



9th Engineer Bn. Association USMC 2013 Newsletter

We had another great reunion this past April at the new Hampton Inn & Suites in Jacksonville, North Carolina, near Camp Lejeune with most arriving on Sunday, April 21. We held our annual business meeting on Monday morning where we discussed past, present and future issues. See the Secretary's Minutes of this meeting. The rest of the day was open. While we didn't have a formal banquet, we had a great meal at the nearby Ale House on Monday evening.

On Tuesday, while some of the ladies enjoyed Hot Jersey Nights in Myrtle Beach, we toured the New River Air Station seeing and discussing the MV-22 (Osprey).



We followed that with lunch on base at Noble Roman's Italian Buffet. After lunch we proceeded to Camp Geiger and



had a briefing and tour of SOI-E (School of Infantry – East), firing some of their electronic practice weapons. In the evening we had drawings for the various gifts provided by our ladies. Income went to our



scholarship and other funds.





On Wednesday the ladies visited Swansboro, NC while the men got a group photo taken and toured Camp Lejeune, Courthouse Bay and Stone Bay. Our first stop was for an II MEF static display where we talked with the crews and climbed in, around and over several pieces of equipment including Light Armored Reconnaissance and High

Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles, MK-48 Logistic Vehicle System, D7G Full-Track Bulldozer, 120M Motorized Road Grader, Rough Terrain and a CS563D Vibratory Compactor. The crews seemed so young but were certainly dedicated to their mission. After lunch at Ball Center we were given a briefing on Enduring Freedom as practiced by the II MEF. After this UNCLAS Brief we proceeded to Courthouse Bay and received a tour and briefing at the Marine Corps Engineer School. We rounded out the Wednesday tours by visiting the Marine Corps' known distance (KD) rifle qualification course at Stone Bay.



Our reunions are planned to include the important social time we all need and want and to catch up on our former comrades and to, perhaps, come to grips with our war(s). Next year's reunion will again be more Marine activity oriented as we'll be in the Washington, DC area. Shopping, touring and other activities are being planned as well.

I trust you all had a great Marine Corps 238th Birthday celebration as well as Veteran's Day. On the 10th we got together with old friends and showed off our first grandson, Daniel James Harris. He's named after his grandfathers (both James) and the Biblical Daniel.

Getting together between reunions help us bond and keep that Marine spirit going all year long. Attend an event in your local area or organize your own with nearby association members. We've had a barbeque here in southern California and there have been picnics in Florida as well as one-on-one meets at other locations. Check out our web site and look up those association members who may be near you. Invite them to a social event or our reunions. We can't always attend every reunion but they are moved around enough so all are fairly close at some time or another. I know I hesitated for several years before we had our last San Diego reunion. I figured if I wasn't having a good time, I could leave early and drive the hour and a half home. Turns out I didn't know anyone but found those in country the same time I was and others who live close to me. I could have stayed longer. Look for more information on upcoming events, especially our DC Reunion.

Semper Fidelis..... Jim Harris, President



2013 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

The 2013 Business Meeting of the 9th Engineers Association USMC was called to order by President Jim Harris at 0930 on 22 April at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Jacksonville, NC. There were 33 Marines present including the following officers:
Rob Uderitz, Vice President
Fred DuPont, Secretary
Mickey Ryan, Chaplain
Don Gurganus, Trustee
Ray Pekovitch, Trustee

The invocation was given by Chaplain Ryan and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Terry Porter.

Under old business a motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the last meeting as posted in the last newsletter.

Under new business:

- a. The Treasurer's Report was distributed and a motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the report.
- b. A motion was made, seconded and approved to donate \$1,000 to the MCEA Marine Corps Engineers Monument Fund.
- c. A motion was made, seconded and approved after amendment to donate \$2,000 to the 100 Entrepreneurs Foundation run by Bob Nilsson to assist wounded warriors transition to civilian life.
- d. The Scholarship Program was discussed resulting in the following Marines volunteering to join the elected association officers as members of the committee: Joe Plocharczyk, George Ingalls, and Frank Cooper. A meeting of the new committee was set to immediately follow this meeting.
- e. The location for the 2015 Reunion was discussed with no resolution. St. Augustine, FL; Washington, DC; and St. Louis, MO were mentioned as possible sites. Reunion Coordinator Shaw encouraged us to think about it and that we would decide at a special meeting on the evening of the 24th.
- f. Reunion Coordinator Shaw called for three Marines to form a Reunion Audit Committee with Don Gurganus, Frenchy Roberge, and Joe Malinowski volunteering.
- g. There was a discussion about amending the by-laws concerning life membership and the reunion funds being controlled by the reunion coordinator. Secretary DuPont agreed to work with the other officers to draft such amendments to be voted on in accordance with the current by-laws.

