

The Editor's Corner

A word from the editor...

A man is not dead until he is forgotten.

2008 2/3 Vietnam Veterans Association Newsletter Editor:
Dave Frink

Dedication of Bronze Plaque for Bruce Carter

The official dedication of the bronze plaque for Medal of Honor recipient Bruce Carter will be held at the:

Bruce W. Carter Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Miami, Florida
on Friday, May 8, 2009.

All members of 2/3 Vietnam Veterans Association are invited. If you plan to attend the dedication, contact Harry Hoy at hhoy1234@aol.com or telephone 989 785-3631 to be added to the invitation listing.

Georgie Carter-Krell is working on securing a hotel in Miami for those of you who are coming from out of town, at a reduced rate, and this information will be available soon.

After the dedication, Georgie said that the Marine Corps will be hosting a reception, details to follow.

If you plan to attend, you need to sign up with Harry.

2008 Officer Candidates

At the Tybee Island 2008 Business Meeting the following election of officers took place with the candidates for offices being:

For President:

Frank Correia

-TJ Croft Defeated

For Vice President:

Ed Wyatt

-Jim Donovan Defeated

For Secretary:

Carl Sorensen

-Unopposed

For Treasurer:

Harry Hoy

-Mick Hughtes Defeated



2/3 Vietnam Veterans Associate Mission Statement

1st Reunion Stanley, NC 1997

At the First Business Meeting held in Stanley, North Carolina, the following items were declared as objectives.

OBJECTIVE:

- To establish a 2-3-3 Association
- To actively search and find fellow Vietnam Vets from 2-3-3, bring them home to the Battalion
- To establish a newsletter to keep everyone informed on things happening within the association and with it's membership
- To hold a reunion and generally have fun.

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What Is A Hero

The word "hero" has been used to describe people in all walks of life; firemen, policemen, EMTs, nurses, doctors, etc. Its most widely use is to describe those members of the military who have served in our nation's conflicts throughout history to the present. What or who determines what individual is deserving of this term? We have since the first Desert War, broadly described all of our servicemen who have served in the two conflicts as "heroes." Does this mean that they performed some extraordinary act of heroism to deserve this title or does it simply imply that they volunteered to serve their country and willingly went into harms way in the name of freedom? Our nation has suffered through a period of guilt after the treatment afforded to Vietnam Veterans who returned after service in Vietnam. They were accused of being mind-less drug crazed savages who killed women and babies indiscriminately. They were spat on, cursed and hit with objects on their return; all of this for putting their lives on the line in the name of freedom.

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What Is A Hero (continued...)

The current conflict in Iraq has taken the lives of over 4,000 of our brave men and women. Are they the only heroes due to the fact of giving their lives for their country? What about the office workers, the cooks, the mechanics, supply clerks and all the others who served behind the lines but enabled those front line troops to do their job? Were they any less the hero for leaving behind families, friends and jobs to serve under the harsh desert conditions they found themselves in? These brave men and women didn't all earn Silver Stars, Bronze Star Medals, Purple Hearts, etc., yet they like their comrades on the front lines through their volunteer service, willing placed themselves in the face of danger. Since the end of the Vietnam War, our military forces have been maintained by those who have been willing to sacrifice greater opportunities by volunteering for military duty. They, regardless of the position they fill in the military are all at some point in time taking the risk of being sent in harms way. A Marine, Double Silver Star recipient from the Vietnam War, once remarked that were it not for the intense mental and physical training that Marines go through to become Marines, all would melt into cowards at the first shot fired at them. Most Medal of Honor recipients receive their medal posthumously; those who live, describe doing their act of heroism as reacting without thinking.

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What Is A Hero (continued...)

Many of our returning Operation Iraqi veterans have been welcomed home as heroes by men who served in World War II. These members of "The Greatest Generation" recognize that sacrifice is not limited to time or place or act. They rightly recognize that without the sacrifice, dedication and yes, the heroism of each generation, this country would cease to exist as the "Greatest Nation in the World."

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What Is A Hero (continued...)

