The "Ooo Rah"

Newsletter of the Central Florida Chapter
1st Marine Division Association

Volume 20 Issue 5 | September/October 2023

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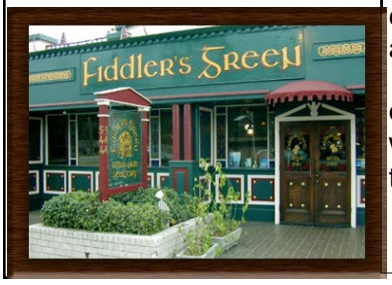
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Newsletter Editor:	Mike Galyean
(with a lot of help from Nancy)	

http://www.cfc1stmardiv.com/

Next Meeting: Saturday October 7

10:30 a.m.

Fiddlers' Green Irish Pub
544 West Fairbanks Ave.
Winter Park, FL 32789
Ph.407.645.2050



PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

Greetings Marines,

Our planning for the celebration of the 248th Marine Corps Birthday "SOS Breakfast" is in full bore. As already discussed, our celebration this year is dedicated to the men and women who served and fought in what is sometimes called "The Forgotten War." The armistice to end the brutal fighting,, in sometimes unbearably freezing conditions, was 70 years ago this year. That war is certainly not forgotten for them, and it is our desire to keep the memory of what they did in defense of freedom alive for coming generations. Please view the flyer for the "SOS Breakfast" on page 5.

We hope you will help spread the word about our "SOS Breakfast" and if you know of someone who served during the era of the Korean War, please get this newsletter and the information about the breakfast to them. We are very pleased that LtGen. Carl E. "Sam" Mundy will be our featured speaker, after being cancelled out last year by Hurricane "Ian."

The 1st Marine Division Association had a terrific reunion last month in Las Vegas. You will find a report on the reunion and newly elected officers of the association elsewhere in the "Ooo Rah." The only thing missing in Las Vegas was many of you who are reading this. Next year the reunion will be held in beautiful and historic San Antonio, TX. The association was there in 1997 and again in 2010, and both of those reunions drew exceptional numbers and provided unending possibilities for sightseeing and entertainment. Your association reunion destination committee and officers are currently gathering information on possible hotels, and we hope to get that information to you soon. We are shooting for the first week of August, but the dates cannot be finalized until an agreement with the destination hotel is concluded.

Since our last chapter meeting was in June, it's been several months since we last gathered. I look forward to seeing everyone on October 7 at Fiddlers' Green Irish Pub. We have a terrific program lined up… don't miss it.

Semper Fidelis,
Mike

October Program—The Non-profit "Fairways for Warriors" Presented by Local Leader, Brian Hicks

The mission of "Fairways for Warriors" is, "To reduce the number of veteran suicides and to provide mental, physical, emotional, social, and spiritual rehabilitation to combat veterans and their families."

Brian Hicks is a member and Chief Operating Officer of Fairways for Warriors and has worked with wounded veterans teaching adaptive golf since 2014.

(Continued on page 3)

FAIRWAYS FOR WARRIORS

The Korean War

by

Rick Kennedy

Editor's note: Unfortunately, our chapter lost Rick Kennedy in 2012. Several of his writings have been used in the "Ooo Rah" and this story was used in 2010, two years before his death. It was written to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the beginning of that war. Here we are today, honoring those veterans on the 70th anniversary of the ending of the Korean War. I wish Rick could be with us at the upcoming "SOS Breakfast" to honor his service in the Korean War.

At 17 years of age I joined the United States Marine Corps in 1945 upon graduating from high school, and President Truman robbed me of participating in combat by dropping the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. My drill instructor at Parris Island, Sergeant Gardner, made the comment that members of my platoon waited for the war to be over to gain the glory of being a Marine without ever firing a shot. His comments haunted me after a tour of the Marine Corps in 1945-46 timeframe, and through several years of college at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. When the Marines entered the Korean War it seemed appropriate that I give them a hand, and I enlisted in a reserve outfit from Louisville, Kentucky for combat training in Camp Pendleton.



It soon became apparent that most of our population,, having served in the great World War II, thought Korea was small potatoes compared to Normandy or Iwo Jima. I remember President Truman making a remark that the Marine Corps was like a glorified police force. These comments seemed to be made to make the Marines furious so we would win his war with dispatch. When I reached Korea I was assigned as a rifleman with Charlie Company of the Fifth Marine Regiment in December of 1950, and greeted our returning Marines from the great battle of the Chosin Reservoir. It became obvious to me that we were in a major war, and our lives depended on our performance in combat.

