

*"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on."  
-Robert Frost*

# Blue Diamond News



FIRST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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**From the Headquarters**



**Attention Members**

**President Johs will be at the Headquarters aboard Camp Pendleton in September to have a meeting with the Office Staff. It is not a Board of Directors meeting and Board members are not required to attend.**

**Thank you,  
HQ Staff**

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We need to rally together as a team to keep the FMDA going forward. Please step up and help where you can. We need good fundraising ideas, and people to put them together to help work those ideas. Please feel free to email with any ideas or suggestions.

President Jerry Johs

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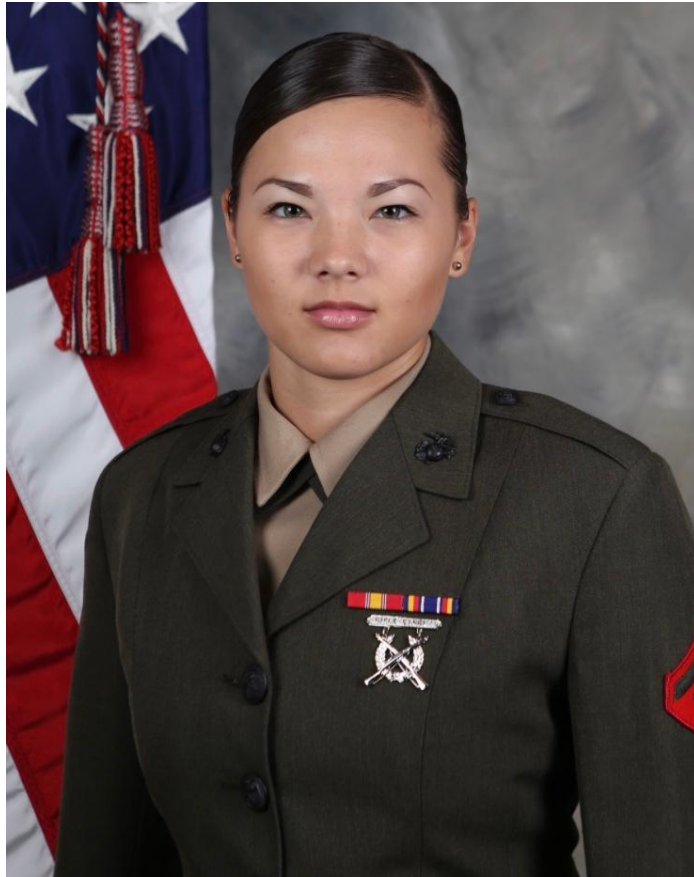
**PHOTOS OF THE WEEK**



Sgt Maj Tony Aguilar donated this beautiful painting to the SoCal Chapter of the Flag raising on top Mout Suribachi during the battle of Iwo Jima in World War II.

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**1st Marine Division Current Events**



"I was awarded the 2016 1st Marine Division Marine of the Year this past January; an absolute honor and definitely an award much greater than I ever imagined. I was put on the the Marine of the Quarter Board for Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion in the fall of 2016. After winning that, I went on to win Battalion Marine of the Quarter, and that alone was absolutely humbling. From there, I was pushed up to the Division Marine of the Quarter Board, assured that of all the units across 1st Marine Division, there was no way I stood a chance, but to my surprise again, I won. At the years end, all four 1st Marine Division Marine of the Quarters were lined up side by side, and the rest is history.

When asked how I won and what to do to achieve this, I did *do* anything to win the Division Marine of the Year. I did and continue to do what makes me not only the best Marine I can be, but the best version of myself, and I continue to hold fast to the reason I joined the Marine Corps. How did I positively impact not only the Marines around me, but the community around me? How could I personally improve myself to be the best Marine I could be? And lastly, how was I adequately setting myself up for professional progression both in and out of the Marine Corps? If I let a day go by, and I haven't done something to have produce a positive effect, that is a day wasted. I have

a purpose that I feel an obligation to fulfill, and the Marine Corps in specific is a team effort in which we must do our best to strategically contribute to. "

CPL Miranda Bell



**Cpl Bell with the NCO of the Year, Sgt Brewster of 1st Recon Bn, accompanied 5th Marine Regiment to France**



**Cpl Bell with the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps General Glenn M. Walters**

## **American Heroes**

**Every Day 22 Veterans Commit Suicide.** Booyah Veteran Bus Project is raising awareness and are in need of your support. On October 22, 2017 they will start a 22 mile a day journey that will end on November 11, 2017. Our American Heroes need us now. Please watch the video below and click on the link to show your support!!!