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From The President's Bunker

Semper Fi Marines. I hope this finds you all well. Before continuing further please take a few moments to remember those warriors no longer standing with us. I am writing this with a saddened heart over our most recent 2/3 Family loss and for the H&S Company loss, as he was their company rep, for it seems forever. Jim Terry. Back to this in a bit.

After Action Report: Reunion 08 Tybee Island/Savannah Georgia. The reunion by most standards was a total success....just the fact that we are together has continued to make our reunions a success...more on this too. Interesting and Historic locale, although we were there a few years earlier I and many more enjoyed immensely, some were not at that reunion and for others this was their first reunion. Sun, beach, eateries, thunder lightning storms, partial island blackout for a few hours....all in all, pretty good time.

To all our new members who joined us this year Welcome Home. Membership, incidentally, is 168 as of this writing. So now I will ask all those that have not paid this years' dues, to take a moment to do so. We realize that many pay their dues only if attending the reunion for that year, but that's up to you, whatever you want to do....your still our brothers.

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From The President's Bunker (continued...)

With the exception of the MOH Anderson project, all voted things to do have been accomplished. The MOH Bruce Carter project, and now with the Reunion offset being handled have been completed, and the donation to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation has been sent.

The dedication of the Carter Memorial will occur on May 8, 2009. Gold Star Mom and presently the President of Gold Star Mothers of America, Georgie Carter-Krell have been in contact and are trying to set up arrangements for those needing lodging, etc....something may be planned after the ceremony by the local MCL...I will be in attendance as will other members of our 2/3 Family. Remember to contact Harry Hoy if you plan to attend, he will in turn pass our total number of 2/3 attendees on to Georgie. Still a little early, but not too early that you can't at least think of attending.

Financially, the annual audit was performed, it was unanimously recommended for approval/acceptance from the officers and representatives. At the Business Meeting we accepted the books without reservation. The books were in order, no problem. So we are on solid footing in this area, our funds are ok, never has been a problem.

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From The President's Bunker (continued...)

And that happens with 'integrity in spending' and to some, a 'simplified' way of accounting. But you know what, our money reserve has tripled and his financial reports have remained unblemished, this is a direct result of our Treasurer's concern and management of our finances, he is the elected official keeper of the funds, his way works for me.....can another method be used????sure, many ways to skin a cat right????....more later. The Reunion this year will be in Portland OR. Looking forward to seeing you.

If I may, please indulge me. I would like to take off the President's cover and replace with my helmet, I still have it, some of you have seen it, it has a hole in it. I have some thoughts. The first thought, is that all 2/3ers deserve and should receive **dignity and respect**. Further, we all have a right to opinions, whether collective or otherwise. But we are Marines/Corpsmen first. That's the basic premise I base these/my thoughts about some apparent areas of concern I will attempt to address.

Remember, we all have a right to our opinion, but I strongly disagree when those opinions cross the line of **dignity and respect** for any of us. I, as well, am not looking for this to arise those of different opinion.

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From The President's Bunker (continued...)

The message board, in my opinion, was not intended for the purpose that it seems to serve as of late. Its troubling to read. Tough questions need to be asked, I have noted no tough questions. Brothers, its not whether the question needs to be asked or by whose standards that question should be based on....not what the question was but how the question was asked. We all have a right or the means to deal with that; not using this message board to eviscerate members or their performance. Aspersion have been cast via this board that have created some uncertainty, anguish, disappointment. That should not be. Remember, my opinion, I have a right to it. First and foremost we are 2/3 Marines who deserve, you guessed it.....dignity and respect. Lets see if I can clear some of these matters.

H&S Company Rep, Jim Terry, has gone to his reward. After conferring with our Secretary, an H&S member as well as one of 2/3's elected officers, it was determined that he would be best suited at this time to take the responsibility until the annual meeting, when they will elect Jim's replacement. As per bylaws, its there...

2/3 History:

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From The President's Bunker (continued...)

➤2003-2004: Company Rep temporarily replaced himself with another member for health reasons. At the reunion the original company rep was elected again. This is personal, because I was that temp duty person for my company. No problem right? Not in the bylaws.

