



THE SCOOP SHEET

Information For And About Members Of The First Marine Aircraft Wing Association – Vietnam Service

Issue 25

www.firstmaw.homestead.com

Fall 2007



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ...

To: ALMARFIRSTMAWASSOCIATION
From: Association President
Subj: Presidents Message

Marines of The First Marine Aircraft Wing Association (Vietnam Service)

Well It's fall, and less than two years to our 2009 re-union in Beaufort, SC (AKA Parris Island and MCAS Beaufort, SC). We were last there Columbus day weekend in 1997. I am looking at dates in September/October 2009 as well as a Spring date in April or May 2009. Your preference will be greatly appreciated. The cost and availability are always key factors. I would also solicit your comments about the "Reunion Brats" as I am the "one Man Show"-I cannot do everything for the reunion by myself. If I cannot get concrete help I will use a reunion planning service. Then there are two issues to be resolved:

1. Keeping the hospitality room open-this would increase "liquid costs" more open time is directly proportional to consumption.
2. I have called and emailed as to the whereabouts of the Memory Books.

As I have begun my last two years as your President keep in mind that someone has to come forward to do the job. Ten years is half a career in the service and I will be retiring 6 to 9 months after the re-union. I have too much to do regarding my retirement location as well as acquiring a retirement townhouse or home. - Enough of that.

This Veteran's Day will mark the 25th anniversary of "The Wall". As always The Association will be laying a wreath. Anyone who wishes to participate please contact me. We can have 2 presenters (formerly it was 3). It will be very crowded in DC. So I hope you have your reservations. I hope to see some of you there—enjoy the fall.

Please pray for all our members who live in Southern California as well as all our fellow Americans there. Thanks again to those who attended our last reunion in Branson, MO

Semper Fidelis
Phil Beckerich III
Association President

yw37@optonline.net

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

DUES RENEWALS

So far this year, the dues renewal rate continues to be **very** good! You guys are doing a great job! Please keep it up, and a **Thank You** goes out to all of you.. Later this year, the reminders will go out for the Life Members who are on the installment plan (a good deal!). But if this means YOU, you can help by sending in your installment payment ahead of time to save us some work.

FMAW SEABAG

Electronic Scoop

The Electronic Scoop list is growing. Any other members who desires to receive their “Scoop” electronically in order to reduce mailing and publishing costs please contact Wayne Cook at wayco@comcast.net and please cc Phil Beckerich at yw37@optonline.net and Al Frater at teanal@verizon.net . **THE SCOOP CAN BE ACCESSED FROM THE WEB SITE WWW.FIRSTMAW.HOMESTEAD.COM**

Those members who have requested an electronic SCOOP will be removed from the mailing list as requested.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED - UPDATE

Volunteers are always welcomed for Veterans day at the wall. For those who live near Quantico VA and the National Museum of the Marine Corps The Heritage Foundation is seeking tour Guides for the Museum. Training will be provided. Contact the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation at 703-640-7965..

EDITORS NOTES

Please email me any articles or noteworthy events about our members and Association (electronic pictures accepted).
All articles and pictures become property of the association and cannot be returned.
Al Frater teanal@verizon.net

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

I have not received any emails or comments regarding this idea please email me at yw37@optonline.net Hence I am repeating last issues food for thought. One of the options for the future of this Association is to become a special chapter of the Marine Corps Aviation Association. This will permit the Association to exist as the membership continues to diminish with time. The choice seems that we either open up membership or become a chapter of a larger organization.

Re-union Memory Book

As all of you the attended the reunion and have paid for a memory book are wondering “where is the Memory book” . The good news is that due to the effort of our President Phil Bekerich the Memory Book is due to ship on November 8th.

Reunion

2009 reunion scheduled for Beauford SC

Vietnam Files

USMC News From Around the World

EAGLE, GLOBE & ANCHOR

Vets Restore Vietnam-Era ‘Ugly Angel’



[By LCpl. Randall A. Clinton, MCAS New River]

DURING THE EARLY 1960S, when Marines needed transportation to or from combat zones, they didn't call in MV-22s. For Marines on the frontlines in Vietnam, their savior was the UH-34D, ancestor of the CH-46E and the MV-22.

At the March stand-up ceremony for Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron-263, the first operational MV-22 Osprey squadron, Marines from the Marine

Medium Helicopter Squadron-361 Veterans Association displayed a piece of the squadron's past, a static display of a fully restored, operational UH-34D.

The UH-34D was flown by HMM-361 along with other Marine squadrons in Vietnam. While it wasn't the most beautiful helicopter, it got the job done, bringing Marines back from the front, earning the nickname "Ugly Angel."

As a crew chief on medical evacuation missions in Vietnam, Frank Flag saw first-

hand how important the helicopter was.

