



JAN - MAR 2010

Issue #25



Stiggy's Dogs By Jennifer Petre

I am grateful and excited to have this chance to share with you the (soon-to-be) non-profit organization called Stiggy's Dogs. Before I explain what the organization is, I need to explain who 'Doc Stiggy' was and why this is important.

On Sept 3rd 2009, in Hellman Province Afghanistan, an I.E.D. killed HM3 Ben "Doc Stiggy" Castiglione, Lance Cpl. Christopher S. Baltazar and Lance Cpl. Christopher while injuring HM3 Thomas Peterson and Lance Cpl. Chris Grisbrecht.

HM3 Benjamin ("Doc Stiggy") Castiglione was proud being a Corpsman. He dedicated his life to preserving and improving the physical and emotional health of those serving in his unit. Ben did not have to deploy to Afghanistan, but had requested to go out of commitment to the troops in his company. I remember Ben being nervous about his deployment this time, saying "I am not worried about me; I just can't lose any of my Marines". Doc Stiggy loved being a Corpsman and made sure that he taught each Marine Life Combat Lifesaving skills. A fellow Corpsman at his memorial summed it all up when he said. "Stiggy never stopped working harder or pushing himself to the limits to insure that his Marines had sufficient knowledge on how to handle the worst of combat injuries. Because of the countless hours and time Ben put into teaching his Marines, they had proved to him on the day he died, all his hard work paid off." Said HM3 Jeffery Mancino. That statement made in reference to Thomas Peterson, who credits Ben that he is alive today. Thomas Peterson and his wife gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Jordyn a month later.

The events of Sept 3rd, the grief our family felt combined with the need to do something brought on the idea of Stiggy's Dogs. A nonprofit organization dedicated to the emotional support of military veterans and their families through the companionship, loyalty, and affection of Emotional Service Dogs. We pair heroes and their families with Canine Good Citizenship awarded therapy dogs for temporary or permanent domestic placement. We are committed to enhancing the lives of both military families and Emotional Service Dogs by fostering a renewed focus on life following the transition from military deployment to the civilian world.

Studies show that many returning from Afghanistan and Iraq will have some symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Feelings of anxiety, depression, detachment, make returning to civilian life a struggle for these Vets. There are many Military families that have lost loved ones and find it hard to cope with the grief. Pairing these heroes with an Emotional Therapy

Continued on Page 3

Inside this issue:

RANT FROM DA-CHIEF	2
SEARCHING FOR HM2 JAMES PELL	4
SPOUSES CORNER	5
CORPSMAN-UP	6-7
THE BALLAD OF MCGEE	8
THE CORPSMAN: YOU AND ME	9
BAND-AIDS FOR THE CORPSMAN/MEDIC	10 - 11
MISSING YOU	12
Bits & Pieces	13-19
FRA Education Foundation	20-21

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2130-2300 EST
USTREAM.COM**

RANT FROM DA-CHIEF

My Rant this month isn't so much a rant, but a request of information from you the users of Corpsman.com.

When I (We, actually, CrazyCajun, DeeDee, 8404, and Doc_Konkle) started this site we all had a vision for Corpsman.com, in that it would be a site for the users "BY" the users.

You see while I know a lot about enlisted medicine of all the services, I am by no means the be all, know it all of military med. My mainstays for info are "HMC-FMF-PJ", "Doc_D", "Indy", "Poolzer", "IDC-Wife" and a few more.

Corpsman.com could be a lot better if we could get some Doc's or people who are interested in a subject matter to become regular contributors of our site.

Here is what I am looking for if you are interested;

Navy Med contributor

Army Med contributor

Air Force Med contributor

Marine Corps Med contributor

Coast Guard Med contributor

Reserve/Guard contributor

Advancement News contributor

VA News Contributor to include all VA programs.

Family Contributor, Would like one from all services as while we all serve a mission for our Country, we are all unique services.

And last but not least a Entertainment Contributor, to include Games, Movies, Television etc..

Now I want to be clear on something, I am not requesting a story or contribution every day but maybe once or twice a week. It's always good when folks can learn to depend that a certain writer will contribute on a certain day and look out for their submission.

So if you're interested, how about dropping us a line at editor@corpsman.com or admin1@corpsman.com and we will get you setup.

I hope you join our Corpsman.com Team!

Thanks!

Da-Chief

Corpsman.com

STIGGY'S DOGS (continued)

dog is one alternative for healing through companionship, loyalty, affection and unconditional love. There are an estimated 5 million dogs sitting in shelters across America, many to be euthanized. Many of those dogs could make an excellent Emotional Therapy Dog for a Military Vet and their family. Stiggy's Dogs will be then evaluated, fostered and trained to be a Canine Good Citizen.

