

SITREP FORCE RECON ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

30 March 2007

Volume 18, Issue 1

“Link Forever Those Who Served Together”

VIVA LAS VEGAS ! RECON 2006



Special Interest Articles:

- RECON 2006 Las Vegas!
- RECON 2007 Charleston SC
- Letter from your “President”.
- Letter from your “Executive Director”
- Letter from your “Treasurer”
- Letter from your “Comm Chief”
- Letter from the S4 Chief!
- Hooch Order Form from your S4 Chief. Page 12-16

SPECIAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST!

- Deactivation Report from Bruce Myers #007 on 1st Force Reconnaissance Company. See Page 17-18
- 2nd MSOB Sit Rep Letter by Sgt Major Dick Ashton. See Page 19-20
- 2006 General Membership Minutes from Las Vegas, NV. See Page 21-22
- Notice of future Bylaws Change Submission. See Page 23
- Taps & Remembrance. See Page 24



Hello there everyone! It’s great to be a part of the finest veteran’s organization on the planet! One run for recon Marines entirely by recon Marines. I hope this edition of the Sit Rep finds each of you healthy and doing all the things you desire.

We had a fantastic reunion this past year. As you know it was held in Las Vegas, Nevada and we had a great time in the city that never sleeps. The reunion site was top notch and the service was great! You could have literally stayed in the New Orleans Hotel the entire time and had a great time. They provided a variety of restaurants and food styles right on site; along with several bars and night clubs. Good times were had by all.

The rooms were also fairly priced and we met our obligations for room amounts so as to keep the negotiated contract price. I thank everyone for coming and making that happen. Without you we could not host these events. Thank You!

As you know the scholarship auction has been our main method of raising money for the presentation of the FRA scholarship awards. The auction this year was tremendous. We had vendors make donations of all types of items that we were able to be auctioned so we could raise money. But we also had

major cash awards from Black Water Inc and the Brewer Foundation. Together we all raised and funded \$15,300.00 in scholarships! That is unbelievable, and with folks like you, we are able to give out more scholarships than ever before.

More folks applied this year than ever before and we were able to keep up with that demand. Plus raise money to build the FRA Scholarship Fund for the future. This is all due to your generous support and showing up to buy our donated scholarship items from our many FRA supporters. It is also due to the generous cash support from defense industry who loves our recon Marines! It doesn’t get any better than that!

I encourage you to come to the reunions and read/hear the application letters of these amazing students. This year they were incredible! Marines seeking education to become Officers, to run for elected office in the future, to helping others in need, we can all be proud of these men and women, who are from our Force Recon Families!

So all of us on the Board of the FRA thank you and send our deepest most heart felt thanks and wishes for another prosperous 2007 for all of you. We thank you so very much for coming and making this year’s reunion a grand event. Semper Fi!

RECON 2007 COME JOIN US !!



Alright folks, listen up!

Inside this Sit Rep is the PRELIMINARY information you need to begin to put together your reunion plans. A final version with your registration form will be out in June! Your Executive Board, hopes that the FRA will have a great turn out this year. Of course this means that we need as many members as possible to begin planning to attend and to watch the web site for our posting of the registration forms and our Sit Rep Newsletter. Your Comm Chief, who is doing a great job, already put out an email message for a head count and the Executive Director has a site visit underway!

The hotel is the Sheraton North Charleston, South Carolina. Located at 4770 Goer Drive, Charleston SC 29406. The rates are \$106.88 per night, and include free parking. Call (843)747-1900 and say you will be attending the FRA Reunion when you make your reservations! Our locator Quote # is 3068 to find our block of rooms. Book Now!

The Sheraton has the following amenities:

290 oversized rooms, including 7 suites.

- * Complimentary shuttle service to downtown
- * Fitness Center
- * Indoor & Outdoor Heated Pool
- * Internet

We are trying and planning on pulling together the following events:

Tuesday 11 September 2007

Early birds can link up! No Events.

Wednesday 12 September 2007

Official Check in (After 1:00 PM)

Free Day. Men's & Ladies Room Open.

Thursday 13 September 2007

TBD – FRA Exec Board Meeting

Possible Tour of Parris Island!

Friday 14 September 2007

Possible Evening Parade or tour of the Citadel

0800-1300 – General Board Meeting

Saturday 15 September 2007

0600-0700 – Walk, Crawl, Run

0900-1100 – FRA Scholarship Auction

1100-1330 – Men's General Membership Luncheon.

1100-1330 – Women's Luncheon

1800 – FRA Ball Dinner

**Guest Speaker – Major General DJ Hejlik.
Commander of the new MARSOC!**

Sunday 16 September 2007

On your own Breakfast – Depart the Event.

All locations to be announced and defined more in next Sit Rep out in June!

Commit early to avoid hotel reservations to avoid booking issues.

This will be a great event! We have a lot to discuss in our General Membership Meeting and I need max participation for a Bylaws change vote!

Remember the ball dinner is a dress event. I hope to See all of You there!

Joe Settelen

FRA President2005-2007 Member #1576



Letter from your "PRESIDENT"

Hello everyone,

It's been a sprint since the end of our last reunion, I cannot even tell you where the time went. It's once again that time of the year for your executive leadership to start getting on it, and preparing the FRA business and reunion. We want to start updating everyone on what was accomplished, what was not and most important, what is on the horizon. We have a big membership issue on the horizon and it is important everyone understand the situation and turn out to vote this year; but more on that later in this letter.

We had a pretty good size turn out this year but it was not as large as we had hoped. We had a wonderful time and the accommodations were top notch. However, the turn out size was about average and I think we have all learned that we will just about always only have about 10-12% of the total FRA membership attends any reunion. A look back at the turn out numbers shows this as a business trend line and we need to remember that and use that planning figure for all our future reunions. That way we save some money wherever possible and do not get to many "in the hole years" between reunions. If we get that unusual large turnout, that's GREAT....but the costs need to be figured to the historical break even point based on the trend of 10-12% of our membership making the reunions.

