

ASSOCIATION CONTACT INFORMATION

P.O. Box 466 * Lisbon, Ohio 44432-0466 215-822-9094 * rogerbacon45@yahoo.com

President's Message



Hey Everyone,

What a great time we had in Nashville. Thank you to everyone who came. We got so many compliments on the reunion.

Make plans for the next reunion. It is in Tucson, Arizona September 15-21, 2025. We have a great hotel and a great lineup of activities. One of the many reasons to go to these reunions is getting to see various parts of the country. The desert's beauty is unlike where most of us live. The giant Saguaro cactus is unique to the Tucson area. They are everywhere and they are unique.

Big news for the reunion is that 2/3VVA (Vietnam Veterans

Association) will be joining us. They are us; they are 3rd Marine Division. Their president and I have worked on this for a few months. I have invited them to join us, and they voted to join us. I told them they can be their own chapter, like 1/3 is. We have a meeting room for them so they can have a meeting at the same time 1/3 is meeting in a room of their own too. Let's make them feel welcome. I will recognize them at larger functions.

In Tucson, we will celebrate the Marine Corp's 250th Birthday (a few weeks early). It will be a Friday evening reception like we had in San Diego with our Guest of Honor, a birthday cake, and who knows what. The Association is providing for the evening so this will be a no-cost event to attend. Let's celebrate together!

The Tucson reunion will be our 70th Annual Family Reunion! Make your plans now.

Please note: we have plenty of rooms, but some are regular 1 bedroom hotel rooms at \$119++, and some are 2-room suites at \$134++. First come gets their choice. This is a great hotel, excellent food, and very nice rooms. There is a nice large pool as well as a hot tub.

We have some fun activities planned that we will reveal soon. One of our outings I will reveal is a must! It is the Gaslight Theater, where they have melodrama/ spoof performances. That's where you boo the villain and cheer the hero, etc. We laughed the whole evening. How popular is it? On their website today, they have 27 performances left with the current show and 24 are sold out. 24 of 27 already sold out! They know what they are doing there. They have 9/10 performances a week. Amazing!

The very best to all of you.

Semper Fi,

Bob

Robert North, President Third Marine Division Association, Inc.

2024-2025 Association Officers

President	Bob North
Vice President	Joel Parreira
Secretary	William Taylor
Judge Advocate	Ron Thiewes
Sergeant-at-Arms	Joe Deloria
Chaplain	Frankie Harris
Medical Officer	Robert Adams
Chairman (Board of Directors)	Raymond Furlong
Association Manager	G. Roger Bacon
Treasurer	Roger Henry
Web Master	Gene Miller

Congratulations to our newest Board of Directors member who was voted in after the reunion in Nashville:

DAN ROM

Dan is also a member of 2/3 VVA who will be joining us in Tucson. They are 3rd Marine Division also.

3rd Marine Division Association Midshipman of the Year, Texas A&M University, largest university in the country.

Congratulations to newly minted **Second Lieutenant Cameron Paladino** at the Navy Marine Corps NROTC Commissioning Ceremony.





Congratulations to **Cadet Major Mehkhi Blue**, 3rd Marine División Association,
Marine Military Academy Cadet-of-theYear.

A RESILIENT MIND: NAVIGATING LIFE'S CHALLENGES

3rd Marine Division News

A Resilient Mind: Navigating Life's Challenges

30 Sep 2024 | Lance Cpl. Kindsey CalvertOkinawa Marines

CAMP COURTNEY, OKINAWA, JAPAN --

The Marine Corps is a close-knit community, through sharing stories and experiences Marines recognize their resiliency and support for one another. With September being suicide prevention month, there is a focus at 3d Marine Division on support and resiliency, which help create the strength and community Marines share.

"When we talk openly about our experiences, it reduces the stigma around mental health challenges and reminds others that they are not alone," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Andy Rodriguez, the 3rd Marine Division Suicide Prevention Program Coordinator. "It's important for Marines to know that seeking help is not a sign of weakness, but a sign of strength and resilience."

Safety, both emotional and physical, is at the foundation of human's basic needs. While fear can hold someone back, resiliency gives Marines the opportunity to recognize they have a choice in handling the challenges they face.

Christyann Cosio, a prevention analyst with 3d Marine Division Embedded Prevention Behavioral Health Capability (EPBHC) said that to her, resiliency is the inner strength that empowers individuals to rise in the face of adversity. "Resiliency is trusting in your ability to heal, rebuild, and move forward, no matter the challenges life throws your way. It's not just about enduring hardships but thriving through them."

Resiliency empowers Marines to adapt, strengthen character and maintain mental and emotional wellbeing. Marines who are resilient can maintain a sense of perspective and accept change within their lives; once change is accepted it becomes easier to face adversity and hardship.

Resources available to Marines and their families include Community Counseling Program (CCP), Chaplains, Marine Family and Life Counseling (MFLC), New Parent Support Program and Military OneSource.

Regardless of the stage a Marine is at, whether active duty, reserve, retired, enlisted or officer; there is community, because a Marine will always have the support of their fellow Marines.

Missing DD214 or Military Records

Get a copy of your DD214 or official military personnel record (OMPF)

Discharged 1998 or earlier:

National Personnel
Records Center
1 Archives Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138
MPR.center@nara.gov or
www.archives.gov/st-louis
Phone: 314-801-0800

Phone: 314-801-0800 Fax: 314-801-9195

Discharged 1999 or later:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMRP)
2008 Elliot Road
Quantico, VA 22134
www.manpower.usmc.mil/
webcenter/portal/MMRP20/
RecordsRequest
Phone: 800-268-3710

Source:

HQMC, M&RA, Separations & Retirement Branch

PURPLE HEART STAMPS

Captain Richard Black encourages all to use the PURPLE HEART stamps when mailing.



BOUGAINVILLE * GUAM * IWO JIMA * VIETNAM * SOUTHWEST ASIA * COLDWAR WAR ON TERRORISM * AFGHANISTAN * IRAQ * PEACETIME



Third Marine Division Association, Inc. Post Office Box 466 • Lisbon, OH 44432-0466

Post Office Box 466 • Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 (215) 822-9094



Dear Association Member:

A lasting tribute to deceased loved ones or friends may be made through a Memorial Donation to the Third Marine Division Association's GENERAL FUND or MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

To make your Memorial Donation, complete this form, enclose your donation, and mail it to the Association business office. Your donation will be acknowledged, an appropriate notification will be sent to the person you designate below without indicating the amount of the donation, and you will receive a copy.

The Third Marine Division Association, Inc., has been granted tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(19) of the IRS Code. All donations are tax deductible.

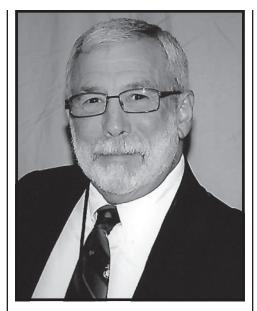
Association Manager:		Date:
Association Manager.		
Enclosed is my N	/lemorial Donatio	n of \$
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GENERAL FUND	MEMORIAL SC	CHOLARSHIP FUND
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Address:		
City:	_ State:	9-Digit ZIP:
Relationship to Deceased (if appl	icable):	
(Please retain this form for ι	ıse at appropri	iate time)

We are attempting to update the e-mail listing of our membership.

To assist us please confirm your e-mail by replying to: thirdmarinedivision@gmail.com

FROM THE ASSOCIATION MANAGER

WOW!!! What a great item for the Association. Everyone should already know that we received an autographed Charlie Daniels fiddle (see page 16) from an anonymous donor with the request that it be raffled at the Nashville Reunion and the money received be applied to our Operating Fund. We had a very successful raffle and the winner is a Life Member living in Hawaii. But, now for the TREMENDOUS NEWS!! He has re-donated the fiddle with the same understanding; that it be raffled at our Tucson Reunion and the funds be placed in the Operating Fund.



See tickets on Page 17. COPY, BUY and SELL them. What an opportunity to preserve the financial status of our great Association. Let's surpass last year's raffle!

Once again, I want to express how I feel about attending our Reunions. I get excited every year to see the BROTHERS

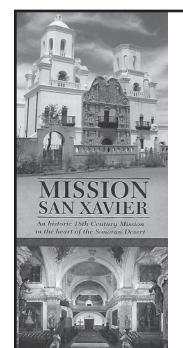
that I served with and those that I met and have become close friends with. Our brotherhood is forever and these once-a-year gatherings are important — especially with us getting older.

Each Reunion is the opportunity to meet new First Timers. Some of them have been riding the fence for years and finally decided to attend. Every one of us should meet them with open arms and make them feel welcome and important. Remember – we were all First Timers once!

