



Issue 39

*Information For And About Members Of The First  
Marine Aircraft Wing Association – Vietnam Service*  
www.1stmaw.com

Fall 2011



Our Own Dave Hugel a constant contributor to the Scoop receiving the Carlton Sherwood Media Award



FEB • 66

Avionics Crew  
Courtesy of Pop-A-Smoke

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Christmas at Khe Sahn  
Courtesy of Pop-A-Smoke

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**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ...**



Semper Fi Marines !

As we quickly approach Reunion 2011 in Washington , DC , I hope that all have made their reservations . Our deadline for our \$ 99 rate is Sept. 14 . The hotel is completely full , except for our rooms . In the past members have waited until the last minute and lost the opportunity to assemble with our comrades in arms . As one of only a few that have been to every reunion , I have had the pleasure of seeing reunions within our reunion . Those moments are unbelievable and once in a lifetime ! We must also submit candidates for our association board . It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your association president . I have always wanted to do what was best for our association and will continue to do that to the best of my ability . Having retired last week , I can now spend more time making sure that all is done as only a marine can do it . I have already made the key contact for our Reunion 2013 in New Orleans at The Embassy Suite's . For Those that attended Reunion 2003 in New Orleans , We remember a great reunion and hope that The next one will be bigger and better !

Hope to see many of our members and family , both new and old lifetime friends real Soon !!!!!

Semper Fi  
Frank Paco Arce  
Association President



## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

### DUES RENEWALS

Please send in your yearly dues of \$25.00. Send them to:

First Marine Aircraft Wing Association—Vietnam Service  
c/o Wayne Cook—Membership  
19605 SE 23rd Street  
Sammamish, WA 98075

Any questions contact Wayne Cook 425-313-0348 or wayco@comcast.net. Subject should say First maw.

### 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 Wayne Cook at wayco@comcast.net and please cc Frank Arce at frankpaco69@aol.com and Al Frater at teanal@optonline.net. THE SCOOP CAN BE ACCESSED FROM THE WEB SITE **WWW.1stMAW.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..

### LOCATOR LIST

There is now an updated locator list. Anyone that sees someone they want to contact, then they need to email Wayne Cook at wayco@comcast.net or call him at 425-313-0348 and he will send the information to that person to contact them.

### PX

We have removed the PX page from this issue due to some price changes and that we were getting very few inquiries. However if you want to order any 1st MAW stuff please call Wayne Cook 425-313-0348 or email him at **wayco@comcast.net**

### NEW WEB PAGE URL

Our WEB page is now accessed at **WWW.1stmaw.com**. This will make it easier to remember and it will be continually worked on to make it better.

### 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. Any member may also post comments and photos.

## Semper Fidelis Memorial Park Pathways Honor Marines Who Served Their Country

By David H. Hugel

Located in the rolling hills adjacent to the National Museum of the Marine Corps and the Semper Fidelis Chapel, just outside the main gate of MCB Quantico, Semper Fidelis Memorial Park Pathways was dedicated in a ceremony last spring.

Marine Corps Heritage Foundation President, Lt. Gen. Ron Christmas, USMC Ret. presided over the mid-April dedication ceremony, which featured the MCB Color Guard and Quantico Marine Corps Band. Speakers included Lt. Gen. Frank Panther, representing Marine Corps Commandant Gen. James Amos, and MCHF Chairman, retired Marine General Walter Boomer.

Semper Fidelis Memorial Park Pathways consists of 1.1 miles of five separate concrete walking trails, lined with more than 17,000 commemorative bricks dedicated to Marines who have served or currently serve their country. In addition to the statues of "Iron Mike" and Lt. Gen. John A. Lejeune that flank the Memorial Park Pathways entrance, twenty monuments or unit memorials honoring numerous Marine Corps units and those who died while serving their country are positioned at various points along the pathway.

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation provided critical financial support for building the National Museum of the Marine Corps, and Semper Fidelis Memorial Park Pathways. For information on how you can join the Heritage Foundation support an expansion of the Museum over the next several years, contact its web site [www.marineheritage.org](http://www.marineheritage.org). To commemorate your service or to honor a relative, former comrade or friend you can purchase a brick along one of the many Memorial Park Pathways surrounding the museum. Details can be found by visiting the Foundation's website [www.marineheritage.org](http://www.marineheritage.org) under the heading "Get Involved," sub heading "Engraved Bricks."



