

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



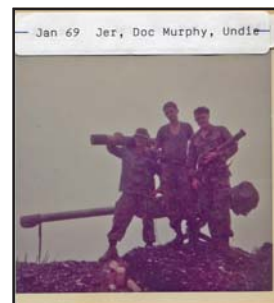
VIETNAM 1966-1971

11702 AVERY LANE
BRIDGETON, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
E-mail: dmnordmann@att.net
Dan Nordmann, Editor



April 2009 . . . Newsletter #84 . . . Archives Being Transferred to CDs

Just a Sampling of what is on the Archive CDs



Reunion 2009 – Charleston, SC • May 27th thru May 31st
Make Your Hotel Reservations and Travel Plans
Send Your Registration to Joe McLaughlin

SEMPER FIDELIS

Membership Info

Change of Address

Rocco Cianciotti
10445 Paradise Court
Mamassas, VA 20109

Dan Handy
909 Edgewood Drive
Gadsden, AL 35901
256-543-0309
Handy35@comcast.net

Lori Roy
4759 Calendula Avenue
Middleburg, FL 32068
Catlovr1@frontiernet.net

Jim Crawford
1345 Barbara Street
Susanville, CA 96130

Phil Hobbs
16079 Forest Lake Drive
Findlay, OH 45840

Bill Woodall
19123 Eldorado Road
Perris, CA 92570
760-685-8108

Mark Dolan
3651 Madison Street
Lansing, IL 60438
708-474-4553

David Nixa
1660-2 Beach Avenue
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233
904-853-6332
chick47@comcast.com

Mike Maehl
1707 S. Lincoln
Spokane, WA 99203
509-747-3323
mr.maehl@yahoo.com

Send all changes to:

Dan Nordmann
11702 Avery Lane
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2105
(314) 291-1725
dmnordmann@att.net

If you have a photo of yourself from Vietnam, bring it to the Reunion or mail it to me and I can insert it in a picture of the Wall along with the 3 Vets (see below).



New E-mail Addresses

Don Vogelgesang
rnvogel@att.net

Wilhelm Burger
wwburger@gmail.com

Brenda Gibeau
bjgibeau@yahoo.com

Lost Contact:

Bill Meyers
Golfport, MS

James Morelli
Ovieda, FL

Dave Bellis
Avon, IN

Ronald Miller
Dubuque, IA



TAPS

Mr. Conti,

It is with sadness that I'm writing to tell you that my father Horace McCoy Bryant Sr. passed away on Monday, March 9th, 2009. I know he held you, as well as Lima 3/5, in high regard. My father and I had a fantastic time at the last reunion in San Diego. Please keep us in your prayers. His funeral is scheduled for Friday, March 13, 2009 at 1400 hrs. (Bethel Family Worship Center, 515 Dowd Street, Durham N.C. 27701). My phone number is 336-926-5462.

Grace Conti had flowers sent to the funeral home with a card signed "From all your Brothers of Lima 3/5". We'll miss you Horace.

Back to Nam

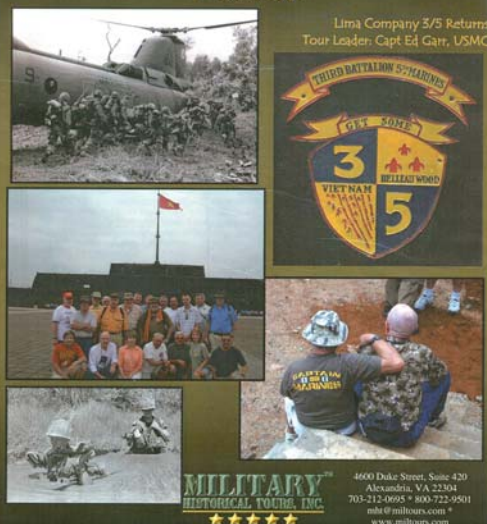
Scott Lynwood, Bill Clark, and Steve Cobb are headed back to Vietnam right after the Charleston Reunion. They are meeting in LA on June 3rd and flying over on June 4th for a 14-day tour of the Que Son Basin site of Union I, II, and Swift. The tour will start in Hanoi and visit sites in DaNang, Marble Mountain, the old NSA site, and China Beach. Other sites include Vu Gia – Tu Bon River Basin, Go Noi Island, Liberty Bridge, "Arizona Territory" Dodge City, Hill 55, Hill 65, and An Hoa Combat Base. They will tour Hue City, Phu Bai base and airstrip, north to the DMZ, Khe Sanh, Dong Ha, and Con Thien. Tour Leader is Capt. Ed Garr, USMC Retired. www.miltours.com

*In the Que Son Basin
Union I, II & Swift
June 5 – 19, 2009*

Anyone interested can still join in on the tour by contacting Bill Clark at (806) 359-0831, bill-clark@att.net.

