

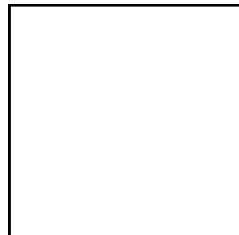
Semper Fi News

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



"In God We Trust"

First Class Mail



Gunny Pete McConnell with Bodfish Reno



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: _____

May 2009 Issue

IF THIS IS A RENEWAL, CHECK HERE

ACTIVE DUTY CHECK HERE

Revised 3/3/09



GOD BLESS AMERICA

Semper Fi News

Los Angeles County Chapter, Incorporated
1st Marine Division Association



SEMPER FIDELIS

May 2009

Dale Turner, Editor

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

Semper Fi Marines and FMF Corpsman

Well, what a sad day it was for me Sunday, 5 April 2009. I attended the National Directors meeting in Anaheim Marriott at the request of the FMDA President Frank Lindstrom after appointing me a Director At Large. Only 26 Directors attended the meeting falling short of the 35 needed to conduct business and make and pass motions.

I hope this poor turn out is a result of the economy and not the future of our Association. Perhaps changing the needed quorum from 15 to 35 was not such a good idea after all. Maybe we should change it back to fifteen, if we can get a quorum together to make the motion.

I'd like to thank our Chapter Rep Joel Forman for attending the meeting. Please see his report on page 5.

Until next month, Semper FI and Bodfish Forever



\$\$\$ SAVE \$\$\$

Purchase your Memorial/Corpsman BBQ tickets before May 8th and SAVE.

\$10.00 Per Person
when ordered by
May 8th .

After May 8th or at the door
tickets will be \$18.00, no exceptions

The Chapter Mourns The Passing Of Richard "Dick" Rogge July 7, 1926 - April 15, 2009

Dick was a Sea Going Marine and served on the USS Antietam during WWII. He also served in China in 1945.

After leaving the Marine Corps he joined the FBI where he served as a special agent for over thirty years.

During his FBI career he handled many hi profile investigations including the Kennedy assassination ..

Dick was involved in many Veteran and civic organizations. He remained active long after his retirement from the FBI.

Dick was a major supporter of the LA Chapter and was one of the first to become a Double Grunt Club member.

He will be missed by all who had the honor and pleasure to have known him.

Dick was laid to rest, next to his wife, at the National Veterans Cemetery in West Los Angeles, CA on 21 April 2009.

Semper Fi Marine, Till we meet again

Get Well Wishes to Chapter Life Member Richard Martinez

Richard was admitted to the hospital on April 2 suffering from complications from a stroke he has suffered some time ago. His wife Valentine has asked us to keep Richard in our prayers. Members may visit Richard at Lancaster Community Hospital located at 43830 10th Street West ,Room 212 Bed# 2, Lancaster, CA 93534. Phone 661-948-4781. Cards may be sent to his house at 642 E. Ave J-11, Lancaster, CA 93535

Note: please check with the Hospital before going out to visit him to insure he has not been moved to another facility or has been discharged to go home.

Get Well Soon Marine!! Semper Fi

Features

Officers and Directors Page 2 - Grunt Club Members for 2008 / 2009 Page 2 - Upcoming Events Page 3 - New Recruits Page 3
1-4 Support Page 4 - Bodfish Skinny Page 4 - Chapter Rep Report 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
(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

The Semper Fi News is the Official
Newsletter of the Los Angeles County
Chapter, Inc.,
1st Marine Division Association, Inc.
The Semper Fi News is published
monthly .

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

Chapter Mailing Address:
FMDA-LA
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 donation of
\$100.00

Grunt Club Members
1 Oct 2008 to 30 Sept 2009

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

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



Sgt & Grit
Free Catalog
call us Toll Free at
866-776-2607
or visit
grunt.com
Over 6500
Marine Corps items
New items added daily



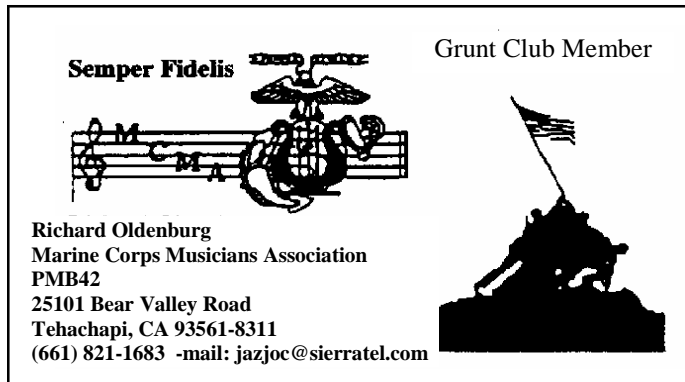
Quail Valley Silk Screen
&
Embroidery
Steve & Olivia Parker
GySgt USMC
Retired
www.quailvalleysilkscreen.com
Email: dumb_not@yahoo.com
(951) 326 4356