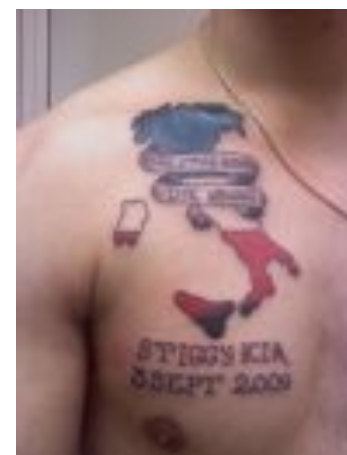
HM3 Benjamin "Doc Stiggy" Castiglione, was respected by his Marines and known for his determination, professionalism mixed with sharp wit. To his family he is remembered for his caring nature, his love for family and dogs. This organization, in memory of "Doc Stiggy" will Honor him by 'Rescuing one to help rescue another.'



I cannot end this without a huge shout out to Corpsman.com. Ben told us how helpful your website was and made his decision based on such. I want to thank Darrell Crone and DeeDee Reno for their friendship and support for our family through this difficult time. I want to thank each Military service man and woman for their dedication and service.

Check us out on Facebook at [StiggysDogs](#) or on line at [Stiggys-dogs.org](#) (will be up soon). We would love to hear your ideas, suggestions and support.

TATTOOS IN HONOR OF "DOC STIGGY"



SEARCHING FOR HM2 JAMES PELL

I have been a MilBlogger for 5 years now and recently had a request to help reconnect a Marine with a corpsman he saved.

I had found a set of comments on a blog by HM3 James Pell about burying a Marine that I posted. About a week ago, a friend of a Marine who saved him in Iraq asked if I might be able to contact HM(now)2 Pell.

I updated the post and showed out a request for contact to the Navy Bloggers I know, and some of the Army/AF types and Soldier's Angels. Nothing has come up yet.

Tonight I found your site and wondered if you might help out with this issue by putting it up on your site?

Thanks in advance!
Curt

Here's the text of the request I sent out, with a link to my blog:

A number of years back, I found a comment on another blog by a then HM3, who told about how he and his combat brothers took care of burying one of their own. Compelling story, turned it into a blog post. I was able to correspond with HM3 James Pell for a bit, then his email changed.

Got an email today with a note from a lady who's friend had been saved by James, and a request to get them in contact.

Can you lend a hand and put the eyeballs of your readers on this? I've done an update post on my current blog about this request.

Here's the text from [Joyce Blain](#):

Mr. Pell,

Please forgive me if I've sent this to the wrong person, but I'm looking for the man whose life was saved by my friend, Lcpl James Powers. He found your "How to Bury a Hero" blog and replied, and I wanted to make sure that you are aware of his posting. He has been back from Iraq for 3 years, and is back in college. I'm sure he would love to hear from you.

Thanks for your time,
Joyce Blain

Here's the link to [James Power's Facebook](#) account

The post, had this comment:

I am James Powers, the Lcpl that was there with James Pell and Shane Keelion when they were both shot, I personally watched Shane get shot in the forehead, and James Pell's legs shake violently as the bullets impacted. I went to boot camp with Shane, he was a great man. I haven't spoken to James since I exited the USMC but if he is still a corpsman I believe he is one of the best if not the best the navy has to offer, an example for all of us. I'm mainly posting this in hopes to reconnect with him, but I feel I must contribute to this blog in order to be taken seriously by a reader. If anyone knows him personally or if you are reading this yourself James, try to contact me, facebook would be best since some of the same people, (snipers) that we worked with are my friends still. IE Moon, Ramsey. I don't mind answering or replying if anyone has anything to say after this is posting.

That day is a day I couldn't forget even if I tried, I hope that this reaches you James.
Left 3/16/2010.

I'm obviously not the brave Corpsman who saved this man, but I'm believing we can find the right man.

If you could lend a hand in finding HM2 Pell to reconnect these men, that would be great.

I'm thankful regularly how we can help out with just a few moments of our time in cases like this.

Curt

SPOUSES CORNER

HELPFUL HINTS AND IDEAS FOR MILITARY SPOUSES

NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE STATIONED

From the Desk of
IDCWIFE

It's not always better at the commissary

By Melissa Collier (IDCWife)

As a military spouse, it is my job to stretch every buck as far as it will go. Whether it means re-searching impending purchases online, using search engines to find discounted travel or clipping coupons I am ALWAYS looking for a way to save a buck.

Many military spouses think that the commissary will offer the best price on grocery products. I have found this to be untrue in regards to many items on the shelf. So, if the commissary isn't really the best place to stretch your buck, where should you go? Out in town! Shop on the economy and you can save upwards of 60% on your grocery budget.

When I first decided to shop outside the commissary walls I was SCARED! I did some internet research and created a price book of items my family typically purchased at the commissary. I walked around the store with a notebook and wrote down each item and its regular (NOT sale) price. This gives you somewhere to start when you are looking at the ads from the chain stores.