Return to Vietnam

"In the Que Son Basin – Union I, II & Swift"
5 – 19 Jun 2009



Charleston, SC • May 27th thru 31st

Make Your Reservations • Send in Your Registration



Hotel: Holiday Inn Patriots Point (Charleston), 250 Johnnie Dodds Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464; Tel. (843) 884-6000; Fax (843) 881-1786; Toll Free Reservations (800) 972-2513.

Reunion Dates: Wednesday, May 27 – Sunday, May 31, 2009. Rooms are blocked from Monday, May 25 through Monday, June 1, 2009. Room rates are \$129.00 per night. Reservations must be made on or before April 28, 2009. Reservations booked after that date will be subject to the normal \$169.00 daily rate. Check in is 3:00 p.m.; checkout is 12:00 Noon.

Parking: Complimentary.

Hospitality Room: Opens 12:00 Noon, Wednesday, May 27, 2009 and closes Sunday, May 31 at a time to be determined.

Business Meeting: Saturday, May 30, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

For the Ladies: Nancy Benton would like to invite all the Ladies to a Saturday morning Tea Party while the Guys will be attending the Business Meeting.

Banquet Dinner: Saturday, May 30, 2009 on premises in the Grand Ballroom beginning at 6:00 p.m. Additional information to follow.

The **Holiday Inn Charleston Mt. Pleasant** is at the heart of it all, located just minutes from **Historic Charleston**. The convenient location is easily accessible and known for being at the foot of the **Arthur Ravenel Bridge**. The **Holiday Inn Hotel** is conveniently located near **Charleston's** beaches, islands, plantations, golf courses, shopping, ports and local businesses.

Fly in to Charleston International Airport which is 13 miles to the hotel. Or if driving from I-95 to 126E to 526E to I-26/Charleston, take exit 220 for Mt. Pleasant and move to the left lane going over the 2nd bridge. Follow the sign for Georgetown and turn left at the 1st light.

What's near by:

Historic Charleston, Market Street, The Battery,
USS Yorktown, Patriots Point Maritime Museum,
Isle of Palms, Sullivans Island, Patriots Point Golf Course

A big thanks to **Nancy & Terry Benton** for hosting Charleston.

