



FIRST IN ~ LAST OUT

April-May, 2006

Volume 11, Number 2

# The Ugly Angel Memorial Foundation Newsletter

## From the Cockpit; Memorial Relocation On Track

### Inside this issue:

Fallen Angel to be memorialized	2
More on Fort Worth Reunion	2
Latest List of Attendees	3
Ugly Author to Speak	4
New Captain Turner	5
Bobby Johns Update	5
HMH Heritage Room	5
More on Memorial	5
Our Fallen	6

### Good News;

I'm pleased to report that I will be meeting with the COO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, BGen Gerald McKay, USMC (Ret) on 9 May to select a site for the Ugly Angel Memorial. The memorial will be located somewhere in the Semper Fidelis Memorial Park which is on the grounds of the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico.

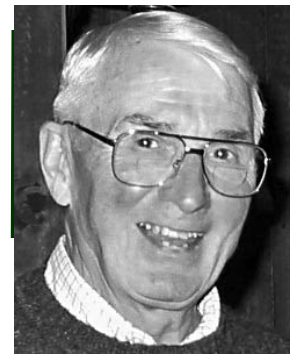
As you may know, the Museum is located between I-95 and US 1 just south of the road to the main gate. The park is situated on a low, heavily wooded hill just above the Museum. That 'somewhere' will be along one of the many paths in the park, and is what General McKay and I will be walking the ground to determine.

You will be proud to know that the Ugly Angel Memorial is one of only five memorials thus far commissioned by Marine veterans of Vietnam, and one of the first authorized a place in the park. As required by the MCHF to seal the deal, I will be giving General McKay a check for \$1000 to be deposited into a memorial maintenance escrow fund.

While it has not been decided when the memorial will be moved from its present site on MCB Quantico to Semper Fidelis Memorial Park, I can assure you it will be in place by the 10 November 2006 dedication of the Museum.

*Semper Fi,*

Tom



## Fort Worth Reunion Getting Closer Everyday!! August 10—13, 2006

Details on Page 2



### Letter received

Popasmoke forwarded the following e-mail from Steve Jenkins (UA VN 67-69).

"I live on the outskirts of Louisville Ky. I'm a tool & diemaker at the Budd Co. in Shelbyville Ky. Married with 3 children and 3 step children. All have grown up and left the nest. I also have 4 grand children and my wife has 2 grand children. I like to ride Harley Davidson motorcycles and still play music in an oldies band.

I was a crew chief on YL4 and YL5 in HMM 362 in Vietnam in 1968 & 69. I was promoted to Sergeant while in Country. I have e-mailed two friends of mine that served in Vietnam in HMM362 they were both crewchiefs and would really enjoy seeing them at the 2006 reunion. I was in the chase helo when Captain Cascio and crew were hit. It looked like a wagon wheel of tracers around their helicopter. We took the wounded crew to the hospital ship Hope. I would like to join POPASMOKE to keep up with everyone.

Steve Jenkins

Stephen M. Jenkins <[musicbass@insightbb.com](mailto:musicbass@insightbb.com)>  
5409 Montfort Lane  
Crestwood, Kentucky 40014 / 502-243-2540  
HMM 362 1968 and 1969

## Fallen Angel Among Others to be Honored in Home Town Memorial, May 29th



On Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2006 the Town of Moultonborough, NH will begin with it's Memorial Day parade, which begins near the Central School and marches north on Route 25, turning left at the Town Public Library, then right up to the Town Hall. Immediately following the parade (about 10:45am) there will be a dedication ceremony for the Fallen Heroes Monument. The monument has 49 names of men who have died during the service of our country, from the Town of Moultonborough, since the Revolutionary War. The last one to have died is Captain Steven W. Martin, November 10, 1968, south of Da Nang, Viet Nam.

Any Ugliers who can attend, please contact Bruce Gary at <[bgarry999@verizon.net](mailto:bgarry999@verizon.net)>

## The Reunion is cranking !!



With almost daily contact I can tell you that our men-on-the ground, Bill McNair and Romy Myszka have a good grip on this reunion. Their mission was to locate a prime spot for our Friday night dinner at a reasonable price and with good eats. The dinner will be held at the *StageCoach Ballroom* right in Fort Worth. Dinner will be a Tex-Mex buffet. A guest speaker has been invited to give the after dinner talk. You can also plan on the same inspired After Dinner Auction as at Reno. Bring anything you might wish to donate.

The combined price for the Ballroom and dinner will \$25.00 per head and should be sent to:

Bill McNair  
6208 Dovensire Ter.  
Fort Worth, TX 76112

E-mail Bill at: [yl3cc@yahoo.com](mailto:yl3cc@yahoo.com)