The Quantico Marine Band plays for the distinguished guests attending the April 14, 2011 Dedication of the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park Pathways. Marine Corps Heritage Foundation President, Lt. Gen. Ron Christmas, who presided over the ceremony can be seen standing on the right of the photo.



The Quantico Marine Base Color Guard "Presents the Colors" at the Dedication of the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park Pathways. The Fallen Warriors memorial can be seen next to the Color Guard along the walkway.



Memorials honoring Marines who died while serving in aviation units in Vietnam are among those along the Semper Fidelis Memorial Pathways. The Ugly Angles, HMM- 362 and Purple Foxes, HMM-364 are the first two units erecting memorials to their fallen comrades.



A statue of former Commandant Lt. Gen John A. Lejeune stands at one end of the entrance to the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park between the National Museum of the Marine Corps and the pathways leading to the Semper Fidelis Chapel.



The entrance to the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park lined with bricks honoring Marines who have served their country with an overlook of the museum bearing the motto coined by Gen. Lejeune, "Once a Marine, Always a Marine"



Iron Mike, the statue of a WWI Marine, greets visitors as they walk toward the entrance of Semper Fidelis Memorial Park and Pathways from the national Museum of the Marine Corps parking lot.



The Bar on the Beach memorial is dedicated to Marines who fought in the Pacific during WWII.

## Vietnam Veterans Memorial to Mark 30th Anniversary in 2012

By David H. Hugel\*

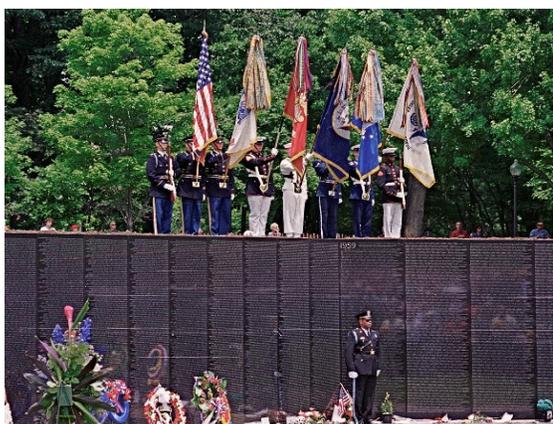
Situated on a two-acre site on Washington's Mall near the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (VVM) designed by Maya Ying Lynn, a 21 year old Yale University architecture student, has, since its dedication in November 1982, become one of the most visited tourist destination in our Nation's Capital's. It is also the site of ceremonies honoring those killed during the Vietnam War each Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Those who have participated in the ceremonies include a long list of government and, military officials, civic leaders, and Vietnam veteran groups, as well as special tributes by members of the entertainment industry.

The First Marine Aircraft Wing Association - Vietnam Service has been active in honoring our comrades who died in Vietnam since the association's earliest days. According to founder and long-time 1<sup>st</sup> MAW Association president Rob Waters, the association was founded in 1988 and since then its members have regularly participated in both Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies. In recalling how the tradition began, Waters said: "We decided to keep it simple, with a couple of traditions; laying a wreath at the WALL two times a year." A banner on the wreath traditionally reads, "You are not forgotten - 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Air Wing."

There were originally 58,175 names engraved on the VVM; however, additional names are added periodically as new information becomes available. With the addition of five new names to the VVM this past Memorial Day, there are now 58, 272 names on "The Wall."

Since the Vietnam Veterans Memorial's dedication in 1982, The Three Soldiers statute was added to the grounds in 1984, and a Vietnam Women's Memorial in 1993. In 2003 Congress authorized the VVM Foundation to build an Education Center. Current plans call for the Education Center to be built underground between the VVM and the Lincoln Memorial, with a ground breaking scheduled for November 2012. Watch future issues of *The Scoop Sheet* for more details on the Education Center, or visit its web site, [www.buildthecenter.org](http://www.buildthecenter.org).

