

SITREP

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LINK FOREVER THOSE WHO SERVED TOGETHER

NEWSLETTER OF THE

FORCE RECON



ASSOCIATION
U.S. MARINE CORPS

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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.
- An electronic version (Adobe pdf) of the FRA Member Roster is also available at no charge. Send an email request to CommChief@ForceRecon.com



Letter from your President

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – August 2018

The month of August commemorates several historically significant events for our Nation and especially our Veterans. August 1st is now designated "Air Force Day", and on August 4th, we recognize the founding of the United States Coast Guard. On August 14, 1945, the Japanese signed formal surrender documents ending WWII. For those of us designated "jumpers", August 16th is recognized as National Airborne Day. On August 7 we recognize two very important memorials. First, we officially acknowledge the start of the Vietnam War in 1964. Second, we commemorate the establishment of the "Purple Heart Medal (1782). I personally believe that those of us who have served our Nation's military have a sacred obligation to remember and honor those of our Brothers and Sisters who have given their lives in the defense of our Nation and our liberty, as well as those who suffer physical and psychological wounds of combat. I am reminded of a saying that I first heard in Vietnam: "For those who have fought for it, freedom has a flavor the protected never taste." Our FRA Veteran community continues to honor our fallen Recon Warriors through our charities, through our support of the Recon Challenge and through our annual FRA reunion. For the first time at this year's FRA reunion, we were honored to host two of our wounded Brothers: SSgt Jonathon Blank and Corporal Todd Love. I hope we can host both of you again at Reunion 2019 on the East Coast.

For our Brothers and Sisters in uniform today we extend a grateful "welcome home" to our Reconnaissance Marines, MARSOC Marines and Corpsmen returning from deployments, and to those still 'in the fight', we offer our prayers and best wishes for your safe return. Semper Fidelis!

2018 FRA REUNION – San Diego/Camp Pendleton

The 2018 FRA Reunion proved to be yet another memorable experience for those in attendance as well as being a reunion of "firsts" in several respects. This was the "first" FRA Reunion planned and executed by 'Team Jarvis', namely, our Executive Director, Dave Jarvis, supported by his life partner, Tina Jarvis. It was wonderful to see over 100 members and active duty Marines fill our Memorial Dinner this year. Since I can't award Dave and Tina a Navy Comm or Navy Achievement for their outstanding mission accomplishment, I can convey the sincere appreciation of all of us in attendance for a flawless reunion combined for the first time with the Recon Challenge at Camp Pendleton. Additionally, I want to thank Major Jonathan Schillo, commanding officer of RTC, and MSgt Jonathan Rosenberg for their leadership of the 2018 Recon Challenge.

2018 FRA Scholarship Applications Closed for 2018

Applications for the 2018 FRA Scholarships closed July 1, 2018. **“Fully completed Application packages must be received by July 1st in order to be considered for that calendar year.”** Again, I want to express my continued appreciation to Wayne Lingenfelter and Lance Woodburn of our Scholarship Committee for their efforts and diligence in selecting our scholarship awardees. We will announce the 2018 FRA Scholarship awards in September. For further information, the full FRA Scholarship Application package is available on the FRA website at www.forcerecon.com.

2018 FRA Board Elections

I am extremely pleased to announce that the following members have been elected to the 2018-2020 Board of Directors: Collin Barry (new), Billy Branch (reelected), Cody Carroll (new), Cory Paskvan (new), and Pat Zuber (reelected). Additionally, the FRA membership voted to make both the Executive Director and Communications Chief elected Board positions. As such, David Jarvis was elected Executive Director and Steve Luebbert was elected as Communications Chief. Finally, Jim McGaughey has agreed to assume the duties of Treasurer from Halsey Green and was formally voted upon by the Board on 13 June 2018. Thank you to Halsey for his years of service to the FRA and for manning the position until a suitable replacement could be found. Also, I must convey my deepest appreciation to Lance Woodburn who stepped down from the FRA Board this year. As I best recall, Lance has served the last seven or eight consecutive years and was our expert parliamentarian and advisor on California nonprofit regulations. I am happy to report that Lance has agreed to continue his service as a member of the Scholarship Committee along with Wayne Lingenfelter. Again, congratulations to both the returning and new Board members! Thank you in advance for supporting our FRA Brotherhood and I look forward to working with each of you in the next two years.