Hope everyone stays safe and healthy. Looking forward to our 70th Reunion, September 15-21, 2025, in Tucson.

CALTRAP

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70TH ANNUAL FAMILY REUNION TUCSON, AZ SEPTEMBER 15 - 21, 2025

SHERATON TUCSON
HOTEL AND SUITES
- \$119++/NIGHT
& \$134++/NIGHT,
INCLUDES FREE
BREAKFAST

Nashville Reunion Friday 23 August 2024 Board of Directors Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

- **A. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman of the Board, Mr. Ray Furlong called the meeting to order at 11:00 hours.
- **B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Mr. Joe Deloria, Association Sergeant-at-Arms.
- **C. INVOCATION:** Association Chaplain Mr. Frankie Harris delivered the invocation.
- **D. ROLL CALL:** Mr. William Taylor Association Secretary, validated there was a quorum, proof of notice of the meeting.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING: Members of the Board, Jerry Graham Vice President, Don Bumgardner, Russ Zess, Jimmy Pitts, and Dennis Olson. Roll Call: Officers of the Third Marine Division Association President Bob North-present, Vice President Joel Parriera-present, Secretary Bill Taylor present, Sgt at Arms Joe Deloria-present, Chaplin Franke Harris-present, Medical Officer Doc Robert Adams-present, Treasurer Roger Henry-not present, Association Manager Roger Bacon-present. Other attendees present: General Bice past President, immediate past president, Jack Mattson guest, Paul Peterson former Treasurer.

E. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST YEAR: Minutes of the 2023 Board of Directors Meeting as published in the CALTRAP. Major General Bice moved that the minutes be accepted and approved. The motion was seconded by a Board Member, and the minutes were approved.

F. REPORTS OF THE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

- **1. President:** Mr. Bob North reported on Association membership and the need for new members. He suggested that we move our investment money from Vanguard to Schwab, as several members use Schwab and their return was 12% and 7%. North told the board that the return from Vanguard was 4.4%. He also said he has been working with the President of 2/3VVA and getting them to come to the reunion in Tucson. Gen Bice thanked Bob for doing a great job.
- 2. Vice President of the Association: Incoming VP Joel Parreira No report
- 3. Secretary: Incoming Secretary Bill Taylor No report
- 4. Treasurer: Roger Henry was unable to attend the meeting
- **5. Scholarship Fund:** Last year we had \$177,000 in the savings for MSF to be awarded to members' children for college. The awards are granted to the members' sons, daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Members must be paying members with our organization for at least 2 years. This award is also for active-duty Marines children who belong to our organization. This year we gave ten awards totaling \$22,000. We had several donors in the past who bequeathed over \$40,000 toward our scholarship fund.
- 6. Judge Advocate: (OA) No report
- 7. Chaplin Report: No report8. Sergeant At Arms: No report9. Medical Officer: No report

G. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPORTS:

- 1. Reunion Advisory: Next year's reunion will be in Tucson, AZ
- **2. Membership, New member issues.** General Bice said we have 3,500 members on our Facebook page. General Bice oversees the Facebook page and has been extremely successful getting Marines to join

facebook. Ray Furlong said, "If we could get an eighth of those members to join, we would be doing good. We would greet them with open arms." Furlong suggested that we might try to get a hold of Women Marine Organizations because they have had a big role in our Corps. Furlong stated that he had met a few that were nurses in Vietnam. They had a terrible job helping wounded Marines. Roger Bacon said we met a lot of them at the Colorado Springs Reunion. We should honor them if they join our organization. Furlong knew one Woman Marine that recently passed away and they went through a tremendous amount of trauma. When they came home, they had to quit the nursing profession because of all the trauma they saw treating the wounded. VA was not allowing them any VA assistance because they felt it wasn't a real trauma situation. The VA is working on that now. We are proud to have General Bice here. His knowledge and help are incredibly valuable. General Bice stated that the Women Marine Associations are extremely active and the largest growing organization with tremendous funding. They get a lot of sponsorship from a lot of female cosmetic and clothing entities. We need to embrace them. Bill Taylor stated the membership committee will focus on a 200-mile radius around the Tucson, AZ area looking for new members from existing Marine Corps Leagues, VFW's and American Legions to join us in Tucson. Ray Furlong suggested that we should do some recruiting with the sons and daughters of Vietnam Veterans. We have several new members attending our reunion this year. Association survival is our upcoming goal. We all need to keep asking other Marines to join. With new members we will continue to survive. There was a discussion on how to encourage other Marine organizations who supported the Third Marine Division to join us. We are the strongest Marine organization, and we need to get other Marine organizations that are failing to join us and make us even stronger. It would be great to create new chapters utilizing these other organizations. This way we can be in a better position to negotiate future reunions. Over one hundred and eighty individuals attended this reunion.

3. Awards Committee: No report

4. Bylaws: No report

5. Resolutions: No report6. Nominations: No report

7. Budget and Finance: No report

8. Reunion Journal: No report

H. SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPORTS:

1. Memorial Scholarship Fund: Ray Furlong mentioned in review of scholarship awards we have a great program, and we currently have \$177,000 in it. Last year we had 14 children. This year we have 10 and we gave \$20,200 away to children combined, which equates to \$1,200 for each semester. A lot of people donated money. A great gentleman Oliver Smith bequeath \$48,000 after his death at 99 years old. General Bice said that many might not be aware that the scholarship fund is available for Third Division Association and active service members. We might have some active Marines who have children ready to go to college and they can apply for a scholarship through the Third Marine Scholarship Fund, provided they are active paying members for two years. They are even available to grandchildren.

2. Humanitarian Programs: No report

3. Dedicated Membership Page Program: No report

4. Distinguished Benefactor Program: No report

I: UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No unfinished business

J: NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chairman Ray Furlong: We are very honored to have a special guest, Brigadier General Matthew T. Good and Captain Mason Greg attend our meeting. General Good is the Assistant Division Commander

of the Third Marine Division in Okinawa and both are attending the meeting today. The actual Divisional Commander wanted to come but sent his second in command in his place and they flew all the way from Okinawa.

- **2.** Bill Taylor stated that we are going to be donating this white and red Marine Corps Flag to Mission BBQ from our members. We encourage everyone to sign it. Bill Taylor will send it to the owners of Mission BBQ to be placed in one of their stores.
- **3.** Chairman Furlong mentioned in Washington DC he met a gentleman named Lee Ellis who wrote a book. He was confined for five and a half years of which he spent two to three years in solitary confinement. I asked him that it must have been a horrible thing to be confined so long day in and day out confined in a 5X10 cell. He said, "Ray I was never by myself because I was always with God. I said a lot of great prayers and that is the reason I'm here today, my faith in God. Talk about sacrifice to this country just like all the POW's and God only knows what they went through.
- **4.** Don Bumgardner said he was able to get one of the original guys who served with us in Vietnam, and he was wounded on January 19, 1968. I sent him the information about the reunion, and he said he would be there, and he is here today. Roger Bacon said that it was the first time we have seen him in 58 years. He is here and is having a ball. He is very emotional at seeing us again. He said he is coming to Tucson.
- **5.** General Bice wanted to mention that Bill Ervin is missing because of a medical condition, and he is being missed. He was a Past President and he and Ahn have come to every reunion since I've been coming. Attending a reunion is very helpful and healthy.
- **6.** Chairman Furlong mentioned that he was talking to a widow of one of our members and she said that coming to the reunions was so important to him. He would meet up with others in his unit and talk about life in and out of the Marines. Others would ask him about his service, and it was hard to share until he came to the reunions. Look at Ronnie Bubonics whose husband died three years ago, and she brought her daughter, two granddaughters and her daughter's husband here and they have been coming since the California reunion. We have recognized her and her family. She may be the only widow here this year.
- 7. General Bice mentioned that in our membership drive, we need to single out folks who have served in our division or supported the division a lot of which served us in the combat service support organizations including truck drivers, cooks, supply clerks, and mechanics and sometimes feel left out and we must include them as we go along and make them feel welcome. In my public life I've met more Navy Seals, Special Forces and Recon of which when I served, we didn't have that many. A lot of Marines served in combat support like even administration supported the grunts in the field and recognized them as much like the Seabees. Further discussion was about war stories and future friendships. We all know that 58,000 were killed in Vietnam and we need to honor those Marines along with those that came home with mental and physical problems. We also need to start honoring those Marines who came home only to commit suicide due to PTSD.
- 8. Bill Taylor commented that a lot of veterans from the Gulf War come home only to committed suicide and, in my eyes, they need to be recognized. Twenty-two vets commit suicide a day exactly like Vietnam Veterans. I'm also on the Lake County Veterans Court Mentor program which is a new, and growing program across the country to help veterans who have come home and turned to drugs or alcohol and have been in trouble with the law for various infractions. It allows them to get a second chance before going to jail.
- **9.** Bob North mentioned that the VA homeless Veterans don't have good clothes, and we are encouraged to help them by getting them clothes to get jobs and feel better about themselves.
- **10.** Bill Taylor's book On Full Automatic was talked about as being a good representation of what SLF-Alpha and 1/3 went through. They are lucky they are alive.
- 11. General Good made an observation that as he listened to everyone speak. He realized what a great group of people we are. He said everyone he knows would want to be a part of this great organization. I watched

Continued from page 9

you interact with each other and on the same wavelength you are almost finishing each other's sentences. You all have such a high team cognition and a high degree of love and respect you have for one another. It's an honor to be in the room with all of you. Captain Greg said he has learned a lot like the 22 a day that a veteran commits suicide. I'm in touch with everything you are saying. I don't feel worthy enough to be here, but it is an honor to be with you all today. Many returned the compliment that it was our honor to be here with you and the general.

