

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

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Robert Henry, Editor



January 15, 2001 . . . *the odyssey begins, with newsletter #59*

**Marines, Corpsmen, Family
and Friends of our elite fraternity: Hear Ye!**



REUNION 2001

HIT THE BEACH 2001!

California here we come, doin' the 'Dago!
Our 60 room block may not last long,
20 are taken already. So Jump!



We have 55 WESTIES: 8 in Oregon, 11 in Washington and 36 in California.
Our 1st visit to the west coast EVER in 15 years. Don't miss this chance.
This could get real cool if the Californians make a move south in June.

THANKS!! The HQ here @ Lima 3/5 took in a huge bucket of "Seasons Greetings" card acknowledgments . . . each of you especially. Hope this past Holiday Season was blessed with health and happiness for you and your families.

SEMPER FIDELIS

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Kilo 3/5 - NEW Website: <http://www.kilo35usmc.org>
 PTSD.com is an excellent source of information
 for those who choose to inquire

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Fresh Faces, just 30 years later . . . great!

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 LTCOL USMC Ret/
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 Susan/Tyler, Sara, Lea

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 Patti/John, Joseph, Shennon

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SGT 67-68
 0311 3rd Plt 3rd Sq
 Retired
 Evelyn/Scott, Tonya

TAPS

CONFIRMED . . . to Our Wall, now at 160

WILSON, Billie Joe

SSGT

09 FEB 70

Valley Center, KS

14W 118

Late Obituary: **LT Frank Reneson** . . . deceased in 1971 in a car accident

The Marines in Vietnam . . .

- ◆ The Marines in Vietnam had more KIA's than the Marines of wars past
- ◆ Vietnam had 5 times as many dead Marines than in WWII
- ◆ Vietnam had 3 times more dead Marines than in Korea
- ◆ Vietnam had more total Marines killed or wounded than in all of WWI

It wasn't a walk in the park as you well know. We, the survivors, carry and post our United States Marine Corps flag, with Company L designation and battlefield streamers earned in Vietnam . . . each year at our Reunion . . . for we are proud of our combat history and service to God, Country & Corps . . . Semper Fidelis . . . then, still and always faithful.



REUNION 2001

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Hanalei Hotel
2270 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA 92108
(619) 297-1101

VIC KRULAK - Keynote Speaker
Vic Krulak, former 3/5 (Vietnam) Chaplain, has agreed to be our keynote speaker in San Diego.

REUNION DATES 2001

Basically . . .

June 12th thru June 17th

. . . however!

It's a buffet . . . how much of it do you want?

AMBUSH: Get here when you can and leave when you have to . . . that's cool!

GRUNT: Wednesday, June 13th and Thursday, Friday and Saturday . . . depart Sunday the 17th - 4 nights

GUNG HO: Tuesday, June 12th plus Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. and Sun. - depart Monday the 18th - 6 nights

HARD CORPS: No rules: Motel rates are good from Sunday the 10th thru Friday the 20th

RESERVATIONS: (800) 882-0858 say "LIMA 3/5 REUNION"
mstclair@hanaleihotel.com - Marla St. Clair, Sales Manager

Preliminary Agenda for the 16th Annual Reunion of Lima 3/5 Vietnam

- | | | |
|------------|----------------------|--|
| Mon | June 11 . . . | Almost quiet on this western front; but we are here |
| Tue | June 12 . . . | Infiltration and population gets big quick |
| Wed | June 13 . . . | All on board? Golfers for sure . . . |
| Thu | June 14 . . . | 9 a.m. Golf muster . . . major party tonight in 1132/1133 |
| Fri | June 15 . . . | Boot camp graduation, MCRD San Diego
Tour of Camp Pendleton and 3/5 HQ, with Lima 3/5 active duty
Live fire demonstration . . . maybe more |
| Sat | June 16 . . . | 10 a.m. Business meeting for 2001
5 p.m. Cocktail and Photo Hour, Raffle preview/ticket sales \$1
6 p.m. Opening bids on the Silent Auction
7 p.m. Opening Ceremonies
Guest Speaker: Victor Krulak, Jr., USN Retired
Outdoor Hawaiian Luau Buffet Dinner
Acknowledgments
2001 Raffle call, close the Silent Auction |
| Sun | June 17 . . . | Relaxing by the pool, saying good bye to some |
| Mon | June 18 . . . | Bye Bye . . . begin 2002 planning |

The Hospitality Rooms: 1132/1133 will be open @ 0800 Wednesday on . . .

SATURDAY EVENING is the biggy . . . a **MUST** and most memorable affair. Dress code is casual . . .
Lima 3/5 Polo's, T's or Hawaiian shirts on top. No ties guys, OK? Ladies, come as you choose . . . we love ya!



