Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion

VIETNAM 1966-1971

PO BOX 558
BAY PINES, FL 33744
(727) 864-6291
E-mail: Hanklima35@aol.com
Robert Henry, Editor

February 2004 . . . Newsletter #69 . . . *Reunion 2003*

Family of Lima 3/5 . . .

Nothing could have been finer than to be in Carolina in the morning, noon and evening with the family. It was top shelf. Special thanks to **Terry Benton**, **Les McFall**, **Pat Normanly**, **Steve Cobb** and **Skip St. Clair** for making this a special Reunion.

Here's the menu of attendance with # of Reunions attended in (#).



Rudy Abril (2), **Chuck Adams** (3), **Jim Andrulewicz** (7), **Terry Benton** (7), **Jim Besesi** (2), **James Brown** (2), **Prentis Campbell** (2), **Dan Cantrell** (10), **Jim Carleton**(10), **Ken Carman** (7), **George Christo** (5), **Bill Clark** (2), **Greg Cloutier** (7), **Steve Cobb** (12), **Ed Conti** (7), **Benito Delagarza** (4), **Patrick Dudley** (3), **George Fick** (3), **Doc Fowler** (5), **Dennis Freed** (7), **Bob Garcia** (3), **Brenda (Paul) Gibeau** (8), **Chris Gibson** (14), **Johnny Green** (3), **Jim Gulledge** (12), **James Haddaway** (2), **Robert Henry** (16), **Richard Hoffman** (9), **James Hunt** (3), **Herb Johnson** (6), **Wally Loucks** (16), **Bill Magnus** (2), **Phil Matthews** (7), **Les McFall** (8), **Joe McLaughlin** (9), **David Miller** (13), **Dan Nordmann** (5), **Pat Normanly** (13), **Joe Pollicino** (10), **Al Ross** (12), **Lynwood Scott** (8), **Tim Sedrowski** (15), **Ernie Senez** (6), **Kevin Shaughnessy** (3), **Bob Snowden** (18), **Frager Spates** (9), **Skip St. Clair** (15), **Larry Strum** (5), **Reiss Tatum** (6), **Milford Taylor** (11), **Phil Vangel** (4), **Tony Van Reusen** (7), **Don Vogelgesang** (6), **Jerry Winters** (11), **John Wold** (5), **Jim Yakubsin** (10). That's 56.

Introducing our Reunion FNG's . . . **Thomas Bishop**, **Larry Cantrell**, **Terry Cody**, **Ed Connell**, **Gerald Gordon**, **Leonard Gore**, **John R. Green**, **Roy Koehler**, **Augustine Lara**, **Gerald O'Brien**. THANKS GUYS, you were an awesome recruiting class of 10. "The Few, The Proud . . ."

All these 65 Marines and 1 Corpsman and especially their wives and families made for a great turnout! Awesome!

I hope this year I didn't leave anyone out who attended.

SEMPER FIDELIS

Membership Info

Changes on the map . . .

Terry Cody
315 Seigler Road
Union, SC 29379
codydude101@msn.com

James Haddaway
4413 SW 3rd Terrace
Hallandale Beach, FL 33009

Lost Contact: Paul Hendrix

Roy Kohler
Rt. 22 Box 2313
Lake City, FL 32024
(386) 758-7644

Don Feid
3832 Hwy 182E
Mooreville, MS 38857

TAPS!

Robert "Sweet Bob" Bernsen Deceased June 18, 1997	LCPL 0341	Jul 68-Mar 69 60 Mortars
Gerald "Ho" Hohol Deceased October 20, 2003	LCPL 0311	May 66-67 2nd Plt 2nd Sq
Jim Bramlage Deceased May 25, 2003	CPL 0341	Sep 66-Nov 67 FAC
Jim "Alabama" Gulledge Deceased July 7, 2003	LCPL 0331	Dec 68-May 69 3rd Plt Guns

Fresh e-mail connections . . .

