

Lima Co. 3/5 Reunion



VIETNAM 1966-1971

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Dan Nordmann, Editor



Nov 2018. . . Newsletter #119. . 243rd Marine Corps Birthday

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY



243
Years

November 10, 1775

2018

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LIMA 3/5

SEMPER FIDELIS

Membership Info

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Keep me updated with e-mail and addresses

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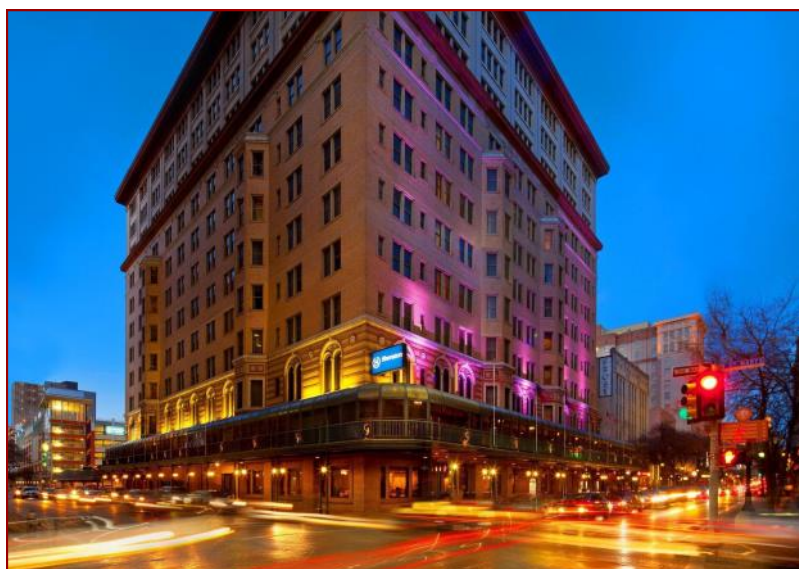
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2019 35th Lima 3/5 Reunion San Antonio, Texas



Sheraton Gunter Hotel

205 East Houston St.
San Antonio, TX 78205
210-227-3241

June 10th to June 16th

More info in the
January Newsletter

Back in the olden days,
Lima 3/5 had a bottle of
Crown Royal on a Wood
Memorial Base that listed
all of the Reunions with
the year and cities on
metallic labels.

Does anyone know where
this Reunion item might be?

There was also KIA Wrist
Bands of our Lima 3/5
Brothers who died in
Vietnam.

Please let me know if you
have any information.



MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY



10 November 2018

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

As we celebrate our 243rd birthday, Marines remain in combat, forward-deployed throughout the world confronting every challenge with courage, loyalty, and faithfulness. Each year on this day, we renew our resolve to be the most ready when the Nation is least ready; we pay tribute to all who forged our proud legacy; we recommit ourselves to defending freedom anytime and anywhere; we stand ready to aid those devastated by natural disasters; and we honor the families and loved ones who faithfully stand beside us.

This year marks a number of significant milestones. One hundred years ago this June, a determined brigade of Marines fought ferociously over the hallowed grounds of Belleau Wood. Those Marines solidified our Corps' global reputation for being a tenacious and highly-skilled fighting force that forever etched the phrase "Teufel Hunden" into our lexicon. The same year Marines secured control of Belleau Wood, more than 300 women answered our Nation's call, becoming the first females to enlist in our Corps. The legacy of the first Women Marine Reservists, and all trailblazing Marines, serves as a reminder that the title Marine is not restricted by gender, color, or creed – it is a warrior spirit and distinguished role earned by an elite group.