As your president, I also learned a lot about our organization, its diversity and composition. I learned much about what profits, in keeping us afloat, and what does not. I also got an earful of wise counsel from many of our members about what they feel draws them to the reunions and what does not. Even the wives chipped in and gave me some advice on reunion planning dates and conflicts with religious holidays. I really appreciate the education and advice everyone! I will do my best to use it; I have incorporated a lot of it in this year's plan. I look forward to passing it on to the next President for his term and planning.

Post reunion Dick and I went over the books with JJ your treasurer, and we came to a rapid conclusion that we did not bust the roof off the reunion as we had hoped. We did not really even fully break even this year. While we did not break the bank, I noticed we pulled in a lot of last minute expenses as we hosted the MARSOC folks along with our team leaders. But we also gave our Team Leaders the full up round of recognition and hosting this year. It has not always been done that way. Many years the FRA only gives them the ball dinner and one night's stay on us. I told Dick we would cover their food and room from the time they were able to arrive until they leave. They are our guests and we are honoring them. So there were some higher than normal costs involved and I want to be upfront with you about that and let you know that was my call and all on me. However, we are in good shape financially, just not where I hoped us to be, as I expected the turnout to be much bigger. I also wanted to turn the FRA over to Andy this year with a larger than normal bank account and a budget with hopes of laterally funds in a membership vote to the scholarship fund.

President's Letter Continued

No worries though, JJ tells me we will be fine because Dick & I put back all the life membership and prepaid dues that were spent before our watch came in . So as long as we break-even this year we will be sitting quite nice at the passing of the torch to Andy.

I want to spend some time this Sit Rep on a major issue that we need to discuss and come to terms with as an organization. It is in regards to the membership roles and our future as an organization of reconnaissance Marines. Particularly dealing with the facts surrounding the recent disbanding of the active Force Recon Company's, and the increase in the 0321 "reconnaissance man" MOS into the new MARSOC (Marine Special Operations Command) structure. This requires all of us as a membership to make a decision about what we will accept as our membership future, our appointment criteria to officer positions and how we will recognize one another and our unique skills sets as recon warriors past & present.

We really need to come together this year and hash out what we want to be in the future. Because unless we change our Bylaws and agree that we want to be around for many years to come, to foster that fellowship among our elite Marines within the Marine Corps as our founding fathers initiated, we will begin to parish much like the Raider Association.

If you are a little lost in what I am talking about, you are not alone. I left the Corps over this last year after a quarter of a century of service and found the plans I worked to create more reconnaissance for Gen Jones over 4 and half years were redeveloped into a line and staff structure, creating MARSOC that I proved would will bleed the Corps of its recon forces and dilute the eyes and ears of the MAGTF, without a much needed manning level increase throughout the Corps special skills MOSs. So like many of you, I am already obsolete on the plans & changes in our Corps. I can only study them from the internet.

However, what I do know is that IF...we can get past this "if you are not Force Recon or never been in a Force Recon unit" you are regarded as an "associate member", and never able to hold office or committee in the FRA; then dealing with the new MARSOC Marines and no more Force Recon Companies, we will die over time. Lots of changes have occurred since 1985. Many of the recon Marines that have been in recon organizations since about 1985 want to stay connected to this veterans organization. But we have little clicks in this organization that think the whole thing will unwind if we don't control it with only Force Recon unit members. I don't believe that for a minute. What keeps an organization strong and healthy is volunteers that have the time and energy to serve their fellow Marines, and a membership that demands and watches its mission statement and purpose.

So I propose we disband the associate membership from 1982 forward, and recognize if a man is primary 0321 trained, if it's on his DD214, he becomes a recognized full member. Some may argue this with me, and I look forward to it. I also appreciate it, but in my mind I cannot rightfully sit as a member of the board and agree to recognize a cook from 2d Force Recon in 1985 as a full member knowing many of them never took the indoc or went on a single patrol, and ignore the recon Marine who has a training track of 14 months of rigorous

President's Letter Continued

professional reconnaissance schools that earn him the MOS 0321, but then has to come in as an associate member and can never serve his fellow recon Marines in office or on committee. That's old school thinking, it's about 25 years out of date and you need to know there are no Force Recon Companies. Being involved in the FRA keeps the FRA on track not Force Recon.

So as you can see, we have a big decision to make as a fraternal organization representative of reconnaissance Marines and their specialty from as far back as WWII. What I cannot bare to think is that we would want to go forward to a last man standing policy that makes us slowly disappear. I want us to continue as we are with fellowship opportunities of all the changes in reconnaissance and special operations. I hope we find common ground.

If we do not adjust our Bylaws this year, and our ways of doing business, then we will loose the men or the MARSOC era to the Special Ops Association. We will loose our adaptability, the hallmark of a recon Marine. We will become an empty shell of expertise to offer our Marine Corps leadership in times of need and lessons learned as a fraternal veteran's organization. We will eventually die off and our legacy will be lost.

So I hope everyone who reads this will think about this issue and come to the reunion this year in beautiful Charleston SC. I want you will come and vote on the way ahead for the FRA and be a part of the best breed of Marines on the face of this planet. Come out to this reunion folks....make a difference and help shape this organization for the next generation. If you do that, I promise many more reconnaissance Marines who are from my era and forward, will come and join our ranks and we will all be better for it.

I do not believe for a minute we will loose our identity or our Force Recon ethos. We will have adapted, overcome and become a new in history as the kind of veteran's organization our forefathers created, a very special one.

