

"If you don't read the Blast, you are uninformed, if you read something else you are misinformed."

-El Jefe

FIRST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION



" ALL THAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE TRIUMPH OF
EVIL,
.....IS FOR GOOD MEN TO DO NOTHING."
-Edmund Burke

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

"Doughnut Dolly Day" February 10, 2017 at FMDA HQ, Camp
Pendleton Ca.



Colonel Dowling and SgtMaj Vasquez



Colonel Marvin Reed & SgtMaj Vasquez.



PFC Martinez, LCpl Hamilton & SgtMaj Vasquez

From the Headquarters

RE: Schedule for FMDA July 31 - August 6, 2017 Norfolk Reunion meeting dates and times:

Directors may want to be at both the General Membership meeting and at the Board of Directors meeting therefore the time allocated will be split : same place not same time, Membership Meeting first , i.e. the General Meeting(s) will be held concurrent with the BOD meeting.

It is best we hold the meetings on Saturday, 05 August 2017 before and during the Ladies Brunch. The Brunch is (tentatively scheduled, pending discussion on 18 Feb) from 10:00 till 12:00 Noon. I figure we should hold the meetings thus:

Board of Directors/General Meeting, 0830 - 1000 Executive Committee, 1030-1200,

leaving BOD Meeting adjournment time open, with Executive Committee Meeting Call to Order to follow immediately after BOD Meeting adjournment.

Both Agendas will have the routine items scheduled in sequence i.e Pledge, Invocation, Roll Call, Proof of Notice, Reports, etc. New items to come before either or both bodies will be presented during their respective agenda item slot and must be made known and published in the Old Breed News magazine and will be printed in the

President's BLAST. All others may be introduced as an item " For the Good of the FMDA order " and if so, they will be tabled to be considered in the future.

Hopefully, we will have quorums for all sessions but at least for the Executive Committee Meeting. I don't want to leave office with " Irish Pendants " hanging.

Semper Fi,
President Vince Rios

Attention Members we have a limited amount of 76th Anniversary Challenge coins available for purchase. 3 coins for \$20 or \$10 Each.



In Vino Veritas



MONEY MATTERS

GENERAL FUND

Bank of America Checking	
Beginning Balance (1/23/17)	\$77,522.04
Credits, Total	\$17,856.03
Debits, Total	\$7,356.89
Ending Balance (02/08/17)	\$88,021.18

AMERICA'S HEROS



John Gochnauer, Lt. Robin
Montgomery, and Fred Hughes

ATTENTION MEMBERS

**ELECTION FOR FMDA ASSOCIATION
OFFICES: 2017**

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR BIOGRAPHIES TO FMDA
HEADQUARTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO
APPEAR IN THE 1ST QUARTER OBN**

2017 REUNION SHAPE UP



1st MARINE DIVISION 2017 REUNION

NORFOLK, VA / JULY 31 - AUGUST 6, 2017

Welcome to Norfolk

Greater Norfolk's dramatic history and the history of our country began in 1607 when three ships of English settlers landed near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Today, the past and present are intertwined in the sights and sounds of a modern city that solidly embraces its 400-year old roots. The 2017 1st Marine Division Reunion program will provide the opportunity to return to your ship, as well as experience the area's history, modern day revitalization and strong military presence. Planned events will include a Norfolk City Tour, Naval Base Harbor Cruise, MacArthur Memorial, Lunch or Dinner Cruise, and a tour of the USS Wisconsin Battleship. Norfolk is the perfect choice for the 2017 Reunion, and will provide many opportunities to relax and enjoy your family and friends in this ideal setting.



Hotel Information

We will be staying at the *Norfolk Waterside Marriott* July 31-August 6, 2017, located at 235 E Main St., Norfolk, VA 23410. The hotel is conveniently located near many of the area's top attractions.

The room rate is **\$119.00** plus tax per night. Breakfast coupons will be available upon check-in. For those of you who choose to arrive early or stay after the reunion ends, the same room rate will be available for three days prior and three days after, based on availability. For those who choose to extend their stay the group rate is available up to 3 days before and after, based on availability. If you have any trouble getting a room at the group rate call MRP @ 817-251-3551 for assistance. You may also email: info@militaryreunionplanners.com.

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Call the Norfolk Waterside Marriott direct at **757-627-4200**. When calling the hotel, please make sure you tell them you are attending the 1st Marine Division Reunion. It is always best to make your reservation directly with the hotel and not a central hotel-chain call center. MRP has negotiated numerous amenities for you that the call centers may not be aware of. For best results, call during business hours on week days. If you have any trouble getting a room at the group rate please call MRP at 817-251-3551.

Make your reservations NOW, you may cancel your hotel up to 72 hours prior to arrival and not be charged. The hotel is holding rooms until they sell out or **July 14, 2017**, whichever comes first.

Airport Transportation & Parking

For those of you flying to the reunion, the closest airport is Norfolk International (ORF). Cabs, Uber & LYFT are available from ORF with the latter being the most reasonable by far. The Marriott has covered parking on-site for \$13/day reduced from \$20/day.