\* DAVID H. HUGEL served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1960-64, including a nine-month tour in Vietnam as a combat photographer with the 1<sup>st</sup> MAW as part of Operation SHUFLY. He is a life member of the First Marine Aircraft Wing Association- Vietnam



1 Combined Armed Forces Color Guard standing atop the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during the playing of the National Anthem during a Memorial Day Ceremony.



Pipe-Major Walter Wilkie plays "Amazing Grace" during the 1997 Veterans Day Ceremony at Vietnam Veterans Memorial.



Country Music star Emmylou Harris sings "50,000 Names Carved in the Wall" along with its author Jammie O'Hara during the 1997 Veterans Day Ceremony at Vietnam Veterans Memorial. A recording of this stirring song sung by George Jones can be found on the following web site. <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/>



First MAW members Joe McGadden ,left, and Charles Thomas with a wreath honoring Marines who died while serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> MAW during the Vietnam War.



Frank Paco Arce represented the First MAW Association at the 1998 wreath laying at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Ceremony.



A former Army infantry corporal who served in Vietnam, Jan Scruggs founded the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund in 1979.



First MAW members Dave Hugel, Dave Horne and Jerry Wing participated in the 1997 Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. (Photo by Susan Hugel)

## Marine Corps Chapel Window Dedicated to Servant of God Vincent Capodanno

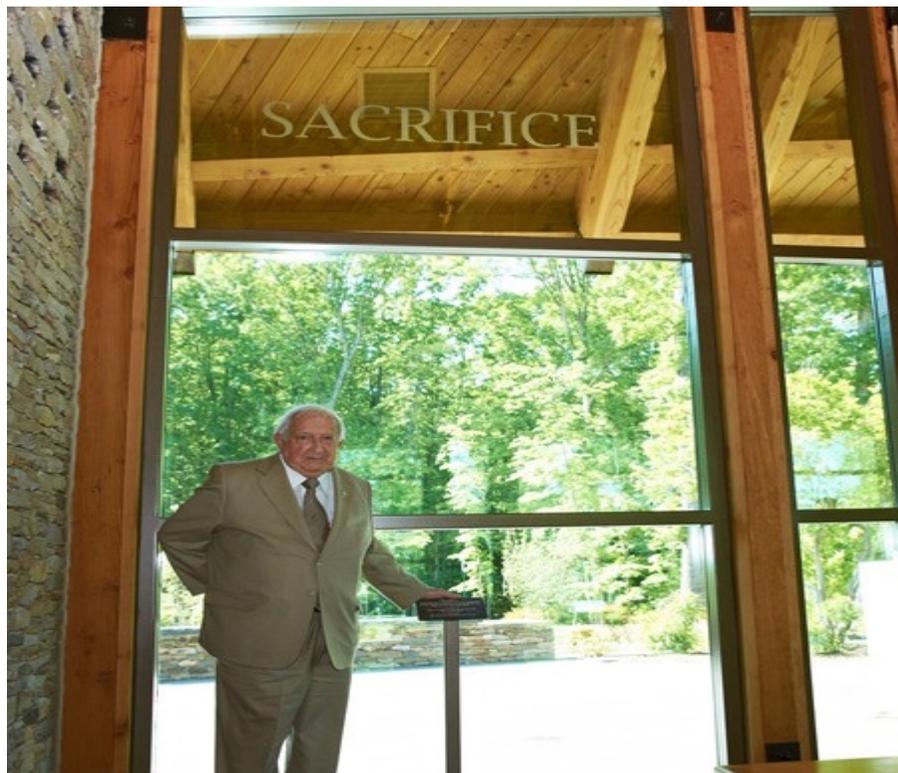
The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation has dedicated a window in the Semper Fidelis Memorial Chapel at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Va, to Servant of God Vincent Capodanno.

Capodanno was a Maryknoll priest and chaplain serving the Marine Corps in Vietnam when was killed on the battlefield giving last rites to injured and dying soldiers. His Cause for Canonization was opened by the Military Archdiocese in 2002 and in 2006 he was decreed Servant of God. Father Capodanno is the only chaplain in service to the Marines to have received the Medal of Honor.

