1st Bn 7th Marines

INCOMING
NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021

ATTENTION ON DECK……

News and Notes

If you have been putting off attending a reunion, you may want to attend this one. We cannot say how many more reunions we have left in us. We are all getting old. It is getting hard to travel. Health concerns are a huge factor for all our members. Our numbers are falling quickly, which makes planning these reunions harder and harder. Who knows what 2024 will hold for the 1st Bn 7th Marine Vietnam Association? The way things are today....2022 could be your last chance.

We have absolutely no reason to think we will have to reschedule or cancel the 2022 reunion. With that being said, we all know that S#@t does happen! Please consider buying the optional flight insurance if you're flying to Orlando. It only takes an extra minute or two and the cost is very minimal.

PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR COMING ASAP!

1. Mail in your 1/7 registration forms.
2. Make your hotel reservations early!

Lost & Found

Recently a young lady by the name of Melissa Prielipp, from Michigan, contacted 1/7 through the 1/7 website. She informed us that she had recently found a Vietnam Veterans hat in the middle of Highway 12 in Michigan and thought it might belong to one of our guys. Well, there are millions of Vietnam Veterans hats, so we asked her to email us a photograph of the hat.

It was a Delta 1/7 hat.

Putting 2 and 2 together we logically decided to search our 1/7 Association data base starting from the point where she found the hat on Highway 12. The first person we identified was Allen G. Dobroy who resides only a few miles West of the location where the hat was found. It was his hat, and Allen was elated. He said he had been searching for days for that hat, and that he had called all his friends and asked that they also search around for the hat. Allen said the hat meant a great deal to him and that he thought the lady was great for contacting 1/7. Allen said, "she could have just thrown the hat away". We were then able to make the arrangements for Melissa to return the hat to Allen at his home. What a happy ending, thank you very much Melissa.

Semper Fi!

News and Notes

As usual our staff have been searching the entire country in an effort to locate more of our 1/7 Marines and Corpsman. A number of them have been found, even as the search for others continues.

One of those guys that we have recently found did not know about our 1/7 Association and was extremely pleased that we had found him. During our conversation with him he said he needed to confess to something that he had done.

He said that just before leaving Charley Co. he and another person consumed a bit too much alcohol one night. They both wanted a particular souvenir from their time with Suicide Charley Co. A coin was flipped, and he won ..... He went over near the Company C.P. and stole the Suicide Charley Company flag.

He stated that he had been bothered by his actions for the past 50 plus years and wanted to return the flag to its rightful place. He said he did not realize the importance of the flag to the Charley Company Marines and Corpsmen until after he sobered up and had it stateside.

Our 1/7 Association has received the flag and it is in pristine condition. We have arranged with Colonel David J. Hart, the Commanding Officer of the 7th Marine Regiment, MCB 29 Palms, CA (a former Commanding Officer of 1/7) for him to present the flag to LtCol. Edward V. Holton, who is the current Commanding Officer of 1/7, once the battalion has returned this November from their current deployment to Australia.

Schedule of Events

Wednesday: May 11, 2022
Registration
Hospitality: 11:00 AM -11:00 PM (FREE TIME)

Thursday: May 12, 2022
Hospitality & Registration 8:00 AM - 11:00 PM (FREE TIME)

Friday: May 13, 2022
Hospitality & Registration 8:00 AM -11:00 PM (FREE TIME)
Ladies Coffee Social 9:00 - 11:00 AM
Casual BBQ dinner: 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Saturday: May 14, 2022
Hospitality 8:00 AM
All Hands Meeting 9:00 AM
Memorial Service 1:30 - 3:00 PM
Company Photos will follow Memorial Service
No Host Cocktail 5:30 PM
Evening Banquet 6:00 PM

PLAN YOUR FREE TIME

We have left you lots of free time during the 2022 reunion. You can use it to either hang out in the hospitality room and visit with your 1/7 friends or explore some of the local attractions or do a bit of both....

We are 15 minutes from Universal Studios, Walt Disney Theme Parks, SeaWorld, and a host of premier golf courses.

We are only steps away from the Florida Mall. The Florida Mall offers world class shopping with premier brand retailers like Armani Exchange, Apple, H&M, Michael Kors, Victoria Secret and more.

The Florida Hotel and Conference Center offers a 24-hour Fitness Center with state of the art cardio and resistance equipment.

Enjoy some pool time at the beautiful fresh air pool.

Sleep till noon.

* *JOIN US IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA* *

***When**: 11 May – 14 May 2022*

***Where**: The Florida Hotel and Conference Center*

RATES: Our group rate is ***$119.00** per night plus tax for king, queen, or double queen.

RESERVATION METHOD: Room reservations can be made by calling Reservations at ***800-588-4656.***
Guests should identify themselves as 1st Battalion 7th Marines Reunion attendees.

Individual room reservations may be cancelled without penalty outside of **72** hours prior to arrival. Cancellation within **72** hours of scheduled arrival will result in a **1** night's room and tax charge.