[Booyah Veteran Bus Project](#)



Booyah Hike

## From the Members / Chapters

Mike Gayean:

Marines and friends,

Just letting everyone know that "Hawk" came through his hip replacement yesterday with flying colors. He is already up and walking, or to be accurate, chasing nurses down the hall at Halifax Hospital in Daytona Beach.

### ALSO

**Announcing:**

**The Elmer J. Hawkins Jr. Banquet Hall**

**VFW Post 3282**

**5810 S. Williamson Blvd.**

**Port Orange, FL**

**Hall Dedication and Tribute for Past Commander Elmer J. Hawkins, Jr.**

**6:00 pm**

Monday, August 21, 2017

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Beneficial Information sent by  
Dennis A. Wilmoth

National Park Services

Senior Pass

Cheryl Decker, Grand Staircase Escalante

Senior Pass

\* Cost: \$10 lifetime pass (see note in "how to purchase" for more details)

\* Available for: U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or over.

Applicants must provide documentation of age and residency or citizenship.

\* How to purchase:

\* In person at a federal recreation site (see PDF list of federal recreation sites that issue passes)

\* Online-buy now from the USGS store!

\* Through the mail using this application form (PDF).

\* NOTE: The cost of obtaining a Senior Pass through the mail or online is \$20. \$10 for the Senior Pass and \$10 for processing the application.

\* The price of the lifetime Senior Pass will increase to \$80 on August 28, 2017. A new \$20 annual Senior Pass will become available at the same time. See more information about changes to the Senior Pass.

[https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm#CP\\_JUMP\\_5088578](https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/passes.htm#CP_JUMP_5088578)

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## September is Suicide Prevention Month

During Suicide Prevention Month and year-round, join the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in letting people know that preventing suicide starts with this simple act of support:

### ***Be There.***


Help connect Veterans who are going through a difficult time or who may be at risk for suicide with resources that can make a difference.

*#BeThere*



### Here's what you can do this September:

- Watch** and **share** the *Be There* video.
- Post** ready-to-use social media content on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.
- Publish** an article or advertisement in your newsletter or email blasts, or on your website.
- Display** a banner on your website to show your support.
- Download** and **print** posters to share with businesses in your community.
- Host** or **help out** at a community outreach event. Go to [VeteransCrisisLine.net/ResourceLocator](http://VeteransCrisisLine.net/ResourceLocator) to find and contact your local Suicide Prevention Coordinator for event materials.

Download these and other materials at  
**[VeteransCrisisLine.net/SpreadTheWord](http://VeteransCrisisLine.net/SpreadTheWord)** 



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



## MONEY MATTERS

From the Treasurer Aj Burn:

The current FMDA financial information will be published in next weeks  
Blue Diamond News.

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## **NEW MEMBERS**



## **Welcome to our New Members**

New Member  
Arthur H.Gruenberg  
Sgt Gerard DeBie

Recruited By  
MSgt Hanusok

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## **GENERAL FUND DONATIONS**

**All FMDA Members please use your USAA card- the First Marine  
Division Association, Inc gets a small but helpful rebate.**



By making your contribution by credit card, your donation can help more quickly the FMDA fundraising and administrative costs. (Note Credit Cards can be personal or Corporate.)

Type of Credit Card

Visa Master Card American Express Discover

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it Appears on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Funds received in response to this solicitation will not be subject to federal contribution limits.

To have an immediate impact you may also contribute to FMDA while online at:

[www.1stmarinedivisionassociation.org](http://www.1stmarinedivisionassociation.org)

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**TAPS**



Stanley R. Grodzki, 69, passed away Aug. 10, 2017. Stanley was born in Paterson, N.J. After graduating from Toms River High School he joined the U.S. Marine Corps., in June 1967. He was deployed to Vietnam where he received the Purple Heart Medal while serving with the First Reconnaissance Battalion First Marine Division. He received the award for wounds sustained in combat in Vietnam.

[Obit: Stanley Grodzki](#)

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## Deceased

 [Forward to a Friend](#)

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