

## “Forgotten Warriors

# The Company Runner

Volume 1 Issue 5

August 12 . 2014

## Biloxi, MS Here We Come



Corporal  
F. P. Lemos

First Platoon



Corporal  
T. H. Deel

Second Platoon



Corporal  
R. L. Brant

Third Platoon



Corporal  
F. H. Winsor

Weapons Platoon

This is the last “Company Runner” before our 3rd Reunion in Biloxi, MS. I have tried to pull all the information together that I think is most valuable to you as we prepare to go to Biloxi.

We have Marines registered for every room we contracted for with the Golden Nugget, but we do not have all the Marines of Hotel Company planning to attend.

I encourage you to call any friends you have that are not listed on page 3 and encourage them to join us. We are expecting to have a great time.

The cut off date for registration with the Golden Nugget is 29 August 2014. There is still time to register and attend this reunion.

The transportation for the trip to the French Quarter, New Orleans is in place and all ready. The reunion schedule on page 2 will tell you the time and locations for departure and return to the Golden Nugget. On page 4 you will find more details about this trip.

If you know of a Marine who needs assistance to attend our 3rd Reunion, please let him know that we have the funds in place to assist him with any need he has. The members of the “Forgotten Warriors” have been very generous. We have sufficient funds to help a lot of Marines, if we can just identify them. There is no reason every “Forgotten Warrior” can not attend.

I have devoted the entire page 5 to our 4th reunion, **50th Anniversary Hotel Company 2/3 Landing in Vietnam**, There has already been a lot of preparation for the 50th Anniversary Reunion but there is still a lot of work to be done.

Your quick response to the letter with the return postcards have already paid dividends. I personally want to thank everyone for returning the cards so quickly. The cards provide very valuable information that we need before any contracts are signed.

The next issues of the “Company Runner” will deal exclusively with the **50th Anniversary Hotel Company 2/3 Landing in Vietnam**. I will make every effort to keep everyone fully informed of the progress as the plans are finalized. I may also seek more input from you as to your choices of what dates to do the events we decide to have. Semper Fi, Del

### Marine Corps History

**12 August 1965.** The first night helicopter assault in Marine Corps History was conducted. **2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment** and helicopter Squadron HMM-61 conducted the first night helicopter assault known as "**Operation Midnight**" into an area known as Elephant Valley, Quan Hoa Vang Province, Republic of South Vietnam.

## Schedule for 3rd Reunion in Biloxi



Lance Corporal  
R. A. Trede

Company Hqtrs

### Sunday, September 28, 2014

3:00 PM Check into Golden Nugget Hotel

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Check in for Reunion in *Round Island Room A*,  
pickup ID card and reunion information packet.

7:00 PM Hospitality Room w/Cash Bar: *Round Island Room A*

### Monday, September 29, 2014

9:00 AM Coffee in *Round Island Room A*

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

VA Benefit Claims Workshop (Ron Smith) in *Round Island Room A*

12:00 Pm Lunch on your own

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

VA Benefit Claims Workshop (Ron Smith)

### Tuesday, September 30, 2014

9:00 AM Coffee in *Round Island Room A*

10:00 AM Bus departs Golden Nugget to ***French Quarter***,  
New Orleans, LA

10:00 PM Bus departs French Quarter enroute to ***Golden Nugget***

### Wednesday, October 1, 2014

9:00 AM Coffee in ***Round Island Room A***

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Hotel Co ( Vietnam-1965) Business Meeting-Agenda TBA

12:00 PM Lunch on your Own

6:00 PM Muster in ***Round Island Room A*** (Social Hour)

6:30 PM Presentation of Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Honor our Deceased Members

7:00 PM Banquet

*“Fifty years ago was the first time I found out my first name was shit head.”*

*...Del Williams*

## This is a list of the 53 Marines going to Biloxi

LAST NAME	FIRST	AR-	DE-
ADAMS	CHARLES	92814	100214
AILES	WILLIAM	92814	100114
ALLEN	JAMES	92814	100214
ASK	CURT	92814	100214
BARNETT	KENNETH	92714	100214
BASHAM	JOHN	92814	100214
BRINING	HOWARD	92814	100214
BROWNING	ROBERT	92814	100214
CALDER	WILLIAM	92814	100114
CALKIN	JAMES	92814	100214
CLENDENIN	CHARLES	92714	100314
DEEL	TOM	92714	100214
DEMPSEY	FRANK	92814	100214
EVERETT	RICHARD	92814	100314
FLETCHER	MICHAEL	92814	100314
FRANKL	JOSEPH	92714	100214
GAMBACOR-	MARIO	92814	100114
GULLICKSON	LARRY	92914	100214
HOWARD	ANTHONY	92714	100214
JENSEN	DALE	92814	100214
JOHNSON	KENNETH	92814	100214
KIRCHOFF	DAVID	92814	100314
LAWTON	RON	92814	100214
LIPPARD	KARL	92814	100214
LUNDQUIST	DICK	92814	100314
MARQUARDT	PAUL	92814	100214
MARQUARDT	PAUL	92814	100214
MARTIN	ROBERT	92714	100214
MCTIGUE	EDWARD	92814	100214
MELIM	RICHARD	92814	100214
MOTTER	LEROY	92714	100214
MOTTER	LEROY	92714	100214
NELSON	ARTHUR	92814	100214
PACHOLSKI	JAMES	92714	100314
PICKENS	JAMES	92814	100214

