

*"Beware of little expenses. A small leak will sink a great ship."
-Benjamin Franklin*

Blue Diamond News



FIRST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION



President's Message:

I am happy to be your President for the next two years. I'd also like to congratulate the rest of the Executive Board members that will help me out during my Presidency. We as a team with the help of you our members can make this association great again.

Please be sure to make plans to attend the 2018 anniversary at Camp Pendleton, I'll be in the office in September helping out in organizing and planning the weeks activities.

I'd like to thank everyone who attended the Norfolk, VA reunion, it was good seeing all of you. Special thanks to Secretary of Defense James Mattis for making an appearance. Please start making plans to join us at the 2018 reunion taking place in Colorado Springs, CO.

Past President Vince Rios was not able to attend the Reunion due to illness. He apologizes for his absence.

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

2017 Norfolk, VA Reunion



Left to right
Sgt Maj Vasquez, James Mattis, June Cormier



Left to right
Colonel Urbina, President Jerry Johs, June Cormier



Colonel Urbina & President Jerry Johs.



Colonel Urbina and Sgt Maj Vasquez



1st Marine Division Color Guard and Band.



James Mattis and George Meyer

AMERICAN HEROES



Purple Heart Day
www.NationalDayCalendar.com

August 7

The 1st Marine Division Association would like to thank every Purple Heart Recipient. We Thank you all for all the sacrifices you've made for this country.
SEMPER FI

From the Headquarters

On 25 July 2017 Sgt Maj Marty Vasquez and Olin Thompson went to Los Angeles, CA and picked up 1,000 donated hot dogs. The hot dogs will be used for the SoCal Chapter cookouts for 1st MarDiv Battalions.

Semper Fi !

1st Marine Division Headquarters.

[A recent study by USC provides recommendations for veterans transitioning from active duty to civilian life.](#)

1st Marine Division Current Events

2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment



Marines with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, maintain suppression by using a M224 60mm light mortar as a part of the Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation at Marine Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., July 12, 2017. The 2/7 MCCRE is in preparation for their upcoming deployment on the Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Austin Mealy)

5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division



Infantry Marines with 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, board a CH-53E with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH) 466 to conduct a battalion insert during exercise Summer Fury at Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif., Aug. 4. Summer Fury, a weeklong training evolution, tested several squadrons within 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing on the skills required of them during a combat deployment. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Kimberlyn Adams/Released)

Company C, 3rd LAR Battalion, 1st Marine Division



Linda Stahl shares stories about her life with Marine Lance Cpl. Kyle Waters during a volunteer event at Garden Club Senior Retirement Home during Seattle Seafair August 4, 2017. Seattle Seafair is an annual event where hundreds of Marines and Sailors come to showcase the capabilities of the Navy-Marine Corps team to residents, and an opportunity for members of the sea services to meet and thank the community for its support. Waters is a light armored reconnaissance vehicle operator, Company C, 3rd LAR Battalion, 1st Marine Division stationed at Marine Air-Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif.

[To view more photos please click HERE:](#)

MONEY MATTERS

Financial information will be updated next week. Thank you.

GENERAL FUND

Bank of America Checking	
Beginning Balance (06/26/17))	\$64,511.75
Credits, Total	\$1,744.50
Debits, Total	\$7,023.92
Ending Balance (07/11/17))	\$59,232.33

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome to our New Members

New Member
Gerald Maurice DeBie
Vincent H. Kyzer
James Kurtz

Recruited By
MSgt William J. Hanusek
SgtMaj Marty Vasquez

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



1st Lt. Benjamin Cross, 26, of Oxford, Maine; Cpl. Nathaniel Ordway, 21, of Sedgwick, Kansas; and Pfc. Ruben Velasco, 19, of Los Angeles. Cross and Ordway were both assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265 out of Futenma, Japan; Velasco was a member of 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, out of [Camp Pendleton](#), California.
[Click here for full article.](#)



LCpl Cody J. Haley was assigned 1st Battalion, 4th Marine. Passed away in a training accident on August 5, 2017.

[Click here for full article](#)

Dear Old Breed News,

My grandfather, Robert J. Dezarn, was a WWII Marine vet, a life-long member of the 1st Marine Division Association and an avid reader and collector of the The Old Breed News.

Sadly, he passed away on June 30, 2017, at the age of 92.

He volunteered for the Marine Corps a few days after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in December 1941 - just two weeks after his 17th birthday.

He served in India Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division on Guadalcanal and in New Britain.

He received an honorable discharge in September, 1945, with the rank of Private First Class.

He maintained contact with his Marine buddies throughout his life through 1st Marine Division Association conventions around the country.

Thanks for the support and connection you provided to him and continue to provide to Leatherneck veterans young and old.

Semper Fi.

Benjamin R. Gilbert

Deceased

Dr. Sidney C. Phillips

Loren Duke Abdalla passed away on December 4, 2016

PFC James T. English, passed away on June 6, 2015

Morton "Morty" Propper

 Forward to a Friend

President Jerry Johs

First Marine Division Association

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