David Nixa - dnixa@dmr.com
Shawn Jensen - rjensen@fclaw.com
Bob Banks - rebankscor@yahoo.com
Richard Ker - rker@comcast.net
Doc Glasgow - doclima3-5@comcast.net
Jim Bridston - bridston@comcast.net
Don Williams - dansuewil@sbcgolbal.net
Allen Gillespie - barbwire@yahoo.com
Steve Bradley - sjb@bradleyfh.com
Phil Hobbs - rph48@hotmail.com
Al Ross - mrssgtmaj@grapevine.net
Roger Ryan - momoboy2@comcast.net
Michael Maehl - michael.j.maehl@pjc.com
Don Vogelgesang - vogelgesangrsda@sprynet.com

Back into the fold . . . NEW Lima 3/5 Marines located . . .

John MacNamee
717 Hughes Alley
Oak Harbor, WA 98077
(360) 675-6073
CAPT Feb-Jul 70 Bronze Star 7-70
0302 Lima Co
Retired USMC LT COL
Single//John

Michael "Twiggy" Watson
3413 Kings Neck Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
gerunt7529@aol.com
CPL Sep 67-Feb 68 WIA 12-15-67
0311 3rd Plt 3rd Sq WIA 2-22-68
Diane/Mike/Michele, Tonya, Magin

Jim Dreksler
4702 Carr Street
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
(847) 788-0453
dajd2000@aol.com
LCPL Jan 70-Jan 71
0331 1st Plt 1st Sq Gunner
Paula/Jim Jr., Jason, Chris

INFO CHANGES . . . My computer blew up so I lost all of your info that was updated by you at the business meeting . . . oops on me!

Lawrence "Larry" Honan
142 N. Auten Avenue
Somerville, NJ 08876
pattyspets0123@hotmail
PVT Sep 67-Feb 68
0311 1st Plt 1st Sq

Jacinto "Yogi" Ybarra
56 Camellia Way
San Antonio, TX 78209
(210) 824-2494
ybarraakajr@hotmail.com
CPL Feb 69-Jan 70
0141 Lima HQ
Psychtherapist
Mary//Christi

Info Update . . .

Thomas "Des" Desimore
21 Virginia Street
Baldwinsville, NY 13027
(315) 638-2912
LCPL 69-70
0311 1st Plt 1st Sq
Jane/Matthew, Nathan, Shawn,Justin, Cameron/Ashton, Tara

KUDO'S TO Chuck Adams for his donation to the Lima 3/5 Archives . . . an NVA belt taken as souvenir in 1970 . . . a fine piece indeed!

CONGRAT'S TO Tim Sedrowski for his upcoming as the Commander of his VFW "Bruce Post 1146" . . . come May 17th! More good Lima 3/5 stuff, we are proud!



To reserve your room call
1-800-874-7420
and say **"Lima 3/5 Reunion"**
and you are on the beach, baby . . . again!

REUNION 2004 - DAYTONA BEACH

Reunion 2004 is Daytona Beach, FL . . . again and thankful for that. Daytona Beach is always a great Reunion and now we are back again at a hotel better than our previous haunt . . . the Treasure Island.

PLAZA RESORT & SPA

This is a monster facility and only

$88 a night

Trust me . . . it's better than Myrtle was this year and that is saying a bunch.

(For more info see page 7)

MYRTLE BEACH RECAP

18 YEAR RUN



"The Beer Man"

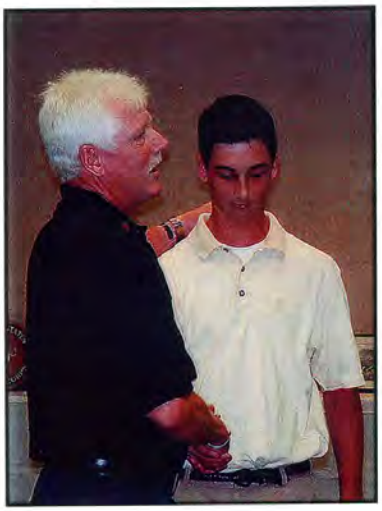
18 years ago the Reunion was a 3-day weekend gathering. Now it's a week long event, or for the hearty, even longer. It is not the same . . . it is that much better! The location was perfect. On the Atlantic Ocean is a great place to be! The Hospitality Room was ground floor on the beach, you can't get much closer than that for convenience. The huge swimming pool at our doorstep was full of bikinis, thongs and suntan lotion. It was a beachy thing. For the landlocked it was extra special I figure. The off Reunion activities were huge. If you got bored in Myrtle Beach it wasn't because there was a shortage of things to do. Great restaurants up and down the beach. Golf? Only 110 courses. Touristy shops galore if you needed anything! Fishing? Oh did I mention the Atlantic Ocean? Plenty of fish there. The Hospitality Room was, of course, the hub of the activity. If you wanted to find someone that was the place to be. We had a full supply of beverages on ice. Dan **"The Beer Man" Nordmann** was relentless. Nobody went unserved regardless of choice. We went through a mountain of soda, beer and liquor.