Finally, the position of FRA Board Secretary remains open. If you are interested in serving in this key Board position, and you are a member “in good standing” please send me an email and I will send you the SOP (job description) for the position. Thank you in advance for your interest!

Major 2018 FRA Initiatives

The FRA Board has approved funding for two very important initiatives to be implemented during the remainder of 2018. The first initiative involves revising/updating the FRA website and using a third party to host the site.

Our Comm Chief, Steve Luebbert, has served for over twenty(?) years as the sole ‘point man’ and manager of our data operations/website/Facebook/mass emails/ and anything else having to do with keeping our records up to date and keeping our members apprised of important FRA news. Steve will continue to serve in an IT advisory role as well as continuing to provide database services.

The second initiative involves implementation of “PayPal” as a payment methodology for our members. Once established, members will be able to pay their dues, registrations, and make donations via this option. We will announce each of these initiatives upon completion.

In closing, I want extend my appreciation to the many individuals in our Recon Family who created the successful reunion and Recon Challenge this year; especially John Schillo and his staff, our Executive Director, Dave Jarvis and his partner, Tina, my partner, Sara, Halsey Green, Pat Zuber, and Paul Clifford for their support, and for allowing us to store gear at their harborsites, and to all who attended, donated, and contributed to our charity auction. I hope to see you all on the East Coast next year. As always.... Semper Fidelis!

Al Sniadecki, President



A Message from your Executive Director

2018 Recon Challenge

At 0400 on 17 May, the 10th Annual Recon Challenge kicked off at San Onofre Beach, aboard Camp Pendleton, California. 25, two man Recon teams, began by breaking surf with a 50 lb ruck, and finning 1,000 meters, in the Pacific Ocean. Upon completion, the teams set out to maneuver over 24 miles, throughout the mountainous terrain, negotiating a variety of obstacles and employing a variety

of weapons systems. The Challenge tests the competitors mental, physical, tactical and technical reconnaissance skill sets. For the last 10 years, our community has come together, both as competitors and as spectators. All are dedicated, to those Men who are no longer with us, but continue to provide “over watch” from above. This year was the first time, for many of our Members to see the Men in action. Again, thanks to our Members, our Association was able to contribute \$1,500, for food and beverages, for competitors and spectators.

The top three Recon Challenge teams were recognized, in a formal ceremony, following the event. The 2018 Recon Challenge finishers;

1st place: GySgt Joshua Kovar and Sgt Gabriel Gillespi from 3rd Recon Bn.

2nd place: Maj William Willis and MGySgt Cory Paskvan from 2nd Recon Bn.

3rd place: SSgt Joel Dumbacher and LCpl Michael Nowak from 2nd Recon Bn.

More information and photos can be found at <https://www.forcerecon.com>.



2018 Recon Reunion Highlights

What a reunion! I am so thrilled that we had the opportunity to incorporate the Recon Challenge as one of this year's excursions. I would like to see our West Coast reunion continue to align with this event, every other year. My wife Tina and I had a wonderful time visiting all those in attendance. I would like to acknowledge and thank the following:

-Al and Sara Sniadecki for being right by our side throughout the entire process. Coordinating a reunion is definitely a team effort.

-To all the Members who contributed to our Annual Auction. We had some really unique and wonderful personal items donated.

-To all our sponsors who contributed to our Auction, and those who were able to join us for our Memorial Dinner.

-Chris May (MGySgt, Ret.) for inviting us to partake in the Warrior Night, at Camp Talega. It was great to see so many Veterans, Active Duty Marines, and Sailors in attendance.

-All the Marines and Sailors who supported the Recon Challenge. It takes well over 100 people to ensure the event is conducted in a safe and smooth manner.

-The Staff of the MCRD Museum. They welcomed us with open arms and went above and beyond ensuring a great tour. They have truly done an outstanding job of renovating the Museum. I encourage those who have not been there to swing by and take the tour. The Museum has a wall dedicated to Reconnaissance Men, and by the way, is looking for additional photos to display. If you would like to contribute a photo, please contact Barbara McCurtis (Museum Director) at 619-524-6719.