- **12.** Russ Zess mentioned that the Wisconsin Chapter will celebrate its 30th year anniversary this year on November 30th and all are welcome to join in there chapter's celebration. Bill Taylor offered to write a congratulatory note to the Wisconsin Chapter to honor them in their amazing accomplishments over the last 30 years.
- 13. Ray Furlong made an announcement that he intends to stay one more year as Chairman of the Board because he has other responsibilities that he needs to take care of. Roger Bacon said he would do another year, but he would be unable to continue as Association Manager due to his many other responsibilities which is a real loss for us. As Bill Taylor stated you have done a tremendous job for our organization and that Roger isn't giving up, but he holds many other positions with veteran organizations in Ohio.
- 14. Bumgardner said, out of 26 Marines that he went over to fight in Vietnam together and arrived in Okinawa in 1967 for training for SLF-Alpha, 22 had been awarded between 1 and 3 Purple Hearts, two were killed and only two were blessed not to receive a Purple Heart. Don Bumgardner also stated that two of the 1/3 Captains that came to the reunions, one from Bravo and one from Charlie Companies mentioned to him that in their thirty years of service in the Marine Corps their time with 1/3 was the most significant times of their service. General Bice mentioned that servicemen have told him that aside from getting married and having kids their time in the Marine Corps of two to four years was the most significant time in their life and now they are my age.

NOMINATION OF NEW ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

1. VICE PRESIDENT: Joel Parreira

2. SECRETARY: Bill Taylor

NOMINATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

1. Russ Zess

2. Dennis Olson

Great Meeting today and we are very honored to have General Good and Captain Greg attend our meeting/ You are the Marine Corps now.. We all saluted the flag to end the meeting.

--

William V. Taylor Jr.

THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING 24 AUGUST 2024 NASHVILLE, TN

Bob North called the meeting to order. He welcomed everyone to Nashville and stated that we are having a very successful Reunion. He went on to inform the membership that next year, our 70th Reunion, will be in Tucson, AZ, on September 15-21, 2025. The hotel rate would be \$119 day and include free breakfast. More details will be provided.

Last year's minutes were published in the Caltrap. It was voted to accept and was approved as written.

Bob North has had discussions with 2/3 about them becoming a separate Chapter like 1/3. Their BOD met and decided to join us in Tucson.

It was explained that at the Friday BOD meeting a decision was made to transfer our investment monies from Vanguard to Charles Schwab. We will have two accounts – one for the MSF and one for the Association.

The MSF awarded ten scholarships this year. The BOD approved the appointments of Dennis Olson and Russ Zess as new Board members and William Taylor as the new Association Secretary.

The membership voted to accept and approve these appointments.

At the BOD meeting, we had the pleasure of having Brigadier General Matthew Good and Captain Mason Greg attend. General Good is the Assistant Division Commander of the Third Marine Division in Okinawa and they both will be at the Banquet this evening.

The sweepstakes raffle was held and the winners were:

Grand Prize Winner: Jack Milligan Second Prize Winner: Jimmy Pitts Third Prize Winner: Jimmy Pitts

Gordon C. Nash

Major General, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.)

205 Pamlico Lane Chocowinity, NC 27817 h: 252-833-0661 c: 252-933-0993 nashgc1@gmail.com



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

ATTENTION, PLEASE. Please help us to keep current with our membership. We need change of address information, or any contact information changes like phone or email. We also need to know when someone passes away. We need your help.

Thank you very much and Semper Fi!

3RD MARINE DIVISION NEWS

3d Littoral Combat Team Wins 2024 U.S. Marine Corps Annual Rifle Squad Competition 21 May 2024 | 2nd Lt. Emily Zito, 3rd Marine Division

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, VA --

A U.S. Marine rifle squad with 3d Littoral Combat Team, participated in the 2024 U.S. Marine Corps Annual Rifle Squad competition from April 29- May 3, 2024.

Top rifle squads from 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th Marine Division traveled to Marine Corps Base Quantico, to represent their respective units and compete to be named the best of the best. The U.S. Marine Corps Annual Rifle Squad Competition is a service level competition to determine, in a simulated combat environment, which Marine rifle squad most effectively demonstrates proficiency in their combat capabilities. Over the grueling 72-hour event, each squad was tested on marksmanship, decision-making skills, and their physical and mental toughness.

The Annual Rifle Squad Competition consisted of 6 phases; each phase designed to test the organic capabilities expected of a Marine Rifle squad. The first phase was a Squad Skill Evaluation (SSE), an 11-mile course with 11 different stations along the way. Stations included assembly and disassembly of weapons, water survival, an obstacle course, basic infantry skills tests, and employing communications and weapons assets in tactical scenarios. In phase 2, with only 3 hours to execute, there was no margin for error as squads occupied defensive positions and generated sector sketches that are crucial to establishing an impenetrable and interlocking defense. The next three phases worked in tandem to evaluate the individual rifleman's marksmanship in the Infantry Marksmanship Assessment (IMA), and the squad's collective offensive tactics on two live-fire ranges including two day and two night attacks. In the phases that included live-fire ranges, success was measured by the greatest number of effective rounds on the Trackless Mobile Infantry Targets (TMITs), an autonomous robotic target system used to provide a more realistic training environment. The 6th and final phase tested unit cohesion; Marines conducted 45 minutes of ground fighting while working through Tactical Decision Games (TDG) as a squad. Each squad gave their all but only one would emerge the champion.

On May 9th, nearly a week after the competition ended, 1st squad, 1st platoon, C Company, 3d Littoral Combat Team was announced as the winner of this 3-day competition. They were recognized not only for their unparalleled performance but also for being the first littoral combat team to secure the title in Marine Corps history.

"Our training here at the LCT, staying tactical and always ready, conducting patrol-based operations, and day and night live-fire squad attacks prepared us for the Marine Corps Squad Comp," remarked Squad Leader Staff Sgt. Nathan Olsen, reflecting the squad's training in preparation of the event. "It's why we were able to be so proficient when it mattered."

As part of the Force Design initiative, the 3d Marine Littoral Regiment, and its subordinate units, operate using new unit structures and task organization that are different from the traditional Marine infantry battalions. Olsen highlights what set his squad apart from their competitors,

"The experience level of my team leaders and how proficient they are, allowed us to operate extremely decentralized. It also just boils down to the individual Marine and their competitive spirit; we were there to win, and everyone understood that."

The squad's achievement underscores their unmatched performance and validates the changes the squad, and its parent unit, have undergone since its re-designation in 2021. As a Force Design guided concept, the shift towards a unit structure that is more agile, low signature, and able to operate in a disaggregated environment is meant to meet the demands of future conflict.

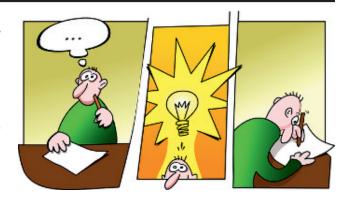
"Their victory proves that the rifle squad structure being employed here at 3d Littoral Combat Team is sound," said Capt. Sean Mulligan, the company commander for the winning squad. "However, the essential element of their success was each member's individual character. That is what I'm most proud of. These Marines embody what it means to be a riflemen and infantry small unit leaders; they demonstrate these qualities in both preparation and competition."

Forged by their legacy capabilities and fueled by strategic adaptability, the 3d LCT's triumph validates the Force Design concept for the Marine Littoral Regiment and the Fleet Marine Force. It signifies not just a singular achievement, but a testament to the continued innovation happening within the Marine Corps to meet any pacing threat and win. Their ability to operate in diverse environments and execute missions, from the squad to the regimental level, with precision and determination underscores the MLR as a cornerstone of Marine Corps operations.

