

# SITREP

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2013

LINK FOREVER THOSE WHO SERVED TOGETHER

NEWSLETTER OF THE



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## REMINDER!

- Dues are due in January each year
- Have you moved? Please send us your new info.
- Have you changed your email address? If you don't tell us we can't contact you.
- FRA Member Rosters can be ordered through the Supply Hooch for \$25.
- An electronic version (Adobe pdf) of the FRA Member Roster is also available at no charge.  
Send an email request to [CommChief@ForceRecon.com](mailto:CommChief@ForceRecon.com)



## Letter from your President

As we begin the 2013 New Year please accept my very best wishes to our Force Reconnaissance Association members, their families and loved ones for a healthy, happy, and successful New Year. Additionally, I want to convey a heartfelt **THANK YOU** and **WELCOME HOME** to each and every Force Recon, Recon, and MARSOC Marine who recently returned from their deployments. Your selflessness, courage, and Esprit de Corps continues to write the latest chapters in our most unique and fabled history.

Upon reflection, 2012 proved to be a year of “follow-up” and developmental actions for your FRA Board and Officers. I want to thank each of them for another successful year of moving the FRA to yet a higher professional level and for our continued partnerships with our active duty Force Recon, Recon, and MARSOC units. Additionally, I want to extend special appreciation to several individuals, beginning with Todd Smalenberg. With Todd's leadership, we now have a new FRA Memorial that is actually in duplicate form which permits us to keep a

version of the Memorial on each coast. This duplicate wall allows the FRA to save several hundreds of dollars in shipping charges each year depending on where our annual reunion is being planned. Next, I want to acknowledge Lance Woodburn, who volunteered for the thankless job of building formal standard operating procedures (“SOP's”) for our key Board and Officer positions. Through Lance's efforts, we now have Board approved SOP's for the Executive Director position and Board Secretary position. To my knowledge, this is the first time the FRA has ever published formal duties for any key roles in the organization. Hopefully, we can complete the Treasurer SOP's and the President and Vice President SOP's in the coming year. Next, I must recognize our newest Board Member, MSGT Dave Jarvis, who personally took the lead to arrange for the FRA's on-site observation of a multi-level parachute exercise, and a lunch and ‘open house’ with the Marines of Force Recon Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Recon Battalion, during our last Reunion in San Diego. Dave jumped “into the breach” as they say when a bureaucratic ‘snafu’ cancelled out one of our scheduled events at Camp Pendleton. Finally, I would be remiss in not recognizing MAC and Steve Luebbert for their daily operational oversight and management of the

FRA. If you happen to engage any of these individuals please convey your thanks. I know they would appreciate your acknowledgement.

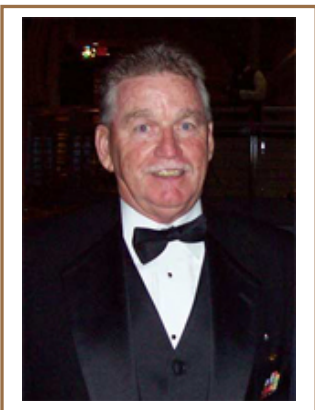
On the Scholarship front we awarded 17 Scholarships totaling \$36,250.00 in cash awards for 2012, and we currently have a combined balance of \$270,311.23 for both our Scholarship and Assistance Funds as of the date of this report.

As we move into 2013, the Board and Officers will focus on completing several of the activities I discussed previously, as well as supporting MAC with his efforts to orchestrate our next annual reunion focused on Camp Lejeune. MAC has additional details in the Executive Director's Report. Another event that we are extremely excited about is the Recon Challenge. While we did support the 2012 Challenge, we hope to play a more significant role in the 2013 event, and several of our current Board members, namely, Moe Pau, Joe Robinson, and Dave Jarvis are actively involved in planning this event already.

Another very important item of business that will be upon us before we know it is the nomination and election of new Board officers. It's never too early to start planning, and I want to remind our members that my term as President, as well as the entire Executive Board (i.e., Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) all expires as of the 2013 Annual Reunion and meeting. **In the near future, Vice President, Jim Doner, will send a communication on the nomination process for these offices should you be interested in running for one of these Board positions, or if you would like to nominate an individual for one of the offices.**

In closing, I want to acknowledge those members who lost their lives this past year. I am humbly grateful to have known several of our recently fallen members, and I will revere their memories. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Semper Fidelis,  
*Al Sniadecki*  
FRA President



## Letter from your EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Let me start by wishing all of you and your families, a very pleasant and peaceful NEW YEAR. The past year has been a very eventful one for our Association, as has been mentioned by our President Al SNIADOCKI. The entire BOARD of DIRECTORS of the Association has worked tirelessly to assure that the FRA moves to the next level, and we have been fortunate enough to have a younger generation and 'new breed' of RECON MARINES, step into positions on the BOARD. This will insure that our Association moves into the future in very capable hands.