Hospitality Room – A Busy Spot!



MYRTLE BEACH OPEN

The Golf Tournament on Friday morning was huge . . . 20 strokers went at it in the "Golf Capital" of the world. I guess the times have changed: Now it's the kids taking over (we should have figured that out, but didn't). Until 2003! This year's Champion was **Khan Carleton**, son of **JC** (a former champion). He burned us all so bad that we will create a new category . . . them and us! So in 2004 we will have 2 gold USMC putters . . . 1 for us and 1 for them. I never thought a kid could beat me, now I have come down to earth, which, I figure is a good place to be. At the Banquet, **Skip** passed out the rewards for the heroes: Low Gross Men, Low Net Men, Low Gross Ladies, Low Net Ladies, closest to the pin on 2 holes. This golfing tradition has spawned a special relationship with the "few, we golfers". It is the best 4 hours on a Friday that I can invest in . . . just for the fun of it.



SATURDAY? JAM PACKED



We did the annual **Business Meeting** . . . 10 a.m. . . . uff da, that was too early for a few but we did business, old first, new second. A number of issues were raised. We decided to donate $1,000 to the **USMC Heritage Foundation** . . . a groundbreaking project that will put Lima 3/5 on the rolls as a contributor and a place where we can donate the Archives of Lima 3/5 for our posterity. A good investment, the vote was unanimous! The financial status of Lima 3/5 is in great shape (copy enclosed). To all of you who have purchased our material goods, the donations to the General Fund and Operation Reachout are greatly appreciated. You are the rocks! We sold off close to 100 shirts, 80 covers and several of "Tony the Shirt"'s special Banquet Hawaiian garments. **The Van Reusen Project** is one of the hottest things we have going for a fund raising project. Limited to a couple dozen per year, these babies are invaluable. Every shirt is different so there are no duplications . . . everyone gets an original. We will have some in 2004 as well . . . jump on that!

The Reunion Banquet was, again, the highlight of the week. We had a huge selection of items for the Raffle. The Silent Auction was a buzz and **Patrick Dudley** did a live auction. It was different for sure. 2004 will be different in that we may go back to how it has been or make new changes, just for the fun of it. The participation in the fund raising projects was huge, again . . . thanks to you. Great job! I know I was in the mix when I out bid the world to secure a framed print of Iwo Jima with 4 stamps postmarked July 11, 1945 . . . an item secured by **Dennis Freed** who found it on E-Bay. It's a one-of-a-kind thing . . . as are most of our auction items . . . priceless, again. The lucky winner on the $10 Joe Mac Raffle was **Gerald "Flash" Gordon** and his lovely wife **Mary** . . . gee whiz, first time and they win the big banana. That's huge. $10 raffle ticket and they have won, pre-paid 4 nights stay, 2 round trip airfares, 2 banquet dinners. Lucky them and lucky us, knowing they will be back on cloud 9 in 2004 . . . for 10 bingo's. It's a part of Lima 3/5 that is unique for us . . . makin' bacon!



Dudley Delivers

Rose Harris donated a huge cache of fine liquor. What was left over, not much, was donated to the reunion of **1/7 Vietnam**, who were coming in as we were going out. Marines helping Marines . . . that's a good mantra. the guys from 1/7 were all smiles.