Travel safely and we will

See you in Norfolk!



EXCELLENCE IN REUNION PLANNING

Carriers and more. The Rover has large windows, snack bar and restrooms on board. Note: th stays in the calm waters of the harbor.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS/CHAPTERS



Cerritos, California City Council is presented a USMC Gift (Iwo Jima Statue) from the 1st CEB Adoption Committee in appreciation for the cities support. Gift was given to the Adoption Committee at the 1st CEB BDay Ball present is 1st CEB Exec Officer , Major Ricky Nail and FMDA Member Mickey Christiason of the Marine Corps League, and Board of Directors Adoption Committee.

Photo by Kathy Matsumoto and Pam Scott

Semper Fi Mickey Christiason

YOU NEED TO KNOW

YOU NEED TO KNOW

Changes to the Old Breed News (OBN), effective 1 January 2017

CHECK ONE:

- a. I wish to receive *OBN* in hard copy, enclosed is my \$50 donation.
- b. I wish to receive *OBN* in hard copy, but cannot afford the \$50 donation.
- c. I do not wish to receive *OBN* in hard copy; I'll receive it electronically only, but enclosed is my \$50 donation to help defray publishing, shipping and handling.
- d. I wish to receive *OBN* electronically only. I cannot afford the \$50 donation.

Your Contact Information:

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

_____ CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

UNIT I SERVED IN _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

Please complete & forward to June Cormier by **Telephone:** (760) 763-3268, or
USMail: 1st Marine Division Association, P.O. Box 9000, Box #902, Oceanside, CA 92051

OBN is an excellent publication, and hopefully taking advantage of computer-based METHODS will help our 1st Marine Division Association reduce its PRINTING, HANDLING, and MAILING costs. THANK YOU !!

Form 990N

If your chapter does not have a federal tax ID number you do not have to file form 990N.

Semper Fidelis,

Jim Zalpiss
Past National Treasurer,
FIRST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

NEW MEMBERS



OUR GOAL: Every member recruit at least one member.

-President Vince Rios

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

TAPS

SSgt Thomas A. Kelly of West Hills California, a member of the Bodfish & LA County Chapter passed away January 7th 2017. The Officers and Members of the First Marine Division Association would like to extend their deepest sympathy to Molly Kelly and family.

To:

O'Donohue MajGen Daniel J

I LOST MY HANDSOME, BELOVED BOB, 11-30-14, A GUADALCANAL AUG 7-'42, PURPLE HEART MACHINE GUN HERO (D-1-1)..HE SAID HE NEVER THOUGHT HE'D LIVE TO BE 93!! BUT GOD HAS GREAT PLANS, AND I DID TRY TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM FOR 42 YEARS..STILL CRY DAILY, BUT ALSO TRY TO KEEP A "STIFF UPPER LIP" BY TELLING JOKES TO CHEER

FOLKS UP.

SEMPER FI ! AND GOD BLESS ALL OF OUR MARINES!!

PS THE MARINE CORPS HISTORY MUSEAM HAS A GREAT (2 HOUR) DVD INTERVIEW OF MY BOB TAKEN AT THE 1STMARDIV ASSOC REUNION IN DC, (2004) MIKE MILLER WAS SO ENTHRALLED HE DIDN'T WATCH THE TIME AND AS BOB GAVE A MARVELOUS TRIBUTE TO THE USMC, IT WAS NOT RECORDED BECAUSE THE TAPE HAD RUN OUT!! I HAD TEARS IN MY EYES JUST HEARING HIS MARVELOUS TRIBUTE TO THE CORPS... FORGIVE A "LIPPY WIFE"....:)

I WILL SEND A CARD TO THE YOUNG 100 YEAR MARINE MENTIONED BELOW.
OORAH!!

OLGA FINCHER

O'Donohue MajGen Daniel J wrote:

David,

Thanks for sharing! This made our day. We stand on the shoulders of giants.

This [past Monday we sent a letter and coin from the 23,000 Marines and Sailors of the 1st Marine Division. 3d Bn, 4th Mar will do the same. Our Public Affairs Officer is working a story.

Thank you for your continued service taking care of our Marines.

Best wishes to you and the Marine Forever Detachment.

Semper Fidelis,

MajGen Dan O'Donohue

From: David Kirk

OO-RAH! Good morning Marines and Friends.

A request has come in from a family member of a Marine who fought on Corregidor in WW-II and is turning 100 on February 13, 2017.

(see attached) There's not many of these Marines of the Great Generation still around and to have lived this long is a feat in itself. Hope you feel as I do and can find the time to respond.

Semper Fi.

L. David Kirk.

Commandant, Marine Forever Detachment #1440

Marine Corps League, Inc.



Patrick Childson

November 1, 1946 - January 8, 2017

Christmas Valley - Sergeant Patrick Hanson Childson, U.S.M.C. Ret., born November 01, 1946, passed away January 08, 2017, due to

Agent Orange related causes, at his ranch in Christmas Valley, Lake County, Oregon.