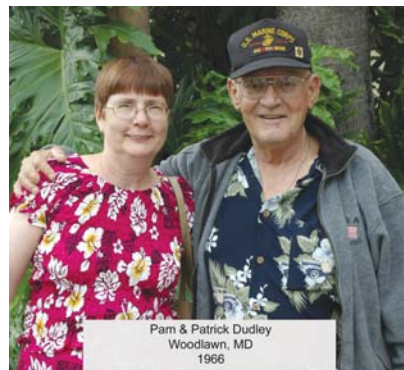
PICTURE ROSTER 2008



Penny & Benito DeLaGarza
Edmond, OK
1966 1967



Nick Douzanis
1968



Pam & Patrick Dudley
Woodlawn, MD
1966



Sherry & Ken Carmen
Snohomish, WS
1968 1969



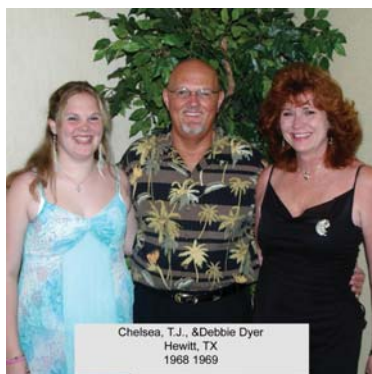
Karen & Bob Garcia
Eules, TX
1968 1969



Loretta & John Green
San Ramone, CA
1968 1969



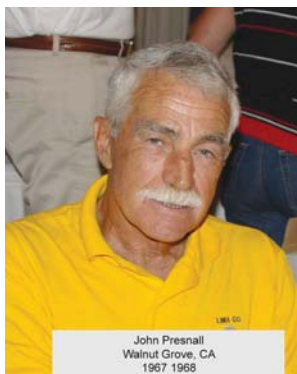
James Hadaway
Cocoa, FL
1966 1967



Chelsea, T.J., & Debbie Dyer
Hewitt, TX
1968 1969



Melissa & Buzz Perez
Austin, TX
1970 1971



John Presnall
Walnut Grove, CA
1967 1968



Rose & Rey Sanchez
Brownwood, TX
1970 1971



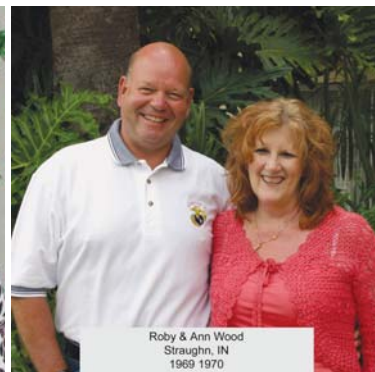
Skip & Linda St. Clair
Satsuma, FL
1966



Jim & Debra White
Saraland, AL
1968



Dan & Mary Sue Williams
Houston, TX
1968 1969



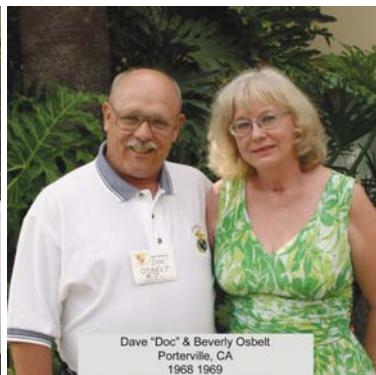
Roby & Ann Wood
Straughn, IN
1969 1970



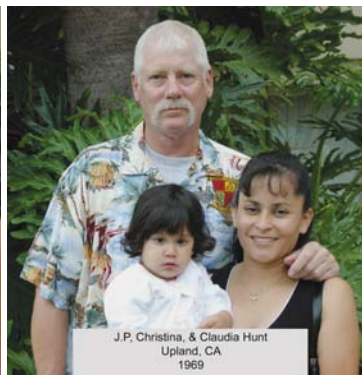
James Bridston
Tacoma, WA
1966 1967



Herb & Pam Johnson
Minneapolis, MN
1967 1968



Dave "Doc" & Beverly Osbell
Porterville, CA
1968 1969



J.P. Christina, & Claudia Hunt
Upland, CA
1969

Reflections From a Mike 3/5 Marine

Dear Dan,

I received the latest Newsletter and I always look forward to reading it. Every time I read it, I can't help thinking about all those guys I served with.

I was in Mike Co., 3rd Platoon, 3rd Squad as a grenadier. I was an original member of 3/5 when we formed the Battalion at Camp Pendleton. Some of the guys that I went thru Boot Camp and ITR were sent to Lima Co. We spent some time at San Mateo before boarding ship at Long Beach. The ship was a WWII Troop Transport named USS Renville. We spent the next month or so at sea stopping at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Hawaii was beautiful.

We then made our way to Okinawa. At Okie we went down the ropes to landing craft. On the beach we boarded buses and drove to Camp Swab where we dropped our gear. All the time it was pouring rain. It was monsoon season. In Company formation we forced marched to the northern training area (NTA). We spent the next 30 days in the jungle training for guerilla warfare. All the while it just kept raining. Never in my life did I think I'd be so water logged.

Then that day came when we finished training and boarded buses to Camp Swab. I remember it distinctly, the sun came out and we all dried out. When we got to Swab, it was time for Liberty Call. Man we flew out to this place called Kim Village. Enough said!

Our training still wasn't over. We forced marched from Swab to Camp Hanson and back. We never were given any slack. All we did was train, train, and train. Then the day came to pack our gear. We were moving out. We loaded cattle cars and made our way back to the beach. In the bay was a carrier. It was the USS Princeton. We boarded Mike boats and made our way to the ship. We climbed to the hangar deck with all our gear. I'll never forget the climb. If you fell you were a dead man.

From Okinawa we made our way to Subic Bay in the Philippines. At Subic Bay we off loaded with all our weapons at the pier and got in company formation. It had to be 100 degrees. The next 30 days we trained in the jungle. By now we were ready for anything. The heat was terrible. I tried to imagine what our troops went thru in WWII.

Then the call went out and we boarded ship again. We were on our way to war. Our ship patrolled the China Sea off the coast of Vietnam. We assaulted by helicopters into Nam. Reality settled in. My squad took the first KIA in the Battalion. His name was Cpl Enesto Diaz. He was the first team leader and a veteran of the first landing with the 9th Marines at DaNang. I always think about him. We ran Operations, Sweeps, etc. Had our share of WIAs and KIAs. We just wanted to survive. Then came Operation Hastings. The choppers were under fire before we made it to the LZ. I never saw so many dead Marines. I have no idea how I made it thru this fight. I spent the next eleven months in combat. We didn't relieve Lima Co. on Hastings, we reinforced them. They took a beating, but held their own.