➤2004-2005: Just after the reunion in S. Dakota company rep needs replacing. President placed himself as their company's liaison. As Vice President at the reunion, I polled company members present before the officers meeting and we had our elected rep in place....in bylaws.

➤2006-2007: Company Rep not making the reunion, As President I polled members so they would have a seated elected rep at the officer/rep mtg.

➤2007-2008: Company Rep not present at reunion this year, same as before, I as president insured that an elected member of the company was in place....in the bylaws.

Continue...

From The President's Bunker (continued...)

The Reunion and leading into the reunion, politicking was evident. The groupings and solicitations for support was quite apparent. No problem with wanting to be of service to the association, problem was many were disenfranchised by it, you got it, because we've not been a political animal. We have never lashed out in the manner it was done before. There has never been platforms and the like to contend with. Social, fun group that we are, this struck many as not a healthy way of doing business and certainly did not benefit the association. Not in the bylaws, I too feel this way, and yes I found myself in the mix as I was in these elections. Should not be. Running for office isn't the issue; lack of dignity and respect toward one's opponents is the issue.

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From The President's Bunker (continued...)

Reunions.

2004-05 Tybee. President, myself (VP) and the Treasurer put together the reunion due to the project being abandoned by the person responsible. The 2/3 officers created and closed the deal. Success, not in bylaws.

2005-06 Jackson Hole WY, Katrina took New Orleans out of the mix. A proposal for a future year was put in place, almost seamlessly. President and Treasurer and the coordinator brought it to a close. Success, not in bylaws.

2006-07 Niagra Falls. Proposal needed to alter dates, numbers, etc....President and Treasurer brought it to closure. Success, not in bylaws.

2007-08 No proposal prepared. President and Treasure, brought closure after voted on by the membership. Success, not in bylaws.

2008-09 Portland Or. Proposal abandoned, President brought it to closure.

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From The President's Bunker (continued...)

The 2/3 Family elected four officers, with the confidence that these folks would get us from one reunion to another...we have accomplished that mission.

The Financial Report 2008. Committee Reviewed. Committee recommended acceptance to the membership. The Membership voted to accept. That should be all there is, right?

So the Treasurer makes a statement that he would send out to reps and officers an 'updated' final. By the way, updated not in bylaws, all bylaws have satisfied this responsibility. The 'updated' should not have been spoken to, we have never updated. What we see at the reunion has always served as the financial statement/report, never have we submitted or been required to in the past. Again, not in the bylaws. But some who are of the opinion that The Treasurer said we'd get an updated statement, whether misspoken by the Treasurer or not, is being focused on as someone not doing their job. That too is very unfortunate. The Financial Report was accepted. I see no reason for this to be the issue that it has become.

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From The President's Bunker (continued...)

Remember, everyone has an opinion. Everyone has an opinion that may differ from you. Everyone has a right as a 2/3er to demonstrate dignity and respect for each other. Not in bylaws.

I'm done here. I am taking that helmet off now and would like to wrap this up as your President, ok. The President's hat is on now.

Bylaw changes. Not recommended, no need, we have worked well with these rules. My philosophy is to keep things simple. If there are some cloudy areas we'll work through it.

Don't fix what doesn't need fixing. Your officers work for 2/3 not for individuals, that's the role they play.

I have been privileged and honored to serve this association, I will continue to react and perform in a manner that is befitting a President of this 2/3 Family of ours.

Time to move on. We're in our first adolescent year as a group, hopefully explaining some things. We will continue on as intended.

Respectfully submitted
Frank 'Bosco' Correia
2/3 Vietnam Veterans Assoc-President

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A Word From Marvin "Eddie" Wyatt

Greetings fellow 2/3 Vietnam Veterans;