It is my great pleasure to serve as your President. If you have any suggestions or comments on how we can do things better, please call or write me. I do tend to travel a bit and may not get right back to you on a phone call, but by email at Titaniumjoe@comcast.net you can be sure I will reply as soon as possible. I will then follow up with a call when I am able and if you leave me a number. My number is (571)435-3299. If you have any suggestions for the running day to day running of the FRA you can reach our Executive Director, Dick Sasser at (209)607-6961. All our points of contact (POCs) numbers are on the last page.

Thank you for your generosity at this past reunion in Las Vegas, NV. It was an amazing experience for our scholarship winners. And to our members who earned and distributed a record amount of money this year. I look forward to seeing all of you in Charleston for another spectacular event.

Semper Fi,

Joe Settelen FRA # 1576



Letter from your "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR"

From: Dick Sasser, Executive Director Force Recon Association

Our next Reunion is in Charleston, South Carolina at the Sheraton North Hotel. Dates are September 12th to the 15th. We are planning bus tours of the city and hopefully a trip to the Citadel and Parris Island. More information will be forthcoming in the Spring/Summer Sitrep. At that time you will be able to register for the reunion. At this reunion we have some important issues to be voted on by the General Membership. Included in your Spring Sitrep there will be the by-law changes that will be discussed and voted on Saturday at the Men's General Meeting.

As of this date the FRA Membership is over three thousand Worldwide. I'd like to thank all of the members that continue to pay their yearly dues. Your dues help to support many Marine and Navy organizations such as The Wounded Marines Semper Fi Fund. Last year we gave close to \$6000 in donations to worthy causes to support Marines in need.

We apologize for any inconvenience to the members that received dues notices that shouldn't have gotten them. We had a slight problem with the data base which caused about 25 members to receive notices for dues already paid. The problem has been corrected as is the data base. As most of you know the Executive Director is responsible for the day to day business of the FRA, which includes the Sitrep, Commchief, and Hooch Master. I'd like to thank our President, Joe Settelen for taking over and writing the Sitrep, for Mac McKee for handling the Hooch, and Stephen Lubbert who has worked hard everyday as the FRA Commchief.

I hope that all members and their families stay healthy and have a great 2007. See you in Charleston!

I remain Semper Fidelis,

**Dick Sasser FRA #1795
Ex Dir FRA Worldwide**

Letter from your TREASURER

To the members of Force Recon Association,

The attached Financials are the Balance Sheet and Profits & Loss Statement for Force Recon Association for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006. These financials have been compiled by me in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The information was provided to me by the individuals financially responsible for their respective cost centers.

The highlights by cost center are as follows:

Administration=	\$ 2671
Reunion 2006=	\$(12302)*
Memorabilia =	\$ 1992
Scholarship =	\$10060

Net increase	\$ 2421
	=====

* denotes loss

As you can see we had a loss from our reunion. Take out the net income from both the Scholarship (\$10060.) and Memorabilia (\$1992.), you have a reduction in cash of \$9631.00 in our FRA accounts. Our scholarship committee received \$29,610.00 in income and distributed to recipients a record \$19,550. Of which \$15,300 was for the current years awards.

Any questions regarding the FRA financials should be directed to me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elliot"JJ"Rubinfeld Treasurer
FRA #

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Contributions Income	0.00
Membership Dues	28,463.80
MEMORABILIA SALES	17,536.90
RECON-2005	1,014.00
RECON-2006	19,071.00
SCHOLARSHIP INCOME	29,610.00
Total Income	95,695.70
Expense	
Bank Service Charges	214.55
Contributions	4,420.00
Depreciation Expense	236.00
Insurance	
Liability Insurance	2,947.00
Total Insurance	2,947.00
Licenses and Permits	50.00
MEM. OFFICE EXPENSE	2,432.80
Mem.purchases	10,232.90
memorabilia shipping	2,880.00
Miscellaneous	1,110.37
Office Supplies	637.77
Postage and Delivery	2,204.85
Printing and Reproduction	1,513.77
Professional Fees	
Accounting	899.00
Consulting	565.00
Legal Fees	916.52
Total Professional Fees	2,380.52
RECON 2005	702.24
RECON 2006	31,373.26
Repairs	
Computer Repairs	116.26
Total Repairs	116.26
SATELLITE	1,012.74
SCHOLARSHIP	19,550.27
Telephone	3,076.58
Travel & Ent	
Travel	4,717.54
Total Travel & Ent	4,717.54
Uncategorized Expenses	0.00
Utilities	
Gas and Electric	1,910.00
Total Utilities	1,910.00
Total Expense	93,719.42
Net Ordinary Income	1,976.28
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	444.30
Total Other Income	444.30
Net Other Income	444.30
Net Income	2,420.58

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
BANK OF STOCKTON OPERATING	304.08
BANK OF STOCKTON RESTRICTED	1,456.52
CASH A/C	40.00
CD-BANK OF STOCKTON	15,518.75
CHECKING UNION BANK	10,789.01
FRA HOOCH A/C	4,021.13
SCHOLARSHIP 0875	10,314.98
SCHOLARSHIP 4428	25,682.63
SCHOLARSHIP 6153	10,600.65
Total Checking/Savings	78,727.75
Other Current Assets	
INVENTORY	6,555.00
Total Other Current Assets	6,555.00
Total Current Assets	85,282.75
Fixed Assets	
FURNITURE & FIXTURES	
Depreciation	-7,711.00
Original Cost	7,711.00
Total FURNITURE & FIXTURES	0.00
Total Fixed Assets	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	85,282.75
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
ACCRUED LIAB	15,300.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	15,300.00
Total Current Liabilities	15,300.00
Long Term Liabilities	
DEFERRED GAINS(LOSS)	7,335.26
Total Long Term Liabilities	7,335.26
Total Liabilities	22,635.26
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	48,901.00
Retained Earnings	11,325.91
Net Income	2,420.58
Total Equity	62,647.49
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	85,282.75



Letter from your “Comm Chief”

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Force Recon Association for allowing me the opportunity to serve this fine organization as the Communications Chief and the webmaster. I take great pride and it is my extreme pleasure in doing so.