It appeared to me that we were only fighting for the glory of the United States Marine Corps because nobody seemed to care about Korea unless they had family involved. I even made a remark that we would take San Francisco if we were asked. We were very fortunate in the Fifth Marines because we had a history of victories to uphold in the battle of Belleau Woods during WW I and Guadalcanal, Okinawa and Peleliu during WW II, and we could not lose our reputation. Our yellow leggings and our camouflaged helmet covers became our trademark, and were much feared by our enemy.

There was not much fanfare when I returned home from 10 months of front line duty with Charlie Company, as most of my neighbors and friends had been there and done that in WWII. Returning to finish college some of my fraternity brothers would purposely bump me while sleeping at night in the dorm to get my response lurching out of my bunk as if being attacked in my fox hole. This was not a very nice welcome home by members of Delta Upsilon. Maybe I should have borrowed one of my hand grenades.



Snow-covered statues in the Korean War Veterans Memorial are seen on March 14, 2017,in Washington, D.C. (Mandel Ngan/AFP/ Getty Images)

After 60 years much has changed. The Korean veterans are now very highly respected for their accomplishments and South Korea is now one of the most economically developed countries in the world. The Korean War has become the dominate success story of the United Nations, and has had a great effect on halting communism throughout the world. I am very proud to have participated in the Korean War.

(Continued from page 1—Fairways for Warriors)



He is also a teaching professional and certified in Golf 8.5™ and has partnered with other adaptive golf organizations to give golf instruction to disabled veterans and activity duty military personnel. Brian is very proud to have been working with SOCOM Warrior Games and the Care Coalition from 2019 – 2023 and beyond.

Brian served in the US Air Force from January 1982 until July 1993 as a member of the Quick Reaction Package within the 5th Combat Communications Group deployed to the Middle East, Honduras, and Grenada. Brian left the USAF to pursue a career with IBM. He worked for IBM for 21 years and obtained the position of Executive Director leading and managing large outsourcing contracts and teams.

Brian has a degree in Professional Golf Management, Information Systems Management Certification, MBA Certification from Georgia Tech, and a Masters Certification in Project Management from George Washington University.

The Fairways for Warriors non-profit was founded by Tom Underdown, who now serves as president of the Foundation. He tells this story about how the idea for "Fairways for Warriors" came about:

"My father served in the Army as a NCO for 28 years, and fought in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam wars. He suffered from what we now know as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). As PTSD began to affect all areas of his life, he looked for refuge at the bottom of a bottle to deal with the trauma of combat. My father died way too young from what I call a slow suicide- he drank and smoked himself to death. He loved golf, and if there had been a program to help incorporate this therapeutic sport into his journey towards healing, I think his life story would have had a dramatically different outcome."

"In 2010, I found myself sitting on a plane next to an army sergeant on leave from Afghanistan. As I listened to him talk about two of his soldiers who lost their lives and two who had lost legs in a recent IED explosive, I felt that I needed to do something for those two injured soldiers. I asked for their families' names and had some of my friends visit one soldier, who was at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, and I called the mother of the other soldier who was at Brook Army Medical Center in San Antonio. I was not sure why I was calling, but I wanted to let her know that someone cared. I told her about meeting her son's first sergeant on a flight to Fort Bragg and asked what I could do for her son. She said that her son was going to be okay physically, because the army was going to fit him with a prosthetic, but that mentally he was never going to be the same."



"I knew in that moment that it was my mission to create a program where combat wounded veterans would be able to heal physically and mentally surrounded by other veterans who understood what they were going through. By November 2010, Fairways for Warriors was launched and we held our first golf clinic for combat wounded veterans in January 2011."

This is an inspiring story of how "Fairways for Warriors" came about. I'm sure Brian Hicks will also bring some inspiring stories with him to our October 7 meeting. Don't miss it.

Alice & Jim

On December 16, 2023 at 12:00 pm, **Women Marines Association Heart of Florida Chapter** (FL0834) will be helping Greenwood Cemetery to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.

Please help us honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.

Thank you so much for supporting the Women Marines Association Heart of Florida Chapter (FL0834) and Wreaths Across America!

For more information contact Susan Finnigan Susan@lynnamorris.com

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT



The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) is proud



to announce the successful passage of the 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps Commemorative Coin Act. The legislation, signed by the President on July 26, instructs the U.S. Mint to issue over 1 million coins to commemorate 250 years of Marine Corps history, and raise funds to support future educational, historical, and cultural programs.

"The commemorative coin minting becomes part of the upcoming, national celebration of the Marine Corps' 250th anniversary in 2025," said Major General James W. Lukeman, USMC (Ret), President and CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. "Through the minting of these coins, all Americans will be able to honor Marines for their 250 years of unwavering dedication to duty, service and sacrifice for the United States."

By purchasing these coins in 2025, Americans will honor the legacy of the Marine Corps and celebrate 250 years of the Marine Corps while also contributing to the preservation and dissemination of Marine Corps history for generations to come. The signed legislation authorizes the Department of Treasury to mint 50,000 five-dollar coins, 400,000 one dollar coins, and 750,000 half-dollar coins.

