

# “Forgotten Warriors

## The Company Runner

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



Ronald Lawton  
First Platoon



Ira Green  
Second Platoon



Larry Bentley  
Third Platoon



Johnny Basham  
Weapons Platoon

The contract has been signed, the first deposit has been paid so the **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hotel Company 2/3 Landing in Vietnam** will take place in the **Holiday Inn & Suites Alexandria** in the historic district of Alexandria, Virginia beginning Monday, April 6, 2015 through Friday, April 10, 2015.



#### Important information about the reunion you should know.

**Early reservations** are absolutely essential for two reasons. First, there is another event scheduled at the hotel during the same time we are there, so there is competition for room reservations. Second, the Cherry Blossom Festival is in April each year in Washington DC. That means lots of tourist will be in the area at time we are there.

There are **two** Holiday Inns & Suites in Alexandria, VA. The one we have our contract with is Holiday Inns & Suites Alexandria located in the historical section of Alexandria at 625 First Street. When you call for reservations make sure that you get the Holiday Inns & Suites Alexandria at 625 First Street (703-548-6300 Ext# 0).

Over 30 Marines have indicated on the reply cards they plan to arrive at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion on Sunday, April 5, 2015. Remember Sunday, April 5, 2015 is **Easter Sunday**. Just making sure you are aware of that before you make your reservations. I plan to fly in that day, but it will be in the early evening. Also need to point out that the earliest event of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion is not until 7:00 PM on Monday evening, April 6, 2015 when we open the Hospitality Room.

**Parking.** When you make your reservations with the Holiday Inns & Suites Alexandria, your confirmation will show a “daily parking fee \$20.00”. Do not be concerned with that. The parking fee has been waived for our group and will be deducted from your charges when you checkout.

**Special Needs.** Anyone with special needs at the reunion, please tell Ron Smith (765-654-4305) email [rsmith1355@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rsmith1355@sbcglobal.net). If you need a scooter, oxygen or a disabilities room at the hotel please let Ron know.

**Airport.** There are two airports in Washington, DC. The one closest to the Holiday Inns & Suite Alexandria is Reagan National Airport (airport code is DCA) in Arlington, VA. The hotel has a shuttle to and from Reagan Nation Airport.

**Subway.** There is a subway system in the Washington, DC area. Details are not known at this time but an effort is being made to obtain maps of the Washington subway system to give out at the reunion.

## Schedule for 3rd Reunion in Biloxi



James Pacholski  
Company Hqtrs

### Monday, April 6, 2015

- 3:00 PM Check into Holiday Inn & Suites-Alexandria
- 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM  
Check in for Reunion (Location to be announced)  
pickup ID card and reunion information packet.
- 7:00 PM Hospitality Room w/Cash Bar

### Tuesday, April 7, 2015

- 9:00 AM Coffee
- 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
To be announced later

### Wednesday, April 8, 2015

- 9:00 AM Coffee
- 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
To be announced later

### Thursday, April 9, 2015

- 9:00 AM Coffee
- 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
To be announced later

### Friday, April 10, 2015

- 9:00 AM Coffee
- 10:00 AM Ceremony at the Vietnam Memorial
- 6:00 PM Reunion Banquet

The schedule of events is a progress in action. We will add events as they are finalized with the support groups we are working with. If you have suggestions, call Bob Martin (802-948-2054), Ron Smith (765-654-4305), Del Williams (864-944-5961).

The Schedule of events will be published as it develops. Your input is very important. After all it is **your** reunion make it like you want it..

*The difference  
between  
genius and  
stupidity is  
that*

*genius has its  
limits.  
~Albert  
Einstein\**

## ***Need for Nonprofit Status***

There are a number of reasons why Hotel Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines (Vietnam 1965) should incorporate as a fraternal nonprofit corporation. The major reason is the tax savings that can be realized during our reunions. When an individual rents a room at a hotel for the reunion they are billed for the cost of the room **plus taxes**. When a nonprofit corporation rents a room from a hotel they are exempt from the taxes.

