

# SITREP

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2012

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](mailto:CommChief@ForceRecon.com)

## RECON 2012 SAN DIEGO !

Tentative Dates Sep 5 - 8 Holiday Inn On The Bay



### Letter from your President

I want to convey my very best wishes to our Force Reconnaissance Association members and their families and loved ones for a healthy, happy, and safe New Year. **Also, I want to extend a special THANK YOU and WELCOME HOME to each and every Force Recon, Recon, and MARSOC Marine who recently returned from their deployments.**

As it turns out, 2011 proved to be an inaugural year for the Force Recon Association in several important respects. The first and most important event to have taken place this year involves the largest financial gift ever donated to the FRA Scholarship Fund. Through the overwhelming generosity of the estate of Colonel Robert and Mrs. Louise Lauffer, our Scholarship Fund now holds assets in excess of \$275,000.00 for the first time since the creation of the Force Reconnaissance Association.

This significant donation ensures that future funds will be available to award scholarships to deserving members and their families, in honor and memory of Colonel Lauffer. On behalf of our entire Marine Corps family, I want to convey my heartfelt and continuing gratitude to Louise for her generosity and her friendship to our Force Recon Community, and I hope she will join us at our next reunion in San Diego this coming September.

Another very significant and very necessary first event for the FRA involved the complete review and revision of the FRA Bylaws that went into effect with the membership's ratification on September 9, 2011. For your reference, I have attached the current FRA Bylaws to this SITREP. The work of revising and updating one of our FRA key governing documents proved to be no small task, and every member who worked to complete this mission deserves our congratulations and appreciation. I want to especially acknowledge both the former and present FRA Board members who

devoted a lot of hours and effort into getting this task accomplished. One key lesson learned from our work on the Bylaws is that they will always require ongoing review and modification from time to time to ensure that they meet both the purposes of our Association and the legal and regulatory requirements that govern our organization.

The last inaugural event I want to recognize actually occurred at our memorial dinner and dance at the recent Quantico reunion. We were honored to host both a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Colonel Wesley Fox, and a Marine Corps Commandant, General P.X. Kelley. Thank you both for your presence and participation, and we hope you will consider joining us again in San Diego.

I want to recognize our 2011 FRA Scholarship Award winners and extend our best wishes for a productive and successful school year.

Colonel Robert Lauffer Scholarship:	Allison Elizabeth Walker - \$4,500.00
Ernie DeFazio Scholarship:	Jessica M. Jones - \$4,000.00
Seigal-Houghton Scholarship:	Naomi L. Miller - \$2,500.00
Scott Rubinfeld Scholarship:	Ketrina Childs - \$2,000.00
Captain Abbott Lighter Scholarship:	Micah Root - \$2,000.00
MSgt John Hayes Scholarship:	Thomas Loder - \$2,000.00
Dr. Wayne Lingenfelter Scholarship:	Logan Praay - \$2,000.00
FRA General Scholarship:	Tyler Christian - \$1,500.00
FRA General Scholarship:	Julia Ciera Garcia - \$1,000.00
FRA General Scholarship:	Jacob Field - \$500.00

Finally, I want to acknowledge and thank the "MAC" for his steadfast dedication and continuing service to the FRA. I am blessed to be the third consecutive President to serve with "MAC" as Executive Director. You simply couldn't find a better man for the job, and I look forward to working with him and our other Board members and officers in the next year.

Semper Fidelis,  
*Al Sniadecki*



## Letter from your EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I sincerely hope that that all of you have had a very pleasant and peaceful holiday season. As has already been stated by our Association President, Al SNIADECKI, the FRA has had a very eventful year. The Association adopted a new set of Bylaws, which will hopefully enable those members who will eventually lead the FRA, to keep the Association alive and operating well into the future. I want to personally THANK all of the people who were responsible in making all of the necessary changes to our past Bylaws. Your diligent work and patience, as well as your opinions, were of great value to the Association.