Then came that day that we were being relieved. We disembarked at Chu Lai. The 27th Marines took our place on the Princeton. I was so elated because the longer you were on the ship the less your chances were to stay alive. In Dec. '66 I was finally put out of action. A grenade almost sent me to my maker. I recouped and finished my enlistment on guard duty in Tennessee. I left the Marines as a Sergeant and with a mountain of memories.

Semper Fi,
Gilbert A. Hernandez

Highpockets Reports "Great News" for Operation SWIFT Veterans Operation Swift PUC

Date: 1 March 2009

To: All Veterans who served in (or with) the 5th Marines in Vietnam during the period –
29 March 1966 – 15 September 1967

From: Col. Pete Hilgarter, CO 1st Battalion, 5th Marines – 4 November 1966 – 20 September 1967

Subject: Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) Award

1. After an intensive search, we have finally discovered documentation that supports the fact that a PUC was awarded to the 5th Marines Units / Battalions who fought in Operation SWIFT (4 – 15 September 1967).
2. The award recommendation initiated by CG 1st MarDiv's letter to Secretary of the Navy, dtd 28 September 1967, serial # 00322767 was approved and signed by President Lyndon Johnson on 1 October 1968, covers a 17½ month timeframe. You could have served in other operations named in the DG's letter and be eligible. Operations UNION I, UNION II, and Hue City have already been awarded a PUC.
3. These are some of the 5th Marines Units eligible for the SWIFT PUC: 1/5, 3/5, H Co. 2/5, I Co. 3/1. Other operations named include: ADAIR (15 – 24 June), Calhoun (25 June – 1 July), and COCHISE (10 – 26 August).

Semper Fi,
Highpockets

P.S. If you have questions, please call the History Division in Quantico, at 703-432-4874.

LIMA 3/5, VIETNAM 1968 & 1969

Photos From Our Archives



Dave Tully, Frank Reichert,
Jerry Davis



Bob Garcia, Bob Rigdon,
Leroy Walker



John Green, Ken Carmen,
Brad Reynolds



Doc Davis, Jerry Culik



Pete Taylor



Irving Cray



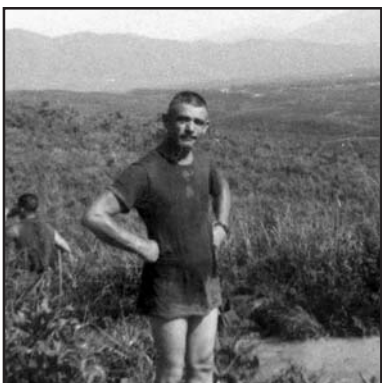
Harold Overton



Mel Bellemey, Bill Woodall



Dave Miller



Gunny Richmond



Don Levesque



Jim Yarber, Doc Murphy

From: Marvin E. Fortney - fortneyjr@msn.com

Anyone that was with Platoon 290 at Parris Island in June of 1966 please contact me at fortney@msn.com. I have found all but 18 members and am still trying to find the rest. Thanks for your help.

Semper Fi,
Marvin



VIETNAM JUNGLE SHIRTS with Lima Company 3/5 logo embroidered as pictured are available through **Dennis Freed**. Lima Company on the collar and the 3/5 patch over the left breast pocket in regular colors or camo (your choice). Last name, first and middle initial in black over the right breast pocket is included. Add patches such as flag on your own. Cost for shirt, embroidery and shipping is \$80.00. All profits (about \$7.00) to Lima Company General Fund. Send a check payable to Dennis Freed, 24665 Via Tonada, Lake Forest, CA 92630. Allow approximately 6 weeks (give or take) for delivery as I have to order shirts and await shipment, then get them to the embroiderer, then ship to you. The shirts are authentic 'Nam reproductions. Wear 'em open over a black t-shirt with Levis. Awesome display! Call (949) 458-2224 if you have any questions.

**NO NEW SHIRTS WILL BE SOLD AT THIS YEAR'S REUNION.
BRING SOME OF YOUR PAST YEARS' SHIRTS.**

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

PRE-PAY Banquet Buffet Dinner at \$50.00 per adult# _____ @ \$50.00 = \$ _____
All under 12 are FREE

GENERAL FUND Contribution\$ _____

OPERATION REACHOUT Contribution\$ _____

'09 TOTAL for What It's Worth To Me\$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LIMA 3/5

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

SEND THIS FORM TO:

Joe McLaughlin
11607 Rutherford Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22407
(540) 785-4896

SIGN UP FOR GOLF No. of players _____ (Pay at Course.)

PARRIS ISLAND TOUR No. of people _____ (If we get a good response, we will schedule a bus trip.)

LIMA COMPANY



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

Daniel J. Nordmann
11702 Avery Lane
Bridgeton, MO 63044



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