Gather the ads from your local chain stores and see what is on sale. Is that sale price more or less than the commissary price? What coupons do you have that can bring the cost down? Are there any store coupons that can be combined to bring the price even lower? What about those store specific loyalty cards? Often times you can visit the retailer's website and put electronic coupons onto those cards that will bring your cost down even further. There are even sales that give you money back! For instance, buy 5 "AAA" brand cereal and get \$5 off instantly – PLUS you can use coupons and electronic coupons too!

Of course, not every item is less expensive on the economy and there are a select few items that I continually go to the commissary for. But that list is getting shorter as the selection gets smaller and the prices go up. You have to decide for yourself if it is worth your time to run to the commissary for only a few items that are priced lower than the chain stores, or if you can justify spending a bit more in town because of the savings you receive on other items.

References: www.hotcouponworld.com, www.slickdeals.net, www.coupons.com,
www.smartsources.com, www.afullcup.com

Corpsman Up!

By BacSi68

A call for "DOC" has been heard in every War, routinely on every kind of ships, on land and in the air. It is a time that "DOC" goes into action, relying on his training in Corp School, A Schools and real-time experience over the course of their enlistment. Why would anybody volunteer for such a perilous and demanded rating. Everyone expects you to come to the aid of a wounded comrade. We are all bound and expected to "DO OUR BEST" and to "MAKE SURE THE SITUATION DOES NOT GET WORSE".

We practice our skill alone or as a team. In Corps School we depend upon each other to pass the written and practical requirements. I remember half the class giving IM and SC injections to each other. Half the class would receive and the other half would give their best SHOT. Often it was payback time for the receiving other half which still are in pain from the in-experienced that left that stinging pain in their arm and butt. I later got lots of practice at my first duty Hospital giving shots in the well baby shot clinic. ***I would hear Moms screaming at me, " Why are you giving my baby the shot in the upper leg!...Do you know what you are doing?...Isn't it supposed to be given into the arm?" then, "You want me to hold the baby down and stretch out their leg?" Yes Mom, I need your help or I might tear the skin if the baby moves while I am giving the shot!" Actually, the baby cried less than most of the sailors I gave injection.***

On night shift on a Thoracic Surgical Ward, 2 of us would be the only medical staff, except when the Lt. Nurse came around to check the med cabinet. We would put the scheduled meds in small paper cups, put them on a cart and pass them out.....Question???...Are we supposed to WAKE up a sleeping patient to give them a SLEEP med? Mr. Sailor...Wake Up! It is time for your sleeping pill! Heck, I may need it more when I return to the barracks and try to sleep during the day until my next night shift.

Charting was so much fun...recording the meds given and status of the patient during my shift.....Have to hurry to finish the Charts for a large Ward right before the Head Nurse and next Corpsmen come in at 0700. I got an IDEA! What if I start my Charting about 0400 and take some pressure off...It worked like a charm until a 2 events happened after I charted out EARLY.....2 patients started to go into Chain-Stokes...death rales and a sure sign of the end. 2 of them at almost the same time....DNR, the Doctor was called with his Aids came and pronounced them dead within the next 2 hours.....

Tag the toe, close the jaw and secure it with a head strap, secure the arms and legs together and then the most fun came when I had to take a LARGE gauge needle and evacuate the bladder of all its contents. Place them on a gurney and wheel them to the Morgue in the basement of the Hospital. Got both done and returned just as the morning staff was arriving.

I heard, HN Dave, can I see you NOW, said the morning crew Head Nurse. She complimented me on my professional care and compassion in handling this unique and hectic time on the Ward. "Thank you, yes it was a long night", I said. I figured did a JOB WELL DONE!

"I see you did all that and still completed your Charting...even though I saw you just returning on then elevator as I arrived" the Head Nurse exclaimed! However, there is One question is on my mind. You said both patients expired with in the past 3 hours, yet your chart says, **0600 Both patient's slept well with no issues....but I see that they Slept very well in the Morgue.....BUSTED!!!**

Maybe we all get promoted to the level of incompetence, since finally in a few weeks later, I finally got accepted to OTJ as an 8483 OR TECH. The Head Nurse would no longer check my morning charting and glare at me daily. I did turn out to be a FANTASTIC Scrubbing and Circulating in the Operating Suite. We always operated as a team....the scalpel hit the skin ever every patient at 0800....and we continued to scrub cases all day, knowing what to set-up for each case and specialty request of each doctor listed on 3X5 index cards on the Suture Piano and expected to know the surgical procedure and where the doctor was in the procedure.

Occasionally, the Surgeon would ask for an instrument and I would advise him that he really wanted another. "WELL DONE....ALWAYS GIVE ME WHAT I NEED, NOT WHAT I ASKED FOR", said many of the Surgeons. I would also keep a heavy clamp on my mayo stand to SMACK THE HAND OF ANY RESIDENT THAT TRIED TO GRAB AN INSTRUMENT OFF IT.....I would smack their gloved hand and they got the message fast. Once in awhile as Circulating Corpsman, I would hide a bloody sponge so the Nurse responsible for the count would not come out right before giving the OK for the closure of the wound. I would sneak it back in with the others as she was telling the Surgeon that the count

Continues on next page

was off and that they may need to call for the Portable X-Ray Unit. "Count the sponges and laps one more time" the surgeon would tell her, not so nicely! OH MY she found the count to be correct this time...and left scratching her head the rest of the case.