GOLF 2001 . . . we have trashed the on motel site @ \$60 a pop 4 18. Too much. We are headed for the USMC Camp Pendleton links, just a short ride & \$ cheap. We tee it up Thursday, the 14th of June,

Flag Day. Bring a scorecard from your last round, that will be your handicap. We will have Low Gross and Low Net for these years to pass. Maybe other stuff too. Follow up news is upcoming . . . standby.



It's YOUR Reunion . . . the space and pace is on you and yours. We have a reservation block of 60 rooms . . . so call now! In Asheville, NC we sold out our block very early and none were left for the late committers. Bummer! We (they) lost out on a great 2000 Reunion . . . no ticky no laundry.

ROOM RATES are \$99 + taxes.

Parking \$6 per day!

Airport to Motel transportation is \$6 per person via the shuttle van thing.

Reunion Co-Hosts: Dennis Freed (949) 458-2224 PST - dennisfreed@home.com
Joe McLaughlin (814) 374-4336 EST - judym@csonline.net

These thoughts, for, to and of my dear friend Richard Warren . . . 10/10/00

Do not stand by my grave and weep.
I am not there; I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow;
I am a diamond glint on the snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain;
I am the gentle rain.
When you awake in the morning, hush;
I am the swift uplift rush of quiet birds in circling flight.
I am the soft star shine at night.
Do not stand by my grave and cry . . .
I am not there. I did not die.

Yesterdays and tomorrows which will never end . . .



Richard "Frack" Warren, Vietnam Jan '68 thru Aug '69, Plt radio, Lima 6 radio, extended to supply L 3/5 SGT, An Hoa. Richard passed away October 18, 2000 at the age of 52. This day, 10-10 is his, and we will celebrate his presence, to remember him in country, then better when Donna and he attended 5 Reunions with us.



In September 2000, his Skipper, Lima 6 **Bob Snowden**, his Gunny, **Wally Loucks**, good friend **Skip St. Clair**, hometown **Ira Roudebush** and I; loser of the 'infamous pillow fight '69' . . . we visited the hospital in Indiana. We had a big party. Did a large tailgate in the sunshine. Really Cool!

Richard's funeral ceremony was October 21st. He was set to rest with full USMC honors and Donna was presented the American flag. 'Doc' Fowler delivered our message . . . Richard's ashes will be partly spread off the Islands of Hawaii. Richard, we love ya bro' . . . Semper Fi 10-10, over!

Phil Matthews was recently presented the **Purple Heart Medal** for his wounds received May 12, Mother's Day, 1969. Validation is important, thanks Matty, for being in the thick of it then and staying in the thick with us now.



Mel & Judy Bellamy are doing good things in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. Positive stuff for Marines and future Marines. They are there thru April, 01. USMC - Semper Fidelis Fellowship Ranch @ (573) 774-2097 . . . call or visit.

1967 LT Frederick Smith, later a Silver Star with 3/5 May 27, 1968 . . . was set back a bit by heart surgery December 2000. Get well quickly, we need leaders like you in the field . . . Semper Fi.

Some people wonder all their lives if they've made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem.

— Ronald Reagan

Alone among the U.S. military services, the Marines have bestowed their name on their enlisted ranks. The Army has Army officers and soldiers, the Navy has naval officers and sailors, the Air Force has Air Force officers and airmen—but the **Marines have only Marines.**

Did you know? 14,825 Marines & 601 Corpsmen were KIA in Vietnam. Listen up: 10, 687 of those KIA's occurred in Quang Nam Province - nearly 70% of ALL USMC/USN casualties in Vietnam. 70% in or near the An Hoa Combat base. The hills, valleys, patties of the Arizona Territory, Dodge City, Indian Country, Goi Noi Island, Football Island, Hills 10, 55, 65, Liberty Bridge, named and uncounted unnamed operations . . . 42 months . . . July 1968 thru 1970+.

Our prayers reach out to the crew of the USS Cole . . .



10 November, 1966

Jerry "Obie" O'Brien, Reiss "Spud" Tatum, Larry "Jonesie" Jones.

Larry Jones and Jerry O'Brien were Capt. Tatum's radio operators in Vietnam. Reiss writes . . . *They were with me every step of the way for almost a year, starting in January '66 until I left the company at the end of November. We made every operation the company went on in '66 together, plus a few smaller ops that never got named. O'Brien was hurt in December or January and was evacuated to the States. I got Jones moved with me to the regimental 3 shop shortly afterwards where we continued to work together until I rotated in April. "Jonesie" extended and ended up spending 21 consecutive months in country, making Sgt E-5, and was WIA. "O'Bie" went back for a second tour as a Sgt E-5. Both guys were great, and I was lucky to have them. They both deserve a lot of credit for having to put up with me under those conditions for a year, because I know I wasn't always easy to be around 24-7.*

Kudos . . . to Grant and Nelta Thayer, for their efforts in a 2000 fund raiser for the American Cancer Society. Nelta was chosen as the outstanding member of 3 different communities for her efforts. Great Job! Good Stuff!