Patrick honorably served his country from November 26, 1963 to November 16, 1974. A highly decorated Viet Nam veteran, he was one of the first U. S. combat marines to go ashore in the Viet Nam fighting. He was with a marine detachment sent from Okinawa to Viet Nam on January 21, 1965 to help guard the Da Nang Air Base. Until mid-March, 1965 his unit was the only combat marine unit in country, at which time they moved away from the base and entered jungle combat-fighting as five to ten man units.

An automatic rifleman and sniper, he was a Force-Recon Marine, attached to Infantry Platoon 387, of the First Battalion, Third Marine Division - Re-enforced, D Company, of the 9 Marine Expeditionary Brigade. This was one of the first two battalions deployed to the Republic of Viet Nam and the last to come out of Viet Nam as an intact unit.

Sgt. Childson was one of the first marines to come home, to Salem, Oregon alive. His unit received a Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty in action against the North Vietnamese [Army](#) and Viet Cong forces, in the Republic of Viet Nam operating in the far northern-most provinces during the period of March 08, 1965 thru September 15, 1967.

Among his many medals, Sergeant Childson received the Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal with three [bronze stars](#), National Defense Service Medal, Special recognition of military service in Viet Nam by General W. C. Westmoreland, U. S. Army, commanding. Republic of Viet Nam Meritorious Unit Citation: Gallantry Cross Color, Republic of Viet Nam Campaign Medal, Viet Nam Service Medal with two bronze stars and a certificate of appreciation from the Director of the Da Nang Hospital and

the Mayor of the city of Da Nang.

Upon returning to Camp Pendleton, California he played Taps for many Viet Nam Soldiers' Military Funerals.

Sgt. Childson spent the rest of his military career as a military police officer and C. I. D. He was the first marine to qualify expert with all military issued weapons, consistently, for ten years; since W.W. II.

As a civilian, Patrick continued to serve the citizens of The United States of America in the field of Law Enforcement, graduating from the Oregon Police Academy in 1978, class No. 77. He obtained the rank of Sergeant on multiple departments across the country, and was an experienced K-9 handler and instructor.

He served in many departments including, Oregon: Mount Angel P. D., Willamina P. D., Douglas County Sheriffs Dept. Nevada: Humboldt County Sheriffs Dept., Winnemucca P.D. Florida: Patrick served as an independent K-9 Unit Instructor for the Sarasota County Sheriffs K-9 program and as a reserve for the Key West P. D.

Patrick was one of the most qualified Dog Training Instructors in the country, training both handler and dog in the fields of obedience, Schutzhund, K-9 (police and military), Security, Guard and personal protection. He instructed and trained Bloodhounds, as well as their handlers, in the fields of Man-Trailing (tracking), and Search and Rescue, in multiple states. He personally owned and trained Bowling Green, Kentucky's famous and most successful man-tracking Bloodhound: Brigadeers' Travelling Man (also known as Zeke).

In private life, Patrick served as an Independent Professional Security Specialist, High Risk Specialist (Special Services International), K-9 Specialist and provided a

not-for-profit, volunteer Search and Rescue Bloodhound Service, specializing in Missing Persons and apprehending fugitives from Florida to Oregon. He was also a Private Investigator, handling high risk cases.

Upon surviving a 200 ft. fall down a well shaft in Luning, Nevada in 1996, he retired to Christmas Valley, Oregon where he enjoyed his ranch, breaking and training horses and running cattle.

Sgt. Patrick Childson was preceded in death by his father, Harley H. Childson Sr. [U.S. Navy](#), W.W. II, Pearl Harbor Survivor; his mother, Ethel F. Pace-Childson; his younger brother, Harley H. Childson Jr.; his younger sister, Twila Childson-Lee, Marion Cnty. Reserve deputy and 911 dispatcher; and his nephew Larry Pederson [U.S. Air Force](#), combat veteran.

Patrick is survived by his older brother, Clayton Childson, U.S. Air Force and Army of Malott, Washington; younger sister, Pam Childson-Pederson, Oregon State Patrol retired; Uncle Dood Pace, U.S. Army and Aunt Joanne Pace, both from Harlan County, Kentucky; niece Seana Callahan of Salem, Oregon; Wife, Shelli A. Watson-Pointer-Childson, International Award Winning Poet, U.S. Army; sons, Sergeant Tylor S. Childson, U.S. Army, Ft. Hood Texas; Patrick H. Hamann, U.S. Army of Hesperia, California; daughter, Felicia A. Fitch and son-in-law Derek P. Fitch both U.S.M.C. of Circleville, Ohio; and four grandchildren: Heather F. Hamann of Hesperia, California; Nathan A. Fitch, Scarlet A. Fitch, and Vanessa M. Fitch of Circleville, Ohio.

As per Sergeant Childson's last wishes and directives there will be no Military Funeral, nor services in any form. He will be quietly interred in the Military Wall, at the Eagle Point Military Cemetery in southern Oregon.

In lieu of flowers or other expressions of sympathy, if you would like to do something helpful, the family asks for you to help a local veteran in Patrick's name.

May God continue to bless this family for its' service to our country and all those who serve and sacrifice in uniform.

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 Forward to a Friend

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