Each window in the Memorial Chapel is "titled with a word that describes the ethos of the Marine Corps." It is fitting then that they chose to honor Father Capodanno with the "Sacrifice" window. The gentleman standing at the window is Father Capodanno's brother, Marine Cpl. James Capodanno.

Matt Coombs with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation sends this release and pics (Photos by Migom Foto):

Triangle, Va. (May 13, 2011) – The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation dedicated the "Sacrifice Window" in the Semper Fidelis Memorial Chapel at the National Museum of the Marine Corps on May 11 to honor Chaplain Vincent Capodanno. The Foundation established the permanent tribute in Chaplain Capodanno's name in recognition of his dedicated service to Marines and the ultimate sacrifice he made in Vietnam, in an effort to save a Marine's life. The private ceremony at the Chapel remembered Chaplain Capodanno for his unwavering support of Marines in combat and his deserved recognition as the only chaplain to receive the Medal of Honor for service in the Marine Corps.



Chaplain Capodanno was ordained a priest after attending the Maryknoll Missionary Seminary. Maryknoll, a religious order that conducts overseas mission work on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, took Chaplain Capodanno to Taiwan and Hong Kong to educate the local people and share his faith. In 1965, following his service abroad, Chaplain Capodanno asked to be reassigned to serve as a United States Navy Chaplain. After being commissioned a lieutenant with the Naval Reserves, he deployed to Vietnam in 1966 with the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. In December of that year, he reported as battalion chaplain to the 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Division. In 1967, Chaplain Capodanno was assigned to the 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division.

“The Marines who served with Chaplain Capodanno remember him as the Chaplain who went wherever his Marines needed his comfort and guidance, no matter the personal danger. From the foxholes to the frontlines, Chaplain Capodanno was there,” said LtGen Ron Christmas, president and CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. “Chaplains serve a tremendously important role in our military. They help our service men and women absorb the emotional toll of war. I do not think we could dedicate the “Sacrifice Window” to anyone more fitting than a devoted Chaplain who ultimately gave his life in service to his fellow Marines.”

On September 4, 1967, while serving with the 5th Marines, Chaplain Capodanno learned 2d Platoon, Company M was engaged in a violent battle in Quang Tin Province, resulting in many U.S. casualties. Chaplain Capodanno volunteered to work his way through the battlefield to administer last rites and provide aid to his Marines. Fred Smith, chairman, president and CEO of FedEx Corporation, served with Chaplain Capodanno and recounted during the ceremony how the Chaplain nearly lost his hand to shrapnel as he tended to the wounded, but refused care so that medical supplies could go to his injured Marines. As the battle raged, Chaplain Capodanno moved to the side of a grievously wounded corpsman. As he sought to administer aid, he placed his own body between the wounded man and an enemy machine gunner. Sadly, he lost his life to enemy fire.

Each window in the Semper Fidelis Memorial Chapel is titled with a word that describes the ethos of the Marine Corps. The Foundation dedicated the “Sacrifice Window” to forever remember the service of Chaplain Capodanno. In 2006, the Roman Catholic Church also provided an enduring honor to the Chaplain, declaring him a Servant of God, the first step towards canonization. About the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation:

Dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Marine Corps history, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation was established in 1979 as a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization. The Foundation supports the historical programs of the Marine Corps in ways not possible through government funds, providing grants and scholarships for research and the renovation, restoration and commissioning of historical Marine Corps artifacts and landmarks. Securing the necessary funding for the complete construction of the National Museum of the Marine Corps and Heritage Center is the Foundation’s current primary mission while continuing to provide program support for the Corps’ historical, museum, and educational activities.

Fr. Vincent is dear to my family's hearts. My father was a Marine, my brother, and myself. When my wife and I had our first son a year and a half ago, we named him after Fr. Vincent Capodanno because of what he did in Vietnam serving Marines.

Anyway, I just wanted to comment on one sentence toward the beginning. You said this: "giving last rites to injured and dying soldiers." Calling Marines soldiers isn't strictly speaking wrong, as some have called us soldiers from the sea. It is however inaccurate. Marines serve in the Marine Corps, and soldiers serve in the Army. We're not the Army. While we're all in it together as it comes to fighting in defense of our country and for American foreign policy, Marines are just different than soldiers. Our traditions are different, many of our customs are different, and our mentality about life, the universe and everything is different.