Mark Your Calendars



Saturday, October 7 … Regular Chapter meeting, Fiddler's Green

November 3 - 4… Central Florida Marine Corps Foundation's "Marine Corps Weekend" and Birthday Ball, Rosen Shingle Creek..

November 10, 2023… Marine Corps Birthday, SOS Breakfast.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARINE!

November 11 … Veterans Day. Look for a ceremony near you.

The Larry E. Smedley Detachment of the Marine Corps League—
Monthly Meeting, **2nd Tues,** - 7pm – 8pm
American Legion Post 243
491 W. Broadway St.
Oviedo 32799
Info: mclcfl@gmail.com
WebLink: http://www.MCLOrlando.org
Or call Michael Segura
(407)415-1504

****

"Heart of Florida" Women Marines Assoc. Chapter
Meets Second Saturday -10am .
Rio Pinar Golf and Country Club, 8600 El Prado Ave, Orlando, FL 32825.
Contact: Susan Finnigan
Susan@lynnamorris.com

****

Central Florida Marine Corps Foundation
CFMCF1775@gmail.com
https://cfmarinecorpsfoundation.org/



Sign along the Cross Seminole Bicycle Trail



1ST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

~IMPORTANT~

Central Florida Chapter members (whether membership is regular or associate) need to be members of the 1st Marine Division Association...contact the FMDA office or visit the website for membership information.

website address:
https://
www.1stmarinedivisionassociation.org/
(UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

Address and contact information

1st Marine Division Association
P.O. Box 9000, Box #902
Oceanside, CA 92051

Phone

(760) 763-3268

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William Godfrey
Email wsgsr9454@aol.com

Staff

Dennis J. Coady
dennis.oldbreed@fmda.us

June Cormier
June.OldBreed@FMDA.us
June is in the office M—F, afternoons (west coast time)

Central Florida Chapter
1st Marine Division Association

2023 "SOS Breakfast"

Happy 248th Birthday, Marines!

Friday, November 10, 2023

8:30AM - 10:00AM



Sheraton Orlando North 600 North Lake Destiny Rd. Maitland, FL 32751

Guest Speaker: Lieutenant General Carl E. "Sam" Mundy III, USMC Ret.

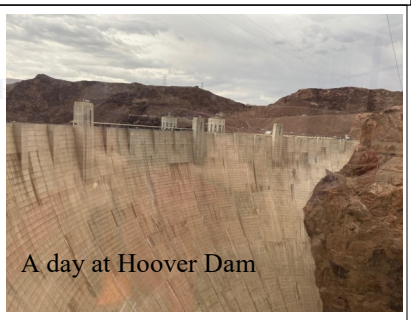
$40 per person

***Seating is limited and reservations must be received no later than November 7th! Checks made payable to Central Florida Chapter First Marine Division (mail to: Mike Galyean, 746 McIntyre Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789) or via our website www.cfc1stmardiv.com**

1st Marine Division Association Reunion 2023 Las Vegas, NV



Navy Cross recipient, Mike Tonkyn, C 1/5, Vietnam, with Assistant Division Commander, LtGen Kevin Jarrard.



A day at Hoover Dam





An evening at The Marine Club

Susan Finnigan plays "Waltzing Matilda" at the Memorial Service



Marines from C 1/5 Vietnam –1969



Jo

Ponce Inlet Printing Inc.

1726 S. Nova Road in Daytona Beach, Florida, 32119

Contact

Mary Racila—386-761-3355

ponceinletprinting@gmail.com

Central Florida Chapter.

Thank you, Rick Dreves!

http://www.cfc1stmardiv.com/

Visit the "In Their Own Words" page for anecdotal articles by members.

The Central Florida Chapter

wishes to recognize and honor its members

now serving in the Corps Eternal

Plt.Sgt. Joe Adamik (2014)
Capt. John Adamson 2015
Sgt. Ray Bauer (2015)
Cpl. Chester Bened (2012)
Joyce Bowden, assoc. (2017)
Sgt. Tim Broughton (2013
Sgt. Glenn Brown (2011)
Col. Harry Clarke (2013)
Amy Clarke, assoc. (2017)
Col. Richard A Connell (2022)
Pfc. John Cromwell (2010)
M.Sgt. Louis Curtis
Wade Curtis (2011)
Col. Ed Danowitz (2012)
1stSgt. Richard DeVasto (2019)
Sgt. Arthur Dreves (2019)

