

Hotel 2/5 Newsletter

AUGUST 2015

RETREAT HELL

ISSUE FIVE



Elton Armstrong and Steve Russell at Philly VA.

Editor's Column

It's the beginning of the month and I am able to get back on the originally anticipated schedule of a monthly newsletter. I have been doing back to back trials with another set to start on Monday. However, the persecutor asked for a continuance and I graciously agreed. I will be trying to get caught up which includes the mountain of emails to which

I need to respond and the calls which I need to return.

I added another name to the list the other day. Don Allen recently made contact. Don was an A gunner for Elton Armstrong in early 69. I put Don in contact with Elton who is currently in a VA hospital in Philadelphia. Don made the trip to Philly to see Armstrong and is currently working on a plan to get Armstrong to the reunion in Nashville this year.

I told Don that we were already discussing this same plan after Steve Russell visited Elton shortly after Charlie McMahon tracked him down. The general consensus is that we can get him there, but may not be able to get him to return. Don has the time, energy, commitment and dedication to make it happen so I would expect Armstrong to be there.

I hope everyone else will be there too. Semper Fi.



Your Editor

If you need to contact me use either:

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Two new members to the reunion email list are Corpsman Randy Hackett and Col. John Moffett. They share one of those great moments that neither will ever forget. Here is the article detailing that event.

Booby Traps Aren't Easy Chairs

DA NANG, Vietnam — To rest on a mountain trail in enemy territory is one thing. Sometimes it can be fatal.

"Doc" Hackett, and the Marines of Co. H, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, were moving through the Que Son Mountains, 25 miles south of here, in search of enemy base camps when the word came back to "take five."

Immediately packs were dropped and men began to slump, eager to give their bodies a break from the strenuous climbing. Hospital Corpsman Second Randall L. Hackett was no exception.

* * *

DROPPING his gear, the company's senior corpsman sat down and began to relax and look around. What he saw didn't make resting too easy. Hackett had had the misfortune of sitting next to an enemy booby-trap and placing his foot on the pressure type detonator.

"Two feet off the ground, attached

to a tree I was leaning against was a canister full of explosives with its detonator under my foot," said Hackett. "I didn't want to cause a panic so I whispered to the Marine sitting next to me that I was sitting on a booby-trap and to quietly tell the company commander.

"I had no idea how many booby-traps were in the area and didn't want everyone running around," continued the corpsman.

Capt. John W. Moffett got the word from the Marine. "At first I thought the "Doc" actually had sat on a booby-trap and as I made my way toward him I was trying to figure out how to get him off," the captain said.

BECAUSE HACKETT hadn't detonated the device when he first stepped on it, it was decided it was the pressure release type.

The captain began to pack flak jackets around the explosives in hope that if it detonated they would absorb most of the blast. Once this was accomplished, Moffett placed his hand on the detonator, replacing Hackett's foot.

Hackett jumped for cover, but nothing happened. Next, placing a rock where his hand was, hoping it would do the trick, Moffett leaped away. The rock worked.

"That break took 10 years off my life," said Hackett.



Hotel Web Page Up

Larry Tyler has our web site up and running. If you haven't seen it yet give it a once over. You can find the web page at:

<http://hotel25vv.org/>

Contact Larry with your photos, articles, and information. If you have photos be sure and get them to Larry for posting. If you wander around the site you can see that he has the format for various themes and concepts that will enable Hotel to communicate our thoughts, ideas and concerns. It is also a great place to share and or get information about benefits.

Contact Info. Get your contact information into Larry. He can add you to his email list providing a central hub for staying in contact with each other. It is also a good idea to keep me advised of your current email address at the same time. Between the two of us we can keep you all updated with the latest info and the reunion details..

2015 REUNION, NASHVILLE, TN

The fee for this year's reunion is \$170 per Marine or Corpsman which includes the T shirt. \$155 for each guest. If you want a T shirt for the guest add \$15. Mens size 3X and larger add an additional \$5. Print the form on the next page. (Page 3) Fill in the blanks. Add up the fees, make out your check to Larry D. Tyler and then mail off the check and the form to Larry at 17242 Sierra Sunrise LN, Santa Clarita, CA 91387 Please note "Attn: Hotel2/5 Reunion" on the memo of the check.



The Holiday Inn's discounted rate is \$109 which includes parking, a hospitality room for our use, and a free shuttle from the airport. Reservations for the hotel can be made at the following link http://ichotelsgroup.com/redirect?path=rates&brandCode=HI®ionCode=1&localeCode=en&GPC=C4R&hotelCode=BNAOP&_PMID=99801505 You can also phone the reservation in to the hotel at [1-866-871-1171](tel:1-866-871-1171). The reservation code is C4R.



The schedule:

Day 1: Thursday, Nov 5th

Registration & "Meet n Greet". The kick off time 3 p.m. Hospitality room will be open 6 to 9 with light refreshments. Dinner on your own.

Day 2: Friday, Nov 6th

Lunch Cruise on the General Jackson

Showboat. Hospitality room opens at 4 p.m. Dinner on your own.

Day 3: Saturday, Nov 7th

Guided tour of the Ryman Auditorium. Group lunch downtown at BB King's.

Reservation is Noon to 1 p.m. (Fried Pickles, Chicken and Waffles, BBQ Pulled Pork Platter, BBQ Baked Beans, White Cheddar Mac n' Cheese, Cornbread Muffins, Banana Bread Pudding for dessert, Unlimited Sodas, Iced Tea, and Coffee.

Birthday Ball at the hotel (1600-2200) Cash bar. Dinner buffet, Chicken and Rosemary Pork. (7 p.m.)

Day 4: Sunday, Nov 8th

Breakfast and Farewells. Hospitality Room open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

HOTEL COMPANY 2/5
2015 REUNION
NASHVILLE, TN

REGISTRATION FORM

Marine or Corpsman

Name: _____ Fee: \$170.00

Guest Name: _____ (ADD \$155) Fee: _____

Your T Shirt size _____

T shirt for guest--size _____ (ADD \$15) (3X or larger add \$5) Fee: _____

TOTAL FEE INCLUDED: _____

Will you have a rental car? yes _____ no _____

If you need vegetarian or gluten free option for the Birthday Ball please indicate.

Gluten free # _____ Vegetarian # _____

Print this page. Fill in the blanks. Make your CHECK PAYABLE TO Larry D. Tyler and Mail your check and this form to:

Larry D. Tyler
17242 Sierra Sunrise LN
Santa Clarita, CA 91387

Please note "Attn: Hotel2/5 Reunion" on the memo of the check