

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1965-1971

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



April, 2010 . . . Newsletter #87 . . . Meet Me in St. Louis



Make Your Reunion Plans Now!
Registration Form on Page 7.

SEMPER FIDELIS

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Change of Address

Bill Brewer
1050 Creekwood Lane
Franklin, IN 46131

Ron Eby
212 1st Street
Hiawatha, IA 52233

Wally Loucks Jr.
2 Cliffside Drive
Ormond Beach, FL 32174

Harry White
11 Tupelo Drive
Saraland, AL 36571

TJ Dyer
P.O. Box 7496
Waco, TX 76714
254-717-4096

Dean Esslinger
6635 Roundabout Way Apt. 105
Chesterfield, VA 23832

Rick Greenwood
3461 64th Street N
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Bruce Johnson
31058 Strawberry Tree Lane
Temecula, CA 95292

John Merriman
111 E. Spring Street
Somerville, NJ 08876

New e-mail

Greg Cloutier gcloutusmc@gmail.com
Larry Goldsmith Shadowone7814@aol.com



Lost Contact

Al Gomez Lakewood, CO
Bohdan Mykitschak Stormville, NY



Found Again

Roy "Dead Eye" Koehler
269 SW Edna Court
Lake City, FL 32024
386-758-7644 Home
386-984-8468 Cell

New Guys

Erik A. Lunda
8924 Los Posas
Granite Bay, CA 95746
916-652-4539
elunda@starstream.net

Robert Thurman
1030 Ohio Avenue
Canon City, CO 81212
719-275-7815
bubat1030@aol.com

George Kostka
912 Ponderosa Pine Lane
Sarasota, FL 34243
941-351-3716
georgek@sunhydraulics.com
Sgt 1966 0351
Weapons Plt

Don Stuber
P.O. Box 2521
Aspen, CO 81612
970-948-6224
don.stuber@gmail.com
Cpl Nov67 Jan68 0351
1st Plt 1st Sqd

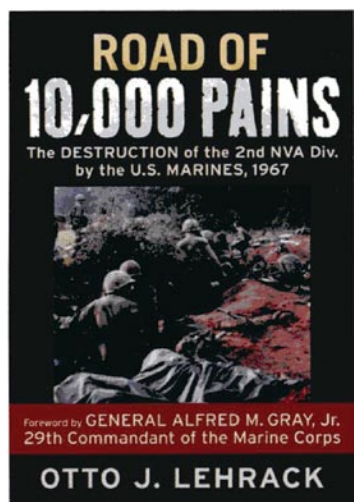
Lima 3/5 Website: Checkout the Command Chronologies and Operations at www.limathreefive.com

The Company Roster is still evolving. After each newsletter, I update the Roster with change of addresses and e-mail a copy to everyone on the e-mail list. **If you didn't get one, I don't have your e-mail address.** So it's up to you. ... If you don't have a computer, call or write me and I'll send a hard copy.





Bill Clark and Lynwood Scott were quoted in Otto J. Lehrack's new book about Operations Union I and Union 11, **Road of 10,000 Pains**.



Overshadowed at the time, and in the decades to follow. by the iconic battles that took place at Khe Sahn, Hue City, and Saigon in the early months of the Tet Offensive, the bloody back-and-forth engagements taking place in the Que Son Valley from April-November 1967 would prove to be some of the heaviest and costliest of the entire war. On one side was the 2nd NVA Division, a group of largely veteran soldiers hardened by years of ferocious combat. On the other, the 1st Marine Division, the Old Breed, heir to the most glorious history in the entire U.S. Marine Corps.

Bill Clark: "I have never been able to adequately describe my feelings about that period in my life. I saw men perform acts of profound and unselfish bravery for which they expected and received no honors or awards. They did this for each other and because of that bond that ties us together as Marines."

Lynwood Scott: "While fighting in bitter battles against the NVA and VC for control of the Que Son Basin, I witnessed Marines and Corpsmen risking their lives for one another. John 15:16 says, 'Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his Friends.'"

"For Vietnam combat veterans Otto Lehrack's *Road of 10,000 Pains* will evoke memories of the sights, sounds and smells of the battlefield. By skillfully interweaving personal accounts of heavy combat between Marines of the 1st Marine Division and the 2nd North Vietnamese Division, Lehrack makes this book come alive, as few others have. For those who have never experienced war, *10,000 Pains* will transport the reader into the hell of close combat. Lehrack's book is not for the faint of heart ... it is a gut level infantry portrayal of brutal fighting in the style of Eugene Sledge's *With the Old Breed*. It is a must read for those seeking to learn more about the brutal fighting of Vietnam's Northern I Corps in 1967."

—Col. Dick Camp, vice president of museum operations, USMC Heritage Foundation, author of *Operation Phantom Fury: The Assault and Capture of Fallujah, Iraq*

The Book is available at bookstores or online at www.zenithpress.com.

