

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

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Dan Nordmann, Editor



Apr May . . Newsletter #100. . Minneapolis Reunion

**LIMA 3/5
IS LOOKING FOR A
FEW GOOD MARINES
TO MEET IN
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
JUNE 10TH THRU
JUNE 15TH.
MAKE YOUR
RESERVATION
TODAY!**

SEMPER FIDELIS

Membership Info

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

George Christo
21 D Fells Way
Laconia, NH 03246

Roy Koehler
P.O. Box 14299
Mesa, AZ 85216

John Olsen
2802 17th St
Anacortes, WA 96221

Kevin Pryle
570 Avenida Sevilla Unit C
Laguna Woods, CA 92637

Bill Woodall
1547 Del Mar Rd.
Oceanside, CA 92057

If you have an **e-mail address** and you don't get the Roster updates or Newsletter via e-mail, send me your e-mail address to save on postage. We mail out 268 and e-mail 204. **Get an e-mail address.**

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Bob Fowler bfowler812@msn.com

Ray Pastrick rypastrick@yahoo.com

Rick Richter ricston@alaska.net

David Whitaker shitakerdc@aol.com



TAPS



Jerry Bell passed away in October 2013. Jerry was a 0311 Sargent with Lima 3/5 in 1966 1967.



Lee Gound passed away March 15, 2014. Lee was a 0302 1st Lt. with Lima 3/5 from July 67 to May 68. He served as Platoon Commander and Company Commander being awarded a Bronze Star. He retired as a Colonel from the Marine Corps.



Jerry Stanfield passed away on March 20, 2014. Jerry was a 0311 Sargent with 2nd Platoon from December 1968 to December 1969. Jerry was awarded a Purple Heart for wounds received 28 Aug 68.



HEADQUARTERS
3rd Battalion, 5th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602



From: Commanding Officer
To: Marines and Navymen of this battalion
Subj: Letter of Appreciation

27 March 1968

1. It has been my great privilege to have been in command of this battalion for the last seven months. Now I must turn over command to my successor and move on to another assignment. I cannot leave without telling you how I feel about you Marines and Navymen, my shipmates.
2. Since I joined on 7 September 1967 the battalion, or elements of it, have fought in Operations SWIFT, SHELBYVILLE, ESSEX, DENVER, BAXTER, JUNCTION, AUBURN, many No-Names, the TET Offensive, HUE CITY, HOUSTON, and many others. During this time you have killed 739 enemy soldiers, probably killed another 518, and captured 105 enemy and many weapons. You have fought day and night in the rice paddies, in the mountains, in the villages and city. You have fought in the unbelievable summer heat, the bone-chilling winter, the driving monsoon rains. You have been mortared, gassed, grenaded, rocketed, mined, booby-trapped, machine gunned, sniped at, even attacked hand-to-hand. Many times you have been ordered to attack a numerically superior dug-in force. You have been required to patrol in exceedingly hazardous situations with under strength squads and fire teams. You have made helicopter assaults into hot landing zones. You have fought - or will fight - for almost thirteen straight months with only a short R&R or hospitalization from wounds as a break. You have fought without flight pay, jump pay, submarine pay, aircrew pay, diver's pay, extra incentive pay, per diem, or any other fancy pay. You have fought and, like Marines and their attached Navy shipmates for the last 193 years, you have never failed to take the objective, repulse every attack, or to go where you were ordered. No rockets were ever fired from the area you patrolled. You spoiled the enemy's TET attack against Danang. You cornered the Viet Cong's R-20 Battalion and destroyed it. You attacked and defeated the 31st Regiment of the 2nd NVA Division inflicting very heavy casualties on the enemy.
3. You are members of a combat-proven battalion of an illustrious regiment which received its initiation to war at Belleau Wood and has fought in almost all of our Corps' battles since. You have carried your responsibility to our Corps superbly and have added new honors to our colors.
4. I want to tell each of you how proud I am to have served with you. You responded magnificently to every demand placed on you. You never faltered. You always won. You make me very, very proud to be a United States Marine.

W.K. Rockey

Courtesy of Sgt Maj Dougherty, USMC

The Marine Corps is the only branch of the U.S. Armed Forces that recruits people specifically to Fight.

The Army emphasizes personal development (an Army of One), the Navy promises fun (let the journey begin), the Air Force offers security (its a great way of life).

Missing from all the advertisements is the hard fact that a soldier's life is to suffer and perhaps to die for his people and take lives at the risk of his/her own.