We would also try to hold back our laughter when the Surgeon would send the new nurses down to CSR for 5 feet of Sterile Fallopian Tubing or the Orthopedic Surgeon sending her to find him the Otis Elevator. She would search the Center Cabinet in the hall where additional instruments were kept, search the steam clave in the utility room next to Suite and return almost in tears when the Surgeon once again for the location of the Otis Elevator....finally he would tell her to go outside the OR and push the button on the wall and the Otis Elevator would come up!

Well, they made me an HM2 and sent me to Field Med School Camp Pendleton to be additionally an 8404 Green Side "DOC" sent to Nam....Well making E-5 just over 2 years wasn't bad....we got the respect of the Marines and were able to eat in a private area with the other NCO's. Once I arrived in Nam, I told them I was an OJT Operating Room Tech...he said he was impressed and I would make it back to the OR at 3d Med Battalion **IF I SURVIVED** 6 months (ended up being 8 months) in the Bush with India Company 3 Battalion 26th Marine. Ended up as a Senior Battalion Aid Station "DOC" for month before I ended up on Hill 881S Khe Sanh for the entire 77 days on that Hill and 3 more months in the bush around Quang Tri, Hue, Phu Bai and finally in the Triple Canopy Jungle West of Da Nang, before the Lt. called me over and said, "DOC, that is your Freedom Bird to the OR at 3rd Med Quang Tri as promised!"

The sick practical jokes I initiated at 3d Med are of legend....I did not get along with the other OR Tech White Side Navy guys and they did not care for me being senior to them in rank and Green Side Bush experience, that allowed me to triage incoming wounded for the OR. **GOOD NEWS**.... I Survived Nam and returned to the WORLD without a physical wound (mental is another story). **BAD NEWS**....even though I supposed to get the duty station of my preference...I was from Chicago and could taste Great Lakes)...but nooooooooooooooooooooo, they sent me back to the same Naval Hospital and OR that I left originally.....the pranks in the OR started again! This time, while my expertise in the OR was noted...the decline in my MILITARY BEHAVIOR continued to go down and down and down....WHAT WERE THEY GOING TO DO? SEND ME BACK TO NAM! I was threatened often...but my enlistment would be over after this this Shore Duty was up and I would not have enough time for Sea Duty (or another stint....you know where) so I got out despite them offering me E6 HM1.

I ticked them off when I showed up for my final inspection in my Marine Green Uniform with my 3 rows of medals. They also had to pay me travel back to Chicago plus 3 years of untaken leave (although I DID take that leave) since my Military Records were boldly marked **RECORDS LOST IN VIET NAM**. Left Long Island, New York a half hour after my discharge and did not stop until I arrived back home in Chicago. Sold Surgical Instruments in 3 states for 8 years and Pharmaceuticals for 26 years and now I am retired.....trying to forget my time in NAM...

"DOC" Dave Steinberg 8404/8483 June 66' to March 70'
BacSi68



“THE BALLAD OF MCGEE”

by

John Alfano, former HM2
USS Pine Island (HM2)

In a land a hundred years from now, that still has yet to be.
Serves an HM2 of simple means, his name James T. McGee.
With the aid of high school physics and a bit of chemistry,
He's produced a modern miracle, a synthetic RBC.

It took ten long years of research to remove every flaw.
He's dialyzed and crystallized and lyophilized and more.
Distillation, hydrogenation and sterilization too,
As well as a secret substance from an animal in our zoo.

With a shape slightly cuboidal and the color of pea green,
It certainly must be appreciated before ever being seen.
McGee then sold his product to a major corporation,
And the crossmatch met a silent death in the blood banks of our nation.

Now the market seemed the safest place to invest all his cash,
But what McGee could not foresee was another market crash.
Soon Uncle Sam came calling for a cut of all that loot,
But poor McGee came up short and was busted to recruit.

Now by day he empties bedpans,
And by night he's testing pee.
While somewhere a surgeon orders,
“Two units of McGee!”.

So the moral of this story, if invention be your game,
Is to cover all your bases or your fate may be the same.

"The Corpsman: You and Me"

By ReconDoc83

We were the Loblolly Boys, and our duty started with hot irons in our hands, to close the wounds of our brothers. We threw hot sand across the soaking deck to dry away the blood....you and me.

We became nurses, then surgeon's stewards, many things were we, and when our brothers lay bleeding in the grass at Gettysburg, we were the Baymen....you and me.

June 17th, 1898, this is our date, the lives we led prior, have no meaning, not to our Sailors, nor our Marines, this is our birthday for....you and me.

They gave us helmets and armbands with little Red Crosses, and the life expectancy of a corpsman was 6 seconds on the beaches of Normandy for....you and me.