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A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

The Lieutenant stood looking into North Vietnam. It was monsoon season. A morose sky was sending a constant light drizzle over the Battalion Landing Team 1/3 (BLT) area known as Alpha-3. No air support today due to the weather. The BLT had been assigned as perimeter security while Marine engineers constructed one more firebase south of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) that separated North and South Viet Nam. The BLT had just arrived and relieved the previous battalion that had provided perimeter security. The construction of the fire base was underway and only partially completed.

The Marines had defensive fire bases located south of the DMZ in a line that would become known by as McNamara's line. The Marine portion of the line was comprised of Doc Mieu, the easternmost fire base closest to the shore of the China Sea, then westward to Gio Linh, Con Thien, the Rock Pile, south to Cam Lo, westerly to Camp Carroll and lastly Khe Sanh, the Marine base nearest to the Laos border.

The Marine engineers had cleared a 600 meters wide area along the easter portion of this defensive line which the Marines informally called the "Trace." The Trace was seven miles long and it ran from the China Sea floodplain east of Gio Linh to Gio Linh to Con Thien. The first fire bases to be completed were Alpha-1 (easternmost at the flood plain), Alpha-2 (at Gio Linh), and Alpha-4 (at Con Thien). Alpha-3, centered between Gio Linh and Con Thien, was now under construction and was the last fire base to be constructed along the Trace.

Gio Linh, Con Thien and Alpha-3 were all well within range of artillery and rockets fired from North Viet Nam. The newly arrived BLT had just lost its Executive Officer to 85MM artillery when a round had hit just beyond the entrance to the Command Bunker. He was standing in the door which faced away from the North Vietnamese guns, but the force of the explosion was such that the shrapnel tore into his body killing him. One more Killed in Action, one more Medivac overseen by the Forward Air Controller. This was also the BLT's second time in this particular area. The first was Operation Buffalo where the Battalion had endured an incoming 1,000 round rocket and artillery barrage preparatory to a North Vietnamese onslaught.

The Lieutenant remembered Operation Buffalo so sleep would be difficult. In addition, the North Vietnamese liked to fire an artillery or rocket round or two during the night just to keep Marines awake.

The Lieutenant was looking for a dry place to sleep or at least an area sheltered from the rain where he could place his "rubber Lady", an affectionate Marine term for the inflatable air mattresses issued to Marines. Dry was important! Anywhere he might stay dry for the night was important! Sheltered from artillery was important! He had been a Forward Air Controller with the Battalion for six months and still had two more months remaining on his tour in Viet Nam. Shelter was his foxhole. This was his 20th or so ground operation with the BLT. He had quit counting after the tenth.

Trying to avoid using one of the pre-dug trenches that were filling with water or digging a foxhole where dry was impossible, the Lieutenant was scouting the area looking for dry or at least less wet. While slipping and sliding around the area what should he see but a M10l Utility Trailer for a two and one-half ton truck. The truck had been in use in the U.S. military since WW-2. Marines informally called it the "duce and a half" or "6-by". Now this trailer was not the small trailer one sees behind a jeep but a nice big trailer. The bed of this trailer is eight feet long (long enough to stretch out and sleep!) and it had two other special features: a canvas cover and it was in its own foxhole. The entire trailer was below ground in

a "foxhole" that had been scraped out by a bulldozer. Equipment such as this, jeeps, generators etc., were placed in these u-shaped "foxholes" so that North Vietnamese artillery observers couldn't zero artillery fire in on them.

This was surely heaven. A dry foxhole! As the Lieutenant climbed into the trailer, he noticed a small trickle of water coming into his new foxhole but dismissed it as being too small to have any effect on his good night's sleep. He promptly blew up his rubber lady and settled in for a C-Ration dinner. After eating, he laid down to sleep leaving on his flak jacket and helmet as was his habit. Sleep came almost immediately.

Later in the night, the Lieutenant woke up squirming around and feeling wet and it was raining on his face. He immediately placed his hand down to push himself into a sitting position, but his hand didn't stop going down. It just went down in water. He was floating on his rubber lady and had floated out of the trailer over its tailgate into the rain. Worse yet, as he sat up, the air mattress folded into a big "V" and now he was submerged in water up to his chest. What could he do but paddle to the edge of his new swimming pool and climb out of the "dry" foxhole.

Now what? He gathered his gear (his pack was hung up on a notch in the trailer) and slipping and sliding he clambered out of the foxhole. He was now thoroughly wet, muddy and miserable. His poncho was no use since he was thoroughly wet, and his feet sloshed in his jungle boots. So much for a good night's sleep. What to do? What to do?

There was only one thing to do at midnight in the rain. Volunteer. The only truly dry and sheltered place left was the Command Bunker.

Now the protocol was that only Marines on watch were allowed to be in the Command Bunker. That bunker was not for general use as a safe haven. Operations had to be coordinated without Marines falling over each other. So, off the Lieutenant went to volunteer for watch duty.

As he moved the poncho covering the entrance to the Command Bunker all heads turned to look at him. Not only did he feel foolish, he could only picture himself looking like Willie or Joe from the Bill Mauldin cartoons of WW-2; completely bedraggled and unkempt. All he could utter was, "Do you all mind if I keep you company?" Thankfully no one objected and he was invited in probably out of mercy. He gratefully entered and looked around for a place to sit.

As he looked around, he spotted the Australian Liaison Officer newly assigned to the Battalion for this particular exercise. He was sitting on an embarkation box, and he motioned the Lieutenant over to have a seat next to him. Introductions were made and the Lieutenant sat down. The Australian Captain looked like a newsreel picture of an Aussie soldier. He had red hair and a large handlebar mustache and a ruddy face! He had on his slouch hat which was turned up one side and pinned with his Regimental pin and it included emu feathers indicating that he was Armored Corps. They made small talk while the Lieutenant tried to make himself as comfortable as possible under the circumstances.

After the Lieutenant settled in as much as he could under the circumstances, the Australian Captain asked if he would like a drink. The surprised Lieutenant replied yes thinking he had some coffee or a Coke or 7-Up to share. The Australian Captain then pulled a bottle of scotch out of his pack totally surprising the Lieutenant. He then handed the bottle to the Lieutenant indicating that he should pour himself a drink. Drinking in combat was frowned upon by the Marine Corps as survival depended upon being alert and the Lieutenant had not ever had a drink during a combat operation. The Lieutenant decided a small drink would be okay as he was still wet and shivering with the cold. Wet and cold during the monsoon season is truly a miserable experience. A little warmth from the inside would be good! So, the Lieutenant poured himself a small portion into his pint-sized canteen cup to sip on and handed the bottle back thanking its owner. Canteen cups fit around the canteen in a pouch on your hip.

The Australian Captain then asked if he could see the Lieutenant's canteen cup. Surprised, the Lieutenant handed it to him. The Australian Captain then opened the scotch bottle and proceeded to fill the canteen cup to the brim while the Lieutenant's eyes got bigger and bigger as the scotch in the cup got higher and higher until the cup was full to the brim. The Australian Captain then proceeded to hand the canteen cup back to the Lieutenant who had a hard time keeping it from spilling as the cup was so full and he was still shaking from the cold. Holding the cup in both hands he got the cup to his mouth and took a large enough sip that the scotch wouldn't spill.

The Lieutenant and the Australian Captain then talked for a good while sharing stories of home and war. After a while the cup was empty. The Lieutenant was now warm from the inside out and almost dry. He was feeling good. The Lieutenant said thanks and goodnight to his new friend, found an empty dry comer in the bunker, and laid himself down to sleep. He slept well.

And that my friends is how I got a good night's sleep in a combat zone within range of the North Vietnamese Army's artillery.

Lieutenant Joe "Cardiac" Hart.

MSF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2024 - 10:00AM

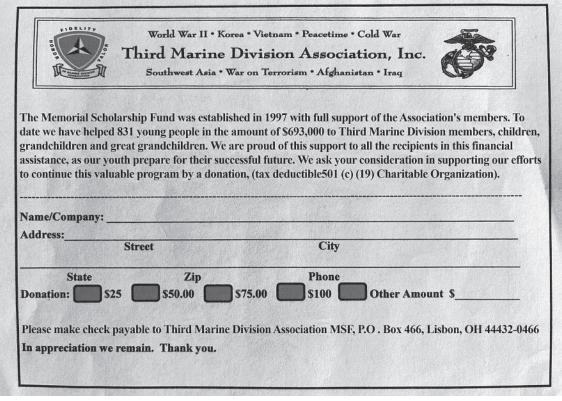
Trustees present: Gregg Schaffer, Annette Loper, Paul Peterson, Dennis Olsen, Ray Furlong, Beth Pitts, Vincent Matthews, Victor Navarro, Linda North, Pete Post.

