

**1ST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
DESERT CITIES MITCHELL PAIGE MOH CHAPTER
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FEBRUARY, 2011 NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY MEETING

Plan to join us on Thursday, February 17th at the Desert Falls C C for the next luncheon meeting. We will have Dr. Dean Hunter who has an fascinating story about his Korean War experiences as a Marine rifleman and later in Viet Nam as an Air Force Pilot. He is the author of the book FOR LOVE OF LIFE AND COUNTRY. Please RSVP to 760 901-5494.

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James F. Amos recently announced "A Marine is a Marine". "You're a Marine, just in a different uniform and you're in a different phase of your life. But you'll always be a Marine because you went to Parris Island, San Diego or the hills of Quantico. There's no such thing as a former Marine."

LUNCHEON TO HONOR WOMEN MARINES

For those of you that attended last year, will remember the great event that it was. We will never forget the women Marines, that we brought down from 29 Palms, reaction to the I W Club in Indian Wells and the quality of luncheon we had to honor them.

Once again, the Honorable Mary T. Roche, former Mayor of Indian Wells has agreed to return as Mistress of Ceremonies. We have invited LtCol Alison Clardy, USMC (Ret.) to be the Guest of Honor and Speaker. We will have the Marine Band from 29 Palms with us.

Reserve Saturday, April 30th for you, your spouse and friends to join us. We also will need for everyone to support the luncheon by donating to cover the cost of the Marines

and Band. Invitations will be mailed in early March.

CHANGE OF COMMAND, 2/7

A few of us, representing the Chapter, attended Lt.Col John Reed's Change of Command Ceremony at 29 Palms. This ceremony is unique in the world today. It is a transfer of total responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another. The transfer of colors during the ceremony symbolizes the relinquishing of command by the Outgoing Commander, LtCol Reed to the Incoming Commander, LtCol Donald Tomich.

We welcome the new CO and wish LtCol Reed our very best wishes and continued success as a career Marine Officer.

CITIZENS ON PATROL

The City of Palm Desert is looking for a few good men and women to join their dedicated volunteers. They serve as ambassadors of the City and act as the eyes and ears of the Palm Desert Police Department. They provide uniforms, specialty marked vehicles, communication equipment and training. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Dennis Mulkey at (760) 238-0278. You do not have to reside in Palm Desert to serve with Citizens on Patrol.

JANUARY MEETING

For those of you that missed it, we had a *great* meeting at the Officer's Club at 29 Palms. Col Randy Newman, LtCol John Reed, LtCol Clay Tipton and SgtMaj Harrison Tanksley were there along with 35 members and guests. SgtMaj Mike Kufchak's reported on the Regiment's recent deployment to Afghanistan including the individual heroism of their Marines. Afterwards, we enjoyed a bus tour of the base led by SgtMajor Kufchak.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome aboard to *four new members*:

LtCol Craig Bevin, USMC (Ret.), is married to Sherri and employed by a defense contractor at 29 Palms. They live in Yucca Valley. His wife is active in the Women Marines Assn.

MGySgt Mike Holguin, is on active duty with the 7th Marines as Operations Chief. He lives in 29 Palms with his wife Darla.

Jack Rabinowitz, a retired Detective, lives in Palm Desert with his wife Helen. Recruited by Villanueva.

Bob Shepard, a retired business executive is married to Betty, lives in Palm Desert and was recruited by Villanueva.

Remember that every member is expected to recruit new members. New members are the life blood of every organization. Enclosed is a membership application. Membership applications are also available at our web site: www.1stmardivassocdesertcities.net Please help us grow our membership in 2011.

COL MIKE WALKER, USMC (RET.)

He will be at the Palm Springs Air Museum on March 23rd at 1900 to give a talk on Islam, Iraq & Afghanistan. Admission is \$5.00 for members and \$10 for non members. Reservations / tickets at (760) 778-6262, x 221.

STEVE SANCHEZ PARTY

Reminder that we are accepting donations that will be used directly for Steve's medical expenses. Please send your donation and mark the check "Steve Sanchez Donation". We are planning to have Steve attend our March 17th meeting.

A party has been organized by his friends to honor Steve on February 5th at 5:30 PM at SOUL OF MEXICO, 44-100 Jefferson Street, Indio. Reservations are necessary since space is limited. Please call (760) 772-2727 for reservations and more information.

1/7 POST DEPLOYMENT MARINE CORPS BALL

The 1/7 returned recently from their 6 months deployment. The chapter is invited to their February 17th Post Deployment Marine Birthday Ball at the Las Vegas Hilton.

If you are interested in going please contact GySgt Lopez at: dave.lopez@usmc.mil Hotel reservations at <https://reweb.passkey.com/go/USMCFB2011> or call the Hilton direct.

WOUNDED WARRIORS BATTALION

We plan to cater lunch for approximately 30 wounded warriors at their headquarters, 29 Palms on April 7th. Let us know if you want to join us and enjoy the comraderie with these Marines call and leave a message at (760) 901-5494.

2011 ANNUAL DUES

Last call! If dues are not received by January 31 , the member will be dropped from the mailing list and will not be eligible to attend monthly meetings until paid.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

SEMPER FIDELIS

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