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
833 W. Torrance Blvd. Torrance. Ca 90502 310-327- 4384



VIETNAM BATTLEFIELD TOURS
"Together then, together again..."
Ed "Tex" Stiteler
India 3/7 1966-67
210-828-5773
Email: Tex@vietnambattlefieldtours.com
Www.VietnamBattlefieldTours.com
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

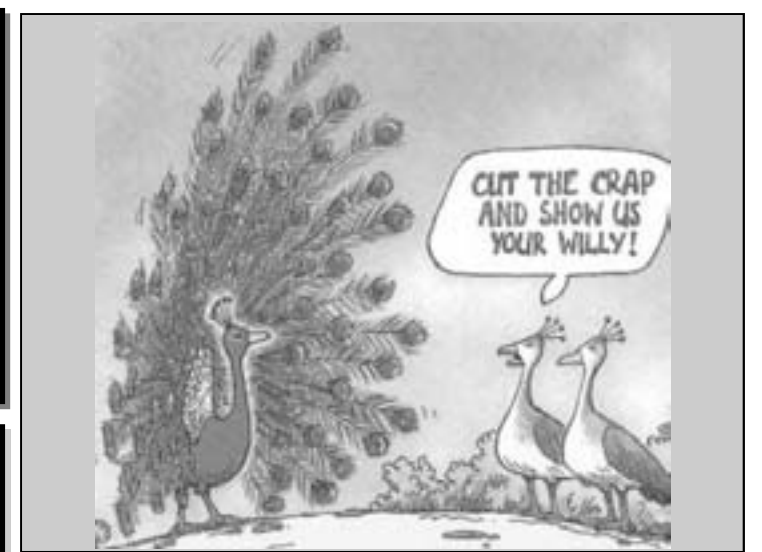


H & M MILITARY SUPPLIES
U.S. M.C.
301 N. Coast Highway
Oceanside, California 92054
(760) 722-1029 FAX 722-6653
1-800-555-3526
www.hmmilitary.com



VINCENZO'S
NEWHALL
24504 Lyons Ave. • Newhall, CA 91321
Restaurant: (661) 259-6733
Bob Wexler
Cat Wexler
T. G. Wexler
Owners
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





Editors Corner 2009

“a compassionate person”

Dale Turner, Editor

Several months ago I received a note in the mail accompanied with a new crisp fifty dollar bill. The note read, *“Hi Dale, 55 years ago a fellow gave a young Marine a gift. I’m passing it on. I need your help. I don’t know of any young Marines around here. Thanks and Semper Fi. J.”*

The note reminded me of the story he had shared with me some years earlier when as a young Marine stationed in McAlester, Oklahoma a compassionate person by the name of Colonel A.H. Marks help him and his family during the holiday season with a gift of cash.

I knew I had been given a mission, so I took the new crisp fifty dollar bill folded it up and put in my wallet and waited for the opportunity to pass the gift along for a fellow Marine.

The opportunity presented itself some months later when Emily and I were in a restaurant having dinner when we spotted a young Marine with his wife and two daughters walk in and sit down at a table near buy.

I watched them as they ordered their meal and hugged their two girls and held hands from time to time when they were not distracted by a two and four year old.

When I thought the time was right I got up and while on my way to the restroom stopped and introduced myself. I learned that he was a Sergeant with the 7th Marines stationed at 29 Palms and was preparing to leave for his third combat tour. I wished him well and proceeded to the restroom when I noticed a gift card rack near the cashier and walk over to see what was available. After finding the perfect blank card I slipped the crisp fifty dollar bill into it along with a note that read,

“55 years ago a fellow Marine received a gift form an older Marine, He has asked me to pass it on to a younger Marine Semper Fi “.

As Emily and I finished our meal and headed for the cash register, I stopped for a moment to say goodbye, wished him luck and handed him the card.

My mission was accomplished and I’m sure that in his older years this young Marine will remember this act of compassion and will pass it on to another young Marine.

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

Dale
dalefmda@earthlink.net
661-253-1981

Los Angeles Equestrian Center

On April 18th about twenty-five members braved the 85+ heat at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center in Burbank, CA to witness the adoption ceremony of the three palomino horses purchased by the LA County Chapter for the United States Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard.



Art DiGrazia who is a Wild Horse and Burro Operation Specialist with the Bureau of Land Management was the ceremony MC.

Art served in the Marine Corps and was assigned to the Camp Pendleton Mounted Color Guard back in the late 60’s and early 70’s.



