

Save the date:
Installation of Officers
January 15, 2014

The Orange Peel



Website:
occcfmda.org

Newsletter

Nov-Dec 2013

Happy 238th Birthday

We had a great turnout for the Corps birthday celebration with forty-eight paid in attendance, and the American Legion Auxiliary 716 served a total of fifty-five meals including those to the five branches of service who participated in the service cover (hat) ceremony.

From my personal observations, it seemed as though everyone was having a great time all afternoon. Tom Evans was earmarked as the oldest Marine present, while the grandson of the late Master Gunnery Sergeant Pat Wurthman, was the youngest Marine present, LCpl Tyler Wurthman who came with his lovely wife Jessica Marie Wurthman.



Jeff Hanson again did a good job as our DJ, playing music that all of us could relate to and not too loud that we could not hear ourselves talk to each other. Carmen Ludwig cooked our meals, braised beef or chicken Cordone Bleu. As always, she and the Auxilliary did a great job and the food did not go to waste.

We hope that everyone had a great time, enjoying the music, the company and the food. Many of us were in dress blues and all of the ladies looked very lovely. We look forward to another year of prosperity for the Association and the Corps in general. We wish all of you a very happy 238th birthday and a very sincere Semper Fidelis.

Ike Oshana
Chapter President 2012

2013 Chapter Officers

Chapter President	Scott Montoya
Vice President	Dave Marshall
Treasurer	Neil Reich
Secretary	Rick Lake
Chaplain	Eugene Witkowski
Judge Advocate	Scott Montoya
Chapter Representative	Scott Montoya
Sergeant-At-Arms Acting	Sha Ratnapala
Sergeant-At-Arms Assistant	Jim Short
Membership Representative and social media	Sha Ratnapala
Raffle	Bill Shedlov
Chapter Rep Assistant	Sha Ratnapala
Newsletter	Ike Oshana and Sha

Chapter needs more newsletter staff!

Results of the elections for 2014 Chapter Officers

Chapter President	Scott Montoya
Vice President	Dave Marshall
Treasurer	Neil Reich
Secretary	Rick Lake
Chaplain	Eugene Witkowski
Chapter Representative	Ike Oshana
Sergeant-At-Arms	Frank Frazier

Chapter President Appointed positions:	
Judge Advocate	David Lopez
Sergeant-At-Arms Assistant	Jim Short
Membership Representative and social media	Sha Ratnapala
Raffle	Bill Shedlov
Newsletter	Ike Oshana and Sha

Chapter needs more newsletter staff!



Welcome Home
Third Combat Engineer Battalion
From their deployment to Afghanistan
The Chapter sent care packages to
Headquarters Platoon, Bravo Company



Calendar

Bring an eligible guest to our meeting,
both member and guest will receive a FREE drink
courtesy of the Chapter president



Installation of
officers for 2014
15 January
1800: \$3 SOS
1930: meeting and
installation

19 February
1800: \$3 SOS
1930: meeting

19 March
1800: \$3 SOS
1930: meeting

March
Anthony Gale
Day/Saint Patrick's
Day Celebration
TBD

16 April
1800: \$3 SOS
1930: meeting

21 May
1800: \$3 SOS
1930: meeting



Like us on Facebook:
Orange County California Chapter
First Marine Division Association

Chapter meets on the third Wednesday of every month

Membership

Hello Chapter Family and Friends,

As of December 2013, we have 75 Life Members; 29 Annual Members. We have 6 Chapter Support members; for a total Chapter membership of 110. 7 Members never paid their 2013 dues.

A Few Changes for 2013

First year's Chapter dues of \$10 are waived for new and transfer members.

FREE Chapter dues: for Active Duty/Reserve Personnel assigned to, or in support of the First Marine Division.

Become a Life Member for \$100.

National dues are \$35 per year (paid directly to National).

Chapter Support

Chapter Support Members are our valued volunteers. It is absolutely FREE to be a Chapter Support Member. Simply complete the Regular OCCCFMDA Membership application. The Chapter Support Member is open to anyone, civilian or Military of any branch, spouse, siblings, parents, friends, etc., who want to be part of the Chapter. They are welcomed to attend our meetings and all events.

Chapter Support Members are non-voting members.

Orange County Chapter website:

occcfmda.org

We are constantly improving our website; we are asking for members to send us a picture of your earliest picture in uniform (with date), Boot Camp, etc. and a current picture (with date); and a small military bio. If you do not want your whole name to be associated with the picture, please tell me which name, nick-name, you would like to have on the website.

Also, we would like to place a picture of our Marines who have passed away, on the website's "TAPS" page.

You may email them to: info@occcfmda.org

If you are unable to email the pictures, please mail copies to:

OCCCFMDA
3252 Florists Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Sha Ratnapala
Membership Rep
(562) 882-2045

Help the Chapter save costs on Mailing these newsletters. Signup to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

Send me your E-Mail address to: info@occcfmda.org

Earlybird Raffle drawing results

The Earlybird raffle drawing for members who paid their 2014 dues early, was held during the Chapter's bday celebration. The winner was Jim Short. Some of the winnings were: gift certs to Stater Bros \$25, In-N-Out \$10. USMC t-shirt, hat, lanyards, decals, Marine Band CDs, leather wallet, Swiss Army pocket knives, USMC flag, and many more goodies. The coveted prize was our own Tom Evans' book "Hold Your Head up, Marine", valued at \$40. The basket was worth well a hundred dollars, all for paying \$10 membership dues.

