

Only a man who knows what it is like to be defeated can reach down to the bottom of his soul and come up with the extra ounce of power it takes to win when the match is even.

~Muhammad Ali~

Blue Diamond News



FIRST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

FROM THE HEADQUARTERS



**Here is one for the archives. I wonder what the base pay for a 1st LT
was back in the day. Enjoy!**
**(Click on the link below, then rotate the image for your reading
enjoyment).**

[BLAST FROM THE PAST](#)

SO Cal Chapter 11th Marines Cookout





NELVIN C. CEPEDA 1-1

Capt. Cole Lapierre, Company Commander of HQ Company, 5th Marine Regiment hugs Vietnam veteran David Palomares. Palomares served with the 5th Marines from 1968-1967. Hundreds of Marines stood at attention as the memorial was delivered.

Vietnam Marines 'come home'

Six large granite slabs inscribed with the names of those who died in combat arrive at Camp Pendleton

BY CARL PRINE

Sitting 4 1/2 years ago in the shadows of the 5th Marine Regiment's memorial garden, Steve Colwell dreamed that someday he'd return to see a granite monument rising from the dust to remember his long 1800 war in Vietnam.

On Thursday morning — National Vietnam War Veterans Day — three semitrailer flatbed trucks hauling 50 tons of black granite cut into six large slabs pulled into a parking lot inside Camp Pendleton. The stonework displays the names

of 2,706 Marines and sailors killed in Vietnam while fighting for the three battalions that comprised the 5th Marine Regiment, plus the dead from 2nd Battalion, Fourth Marines.

And Colwell was there to greet it, along with hundreds of Marines who lined San Mateo Drive at a rigid position of attention in solemn honor of the memorial.

"Back then, I was one person sitting out here and now we have 2,706 Marines and sailors who died in Vietnam. It's been a long journey," said Colwell, a Carlsbad real estate

developer who was seriously wounded near Hol An while serving with D Company, 1st Battalion, Fifth Marines in 1967. "And no matter how much work it's been, I have to remind myself that it's an honor to be able to do this."

After a brief ceremony, workers began jostling the heavy granite hewn by Vermont's Rock of Ages quarry off the trucks. Escorted by chapters of The Patriot Guard Riders along the 3,000-mile route, the stonework started out from New England covered in snow but arrived on a sunny Thursday at Camp

Pendleton.

Along with a spire rising from the center of the monument, it's slated to be fully installed by Memorial Day. It will join a memorial garden already ringed by monuments to the regiment's fight to take Vietnam's Go Nai Island during Operation Allen Brook in 1968; the 14 Marines from I Company, 3rd Battalion, Fifth Marines lost in the crash of an MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft in 2000; and the many Marines killed in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2003.

"We've been building it out for 10

SEE MARINES • B5

MARINES

FROM B1
years now," said Terry Rifkin, the president of the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group, a charity that spearheaded much of the funding for the monuments. "It's a special place."

The nonprofit joined the 15 Vietnam Veterans Association and the 1st Marine Division Association to collect more than \$300,000 to fund the Vietnam memorial. But they're seeking about \$50,000 more from the public.

That should be enough to pay the cost of the foundation, finish the landscaping and fly out several impoverished Gold Star families so that they can see the names of their loved ones on the memorial, too.

Anything left over will be donated to charities designed to aid service members, Colwell said.

Colwell predicted that the memorial and its tranquil garden will become a mecca for Vietnam veterans



NELVIN C. CEPEDA U-T
Vietnam veteran Steve Colwell was key to organizing the effort and funding for the memorial.

to visit, sitting quietly in the shade as he once did while reflecting on the war they fought a half-century ago.

Men like John Chang, 72, who made the trip from Surprise, Ariz., to welcome the memorial to Camp Pendleton.

"Every night in my dreams I see the faces of the Marines and corpsmen who are on this monument. Brave, brave men. And now they're home, again, at the 5th Marine Regiment," said

Chang, a corpsman with C Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines in Vietnam.

Lt. Col. John Gianopoulos, the executive officer of 5th Marine Regiment, will be glad to see them. Throughout the morning, he encouraged Marines lining the roadway for the monument's arrival to seek out Vietnam vets and shake their hands, welcoming them back home.

"It's about establishing a connection," said Gianopoulos, a former commander of

Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, in Iraq. "Today, you get so much. 'Thank you for your service.' I believe in that. I love that connection the American military has today with civil society, but it's no secret that it hasn't always been that way."

"If you'd asked about that 40 years ago — did you get a lot of thanks for your service? — I'd venture to say that the answer would be 'no,'" he said.