In the case of the Holiday Inns & Suites Alexandria the cost of a room is \$109.00 per night plus 14.5% taxes. When a nonprofit organization rents a room at Holiday Inns & Suites Alexandria they are exempt from paying the taxes. This means that an individual who rents a room for our reunion for 6 nights will be billed #109.00 for each night for a total of \$654.00 plus \$100.86 in taxes. The individual would have a total bill of \$754.86. If a nonprofit corporation rents that same room for the same days the total cost is \$654.00, a saving of \$100.86.

If we were incorporated as a fraternal nonprofit organization, we could save every Marine attending the 2015 Reunion for 6 nights \$100.86. For the Marine attending for 5 nights the savings is \$79.25. For this reason alone it is well worth the \$50.00 it cost to create a fraternal nonprofit corporation in South Carolina.

It takes three people to form a nonprofit corporation in South Carolina. Del Williams, Bob Martin and Ron Smith have agreed to sign the documents necessary to form a *fraternal nonprofit corporation* in South Carolina. Once that corporation is chartered by the Secretary of State, South Carolina we would qualify for the tax exempt status with the Holiday Inns & Suites Alexandria.

Current plans call for applying for nonprofit status under the name "**Hotel Co 2/3 Forgotten Warriors-1965 Inc.**" also known as "**Forgotten Warriors-1965**". If anyone has another name they prefer please call Del Williams (864-944-5961) or email him at *saalem-cop@yahoo.com*. We are open to any suitable name you have.

## ***Forgotten Warriors Assistance Fund.***

When the Forgotten Warriors Assistance Fund was established, there was a great response from our brothers. Within a short period I received six checks totaling \$800.00. Those checks were the first deposit into the new account.

Shortly thereafter I received another batch of checks that totaled \$1,500. Within another three days I received three checks for a total of \$600.00. At that time we had a balance of \$2,900.00. It was clear that the Marines of Hotel Company 2/3 (Vietnam-1965) were a generous lot.

Then came the tragedy of Ted Riccubono's accident. No one was prepared for that, but Maryanne had the presence of mind to know Ted had funds that were from the men going to the reunion. Maryanne sent me the \$3,700.00 Ted had in his Biloxi Reunion Account. At that point our balance went to \$6,600.00, but now the fund also had the obligation to pay the final bill at the Biloxi Reunion.

The first expenditure from the Forgotten Warriors Assistance Fund was to pay the \$1000.00 Deposit needed to establish a contract with Holiday Inns & Suites Alexandria for the 2015 Reunion.

The next group of in expenditures occurred at the reunion in Biloxi. We spent \$2,238.30 assisting Marines who needed help to attend the Biloxi reunion. We assisted three of our own in getting to the reunion and covering their personal expenses they could not do on their own.

The last expenses was the Biloxi reunion itself. We used \$806.00 to buy tickets to the WW II Museum in New Orleans for all on the trip. The last expenditure, the final bill at the Golden Nugget in Biloxi. That final bill was \$3,820.00. The bill was \$120 more than what was received from Ted's Biloxi Reunion Account. He had planned very well and came very close to having the exact amount. We are going to miss him.

The current balance of the Forgotten Warriors Assistance Fund is \$1,738.34. With your permission I shall retain these monies for use during the 2015 Reunion to assist our own.

## ***Hotel Co 2/3 Forgotten Warriors-1965, aka: "Forgotten Warriors-1965"***

The members of the **Hotel Co 2/3 Forgotten Warriors-1965, Inc.** will be the members of Hotel Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Regiment during the period from November 1, 1964 until November 30, 1965. All of the members of Hotel Company during that period will automatically be Regular Members of the corporation.

There will be a second group of members referred to as "Associate Members". Associate Members will have the same voting rights and privileges as the Regular Members. The only difference is, Associate Members will have to apply for membership. Applications will be open to any Marine that was a member of 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Regiment and the attached units that made up Battalion Landing Team 2/3 on April 10, 1965.