The FRA website has been doing very well ever since it was first put out on the internet in late 1999. If you search for the term “force recon” (with or without the quotes) on any of the 3 major search engines, Google, Yahoo and MSN, we are the top organic (free) listing. The site serves an amazing amount of traffic. The current design was produced by Lou Kern back in 2000. I believe he did an outstanding job on the design but it is due for a facelift.

Over the past several months, I have been using my spare time to work on the FRA Member database. My goal was to make the upkeep of records more user friendly and the production of invoices, labels and reports more automated and simple for those who have to work with it. I’m still hashing out a few bugs but hope to have all of those resolved shortly.

Another result of the database work was the production of the 2007 FRA Membership Directory. It is now available in electronic form (Adobe Reader .pdf – same as the SitRep) to all current members in good standing who want it. Distribution of the printed version of the directory is still being determined by the Executive Director at the time of this writing.

To request the electronic form of the directory, just send me an email stating that you want it. I will reply with the 2 documents as attachments to all current members in good standing. There are actually 2 directories; one in order by FRA Number and another, more detailed, roster in alphabetical order by last name. The printed version combines both into one booklet. I created the electronic form in separate files so that I could email them separately to members who have size limits set on their email. The FRA Number Roster is just under 500k and the FRA Last Name Roster is just under 1000k.

The FRA slogan is “Link Forever Those Who Served Together”. Unfortunately, we have a lot of broken links. Our member database has email addresses that are no longer in use, home addresses that are old and phone numbers that are old. The FRA can not keep you informed about this great organization if the FRA can not contact you. Please send us your updated information whenever you move or change email addresses.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Stephen H. Luebbert
CommChief@ForceRecon.com**

THE HOOCH!
PO Box 425, Rowe, MA 01367
Telephone (413) 339-0007
EMAIL: FRAHOOCHMASTER@AOL.COM

As 2006 draws to a close, I would like to inform the membership, that THE HOOCH, has had yet another great year. As of 30 September, \$17,537.00 worth of the ASSOCIATION merchandise was sold. At the reunion alone, THE HOOCH sold \$5300.00 worth of inventory. That, to me is some kind of record! And, I intend to keep up the sales with the help of all the membership. I would like to take this opportunity to personally say THANK YOU, to all who have purchased items.

There are some items that are being added to THE HOOCH. Some of those items, like the new Fleece Jackets, with the FRA logo on them, new FLEX-FIT web backed Poplin hats, and Stadium Blankets are just some of the additions to the inventory. We have also had the newer MARINE CORPS COMBATANT DIVER INSIGNIA, digitized, and it can be applied to all of the merchandise we now sell. It looks great too! Just contact THE HOOCH if there is anything you think you'd like to see added to the inventory. There are lots of vendors out there who are frothing at the mouth to sell stuff to the ASSOCIATION. Unfortunately, due to some Federal Laws, we aren't allowed to handle any explosives or weapons. Nuts!!!

Before I end this, I would like to say THANK YOU! to all of our members who have returned from overseas deployments. Your service, determination, selflessness and courage, is very much appreciated by all of us, especially those of us within the ASSOCIATION.

I wish all of you a very happy MERRY CHRISTMAS and a healthy and rewarding NEW YEAR!

Keep those orders coming in too!

JIM MCKEE,
FRAHOOCHMASTER@AOL.COM



The Supply Hooch

Order Form

All requests for:

Dues

Donations

Membership Cards

Membership Rosters

Challenge Coins

are NOT to be sent to the Supply Hooch.

Please direct all such requests to the Executive Director.

Force Recon Association

The Supply Hooch

Name/Member# _____

STOCK #	Description	Color	Size	Cost	Quantity	\$ Total
JACKETS						
J-002-TJ	<u>Team Jacket</u> Wool jacket/leather sleeves, large FRA logo on back. 1 line of text	Black Only	_____	\$225.00	X_____ =	\$
J-002-TJP	Same as J-002-TJ w/ 2 nd line of text			\$231.00	X_____ =	\$
J-002-TJFR	Same as J-002-TJ w/out Association in embroidery			\$225.00	X_____ =	\$
J-002-TJFRP	Same as J-002-TJFR w/ 2 nd line of text			\$231.00	X_____ =	\$
J-003-BJ	<u>Baseball Jacket</u> Nylon/Nylon filler. Knit crew neck and sleeves. FRA Logo on front.	Black Only	_____	\$60.00	X_____ =	\$
J-003-BJP	Same as J-002-BJ w/ 2 lines of text			\$66.00	X_____ =	\$
J001-WB	<u>Windbreaker</u> Black Only With FRA logo Left Chest	Black	_____	\$35.00	X_____ =	\$
J004-F NEW	<u>Fleece/Nylon, Mid-Weather</u> FRA logo Left Chest. Special Order – allow 4-6 weeks	Black	_____	\$65.00	X_____ =	\$
SHIRTS						
S-001	<u>Men's Polo Shirt:</u> 100% Cotton Embroidered Full Size FRA Logo 4"X4"	Red White Black Lt Olive	_____	\$28.00	X_____ =	\$
S-002	<u>Men's Polo Shirt:</u> 100% Cotton Embroidered Mini Scuba Badge & Jump Wings	Red White Black	_____	\$28.00	X_____ =	\$
S-003	<u>Sports Tank Top:</u> Embroidered FRA Logo Gray Only	Gray	_____	\$25.00	X_____ =	\$
S-004	<u>Men's T-Shirt:</u> Embroidered FRA Logo	Black Lt Olive	_____	\$15.00	X_____ =	\$
S-008	<u>Men's Sweat Shirt:</u> Non-Hooded FRA Logo (silk-screened) Black Only	Black	_____	\$28.00	X_____ =	\$
S-009	<u>Sweat Pants:</u> FRA Logo Black Only	Black	_____	\$25.00	X_____ =	\$
S-010	<u>Sweat Shirt & Sweat Pants:</u> FRA Logo Black Only	Black	_____	\$48.00	X_____ =	\$
S-011	<u>Hooded Sweat Shirt:</u> FRA Logo Black Only	Black	_____	\$30.00	X_____ =	\$
S-013	<u>Men's T-Shirt:</u> Embroidered Mini Scuba/Jump Wings	Black	_____	\$15.00	X_____ =	\$
S-014	<u>Men's Polo Shirt:</u> Embroidered Full FRA Logo, 60% Cotton 40% Polyester	White Black Gray	_____	\$39.50	X_____ =	\$
S-015	<u>Men's Polo Shirt:</u> Embroidered Mini Scuba/Jump Wings, 60% Cotton 40% Polyester	White Black		\$38.00	X_____ =	\$
HATS						