Trustee absent: Arthur Alston

Guests: Frankie Harris & Hague "Smokey" Kiser. Mr. Kiser said that his Grandson was a scholarship recipient and wanted to publicly thank the trustees stating that his Grandson graduated from college and has a good job and is doing well.

- Pete Post was nominated to continue as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and was elected unanimously.
- Annette Loper suggested that we have a monthly financial report. In the past MSF funds were included in several investment accounts and it has been difficult to come up with an account balance. Now the Association has set up a separate investment account for MSF so that the balance can be brought up with ease. She would like a listing for each donation on the report. A motion was made by Paul Peterson and a second by Victor Navarro that the Sec/Treas should send a financial report each quarter to each Trustee. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.
- Annette Loper volunteered to send follow up letters to scholarship recipients. This will be done in the fall after scholarships have been awarded.
- After brief discussion it was unanimously voted to keep award limits between \$1,500 and \$2,500.
- Linda North brought up the complexity of the application process. Is it necessary to ask the parents income, mortgage and house payment. Is it necessary to figure percentage of income to cost of school. After discussion a motion was made by Paul Peterson with second by Dennis Olsen to eliminate the percentage of income to cost of school but to keep the application the same. The vote was unanimous to accept the motion.
- Pete Post proposed an amendment to the MSF bylaws to include scholarship consideration for a son of an active duty Marine to attend the Marine Military Academy. Paul Peterson quoted facts and figures abnut the financial status of the Marine Military Academy. Linda North pointed out that those same facts & figures could apply to any University that our students attend. Annette Loper expressed her strong disapproval of the proposal stating that when she accepted the position of trustee that she pledged to do the best job she could to provide scholarships to Association family members only. Victor Navarro made a motion to move forward with amending the MSF bylaws to include scholarship consideration for a son of an active duty Marine to attend the Marine Military Academy. Beth Pitts second the motion. A vote was taken with 6 for and 4 opposed. With the passing of this motion the process will continue by presenting the amendment in the Caltrap for 1 year and will be voted on by the general membership in the meeting to be held in 2025.
- With no further business to be brought to the board the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted Linda North Sec/Trees



RAFFLE

The Association recently received a black and white photo of Charlie Daniels and a fiddle, both autographed by Charlie Daniels, along with a Certificate of Authenticity. The anonymous donor requested that we raffle it at this year's Reunion in NashvilJe with the resulting funds being applied to our General Operating Fund. Below is the Charlie Daniels photo and a photo of the fiddle and case.

Please buy or sell these tickets at \$5 each. We will award the winner on-20 September 2025 at the Tuscon Saturday Banquet. The winner need not be present.

Ticket stubs and checks being sent by mail must be returned <u>no later than Monday, 8 September 2025</u>, to the Third Marine Division, PO Box 466, Lisbon, Oh 44432. Checks/money orders must be made payable to: Third Marine Division Association.

NOTE: PLEASE MAKE SURE WE CAN READ THE NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER ON EACH TICKET.





World War II * Korea * Vietnam * Peacetime * Cold War

Third Marine Division Association, Inc.



Southwest Asia * War on Terrorism * Afghanistan * Iraq

Name	-	Name		Name		Name Address	
Phone	 	Phone		Phone		Phone	
Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025	CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025 Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466	Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025	Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025
Name	+ 	Name		Name		Name Address	
Phone	' 	Phone		Phone		Phone	
Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025	CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025 Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466	Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025	Donation: \$5 Each Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 CHARLIE DANIELS RAFFLE Saturday, September 20, 2025



CHAPTER Happenings



1/3 CHAPTER

Another reunion is in the books, and it was fantastic. The camaraderie was incredible. It was a true experience to have Major General Good attend and give a speech at our annual dinner on the preparedness of our Third Marine Division, currently stationed in Okinawa.

I hope to see everyone in Tucson, AZ in September.

Don Bumgardner wrote an incredible piece and a few of us 1/3 guys thought we should publish it for everyone to see. Here it is.

Semper Fi, Bill

Hello all.

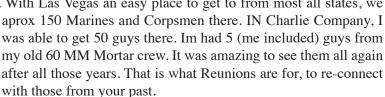
Been thinking the past couple of days on the most recent Reunion in Nashville, TN. Many thoughts going through my mind. The Reunion in Nashville did draw a good gathering, think I heard about 180 folks. Many places to see, and the hotel worked out okay. My thanks to all that attended, and hope you all enjoyed it like I did. To those that couldn't make it, you missed a good one. Maybe next year.

I have been going to Reunions since about 2004 or 2005 (Scottsdale, AZ), was my first. Another Marine and I drove there from California, and went to

the 1st Bn / 3rd Marines Unit Meeting, where I met Bill Ervin. I found out about the onethreemarines.com web site a couple years prior. THAT started me in my search for Marines I served in Vietnam with Charlie Company, 1st Bn / 3rd Marines from Feb 67 to March 68. Having compiled a History of 1/3 in Vietnam 65-69 from the declassified information from HQ Marines, Bill made me the 1/3 Historian. I accepted the Historian position, and continued to search for Charlie Company Marines and Corpsmen.

In 2007, the Reunion that year was in Las Vegas, NV. With Las Vegas an easy place to get to from most all states, we had a Great turnout. Think that 1st Bn /3rd Marines had aprox 150 Marines and Corpsmen there. IN Charlie Company, I





Through the years, Bill Irvin asked me to take over our 1/3 Marines web site. That has been a rewarding task, and I have found lots more Charlie Company and 1/3 Marines. We have had many outstanding 3rd Mar Division Reunions, with 1/3 having our mini-Reunion(get togethers) there too. We handle the BUNKER, at the Reunions, great place to gather and hang out sharing stories, pictures, and information.

The Nashville Reunion will go down as one of my top two reunions. Guess I checked off my Bucket List of going to the Grand





Ole Opera. But the best was, I was able to meet up with 6 of the Marines from my old Mortar crew. Jerry Kelly from my first Operation Beaver Cage, he got wounded on May 2nd, 1967 in front of me. Guess we had a lot of Mortar guys wounded on that Operation. We were on SLF-A at the time. Getting back aboard the USS Okinawa mid May, I got two new Marines in my Mortar squad(L/Cpl Ray Blessinger and Cpl Donald Bosley), I was still PFC. We three were together for the next 7 plus months. In early October Cpl Arnold Ewings, joined us. Arnold's first night in Nam, we got over-ran on Operation Medina-Welcome to Vietnam! Then in November John Kaufman joined the crew. In early December Roger Henry joined our Mortar crew. The "Word" in Nam was that CIA were attempting to infiltrate units in Vietnam. Roger being a Big, College educated guy, possible Football player, I asked him if he was "CIA". He said no, but my nickname for him was "CIA". Looking back could have got him killed hanging that name on him. But I was young, only 20 years old, that is my excuse. So, when I had sent out information about the Nashville Reunion, "Bos" sent a email back to me saying he would be there. We had last seen "Bos" Jan 19th. 1968 when he left "Bless" and me at C-4 to man the 60MM mortar there and went north with a reaction force to help a platoon, that had been ambushed. "Bos" got wounded. That was the last time that any of us had seen "Bos", 56 plus years ago. Being with "Bless" and "Bos' and

the others at the Reunion, made my Day. Been on Cloud Nine since. When "Bos" was leaving, he said he had been hesitant coming to the Reunion after all these years, but all he got was Love from all of us. He said he was sorry he hadn't come sooner. He said he will be at next years, with the good lord willing. We Mortar guys got to thank all the Grunts, Machine Gunners, and Rocket Guys on the front lines, for protecting the Captains Artillery (60MM Mortars), as most of us made it home without a Purple Heart.

The main reason I am forwarding this email is to let everyone know, what a great time one can have at the Reunions. There were First Timers there that I'm sure enjoyed the activities. We are a fun group to hang with. We need some of the younger Marines to come into the Association, they will be the future. As we Vietnam Vets were 20 years ago.

I have encouraged all and any Marine or Corpsman, I know to go to a reunion. Most that go continue to go each year. I noticed that after joining the association, that a lot of the older WWII Marines lived for the Reunions each year. Now most of them are gone, and we Vietnam era guys are going too fast. So if you are healthy enough to travel, hope that you will consider the future Reunions. I know a lot of Marines that did not make it to Nashville, due to medical issues. WE are getting older as each year passes. In Nam we were late teens and early 20s. Now, I will be 77 years old in less than 2 weeks. Hope you all the best this coming year, and stay healthy.

Our next Reunion will be in Tucson, AZ in September next year. Now is a good time to start planning to be there.