PACHOLSKI	JAMES	92714	100314
PICKENS	JAMES	92814	100214
REYMOND	CHARLES	92814	100214
RICCUBUO- NO	TED	92714	100314
SCHLEIGER	ROBERT	92814	100214
SLOAN	SAM	92814	100214
SMITH	RONALD	92714	100214
STEARMAN	GARY	92814	100214
STURTE- VANT	RONALD	92714	100314
TRELLA	CARL	92814	100214
TREVINO	ROBERTO	92814	100214
WARD	CW	92814	100214
WARD	EDWARD	92714	100314
WEEKS	PAUL	92714	100214
WEST- MORELAND	DARRELL	92814	100114
WILLIAMS	CLARENCE	92714	100314
WILLIAMS	HAGUE	92814	100214
WILLOUGH- BY	LARRY	92814	100214
WILSON	HERMAN	92714	92914
WINSOR	FRANK	92814	100214

There is still plenty of time for you to contact your friends not on this list and encourage them to join us for the reunion.

The cut-off date for reservations at the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino, Biloxi is **29 August 2014**. There is still plenty of time to register, get your fee (\$40.00 per person) to Ted Riccubuno. We reached the number of rooms we contracted for, but we have not reached our goal of 100% attending.

When you consider our age, health issues and mobility, there may not be many more times some of us will be able to travel to a reunion. It is important to remember that.

**21 August 1968:** PFC James Anderson, Jr., was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in Vietnam while serving as a rifleman with Company F, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines in February 1967.

## Trip to French Quarter

This is a great opportunity for anyone who has not been to New Orleans. The Hotard Tour Company will provide buses from the Golden Nugget Hotel to the French Quarter and return on Tuesday, 29 September 2014.

The busses will load at the Golden Nugget Hotel between 9:45 AM and 10:00 AM then depart at 10:00 AM for the WWII Museum in New Orleans. It is expected to stop at the museum at approximately 12:00 Noon. We will tour the museum and have lunch there. The buses will depart the WWII Museum at approximately 2:00 PM and proceed to the French Quarter, New Orleans.

At the French Quarter we will be on our own to explore the area, have dinner and return to the drop off point in time to board the buses at 9:45 PM for our return trip to the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino. The buses will depart the French Quarter at 10:00 PM and return to the Golden Nugget. We have been told the trip from the hotel to the French Quarter takes approximately 2 hours. We should be back to the hotel at midnight.



## “Forgotten Warrior” Assistance Fund

We had a great response from the Marines of Hotel 2/3 (1965) so far. Fourteen men and women have contributed \$2,900.00 dollars so far.

If you have knowledge of any Marine that needs assistance getting to the 2014 Reunion in Biloxi, please let me know. I will make contact and arrange for that Marine to be at the reunion.

This is not charity! We want to see them as much as they want to come see us. Because we want them there, it is in our own interest to make sure they can make it to the reunion.

**Greeting : "Semper Fi"**  
**Reply "Forever and one day".**

## VA Benefits Claim Workshop

The VA Benefits Claim Workshop put together by Ron Smith and Ted Riccubuoono should proved to be very helpful to you. Wives are encouraged to attend. They are often the one who do all the paper work required and most need to know the rules.

Ron and Ted have arranged to have representatives from Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System, Biloxi, MS and Golf Coast DAV office at the workshop. They will provide information and assistance to anyone still trying to file a claim with the Veterans Administration.

Mr. Robert Bailey, Veterans Benefits Administration, Ms. Mary Cook, Eligibility Representative and Ms. Silva Royer, DAV Service Officer will be at the workshop

They, along with Ron Smith, will present the workshop between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM on Monday, September 29, 2014 in the *Round Island Room A* on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Golden Nugget. The VA Benefits Workshop will continue from 1:00 PM until 2:00 PM if any additional time is needed.