H-001M	<u>Baseball Hat:</u> Full Color FRA Logo, Flex Fit, Open Mesh Backs	Black Red	_____	\$15.00	X_____ =	\$
H-002P	<u>Baseball Hat:</u> Full Color FRA Logo, Solid Poplin Back	Red Black Green Tan	_____	\$15.00	X_____ =	\$
H-004-FR NEW	<u>Baseball Hat:</u> Full Color FRA Logo These are high quality caps made of thick, rugged material, made in a low-profile configuration.	Khaki Black Olive Cream Red		\$20.00	X_____ =	\$
H-004 NEW	<u>Baseball Hat:</u> Same as H-004, except the word Association is removed from the logo.	Khaki Black Olive Cream Red		\$20.00	X_____ =	\$
H-004-SB NEW	<u>Baseball Hat:</u> Olive Drab Green Subdued FRA Logo. Choose tan or OD text.	OD Only		\$20.00	X_____ =	\$
H-001FL NEW	<u>Baseball Hat:</u> Full Color FRA Logo, Solid Flex Fit Hat	Black Red Khaki		\$20.00	X_____ =	\$
MISC.						
C-ST	<u>Swim Trucks</u> Black Full FRA Logo size W32 through W40 Only	Black Only	_____	\$20.00	X_____ =	\$
O-ST	<u>Swim Trucks</u> Olive Drab Green - Full FRA Logo size W32 through W40 Only	OD Only	_____	\$25.00	X_____ =	\$
M-102A	<u>Coffee Cup:</u> FRA Logo & USMC Emblem	White Only	Reg.	\$12.00	X_____ =	\$
M-102B	<u>Coffee Cup:</u> FRA Logo & USMC Emblem	Black Only	Very Large	\$16.00	X_____ =	\$
M-102CB	<u>Coffee Cup:</u> FRA Logo & USMC Emblem Cobalt Blue	Blue Only	Very Large	\$16.00	X_____ =	\$
M-103	<u>Blazer Badge 3 1/2"</u> : With Military Clutches FRA Logo, Gold & Silver Bouillon Threads For Ware on Sports Jacket	N/A	N/A	\$12.50	X_____ =	\$
M-106	<u>Bumper Sticker:</u> FRA Logo	N/A	N/A	\$ 2.50	X_____ =	\$
M-107	<u>Metal License Plate Frame:</u> Force Recon U.S. Marine Corps	N/A	N/A	\$ 9.00	X_____ =	\$
M-1081	<u>Decal:</u> FRA Logo, Inside Window	Red	N/A	\$ 5.00	X_____ =	\$
M-1082	<u>Decal:</u> FRA Logo, Outside Window	Black	N/A	\$ 5.00	X_____ =	\$
M-109	<u>Lapel Pin:</u> Cloisonné FRA Logo	N/A	N/A	\$ 7.00	X_____ =	\$
M-113M	<u>Scuba Badge:</u> Lapel Miniature Size	N/A	N/A	\$ 7.00	X_____ =	\$
M-113R	<u>Scuba Badge:</u> Full Regulation Size	N/A	N/A	\$ 9.00	X_____ =	\$
M-114M	Jump Wings Gold: Miniature Size	N/A	N/A	\$ 9.00	X_____ =	\$
M-114R	Jump Wings Gold: Regulation Size	N/A	N/A	\$ 11.00	X_____ =	\$
M-115M	<u>Combat Divers Badge:</u> Miniature Size	N/A	N/A	\$ 9.00	X_____ =	\$
M-115R	<u>Combat Divers Badge:</u> Regulation Size	N/A	N/A	\$ 11.00	X_____ =	\$

M-118	Decal: WWII Amphibious Recon Bn.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-119	Decal: 1 st Amphibious Recon Co.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-120	Decal: 2 nd Amphibious Recon Co.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-121	Decal: 1 st Force Recon Co.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-122	Decal: 2 nd Force Recon Co.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-123	Decal: 3 rd Force Recon Co.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-124	Decal: 4 th Force Recon Co.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-125	Decal: 5 th Force Recon Co.	6"	N/A	\$ 6.00	X_____ =	\$
M-132	Helmet/Tote Bag: FRA Logo	Olive Drab	N/A	\$40.00	X_____ =	\$
M-133	Mouse Pad.: Black Full FRA Logo	N/A	N/A	\$ 5.00	X_____ =	\$
M-138	FRA Belt Buckle – 2 5/8 x 3 1/2 inches	N/A	N/A	\$ 48.00	X_____ =	\$
M-139-SB	Stadium Blanket – Black w/yellow liner. FRA embroidered logo	Black	N/A	\$ 45.00	X_____ =	\$

TOTAL: \$ _____

Add \$3.00 for each 2XL or larger sizes ordered: + \$ _____

Total Ordered: = \$ _____

Please Complete the Following:

Total Ordered: \$ _____

Add shipping & Handling Fees as follows:

If Total Ordered is:

Between	\$1.00 - \$15.00	Add	\$5.95
Between	\$15.01 - \$25.00	Add	\$9.70
Between	\$25.01 - \$40.00	Add	\$10.95
Between	\$40.01 - \$75.00	Add	\$12.95
Between	\$75.01 - \$100.00	Add	\$15.80
Between	\$100.01 - \$125.00	Add	\$17.50
* Over	\$125.00	Add	\$19.25

* Additional weight charges may apply

Postage: \$ _____

Total Payment enclosed: \$ _____

Name/Member# _____

Make Check or Money order Payable to Force Recon Association and mail to:

FRA Hooch, C/O Jim McKee, P.O. Box 425, Rowe, MA 01367

This order to be shipped to:

Member # _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Special Instructions or remarks: _____



1st Force Reconnaissance Company

**1st Force Recon Company Deactivation
1st Marine Special Operations Battalion Activation
Ceremony, Camp Pendleton
October 26th, 1400 Hours**



A page in the long history of our Corps closed on Thursday October 26, 2006 on the parade deck of 1st MEF Consolidated Dive Locker at Camp DelMar, Camp Pendleton California.

1st Force Recon Company was deactivated after over 49 years of service to the Fleet Marine Force. A new page opened in the activation of its logical follow-on unit – 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion of MARSOC in the Special Operations community of our Armed Forces.

The last CO of 1st Force Recon, LtCol. George W. Smith and his Sergeant Major Glemblin were assisted by Col. Bruce F. Meyers USMC(Ret) the first CO of First Force Recon Company in the furling and casing of the retiring Force Recon colors.

The new colors of 1st Special Operations Battalion were unfurled as orders were read from the Commandant. Appropriate orders were read made by Commanding General I MEF LtGeneral Mattis. MajGeneral Hejlik, Commander MarCorps Forces, Special Operations Command welcomed the new unit 1st Special Operations Battalion and its first commanding officer LtColonel Neil C. Schuehle into MARSOC.

Both Generals Mattis and Hejlik outlined the long and illustrious history of 1st Force Recon and their battle honors, now carried as streamers on the new units colors: PUC Battle Streamer with 3 Bronze Stars for Vietnam 1965-1968 and Iraq 2003; Navy Unit Commendation Battle Streamer with 3 Bronze Stars for Vietnam 1965-1970 and Southwest Asia 1990-1991; Meritorious Unit Commendation Battle Streamer with 2 Bronze Stars for Vietnam 1969-1970 and 1996-1998; and among others Campaign Streamers for Southwest Asia, Iraq, Global War on Terrorism and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with palm and the Vietnamese Meritorious Unit Civil Action Streamer. Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom were cited as well.

The newly adopted logo for 1st Special Operations Battalion is rampant on a five sided blue background emblazoned with the Southern Cross constellation under which its predecessor Marines and Corpsmen served throughout the Pacific Theater in



1st Force Reconnaissance Company "Cont"

1stForce Recon Company Deactivation
1st Marine Special Operations Battalion Activation
Ceremony, Camp Pendleton
October 26th, 1400 Hours



WWII. Prominently centered is the number "1" in red (symbolic of our Corps) with the legendary Fairbairn-Sykes fighting knife signifying the silent and deadly nature of the battalion's mission.

The ceremony started promptly at 1400 hours with Attention and Adjutant's call followed by Sound off, reports, presentation of the colors, the national anthem and remarks by LtCol. George Smith and the deactivation of 1st Force and furling of its colors and the Activation of the new 1st Special Operations Battalion and remarks by LtCol. Neil C. Schuehle. Colors of the new battalion were unfurled and posted. Anchors Away and the Marine Corps hymn concluded the ceremony with an outstanding reception following. All had an opportunity to mingle with the troops and officers.

Glasses were hoisted in toast to the departing unit and welcoming the new battalion into the Marine Corps Reconnaissance Community. Weather was clear and warm but gusty which kept our guidons and colors well displayed! Troops, Generals and other officers were all in combat gear, "woodland" camouflage.

Our FRA was well represented by our Executive Director Dick Sasser and his assistant Executive Director Al Rodriguez. A number of other FRA members included: Treasurer JJ. Rubenfeld, Hooch Director Jim "The Mac" McKee; Past Executive Directors Dr. Wayne Lingenfelter, Gary Marte. Former FRA Directors Jim Doner, George Saitta, Woody Hamblin, 'Doc' Christian and all others to whom I extend an apology for not making more accurate notes to include your names.

All of us that could make it had an outstanding time. Thanks to both 1st Force and our new Battalion for their superlative efforts. Well Done!

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce F. Meyers, Colonel of Marines (Ret), FRA # 007



2d Marine Special Operations BN



The Battalion has been very busy following the deactivation of 2d Force Reconnaissance Company and the Activation of 2d Marine Special Operations Battalion (2d MSOB). During the initial stages of what we call the build phase of the Marine Special Operation Companies, the Marines have been assisting in both man power augmentees and equipment acquisition. The Battalion has worked around the clock to meet the deadline of deploying the first company in less than one year of the activation of 2d MSOB. These Marines have shined during these demanding times.

The Battalion had its initial Ball at Wilmington with Major Capers (former Commanding Officer 2d Force Recon) as the Guest of Honor. His words of wisdom were felt by all. There were encouraging words for the plank holders of an organization that is Marine orientated first, but has a Special Operation mission.

The 2d Force Recon Memorial will be dedicated at Camp Lejeune 6 April 2007. It will be placed at the 2d MSOB HQ building in Courthouse Bay. There have been many contributors to this memorial demonstrating the many friends and Force Recon Marines that will ensure the families and Marines will never be forgotten.