Even the thematic music of the services reflects this evasion. The Army's Caisson Song describes a pleasant country outing. Over hill and dale, lacking only a picnic basket. Anchors Aweigh the Navy's celebration of the joys of sailing could have been penned by Jimmy Buffet.

The Air Force song is a lyric poem of blue skies and engine thrust. All is joyful, and invigorating, and safe. There are no land mines in the dales nor snipers behind the hills, no submarines or cruise missiles threaten the ocean jaunt, no bandits are lurking in the wild blue yonder.

The Marines' Hymn, by contrast, is all combat. "We fight our Country's battles", "First to fight for right and freedom", "We have fought in every clime and place where we could take a gun", "In many a strife we have fought for life and never lost our nerve".

The choice is made clear. You may join the Army to go to adventure training, or join the Navy to go to Bangkok , or join the Air Force to go to computer school. You join the Marine Corps to go to War! But the mere act of signing the enlistment contract confers no status in the Corps.

The Army recruit is told from his first minute in uniform that "you're in the Army now, soldier". The Navy and Air Force enlistees are sailors or airmen as soon as they get off the bus at the training center.

The new arrival at Marine Corps boot camp is called a recruit, or worse (a lot worse), but never a MARINE. Not yet, maybe never. He or she must earn the right to claim the title of UNITED STATES MARINE and failure returns you to civilian life without hesitation or ceremony.

Recruit Platoon 2210 at San Diego , California trained from October through December of 1968. In Viet Nam the Marines were taking two hundred casualties a week and the major rainy season and Operation Meade River had not even begun, yet Drill Instructors had no qualms about winnowing out almost a quarter of their 112 recruits, graduating 81. Note that this was post-enlistment attrition. Every one of those 31 who were dropped had been passed by the recruiters as fit for service.. But they failed the test of Boot Camp! Not

necessarily for physical reasons. At least two were outstanding high school athletes for whom the calisthenics and running were child's play. The cause of their failure was not in the biceps nor the legs, but in the spirit. They had lacked the will to endure the mental and emotional strain so they would not be Marines. Heavy commitments and high casualties notwithstanding, the Corps reserves the right to pick and choose.

History classes in boot camp? Stop a soldier on the street and ask him to name a battle of World War One. Pick a sailor at random and ask for a description of the epic fight of the Bon Homme Richard. Ask an airman who Major Thomas McGuire was and what is named after him. I am not carping and there is no sneer in this criticism. All of the services have glorious traditions, but no one teaches the young soldier, sailor or airman what his uniform means and why he should be proud of it.

But...ask a Marine about World War One and you will hear of the wheat field at Belleau Wood and the courage of the Fourth Marine Brigade comprised of the Fifth and Sixth Marines.. Faced with an enemy of superior numbers entrenched in tangled forest undergrowth the Marines received an order to attack that even the charitable cannot call ill-advised. It was insane. Artillery support was absent and air support hadn't been invented yet. Even so the Brigade charged German machine guns with only bayonets, grenades, and an indomitable fighting spirit. A bandy-legged little barrel of a Gunnery Sergeant, Daniel J. Daly, rallied his company with a shout, "Come on you sons a bitches, do you want to live forever?" He took out three machine guns himself.

French liaison-officers hardened though they were by four years of trench bound slaughter were shocked as the Marines charged across the open wheat field under a blazing sun directly into the teeth of enemy fire. Their action was so anachronistic on the twentieth-century field of battle that they might as well have been swinging cutlasses. But the enemy was only human. The Boche could not stand up to the onslaught. So the Marines took Belleau Wood . The Germans, those that survived, thereafter referred to the Marines as "Tuefel Hunden" (Devil Dogs) and the French in tribute renamed the woods "Bois de la Brigade de Marine" (Woods of the Brigade of Marines).

Every Marine knows this story and dozens more. We are taught them in boot camp as a regular part of the curriculum. Every Marine will always be taught them! You can learn to don a gas mask anytime, even on the plane in route to the war zone, but before you can wear the Eagle, Globe and Anchor and claim the title United States Marine you must first know about the Marines who made that emblem and title meaningful. So long as you can march and shoot and revere the legacy of the Corps you can take your place in line. And that line is as unified in spirit as in purpose.

A soldier wears branch service insignia on his collar, metal shoulder pins and cloth sleeve patches to identify his unit, and far too many look like they belong in a band.