We are grateful to Ms. Vickie Jordan, of the Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System, 400 Veterans Avenue, Biloxi, MS 39531 for making these two VA specialist available to us. Ms. Royel has 30+ years experience as a DAV Service Officer.

All “Forgotten Warriors” who wish to take advantage of this excellent opportunity are encouraged to bring their DD-214, VA ID Card, and a copy of any VA Claim that is pending.

During the 12 years from 2000 until 2012 I did not think I was entitled to anything from the VA. At the 1<sup>st</sup> Reunion, Ron Smith and Mike Fletcher did a VA Benefits Claim Workshop.. I paid attention. When I returned home after the reunion I filed a claim with the VA for my congested heart failure, PTSD, and hearing loss. I was found 100% disabled. It pays to file your claim. You **earned** any benefits and treatment you receive from the VA. You earned all the benefits you receive because of exposure to **Agent Orange** for almost a year. .

## **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hotel Company 2/3 Landing in Vietnam.**

The decision was made to have the **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hotel Company 2/3 Landing in Vietnam** at the **Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria** in the historic district of Alexandria, Virginia.



The dates have been confirmed as beginning Monday, April 6, 2015 through Friday, April 10, 2015. Most will depart on Saturday morning, April 11, 2015. The dates were dictated because of the Washington Cherry Blossom Festival. We are in competition with all of the tourists that will be in Washington at that time. By starting our reunion on April 6 and ending on April 11, it permits us to have our ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Friday, April 10, 2015, the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our landing.

At the present time our negotiations with the Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria are on track. The hotel is prepared to give us a discount rate of \$109 per night in lieu of their normal rate of \$193.00 per night.

The Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria would like to execute the contract on Tuesday, September 2, 2014. In order to complete negotiations and sign the contract on that date we need an accurate count of the rooms needed. We currently have commitments from 30 members of Hotel Company. If you have not mailed your postcard to Del Williams, please do so immediately.

Right now we are counting on 109 people attending, but we know there will be some Marines that cannot come. We need to know if you are coming or not. Even if you can't come, please send the card so we will know your plans and have an ac-

curate count of those attending. The more rooms that we contract for, the more free amenities the hotel will provide. Each "freebie" provided by the hotel saves us money.

The hotel also requires a \$500 advance payment that is due by Wednesday, October 1, 2014. We have funds available to cover that expense.

Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria has an item in the contract that we have not dealt with at past reunions. Holiday Inn & Suites require liability insurance by Hotel Company 2/3. If there is a member of Hotel Company 2/3 that has experience with liability insurance for events such as our reunion, please contact Bob Martin, Del Williams or Ted Riccubono. We would be grateful for any assistance you might be able to provide.

Plans for the events at the reunion are also progressing very well. We have lined up a color guard and bugler for the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 10:00 AM. At the present, the plan is to have a company formation by platoons. A designated wreath laying party will place the wreath at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the bugler will play taps and we will retire from the ceremony.

The wreath laying ceremony should not take more than 15 minutes. There will be free time between the end of the ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the banquet that evening. We will be in the Washington area and are open to suggestions as to what activities could take place on the afternoon of April 10 and still leave time to get back to the hotel and prepare for the banquet.

The DC area Metro system provides transportation to most points of interest in the DC area and there is a Metro station exit very near the Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria. The planners have said they will provide maps of the DC Metro System for us.

A trip to Quantico to visit the US Marine Corps Museum and PX by bus is being arraigned and will require a fee.

We would particularly like to know what you want to do between Monday, April 6 and Friday, April 10, 2015.

**Another Forgotten Warrior is Gone.**



Lance Corporal  
R. E. Ogden

Richard Edwin Ogden, born November 10, 1945, died June 15, 2014. He was 69 years old.

Earlier I had sent out a letter to everyone asking for information concerning their intent for reservations for the 2015 Reunion. On Monday, August 11, I received the postcard in Richard Ogden’s letter.

The card had a handwritten note that said “He died 6/15/14”. The card was

signed “Patricia Campbell. I immediate tried to call Richard’s number but the recording “This number is no longer in service” was all I heard.

I conducted a search on the Internet and found that Richard Edwin Ogden had passed away in Northridge California and his funeral was being arranged by Batian & Perrott, Oswald Mortuary.

*When the Army and the Navy look  
on Heaven’s scene; They will find  
the streets are guarded by United  
States Marines.*

**Hotel Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment (Vietnam—1965)**



**“The Forgotten Warriors”. They were Vietnam War Veterans. They were warriors who did what their country asked them to do. When they came home they were shunned and avoided by the American people whom they served. They never heard America say, “Welcome Home” and “Thank you for your Service”. There were no parades, no celebrations, no flag waving, and no patriotic speeches by government officials or politicians.**

**“Company Runner”**  
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Postage