The following is a list of names to be placed on the brass plates. They will be placed in order according to the dates of loss. All will start with " In Memory of":

Capt Peter J. Johansen
Died during Parachute Operations
DZ Fountain, North Carolina
1963

Sgt Robert Reyes
Died during Parachute Operations
DZ Blackstone, Virginia
1989

Lcpl Marcus B. Naquin
Died in a vehicle accident
16 October 1995

Sgt Carlos F. Garza
Died in a vehicle accident
05 September 1997



2d Marine Special Operations BN "Cont"



Sgt Jason G. Maxwell
Died during parachute operations
Drop Zone Phillips, Arizona
30 October 2003

Sgt Foster L. Harrington
Killed in Action Husaybah, Iraq
20 September 2004

Sgt David M. Caruso
Killed in Action 09 November 2004
Fallujah, Iraq

Sgt Benjamin C. Edinger
Killed in Action 23 November 2004
Al-Latifayah, Iraq

Sgt Thomas E. Houser
Killed in Action 03 January 2005
Al Anbar Province, Iraq

Cpl Jonathan G. Cohen
Died during training
01 October 2005

Cpl Seamus M. Davey
Killed in Action 21 October 2005
Albu Hyatt, Iraq

If any one knows of any other names needing to be placed on the memorial contact
SgtMaj Ashton @ 910 450-7785 or Richard.ashton@usmc.mil

Semper Fidelis

Sgt Major Richard Ashton
2nd MSOB

2006 FRA General Membership Minutes

The General Membership Meeting was called to order at 1150 hours.

Executive Board Members Present: President Joe Settelen #1576, Vice Pres. Joe Tablada, #1745, Exec. Dir. Dick Sasser #1795, Secretary Bob Rowen #2722, Treasurer J.J. Rubenfeld #1161, and Past Pres. Pat Teague #0038.

Executive Board Members Absent: Pres. Elect Andy Christian #2559 (deployed).

Board of Directors Present: Alan Bierline #2025, Chas. Buchholz #0127, James Doner #0294, Wayne Lingenfelter #0042, James "Mac" McKee #0965, Abbott Lighter #2355, and Lou Kern #1930.

Board Members Absent: Bob Zwiener #0365, Nelson Donnoly #0696, and Jess Wise #1700.

Opening Remarks. President Joe Settelen opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, recognizing all new members in attendance, and by acknowledging the fine efforts of Dick Sasser for all his hard work setting up Recon 2006.

A quorum was determined and discussion followed.

Minutes of the last General Membership Meeting. The minutes of the general membership meeting held on September 10, 2005, in Fredericksburg, VA, were approved as published in the SitRep.

Executive Director's Report. Dick Sasser provided an overview of the FRA finances, membership, Hooch info, and dues. There was considerable discussion from the floor on these topics, which resulted in the following noteworthy observations: Current membership dues are \$40 annually; membership dues will be collected during the months of January and February, 2007; there is a need to update our current membership directory; we have \$21,459.59 in a CD for future dues that was obtained during the last 30 months; we have a float of approximately \$14,000; dues, donations, and changes of addresses will no longer be accepted with Hooch orders (they need to be sent directly to the official FRA address on our Web page; and a new membership directory will be ready for distribution in March.

Membership Directory. Motion was made/seconded and unanimously passed to update the membership directory with dues information provided in a January-February timeframe; requests for a copy of an updated membership directory can then be made on our FRA website and one will be provided free of charge by the end of March 2007.

Treasurer's Report. J.J. Rubenfeld presented an overview of our financial status by first providing a summary report of fiscal year November 1, 2004 through October 31, 2005; which was then followed by a summary of financial activities through June 30, 2006. A complete Profit and Loss statement will be published in the January 2007 SitgRep. President Joe Settelen ascertained membership acceptance of the Treasurer's Report.

Scholarship Report. Wayne Lingenfelter presented a report on our scholarship program. Wayne reflected on how our scholarship program has grown over the years, stating that we've provided upwards of \$100,000 to young people since we've started our scholarship program. This year the scholarship committee received 21 completed applications from eleven FRA members, two spouses of FRA members, and several more from children and grandchildren of FRA members. Wayne reported that this year the Board of Directors approved a total of \$15,300 in scholarship awards, the most by far, in any one year, and asked the membership to ratify the Board's decision. The membership unanimously agreed with recommendation of the scholarship committee and the decision of the Board of Directors.

Report on MSOC and MSOB. Major F.C. Galvan presented a report summarizing the organizational structure and mission of the new U.S. Marine Special Operations Command (MARSOC) and the 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion (2nd MSOB). Major Galvan explained the MSOC two-year life cycle that includes a 6-month individual training phase, a 6-month unit training phase, a 6-month pre-deployment training phase, and a 6-month deployment. There was some lively discussion on the floor regarding the plans for reorganizing the marine force recon community into a new operational structure that included an expressed concern for symbolic insertion of the British dagger over the Marine K-bar in the 2d MSOB unit patch.

A Need for a Change in the FRA By-Laws. President Joe Settelen explained the need for a change in our by-laws in order to incorporate the new MARSOC Marines into our history for FRA membership and participation. Joe appointed Lou Kern, Wayne Lingenfelter, and Charles Buchholz to work with him on developing a draft of the change in the FRA By-Laws that will establish the necessary criteria for regular and associate membership, which will then be presented to the general membership next year.

Recon 2007 and Future Reunions. President Joe Settelen announced the Board of Directors has determined that our reunions will alternate every other year between locations near Camp Pendleton and Camp Lejeune. Next year our reunion will be in Charleston; in 2008 somewhere near Camp Pendleton; in 2009 somewhere near Camp Lejeune, etc.

Election. We were required to elect five (5) Board of Directors to replace those whose terms had expired per the FRA By-Laws. The five incumbents all expressed a desire to continue as board members and Pat Teague (Past President) worked with the Nominating Committee to recommend five (5) additional candidates, and there were two (2) nominations received from the floor to augment the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. The following regular FRA members were elected to serve on the Board of Directors: Allan Bierlein #2025, Charles Buchholz #0127, James Doner #0294, James McKee #0965, and Al Snaidecki.