The dues invoices for 2013 have already started to return and I want to personally THANK each and every one of you who helped us to make the necessary changes to our database. It is extremely important that we stay in contact with all of our members and having their correct contact information helps us in that endeavor. As I have mentioned in a past SITREP, we need to have a clear picture of our membership's

veteran status for IRS purposes. It would be very helpful to us if any changes in your personal contact information are sent to us as soon as possible.

Our last reunion was a success, THANKS to the capable assistance of the FORCE RECON MARINES assigned to help the FRA with the reunion plans. I am personally THANKFUL for the initiative and quick thinking of MSGT. DAVE JARVIS. When the previously planned event changed at the last minute, he pulled together a plan and made our trip to Camp Pendleton a very enjoyable and memorable occasion. I owe him plenty believe me.

I have already started to make arrangements for our next annual reunion. The location of the RECON 2013 reunion was decided at our BOARD MEETING during our last reunion. It will take place in WILMINGTON, NC. The dates will be 14 through 17 AUGUST 2013. We will be holding the reunion at the HILTON WILMINGTON RIVERSIDE. The hotel's phone number to make reservations is [910] 763 5900. We are still in the planning process pertaining to the events that will be available for membership participation. A trip to Camp Le Jeune will more than likely be one of those events. The RECON MARINES at Camp Le Jeune, have already begun to make plans for a very eventful visit by the FRA. It is always a great pleasure for our membership to be among our active duty MARINES. When all of the events are finalized, they will be posted on our website.

We will be holding our reception on FRIDAY evening, the 16<sup>th</sup> of AUGUST. And our GENERAL MEETING, luncheons and Scholarship Auction will be held on SATURDAY the 17<sup>th</sup> of AUGUST. We made these changes at the last reunion in San Diego and found that our members had more flexibility to arrange earlier traveling plans. More information concerning the 2013 RECON REUNION will be posted on our FRA website, [WWW.FORCERECON.COM](http://WWW.FORCERECON.COM).

Last May, Major ANDY CHRISTIAN invited both Al SNIADACKI and I to attend a reception for the establishment of the MARSOC FOUNDATION. Andy and many MARSOC MARINES are members of the FRA. The FOUNDATION was founded to assist MARSOC MARINES and the families of those MARINES, who were either severely wounded or killed while serving in combat. The FOUNDATION is already in very capable hands and has made very substantial progress to attain its goals. It will certainly be of great benefit to those they wish to assist. I want to personally wish them luck in all of their endeavors supporting our MARINES.

As we find ourselves in a new year, I am certain that each and every one of us will reflect on all of the sacrifices made by our service people. I pray that they are watched over and that they all return home to their families safely.

To each and every one of you, I fervently wish you a very pleasant and peaceful New Year.

***SEMPER FIDELIS!!!!!!!!!!***

JIM MCKEE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
FORCE RECON ASSOCIATION, USMC

## Letter from your Treasurer



To the Board of Directors and the members of the Force Recon Association:

Below are the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss statement for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012. They reflect our financial position as of 9/30/12 and what transpired during the fiscal year. These financials were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and are a compilation of information provided to me by the respective persons who have fiduciary responsibility for their cost center. Any questions regarding the FRA financials should be directed to me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elliot "JJ" Rubenfeld Treas.  
Fra# 1161

## Balance Sheet

### FORCE RECON ASSOCIATION Balance Sheet As of September 30, 2012

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	9,085.00
Bank Of America A/C	18,535.93
SCHOLARSHIP LARGE CAP	1,754.21
SCHOLARSHIP MMF	107,322.72
SCHOLARSHIP TAXABLE BONDS	185,975.17
Total Checking/Savings	322,673.03
Other Current Assets	
INVENTORY	6,555.00
Total Other Current Assets	6,555.00
Total Current Assets	329,228.03
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	
<b>329,228.03</b>	
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
ACCRUED LIAB	36,250.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	36,250.00
Total Current Liabilities	36,250.00
Long Term Liabilities	
DEFERRED GAINS(LOSS)	19,613.34
Total Long Term Liabilities	19,613.34
Total Liabilities	55,863.34
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	48,901.00
Retained Earnings	240,698.73
Net Income	-16,235.04
Total Equity	273,364.69
Total Liabilities & EQUITY	329,228.03