We stormed every beach, climbed every hill, and as that flag flies over Iwo Jima still, even now our face is the only one you will see. These scars we carry too....you and me.

2,000 of our brothers have fallen for what we believe. From 1861 Twenty Two have won our nations highest honor, albeit posthumously, and we grieve for every one....you and me.

Our brothers include funny men, and congressmen, and men who just went back to living the lives that men do. Yes we answered to many names, but when a Sailor or Marine calls you "Doc", well that's just fine too, for....you and me.

Wayne Stacy
Former USN HM

BAND-AIDS FOR THE CORPSMAN/MEDIC

BY KERRY PARDUE

This will be my last entry as National Chaplain for Medics & Corpsmen. Thank you for your support of me being your Chaplain. The past two years has been one of much growth for me and many of you. Just know as I leave this post you will continue to be in my prayers. I am looking forward to my new assignment as National Commander. I realize that there will be many challenges facing us all with PTSD, unemployment and under-employment, sickness, cancer, loss of loved ones. Just know that each of us is a child of the King and He loves us so very much that He sent His son to die for us all...John 3:16. I also know that we are a people of remarkable abilities and gifts and can overcome anything that we face. Here is a story of such an act....

Thanks to David Newell

This is little-known story from the Pentagon on 09/11/2001:

During a visit with a fellow chaplain, who happened to be assigned to the Pentagon, I had a chance to hear a first-hand account of an incident that happened right after Flight 77 hit the Pentagon. The chaplain told me what happened at a daycare center near where the impact occurred.

This daycare had many children, including infants who were in heavy cribs. The daycare supervisor, looking at all the children they needed to evacuate, was in a panic over what they could do. There were many children, mostly toddlers, as well as the infants that would need to be taken out with the cribs. There was no time to try to bundle them into carriers and strollers. Just then a young Marine came running into the center and asked what they needed. After hearing what the center director was trying to do, he ran back out into the hallway and disappeared. The director thought, 'well, there we are—on our own.'

About 2 minutes later, that Marine returned with 40 other Marines in tow. Each of them grabbed a crib with a child, and the rest started gathering up toddlers. The director and her staff then helped them take all the children out of the center and down toward the park near the Potomac and the Pentagon. Once they got about 3/4 of a mile outside the building, the Marines stopped in the park, and then did a fabulous thing - they formed a circle with the cribs, which were quite sturdy and heavy, like the covered wagons in the Old West. Inside this circle of cribs, they put the toddlers, to keep them from wandering off. Outside this circle were the 40 Marines, forming a perimeter around the children and waiting for instructions. There they remained until the parents could be notified and come get their children..

The chaplain then said, "I don't think any of us saw nor heard of this on any of the news stories of the day. It was an incredible story of our men there. The thought of those Marines and what they did and how fast they reacted; could we expect any less from them?"

Remember Ronald Reagan's great compliment:

"Most of us wonder if our lives made any difference. Marines don't have that problem."

SEMPER FI
KERRY "DOC PARDUE"

National Chaplain, Medics & Corpsmen 2008-2010

<http://www.medics-corpsmen.org/>

<http://www.kerrypardue247.com/Index.html>



lions and tigers and bears, oh my... from Doc_Pardue

The first two units I was with in Vietnam were in Plieku and Ban Me Thout. There was an abundance of wild-life in the woods, forest, and Central Highlands. On several occasions we had seen large paw prints outside several buildings, trying to figure out what they were from. Then a tiger



was found in the base camp and was killed. About a month later a baby bear shows up and comes into the dispensary much to our surprise. Lots of snakes (pythons, cobras, pit vipers), leeches, large rats, and other strange looking bugs. Here is the photo of the bear.



United States Navy

**SUBMITTED BY:
RACHEL MAYERSCHOFF**

MISSING YOU

WE KNEW IT WOULD BE HARD, WE HAD TALKED IT ALL THROUGH
IN THE END WE DECIDED IT WAS SOMETHING WE SHOULD DO
SO NOW WE'RE FAR APART AND MY HEART IS BEING CRUSHED
THE LONGING AND THE ACHING OVERWHELM ME IN A RUSH
I SEE EACH OF YOUR FACES; HEAR YOUR LAUGHTER IN MY HEAD
FOR A FLEETING MOMENT, HAPPY - THEN THE SADNESS THAT I DREAD
TO TAKE IT DAY BY DAY IS ALL THAT I CAN DO
KNOWING IN THE END I WILL BE COMING HOME TO YOU
YET I SEE SOME GOOD THINGS; NEW WISDOM I HAVE FOUND
I HAVE A NEW PERSPECTIVE, MY FEET ARE ON THE GROUND
MY LOVE FOR YOU MY BEAUTIFUL WIFE HAS NEVER FELT SO PURE
THE CRUCIBLE OF ISOLATION HAS STRIPPED IT TO THE CORE
I ALWAYS KNEW I NEEDED YOU - IT GOES BEYOND THAT NOW
I APPROACH YOUR THRONE, MY SEXY GODDESS, AND OFFER A HUMBLE BOW
I KNOW THAT IN THE PAST I HAVE TAKEN YOU FOR GRANTED
UNDERVALUED ALL YOU ARE AND DO; THE SCALE MAY HAVE BEEN SLANTED
THOSE DAYS ARE PAST I PROMISE YOU; WHEN WE ARE RE-UNITED
MY DEVOTION AND APPRECIATION WILL ENSURE YOU DON'T FEEL SLIGHTED
MY REASON FOR LIVING, THE ONE LOVE OF MY LIFE
I'M THE LUCKIEST OF ALL THAT I GET TO CALL YOU WIFE.