Pictured left and below the Marines with USMC saddle blankets prepare to accept the new palomino recruits.



Art gave brief history of the Wild Horse and Burro Program and then recognizes the Los Angeles County Chapter for their commitment, dedication and support to the program and to the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard.

The adoption program ended with a special presentation of a custom belt buckle from the BLM to each of the Horse Marines. Gunny Pete McConnell proudly accepts the buckles from Art DiGrazia



The horses, Reno, Sierra and Justice (pictured on page 3) were named by the USMCMCG prior to going for their initial training located just outside of Reno, Nevada. Once they complete their initial training it is customary to add the name of a Marine battle to their name . An exception was made, this once, in honor of the internationally famous chapter of the 1st Marine Division Association, the “Bodfish Chapter“ .

Saddle Up!

FMDA-LA Calendar of Events

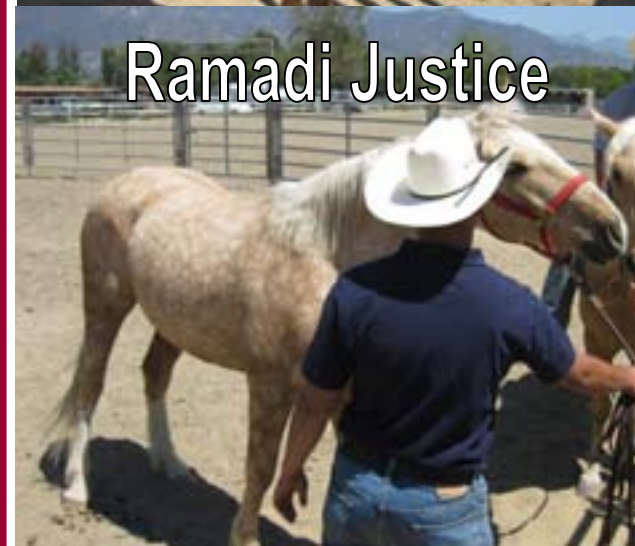
New Recruits for the United States Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard compliments of the LA County Chapter and the Bureau of Land Management. Their names are as follows:



Bodfish Reno



Hue City Sierra



Ramadi Justice

2009 Calendar of Events

May

Memorial/Corpsman Celebration

VFW Post 6885
16208 Sierra Highway, Canyon Country, CA
Saturday, May 16th

\$10.00 Per Person if purchased by May 8th

LA Chapter FMF Corpsmen FREE

Note: Tickets purchased after May 8th or at the door will be \$18.00 Per Person No Exceptions!!

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

BODFISH SKINNYor just plain BS**Letter to the Editor**

Dear Editor , Semper Fi News:

Somebody sent me these pictures anonymously and said they had also sent them to you.. Postmarked Phoenix, AZ on March 20, 2009.. Either one of my bodyguards took these pictures without my knowledge or Gene W. (named changed for fear of persecution, who saw Coleman, the junior past president, and I, the current, present, sitting, active, dedicated, Bodfish Chapter President, meet at the airport when he was leaving for Chicago to visit his family,) had some scum ball take these pictures. The pictures were taken of Coleman and I while we were visiting each other at the Scottsdale, AZ VFW, Post 44 bar.

Someone good on computers obviously used PHOTOSHOP to change my black, manly hat to pink and to change Coleman's pose from flexing his manly muscles to the waitress to this disgusting feminine Irish position.



Contrary to what you have heard and what was written to you Dale, there is NO TRUTH that we were in a clandestine meeting discussing a reduction in the Bodfish Past President's retirement pay/benefits and my pending salary increase as current 2009 Bodfish IAS President. Absolutely no money was exchanged between Coleman and myself (the bartender's statement in her deposition is an outright lie!). Perjury charges are pending along with a civil lawsuit. Coleman earned that new SUV he bought on March 21st from his hard work at the Post Office. Also, it is not true that we were also seen that same evening (or have ever been to) in the only Gay bar in Scottsdale called the "LeatherLip Lounge" on 2nd St. and Main around the corner from the VFW where it is said they have numerous lewd pictures on the tiles above each urinal and on the doors of the toilet stalls and imbedded under plexi-glass on the Bar and on all walls, including the barstools where four people can sit on one bar stool.

Our unblemished reputations are at stake, so Dale please don't take seriously, or publish, what you have heard or have seen written about us.

Yours Truly,
Mike Enos Bodfish Chapters 2009
Distinguished and Honorable President

Editors Response

Squidly, As the Editor I have never kept interesting or concerning information from our readers. I will not change my policy. Besides as a Bodfish Past President I have a fiduciary responsibility to report all actions of the current IAS President to our Bodfish Past Presidents, particularly when it involves our Bodfish pension plan.