## Profit & Loss

### FORCE RECON ASSOCIATION Profit & Loss October 2011 through September 2012

<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
Income	
Donation Income	
Unrestricted	790.00
Donation Income - Other	2,915.00
Total Donation Income	3,705.00
Membership Dues	
MEMORABILIA SALES	5,006.25
RECON-2011	500.00
RECON-2012	16,692.23
SCHOLARSHIP INCOME	10,085.00
Total Income	64,858.48
Expense	
Automobile Expense	373.09
Bank Service Charges	30.00
Contributions	3,000.00
Insurance	
Liability Insurance	1,050.00
Total Insurance	1,050.00
Mem.purchases	4,705.39
memorabilia shipping	1,690.31
Miscellaneous	3,323.08
Office Supplies	2,715.87
Professional Fees	
Legal Fees	734.00
Total Professional Fees	734.00
RECON 2011	1,001.00
RECON 2012	22,278.03
SATELLITE	768.76
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS	36,250.00
SCHOLARSHIP EXPENSES	838.79
Telephone	950.30
Travel & Ent	
auto	1,274.84
Travel	2,818.55
Total Travel & Ent	4,093.39
Utilities	
Gas and Electric	410.00
Total Utilities	410.00
Total Expense	84,212.01
Net Ordinary Income	-19,353.53
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	3,118.49
Total Other Income	3,118.49
Net Other Income	3,118.49
Net Income	-16,235.04

## 2013 Membership Criteria

### Annual Dues - \$40

#### Regular Members:

Regular Members include all officers and enlisted members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America or her Allies who are now serving, or who have served, with any Force Reconnaissance Company, Regular or Reserve, Marine Division Reconnaissance Battalions, Regular or Reserve, Amphibious Reconnaissance units between 1943 and 1958, and MARSOC (Marine Special Operations Command), Test Unit One, and Special Mission Units. Only Regular Members shall have voting rights and serve as officers or on the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

#### Associate Members:

Associate Members include civilians and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and Allies who do not meet the "Regular Member" requirements as stipulated above, but who did make a significant contribution to the development of, or advancement to, operational procedures or techniques inherent in Force Reconnaissance operations or who made a valuable and unique contribution to either operational Force Reconnaissance units or to the Corporation. Associate Members do not have voting rights and may not serve as officers or on the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

## TAPs and Remembrance



Eugene "Gene" Kamp FRA# 1695 Died 29 Nov 2011

Robert Zweiner FRA# 365 Died 3 Jan 2012

Priscilla "Snooks" Campbell Died 11 Apr 2012  
wife of MGySgt Charlie Campbell USMC (ret) FRA# 405

Neil "Solly" Solomon FRA# 2918 Died 29 Apr 2012

Edwin D. "Ed" Miller FRA# 26 Died 10 Jun 2012

George H. Douse FRA# 917 Died 20 Jun 2012

SgtMaj I. V. Long USMC(ret) Died 23 Dec 2012



You Will Be Missed and Never Forgotten.



## Back Page Info

### About Our Organization...

The Force Recon Association Inc (FRA) was formally established on 21 September 1989, as a non-profit fraternal veterans association, in accordance with provisions of Section 501(c)19 of the United States Internal Revenue Code. Our mission and our motto is "Link Forever Those Who Served Together"

The FRA strives to maintain and foster fellowship, comradeship and perpetuate the ideals and professionalism between and among its members and the members of our reconnaissance units, whether Force or Battalion Recon, Regular of Reserve.

We welcome both individual and corporate donors to contribute to our FRA Scholarship Fund and the FRA Assistance Fund. For more information regarding either of these Funds or to make a contribution, please contact the Chairman of the Scholarship and Assistance Funds via the Commchief@forcerecon.com

Founders: Patrick "Pat" J. Ryan; Thomas "Tom" L. Gibson; and Ernie "Gunny" DeFazio (Deceased).

### Board of Directors and Officers: 2011 - 2013

Al Sniadecki  
President

Jim Doner  
Vice President

Elliot (JJ) Rubenfeld  
Treasurer

Todd Smalenberg  
Secretary

Jim McKee  
Executive Director

Stephen Luebbert  
Communications Chief

Mario Pau  
Director

Dave Jarvis  
Director

Chad Ramsey  
Director

Joe Robinson  
Director

Lance Woodburn  
Director



Force Recon Association  
P.O. Box 111000  
Carrollton, TX 75011

Executive Director's

(413) 339-4346

Hooch Order Forms at:  
[www.forcerecon.com](http://www.forcerecon.com)

Info to the CommChief  
Stephen Luebbert send to:  
Commchief@Forcerecon.com

FRA Scholarship Info:  
See FRA Web Site

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.ForceRecon.com](http://www.ForceRecon.com)

CUSTOMER NAME  
STREET ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE, 00000  
LABEL HERE

