

38th Officer Candidate Course/Basic Class 3-66 United States Marine Corps Alumni Incorporated (the "Association")

Minutes of the 2009 General Meeting

October 10, 2009

Time convened: 0830

Location: Hospitality Suite and adjacent patio; Crowne Plaza, Hotel Circle, San Diego, CA

<u>Call to Order:</u> President, Dave Mellon, called the meeting to order at 0830. The members said the Pledge of Allegiance. Sergeant-at-arms Mike St. Clair certified that a quorum of voting members was present.

A ceremony of remembrance, respect and gratitude was conducted by Steve Bowen, for those classmates who died as a result of service in Vietnam. Al Stefl and Jack Sheehan, read aloud the names of members of our class who gave their lives in service to this country.

The President introduced the Current Board of Directors:

2009 Term Expiration:

Andy Blenkle

Steve Bowen

Mike Janay

Terry Lewis

Jack Sheehan

Al Stefl

Dave Wall

2011 Term Expiration:

Terry Cox

Sam McClinchie

Dave Mellon

Chuck Sooter

Steve Snyder

Mike St. Clair

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<u>Secretary's Report:</u> Steve Snyder reported that the Association remained a Massachusetts corporation in good standing, that its filings with the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts were current and in good order, that a further filing identifying new officers and directors would follow this meeting, that in accordance with Massachusetts law the Association had retained "Biz Filings" as its resident agent, and that the Association was current in its filing with the United States Internal Revenue Service.

Resolved: Reading of the minutes of the last general meeting was waived by motion, second and unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Sooter reported the following:

- At the beginning of 2009, the beginning Association/Alumni account was \$13,467.
- Income 1) During the 2008-9 dues campaign, 63 members paid \$7,178 of which \$4,775 was paid in 2009, and 2) there was a recovery of \$1,010 from prepaid reunion expenses.
- Outgo 1) \$1332.44 in operating expenses, mainly website maintenance, 2) donation of \$7,300 for two USMC charitable organizations and bereavement for 3 members.
- The reunion net cost was unknown at the time of this report, but Chuck expected the net outcome to be positive.
- As of Oct 7, 2009, Chuck projected that the Association/Alumni account retained a balance of \$10,620.

The Treasurer then auctioned to members present one (unclaimed) reunion shirt for the benefit of the Association.

<u>President's report:</u> Dave Mellon emphasized the following Association priorities and noted several areas in which the organization had made improvements in 2008 and 2009, specifically:

Updating Association By-Laws to enable efficient operation between reunions.

Board operating as an Executive Committee of the Whole.

Implemented the Annual Voluntary Contribution Plan with Honor Roll acknowledgement on the website.

Aligned the Membership Directories with the classes of membership defined in the Bylaws.

Communications with members via email and importance of obtaining as many current member email addresses as possible.

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Urged members to check their own information on the Association website and send in corrections.

Developed charters for new committees and implemented them (Bereavement, Charitable Contributions, Directory Maintenance and Reunion Planning).

Major overhaul of the Website and appointment of a new Webmaster-Sam Patel.

Continued work of Jack Sheehan to identify and contact members not yet located.

Ongoing work to complete list of decorations of all members.

Initiated the President's Newsletter.

Emphasized transparency by posting all major documents on the Website.

<u>Bereavement Committee Report:</u> Dave Wall reported that in accordance with Association policy adopted by the Board, the Bereavement Committee arranged for donations to various charities in the amount of \$100 each to honor of the following classmates and/or their wives:

- Jim Kean
- Larry Richards
- Joanne Quinn (wife of Rick Quinn)
- Val Prost
- Bob Nunnally
- Joan Strokes (wife of Paul Strokes)

Three other classmates have died since the last reunion, where we have not yet been able to contact family members to determine an appropriate organization to which to make a charitable contribution. They are Rob Willis, Frank Carrigan and Roscoe Halcomb. Darrell Wells and Dave Wall will continue our efforts to contact the appropriate family member in order to extend the appropriate honor to these deceased classmates.

Contributions Committee Report: Sam McClinchie reported that Charity Contributions were part of the Association's Mission Statement. Given that fact, the Association developed a Charity Donation SOP. That SOP specifies that the members of the Contributions Committee are: the Vice President, the Treasurer and two at-large members, in this case Tom Howe, Jr. and Pete Clay. In 2007 the Association contributed \$10,800 to the National Museum of the Marine Corps' Brick Program to purchase 36 bricks to honor our fallen Vietnam classmates. In 2009 the Association contributed \$2,000 to the Marine Corps Scholarship Fund and \$5,000

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(the check was presented at the banquet that evening) to the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund. Since 2005, the Association has donated \$7,100 to the Scholarship Fund and \$13,500 to the Semper Fi Fund.

Reunion: Dave Mellon, who himself served as a member of the 2009 Reunion Committee, described – and expressed the Association's gratitude for -- the significant contributions of and devotion of considerable time by each other member of the 2009 Reunion Committee (Bernie Allen, Andy Blenkle, Rich Cleland, Terry Cox, Digger Odell, Chuck Sooter, Mike St. Clair, Skip Storey, Earl Wentworth). Dave also expressed the widely shared view that as a result of their efforts, this reunion was well planned and the execution phase was going well, too.

Election of Directors (2009-2013): The 2009-2013 Directors nominated by the Nominating Committee were Andy Blenkle, Peter Clay, Larry Edwards, Tom Howe, Jr., Terry Lewis, Jack Sheehan and Darrell Wells. The floor was opened to additional nominations from the voting members present. There being no further nominations, on motion and second and unanimous voice vote and acclamation from the voting members present, the following members were elected as Directors of the Association to serve from 2009 to 2013:

Andy Blenkle Peter Clay Larry Edwards Tom Howe, Jr. Terry Lewis Jack Sheehan Darrell Wells

<u>Election of Officers (2009-2011):</u> The following members were proposed by the Nominating Committee to serve as officers from 2009 to 2011:

President – Sam McClinchie Vice President – Mike St. Clair Clerk – Steve Snyder Treasurer – Chuck Sooter Sgt-At-Arms – Tom Howe, Jr.

The floor was opened to nominations from the voting members present. There being no further nominations, on motion and second and unanimous voice vote and acclamation from the voting members present, the following members were elected to serve as officers of the Association to

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serve from 2009 to 2011:

President – Sam McClinchie Vice President – Mike St. Clair Clerk – Steve Snyder Treasurer – Chuck Sooter Sgt-At-Arms – Tom Howe, Jr.

2011 Reunion Site Recommendation: Sam McClinchie and Dave Wall described the process by which they visited, analyzed and weighed the strengths and weaknesses of a number of potential East Coast 2011 Reunion venues.

Sam McClinchie and Dave Wall explained in detail why the Reunion Committee's recommendation for the 2011 reunion venue was New Bern, North Carolina and announced that they would illustrate their recommendation in a power point presentation at the banquet later that evening.

On motion and second and unanimous vote of the members present:

Resolved: That the 2011 Association reunion venue will be New Bern, North Carolina.

<u>Other Business:</u> The voting members present discussed 1) the importance of obtaining an Agent Orange physical and registration with the VA; 2) desirability of joining the Marine Corps Association; 3) economic and attractive opportunities that are still available to return to Vietnam to confront our memories of the battlefield and visit this country as it is today.

Adjournment: There being no further business, on motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 1000.

Respectfully Submitted,

1/19/2010

Steve Snyder

Secretary