

SITREP

VOLUME 22

ISSUE 1

APRIL 2011

LINK FOREVER THOSE WHO SERVED TOGETHER

NEWSLETTER OF THE



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REMINDER!

- Dues are due in January each year
- Have you moved? Please send us your new info.
- Have you changed your email address? If you don't tell us we can't contact you.
- FRA Member Rosters can be ordered through the Supply Hooch for \$25.
- An electronic version (Adobe pdf) of the FRA Member Roster is also available at no charge. Send an email request to CommChief@ForceRecon.com



Letter from your "President"

"Link forever those who served together" How true our motto is. I want to relate to you a story that happen to me recently that demonstrates this.

Some where around 2002 I ran into a young man at a shooting range near my home in Coleman, Michigan, his name is Tim. One day we struck up a conversation and he told me he had recently gotten out of the Marine Corps and that he was with Force Recon. He also stated that it was a big mistake to have gotten out and that he wished he could get back in and to a Force Recon Company.

After making sure he was not a wannabe, which he was in fact, with Force Recon, I told him that I knew someone that may be able to help him get back in.

MGySgt Joe Settelen was working at the Pentagon at that time. He was working with MSgt Troy Mitchell. They were task with all the Recon Marines. Joe decided who went were and when. Their mission From Commandant Jones was to "Fix Recon". I gave Joe a call and he told me to have Tim call him,

which he did. He was told to contact a GySgt who just happened to be in the same Force Recon Company at the same time Tim was. So, a long story short Tim got back into the Marine Corps and back into Force Recon.

Fast forward to April 2010. I received a call from my good friend and FRA member Jim (Sam) Sandoz. Jim and I were on several missions together in Vietnam. He said he and a friend were talking outside a restaurant in Baltimore, Maryland, where Jim lives, and a guy walked passed them and saw Jims FRA hat and said he was also in Force Recon. They talked for awhile and the guy asked Jim "do you know an Allan Bierlein that served in Force?" Jim informed him that we served together and were best friends. The man's name was Tim. Yes the same Tim I met several years before.

What a small tight knit unit we have. Our ties go all the way back to the Amphibious Recon Marines to the Force Recon and MarSoc of today. We have a bond like no other.

I look forward to seeing you at the reunion.

Allan Bierlein
President FRA



Letter from your “EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR”

Let me start by apologizing for the tardiness of this SITREP. I neglected to wish all of you a Happy Holiday Season, and I sincerely hope that all of you did enjoy a pleasant time. Again, I apologize for this oversight.

Ever since the last reunion in San Diego, I have been traveling to many places and to many different events which are related to our Association. Late last September, I traveled to MCB, QUANTICO, to begin the preparations for our next annual reunion. At the same time, I attended the Modern Day MARINE EXPO, on board the base. This is usually where I begin to meet and speak with potential sponsors for our scholarship fund.

A few weeks later, I attended the awards ceremony at SOCOM Headquarters, where Major Jim CAPERS was inducted into the SOCOM hall of Fame. At the same time, an awards ceremony was held during which Major CAPERS and six other FORCE RECON MARINES received long overdue awards and citation for their service in Viet Nam.

The next stop on my tour was to Camp Pendleton, where I was the guest speaker at the FORCE RECON MARINE BIRTHDAY BALL. This occasion was a very rewarding experience for me personally. It was a great honor for me to attend the BALL and be among the finest MARINES within our CORPS. They treated me as one of their own and I left with a renewed feeling for our ARMED FORCES. Our FORCE RECON MARINES still maintain the highest degree of training and professionalism and are a credit to all of us who served within the RECON Community.

Doing a very quick turn around, I returned to MCB, QUANTICO on the 10th of November. It was on this day, that Colonel MEYERS and Sergeant Major KING dedicated the RECON MEMORIAL at the Museum of the Marines. They should both be commended for their work on creating the idea for the memorial and acquiring the funds to complete the monument. Unfortunately, the ceremony was attended by a very small gathering of former RECON MARINES and a uniformed detail from MARSOC HQ. I found this disappointing. I am hoping that the Association will have a rededication of the monument at our next reunion, with a much better attendance. In fact, I will work it into our already busy schedule of events at the reunion.

Just before Christmas, I ventured down to Dallas, Texas, where both Al Snaidecki and I met with lawyers who are helping us to renew the Association's By-Laws. The lawyers are working with us on a pro-bono basis and thus far have been very informative. As Chairman of the By-Laws Committee, I will present the proposed changes to our By-Laws at the next meeting of the Executive Board and the Board of Directors, which will be at the next reunion. Both Boards, after a reviewing the changes/additions to the By-Laws, will present them to the General Membership at our General Meeting, for final approval. I don't believe I have to express how import it is for the Association to update our By-Law considering how much the FRA has grown.

