBalls!!



**Bodfish Bevies**

**New Bodfish Members**



Floyd & Nancy Johnson



**In with the New**

Above: Howard "Bodfish" Bales provided a bit of Bodfish trivia and history during the one day pilgrimage to the town of Bodfish.

Below. A few of the members take a minute from their libations time to take a photo outside "Our Place" the local Bodfish tavern. Other Bodfishers were lined up at the out-house after the two hour trip..



Paul & Jan Feickert



The Bodfish Past Presidents are planning a work detail this summer. The project will be the painting of the "Our Place Saloon". Those interested in joining the work detail send your \$50.00 non refundable entry fee to Bodfish President Mike "Squidley" Enos 3901 Eagleridge Dr. Antioch, CA 94509 Make check payable to: Mike Enos



**Bodfish 2009  
An End To A Great Weekend**