Initially the organization will be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of Bob Martin Del Williams and Ron Smith. This initial Board of Directors will serve until the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion in Alexandria, VA in April 2015.

During the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion a business meeting will be held to elect three Regular Members to a Board of Directors. The term of office for the Board of Directors will be two years. The newly elected Board of Directors will replace Bob Martin, Del Williams and Ron Smith. The new Board of Directors will be tasked to appoint three other corporate officers that will do the "day to day" business of the corporation.

The Board of Directors will appoint a **Secretary** to maintain minutes of meetings and membership records; a **Treasurer** to have custody of any monies and assets the corporation holds; and a **Programs/Activities Coordinator** to plan and coordinate reunions, meeting and charity projects. The Secretary, Treasurer and Programs/Activities Coordination will serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

As soon as the Articles of Incorporation are drafted a copy will be mailed to every member, Regular and Associate. Soon thereafter a copy of the Proposed Corporate Bylaws will be mailed to

all members. The corporate bylaws must be voted on and approved by the members at the April 2015 Membership Meeting. The bylaws are important because they state in detail how the corporation will be governed and how it will operate. Please study them carefully when you get them, as changes can be recommended before the vote.

At the present time no membership dues or fees are anticipated. In the past we have been able to plan and execute reunions and activities by the generosity of our members. Dues may become necessary in the future, but that is a discussion for a later time. We will maintain the Forgotten Warriors Assistance Fund by gifts and donations from members and friends.

It is important that everyone know nothing is written in stone at this time. If you have a suggestion or a concern please contact Bob Martin, Del Williams or Ron Smith. We are trying to form an organization that works to our advantage as a brotherhood. There is only one agenda: we want to organize in a way that best serves our needs and desires as the brotherhood of Hotel Company 2/3 (Vietnam-1965)

The **Hotel Co 2/3 Forgotten Warriors-1965, Inc.** will not last forever. In the past 48 years we have lost 75 brothers. Last year alone we lost four (4) of our own. In the coming years we will lose more. We will not last forever but we will always have the fellowship of this brotherhood as long as we live if we stay connected. The best way to stay connected is to have an organization that promotes that idea. Please help us keep connected and sharing our brotherhood with each other.

Each of us have talents that can benefit our brotherhood. All members are encouraged to think seriously about serving in one of the six positions needed to make this corporations function properly. We need three members to serve as Members of the Board of Directors. They will govern the corporation and supervise three other members who will do the route duties of Secretary, Treasurer and Programs/Activities Coordinator.

If you have an interest in one of these positions please contact Bob Martin. Del Williams or Ron Smith. We are seeking your help.



## *USMC-VOA, Inc. Dissolved*

The USMC-VOA Inc. no longer exists. On October 1, 2014 the USMC Veterans Organization of America Inc. (USMC-VOA Inc.) held a business/special meeting at the Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino, Biloxi, MS. Present at the meeting were 38 of the 58 members of the USMC-VOA Inc. Those present represented 65% of the total membership of the USMC-VOA Inc.

A motion was made and seconded that the USMC-VOA Inc. be dissolved in accordance of Section NRS 82-446, Chapter 82 Nonprofit Corporation, Nevada state law. After lengthy discussion a vote was taken and 37 of the members present, voted

to dissolve the USMC VOA. There was one vote not to dissolve the USMC VOA. In accordance with the USMC-VOA bylaws the majority vote rules and thus the members voluntarily dissolved the Corporation.

Three trustees were nominated and appointed to be responsible for dissolving the USMC-VOA, Inc. in accordance with the nonprofit laws of the State of Nevada. The three members designated to perform that duty were Carl Lippard, Rich Milem and Charles Ward.

In accordance with USMC-VOA Inc. bylaws when the corporation is dissolved all assets and funds are to be transferred to a similar nonprofit organization by the directors/trustees.

## *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