Late January, Steve Luebbert, Al Sniadecki and I attended the Shot Show in Las Vegas. I have to

report that the FRA is a well known organization to many vendors attending the show and our group was greeted warmly. I am sure that Al Sniadecki, the Scholarship Fund Chairman will elaborate more on what we accomplished while attending the show in this SITREP.

As many of you know, last November, I requested that the HOOCH be closed down on the FRA web-site. My reason for making the request had to do with the time constraints put on me during the holiday period. November is the time when I am receiving the annual dues and depositing the funds, making personal holiday plans and also dealing with the weather here in New England. The addition of HOOCH orders arriving at the same time as the dues and holidays has really puts a serious strain on me. Even with the closure of the HOOCH, orders still arrived here and were filled. I have been considering for quite some time now, turning the entire HOOCH operation over to a vendor, or just selling the FRA items at our annual reunion, as of now, I will only be selling what I have on hand in the inventory. Members who want to place an order should contact me via the internet to see what I actually have to sell before placing an order. If anybody has a better solution to this problem, please let anyone on the BOARD know, I would really appreciate the input.

Plans for the reunion have almost been finalized and I will have them ready to be published in our next SITREP within a few months from now. We are looking at some interesting changes in our venue this time down at QUANTICO, and as I have already mentioned, I hope to schedule a rededication of the RECON monument during our reunion. At this time I would like to personally THANK Jim Doner, SGTMAJ. Dick Ashton, Joe Kowalski and many of our Active Duty Marines, for the assistance they have rendered to make this reunion yet another success. The dates for the reunion are 7 through 10 September. More information will be forth coming in the next SITREP.

Before I close this SITREP out, I want to inform all of the membership that Major Andy Christian has received the NDIA USSOCOM award this year. The award is given to individuals within each component of SOCOM. I am sure that all of us will agree that Andy has clearly earned this honor. Andy and his unit will be deploying to Afghanistan, very shortly, and it goes without saying that he and his unit will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Take care and be safe.

Jim McKee
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Letter from your “Treasurer”



To the Board of Directors and the Members of Force Recon Association:

The Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss statement are for fiscal year ending September 30, 2010. They reflect the Association’s financial position as of 9/30/10 and what transpired during the fiscal year. These financials were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and are a compilation of information provided to me by the respective persons who have fiduciary responsibility for their cost center. Any questions regarding the FRA financials should be directed to me.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elliot”JJ”Rubenfeld Treas.
FRA# 1161

Balance Sheet

Profit & Loss

Balance Sheet	<u>Sep 30, 10</u>	Ordinary Income/Expense	<u>Oct '09 - Sep 10</u>
ASSETS		Income	
Current Assets		Donation Income	
Checking/Savings		Unrestricted	443.45
Bank Of America A/C	18,480.17	Donation Income - Other	<u>3,745.00</u>
CASH A/C	740.00	Total Donation Income	4,188.45
CHECKING UNION BANK	48,255.10		
SCHOLARSHIP 0875	31,681.73	Membership Dues	28,940.00
SCHOLARSHIP 4428	23,762.67	MEMORABILIA SALES	8,019.95
SCHOLARSHIP 6153	<u>2,847.93</u>	RECON-2009	691.00
Total Checking/Savings	125,767.60	RECON-2010	27,932.00
Other Current Assets		SCHOLARSHIP INCOME	<u>34,489.00</u>
INVENTORY	<u>6,555.00</u>	Total Income	104,260.40
Total Other Current Assets	<u>6,555.00</u>		
Total Current Assets	132,322.60	Expense	
Fixed Assets		Bank Service Charges	85.30
FURNITURE & FIXTURES		Contributions	8,095.65
Depreciation	-7,711.00	FUNERAL EXPENSE	1,684.51
Original Cost	<u>7,711.00</u>	Insurance	
Total FURNITURE & FIXTURES	<u>0.00</u>	Liability Insurance	<u>1,599.00</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>0.00</u>	Total Insurance	1,599.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>132,322.60</u></u>		
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		Mem.purchases	5,608.22
Liabilities		memorabilia shipping	3,824.56
Current Liabilities		Miscellaneous	1,300.00
Other Current Liabilities		Office Supplies	7,967.66
ACCRUED LIAB	<u>16,000.00</u>	RECON 2010	37,333.18
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>16,000.00</u>	SATELLITE	1,023.82
Total Current Liabilities	16,000.00	SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS	21,500.00
Long Term Liabilities		SCHOLARSHIP EXPENSES	-2,896.58
DEFERRED GAINS(LOSS)	<u>6,329.33</u>	Telephone	832.48
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>6,329.33</u>	Travel & Ent	
Total Liabilities	22,329.33	Travel	<u>5,643.96</u>
Equity		Total Travel & Ent	5,643.96
Opening Bal Equity	48,901.00		
Retained Earnings	51,455.23	Utilities	
Net Income	<u>9,637.04</u>	Gas and Electric	<u>1,021.60</u>
Total Equity	<u>100,356.23</u>	Total Utilities	<u>1,021.60</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>132,322.60</u></u>	Total Expense	<u>94,623.36</u>
		Net Ordinary Income	<u>9,637.04</u>
		Net Income	<u><u>9,637.04</u></u>