-Finally, the Staff at the Holiday Inn Bayside. One of the reasons that keep us coming back to this establishment is the service, quality of food, and the wonderful hospitality.

Our culminating event this year was the Memorial Dinner. We had approximately 115 Members, Family, Friends, and Active Duty Service Members in attendance. It was a wonderful time to come together, share camaraderie and honor our Fallen Brothers. Captain Cody Carroll was our Guest of Honor and delivered a memorable, sincere, heartfelt speech.

Our next Reunion is targeted to take place in September 2019, in Camp Lejeune, NC and its surrounding areas. More details of this event will be posted in 2019.

May you all have a wonderful and memorable summer. Semper Fidelis, Dave Jarvis



**FORCE RECON ASSOCIATION
Profit & Loss**

October 2017 through March 2018

10:11 AM

05/16/2018

Accrual Basis

Oct '17 - Mar 18

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Auction	570.00
Donations	1,150.00
Membership Dues	18,240.00
Reunion Fees	4,760.00

Total Income 24,720.00

Expense

FRA Activities

Reunion Expenses 3,061.13

Total FRA Activities 3,061.13

Operations

Assistance Expense	1,000.00
Bank Service Charges	149.75
Computer Repairs	323.83
Liability Insurance D&O, Crime	1,712.00
Memorabilia purchases	1,963.40
Office Supplies	307.78
Postage and Delivery	268.53
Tele-Conference Expense	56.67

Total Operations 5,781.96

Scholarship Expenses

Shot Show 1,543.07

Total Scholarship Expenses 1,543.07

Travel & Ent

Auto Fuel	102.33
Auto Rental	1,004.23
Meals	852.29

Total Travel & Ent 1,958.85

Total Expense 12,345.01

Net Ordinary Income 12,374.99

Other Income/Expense

Other Income

Interest Income 3,452.30

Total Other Income 3,452.30

Other Expense

Ask My Account 0.00

Total Other Expense 0.00

Net Other Income 3,452.30

Net Income 15,827.29

OPERATION DATA CLEANUP:

Please help us Update your Information!!!!

We need your help with updating our FRA membership database. When many of our members signed up with the FRA, the information provided was incomplete...especially relative to full service dates. Many of our Vietnam and preVietnam Veterans provided service dates for only the time they served in a Recon unit. We have many members who served more than one enlistment and many who retired from the military, but our information is incomplete. **Please take the time to complete the information below and email back to**

**Commchief@forcerecon.com or mail it back to
FRA, P.O. BOX 111000, Carrollton, TX 75011.**

NAME: _____

FRA MEMBER #: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: (print clearly) _____

PLEASE PROVIDE ALL DATES SERVED IN THE MILITARY AND THE BRANCH OF SERVICE (FOR EXAMPLE: USMC: 5/1966-2/1969, OR USMC:1957-59 AND ARMY 1960-1891). IF EXACT DATES ARE NOT KNOWN, USE YEARS ONLY.

PLEASE PROVIDE UNIT NAMES AND SERVICE DATES FOR ALL MARINE RECON UNITS YOU SERVED WITH (FOR EXAMPLE: 5TH FORCE RECON 10/1966-11/67, 3RD FORCE RECON 12/1967 -1/1969, 3RD RECON BN 2/1969-4/1971). IF EXACT DATES ARE NOT KNOWN, USE YEARS ONLY.

2018 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, 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



Colonel Wesley L. Fox USMC (ret) FRA# 68

Died 24 NOV 2017

John Michael Lynch FRA# 2546

Died 23 MAR 2018

Lt. Colonel J.H. "Pat" Carothers USMC (ret) FRA# 70

Died 16 APR 2018



You Will Be Missed and Never Forgotten.



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

**Send Hooch Orders to:
FRA Supply Hooch
Closed until further notice**

**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

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 or 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: 2018-2020

Al Sniadecki
President

Paul Clifford
Vice President

Vacant
Secretary

James McGaughey III
Treasurer

David Jarvis
Executive Director

Steve Luebbert
Communications Chief

Collin Barry
Director

Billy Branch
Director

Cody Carroll
Director

Cory Paskvan
Director

Patrick Zuber
Director

**CUSTOMER NAME
STREET ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, 00000
LABEL HERE**