I hope each of you had a wondrous Christmas/holiday season and I wish each of you and your families a prosperous 2009. The year 2008 will be remembered by me as a year of challenges and a new beginning. I once again ran for the N.C. House of Representatives and once again, God must have had other opportunities in mind for me. My Fiancé, Susan and I were married August 23rd and returned near Tybee Island for our honeymoon. We enjoyed several days in Charleston, S.C. I am scheduled to assume the office of Jr. Vice Commander in our local DAV this month (Jan). The Marine Corps League has asked that I run for Jr. Vice in that organization as well. I am already on my Church Council with a busy schedule ahead. As a member of our Marine Corps League honor guard; we have been quite busy paying final respects to our departed Marine Corps brothers. Our Country's "Greatest Generation" is rapidly leaving us as well as many of our Vietnam brothers. As we approach our 13th reunion, I would like to challenge each of you to reread our Mission Statement from 1997. Finding our missing brothers, sharing good times and fellowship must remain our primary objective as an organization. It is my prayerful hope that we will meet and see faces at our 2009 reunion that we haven't seen since Vietnam. I would like to thank each of you for your confidence in me in electing me Vice President for 2009. I hope to prove deserving of the same.

Semper Fidelis;

Eddie Wyatt

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A Word From Treasurer Harry Hoy

I am your elected treasurer. My name is Harry Hoy. I was in country with 2/3 in 1965.

AS YOUR TREASURER I AM HONORED TO SERVE ANOTHER YEAR. Because of profitability of the association in previous years you will notice the package amount is lower to attend the Portland reunion.

I hope to see all of you in Portland.

Semper Fi

Harry Hoy

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Portland, Oregon 2009 Reunion Attendance Form

If you plan to attend the Portland, Oregon 2009 Reunion
Please complete the Attendance Form listed below.

Make Check Payable to: 2/3 Association

Mail Check to:
Harry Hoy
23876 Partridge Trail
Atlanta, Michigan 49709

REUNION ATTENDANCE FORM

PORTLAND, OREGON
AUGUST 12-16, 2009

Name of Member: _____

Name of Guest: _____

Member Price \$ 40.00 Guest Price \$ 85.00 \$ _____

Dues for the current year: If not yet paid (2008-2009) \$ _____

Dues for next year (July 2009- July 2010) \$ _____

Orders for Golf Shirts with design on FRONT POCKET & RIGHT SLEEVE are being taken. If you have shirt questions, contact Paul Desruijsseaux at 910 439 5393 or by email at: PaulManion5067@embarqmail.com Continue...

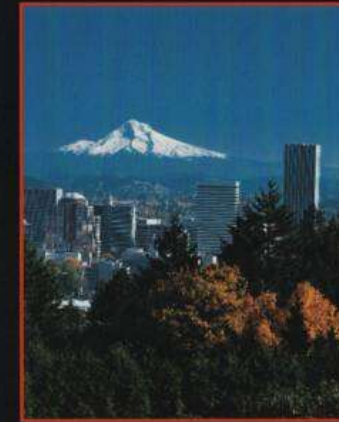
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Portland Oregon Shuttle

Free Shuttle from the Airport to the hotel runs from 5am to 11pm.

There is a telephone located in the baggage claim area to call for pick-up.



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Portland, Oregon 2009 Reunion Attendance Form

of Shirts _____ Size Sm \$14.50 Ea + Shipping \$2.50 Price \$ _____

of Shirts _____ Size Med \$14.50 Ea + Shipping \$2.50 Price \$ _____

of Shirts _____ Size Large \$14.50 Ea + Shipping \$2.50 Price \$ _____

of Shirts _____ Size XL \$14.50 Ea + Shipping \$2.50 Price \$ _____

of Shirts _____ Size XXL \$16.50 Ea + Shipping \$2.50 Price \$ _____

of Shirts _____ Size XXXL \$18.50 Ea + Shipping \$2.50 Price \$ _____

Total Price \$ _____

To qualify for these rates you must be a current 2/3 Member.
If you have not paid your dues, don't forget to include your \$15.00 for dues.
Our current dues year runs from July 2008 - July 2009.

THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP TO ATTEND THE REUNION
OR PURCHASE MERCHANDISE WILL BE:
July 15, 2009 !!!!!!!

If you have a question, please contact:
Frank "Bosco" Correia at: 401 625 5601 Fpcbosco@aol.com

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2/3 Vietnam Veterans Association Message Board



Welcome To The 2/3 Vietnam
Veterans Association Message
Board

Access to this Message Board is
provided to current "Paid"
members of 2/3.