Letter from your “Secretary”

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Saturday, September 11, 2010

Called to order by AI Bierlein at 1125

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1130 Treasurer's Report	Presented by JJ Rubinfeld, Treasurer	Accepted by membership with no changes.
1140 Executive Director Report	Presented to the membership by Jim McKee, Executive Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • membership numbers • reported on the use of FRA funds to purchase cameras for active duty Marines in the fight in Afghanistan • reported on the purchase of bikes using FRA funds for donation to the Wounded Warrior Project (contact, Andy Christian) • FRA Board members participation at the SHOT Show in Las Vegas as primary contact for soliciting and establishing new FRA contacts and sponsorship. 	<p>Ternot MacRenato, member, volunteered to spearhead the FRA-associated work related to the Wounded Warrior Project.</p> <p>Executive Director report accepted by membership with no changes.</p>
1155 Scholarship Fund Report	Presented by Wayne Lingenfelter, Scholarship Chairman <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informed membership that he was stepping down from chairing the Scholarship Committee. • AI Sniadecki appointed new Chair of Scholarship Committee 	Accepted by membership with no changes.
1210 Lunch		
1250 Salute and Prayer	Salute and prayer led by Mike Misko for those who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.	
1255 FRA Scholarship Chairmanship	On behalf of the FRA membership and Board, John Baker acknowledged Wayne Lingenfelter for the 22 years of service and chairmanship of the FRA Scholarship Fund. Wayne is stepping down from his role as Scholarship Chairman this year.	
1305 Elections for open Board of Directors seats	Nominations and elections for 5 new Board members conducted by Andy Christian get results from Andy Christian	
1315 Secretary's Report	Lou Kern, Secretary, read minutes from Executive Board meeting.	Accepted by Membership with no changes.
1320 Force Recon/MARSOC Memorial update	Col Bruce Meyers reported on the status of the building and dedication of the Marine Obelisk at the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, VA. Dedication on 11/10/2010.	Donations to memorial still accepted.
1330 Election Results	Elected members of the FRA Board announced: Mao Pau Zach Peters Joe Robinson Lance Woodburn Chad Ramsey	
1340 Salute to.....????	Salute by Ed Miller to ?????	
1345 FRA logo	Presentation by Steve Luebbert about the need to copyright the FRA logo.	Steve Luebbert, Communication Chief, will contact a lawyer, and report back to the Board about what it will take to copyright the FRA logo.
1355 Meeting Adjourned	Meeting adjourned by Allan Bierlein.	

Team Leaders of the Year

Attention all Force Reconnaissance and MSOB unit leaders: Team Leader of the Year Selections

The FRA takes pride in recognizing the Marines chosen as Team Leaders of the Year by their respective units.

All selections for Team Leader of the Year are due July 11, 2011. Please submit your selections to the FRA Communications Chief, commchief@forcerecon.com.



Patrol Through The Poppies

Former FRA President, Major Andy Christian, on a patrol through Afghanistan's only exportable product.

2010 Membership Criteria

Annual Dues - \$40

Regular Members:

All officers and enlisted members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America or her Allies who are now serving, or who have served, with any Force Reconnaissance Company, Regular or Reserve. Deep Recon Platoons of Marine Division Reconnaissance Battalion; or personnel who served in Amphibious Reconnaissance units between 1943 and 1958; and those reconnaissance-trained Marines and Corpsmen having served in Marine SOCOM Detachment 1, or those reconnaissance-trained Marines and Corpsmen serving from the establishment of MARSOC in 2005, that carry the MOS 0321 or have completed the MARSOC selection & assessment and subsequently assigned to a Marine Special Operations Battalion. Only Regular Members may serve as officers or on the Board of Directors of the Association.

Associate Members:

Civilians and veterans of U.S. Armed Forces and Allies who did not serve with a Force Reconnaissance Company, but who did make a significant development in or advancement to operational procedures or techniques inherent in Force Reconnaissance operations or who made a valuable and unique contribution to either operational Force Reconnaissance units or to the Association. Associate membership may include Recon Battalion, ANGLICO Marines, Non-reconnaissance trained personnel of Marine SOCOM Detachment 1 or MARSOC and Corpsmen of these units. Associate Members may not serve as officers or on the Board of Directors of the Association.

TAPs and Remembrance



Abbott W. Lighter # 2355 Died 20 March 2011

Alfred L. Pisarek # 2510 Died 26 March 2011



You Will Be Missed and Never Forgotten.





**Force Recon
Association
P.O. Box 425
Rowe, MA 01367**

Executive Director's

(413) 339-4346

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

**Hooch Order Forms at:
www.forcerecon.com**

**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

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" via the Communications Chief at commchief@forcerecon.com.

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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