My First Reunion

In January of '99, my daughter had just graduated from Vet School and because of her I entered the internet age. I posted a bio on "The Few" web page and within a couple of days I got 2 e-mails from Robert Henry and Richard Hoffman. I didn't quite know what to think about that, since I was only with Lima Company 6 days total. I was in country for 7 months when I transferred in from Fox 2/27 on Operation Mameluke Thrust, and was wounded on Friday the 13th, September 68, just 3 days with Lima. After returning from the hospital, I rejoined the Company on Operation Meade River with hot chow for Thanksgiving. I was wounded a second time on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, just 3 days again. I really didn't have time to make any friends.

Anyway, now I've got 2 Marines contacting me and I didn't know what to think of that. I checked out the Lima Co. website and sent Hank some information on my short tour with Lima. He responded with a great letter and copies of the Lima Co. Daily Log. It had my name listed the couple of times I was with the Company. I was amazed! He invited me to the 1999 Reunion in San Antonio. Well, I knew that I wouldn't know anyone, so I was kind of non-committal, and I wasn't even sure that I wanted to meet this group.

In April of '99 I had to take care of some business for my Mom in Florida. My wife and I went down to sell my Mom's travel trailer. I took Hank's phone number with me just in case I got up the nerve to call him. Well, we played golf together and that was the start of a great relationship with Hank and the rest of the Lima Company Family. Hank worked on us selling the Marine Family Ties to Lima Company for the upcoming Reunion in San Antonio. He did this even after he saw us play golf. (I wasn't too good then, and I'm still not.)

The next couple of weeks, I wondered what the Reunion would be like. I just wasn't sure that this would be a good thing for me. I wouldn't know anyone. Would it spur up bad memories. Would I be an outsider. But after talking it over with Mary Ann, we decided to give it a try. I figured if we didn't like it we could ... I didn't even take a camera with me that first year.

We drove on down to San Antonio and checked in. I still didn't quite know what to think. I took a week's vacation, and figured that at least we could play golf all week. The first person I met was JD Steward. We were just getting back from golf. The Hospitality Room opened up on Wednesday and JD showed us the way upstairs. When Mary Ann and I entered the room, Hank saw us, came right over, gave Mary Ann a hug, and then me a big hug. He called out to the Skipper, Capt. Snowden, who came over and greeted us. After introductions to everyone in the room, the girls took Mary Ann under their wing, and I was hanging out with the guys. We would eventually end up together on the couch and before long the guys and gals would split us up again trying to keep us in their conversations.

I just couldn't get over how gracious everyone was. This Family of Marines really wanted to make us feel like we belonged there. There were so many people who went out of their way to make sure that Mary Ann and I felt welcomed. This Lima Company Family was such a good thing that I didn't want the week to end. Since the Company was in Nam for 6 years, there were Marines who didn't serve together at this Reunion. However, all were Brothers regardless of the year they were in country. Our Stories need to be told so that they won't be forgotten.

The history of this unit is awesome. The stories are such an interesting part of our history. Each year brings something new that I learn about the time I was there. Gunny Levesque is one of the few that actually say they remember me. Bob Garcia gave me a different look, from the Radio Operator's point of view, of that Friday the 13th when I was wounded. I ended up having an address for Nick Douzanis. We were in the hospital together. I met and thanked Doc Murphy, the Corpsman who patched me up both times I was wounded. I'm so much better off now for having met this Lima Company Family of mine.

This will be my 12th Reunion. I have so many great friends. I've been taking so many pictures. (Why didn't I take a camera to that 1st Reunion? I don't know.)

If you have ever thought about coming to a Reunion and haven't, think again. I know that you'll have a great time. In this economy, I know it's tough, but you do have help available through Operation Reachout.

Hope to see you in St. Louis.

Semper Fi,
Dan

THEN / NOW

I've been working on a Then and Now Picture Roster. I got most of the 1966 to 1971 pictures off of the Archive DVD that has names with the pictures, and the present day pictures from the last 11 reunions. I have 27 so far. This is a sampling.



Dave Arrasmith 68-69



Bob Banks 69-70



Bob Bragole 66



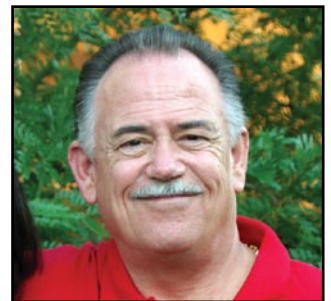
Ken Carmen 68-69



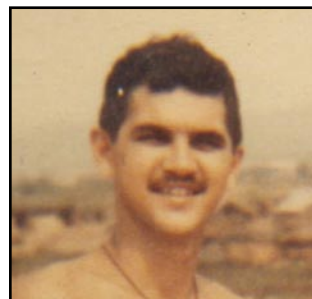
Steve Cobb 68-69



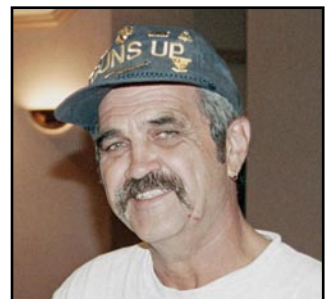
Dennis Freed 67-68



Bob Garcia 68-69



Jim Gullage 68



E-mail me with any old or new photos so I can update the folder.