The Message Board is managed
by Alvin Simpson

marine81s@gmail.com

If you have paid your dues for the
current year,
and you need the new password,
contact your Company
Representative.

**Go To The New Chatroom: by
clicking on the link below:**

www.chatzy.com/962189361426

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Oregon Fishing Guide

For those of you interested in going fishing while at the reunion - check out this Charter, recommended by our local resident fishing expert Milt Hoch.



Wildlife Fishing Adventures provides professionally guided fishing trips on many of Oregon's premiere inland rivers, lakes and streams. We offer both full day and half day guided trips for Salmon, Steelhead, Sturgeon, Bass and Walleye. We also have fishing trips available for popular coastal waters such as Tillamook Bay, as well as locations nearer to Portland like the Sandy River, Clackamas River, Willamette River and our very productive Columbia River in the rugged and beautiful Columbia River Gorge.

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VA Compensation and Pension Payment Rates

Veterans Compensation Benefits Rate Tables - Effective 12/1/08

Basic Rates - 10%-100% Combined Degree Only

Rates (No Dependents): [10% - 20%](#)

Without Children

[30% - 60%](#)
[70% - 100%](#)

With Children

[30% - 60%](#)
[70% - 100%](#)

10% - 20% (No Dependents)

Percentage	Rate
10%	\$123
20%	\$243

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VA Compensation and Pension Payment Rates (continued...)

30% - 60% Without Children

Dependent Status	30%	40%	50%	60%
Veteran Alone	\$376	\$541	\$770	\$974
Veteran with Spouse Only	\$421	\$601	\$845	\$1064
Veteran with Spouse & One Parent	\$457	\$649	\$905	\$1136
Veteran with Spouse and Two Parents	\$493	\$697	\$965	\$1208
Veteran with One Parent	\$412	\$589	\$830	\$1046
Veteran with Two Parents	\$448	\$637	\$890	\$1118
Additional for A/A spouse (see footnote b)	\$40	\$54	\$68	\$81

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VA Compensation and Pension Payment Rates (continued...)

70% - 100% Without Children

Dependent Status	70%	80%	90%	100%
Veteran Alone	\$1,228	\$1,427	\$1,604	\$2,673
Veteran with Spouse Only	\$1,333	\$1,547	\$1,739	\$2,823
Veteran with Spouse & One Parent	\$1,417	\$1,643	\$1,847	\$2,943
Veteran with Spouse and Two Parents	\$1,501	\$1,739	\$1,955	\$3,063
Veteran with One Parent	\$1,312	\$1,523	\$1,712	\$2,793
Veteran with Two Parents	\$1,396	\$1,619	\$1,820	\$2,913
Additional for A/A spouse (see footnote b)	\$95	\$108	\$122	\$136

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VA Compensation and Pension Payment Rates (continued...)

70% - 100% With Children				
Dependent Status	70%	80%	90%	100%
Veteran with Spouse & Child	\$1,409	\$1,634	\$1,837	\$2,932
Veteran with Child Only	\$1,298	\$1,507	\$1,694	\$2,774
Veteran with Spouse, One Parent and Child	\$1,493	\$1,730	\$1,945	\$3,052
Veteran with Spouse, Two Parents and Child	\$1,577	\$1,826	\$2,053	\$3,172
Veteran with One Parent and Child	\$1,382	\$1,603	\$1,802	\$2,894
Veteran with Two Parents and Child	\$1,466	\$1,699	\$1,910	\$3,014
Add for Each Additional Child Under Age 18	\$52	\$60	\$67	\$75
Each Additional Schoolchild Over Age 18 (see footnote a)	\$168	\$192	\$216	\$240
Additional for A/A spouse (see footnote b)	\$95	\$108	\$122	\$136

FOOTNOTES:

- Rates for each school child are shown separately. They are not included with any other compensation rates. All other entries on this chart reflecting a rate for children show the rate payable for children under 18 or helpless. To find the amount payable to a 70% disabled veteran with a spouse and four children, one of whom is over 18 and attending school, take the 70% rate for a veteran with a spouse and 3 children, \$ 1,513, and add the rate for one school child, \$168. The total amount payable is \$1,681.
- Where the veteran has a spouse who is determined to require A/A, add the figure shown as "additional for A/A spouse" to the amount shown for the proper dependency code. For example, veteran has A/A spouse and 2 minor children and is 70% disabled. Add \$95, additional for A/A spouse, to the rate for a 70% veteran with dependency code 12, \$1,461. The total amount payable is \$ 1,556.