He noted the "amazing" relationship America had with its veterans immediately after World War II.

Part of what America is built upon is that relationship between civil society and our military, but we went to a low point in the 1970s and 1980s and these veterans standing out here today helped to overcome that," he said. "They stood with broad shoulders, endured that and built that so that today I can't walk down the street without somebody stopping me and thanking me for my service."

cpine@sduiontribune.com

SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 2018

**PLACE: HOTEL ELEGANT'E CONFERENCE CENTER
(719) 576-5900**

**2886 S. CIRCLE DR.
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO**

**DATES: APRIL 17 2018 TRAVEL DAY
APRIL 18 2018 MEETINGS AND FOOD TASTING
APRIL 19 2018 TRAVEL DAY**

**HOTEL BOOKINGS START ON JANUARY 15, 2018 RESERVATION
CODE 2022196 CUTOFF DATE MARCH 27 2018**

COST: \$123.00 PLUS TAX

**FREE AIRPORT SHUTTLE FROM HOTEL TO COLORADO
SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Membership meeting added to list below:

**Awards-0800-0830
Insurance-0800-0830
Chapter Directors-0830-0900
Reunion Destination/Site-0900-0930
Fundraising-0930-1030
By-Laws-1030-1130
Scholarship Selection-1130-1230
Scholarship Fund Inc.-1130-1230
Lunch-1230-1330
EX-COM-1330-1430
Board of Directors-1500-1700
Membership-1700-1715
Food Sampling 1830-**

The cost of the Food Sampling is \$41.00 per member.

***You must be current with your annual dues with the Association
to get the special Reunion room rate or you will be charged the
current hotel non discounted room rate.**

**If you are unsure of you status please contact June at
headquarters.**

Thank you

Doc Lakernick Reunion Chair

2018 COLORADO SPRINGS REUNION

August 5 -12 2018

Hotel Elegante' (719) 576-5900

**The Hotel Elegant'e is now accepting reservations for our
August reunion.**

To get the Reunion rate of \$123.00 plus taxes please use our code: 1613342. You must book directly with the hotel to get the rate.

Book early so you don't miss out!

REGISTRATION FORM

Ladies Luncheon, Entertainment & BINGO!!

Colorado Springs, CO Reunion

When: August 11, 2018 at 11am Price: \$40 per person

Menu items:

***Option #1: Chicken Cordon Bleu - breaded chicken breast stuffed with tender ham & swiss, herbed mornay cream sauce, served with rice pilaf & baby snip top carrots with thyme & honey**

***Option #2: Incline Pasta - roasted red peppers & broccoli on a bed of pasta, basil pesto, fresh parmesan**

***Item Included: Caesar Salad, Assorted rolls - Dessert - White Chocolate & Raspberry Cheesecake with whipped cream. Drinks - freshly brewed coffee (also decaf), hot herbal tea & iced tea**

The live entertainment by K.J will be singing for us during lunch.

After Lunch we will be playing 9 games of bingo. Three up paper cards will be for sale before lunch. The price per pack will be \$12 or buy 3 packs for \$30 which will include a free dauber. I will also have daubers for sale. There will be prizes for all winning bingo's and the last game will be a blackout game with a grand prize. BINGO PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE FMDA GENERAL FUND.

~Cheryl Johs~

Wife of President Jerry Johs

From the President

Old Breed News Magazine

President Johs will be reporting his updates to the members who attend the April 18, 2018 business meetings. After they have heard and agree with his proposal, he will then update those of you who receive the BDN and also the new digital copy of the OBN.

MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS, AWARDS, AND UNIT HISTORIES

(See the attached pdf file, or go to the URL at bottom here)

A New Congressional Research Service Publication on U.S. Military Service Records, Awards, and Unit Histories

The Congressional Research Service has just published a short reference document that might be of interest to many:

**[Military Service Records, Awards, and Unit Histories: A Guide to Locating Sources](#)
by Mese F. DeBruyne and Barbara Salazar Torreon.**

The guide provides information on locating military unit histories and individual service records of discharged, retired, and deceased military personnel. It also provides information on locating and replacing military awards and medals. Included is contact information for military history centers, websites for additional sources of research, and a bibliography of other publications, including related CRS reports.

https://fas.org/sqp/crs/secrec_y/RS21282.pdf

A special thank you, to all our members who make small donations.

In the interest of keeping costs down, the HQ office does not mail written acknowledgements for donations of less than \$25. All donations are reported in the Old Breed News contributions pages.