Under good of the order:

- a. An announcement that Rob Uderitz is selling hats and t-shirts
- b. Anyone wishing to become and elected officer in the Association should make their wishes known and be prepared by the next annual meeting
- c. In lieu of membership cards, Secretary DuPont will work with Treasurer Kenney to send out an announcement listing all who are members in good standing.
- d. An announcement was made to thank Herb Shaw for his hard work and personal expense to provide us with another great reunion. It was followed by a round of applause.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 1030 hours.

ADDITION TO THE MINUTES

At approximately 8pm on 24 April, Reunion Coordinator Herb Shaw wanted to decide the site for the 2015 Reunion. President Harris called a meeting to order. Approximately 29 Marines were present.

Coordinator Shaw made a motion to have the 2014 reunion in Washington, DC and have the 2015 reunion in Savannah, GA because Lt General Gurganus was coming home from Afghanistan and it would be to our benefit to take advantage of his considerable influence while he is there in DC. The motion was seconded.

After a lengthy discussion, a show of hands resulted in the motion being passed by a vote of 19 for and 10 against.

President Harris announced the 2014 Reunion will be held in Washington, DC and the 2015 Reunion will be held in Savannah, GA and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred DuPont
Secretary

Fall 2013 Treasurers Report

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		EXPENDATURES TO DATE	
Association	\$7,435.19	Web site domain fee	\$50.00
Scholarship	<u>1,314.81</u>	Vietnam Memorial Fund Col. Perea	623.50
TOTAL	\$8,750.00	Treasurer's Surety Bond	100.00
		Annual Newsletter	271.36
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT		Chaplain expenses, plaques, flowers	424.83
Association	\$6,681.99	100 Entrepreneurs Bob Nilsson	2000.00
Scholarship	<u>5,557.95</u>	MCEA Monument Quantico	1000.00
TOTAL	\$12,239.95	Treas. Supplies Check slips	53.24
		Annual Scholarships (5)	<u>2500.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$20,989.94</u>	Total Expenditures	<u>\$7023.40</u>

Eric L. Kenney, 9 East Kennedy St, Sullivan, Illinois 61951

Please remit your dues to the Treasurer at the above address

Scholarship recipients were:

Kasandra Ashlee Uderitz of Springwater, NY, starting her sophomore year at Fingerlakes Community College majoring in the humanities concentrating in psychology, association sponsor is her grandfather – Robert T. Uderitz. (This is her second association scholarship.)

Josie K. Griffis of Muncie, IN, starting her freshman year at Ball State University majoring in engineering science, association sponsor is her grandfather – Jerry Griffis.

Sarah Emily Nicole Sutton of Surprise, AZ, starting her freshman year at University of Arizona majoring in biology, association sponsor is her grandfather – William J. Waterworth, Jr.

Connor Patrick Lemire of Shrewsbury, MA, starting his junior year at University of Massachusetts, Amherst majoring in legal studies, association sponsor is his grandfather – George J. Fleming, Jr.

Ryan Keone Cabinian of Clayton, CA, starting his freshman year at College of San Mateo majoring in general education, association sponsor is his grandfather – Robert Young.

Please remember to submit your scholarship applications to Eric by May 15, 2014



9th Engineer Bn. Association

2014 Reunion Washington, D.C.

May 28th to June 1st, 2014

Tysons Corner Marriott/Leesburg Pike

Room Rate \$ 79 *

Hotel Reservation # 1-888-236-2427

Telephone Rate Code ** 9th Engineer Bn. Association **

Reservations must be made by May 14, 2014 to get this rate

2014 Reunion Registration Form

Full registration is \$125.00 per person and includes:

- One Banquet Meal – or \$60
- Bus transportation for Three day trips – or \$30 per day

Day 1 - Marine Corps Museum & Quantico

Day 2 - Washington area and Sunset Parade at 8th&I

Day 3 - Washington area Viet Nam Wall, WWII, Korea, Iwo Jima Memorial

Total amount enclosed: _____

(Make checks payable to 9th Engineer Association 2014 Reunion)

(If you do not desire full registration call Herb at 912-424-9084)

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Send this form and registration fee to:

Herb Shaw

9th Engineer Bn. Assoc.

752 Harper Street

Jesup, Georgia 31546

Questions call Herb at 912-424-9084

SUPPORT YOUR ASSOCIATION -- ATTEND THE 2014 - 9TH ENGINEER BN. REUNION in Washington, DC

****THE HOSPITALITY ROOM WILL BE OPEN WHEN NOT ON TRIPS**

2014 BUSINESS MEETING and ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD 8:00 AM, May 30, 2014

At Tysons Corner Marriott/Leesburg Pike

IN HOSPITALITY ROOM