MY FLESH AND BLOOD - MY SON, MY LIVING PRIDE AND JOY
WHAT A DAY OF WONDER WAS THE BIRTHDAY OF MY BOY
SINCE THEN YOU'VE GROWN SO MUCH - GOTTEN TALL AND STRONG AND SMART
I'M SO VERY PROUD OF YOU THERE'S A SWELLING IN MY HEART

RAINA-ROO, MY PRINCESS - THE BEST OF ALL SURPRISES
YOUR GRACE, BEAUTY AND CHARM WILL WIN YOU MANY PRIZES



United States Navy

YOUR SWEET DISPOSITION, PASSED DOWN FROM YOUR MOTHER
MAKES YOU A SPECIAL SWEETIE, UNIQUE, UNLIKE ANY OTHER
ALWAYS REMEMBER THIS, LOVED ONES - NO MATTER NEAR OR FAR OR NEAR
I HOLD YOU CLOSE INSIDE MY HEART - I LOVE YOU ALL, MY DEARS



Bits and Pieces

There are many men who were injured in WWII that returned to their loved ones who had my father to thank. He enlisted in the US Navy soon after Pearl Harbor. His first choice was to be part of the submarine fleet. However he was chosen to be part of the medical corp. After training at Portsmouth, NH he was assigned to an LST that was to take part in the invasion of Normandy, His ship made 30 trips to England with the wounded. As a side, his brother Pvt Lawrence Lowell was killed in France one month after D-Day. Then when the war effort shifted to the Pacific he again found himself on another LST. This ship set up the Naval hospital on Iwo Jima. After the war ended he returned to his home in Vermont. That is a brief story of PhM3 George F. Lowell, January 1, 1924- February 21, 2007. Interred in the Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Florida.

The Annual Blessing of the Fleets Ceremony will be conducted at the U. S. Navy Memorial on Saturday 10th of April at 1300hrs.

The U. S. Navy memorial is located at: 701 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, DC. Website:

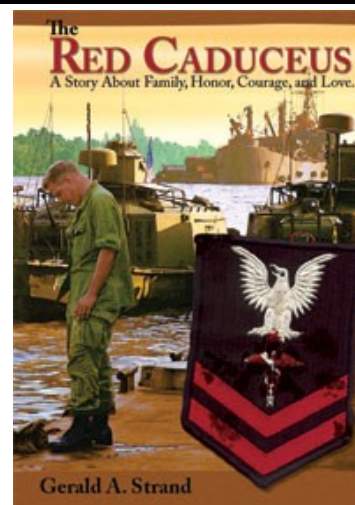
www.navy memorial.org

Read the book :

[“RED CADUCEUS”](#)

By: Gerald A. Strand

To purchase the book click the name above a link will direct you to the site.



This pic was taken by AO3 Jon Elssas aboard USS Eisenhower, CVN69, somewhere in the Atlantic during their last crossing. It was sent to me by my daughter AD2 Rebecca Waddell, attached to the VAW121 (E2 Hawkeye) **Bluetails**, aboard USS Eisenhower.

Obviously, the shot is looking aft on the starboard side, and it was taken from just aft of the jet blast deflector for CAT1.

I think it is a very cool shot...
Mike Waddell

I had the pleasure of being elected the commandant of the Fremont Marine Corp League Detachment #1275 as I was a Fleet Marine Corpsman. So I am serving my first term and might run for the second term next month. Haven't made up my mind yet but it is a honor to represent the Corpsman whether they served with the Fleet Marine Corp or not.

Don Herout
2201 N Lincoln Ave
Fremont, Ne 68025
402-753-1008



The 2010 reunion of Corpsmen United, USN will be October 7-10 at the Baymont Hotel, Hot Springs, AR.

For information contact Ken Buster, HM2, USNR (100 years ago), Secretary, Corpsmen United, USN. kbuster@suddenlink.net, 501-691-0373.

Thanks a lot.
Ken Buster



I don't post to this forum often but I was digging through some old stuff over the past week and found this picture.

This was a picture of HM3 Jeff Patterson (forefront) & myself (HM2 Robert Clark). This was taken shortly after us returning from our Reserve active duty call up during Desert Storm. The 3rd Battalion of the 25th Marines took our unit out for some R& R off Cherry Point NC. I was amazed to find this in good condition. This was a huge flashback to another life-time for me. I just thought it might be nice to share it.