One item that was addressed at the FRA BOARD of DIRECTORS meeting was the reconstruction of our

Memorial Wall. The FRA Secretary, Todd SMALENBERG took the lead on this project. Both Todd and I met with a representative of SKYLINE INC., the original designers of the wall. We explained the problem we have faced since the memorial was presented to the FRA, that being, the large amount of transportation costs, to and from our reunions. What has been proposed is having two memorial walls. This will enable the FRA to position a memorial wall on each coast. We have already had members volunteer to keep the memorials at their residences. To save on the reconstruction costs, the wall will actually be broken down into two separate sections, using our existing memorial. The names of those memorialized will be projected onto the new wall using the projection equipment the FRA now possesses. The people at SKYLINE are currently working on the project which will be ready for our next reunion thanks to Todd and all of his efforts.

As many of you might have noticed on our annual dues invoices, we requested information regarding our member's dates of service, units, etc. This was done to help us update our existing database. As many of you may or may not know, the FRA has to meet current IRS regulations regarding our veteran's non-profit organizational status. The IRS has very stringent rules regarding organizations such as ours. I appreciate the fact that the majority of our members responded in a positive manner and listed the requested information. Believe me; it has helped us to have a clearer picture of our membership. I sincerely hope that any changes regarding personal information, such as new addresses, phone numbers and email addresses will be forwarded to us also. We want to stay in contact with our membership.

Our reunion last September, turned out to be a success. We were fortunate enough to have visited the FBI Academy, the Weapons Training Battalion and the RAIDS/RECON facility. All of the events were enthusiastically attended by our members. Considering all of the ammunition expended by our members, was paid for with their tax dollars, and delighted everybody who attended some of the events. The reception at the National Museum of the MARINES was an event that will be remembered by all who attended, for years to come. As already mentioned, we were very fortunate to have several very distinguished guests. Our next reunion will be held in San Diego next September. As it stands now, we are looking at the 5<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. This year we are planning to have our reception on Friday evening, the 7<sup>th</sup> of September. And our luncheons, General Meeting and Scholarship auction, on Saturday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. Hopefully by making these changes, those members who would like to depart the reunion earlier, will be able to do so, in a more timely and cost effective manner. The events we will be attending during the reunion, are still in the planning stage, but I can assure all of the 'shooters' within our group, that they will have plenty of ammunition to expend, and an abundance of time to spend with our ACTIVE DUTY MARINES.

The year 2011, was an eventful for the FRA. Last April, Jim Doner, Mike Miszko and I were present at the dedication of a memorial at 2<sup>nd</sup> FORCE RECON's complex at Camp Le Jeune, honoring all of those fallen members of the Company, from past to present. Last September, I was much honored to be invited as a guest, to SGTMAJ. Dick ASHTON's retirement ceremony. Dick gave his country 32 years of service, 18 of those years within RECON UNITS. I'm sure that SGTMAJ ASHTON will lead an exemplarily civilian life and I'm sure we will be seeing lots more of him in the future.

Rounding out the year, I was fortunate enough to be present at the MARINE CORPS BALL, last November, in San Diego. I was the guest of Major Andy CHRISTIAN and his wife Sarah. As many of you already know, Major CHRISTIAN returned from Afghanistan with his 1<sup>st</sup> MSOB unit earlier in November. It is always a pleasant experience for me, to be with Major CHRISTIAN, and it is an even more rewarding experience when both he and I are among active duty RECON MARINES. Andy, I'm sure I speak for the

entire FRA, when I say.....WELL DONE MARINE!

I would certainly be remiss, if I didn't acknowledge those within our Association, who passed away during the year 2011. Those who are no longer with us, through their personal sacrifices and service given to this country, will not be forgotten by any of us within the FRA.

May they rest in peace.

As we enter into another year, I'm sure that all of us will remember and certainly think about, all of our service people, who are presently in harm's way, especially our RECON and MARSOC MARINES. My most ardent wish for the year 2012 is for all of our service people, to return to their families safely.

Take care and be safe.

SEMPER FIDELIS!!!!!!!