Every contribution, big or small, helps keep the Association going. We have many members who give regularly, some through a monthly payment plan scheduled with their bank or credit card.

One in particular, Sgt John S. O'Keeffe of Worthington, Ohio, has given \$10 or more a month since 2010. This year his donations total hit \$1,200 for the General, OBN, and Scholarship Funds, through 120 donations. We felt it time to express our gratitude for his enduring and regular support. Thank you, Sgt O'Keeffe. Semper Fi.

To all Life Member's,

We need your help with a one time gift of \$50 to \$100 donation to the General Fund for the financial needs of the Association. You can write off your donation on your taxes. It would be very much appreciated.

Thank you so much for all you do for the 1st Marine Division Association.

President Jerry Johs

JOB POSTINGS

Check back next week

**USMC Fox 2/7 and H 2/1 (7/65-2/66), July 15 to July 20, 2018,
Hotel Elegante in Colorado Springs, Colorado.**

**Contact Ron Gryn at (352) 638- 2872 or email at
boatmanron@.com for reunion packet.**



1st Battalion 3rd Marines 1/3 Reunion,
ALL ERAs in Colorado Springs, Colorado, September 11-16, 2018

Contact: Don Bumgarner, dbumc13usmc@verizon.net, (562) 897-2437

MONEY MATTERS

From the Treasurer A.J. Burn:

Statement as of 1 Feb 2018

Beginning Balance as of 1 Jan 2018	\$56,228.97
Income	\$17,590.64
Expenses	\$19331.90

Ending Balance 28 Feb 2018 \$54,487.71

iGIVE

I help 1st Marine Division Association with free donations whenever I shop online with iGive.com. Right now, iGive is giving out bonus donations! New members who join by 3/11 can get an extra \$5 donation for 1st Marine Division Association. The stores make this possible because they want you to like them and shop at them over and over again. There's 1894 socially-responsible stores helping to make donations happen.

**I hope you'll give it a try. To learn more or sign up now, use this link: <http://www.igive.com/zdoHj50>
- John Stevens**



Turn Your Online Shopping & Searching Into Donations For 1st Marine Division Association

Good Karma: Just Shop or Search Online!
Be a part of the first and largest online network of shoppers, online stores, and worthy causes dedicated to turning everyday online shopping and searching into much-needed donations.

FREE Membership. Great Deals.
iGive.com is totally free. Plus, you get access to free shipping deals and exclusive coupons, on top of the great deals you'll find every day through our network of 1,800+ stores.

Shop at 1,800+ Top-Notch Online Stores, and Maybe Save on Your Taxes Too.
Our mall includes: Walmart, Pottery Barn, Staples, Petco, Expedia, Best Buy, QVC and many more. Best of all, up to 26% of your purchase at each store is donated to your favorite worthy cause. Many of these contributions could even be considered tax-deductible*.

Raise a Penny Per Search at www.iGive.com!
Why not raise money every time you search the web? Try iGive's search engine and enjoy free, easy fundraising for a good cause.

Why not help a good cause today?
www.iGive.com/1stMarineDivision



*Only donations made to IRS-recognized nonprofit organizations may be considered tax-deductible. For details, visit: <http://www.iGive.com/html/taxdeduct.cfm>

Join for Free, Shop or Search Online, & Help a Great Cause!

Turn your online shopping and searching into much-needed donations:
www.iGive.com/1stMarineDivision

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NEW MEMBERS



Welcome to our New Members

NAME	RECRUITED BY:
Larry Edward Kopko	(Reinstated)
Pauline Sadowski	(Reinstated)
Paul M. Gainey	MajGen Eric Smith

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

All FMDA Members please use your USAA Credit Card- the First Marine Division Association, Inc gets a small but helpful rebate. Click Link below to find out how to apply for a USAA Credit Card today:

[Information on how to sign up for USAA CC](#)



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

CHAPTER/MEMBER INFORMATION

Liberty Bell Chapter

We are pleased to announce our spring/summer bus trip to Washington DC And Quantico MCB And Museum **June 22-23 2018 cost is &145.00pp double occupancy this includes bus, lodging and meals. If interested please call 215-850-8313 we are limited to one bus only and are accepting reservations now. We will be seeing the Marine Corps Evening Parade at 8th and I St. as well as the U S Navy Museum at the Washington Navy Yard.**

TAPS

DECEASED

NAME:	DOD:
Arthur L. Ogg	02/19/18
Lawrence John Borgen	
Charles A. Meyer	03/13/18
John C. Clary III, 1st Recon BN, Friend of the Association	

"Gone But Never Forgotten"

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