Thanks
Robert Clark
aka DevilDoc49

From somewhere in TN:

There have been reported sightings of a short, smiling short guy. Yes folks, Dennis Lee once a daily voice among you has been spotted. He's currently finishing up the second semester of Paramedic school. Summertime will be extremely busy as he will have several clinical requirements to accomplish.

With much of his time devoted to staying focused on the big "P", he's greatly missed all of you. Well some of you...

Dennis E Lee
US Navy Retired
Ride Captain - West Tennessee
Patriot Guard Riders

Food (or money) for thought..

From 'barrantes1983'

So there I was, first Iraq deployment on radio watch with my senior line corpsman when my C.O. walks in hearing a conversation about per diem for corpsmen. HM2 debated it's better to receive one large 'surprise' deposit after deployment while my far wiser C.O. said it would be much better to receive it in your bimonthly checks so you can accrue interest. The debate was over, but the headache had only just begun. After that deployment, it took 8 months to receive my per diem. 8 months after the END of the deployment. This last deployment? I returned in February of 2009. I didn't get my per diem until a few days ago. March of 2010. 2010!! There of course was no interest to be paid. I've since been to c school and am about to graduate and move on to my next duty station. In an age of all things instant, why must we corpsmen wait so long for per diem? More importantly, why don't we get it as soon as we return?

Oh, and don't get me started on the combat action ribbon I've been waiting for since July of 2007 when the seven ton vehicle I was riding on patrol was destroyed when it ran over an IED...

'barrantes1983'

NO SEX SINCE 1955 **Submitted by John Alfano**

A crusty old Marine Sergeant Major found himself at a gala event hosted by a local liberal arts college. There was no shortage of extremely young idealistic ladies in attendance, one of whom approached the Sergeant Major for conversation.

"Excuse me, Sergeant Major, but you seem to be a very serious man.. Is something bothering you?"

"Negative ma'am. Just serious by nature.."

The young lady looked at his awards and decorations and said, "It looks like you have seen a lot of action."

"Yes, ma'am, a lot of action."

The young lady, tiring of trying to start up a conversation, said, "You know, you should lighten up a little. Relax and enjoy yourself."

The Sergeant Major just stared at her in his serious manner.

Finally the young lady said, "You know, I hope you don't take this the wrong way, but when is the last time you had sex?"

"1955, ma'am."

"Well, there you are. No wonder you're so serious. You really need to chill out! I mean, no sex since 1955! She took his hand and led him to a private room where she proceeded to "relax" him several times.

Afterwards, panting for breath, she leaned against his bare chest and said, "Wow, you sure didn't forget much since 1955."

The Sergeant Major said in his serious voice, after glancing at his watch, "I hope not; it's only 2130 now."

Dealing with surgeons..... a typical day.....
Don



Happy to serve.
HN Chase (8404)



Wounded Heroes Baseball Classic

From Hope4Heroes.org

We are proud to announce the following event in conjunction with MLBPA.com. The 2010 Wounded Heroes Baseball Classic is SEEKING players.

If you are a combat disabled veteran then we want you to join us on the field playing baseball side by side with the legends of the game! You'll be playing a great ballpark in San Antonio, Texas on the 4th of Sep, 2010.

We have coach's and mentors in the area for any local players that want to practice or just get out and compete. This event is to showcase how talented and competitive our combat disabled veterans are. No matter your disability level YOU CAN PLAY!

You'll sit in the dugout with pros, play with and against pros and local honorary players and celebrities. All the uniforms, equip, food and fun is covered.

Just come out and have fun. If you or someone you know wants to play in the fantastic event honoring disabled veterans and Baseball please contact us today. To host an event like this in your city also just contact us! ceo@hope4heroes.org

Sponsors Welcome

To sponsor or attend this great game of baseball with the legends of MLB and the heroes of America contact us today or visit www.hope4heroes.org. Seats and sponsors are limited.

Please share this event with your contacts, FB list and media. This is a great opportunity for our wounded heroes to get out and compete! We can host an event like this anywhere in the country to honor the Heroes!

<http://woundedheroesbaseball.weebly.com/index.html>



Good Day Brothers and Sisters, **Bob Shand** here, well there, actually. You may or may not remember that I have been living in Mexico for the past few years. Well, things change and we are now looking to relocate to South Texas in the very near future. Why? Well we were in McAllen last week and couldn't return to Mexico because of delays in clearing a ambush site where several Army, Federals, and drug cartel types had been killed or wounded just a few hours before. US Border Patrol officers were at the border asking why we wanted to go to Mexico. When we told them we lived there they told us to "rethink" that decision. This past weekend State Department officials were targeted and gunned down in broad daylight leaving a child's birthday party with their children. We are out of here as soon as I get a job. We cannot afford to return to the States on our retirement pensions.