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A Word From Secretary Carl Sorenson

By Law Changes. From Secretary Carl Sorenson

If you wish to submit a by law change for consideration by voting members at the Portland reunion please submit them to me prior to May 31st 2009. I will assist and will notify all members what they are and will have them posted on the web sight. I will personally send letters to those without e mail. This is in accordance with the current by laws, except for the time line. I will personally be asking for a by law that sets the time limits for submission and consideration at the annual meeting, requiring 60 days before the annual reunion to the secretary in order to be considered at the annual meeting. Let us all keep it simple and up front. I love this association and we need to not have the last minute, hard to understand motions presented at the meeting. If you wish to include something else on the agenda, please submit by May 31st so we can include it in the agenda. There will be a printed agenda given to every member at check in.

S/F Carl Sorenson, your elected secretary.

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Our Member in Australia

I have retired from teaching got the big send off as they named the schools basketball court after me. After I do the proverbial fix the kitchen and floors, get the new car and TV I'll see take stock of the old financial status and see if any is left for the next US trip. The way Superannuation (Australian for 401K's) has lost value I may not get out of Sydney.

I still keep in touch with Ron Poness and view the website quite often. I am on Don Myers mailing list which provide much reading material.

I have taken up fly fishing and fly tying. Beginners luck on the fishing. Trip one first time on lake (Lake Jindabyne) from the shore a 6lb and a 4lb Brook trout. Trip two with the fly tyers club a 21 inch 3lb rainbow. These fish are probably some of biggest you can catch.

Mention me in dispatches, always have you guys in my thoughts and prayers

Semper Fi

Paul Fedelis

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Corpsman

In a combat zone there are two calls to arms that can give you an adrenalin rush, make your heart pump faster, your blood run cold, and your rectal cavity pucker to a point of being air tight, all at the same time They are "INCOMING" and "Corpsman Up".

Major Gene Duncan, USMC Retired, once defined a Corpsman as "Usually a young....., long haired....., bearded....., Marine-hatin' Sailor with certain medical skills, who will go through the very gates of Hell to get to a wounded Marine".

Man's natural instinct is to protect oneself and to survive, but Corpsman, through all of the wars, have consistently risked their own lives to rescue fallen comrades.

Whenever Marines land, Corpsmen will be alongside to assume their responsibility of "keeping as many men at as many guns as many days be possible.

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Corpsman (continued...)

During WWI the Hospital Corps became the most highly decorated Naval unit.

In WWII Navy enlisted personnel were awarded 15 Medals of Honor. Seven of those went to Corpsman serving with Marines. They were also awarded 67 Navy Crosses and 464 Silver Stars.

In Korea five out of seven Medals of Honor awarded to Navy personnel went to Corpsmen serving with Marines.

In Vietnam three out of five Medal of Honors awarded Navy personnel went to Corpsmen serving with Marines.

The names of 692 Corpsmen are etched on the Memorial Wall. Some we knew personally, all we knew spiritually.

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Corpsman (continued...)

Although the Hospital Corps normally serves at hospitals and aboard ships during all conflicts and in peacetime, it is with the Marine Corps that they have made their greatest impact.

They have become respected members of the world's most elite fighting force.

Corpsmen are accepted as MARINES. They even cuss as well as we do.

They do everything Marines do and then some. Thanks to their courage and knowledge, over 95% of all wounded Marines in Vietnam recovered, myself one of them. Every Marine or Navy personnel who has been wounded in combat owes an everlasting debt to these men. There are a lot of us in the Association that can testify to that fact. Think about that you Teufelshund (Devil Dog).

Semper Fi, Dave Frink.

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