Semper Fi, Don Bumgarner C/1/3 67-68





NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

The New England Chapter held its fall meeting on Saturday, October 19th on Cape Cod, MA at the Ambassador Inn and Suites in South Yarmouth. Members that arrived the day before enjoyed dinner together at Girardi's Italian Restaurant.

Saturday's meeting was called to order at 11:04 AM. Members rose for the Pledge of Allegiance and the Opening Prayer.

The Chapters Secretary, Elaine Frangente, read the minutes of our Spring meeting.

Treasurer, Deane Taylor, gave his financial report covering the dates Jan 1 through Oct 18, 2024.

Subjects discussed under old and new business included Nashville Reunion events, the change in Association investments and Memorial Scholarship awards. It was noted that Ray and Rose Kelly are safe in Florida after riding out two hurricanes.

The next Chapter meeting is planned for April 5,2025 in Kittery, Maine.

Chaplin, Cynthia Olson, read the Closing Prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Members enjoyed a pizza lunch during which a raffle was held and "Friend of the Chapter", Linda Reifke, celebrated her birthday with a cake and card.



Left: Chaplin Cynthia Olson Right: Linda Reifke, the birthday girl.













Continued on page 21

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER

SCUTTLEBUTT OCTOBER 2024



Web: https://www.caltrap.org/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/637384196367192/

Pacific Northwest Chapter Third Marine Division Association FOUNDER: Marine Richard 'Bill' Call WWII Iwo Jima & Korean War Chosen Few Est. 20 August 2005 501(c) (19) EIN: 20-280757

THE FIGHTING THIRD

Sepius Exertus Often Tested ~ Frater Infinitas Brothers Forever

2023-24 Officers
President

John Murphy 503-246-8756

murphy2510@msn.com

Vice President/Treasurer Jon Haskins 206-930-2731

jon.haskins@comcast.ne t

Judge Advocate

Maurice Deets 503-650-3807 morrie@deets.us

Secretary

John Stofiel 360-907-5342

jfstofiel@comcast.net

Chaplain

Al Johnson 503-812-8073 <u>rvnut@live.com</u>

Sgt. at Arms

Larry Ward 740-432-4813

captam1945@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENTS

Richard W. 'Bill'
Call~2005 Chris Lanham
Jr~2007
John Stofiel~2009
Jim Sheehan ~ 2011
John Murphy ~ 2013
Maurice Deets ~2015
Robert Pierce ~2017
Jon Haskins ~ 2018
John Stofiel 2019-2022

No Quorum/Minutes in September.

President John Murphy, J/A Morrie Deets, Secretary John Stofiel, and our Chaplain Al Johnson enjoyed a good meal and excellent sea stories were shared. No meeting in September. We will be hosting a Joint gathering with the Columbia River Chapter 1stMarDiv Association 1100 16 October 2024.



https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-helpnow/military-crisis-line/

If you haven't been in touch with your Brother...



Why Not?



NEVER FORGOTTEN

John Atkins Dale Beaty Randolph R. Bebout Richard Bertz Robert W Blake Alec Bodenweiser Percy E. Brandon Bart Bullard Donald Brownrigg Adam J. Buyers Richard 'Bilol' Call Theodore Campbell Benjamin Carson Louis A Claudio Robert A. Creedon Daniel Crocket William Dowdle Jr Phillp L. Fields Douglas Flood Russell Gieseke Walter Gustafson Ron F. Harmon David J. Hendry Malcom Herd W. Bill Hillgaertner Gerald Huck Sr. Melvin B. Jensen Howard R Kahl William E Kelly Michael P Kneefe John Leafgren Curtis R. Leonhardy Allan Lichens Tunny McCollum Warren McPherson Rocky Meyer Gerald Mallette William A. Moskaluk Lee Parks Robert Pierce Robert M Reiley Kenneth Reusser Hans-Jurgen Seidlitz Garrett Shallcross Michael E. Stein William Stone John Swindle William A Trumble Bob Ventura Robert Walton Melvin H Weisner Richard D Wiley Howard Weinacker Robert Ventura

PNW 3RD MARINE DIVISION ASSOC. 6204 KANSAS ST VANCOUVER, WA 98661-6924 POSTAGE MARINES, NAVY CORPMEN, CHAPLAINS CONTINUING SERVICE TO THE NATION DAILY

POSTAGE

MEMBER ADDRESS LABEL



3d Marine Division officially activated. 16 September 1942 at Camp Elliott, San Diego, CA (80 Yrs.)

We welcome all Marines, Navy Corpsmen, Chaplains, and those who adhere to the mores of our Corps as Associates for community service, social interaction, and camaraderie. We have members from all eras of service and a lot of experience and community resources to share.3rd Wednesday of each month 1100-1300 brunch/business meeting @ High Rocks Restaurant & Lounge 915 E Arlington St. Gladstone, OR

"MARINE CORPS HISTORY"





2000 being towed

2024 headed for Israel.

12 October 2000 - The USS Cole (DDG 67) was disabled following a terrorist explosion that killed 17 sailors and wounded 39 while refueling in the harbor of Aden, Yemen. The ship was in transit from the Red Sea to Bahrain. Marines of the 2d Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team (FAST) were deployed to the Cole to assist in securing and investigating the area. The USS Cole was named after Sergeant Darrell Samuel Cole, USMC, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry in World War II.



SCUTTLEBUTT page3

THE MEMBER WHO NEVER CAME BACK

It amuses me to think that your group spends so much time looking for new members when I was there all the time. Do you remember me? I'm the person you asked to join. I paid my dues and was asked to be a loyal and faithful member.

I'm the person who came to every meeting but nobody paid any attention to me. I tried to be friendly but everyone seemed to have their own friends to talk and sit with.

I sat with different people several times but they did not pay much attention to me.

I hoped somebody would ask me to join one of the committees or do something but no one did.

Finally, because of illness I missed a meeting. When I came again no one asked me where I had been.

I guess it did not matter much whether I came or not.

Next time I decided to stay home and watch a good TV show.

When I came back again no one asked where I was the month before.

You might say I'm a good person, fun loving and religious.

You know what else I am?

I'm the member who never came back.

TEXAS CHAPTER

Gentlemen, since this caltrap is July, August, September issue, I will not report on Texas Chapter October reunion held this month (Oct) until next caltrap. So here is my report for this caltrap:

The Texas Chapter reunion schedule:

October 10-13, Sherman/Denison, TX

June 12-15, 2025, Amarillo, TX

Semper Fi, Bob

















WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Wisconsin Chapter held its fall meeting Demark WI. on Sept. 7th. The meeting was well attended. Hosted by Ken Voss and run by VP JorgeCalderon. Thank you both.

The Wisconsin is preparing for its 30 year celebration on Nov. 30th. The Wisconsin Chapter is very pround our continuous service as member of the 3rd Marine Association and many more years to come.

Russell Zess, President











INVITATION TO EVERYONE IN THE THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION FAMILY:

WE HAVE A THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION FAMILY FULL OF GREAT PEOPLE, FULL OF HEROES, FULL OF BROTHERS-IN-ARMS, FULL OF SUPPORTERS. TO CONTINUE TO BE STRONG, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THIS ASSOCIATION. ANYONE CAN HELP. WHILE WE NEED NEW MEMBERS, WE ALSO NEED OUR EXISTING MEMBERS TO STEP UP AND DO SOMETHING TO HELP SUSTAIN THIS AMAZING ASSOCIATION. CHAPTERS NEED AN INFUSION OF VOLUNTEERISM. CHAPTERS ARE IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER, SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

WE ARE A STRONG ASSOCIATION NOW, BUT WE HAVE TO STAY INVOLVED TO SUSTAIN IT. JUST A LITTLE HELP GOES A LONG WAY. IT IS FULFILLING WORK. EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING. I AM INVITING YOU NOW TO EMAIL ME AT RLNPLANO@HOTMAIL.COM.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

SEMPER FI, Bob North, President



Third Marine Division Association Presidents



+Gen.	Graves	В.	Erskir	ıe
Fo	under,	194	9-53	

+LtGen. Edward A. Craig 1953-57

+Col. Chester G. Smith 1957-58

+MajGen. Sidney S. McMath 1958-60

+Thomas W. Stowe 1960-62

+CWO Thomas O. Kelly 1962-64; 1968-69

+Harold J. Melloy 1964-66; 1967-68

+Robert E. Williams 1966-67

+Col. Austin P. Gattis 1969-71 +Roy I. Gerken 1971-73

+Gen. Raymond G. Davis 1973-75

> +Charles R Powers 1976-77

+Col. Edward F. Danowitz 1977-79

+Leo A. Farrow 1979-81

+BrigGen James P King 1981-821

Col Warren H. Wiedhahn 1982-84

> +Harold K. Noble 1984-86

+SgtMaj M. W. (Bill) Krueger 1986-88 +Col Jerome W. Brown 1988-90

> +Joe Garza Jr. 1990-92

LtCol George R. Gay 1992-94

+Harry L. Gardner 1994-96

+Capt Ronald R. Burton 1996-98

> +Royal Q, Zilliox 1998-00

2nd Lt John H. Rine Jr 2000-02

Deane C. Taylor. 2002-04

William J, Erwin 2004-07 +Philmore A. Wiley Jr. 2007-09

MajGen Gordon C. Nash 2009-11

Jeffrey A. Dement 2011-13

Peter A. Post 2013-15

MajGen David F. Bice 2015-18

Robert L. North 2018-Present

+Deceased



WHAT YOU MISSED BY NOT COMING TO Nashville





















World War II * Korea * Vietnam * Peacetime * Cold War

Third Marine Division Association, Inc.