"You're going in and getting Marines who need medical attention," Flag said. "We could get them to a hospital in 15 minutes; anywhere they were it was only 15 minutes to a hospital," he said.

While he understood the risk of his job, he accepted it. "You can get a Marine to do stuff that's dangerous, but you can't get them to do things that are boring," he said.

The impact of the helicopter and how it helped save the lives of so many Marines compelled the members of the HMM-361 Veterans Association to build a fully operational UH-34D helicopter.

More than 50 corporate sponsors, including the Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legions have aided the restoration of the UH-34D from a pile of scrap in a Cochise, AZ, junkyard to a fully operational piece of history. The project was finished 13 November 2005.

The HMM-361 Veterans Association (631-827-5526; www.34Restoration.org) relies on donations to support its mission of traveling the country to display its UH-34D. Send donations to the Marine Helicopter Squadron-361 Veterans Association, P.O. Box 429, Cutchogue, NY 11935.



PX News

The First Marine Aircraft Wing Association – Vietnam Service PX is online so you don't have to wait until the next reunion to get any of the items we sell. We have some new items that I hope everyone will look at and buy. Listed are some of the new items and some of the other items for your review. This is just a sample of what is on the website: http://1stmaw.wamarinesmc.us/mawpx/index.php?main_page=index

New Items:

Challenge coin \$7



FMAW Logo Hat \$18



Hat Doober \$5



Vitnam Necklace \$11



18" or 24"

POW Necklace \$11



18" or 24"

Vietnam Ribbon \$3.50



Vietnam Vet \$3.50



Vietnam Pin \$3.50



Flag Set \$3.50



Marine Corps Pin



Semper Fi Pin \$3.50



Marble Mountain \$3.50



Da Nang Pin \$3.50



Natural Death hats \$18



1st MAWAVNS Pin \$3.50



SM Combat Aircrew Pin \$4



Crew Chief Pins \$3.50



Pilot Pin \$7



Navy Flight Off \$7



U.S.M.C. Pin \$3.50



First Marine Aircraft Wing Association (Vietnam Service) Reunion

June 28-July 1, 2007

~~ Branson, Missouri ~~

Was held at the Settle Inn Resort and Conference Center, 3850 Green Mountain Dr., Branson Missouri. It was well attended with about 101 total members and guests. We attends 2 shows “Take me back to the 60’s” and “The Showboat”. We also visited the Marine Corps legacy Museum in Harrison Arkansas. We also had time to meet old friends and make some new ones. Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to our next reunion in 2009. Here some **additional** Pictures of the reunion.



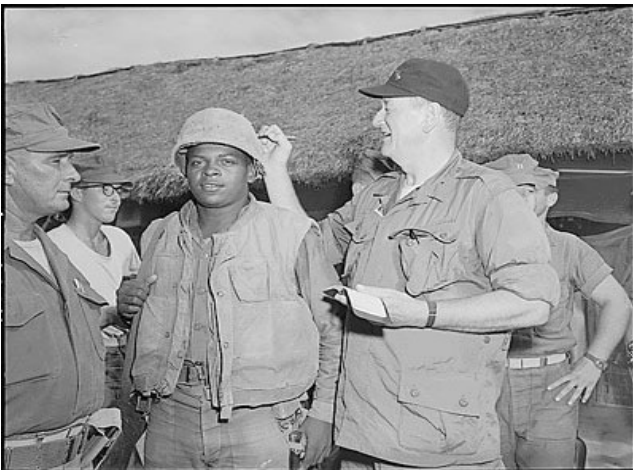
Vietnam Photos



Napalm bombs explode on Viet Cong structures south of Saigon in the Republic of Vietnam. 1965



Bombing of Viet Cong structures along a canal in South Vietnam. 1965



Vietnam. John Wayne signs Private First Class Fonzell Wofford's helmet during his visit to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, at Chu Lai. 06/20/1966



Vietnam. Medical Evacuation. Marines of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, while under heavy firefight with NVAs within the DMZ on Operation Hickory III, are carrying one of their fellow Marines to the H-34. 07/29/1967



Vietnam. Two F-4b phantoms of VMFA-542, Marine Aircraft Group-11, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, DaNang RVN, on their way to targets in support of Marines working in Northern I Corps. 01/1969



HMM165 Crew Chiefs 1969.

Picture from Popasmoke Posted by John Dulighan



REUNION GROUP PICTURE

**First Marine Aircraft Wing Association –
Vietnam Service
PO Box 2124
Woodstock, GA 30188**

We are a fraternal organization of Marines and others who were attached to or supported First MAW units serving in the Vietnam War. The organization was founded in 1986 and incorporated as a not-for-profit entity in New York State in 1988. Our purpose is to reunite members of the First MAW either through scheduled reunions or by means of our newsletter, web site, or other various functions. The organization strives to disseminate information about our history as well as about legislation, entitlements, and welfare involving First MAW members.