

Information For And About Members Of The First Marine Aircraft Wing Association – Vietnam Service http://firstmaw.homestead.com



HAPPY 245th BIRTDAY MARINES



President Bernie LaPira

Vice President Bill Walden

Secretary Al Frater

Treasurer Jerry Sergeant



Christmas at Khe Sahn

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Marines of the 1st MAW Association-Vietnam Service

Hope this finds you all well and safe.

The year 2020 has been a year none of us will ever forget. Covid-19, shut downs and lockdowns, civil unrest, a presidential election, and sickness and far too many deaths from Covid-19 and it still is affecting all of us.

I and other members of the Board decided for the good of our organization to postpone the June 2021 reunion at Pensacola Beach. Our former past president, Paco emailed me with his concerns for this and we decided it was appropriate to postpone the reunion.

It looks like we will have to wait until 2022 to have our next reunion. The only way to do it safely is to have a vaccine that is effective and safe.

Please log in to our website to see the updates, photos, and newsletters in the Scoop. Thank you, Jerry, our treasurer, and Diana, for doing such an outstanding job.

Claudette and I wish all of you to be safe and vigilant during this pandemic.

Semper Fi Bernie LaPira, President

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

DUES RENEWALS Membership Renewals

Membership Renewals

Just a reminder to annual members, your dues are now due every January. Please help our association save postage and mail expense by sending in your \$25.00 renewal dues now.

Mail in your check payable to: 1st MAW Vietnam Service, c/o Jerry Sergeant, 6321 Auburn Ave Bradenton, FL 34207

Any additional questions regarding membership may also be directed to the above address or emailed to: jleesarge@hotmail.com

Jerry Sergeant
Treasury and acting Membership Chairman

ELECTRONIC SCOOP

The Electronic Scoop list is growing. Any other members who desires to receive their "Scoop" electronically in order to reduce mailing and publishing costs please contact Al Frater at teanal@optonline.net and please cc Frank Arce at frankpaco69@aol.com. Those members who have requested an electronic SCOOP will be removed from the mailing list as requested.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED - UPDATE

Volunteers are always welcomed for Veterans day at the wall. For those who live near Quantico VA and the National Museum of the Marine Corps The Heritage Foundation is seeking tour Guides for the Museum. Training will be provided. Contact the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation at 703-640-7965..

PX

Check out our PX page If anyone wants something let us know. Contact Al Frater at teanal@optonline.net for 201-906-1197 for information.

1st MAW NOW ON FACEBOOK

We are now moving to the modern age and have a Group on FACEBOOK. If you are a FACEBOOK user please join our Group. at "First Marine Air wing Association - Vietnam Service". If you are not a FACEBOOK member, join FACEBOOK and our Group. Information and photos will continue to be posted on our group. Please post any pictures or comments on our group.

Article for Scoop Membership:

I have been busy working on the data files for membership over the last several months. As a result of those efforts I have been able to also update our Website Locator pages with all current "active members".

What are active members? These are members who are either "Regular" (annual paying) and the "Life" members who have correct and current mailing addresses.

There is one other group of members that are labeled as the "inactive members". These are the members who have not paid their dues in two (2) consecutive years, or have bad addresses where correspondence has been returned, bad email addresses and bad phone numbers. Simply put we are unable to contact them.

To retain members with the least expense to the association, the mail label attached to your Scoop newsletter will now include a "valid to date" after your last name.

Look for date that your Annual membership is valid to, or the date 1/1/2099 which represents "Life" members.

If the date on your mail label is past due, mail in your payment now and thank you.

Annual membership expires on December 31st of each year. Which means your dues need to be paid by at least January 1st.