AS ALWAYS we are in the search of Silent Auction items. Any help will be appreciated. If you have something to donate contact me at dmnordmann@att.net or call me at 314-291-1725. This is a fundraiser that helps keep our Reunions going.

The last several years my VFW Post has donated to our Reunion Hospitality Room Fund. If you are a member of a local organization, try to get a donation from them and bring it to the Reunion. The more we can get donated the better. Free is always better.

Lima 3/5 Reunion Shirt Order Form



POLO SHIRTS are Forest Green with the logos embroidered on the left breast and left sleeve.



POLO SHIRT M, L, XL. \$20 each Size _____ Qty. _____ \$ _____

POLO SHIRT XXL, XXXL. . . . \$23 each Size _____ Qty. _____ \$ _____



T-SHIRTS are Forest Green silk screened on the Front or Back with a large logo centered.

T-SHIRT M, L, XL \$12 each Front _____ Back _____

Size _____ Qty. _____ \$ _____

T-SHIRT XXL, XXXL \$15 each Front _____ Back _____

Size _____ Qty. _____ \$ _____

HATS are Forest Green one size fitted with logo on front.



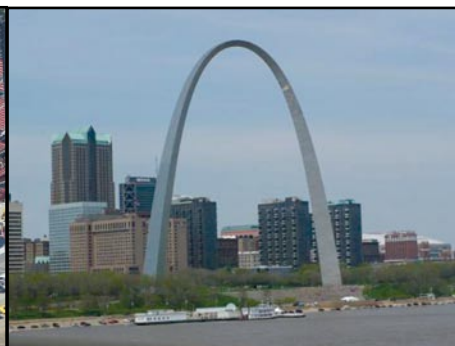
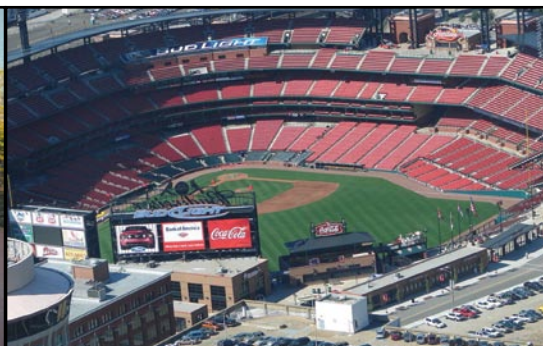
HAT \$15 each Qty. _____ \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Advance orders only. Pickup at the Reunion. If not attending the Reunion add \$5.00 for postage. Return order form with check payable to "Dan Nordmann c/o Lima 3/5" before May 20. I have to place the order by May 23 to get them in time for the Reunion.

SEND THIS FORM TO:

Dan Nordmann
11702 Avery Lane
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2105



REUNION 2010 • ST. LOUIS, MO

Wed, June 23 thru Sun, June 27, 2010

Millennium Hotel

200 S. 4th Street, St. Louis, MO 63102

800-325-7353 314-241-9500

stl-sales@mill-usa.com • www.millenniumhotels.com/stlouis

Rooms are blocked from June 20 thru June 29. Room rates are \$95.00 in the South Tower and \$115.00 in the North Tower. Reservations must be made before May 24, 2010 either by phone or on-line.

Banquet Dinner

Saturday June 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

More information to follow.

ATTRACTIONS: Gateway Arch, Old Courthouse, Busch Stadium, Forest Park & the St. Louis Zoo, Botanical Garden, Transportation Museum, Anheuser Busch Brewery & Grants Farm, Laclede's Landing, area Casinos and Golf Courses.

For the kids there's the City Museum, Magic House, Science Center and Six Flags.

PARKING: Parking is \$9.00 per day available at a garage directly connected to the hotel by an enclosed walkway. No Cardinals ball games scheduled during the reunion.

TRANSPORTATION from Lambert Airport is provided by **Go Best Express** and is \$21.00 one way or \$37.00 round trip. You can book the transportation on line at www.gobestexpress.com or call toll free at 877-785-4682. Metro Link is another option, but the stop downtown is about 3 blocks from the Hotel.

BUSINESS MEETING: Saturday, June 26th at 9:30 a.m.

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

PRE-PAY Banquet Buffet Dinner \$55.00 per Adult# _____ @ \$55.00 = \$ _____
All under 12 are FREE

GENERAL FUND Contribution \$ _____

OPERATION REACHOUT Contribution \$ _____

Total from Shirt Order Form \$ _____

Total for St. Louis Reunion \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "DAN NORDMANN c/o LIMA 3/5"

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

SEND THIS FORM TO:

Dan Nordmann
11702 Avery Lane
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2105

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



Daniel J. Nordmann
11702 Avery Lane
Bridgeton, MO 63044
VIETNAM 1966-1971



3RD BN, 5TH MARINES 1ST MAR. DIV.
LIMA COMPANY



2nd Platoon, 1st Squad 1969