Remember back in 1997? Washington, SC . . . **Terry Benton** was reunited with **Greg Cloutier** in an emotional reunion of 2 men that had gone 30+ years, not knowing the other's fate. Well it happened again in 2003. This time it was **Gene Gore** . . . bringing not only the memories, but a camera. When **Skip St. Clair**, got shot up August 13, 1966 Gene Gore collected his pack and brought it home. He never expected to deliver it back, 'cause Skip was badly wounded and Gene had no idea where Skip came from or went to. This year, after we located Gene Gore, he dropped a bombshell on me . . . he had kept Skip's camera for all of 35 years and not expecting to ever see Skip, if he lived or died. But, here we are in 2003 and Gene blew us all away when he presented that camera back to Skip at this year's Reunion. Flat out amazing. This is part of what the Lima 3/5 Reunions are all about . . . making a difference. It was a blown away experience, obviously for Gene and Skip, but I know everyone there would say, "Man, that is spooky!" Spooky good. Gene Gore kept that camera for 37 years. when we located Gene this year he was stunned, that Skip was alive and in the fold of the Lima 3/5 Reunion rostership. I held the secret and believe me it wasn't easy. A precious moment . . . again!





Sample these things. **Reiss Tatum** met one of his radiomen in San Diego in 2002, **Larry Jones**. Within the next year we located **Gerald "Obie" O'Brien** and Reiss and Obie met again. Priceless! **Cantrell** is not a well-spread name . . . only 2 served with Lima 3/5 in Vietnam. This year on the beach, both Cantrell's met . . . it's a small world. Things like these are just so special . . . one of the driving force in our Reunion efforts to bring people together after all this time. Makes me proud to be a part of this organization. People and friends, fellow Marines making a complete circle. In 2004 . . . Obie and I will be doing a wild turkey hunt in South Carolina with our host **Terry Benton**. Here are 3 Marines from different periods of service with Lima 3/5 . . . in country . . . now coming together, today, even though all 3 of us never even knew each other existed. Yet in the spring of 2004 we will be in the woods . . . hunting again. This time when we are down in the field, we will head home to a southern hospitality home cooked meal served up by **Nancy Benton** . . . hardly C-Rat's . . . amazing . . . a lifetime connection, connected through the Lima 3/5 network.

I think other sparks have been going on for years, but to this day I am so energized about finding our 'unlocated' Marine brothers, with the hope of connections and reunions that just happen, obviously for a reason, for the rest of our lives. Magnify that by 18 years and you have the essence of what Lima 3/5 Vietnam is all about. "Get Some"!





JOIN














TAPS!

IT IS TOUGH . . . when we lose our friends too soon. I know we were fortunate to have shared their lives after Vietnam, but now, not tomorrow.



LCPL Robert "Sweet Bob" Bernsen . . . 0341 60 Mortars 1968-69 . . . deceased 1997 at the tender age of 49 . . . no known survivors.

LCPL Gerald Hohol . . . 0311 1966 2nd Platoon 2nd Squad died in the VA Hospital, Bay Pines October 20, 2003. No known survivors.

LCPL John Petrlik . . . 0311 1966-67 . . . WIA 5-26-67 Union II . . . deceased 2002 . . . no known survivors.

OBITUARY

Gadsden Times, Gadsden, Alabama
— 8 July 2003 —

"Funeral will be held at 11:00 A.M., Thursday, 10 July 2003, at Village Chapel for Jimmie Wesley Gulledge, 54, Gadsden, who died Monday, 7 July 2003. Bro. John Copeland will officiate. Burial in New Bethel Cemetery, Hokes Bluff. Village Chapel Funeral Home is in charge.

He was a member of Scottish Rite, Dwight Masonic Lodge, Shriners, FOP, Lifetime member of VFW 2760, AARP, Military Order of the Purple Heart (life), National Rifle Association (life), Vietnam Veterans of America (life), and was a retired 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Lance Corporal. He served 12 years with Gadsden Police Department and served 13 years on the State of Alabama ABC Board. He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Willard and Macie Gulledge; and brother Maurice Gulledge.

He is survived by his companion and caretaker, Karen Gulledge; mother of his sons, Liz Jones; Sons, Wesley "Woody" Gulledge and Landers Gulledge, both of Attalla; daughter, Sandy Womack Jones, Birmingham; Stepdaughters, Amber Serda, Gadsden, and Tracy Shaddrix, Huntsville; grandsons, Cain Jones, Birmingham; and Dalton Wise, Gadsden; sisters, Billie Jo Balenger, Marguerite Ellis, Joan (William) McIntosh, all of Gadsden, and Patricia (Don) Richey, Glencoe; a host of loving nieces and nephews; and special niece Belinda Rothrock.