Semper Fi Mac!! and Bodfish Forever... The Editor



Molly and Tom

**Support the
1st Battalion, 4th Marines**

The Marines and Sailors of the 1/4 have returned safely home from Fallujah, Iraq. The last wave came in Tuesday, April 14th. Family Readiness Officer Sebrina and Gunny Sgt. Erick Findley display the chapter's banner, which was proudly displayed on the grinder for the "Welcome Home" ceremonies. What an uplifting experience to meet and greet the families of these Warriors. Nile Holmes, Molly and I attended all but one of the "Homecoming" events. We handed out flags to wave when the busses pulled in, helped with balloons, talked with the parents, grandparents and other family members and friends.



We were very honored to have met the parents of KIA Cpl. Allen. They attended to welcome home those in their son's company.



The children were so excited to see their daddy's and also for some Marines and Sailors it was the first time they saw their infants.

At one of the gatherings a Mom came up to Molly and thanked the chapter for the diapers, baby blanket and commissary gift certificate. We hope that more of the chapter members will be able to participate and meet these fine young warriors and their families at future events.

Our next activity will be a Diaper/Baby Wipe Drive in coordination with the Memorial Service/Corpsmen Up! Recognition on Sat. May 16th at the VFW Post in Canyon Country. You can bring the diapers with you or at any time prior to the event, contact Molly or me and we will make sure they are delivered. If you are unable to attend, you can send a check made payable to FMDA-LA (note 1/4 Family support in the comment line).

All Chapter members have been invited, by Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Hastings, to the 1/4 Change of Command ceremony on Thursday, May 21st on the Camp Horno Parade Deck. As of the publishing of this article, the exact time has not been determined. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at 818/884-5355 to find out the time and other specifics. The incoming Commanding Officer will be Lt. Col. Joseph R. Clearwater. He comes to the 1/4 via his last assignment at Headquarters Marine Corps. We would also like to congratulate Lt. Col. Hastings on his promotion to Colonel. Col Hastings will become the 1st Marine Division G3. We hope you are able to join us for this ceremony.

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

Semper Fidelis,
Tom Kelly
1-818-884-5355
t.takellype@att.net

**1st Marine Division Association Representative Meeting
Anaheim Marriott Hotel**

The meeting of the representatives of the 1st Marine Division was held on Sunday, April 5, 2009 at the Anaheim Marriott hotel. Even though scheduled from 1600 to 1800, many people arrived early. This allowed those present to meet from 13:45 to 14:45, to obtain a "sense of the assembly" which would set the tone for the actual meeting.

The first topic under discussion was the Old Breed News (OBN). There was considerable discussion on how to bring today's costs into today's economic reality. What emerged was a consensus that for the second quarter of 2009, the OBN would be in black and white, 30 pages, and sent to everyone. Included would be the letter from Jerry Reed. When the discussion turned on how to appeal to life members to contribute an extra \$15 to offset the postage, no real agreement was reached. The OBN topic will be raised at the national convention in August.

Promptly at 1600, the meeting opened. After the initial traditional opening consisting of the pledge and prayer, there was the roll call. In order for the meeting to be official, there had to be at least 35 representatives present. Unfortunately, only 26 showed up. Therefore, this could not be considered an official meeting. However, the parliamentarians got around that problem by changing the definition of the meeting to one consisting of the executive committee. Once this formality was over, there were several important topics raised.

First and foremost was the OBN. After going through a myriad of points and counterpoints, what everyone decided upon was to adopt the position that was discussed at the "sense of the assembly" with one major change. The OBN would be for both the second and third quarters of 2009, black and white, 30 pages and mailed to everyone.

Next was the Blue Diamond Team Founder pin. The speed at which they sold out surprised many people. However, there were more requests by other members to obtain them, yours truly included. Therefore, there would be additional blue diamond pins made called the "**Blue Diamond Team Member**" Pin" to differentiate from the originals, with 100 going to be produced.

The next item of discussion was Reunion registration. A suggestion was made to register early for the August convention. Everyone who does so, can get the lower registration fee.

Then came the snowball express, a program that helps families of wounded marines visit the marines and offset the lodging costs. The last major topic was fascinating. It consisted of "The Honor Run". This is a new national program consisting of motorcyclists and hot rod enthusiasts who are going to travel around the country, on their vehicles, to ensure marines, especially those who were wounded, to become aware of the First Marine Division Association (FMDA) and join. This caravan will start at the wall in Washington, DC, and end up at the mobile wall in LA.

Extensive national publicity will be coming in the near future. Stay tuned.

Respectively Submitted,
Semper Fi

Joel Forman
LA County Chapter Representative
310-559-7250
Jiforman@aol.com



Joel Forman, Chapter Rep.