Southwest Asia * War on Terrorism * Afghanistan * Iraq

Name Address Phone		NameAddressPhone	NameAddress	NameAddressPhone
GRAND PRIZE: \$1,000 2nd: \$500 3rd: \$250 Donation: \$1 each or 6 for \$5 Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 2025 REUNION SWEEPSTAKES Noon, Saturday, September 20th, 2025	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 2025 REUNION SWEEPSTAKES Noon, Saturday, September 20th, 2025 GRAND PRIZE: \$1,000 2nd: \$500 3rd: \$250 Donation: \$1 each or 6 for \$5 Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 2025 REUNION SWEEPSTAKES Noon, Saturday, September 20th, 2025 GRAND PRIZE: \$1,000 2nd: \$500 3rd: \$250 Donation: \$1 each or 6 for \$5 Winner Need Not Be Present	THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION 3rdMarDiv - Reunion P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466 2025 REUNION SWEEPSTAKES Noon, Saturday, September 20th, 2025 GRAND PRIZE: \$1,000 2nd: \$500 3rd: \$250 Donation: \$1 each or 6 for \$5 Winner Need Not Be Present
Name	+		1	
Address _	 	Name	Name	Name
AddressPhone	 			



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Aboard

Tramonte, Peter Stony Brook, NY; M3/3, 1968-69; Fellow Marine

Here is our newest Life Member: 100 years old on 10/15/2024

<u>Caminiti, Joesph, Bristol, CT</u>; enlisted in the Marine Corps at age 17 and went into service when he reached his 18th birthday. He went to Parris Island for basic training and to Camp Lejeune. Joe served with the 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion. While in WWII, Joe served at Guam, Iwo Jima and was also at Guadalcanal.

Joe made the amphibious landing at Iwo Jima and stayed on the island throughout the battle. Joe Caminiti was a Driver and Gunner on a Marine Trak which helped the troops to make the landing on Iwo Jima. They landed troops on the beach, ran supplies to forward units, and carried the wounded and dead back from the forward positions for the length of the battle. Joe also pulled guard duty between Mt. Suribachi and the airfield each night.

While serving during the Battle of Iwo Jima, he saw the Marines put up the flag on Mt. Suribachi.

He was discharged in December 1945. His rank was Staff Sergeant when discharged. Joe received the WWII Victory Medal and Presidential Unit Citation. He received numerous awards and recognitions for his WWII service. He had a portrait painting done of him by the artist Don Scott, which hangs in the US Marine Corp Museum at Camp Pendleton. He often performs the POW/MIA table honors.

Joesph was recalled to duty for 18 months to train new Marines during the Korean Conflict.

Joe is a member of the Iwo Jima Survivors Association of Connecticut, Bristol American Legion Post #2, the Bristol Elks Lodge #1010, and Marine Corps League of Connecticut, among other organizations. He has attended many reunions of Iwo Jim Survivors, Support our Survivors of Iwo Jima, and the World War Legacy Foundation, Inc.

Joseph still works out at the gym daily and lives with his wife in Bristol, Connecticut.



The Association donated a life membership card



The Association presented a Hiroshima painting

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Final



Formation

Life Member John Whittaker;

Haverfield, MA; 3rd 155 How/12, 1958-59; Died 7/12/24 ***

Life Member Kenneth Tomlinson;

Oceanside, CA; 1st Amtracs, 1968-69; Died 12/26/23

Annual Member David Pope;

Hatboro, PA; 1/3/3, 1958-59; Died 2022 ***

Annual Member Robert Patrick:

Philadelphia, PA; A/9th Mtr Trp, 1968-69; Died 6/22/24

Life Member John Clark;

Rutland, VT; 3/9 WWII; Died 12/31/18

Life Member Dudley Winstead;

Lake View Terrace, CA; H3/4, 1953-54; Died 3/24 ***

Life Member LtCol Richard John Hogan;

Emerald Isle, NC; H&S1/3, 1965-66; Died 8/2/24 ***

Life Member William Fitzpatrick;

Cornwall, PA; G2/21, 1942-44; No date given

Life Member Raymond Faulkner;

Phoenix, AZ; D2/12, 1943-45; No date given

Life Member Joe Gambanio;

Clearwater, FL; A1/3, 1965-66; Died 5/3/24

Life Member John Dalby;

Dallas, TX; H&S3/3, 1965-66; Died 2/24/24 ***

Life Member Joseph Champagne;

Olympia, WA; F2/9, 1953-54; Died 9/17/23

Navy christens destroyer for Marine who jumped on grenade in Vietnam

Patrick Bob Gallagher – awarded navy cross.



Navy Cross Citation: For extraordinary In Memory of my Comrades in USMC-VN.



-Vincent Matthews

heroism as an ammunition carrier in a machine-gun Team with Company H, Second Battalion, Fourth Marines near Cam Lo, Republic of Vietnam, in the early morning of 18 July 1966. The company was set in defensive positions at 0145, when enemy soldiers who had infiltrated the area threw a grenade into the position which Lance Corporal Gallagher and three other Marines were manning. Lance Corporal Gallagher, awake and displaying keen presence of mind, immediately kicked the grenade out of the position where it exploded at a safe distance. Another enemy grenade followed and landed in the position between two of his comrades. Without hesitation, in a valiant act of self-sacrifice, Lance Corporal Gallagher threw himself upon the deadly grenade in order to absorb the explosion and save the lives of his comrades. The other three Marines moved to safety while two other grenades landed in the position and exploded, miraculously injuring no one. Lance Corporal Gallagher's Squad Leader then ordered him to throw the grenade

into the nearby river where it exploded upon hitting the water. Through his extraordinary heroism and inspiring valor in the face of almost certain death, he saved his comrades from probable injury and possible loss of life. His daring actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

Honors

- The name Patrick Gallagher is inscribed on Panel 17E Line 71 of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.
- On 12 March 2018, Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer named the next Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer in honor of Marine Corps Vietnam veteran and Navy Cross recipient Cpl Patrick Gallagher. The USS Gallagher DDG-127, the newest of the US Navy's Guided Missile Destroyers, will be built in the next 4+/- years! The ship will be constructed at Bath Iron Works, a division of General Dynamics in Maine. The ship will be 509 feet long, have a beam length of 59 feet and be capable of operating at speeds in excess of 30 knots. It is expected to enter service following completion and sea trials in 2024.

Burial:

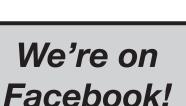
Corporal Patrick Gallagher is buried at Ballyhaunis Cemetery in Ballyhaunis, County Mayo, Ireland

He was Pat Conroy's cousin

Let us remember those who have gone on before us

And let us thank God
that such men lived

Jheir duty was to serve –
your duty is to remember



Check out our Facebook Group Page. Go online to Facebook, search Third Marine Division Association, click on the Association's Group Page. Ask to join and continue the conversation.



HONORING ALL MARINES

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

"SEMPER FIDELIS"

Paul E. Peterson Wpns. Co. 1st Bat. 9th Mar. January 1955 -- March 1956

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The *CALTRAP* is the primary internal information vehicle for the Third Marine Division Association, Inc. It is mailed nationwide and overseas to Association members, major Marine Corps commands, supporters, and advertisers. Please consider purchasing an ad. It helps support YOUR Third Marine Division Association.