Pallbearers will be former members of 3rd Battalion of 5th Marines, Lima Company.

Honorary pallbearers will be Dwight Mason Lodge members, local members of Sons of the Confederacy and all personal friends.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 9 P.M. on Wednesday, at the funeral home".

As a side note, Jimmie was also a life member of the McLaughlin Detachment, Marine Corps League, Gadsden, Alabama. Please keep Jimmie and his family in your prayers.

JIMMIE, WE WILL MISS YOU!!! SEMPER FI, DEVIL DOG!!!!

Respectfully Submitted;
Johnny Baker
Sergeant Major, U.S. Marine Corps Retired



LCPL Jim "Alabama" Gulledge . . . 0331 Guns Up 1968-69 3rd Platoon WIA 5-11-69, the Mother's Day Massacre . . . a 12 time Reunion attendee. Deceased July 10, 2003 shortly after attending the 2003 Reunion. He was "Alabama" in the true sense of the name.



CPL Jim Bramlage . . . 0341 H&S attached FAC 1966-67 . . . a 5 time Reunion attendee. He leaves wife Lauren and son Noah. They can be reached at
17464 Koogler
Clinton Township, MI 48038
(586) 226-9936

"He's Not Heavy, He's Our Brother!"



Pallbearers: Miller, Senel, Harris, Gibson, Snowden, Stanfield, Levesque, Jones, Handy, St. Clair, and **Davis.**

Our thoughts will remain with these Marines forever. SEMPER FI . . . these are "a few good men".

REUNION 2004 - DAYTONA BEACH, FL



THE BEACH WINS!

The vote for a 2004 Reunion site was a close race in Florida - Orlando or Daytona Beach. The beach wins! Skip, Bob Snowden and I descended on A1A to pick a site. It was hands down! We found a site equal to or better than Myrtle Beach. Same basic format . . . Hospitality Room on the beach and poolside. We got the room rate for $88 for 2004. Let it be known . . . this place is all that and more. You can reserve your "beach on the ocean" room by calling reservations at 1-800-874-7420 . . . just say "Lima 3/5 Reunion" and you are in to a very special place. There is a full service health spa, 15,000 sq. ft. of pleasure. This is the best facility I have seen and just $88 + taxes and all . . . lucky us for damn sure. FREE parking! Airport taxi is $12. Room rates are good from June 12 through June 22 . . . whoof, that's good. The Saturday Evening Banquet is set for June 19, 2004 . . . come early, stay late . . . if you can!

Reservations 1-800-874-7420 . . . say "Lima 3/5 Reunion"

Reunion Banquet is Saturday, June 19th 2004

Room rates are good from June 12th thru June 22

$88.00 + Taxes

PLAZA RESORT & SPA

600 North Atlantic Blvd. • Daytona Beach, FL 32118 • www.plazaresortandspa.com

The Financial Statement of the Lima 3/5 Reunion . . . July 1, 2003

THE GENERAL FUND:

Balance Forward July 2, 2002		$ 7,997.50
INCOME:		
2002 A/R Past Due		$ (385.00)
2003 General Fund Donations		$ 2,637.00
Sales:	Clothing	$ 3,686.00
	Raffle	$ 1,720.00
	Auction	$ 4,344.00
	Auction A/R 2003	$ 1,265.00
TOTAL INCOME:		$13,633.00
EXPENSES:		
Reunion '03		$ 832.26
Hospitality Room		$ 1,991.48
Merchandise		$ 7,768.15
Newsletter Postage		$ 510.00
Postage/Other		$ 200.08
Office Supplies		$ 264.49
Post Office Box		$ 24.00
Donation: USMC Heritage Foundations		$ 1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:		$12,590.66
NET GAIN		$ 1,042.34

OPERATION REACHOUT:

Balance Forward July 2, 2002	$ 2,074,00
Incoming	$ 1,186.00
Expenses	-$ 744.00
NEW BALANCE	$ 2,516.00
Joe Mac Raffle Balance	$ 2,119.00
Incoming	$ 1,500.00
Expenses	-$ 1,500.00
NEW BALANCE	$ 2,119.00

After all this we have money in the bank of $12.815.03 as we head on to 2004.

Semper Fi . . . Hank

Bob Snowden, Treaasurer
Robert Henry, Accounting