



THE SCOOP SHEET

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

Issue 33

www.firstmaw.homestead.com

Fall 2009

REUNION 2009



WAITING FOR GRADUATION AT PI



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GUEST SPEAKER JIM WARNER

A MESSAGE FROM THE FORMER PRESIDENT ...



Dear Friends and Marine Airwing Marines: This is my last letter as a now past President (1999-2009). I want to wish my successor Frank "Paco" Arce the best of luck and will help him in anyway I can. I would be remiss in not thanking Robert Milburn for bringing to us an American Hero Jim Warner. I was awed at his courage and dedication as a special American Fighting Man a United States Marine. Personally, I thought the reunion went well with a few minor glitches, particularly the understanding about the hospitality room. When the Hotel changed over to Quality Inn a few things were misconstrued and not adhered too from when I booked the hotel. I was very pleased to have my friend Dave Vacca and his wife Kathleen meet a Marine from his boot camp Platoon. Glen and all the new attendees , Welcome aboard. I will tell you that, although not perfect, I always tried my best for this Association. I was disappointed with those members who thought the banquet was an all you can eat affair. Everyone was entitled to the one entree they selected. Members told me some people were walking away with three Prime ribs. That's three dinners. It is good the Young Marines didn't eat. Those of us who waited until last (I am an old school Officer) had scraps and that shouldn't have been. I have recommended to our new President that we go back to sit down dinners unless the caterer can insure the correct entree is served to the correct member. Lastly, if you took any pictures we can use in future Scoops please email them to Al Frater. teanal@verizon.net. Also, Ms. Henderson-Reid would like any pictures of the Young Marines that can be used in the Base paper. Take care. I will be closing on a home in Canon City, Colorado on the 24th of November and moving in early July of 2010. My door will always be open to Marines. So now I take the advise of my friend "Gunner" CWO 4 Robert Easter and take my pack off.

PS: If anyone found my 1st MAW lapel pin that I lost at the banquet please return it to me.

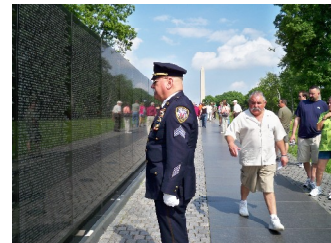
Semper Fidelis

Phillip Beckerich III

Past President—First Marine Aircraft Wing Association

(Vietnam Service)

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ...



Semper Fi Marines

It is with great pleasure and honor that I accepted the post of President of our First Marine Aircraft Wing Association—Vietnam Service. I Am humbled by your vote of confidence.

I have very big shoe to fill following our former presidents, Rob, Joe, and Phil. They have carried our association for twenty one years and I pray that I will carry us successfully in to the future. I not only need but also want and ask for everyone's assistance in making us grow bigger and better.

In the next few weeks I will meet with our executive board and past board members to plan our upcoming events.

Wishing you and yours a happy 234th Birthday and also a very happy holiday and may 2010 be successful one for our association.

Sgt Frank PACO Arce

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

DUES RENEWALS

Please send in your yearly dues of \$25.00. Send them to:

First marine Aircraft wing Association—Vietnam Service
c/o Wayne Cook—Membership
19605 SE 23rd Street
Sammamish, WA 98075

Any questions contact Wayne Cook 425-313-0348 or wayco@comcast.com. Subject should say Firstmaw.

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

COLT DONATION

At the reunion the COLT was won by Don Puterbaugh. We netted \$2030 for the scholarship fund. We should thank Bob "Raggie" Sebetka of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Robert Milburn who once again did the legwork for the acquisition of this splendid gift.

REUNION VIDEO

We have a Reunion Video available for a 10 dollar donation to our Scholarship fund. If you would like a copy of the video please contact our President Frank "Paco" Arce at frankpaco69@aol.com (646) 752-0447 or Al Frater teanal@verizon.net 201-906-1197. If anyone has photo's of videos of the reunion please contribute it to the association.