Congratulations Jim!



SCHOOL OF INFANTRY GRADUATION

6 DECEMBER 2013

Chuck Wiley and I went down to Camp Pendleton for the School Of Infantry (SOI) graduation of the twenty-nine candidates in Class 1-14 of the Combat Instructor School. Staff Sergeant Mark Albert was the recipient of the top student award which the Orange County Chapter sponsor, and have done so for a number of years.



In the first photo we have Staff Sergeant receiving his award and certificate. In the middle photo we have a photo of the Staff Sergeant displaying his award, and in the last photo, we have (L - R), 1st Sergeant Lincoln, Staff Sergeant Stanley and Major John Bobo. All in all it was a very impressive ceremony and all of the candidates were more than ready for their new duties, where ever they might be.

After the ceremony, Chuck and I had the pleasure of getting a tour of the class room with Silver Star recipient, Gunnar Bolton uses to teach the Marines defense tactics. He went through a great deal of his program with us for about an hour and half, and it was one of the most interesting time I have spent in many a month.

We again invited Major Bobo and the 1st Sergeant to come to one of our meetings, suggesting that they come up early enough to do lunch at Bastard's and then proceed to the meeting after. I told Major Bobo that I would meet them at a convenient place and then we could car pool from there. We are hoping that they accept this invitation as we are sure that they have a great deal of information to offer us.

Semper Fidelis
Ike Oshana

238th Marine Corps Birthday Celebration



Pictures by Ike Oshana and Lisa and Sha R.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Keep our Marines and Corpsman, and all deployed in your thoughts and prayers.
Also, a special prayer for those families who have lost their loved ones this month.

Welcome aboard to our new members:

Richard Hart, Sgt, Infantry, Charlie 1/5,
Vietnam War Veteran; and
Curtis Jepsen, Cpl, Logistics, 1FSSG, Grenada Era

Welcome back to and Welcome Home, Marines
Burt Secrest,
GySgt Ret, 1st MAW
Korean War Veteran

Jack Closson is searching for a few good men,
interested in the following:
"[M]emo regarding rifle detail:
Looking for interested persons to be available when
requested for funeral rifle detail. Weapons not
required, but accepted. Uniform to be determined, but
think it will be similar to delta blues with long or short
sleeve shirt, depending upon season and weather."
Contact Jack Closson at
firstsgtclosson@netscapte.net

A hearty welcome back to past President (2007)
David Lopez, Sergeant, H 2/1 Vietnam War Veteran;
who has recently retired from civilian life.
David was given a nice welcome back from our Chapter
President by appointing him Judge Advocate for 2014.
He thought he was retired!

The following members have bad address/phone
numbers; if you know them, please have them contact
Sha (Membership Rep) with their new info:
Joseph Horvath; Herbert Kuhnke; Donald Mahler;
Nick Romanino; Ralph Young.

USMC Birthday picture legend:

- 1) Neil Reich, Chapter Treasurer;
- 2) Chapter President Scott Montoya reading Commandants' birthday messages;
- 3) service cover ceremony;
- 4) Marching on the cake by Gunny Art Odom; SSgt Anthony Johnston, Ret. (guest) and GySgt Sha R;
- 6) LCpl Tyler Wurtham – youngest Marine present and Tom Evans, 1stLt – Oldest Marine present;
- 7) SrMChief Lucas, Tom Evans and Ike Oshana;
- 8) John Doogan, LtCom/USCG, Mrs Grace Hardy and Dave Marshall (Chapter VP).



(18December2013)

Chapter President Scott Montoya receiving a certificate of thank you on behalf of the Chapter, from American Legion Riders 716 Los Alamitos, members Art "Gunny" Odom (also a Chapter member) and Debbie Proffitt (Riders Secretary and Chapter Support member) for donating \$100 to the Riders Toys For Tots fundraiser. The Riders doubled their amount from last year, raising \$3001 in support of G 5/14 Marines stationed at Seal Beach Naval Weapons station.

Thank you to guest Anthony Johnston, SSgt/Ret, for assisting with the cake ceremony, and to all volunteers for making the birthday celebration a success.

Chapter membership statistics

World War II	WW II & Korea	Korea	Korea & Vietnam
17	10	50	3
Vietnam	Vietnam Era	WW II & Vietnam	Cold War
31	14	1	3
Grenada Era	Gulf War	Gulf War-Somalia-Iraq-Present Reserves	Iraq
2	3	1	2
Afghanistan	Present Reserves	Active Duty	
0	1	0	

**Pay your Chapter dues for 2014
at the meeting on January 15th
and receive three raffle tickets for FREE**

Era means: served during the period but not deployed to theater.
The statistics is from available information 98/102 current members and
1/3 Chapter Support Veterans.
As of 12/28/2013