Sailors wear a rating badge that identifies what they do for the Navy. Airmen have all kinds of badges and get medals for finishing schools and showing up for work.

Marines wear only the Eagle, Globe and Anchor together with personal ribbons and their CHERISHED marksmanship badges. They know why the uniforms are the colors they are and what each color means. There is nothing on a Marine's uniform to indicate what he or she does nor what unit the Marine belongs to. You cannot tell by looking at a Marine whether you are seeing a truck driver, a computer programmer or a machine gunner or a cook or a baker. The Marine is amorphous, even anonymous, by conscious design.

The Marine is a Marine. Every Marine is a rifleman first and foremost, a Marine first, last and Always! You may serve a four-year enlistment or even a twenty plus year career without seeing action, but if the word is given you'll charge across that Wheatfield! Whether a Marine has been schooled in automated supply or automotive mechanics or aviation electronics or whatever is immaterial. Those things are secondary - the Corps does them because it must. The modern battle requires the technical appliances and since the enemy has them so do we. But no Marine boasts mastery of them.

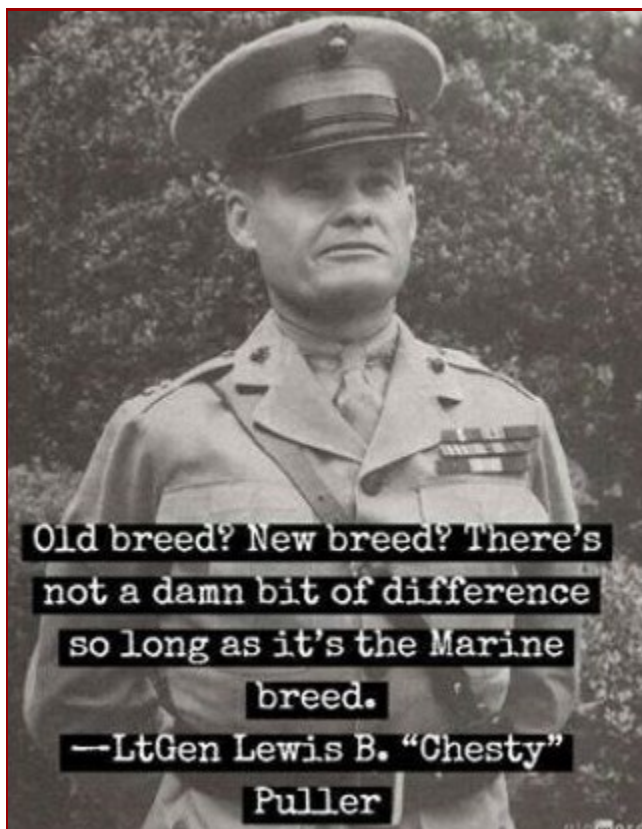
Our pride is in our marksmanship, our discipline, and our membership in a fraternity of courage and sacrifice. "For the honor of the fallen, for the glory of the dead", Edgar Guest wrote of Belleau Wood. "The living line of courage kept the faith and moved ahead." They are all gone now, those Marines who made a French farmer's little Wheatfield into one of the most enduring of Marine Corps legends. Many of them did not survive the day and eight long decades have claimed the rest. But their actions are immortal. The Corps remembers them and honors what they did and so they live forever. Dan Daly's shouted challenge takes on its true meaning - if you lie in the trenches you may survive for now, but someday you may die and no one will care. If you charge the guns you may die in the next two minutes, but you will be one of the immortals.

All Marines die in either the red flash of battle or the white cold of the nursing home. In the vigor of youth or the infirmity of age all will eventually die, but the Marine Corps lives on. Every Marine who ever lived is living still, in the Marines who claim the title today.

It is that sense of belonging to something that will outlive our own mortality, which gives people a light to live by, and a flame to mark their passing.

Submitted by:

Chuck VanBibber Fox 2/27 & Gulf 2/5 1968



LIMA 3/5 REUNION ORDER FORM

We're going back to the **OLD STYLE** Polo Shirts this year. Shirts will have the 3/5 Logo embroidered on the left breast. T-Shirts will have the same logo embroidered on the left breast. Hats will have the USMC emblem with Lima 3/5. Shirt & Hat color will be sand.



Advance orders only. Pick up at the Reunion.