Olga Fincher, assoc. (2022)
Capt. David Fowkes (2021)
Capt. William Harwood (2010)
Lt.Col. Dick Holt (2008)
Carolyn Immerman, assoc. (2017)
Sgt. Wade Jones (2012)
Sgt. Joe Karlberg (2019)
1stSgt. Russell Kauffman (2023)
Cpl. John "Rick" Kennedy (2012)
Cpl. Louis Lang (2010)
Sgt. Maj. Les LeBlanc (2005)
C.W. "Bill" Marks (2014)
M.Sgt. Malcolm MacLean (2007)
GySgt. Rudy Miller (2008)
Capt. Ray Nielsen (2008)
Sgt. Donald Neiss (2009)
Col. Patrick Otoole (2018)

Capt. Jack Paxton (2018)
MSgt Edward Payton (2015)
Sgt. Victor Petris (2015)
GySgt. Charles Ross (2013)
1Lt. George Schultz (2008)
Cpl Don Schyberg (2017)
Col. Bill Tate (2019)
Pfc. "Wild Bill" Taylor (2010)
Col. John Terry (2018)
LtCol. John Tomlinson (2014)
M.Sgt. Dale Wasson (2009)
Cpl. James Weinberg (2022)
Sgt. Carl Wenhold (2017)
LtCol. Erich H. Wieler (2022)
Col. Paul Wilson (2019)

Semper Fi, Ladies and Gentlemen.

You'll always be remembered.

New Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs for 2023—2025

President
William Godfrey
Email wsgsr9454@aol.com

Vice President
Jerry Corrento, Jr.
Email gcorr4267@gmail.com

Secretary
Pierre A. Sims
Email pierresims@comcast.net

Treasurer
Arthur John (A.J.) Burn
Email ajburn49@aol.com

Chaplain
Carlos Mariscal
Email karlos016140@sbcglobal.net

Sgt-At-Arms
Susan Finnigan
Email susan@lynnamorris.com

Legal
Kenneth Vitucci
Email ken.vitucci@att.net

Deputy Vice President, East
Mike Galyean
Email galyeanmike@gmail.com

Deputy Vice President, Central
Zan Luna
Email zanluna1@gmail.com

Deputy Vice President, West
Nick Warr
Email nick@nicholaswarr.com

Director at Large, East
Elmer Hawkins
Email ehawkins23@aol.com

Director at Large, Central
Paul Wojahn
(507)359-7595

Director at Large West– open

Committee Chairs

Awards Committee
Chairman: AJ Burn
ajburn49@aol.com

By-Laws Committee
Chairman: Jerry Corrento, Jr.
gcorr4267@gmail.com

Finance Committee
Chairman: AJ Burn
ajburn49@aol.com

Fund Raising Committee
Chairman: Nick Warr
nick@nicholaswarr.com

\Reunion Destination/ Site Committee
Chairman: Jerry Corrento, Jr. gcorr4267@gmail.com

Scholarship Selection
Chairman: Open

News From the 1st Marine Division

TOWNSVILLE, QLD, AUSTRALIA
07.27.2023
Photo by Cpl. Emeline Molla

1st Marine Division



U.S. Marines deployed with 1st Marine Division pose for a photo during Exercise Talisman Sabre 23 at Lavarack Barracks in Townsville, Australia, July 27, 2023
Talisman Sabre is the largest bilateral military exercise between Australia and the United States

Central Florida Chapter
1st Marine Division Association
746 McIntyre Ave.
Winter Park, FL 32789



In order to belong to the Central Florida Chapter, you must...
Be a member of the 1st Marine Division Association
World War II ~ North China ~ Korea ~ Cold War ~ Vietnam ~ Gulf War ~ Iraqi Freedom ~ War on Terror

Call the 1st Marine Division Association in Oceanside, CA at (760) 763-3268 *or email* june.oldbreed@fmda.us *for information*

Central Florida Chapter

Select Membership type: ___ Regular ($20) ~ ___ Associate ($20) ~ ___ Life ($200) ~ Active Duty($10) ___
___ New ___ Renewal

PLEASE PRINT: _____
(Rank / Grade) (First Name) (Middle Initial) (Last Name)

_____ _____
Number and Street or P.O. Box #) *Spouses name*

_____
(City) (State) (Zip)

I was with: (list two units, max) _____
(Company - Battalion - Regiment/Squadron - Group)

WWII____ China____ Korea____ Cold War____ Vietnam____ Gulf War____ Iraqi Freedom____ War on Terror____

Email address: _____ Phone No. (___) _____ Recommended by _____

Please enclose $20 for Regular / Associate Membership; $200 for Life Membership; $10 for Active Duty
Make checks payable to: Cent. Fla. Chap., 1st Mar. Div. Assoc.. ~~~ Return to Mike Galyean, 746 McIntyre Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789
You can now pay on-line by using PayPal. Go to the chapter website at http://www.cfc1stmardiv.com/