CUT-OFF DATE: The "cut-off date" is **4/13/2022**. Reservation requests received after the cut-off date will be accepted on a space and rate available basis.

CHECK-IN: Guests may check in the hotel after **4:00 PM.** A valid credit card or cash deposit will be required at check-in. Guests may also be required to present a valid form of identification. Room and tax will be charged fully upon check in. The hotel will charge **$50.00** for early check-ins prior to noon. Early check-ins are based on availability.

* *If you arrive prior to noon, or early check-in is not available, you can always check your bags and hang out in the hospitality room. Please stop by the 1/7 registration desk and pick up your registration package & name tags. Feel free to wait in the hospitality room until your no cost check-in is available.

CHECK-OUT: is prior to **11:00 AM.** There will be no refunds for early checkout. Any requests for late checkout must be made with the front desk on the night prior to check-out and is subject to a late checkout fee. Any late checkout after **11:00 AM** will be charged a full night room, unless you receive *prior* approval by the Manager on Duty.

AMMENITIES INCLUDED:

- Unlimited in-room high speed internet.
- Newspaper (lobby level).
- Two (2) bottles of water upon arrival (replenished daily).
- Key accessible gated parking.
- 24-hour access to state-of-the-art Fitness Center.
- 24-hour access to the Business Center including internet, printing, and photocopies.

1ST BATTALION 7TH MARINE VIETNAM VETERANS 2022 REUNION REGISTRATION

	ACTIVITY Casual dress for all except coat/tie **suggested** for banquet	COST PER PERSON	NO. OF PERSONS	TOTAL Cost x No. of Persons
Wednesday **May 11, 2022**	**Welcome Aboard** Information Center/Hospitality Room at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center opens at 12:00 PM. Beer, wine, soft drinks & snacks provided. Bring photographs, mementos and souvenirs to display. **Registration Fee** pays for cost of newsletter, hospitality suite, memorial ceremony and reunion expenses. Please wear your nametag, which will be in your reunion packet, to all reunion functions!	**Registration Fee** **$25 per adult**	_____	$_____
Thursday **May 12, 2022** 8:00AM 11:00PM	**FREE TIME: Please enjoy the hospitality suite.** Please feel free to hang out in the hospitality room and enjoy the fellowship of other Marines and Corpsmen or play the tourist and visit some local attractions.			
Friday **May 13, 2022** 9:00-11AM 6:00 – 8PM	**FREE TIME: Please enjoy the hospitality suite.** Please feel free to hang out in the hospitality room and enjoy the fellowship of other Marines and Corpsmen or play the tourist and visit some local attractions. **Ladies Social: FREE to all ladies attending reunion.** Come and visit with us Ladies…enjoy lots of laughs, refreshments, games, and prizes. **Picnic Buffet:** Relax and enjoy a simple picnic style meal with friends and family. Hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad etc…	# of seats required for Ladies Social **$25 Dinner**	_____ _____	$_____
Saturday **May 14, 2022** 9:00AM 1:30PM 5:30PM 6:00PM	**Annual Meeting, Afternoon Memorial Service, Evening Banquet** **All Hands Meeting –** ALL ADULTS are encouraged to attend. **Memorial Service** **Company Photos –** will be taken following the memorial service. **No Host Cocktail Reception** **Banquet** - Enjoy delicious Surf and Turf dinner and special entertainment. Price includes tax & tip. Cash bar available. This will be the highlight of the reunion. Coat and tie suggested but not required.	**Banquet** **$60 Dinner**	_____	$_____
	TOTAL			
TOTAL ENCLOSED	**Add Totals for Meals & Registration fee(s).** Full payment is appreciated in order to reduce bookkeeping; however, partial payments can be accepted, with balance due by May 1, 2022. Full refund ONLY if cancelled by May 1, 2022 otherwise we can only refund the money that is returned to us from the suppliers.			**$_____**

Make checks payable to **1/7 MARINES** and return with this form **by APRIL 15, 2022** to Al LaPointe, 106 E Saddle Ln., Havelock, NC 28532. Ph: 252-447-4854, e-mail: aslapointe@ec.rr.com. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

Enclosed is $ _____ as payment for 1/7 2022 Reunion as ordered above.

Name(s) _____

Please **PRINT** and **include names of all attendees including guests - if child include age.**

Address _____City _____State_____Zip_____

Work Phone _____Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Unit in Nam_____ Dates in Nam_____ First Reunion: _____
(e.g., D Co., Corpsman D Co., etc.) yes or no

Please Note: Room reservations must be made directly with the Florida Hotel and Conference Center.

1st Bn 7th Marines 2022 Reunion PX

ON SALE NOW!

License Plates

Bumper Stickers

Foil Decals

Sizes and quantities are limited.

BLACK SWEATSHIRTS: embroidered logo on front with WHITE screen-printed logo on back and Semper Fi down both sleeves. Sizes range from LG to 3X.