This year also marks 50 years since Marines fought ferocious battles against a worthy foe in some of the most austere locations of Vietnam. The indomitable spirit and unyielding resourcefulness of Marines cutting through the mountainous triple canopy jungles and overcoming the challenges of urban combat during the "Tet Offensive" honed the warfighting prowess of our Corps. Hard lessons learned at Khe Sanh and Hue proved crucial to our successes during Operations *Enduring Freedom* and *Iraqi Freedom* – allowing us to secure victory in the fields of Sangin and on the urban battlefields of Fallujah. It was also at Hue that now retired Sergeant Major John Canley charged enemy machine gun positions and put his own life on the line to ensure no Marine was left behind, epitomizing the true meaning of *Semper Fidelis*. Today, we proudly honor his faithfulness with our Nation's highest award for valor.

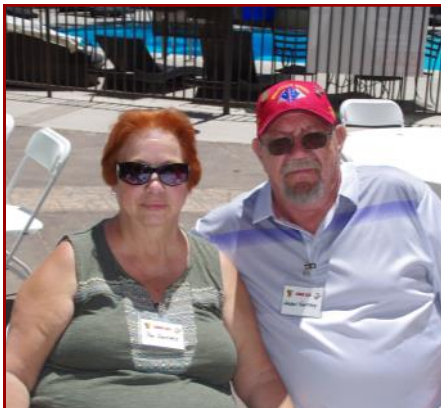
For 243 years, Marines have fought and won whenever and wherever the Nation calls. In the harshest conditions, over the most brutal terrain, and against the most formidable enemies, Marines defend the ideals of freedom with grit and tenacity. Though battlefields change and capabilities evolve, history proves that true victory comes from the individual Marine with steeled resolve, the drive to overcome any obstacle, and the warrior spirit to fight on against all odds. It takes that steadfast faithfulness – *Semper Fidelis* – to Corps, country, and each other that abounds throughout our storied legacy.

Happy Birthday, Marines!

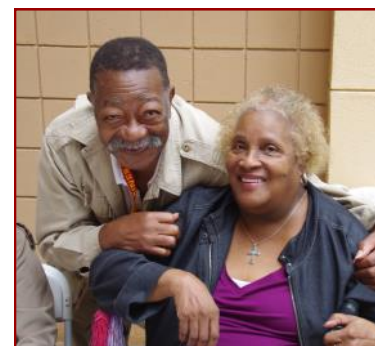
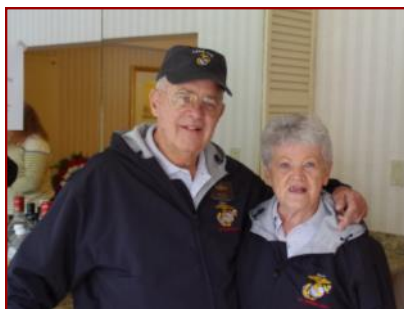
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert B. Neller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Robert B. Neller
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

5-24 2018 SAN DIEGO REUNION 5-25



5-26 2018 SAN DIEGO REUNION 5-27



SAN DIEGO REUNION 5-28



TED CRISP STORIES

Theodore Crisp in the U.S.M.C.

On February 8, 1968 I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps for a three year enlistment. I entered the Marines with a 90 day delay program which allowed me to get all of my personal obligations at home taken care of.

I departed Saginaw, Michigan on May 16, 1968 by jet and arrived at Los Angeles airport California. I was then bused to San Diego, to the Marine Corp Recruit Depot and assigned to the Third Battalion, Platoon 395 where I endured three months of the required recruit training from May 27, to July 23. This included a one month stay at Edson Rifle Range for snapping in training and live firing.

After basic graduation on July 30, I was sent to the 2nd Infantry Training Regiment, 1st Battalion, Charlie Company at Camp San Onofre one of the many smaller camps on the larger Camp Pendleton, in California. I completed the training in four weeks. On September 24, I was sent to Head Quarters Company, 2nd Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Horno to a place called Tent City for four more weeks of infantry training. I was promoted to the rank of E2, Private First Class, shortly after I received orders to report to Viet Nam.

All Marines going to Viet Nam receive another two weeks of Infantry training at a place called Staging Battalion at Camp Las Pulgas on Camp Pendleton. I completed this, but was then ordered to proceed to Camp Margarita on November 2 to join Mike Company, 3rd Battalion, 27th Marines, 5th Marine Division for more Infantry training.