On a lighter note, attached are some pics of the Iwo Jima memorial replica in Harlingen, TX. It is just outside of the Marine Military Academy, adjacent to the Valley International Airport. It's full size and impressive. I have been to the "real" one in Arlington and this one is just as emotional for me. I celebrated my 40th anniversary of my return to the World on Feb 6th. My God, I'm getting old!



HEROES



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Monday, March 22, 2010

The Hazel E. Benn Scholarship Aids Children of Navy Enlisted Medical Personnel

Alexandria, VA – Children of Navy enlisted medical personnel are encouraged to apply for a special scholarship sponsored by the FRA Education Foundation. The Colonel Hazel Elizabeth Benn, USMC, Scholarship Fund provides \$2,000 scholarships for unmarried, dependent children of persons who have served or are now serving in the United States Navy as enlisted medical personnel assigned to and serving with the U.S. Marine Corps. The deadline to apply for this and other scholarships administered by the Foundation is April 15, 2010.

The Benn Scholarship is one of several administered by the FRA Education Foundation and was established by Benn's estate to honor the memory of one of the first active-duty female Marines selected for the permanent rank of colonel. Benn became Head of the Educational Services Branch of the Marine Corps and worked tirelessly to increase the potential for Marine Corps personnel to pursue college degrees.

"Thanks to the generosity of Colonel Benn and others, the Fleet Reserve Association's (FRA's) scholarship program has grown significantly over the past several years. We're proud of our efforts to recognize excellence in the classroom as well as students' active involvement in the community," said Joseph L. Barnes, FRA National Executive Director and a member of the Foundation's Board of Directors.

The Benn scholarship is open to children of all Navy enlisted medical personnel who've served or are serving with the Marine Corps, regardless of their FRA membership status. Applications for the Benn and other FRA-affiliated scholarships are available at www.fra.org/scholarship.

The FRA Education Foundation

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) marked its 85th anniversary by launching the FRA Education Foundation in November 2009 to administer the Benn and other scholarships that total nearly \$100,000 annually. FRA's Scholarship Program has been helping deserving students reach their educational and professional goals for decades, and the Foundation is a continuation of that tradition. The awards are funded through private donations, established trusts and corporate sponsorships, and recipients are selected based on financial need, academic standing, character and leadership qualities. The Foundation partners with military and education professionals to promote life-long learning opportunities that help scholars reach their educational, professional and personal goals. To learn more, call 1-800-FRA-1924 or visit www.fra.org/scholarship.

Monday, March 29, 2010

Deadline Approaches for FRA Education Foundation Scholarships

Applications Must be Postmarked by April 15th

Alexandria, VA – The FRA Education Foundation is reminding college-bound students to apply for its 25+ scholarships before the April 15, 2010, deadline. Approximately \$100,000 in scholarships will be awarded to eligible students attending college in during the 2010-2011 academic year. Applications are available at www.fra.org/foundation and must be postmarked by the submission deadline.

The FRA Education Foundation was established in 2009 to administer the Fleet Reserve Association's (FRA) scholarship program, which has grown substantially over the past decade. Thanks to the generous contributions from FRA members, corporate sponsors and legacy gifts, the Foundation is continuing the tradition of helping deserving students reach their educational and professional goals. The establishment of the Foundation will also allow individuals to donate to the Foundation through the 2010 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) later this year.

"Helping these scholars reflects the Foundation's commitment to higher education for service members, veterans and their family members," said Joe Barnes, FRA's National Executive Director and a member of the Foundation's Board of Directors. "Our efforts are also an extension of FRA's commitment to improving education benefits for members of the military and veterans' community."

All active, Reserve and retired members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are eligible to apply for scholarships, and members of the FRA, their spouses, children and grandchildren qualify for a broader range of scholarships, several of which are funded through member legacy donations. To learn more about the FRA Education Foundation, please visit www.fra.org/foundation or call 1-800-FRA-1924 (1-800-372-1924). For further information on FRA membership, visit www.fra.org.

The FRA Education Foundation

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) marked its 85th anniversary by launching the FRA Education Foundation in November 2009 to administer a scholarship fund that disburses nearly \$100,000 annually. The awards are funded through private donations, established trusts and corporate sponsorships, and recipients are selected based on financial need, academic standing, character and leadership qualities. The Foundation partners with military and education professionals to promote life-long learning opportunities that help scholars reach their educational, professional and personal goals. To learn more, call 1-800-FRA-1924 or visit www.fra.org/foundation.

Thank you to all the members who sent in items for this issue of Scuttlebutt News.

As always, this Newsletter wouldn't be what it is without you.

Next issue will be coming out June 30th - Just in time for July 4th weekend - So, I am looking for articles, stories, poems, pictures ANYTHING that you would like to send to share about how you celebrate Independence Day.

Email your contributions to editor@corpsman.com by 20 June to be included in the 2nd Quarter Edition of Scuttlebutt News brought to you by Corpsman.com

**Thank you again
DeeDee Reno
Editor**