Grant writes . . . *Just a note to let you know how the relay for life went. In our little town of 3750 people our combined efforts raised over \$99,000.00. It was with the help of our Lima 3/5 friends that this was achieved. Each of the 3/5 brothers that we contacted had a vital part in this, some small and some large but each received with a large dose of "thanks". Our area communities honored Nelta for her efforts as the Chamber of Commerce for the towns of Elkins, Jonesville and Arlington all voted in a joint resolve to award her "Citizen of the Year" for all three communities. I cannot say enough about the support received from our Lima brothers. We love all of you! — Semper Fi, Grant*



Raffle & Silent Auction 2001 . . . Those choosing to donate items to either the Raffle or the Silent Auction, please send your items direct to:



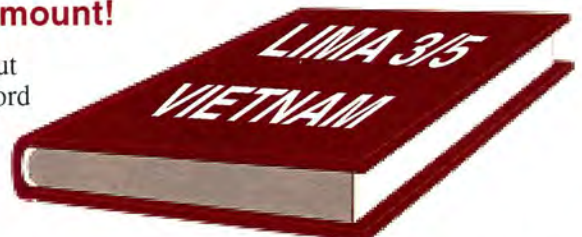
Dennis Freed
24665 Via Tonada
Lake Forest Park, CA 92638
(949) 458-2224
dennisfreed@home.com
and notify me too, OK?



The 2001 Lima 3/5 Merchandise is in the closet! No peeking! Merchandise sales will begin with Newsletter #60 March 15 & end May 15 with #61. That's it! Polo's & T's for 2001 will be 50/50, pockets/no-pockets, Polo's, T's. Al Ross is the only one guaranteed a 'pocket'! The rest of you, order early! Rumor has it: Dress/Navy Blue Polo's, OD green T's & issue Covers. Hey, no peeking! Can't you read? Sharpen your pencil for March 15th . . . then 'Get stuff' . . .

Lima 3/5 History is Paramount!

WE are the historians! Military records and documentation is important, but personal accounts make history what it is and what it will be when the record is finally read. Your thoughts? . . . thanks! Our bodies are terminal, but our memories, thoughts and feelings shall dictate our history, forever, to the sons and daughters who have grown with us. For the Archives of USMC history . . . let's put ours into record.



The Archives of Lima 3/5 will be donated to the USMC Historical Museum . . . just before the tip of 'the last bottle', by a couple of Lima 3/5'ers. This will be our final word. Hope you have 1 or 2 to share. It's earned. We currently have 14 Archival albums, but the number will grow, before . . .



Heritage 2000 Foundation
USMC 225th Anniversary

225th MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Dave Meinertz, Ed Conti, Al Ross and Gerry Winters surround Medal of Honor winner Bob Modrzejewski.

2000 MARINE CORPS BALL - the 225th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps happened in Philly. 16 Medal of Honor winners and 4 Lima 3/5er's, **Ed Conti, Dave Meinertz, Al Ross, Gerry Winters**, and wives represented Lima 3.5! Thanks for carrying the staff . . . and ladies for keeping order.



Lima 3/5 is well represented: **Barbara and Gerry Winters, Mom Winters, Grace and Ed Conti, Carole and Dave Meinertz and Al Ross.**

Al Ross spearheaded a small but active Lima 3/5 contingent that attended the huge Marine Corps Birthday Celebration that took place in the Philadelphia Convention Center. It was an honor and pleasure to be surrounded by 1700 Marines, Corpsmen, family and friends. By a very fortunate coincidence, some of us were seated at the same table as **Medal of Honor** winner **Bob Modrzejewski**. As the C.O. of K 3/4, Bob was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery on Operation Hastings July 15-18th, 1966. All the Lima '66 guys can relate to that. We also met several others at surrounding tables who had fought on **Hastings**. A great night of good food and drink celebrated with our "**Band of Brothers**".



APPLY, OR WRITE TO NEAREST RECRUITING STATION



Dan Cantrell

BIG NEWS

Dan Cantrell donated a parcel of land overlooking the **Strait of Juan de Fuca**, which feeds the Puget Sound in Washington state, to the 1stMarDiv Association. This land can be dedicated to Lima 3/5 . . . giving us a major location for a memorial site to 'a few good men'

and a living site for all to experience. Discussion, business meeting 2001.

Life was never regular again. We were changed from the day we put our feet in that sand.

TECHNO GRUNTS

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