Annual Advertising Rates	Colors	Single Issue Advertising Rates	<u>Colors</u>
Full Page (7-1/2" x 10-1/8"), \$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,300.00	Full Page, \$, 275.00	\$ 600.00
Horizontal 1/2 Page (7-1/2" x 5-1/16"), \$ 500.00	\$ 800.00	Horizontal 1/2 Page (7-1/2"x5-1/16"), \$, 130.00	\$ 400.00
Vertical 1/2 Page (3-3/4" x 10-1/8"), \$ 500.00	\$ 800.00	Vertical (3-3/4"x10-1/8"), \$, 130.00	\$ 400.00
One-Quarter Page (3-3/4" x 5-1/16"), \$ 300.00	\$ 600.00	One-Quarter Page (3-3/4"x5-1/16"), \$, 80.00	\$ 200.00
One-Eighth Page (3-3/4" x 2-1/2"), \$ 150.00,	\$ 300.00	One-Eighth Page (3-3/4"x2-1/2"), \$, 40.00	\$ 150.00
Business Card (3-1/2" x 2"), \$ 100.00	\$ 250.00	Business Card (3-1/2"x2"), \$, 30.00	\$ 100.00

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSN. MAIL CONTRACT, AD & CHECK TO: THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION P.O. Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466

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	CREDIT CARDS			
Type:VISA	MasterCardAmEx	Discover .	Diners Club)
Name & Address (if different from above	e):			
Card #:	C	VV2:	Exp. Date	e:
Signature:				

Third Marine Division Association (Address above). If you e-mail your ad, you must still mail contract.

If possible, send your ad via e-mail in JPEG to: rogerbacon45@yahoo.com or CD-Rom to

2025 REUNION JOURNAL FORM Personal—Business (Ad, Memorial, Recognition)

The Reunion Journal is always a highlight of the Association's reunions. The Journal is mailed nationwide and overseas to Association members, major Marine Corps commands, and those submitting to Journal.

Standard Black & White

Full Page (7 1/2" X 10 1/8" \$375.00 Horizontal 1/2 Page (7 1/2" X 5 1/16") \$200.00 Vertical 1/2 Page (3 3/4" X10 1/8") \$200.00 One-Quarter Page (3 3/4" X 5 1/16") \$125.00 One-Eight Page (3 3/4" X 2 1/2") \$ 75.00 **Business Card (3 1/2" X 2") Association Member** \$40.00 Non-Member \$60.00 Memorial Ad (1-3/4" X 3/4") \$25.00

Memorial Ad Size: (1 3/4" X 3/4") \$25.00

In Memory of all Marines Vets
Pastalla Present
Your Fellow Marine
Joe Smith

\$35.00 Assoc. Member / \$60.00 Non-Member
The Insurance Group Ltd.
1235 West Virginia Street

Business Card Ad Size: (3 1/2" X 2")

Joe Smith

Member of the Third Marine Division Association

Special Position & Color

Full Page (Four Color) \$ 900.00 Second Cover (Four Color) \$ 1000.00 Second Cover (B&W) \$ 425.00 Third Cover (Four Color) \$ 1000.00 Third Cover (B&W) \$ 400.00 Fourth Cover (Four Color) \$ 1200.00 Fourth Cover (B&W) \$ 800..00 **Center Two Pages (Four Color)** \$1,500.00 Center Two Pages (B&W) \$1,300.00 **Additional Charge for Color** \$ 225.00 (process ink) Bleeds (Full page ONLY) — 15% additional charge.

CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Third Marine Div. Assoc. Inc.

MAIL CONTRACT, AD AND CHECK TO:

The Third Marine Div. Assoc. Inc. PO Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432

QUESTIONS? EMAIL:

Signature:

Robert North rlnplano@hotmail.com

Complete information below with respective payment as well as content of submission. Except for a business ad, if requested, we will do layout for you.

Is this a Chapter Ad: \Chapter Name:			
Is this a personal subm Is this a Business subm	nission: Yes	S	No
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Address:			
City:	Zip	:	
Email:			
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Card #:	
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Name & Address:	

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If possible, send your ad per e-mail in JPG to: rogerbacon45@yahoo.com or CD Rom to Thrid Marine Division Association at the above address. Contracts must be mailed in. Color ads accepted if camera ready.

In the event the Reunion is cancelled on account of COVID-19 concerns or an event beyond the control of the 3rd Marine Division Association, and printing of your ad in the Reunion program can be canceled, you will be refunded your prorata share of payment for your ad

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE AND PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED

	Applica	tion Date		
Name		Date	e of Birth	
Active Duty	Retired _	Reserve	Former	Associate
Mailing Address				
City and State				
Home Telephone ()		Spouse's Name	e	
E-mail		Occupation		
served in Company	/Battery, Battal	lion, Regime	ent, 3rd Marine Division from _	to
How did you hear about Assoc	iation/Sponsor		_ My Active Duty USMC/USN	N Rank was
My check for \$ i				
	Five-Year Dues	_ (\$150) Activ	e Duty Dues (\$7.50)	
Paid-In-Full	Life Membership (\$500)	Installment Pa	ayment Life Membership (\$50	Installments)
		Signature (Required)		
MAIL WITH	PAYMENT TO: Third Marin	e Division Association, F	P.O. Box 466, Lisbon, OH 44432-	0466

MEMBERS ELIGIBILITY and DUES

REGULAR Membership: Open to anyone who, at any time, honorably served in, is currently serving in, was attached to, or was in support of the 3rd Marine Division. **ASSOCIATE Membership:** Open to those who are legal dependents, parents, spouses, or relatives of those persons, living or deceased, who are or were eligible for Regular Membership.

ANNUAL DUES

LIFE MEMBER DUES (Effective 1 January 2017)

All Ages \$500

Installment Life Member Payments of \$50 each, or balance due, may be made over a two year period. Installment Five Year Member Payments of \$50 each, or balance due, may be made over a two year period.

Web Site: www.caltrap.com

Bougainville — Guam — Iwo Jima — Chu Lai — Da Nang — Khe Sanh — Dong Ha — Peacetime — Japan Okinawa — Cold War — Southwest Asia — War on Terrorism — Afghanistan — Iraq

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND CHAIRMAN PETER POST proposed an amendment to the MSF bylaws to include scholarship consideration for a son of an active duty Marine to attend the Marine Military Academy. With the passage of this motion it will be publicized in the Caltrap until the next Reunion when the membership will vote on the amendment.

WHAT IS THE REUNION JOURNAL

multiple information regarding the Association | Regardless of what it is we honor your wishes.

and Marine Corps, letters from the Commandant, Secretary of Defense and the Navy, Governor of State and Mayor of reunion location. Plus, all dedicated page entries, numerous submissions honoring Marines past and present, business ads of companies loyal to the Marines, etc. And a major article relating to the history of the Third Marine Division.

Anyone can submit an ad, memorian, etc. Would you like to remember a fallen Marine, or a Marine you served with,

The Reunion Journal is designed to highlight | a battalion, a family member, a business card?



For those who have not seen a Journal, it is a professional publication and well received by all. Everyone who attends the reunion or places a submission will receive the journal.

This is another avenue of supporting this wonderful Association as well as promoting your business or honoring those who have meaning to you.

For all of you who through the years have supported this endeavor, THANK YOU.

CALTRAP Advertising Member Assistance

Help your Third Marine Division Association by asking your local businesses, tourist, convention or recreation activities to advertise in the CALTRAP. Following is a suggested note to send to potential advertisers. Make copies, attach to the CALTRAP Advertising Contract, sign, and send it to those businesses and organizations who might want to advertise in the CALTRAP.

If you own a military-related business, please consider spending your advertising dollars here. We support our veterans.

The Third Marine Division Association's quarterly newsletter, the CALTRAP, reaches a worldwide audience of active duty, retired and veteran Marines, Sailors and families. The readers often enjoy travel, leisure, outdoor, and hometown activities along with brand loyalty. Please consider advertising in the CALTRAP. A contract agreement is on page 32 for your convenience.

Third Marine Division Association, Inc. Post Office Box 466 Lisbon, OH 44432-0466

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Web Site: www.caltrap.com

Bougainville — Guam — Iwo Jima — Chu Lai — Da Nang — Khe Sanh — Dong Ha — Peacetime — Japan — Okinawa — Cold War — Southwest Asia — War on Terrorism — Afghanistan — Iraq

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	Application Date					
Name	Date of Birth					
Active Duty Reti	red Re	serve	Former	Associate		
Mailing Address						
City and State		Nine-Digit	ZIP Code			
Home Telephone ()	Spot	use's Name				
E-mail	Occup	ation				
I served in Company/Battery,	Battalion,	_ Regiment, 3rd M	arine Division from	ı to		
How did you hear about Association/Spons	or	My Act	tive Duty USMC/U	SN Rank was		
My check for \$ is enclosed for		Dues (\$35) ,	Annual Associate			
Paid-In-Full Life Members	ship (\$500) Inst	allment Payment Li	fe Membership (\$5	50 Installments)		

Signature (Required)
MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO: **Third Marine Division Association, P.O. Box 466, Lisbon, OH 44432-0466**