

**1<sup>st</sup> MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
DESERT CITIES MITCHELL PAIGE  
CHAPTER**

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**AUGUST, 2010 NEWSLETTER**

AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

Plan on joining us for this meeting to welcome back LtCol. John Reed, Commanding Officer, 2/7. Col. Reed addressed us last September about the 2/7's deployment for amphibious warfare training in Okinawa, South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines. Col. Reed just recently awarded the Silver Star to Corporal Daniel Hickey, for his valor in their previous deployment to Afghanistan in 2009. We are also expecting Corporal Hickey to join us at the August luncheon and will present him with an engraved Ka-Bar from the Chapter.

Reed will talk about their recent deployment and the emphasis on amphibious warfare training. Interesting to note that Reed's 2/7 was replaced in Okinawa by the 1/7 led by LCol Simmons and Sgt Major Paron Lewis.

Please make your reservation and preorder your lunch: Cobb Salad, Club Sandwich or Cheese Burger at (760) 901-5494. The luncheon meeting will be at Desert Falls C C, Palm Desert at 1130.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome aboard three new members:

William Bergin, Indio has joined the chapter. Bill served in 1959 - 1965 as a Captain. Bill was introduced at the July 15th meeting. He was recruited by Dave Nola.

Bud Marsh, Rancho Mirage has also joined the chapter as an associate member. He was introduced at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. He served in 1960 - 1967 and is a Viet Nam Veteran. He lives in Rancho Mirage and has a

law practice in Indio.

Linn Wiley, La Quinta has joined the chapter as an associate member. He served 1956 - 1960. He is with Citizens Business Bank. He was recruited by Carl Brooks.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> MARINES REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, AFGHANISTAN

Sgt. Major Mike Kufchak checks in regularly and wanted to let everyone know that they appreciated our support during their deployment to Afghanistan. As you know we have shipped them solar showers, Patagonia quality underwear and a pallet of baby wipes. He also reports that they have also had a lot of support from others which was great news.

They are due back to 29 Palms in September and are planning a celebration in October and want the Desert Cities Mitchell Paige Chapter to be there. More details will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

#### COLONEL M. J. (MAC) DUBE, USMC (Ret.)

Great story. Our one and only Mac Dube will be honored at a ceremony on August 20<sup>th</sup> at MCAGCC, 29 Palms for his heroism 43 years ago in Viet Nam. Big Mac rescued a downed Air Force Pilot, Phil Jones, and will be awarded the Silver Star for his heroic action. The downed pilot will also attend the Silver Star Award Ceremony.

We are proud of Dube and this new honor and plan to have 18 of our members going to the ceremony on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The chapter will present him a gift to recognize his extraordinary achievement.

#### PALM DESERT ELECTRIC GOLF CART PARADE

For the first time, we will have a Marine Color Guard from 29 Palms lead us down El Paseo on Sunday, October 31, 2010.

We will honor our WW II Marines this year and have them ride in an 8 passenger golf cart. Marilyn Paige will also join us again. It really is a fun day and we look forward to spot lighting our WW II Marines. Plan to be with us. Karen & I will host everyone at our home afterwards.

Thanks again to J.R. Thomas, Electric Car Distributors, once again for donating a golf cart for the parade. If you are in the market for a golf cart or a new battery, be sure to shop them and thank him for his

support. We recently presented him with a bottle of Jarhead Red Wine as a small token of our appreciation.

## MARINE CORPS HERITAGE FOUNDATION

BUDDY SKLAR

Buddy is a member of the board of directors and advises that the Heritage Foundation plans to open a satellite office in Beverly Hills. The building is under construction at 130 So. El Camino Drive will also provide a unique tour of the National Museum through the newly developed one of a kind Virtual Experience - a series of high definition, 360 degree panoramic tours, audio narratives and extensive multi-media presentations that allow visitors to experience the NMMC as if they were there.

“With Marines across the country and around the world, the Los Angeles area satellite office provides another way for West Coast Marines and civilians alike to be connected to the National Museum and witness the proud history of the Marine Corps and its role in our national story,” said LtGen Ron Christmas, president & CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

We will let everyone know when this will open. I think we should plan on organizing a trip up there to see this new facility which we will plan on.

For more information, please visit their website:  
<http://www.marineheritage.org/>.

## MAGAZINES FOR THE VETERANS

Reminder, bring your discarded magazines to the August meeting. We did a good job at the July meeting and loaded Doc Gillette’s SUV up. He distributes them to the various veteran hospitals and clinics in the Coachella Valley and has been recognized for his outstanding service to these veterans. Doc just told us that he doesn’t need books. But, magazines are in constant demand.

He has established himself at the VA Clinics / Hospitals as the most reliable supplier of reading materials. Help support Doc and bring your old magazines to the next meetings.

## SHIRTS & NAME BADGES

We have a new supply of the white chapter shirts available at \$36. If you need a name badge they are available at \$15. Call 901-5494 to place

your order.

#### SEPTEMBER MEETING

Advance notice that this meeting will be held on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at Desert Fall C C at 1130. Colonel John Holden, Chief of Staff, MCAGCC, 29 Palms has confirmed that he will be our honored speaker.

This will be the first time that we have had the Chief of Staff attend one of our luncheons and be the guest speaker. Plan to join us.

#### FUTURE MEETING PLANNED AT 29 PALMS

For those that attended our July meeting, we discussed the idea of holding a meeting up there and polled the membership. There was a positive response to the idea, so we will do it in the near future.

#### NATIONAL FMDA MEETING, SAN ANTONIO

If you are planning to go, you do need to make your reservations now. The dates are August 23 - 29, 2010 in San Antonio, TX. Be sure to make your reservations now, before it's too late. (760) 967-8561.

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

SEMPER FIDELIS

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