Polo Shirt S,M,L,XL \$22 ea. Size ____ Qty. ____ \$ _____

Polo Shirt XXL, XXXL \$25 ea. Size ____ Qty. ____ \$ _____

T-Shirt S,M,L,XL \$13 ea. Size ____ Qty. ____ \$ _____

T-Shirt XXL, XXXL \$16 ea. Size ____ Qty. ____ \$ _____

Hat Sm-Med, Med-Lg \$17 ea. Size ____ Qty. ____ \$ _____

Postage for shirt order if not attending the Reunion. \$7.00 \$ _____

Total Shirt Order \$ _____

Shirt Orders Due by May May 10th!!!!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND & OPERATION REACHOUT WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

Pre-Pay Banquet Dinner \$50.00 Per Adult (Children under 12 free) # ____ @ \$50 = \$ _____

General Fund Contribution \$ _____

Operation Reachout Contribution \$ _____

Total Shirt Order \$ _____

Total for 2014 Minneapolis Reunion \$ _____

Friday Morning Golf # ____ (Pay at the Course)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** ____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Fort Snelling Tour # ____

Make checks payable to Dan Nordmann

Send this Form to:

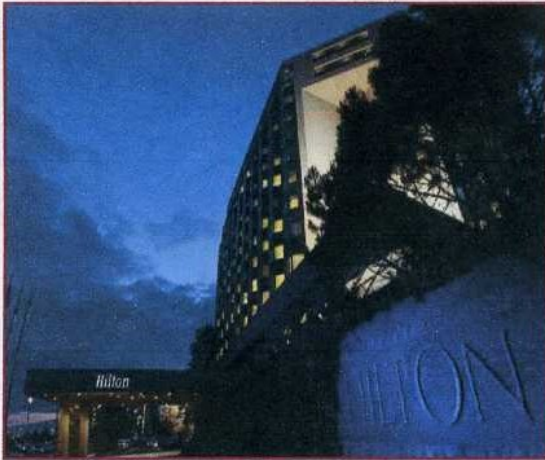
Dan Nordmann

11702 Avery Ln.

Bridgeton, MO 63044-2105

REUNION 2014 * MINNEAPOLIS, MN

June 10 thru June 15, 2014



Hilton Minneapolis/St Paul/Mall of America

\$99.00 Room Rates

For a single or double

Book a room by requesting
Lima 3/5 Reunion

952-854-2100 or toll free 800-445-8667

Hospitality Room - Opens Tuesday June 10th

Golf - Friday, June 13th TBA

Business Meeting - Saturday, June 14th 9:30am

Banquet & Silent Auction - Saturday, June 14th

Cocktails at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00pm

Room Rates are good till May 13th

Minneapolis Saint Paul, you get two cities worth for the price of one. With no sales tax on clothes and shoes, the savings here are unbeatable—and there is no shortage of places to do so. There's the **Mall of America** and its 520 stores, the nation's first enclosed mall, **Southdale**, and shopping neighborhoods like **50th and France** and Saint Paul's **Grand Avenue**. There's racetracks, casinos, amusement parks, or two zoos. You can visit **Fort Snelling**. Built in the early 1820s, Historic Fort Snelling is a great place to learn about military history from before the Civil War through World War II, fur trade history, slavery in Minnesota, the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862, and much more! Its location – at the junction of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers – has been significant for centuries to many American Indian communities. **Historic Fort Snelling is a National Historic Landmark.**



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It's really important to fill out the **Reunion Order Form** and mail it in prior to the Reunion so that we will have some idea of the number of guests at the Banquet. You need to **book your room before May 13th** to get the \$99.00 rate. After May 13th the cost per room will be raised.

The Hospitality Room is also looking for donations. In the past I've always brought a donation from my VFW Post. Check around with your service organizations, VFW, American Legion, DAV, Purple Heart Association, etc., and see if they can possibly give us a small donation.

We are always looking for **Silent Auction items**. The **Raffle and silent Auction** are our only Fundraisers. If you have something to donate, contact me at 314-291-1725 or e-mail me at dmnordmann@att.net.

May 10th is also the date that I need to have all of the Reunion Shirt orders in by. **Reunion Shirts are advance orders only. Pickup will be at the Reunion.** If not attending the Reunion, I'll mail your order to you. I still need the orders in by **May 10th**.

Hope to see you in Minneapolis.

LIMA COMPANY



3RD BN. 5TH MARINES 1ST MAR. DIV.
VIETNAM 1966-1971

Daniel J. Nordmann
11702 Avery Lane
Bridgeton, MO 63044



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