We take great pride in who we are and where we came from. In the Army, you become a soldier and are called such when you sign up, and go to boot camp. In the Marine Corps, you are not a Marine and are not called such until you graduate boot camp and earn your Eagle, Globe and Anchor, or accept your commission after earning the title from one of the commissioning sources (OCS or an Academy). The preciousness of our title is very much a part of who we are and how we think.

Please take this merely as a fraternal correction! I don't mean any offense. The post was quite good, but I'd be remiss if I did not make you aware of the fact that you don't call a Marine a soldier, and the reasons why. Thank you and God bless.



**REUNION 2011**  
**REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE FIRST MARINE AIRCRAFT**  
**WING ASSOCIATION VIETNAM SERVICE**  
**Thursday October, 6<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday October, 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

MEMBER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NICKNAME/CALL SIGN (for name tag use) \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR/UNIT (i.e. 67-68 VMFA-323) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**(For Confirmation of Receipt)**

NAME OF GUESTS ATTENDING WITH MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME (for name tag use) \_\_\_\_\_

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY (Name & number) \_\_\_\_\_

BANQUET BUFFET (PERFERRED ENTRÉE MEAL) (Number) BEEF \_\_\_\_\_ CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ FISH \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES :** HOSPITALITY ROOM, CHINA BEACH NIGHT and BANQUET MEAL

NUMBER ATTENDING REUNION \_\_\_\_\_ X \$165.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

REUNION TEE-SHIRT \_\_\_\_\_ X \$17.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ SHIRT SIZE(s) \_\_\_ M \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_ 2XL \_\_\_ 3XL

SUNDAY BRUNCH/FAREWELL \_\_\_\_\_ X \$23.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

FRIDAY National Marine Corps Museum Trip  
Leaves at 9:00am NUMBER for BUS TRIP \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 (THIS IS NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH & FINALIZE SHIRT ORDERS, MEALS, TRANSPORTATION, NAME TAGS etc.) ADDITIONAL COST WILL BE INCURRED AFTER SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>.

PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:  
(CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO: FIRST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING ASSOCIATION

**FIRST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING ASSOCIATION**  
**C/O TREASURER, JERRY SERGEANT**  
**5282 OUSTERHOUT DRIVE**  
**STERLING, MI 48659**

**NOTE:** Room rates of \$99.00 + tax, and a non-valet parking rate of \$10.00 per day (for guests) has been negotiated with the Double Tree Hotel. These rates are in effect until September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**For hotel reservations Contact: DoubleTree Hotel at (800) 222-TREE (8733) or**  
**(703) 416-4100 or Web at: [www.doubletree.hilton.com](http://www.doubletree.hilton.com)**  
300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202

Reunion participation is for paid members and registered guests. Membership is available to all qualified individuals. Please check the association's website at [www.lstmaw.com](http://www.lstmaw.com) for membership details and application.

## REUNION 2011

Reunion 2011 will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Crystal City VA. from Thursday October 6 until Sunday October 9th 2011. Room reservation should be made directly with Hotel at 703-416-4100 . The registration form for the reunion is on the previous page. We will be making a trip to the Museum on Friday where we will also do a memorial ceremony at the Chapel . The cost of the Buses to the museum are yet to be determined.

Thursday October 6th Registration all day and free time

Friday October 7th Memorial service at Museum Chapel at 10:00  
Followed by a tour of Museum Lunch on your own  
At Museum Mess Hall or Tuns Tavern

Friday October 7th China Beach Night at 18:00  
Optional: comedy club located in the hotel show  
will end at 21:00 \$10 for us web site is  
[http:// thecrankstore.homestead.com/TheComedyZone.html](http://thecrankstore.homestead.com/TheComedyZone.html)

Saturday October 8th Business meeting at 09:00

Saturday October 8th Banquet at 19:00

Sunday October 9th Farewell breakfast 10:00

Additions and changes still need to be made let us know if you would like a Friday breakfast.



**Doubletree Hotel Crystal City**

PAST REUNIONS





**First Marine Aircraft Wing Association –  
Vietnam Service  
19605 SE 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Sammamish, WA 98075**

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.