On December 22, I received a ten day Christmas leave which I took in Saginaw, Michigan. After I returned to Pendleton, I was then cut new orders for Viet Nam. On January 12, 1969 I flew by jet from El Toro Air-base and arrived at the Da Nang airbase in the Northern part of South Viet Nam.

I was then helicoptered to a Marine Corp Fire Support Base called Ann Hoa in the Quang Nam Providence in the I corps just south of the De Militarized Zone. I was assigned to Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division.

After one week of orientation classes I was then helicoptered to the mountains to join Lima Company, third platoon, second squad as a rifleman to join in search and destroy missions. The mountainous region we were in was called triple canopy because the trees were tall and blocked out the sunlight from reaching the ground.

After leaving that area we located a high hill and established fire support base Tomahawk with three 105 mm howitzers. We gave the big guns security and ran patrols for one month.

In March my platoon was selected to be transported to an abandoned Army fire support base named Landing Zone Dagger which kind of reminded me of a lost plateau with its sheer cliffs on all four sides. After three weeks of patrols and working parties we were attacked by a force of North Vietnamese Army sappers and during the attack they threw 34 Chinese communist hand grenades at our position which destroyed our security bunker and caused me to lose my hearing for three days.

Soon after we were all evacuated back to our fire support base at Ann Hoa for rest and resupply. I was sent to the Navy Da Nang Evacuation Hospital where I was diagnosed as having Tinnitus, a constant ringing in my ears caused by loud explosions.

On my return to Ann Hoa I was assigned to strong point Alpha, a small bunkered complex on the outskirts of our base and given a light duty classification and worked in a small mess hall for two weeks.

TED CRISP STORIES

I ended up catching a touch of malaria and on April 29. I was then medevac'd by helicopter to the Da Nang Evacuation Hospital for treatment. After two weeks of treatment and one week of getting my strength back I was released back to active duty. That was on May 13, Mother's Day. An interesting event happened that same day. On my return to the Lima Company area I was instructed to proceed down to the Company supply clerk and to draw equipment to return out to the field that day as our Company had been ambushed by the NVA and our company needed reinforcements badly. They took a lot of casualties that day and it came to be known as the Mother's Day Massacre. Instead of returning to the field they decided to withdraw our company back to Ann Hoa for rebuilding and reequipping.

On July I was promoted to E3, Lance Corporal and again we were sent up to the mountains for a large search and destroy operation.

I was then made a Team Leader of a four man unit in our squad of sixteen.

After more experience in the mountains, I was given a Squad Leaders job in charge of my own sixteen men in September. The size of our squads ranged from nine to twenty men depending on the combat situation.

In November during the Monsoon season we were on an operation on Football Island in the Thu Bon River. It rained so hard that we could not get food and water supply in for three days. We were so hungry we were digging for plant roots to cook up to eat.

On November 27, Thanksgiving Day, we were withdrawn from the field to do security at Liberty Bridge on the Bon River to protect it from enemy sapper demolition and help keep the supply convoys heading to Ann Hoa. At the mess hall they had ran out of turkey so they feed us each one piece of chicken to supplement our combat rations.

On December 20, I was pulled back to the Company rear area being released from field operations for an end of tour wind down.

January 3, 1970 I was helicoptered from Ann Hoa to Da Nang for processing out of Viet Nam. On the 6th I left Nam to fly on a jet to a California airport for release to a 30 day leave. I then flew to Saginaw, Michigan to a happy reunion with family.

After my leave I was assigned to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina to Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division for a gathering together of non-essential Marines who were eligible for an early out.

They had decided to give me an early release of fourteen months off my three year enlistment.

Upon release on April 21, 1970, I returned to Saginaw, Michigan to a surprised and pleased family.

HAPPY HAPPY

Ted Crisp sent me a set of Short Stories from his time in the Marine Corps. They are all very good and I will be adding them to the upcoming news letters. This was his first story.



LIMA COMPANY



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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