VIDEO LEFT AT REUNION

Someone left a DVD "Air Force 1 & Marine 1" at the reunion. Contact Frank Arce for the return

Marine Corps Dedicates Chapel on Grounds of National Museum at Quantico By David Hugel

Marine Commandant Gen. James Conway led a list of dignitaries participating in the dedication ceremony for the new Marine Corps Chapel on October 22, 2009.

The newest addition to the National Museum of the Marine Corps complex does not hold any artwork, display any treasured artifacts or depict scenes from Marine Corps history, it is a simple structure dedicated to contemplation and paying respect to those Marines who have served preserving our freedom - it is a Chapel.

Nestled in a wooded area on a rise overlooking the museum, the non-denominational Chapel, officially known as the Semper Fidelis Memorial Chapel, will provide a special space for meditation, prayer and remembrance, as well as commemorative services such as funerals and weddings.

Contemporary in design, with a roof soaring to more than 35 feet, supported by columns of natural fieldstone on each corner, and sturdy cedar beams, the building's walls are ground to roof sheets of clear glass. Striking and inspiring in appearance, the building complements the tranquil forested setting where it is located. While the ten glass walls on the Chapel's two sides are clear, each is etched with one of the following words of inspiration, "Honor, Integrity, Commitment, Faith, Sacrifice, Service, Patriotism, Courage, Charity, and Hope." The Marine Corps' symbolic Eagle, Globe and Anchor is etched on the wall above the main entrance, and the figure of a Kneeling Marine at Prayer with the words of the Marine Prayer inscribed just below is etched on the wall behind the altar. The National Museum of the Marine Corps itself can be seen in the background through this wall.

Stepping inside the Chapel one is struck by the simplicity of its design and furnishings. From its granite floor to the 16 pews constructed of stacked fieldstone with granite bench tops to the plain stone altar and natural cedar ceiling beams, the interior is dignified and calming, befitting a house of worship. The 2100 square foot structure seats 70 people and can accommodate three wheel chairs.

The Chapel is surrounded by a rustic stone walkway that allows visitors to stroll from the Chapel to the nearby Semper Fidelis Park. For those wishing a bit of quiet contemplation, in a natural setting, there is a tranquil pool of flowing water just beyond the Chapel wall behind the altar.

Semper Fidelis Park is a series of walkways connecting the Chapel with the National Museum of the Marine Corps lined with commemorative bricks donated by individuals to honor their service in the Marine Corps or that of a former comrade, relative or friend. Several organizations and units have also dedicated memorials to colleagues killed while serving our country. It's a pleasant walk with benches provided along the way for those wishing to stop and rest or reflect on the deeds of those commemorated by the various memorials.

Funding for the Chapel was provided by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. Sponsorship opportunities are still available for those interested in making a donation toward some of the Chapel's amenities. For more information, contact the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation at www.marineheritage.org.



Front view of Chapel.

The Eagle, Globe and Anchor is etched on the glass wall above the main entrance. The MCB Quantico band played at dedication



Commandant, Gen. James Conway

Led a list of dignitaries who spoke at the dedication ceremony for the new Marine Corps Museum Chapel



A Kneeling Marine at Prayer with the words of the Marine Prayer

Etched on the wall behind the Chapel's altar. The National Museum of the Marine Corps itself can be seen in the background.



Interior view of Chapel

From its granite floor to the 16 pews constructed of stacked fieldstone with granite bench tops to the plain stone altar and natural cedar ceiling beams, the interior is dignified and calming, befitting a house of