RED SWEATSHIRTS: embroidered logo on front with YELLOW screen-printed logo on back and Semper Fi down both sleeves. Sizes range from LG to 3X.

POLO SHIRTS – RED shirt with embroidered 1/7 logo on front left chest. Sizes range from Med to 3X.

SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRT: RED with small YELLOW screen-printed logo front left chest and large screen-printed logo on back. Sizes range from Med to 3X.

LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT: RED with small YELLOW screen-printed logo front left chest and large screen-printed logo on back. Sizes range from Med to 3X.

RED CAP: Adjustable cap with 1st Bn 7th Marines embroidered and curved above a traditional EGA.

2022 1st Battalion 7th Marines Clothing Order Form

	DESCRIPTION	MED	LGE	XL	XXL	XXXL	TOTAL $
T-SHIRT RED	1/7 Association logo screened on front left side and center back.	$15.00	$15.00	$15.00	$20.00	$25.00	
POLO SHIRT RED	1/7 Association logo embroidered (Black & Gold) on the front left side.	$22.00	$22.00	$22.00	$25.00	$30.00	
LONG SHEEVE T-SHIRT RED	1/7 Association logo screened on the front left side and center back with Semper Fi down both sleeves	21.00	$21.00	$2100	$25.00	30.00	
SWEAT SHIRT BLACK /white RED/yellow	1/7 Association Logo embroidered on the left front and screened on the center back with Semper Fi down both sleeves.	**Size Not Available**	$25.00	$25.00	$28.00	30.00	**Black:** _____ **Red:** _____
COVER BALLCAP STYLE	Golf Cap Red with EGA and 1st Bn 7th Marines embroidered in black on front and adjustable fit strap.	12.00					
CHALLENGE COIN	2 sided diamond edge coin with the Association logo on one side and First Team shield on the other.	$15.00					
License Plates		$20.00 each	Gray		Red		
	1/7 Association Bumper Sticker (3x10)	$3.00 each 4/$10.00 Free Shipping					
	1/7 Association Foil Window Decal (4.5 in)	$3.00 each 4/$10.00 Free Shipping					
	1/7 Association Logo Embroidered patch Red Twil (3-inch circle)	$6.00 each Free Shipping					

SHIPPING FEE: Please add the amount that applies to your order. Do not include the cost of decals or bumper stickers or patch when figuring your shipping fee amount.	**Shipping Cost**	**Totals:**
Shipping for order **under** $25.00	15.00	
Shipping for order $25.01 - $100.00	$20.00	**Total Clothing Order $**
Shipping for order **over** $100.00	$25.00	**PLUS Shipping Fee $**
International rates will be determined at time of mailing and added to your total as necessary. Email for more details.		**Total Amount Due: $**

Please print
Name: _____

Address: _____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Phone_____ E-mail _____

Please make your check or money order payable to 1/7 Marines.
Mail to: **Al LaPointe, 106 East Saddle Lane, Havelock, NC, 28532-2938**

TAPS

Recently reported deaths among 1/7 Marines and Corpsmen.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE	SUFFIX	SERVICE	CO.	DATE OF DEATH
BEAM	JAMES	M		USMC	A	JULY 21, 2021
DEPAUL	KENNITH	JOHN		USMC	A	JULY 08, 2012
FAGAN	JIMMY	C		USMC	C	NOV 07, 2020
FALKENBURG	CHARLES	W		USN	H&S	NOV 04, 2018
FITZGERALD	EDWARD	FRANCIS		USMC	H&S	DEC 13, 2013
GILBERTSON	GAVIN			USMC	C	FEB 04, 2021
GRIFFIN	LEONARD	B		USN	H&S	JUNE 18, 2011
GRZONKA	RICHARD	R		USMC	D	NOV 10, 2016
HARRIS	EDDIE	D	JR		H&S	JUN 15, 2018
HAZELTON	WILLIAM	ROBERT		USMC	B	AUG 24, 2018
JONES	WAYNE			USMC	C	APR 03, 2021
KEATON	CALVIN	ANDREW	JR	USMC	B H&S	JAN 17, 2019
LITTLE	HAROLD	MICHAEL		USMC	A	MAR 13, 2021
LYONS	TERRY	L		USMC	D	JULY 3, 2021
MASON	WILLIAM	E		USMC	C	NOV 17, 1968
MODRZECKI	JOHN	E			H&S	JUN 22, 2019
PASSMORE	JAMES	WELSON		USN	H&S	JAN 06, 2018
PHARR	ALBERT	CURTIS		USMC	D	MAY 18, 2017
ROBERSON	JOHN			USMC	C	FEB 17, 2020
SMARTWOOD	RONALD	W		USMC	D	MAY 10, 2021
STUPKA	DAVID	M		USMC	C H&S	APR 22, 2020
YOST	JOHNATHAN	W		USMC	D	APR 12, 2018

Please remind your family members to notify us of your passing so that you can be listed in our taps section.