Disciplinary Board. Ten members signed up to serve on the Disciplinary Board.

Adjournment. The Meeting was adjourned at 1320 hours.

2007 Bylaws Change Notice!

To all our members:

Please note that the next issue of the Sit Rep will contain a proposed Bylaws submission you're REVIEW! When that issue comes out, it will also be sent to members without internet. So if you do not have internet or know someone who does not, please send your Executive Director your/their address so we can get a copy to them. We want every member we can to know about this change.

It is very important that you read and understand the Bylaw changes. I will make sure they are color coded with the change so they are easily noticeable. We hope that as many of you that can possibly travel, will show up to the 2007 Reunion in Charleston South Carolina from 12-15 September to participate in the vote for a new Bylaws adoption.

This is your organization and it runs on Bylaws. I often times hear from members that the FRA is now too much like a business and not a real fraternal organization. That is not true. We are a fraternal organization but the State of California and the Federal Government, dictate rules and regulations for "Not for Profit" organizations. We have to follow those laws and the original intent of the forefathers that created this fine veterans organization to exist and conduct annual reunions in the status we were incorporated for.

So I encourage all of you to come to the reunions where we are required to conduct our annual business. Participate and be a part of the process and solutions to our long term future and our daily operations! We so desperately need more participation and new ideas. We also need the younger members to educate us on the massive changes to reconnaissance so we can speak with a united voice for them when interacting with the Commandant of the Marine Corps and other veteran's organizations.

We need your input as much as we need to meet often, and share our stories and heal our hearts from the many challenges and wars we have all experienced and endured for our great country!

Semper Fidelis

**Joseph Settelen
FRA President 2005-2007**



TAPs and Remembrance



This article is not on the last page because it is of little interest or importance. It is last so as you read and close your FRA Sit Rep you stop and reflect on our losses and say a prayer for those members and the families of our members whose loved ones have passed on.

We have lost several members over the last few months. It is with great sadness that we list them. They all gave more than was expected for God, Country and Corps. Please remember them as you close your Sit Rep.

We honor the following FRA Members:

Sgt Tom Chapman – FRA # UNKNOWN
3rd Force Recon, Company Vietnam 1969

You Will Be Missed and Never Forgotten.



Force Recon
Association
P.O. Box 783
Angels Camp, CA
95222

President' POCs:
(571) 435-3299

Executive Director's
(209) 607-6961

Send Hooch Orders to:
MAC - Supply Chief
PO Box 425
Rowe, MA 01367

Hooch Order Forms at:
[www.forcerecon.com/FRA
%20Order%20Form.pdf](http://www.forcerecon.com/FRA%20Order%20Form.pdf)

E-Mail:
To the FRA President
Titaniumjoe@comcast.net

To the Executive Director
Sasser@starband.net

Info to the CommChief
Stephen Luebbert send to:
Commchief@Forcerecon.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ForceRecon.com

Back Page Info "Sit Rep Help Needed!"

As many of you know we are on our 4th year with the new "Sit Rep" look. It's a slight challenge to get these issues out during the year, but it has gotten a little easier now. I have had an offer from Craig Haley FRA #2608 to help with the SitRep, but have chosen to stay with it until I turn over to with our new incoming President, Andy. So the at the end of this year I will be transferring it over to Craig or any other volunteer who offers to work with Andy in his two year term. So I will do one more "Sit Rep" after this one, and then it's on to some well deserved rest & family time for me.

I promise to stay involved with the "Sit Rep" assembly and not let anyone learn from hard knocks as I did. I will try to remain connected to the Recon Units to solicit their unit "Sit

Reps" as long as I am close to Washington DC advocates.

As you know the "Sit Rep" is Web based and the template is in MS WORD newsletter format. It is put together with Microsoft Word and easy to handle. Your "Executive Director" Dick Sasser, has the task of building and approving the release, but Dick is not a computer savvy guy. So until the next Executive Director steps up, this is the way it will continue to look. Who ever takes over may opt for a new look. That's fine I welcome change.

This news letter is your voice and any and all have input to the content. Your input is truly welcome. If you cannot download from the web, we will mail you a printed version. Just contact

your Executive Director and he will ensure you are on a limited mailing distribution.

I ask that all interested in writing articles keep them coming. Send them MS WORD or in a simple email. We can then use the text to cut and paste into this template for posting on the web. Pictures in digital format, historical articles, past experiences, unit updates and lessons learned are welcome.

We promise that we will not change a word of the text. As editor/assembler We will however, format it to fit into the columns and if I catch a spelling error it is corrected.

For submissions of a helping hand in putting the Sit Rep together, I can be reached at Titaniumjoe@comcast.net

Craig@go2technology.com

Joe Settelen FRA #1576
Semper Fi!

About Our Organization...

The Force Recon Association Inc (FRA) was formally established on 21 September 1989, as a non-profit fraternal veterans association, in accordance with provisions of Section 501(c)19 of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

The FRA maintains a Scholarship Fund to provide educational assistance for its members and or members of their families.

We welcome corporate sponsors and their donations to our scholarship fund. If you're a corporation and desire to make a donation to our organization, please contact our "Executive Director" Dick Sasser (209) 607-6961.

The FRA strives to maintain and foster fellowship, comradeship and perpetuate the ideals and professionalism between and among its members and the members of our reconnaissance units, whether Force or Battalion Recon, Regular of Reserve.

In extraordinary cases, we provide benevolent assistance to its members. Our Motto remains... ***"Link Forever Those Who Served Together"***.

Founders: Patrick "Pat" J Ryan; Thomas "Tom" L. Gibson; and Ernie "Gunny" DeFazio (Deceased).

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