Jim McKee

## **Letter from your Treasurer**



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

Below are the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss statement for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011. They reflect our financial position as of 9/30/11 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"Rubinfeld Treas.  
Fra# 1161

## Balance Sheet

## Profit & Loss

### FORCE RECON ASSOCIATION Balance Sheet As of September 30, 2011

	<u>Sep 30, 11</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Bank Of America A/C	13,936.08
CASH A/C	740.00
CHECKING UNION BANK	72.31
SCHOLARSHIP 0875	53,358.17
SCHOLARSHIP 4428	23,023.98
SCHOLARSHIP 6153	217,333.56
Total Checking/Savings	308,462.10
Other Current Assets	
INVENTORY	6,555.00
Total Other Current Assets	6,555.00
Total Current Assets	315,017.10
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>315,017.10</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
ACCRUED LIAB	15,312.72
Total Other Current Liabilities	15,312.72
Total Current Liabilities	15,312.72
Long Term Liabilities	
DEFERRED GAINS(LOSS)	10,104.65
Total Long Term Liabilities	10,104.65
Total Liabilities	25,417.37
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	48,901.00
Retained Earnings	61,092.27
Net Income	179,606.46
Total Equity	289,599.73
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>315,017.10</u></b>

### FORCE RECON ASSOCIATION Profit & Loss October 2010 through September 2011

	<u>Oct '10 - Sep 11</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
Income	
Donation Income	
Unrestricted	4,035.00
Total Donation Income	4,035.00
Membership Dues	25,140.00
MEMORABILIA SALES	5,504.40
RECON-2010	855.00
RECON-2011	15,275.08
SCHOLARSHIP INCOME	212,189.00
Total Income	262,998.48
Expense	
Bank Service Charges	360.00
Contributions	4,281.91
Insurance	
Liability Insurance	1,563.00
Total Insurance	1,563.00
Mem.purchases	5,731.75
memorabilia shipping	1,715.20
Miscellaneous	100.00
Office Supplies	8,475.38
Postage and Delivery	682.00
Professional Fees	
Legal Fees	400.00
Total Professional Fees	400.00
RECON 2011	24,483.74
SATELLITE	1,131.67
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS	22,000.00
SCHOLARSHIP EXPENS...	4,225.73
Telephone	939.31
Travel & Ent	
Travel	7,302.33
Total Travel & Ent	7,302.33
Total Expense	83,392.02
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b><u>179,606.46</u></b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b><u>179,606.46</u></b>

## 2012 Membership Criteria

### Annual Dues - \$40

#### Regular Members:

Regular Members include 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, Marine Division Reconnaissance Battalions, Regular or Reserve, Amphibious Reconnaissance units between 1943 and 1958, and MARSOC (Marine Special Operations Command), Test Unit One, and Special Mission Units. Only Regular Members shall have voting rights and serve as officers or on the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

#### Associate Members:

Associate Members include civilians and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and Allies who do not meet the "Regular Member" requirements as stipulated above, but who did make a significant contribution to the development of, 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 Corporation. Associate Members do not have voting rights and may not serve as officers or on the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

## TAPs and Remembrance

Robert Rosenau FRA# 50 Died 30 Dec 2010

Robert G. Lauffer, (Col USMC, ret) Died 22 Jan 2011 - We gratefully acknowledge the estate of Colonel Robert Lauffer and Mrs. Louise Lauffer as having gifted the single largest donation to the FRA Scholarship Fund ever received. Even in his passing, Colonel Lauffer is still looking out for "his Marines".



Abbott Lighter FRA# 2355 Died 20 Mar 2011

Fred Pisarek 26 FRA# 2510 Died 26 Mar 2011

Dionicio Garcia FRA# 191 Died 28 Apr 2011

Leslie Herring FRA# 123 Died 7 Jul 2011

Jo Meyers Died 23 Nov 2011 - Mrs. Meyers was a major contributor to the FRA Scholarship Fund and Women's Auxiliary



## 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](http://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. Our mission and our motto is "Link Forever Those Who Served Together"

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.

We welcome both individual and corporate donors to contribute to our FRA Scholarship Fund and the FRA Assistance Fund. For more information regarding either of these Funds or to make a contribution, please contact the Chairman of the Scholarship and Assistance Funds via the Commchief@forcerecon.com

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

### *Board of Directors and Officers: 2011 - 2013*

Al Sniadecki  
President

Jim Doner  
Vice President

Elliot (JJ) Rubenfeld  
Treasurer

Todd Smalenberg  
Secretary

Jim McKee  
Executive Director

Stephen Luebbert  
Communications Chief

Mario Pau  
Director

Zach Peters  
Director

Chad Ramsey  
Director

Joe Robinson  
Director

Lance Woodburn  
Director

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