Annual dues are \$25.00, (which has not changed since day one). Dues checks should be made payable to: First Marine Aircraft Wing Assoc. Vietnam Service, and then mailed to: First Marine Aircraft Wing Assoc. VN Service, C/O Treasurer, Jerry Sergeant, 6321 Auburn Ave., Bradenton, FL 34207

If you have any other questions please call me, Jerry Sergeant at 989-992-6809 or send an email listing the subject as "1st MAW" to: jleesarge@hotmail.com

Semper Fi, Jerry Sergeant, Treasurer and Membership Chairman

Website Page

FirstMAW.Homestead.com

Check out our website, we have updated numerous items on the familiar site and still have several more things to add. To reach the webpage just type in your search bar: first-maw.homestead.com

Thanks to all who have sent in the recent reunion photos, we will soon get another hundred or so up on the site.

We are also asking that you look at the "Locator" section and make sure that your information is listed correctly. Remember the Locator will only list current active members, meaning paid up dues.

Be sure to check the "Last Call Roster" (in the locator section) and if you notice a member that you know has passed, and they are not listed please contact me. The only way that we become informed of a deceased member is via a spouse or family contact. Your assistance here will be extremely helpful.

Just call or email me with what ever details that you can provide, 989-992-6809 or email, <u>jleesarge@hotmail.com</u> use a subject line as "1st MAW"

Semper Fi, Jerry Sergeant



Bellau Woods
On the anniversary of the battle of Belleau Wood which was on June 26 here are some shots of the Marines and the memorial at the battlefield in France





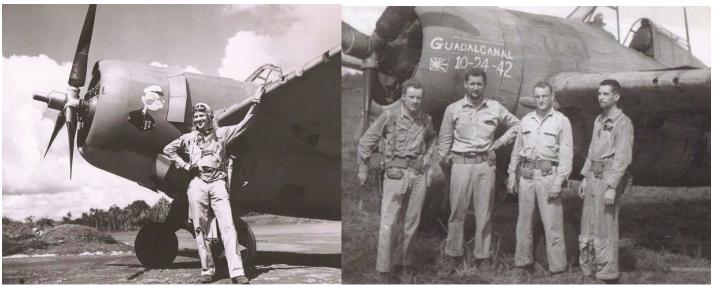






Happy 100th Year for Marine Pilot Sam Folsom By Al Frater

I formerly worked with Sam on the USS Intrepid until he turned 97 and had to move to California near his son. Each day he worked he rode his bike from 96th Street to the Intrepid. He turned 100 in July. His story was written up in the July issue od Leatherneck Magazine. Here are some photos.



Sam Folsom and his F4F-4 Wildcat on Faeloa in American Samoa. The nose art, painted by Folsom, shows the cartoon character

Above: A hangar on Henderson Field billows smoke after a Japanese bombardment, September 1942.Left: Sam Folsom, far left, stands in front of an F4F Wildcat with other aviators of the Cactus Air Force on Guadalcanal





A Marine on Guadalcanal digs a trench to provide some protection from the Japanese bombardment of the island.

REUNION 2021

We were planning the next reunion for 2021 in Pensacola Beach in the Hampton INN. Due to the Pandemic we are still not sure when we can do it. Probably in 2022. More details will follow as we get closer.



PX

We now have available Auto window stickers. Anyone interested in purchasing them you can either contact me at 201-907-1197 or email me at teanal@optonline.net or send a check to

Al Frater 524 Sagamore Ave Teaneck NJ 07666

For all other items contact Frank Arce



Two for \$5.00 Contact Al Frater





Coins \$10.00



All Covers atr \$15.00 they come in Black, Blue, and Green





First Marine Aircraft Wing Association – Vietnam Service 6321 Auburn Ave Bradenton, FL 34207

We are a fraternal organization of Marines and others who were attached to or supported First MAW units serving in the Vietnam War. The organization was founded in 1986 and incorporated as a not-for-profit entity in New York State in 1988. Our purpose is to reunite members of the First MAW either through scheduled reunions or by means of our newsletter, web site, or other various functions. The organization strives to disseminate information about our history as well as about legislation, entitlements, and welfare involving First MAW members.