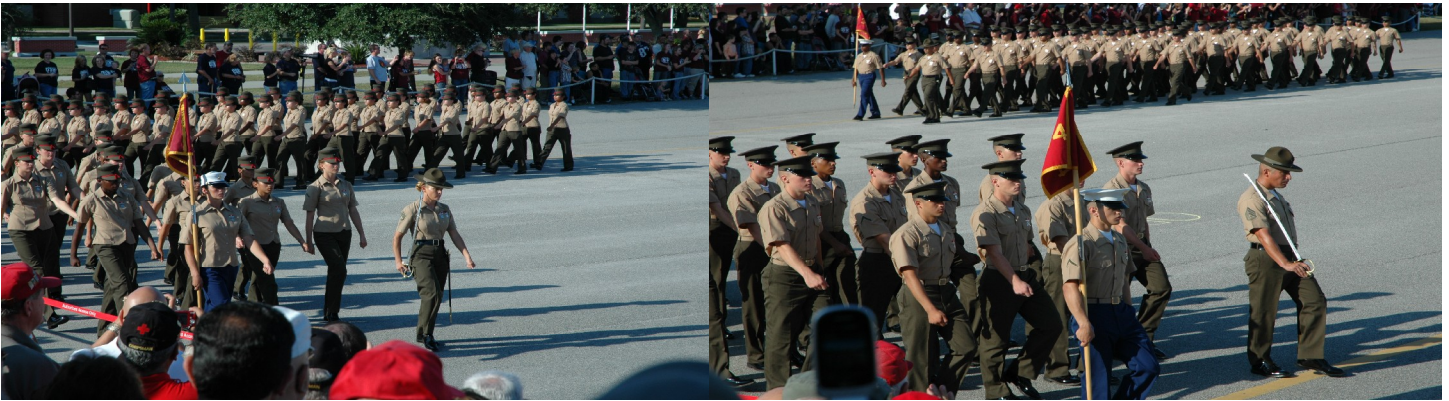
Marine Aviation Memorials

Memorials honoring Marines who died while serving in aviation units in Vietnam are among those lining the walkways of Semper Fidelis Park. The Ugly Angles, HMM- 362 and Purple Foxes, HMM-364 are the first two units erecting memorials to their fallen comrades.



REUNION 2009

The First Marine Aircraft Wing Association—Vietnam Service has just completed Reunion 2009 in Beaufort SC. We had an outstanding turnout. We went to recruit Graduation where we were acknowledged, tour of Parris Island and a static display of VMFA 312 at Beaufort Air Station. At our Banquet we heard from Guest speaker Jim Warner a former RIO from VMFA 323 and POW. Jim gave an outstanding talk and we gave him a standing ovation at the conclusion. The best part of the reunion was getting together with all our former wingers. Here are a few pictures of the reunion.



RECRUIT GRADUATION OCTOBER 9 2009



BEAUFORT AIR STATION



BANQUET

REUNION 2009



OLD AND THE NEW



PARRIS ISLAND



Al, Rob, Paco, Jeff, Bill, and Phil



BRUNCH

PX News

Here are some of the items we have at your First MAWVNS PX. Help support your association.
http://1stmaw.wamarinesmc.us/mawpx/index.php?main_page=index

Challenge Coin \$7



FMAW Logo hat:
\$18



Hat Doober:



Vietnam Necklace: \$11



POW Necklace: \$11



Vietnam Ribbon:
\$3.50
'64-'75



Vietnam Vet: \$3.50



Vietnam Pin: \$3.50



Flag set: \$3.50



Marine Corps
Pin: \$3.50



Semper Fi Pin: \$3.50



Marble Mountain: \$3.50



Danang Pin: \$3.50



Natural Death Hats
\$18



1stMAWVNS pin:\$3.50



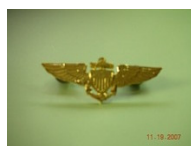
Sm Combat
Aircrew Pin: \$4



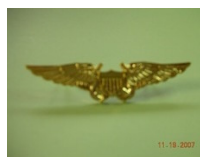
Crew Chief
Pin: \$3.50



Pilot Pin: \$7



Navy Flight Off: \$7



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



Combat Action Rb:



MCorps: \$3.50



First MAW: \$18.00



FMF Corpsman:





**First Marine Aircraft Wing Association –
Vietnam Service
567 Rivercrest Drive
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.