**Brains behind the reunion; Romy, FNG John Perry and Bill.**



<b>Latest List of Reunion Attendees</b>		
Art Barker & Terri Tomlinson	Curt Gray & Guest	Larry Pringle
Bill Benson	Tom Hammack	Burt Palmer
Gene Camp	Rich Houghton	Dave Pirnie
Lyman & Lee Cokely	Dan Houglam	Carlos Puente
Darold & Brenda Cooper	Ron Ice	Hugh Rothweiler & 1
Calvin Cormier	Steve and Mrs. Jenkins	Chris and Mrs. Sauro
Dan and Joan Dain	Pete King	Jerry Scanlan &1
Richard Davidson & 1	Jerry & Turmi Kottkamp	Paul Sheehan
John Donnelly	Ed Langley &1	Bob & Madilyn Skinder
Gary Doss	Jack and Cindy Lodge	Willie Sproule
Joe Eke	Bob & Patsy Nickens	Lou Stefan
Bob Feeney & 1	Al & Alexis Nitchman	Jim & June Street
Ron & Gerry Fix	Don Martin	Ed. and Pat Tatman
Archie Flemming	Tom & Carol McKnight	Kenny & Shirl Thomas
Don & Dee Ferguson	Bill & Nita McNair	Larry & Judy or Nick Turner
John Ford	Bill McNair Family of 5	Darrell Tygart
Ron & Anna Gall	Romy & Linda Myszka	Frank Walters (2)
Richard Gehweiler	Bill & Carol McCluskey	Bill Waters & Beth Fischer
Pete Gligor	Jerry & Allie Ostapowicz	Ed. Wato Sr. and Lilly
<b>Addendum (editorial screw up)</b>		
Wimpy and Julia Wimpler	Del and Debby York	George Zamora
Jim Gordon	Mike and Lynn Zacker	

If you haven't done so yet, start making your plans  
for this great occasion and event!!  
See you there!!

## Ugly Angels Finally Get an Author; Sauro to Deliver After Dinner Talk

HMM 265 had at least three authors. Scarface had two. Now we are in the game. Our own Chris Sauro has made it to the majors and is planning on attending the reunion. Check out your favorite bookstore and bring your own copy to be signed by our “first writer-in-residence.” Details are below.

### Ball Field to the Battlefield

***The Twins Platoon* follows a group of Marines from the heartland of the Midwest to the unfor-  
giving war in Vietnam and back home again**

On the evening of June 28, 1967, 150 young men took the field at Metropolitan Stadium to be sworn into the Marine Corps during the pre-game ceremonies of a Minnesota Twins baseball game. By the fourth inning, they boarded buses and began a journey that would take them from the boyhood of baseball in the American heartland to manhood on the killing fields of Vietnam, many never to return home.

*The Twins Platoon* is the gripping story of a group of young, Midwestern men recruited, trained, and sent to fight in war-ravaged Vietnam, told through the voice of Marine Corps sergeant, and former platoon member, Christy Sauro. This captivating book details the struggles of boot camp, the brutal combat seen by these men in-country “including the Siege of Khe Sanh and the Tet Offensive” and the grim realities of post-war life in an America divided equally by steadfast patriotism and a growing anti-war sentiment.

Written with uncompromising honesty and graphic detail, Sauro’s epic recounting is a no-holds-barred look at the toll this controversial war took on the bodies, minds, and spirits of a group of boys from Minnesota. It is the story of life being lived at the limits and men being changed forever.

#### About the Author

Marine Corps sergeant Christy Sauro was a member of the Twins Platoon. Following his Marine Corps service, Sauro has had a successful career in the insurance business. His writing has been published in magazines such as *Leatherneck* and *Reader’s Digest*. Sauro lives near Minneapolis, MN with his wife and children.

*The Twins Platoon: An Epic Story of Young Marines at War in Vietnam* by Christy Sauro

Hardcover / 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 / 288 pages / 16 b/w photos

ISBN 0-7603-2387-9 / \$24.95 (U.S.) / \$33.95 (CAN) / £16.99

Available in bookstores everywhere or through [www.zenithpress.com](http://www.zenithpress.com).

“The Ugly Angels are mentioned in chapter 13 “The Battle of Hue City” and in chapter 18 “The Battle of Dia Do”. In chapter 26 “One Nation Under God” I write about HMM 362 pilot Peter Schryver, who was the embarkation office that I worked with.”

Reach Chris at CHRIS SAURO, 40417 Elmcrest Avenue, Noth Branch MN 55056

651-674-4329

[Csauro@earthlink.net](mailto:Csauro@earthlink.net)

## Member Notes



2006

A mere 40 years  
difference?  
Whoda thunk it?  
Congrats, Cap'n Nick,  
Cap'n Larry.....



1966

### Bobby Johns Update:

BJ is still in the hospital going through therapy, rehabilitation & "nutritional education/therapy." He sounded strong, alert and in good spirits. His son & daughters are still there with him all the time & taking good care of him. He would love to hear from anyone who has the time to talk. It's best to use his cell phone number. You can contact him at:

Micheal E. DeBakey VA Medical Center  
2002 Holcombe Blvd  
Houston, Texas 77030

email: [www.houston.med.va.gov](http://www.houston.med.va.gov)  
Main # 713-791-1414  
BJ's Room # 1C-220  
Cell: 281-460-2367

Donna Ekhart cell: 281-923-0045 h-936-582-0455

Kim Weems 469-417-8458

### HMH Heritage Room Dedication June 15—18

This is bound to be a great happening. Us old guys and families have been invited to Kanehoe Bay by our younger brothers to dedicate their Heritage Room to us and those who went before us. If you can, show your support for this incredible honor by simply showing up. If you can get there, it will be the travel deal of the year. For Info, contact Captain Nick Turner at 808-368-2690 (cell) or 808-257-9920 (work) or 808-254-0969 or e-mail him at TURNERN002@HAWAII.RR.COM

### Dateline Quantico.



The above photo is our founder and President, Tom Hewes presenting Brig General McKay with a check to cover the maintenance of our Memorial into perpetuity. Tom also got to tour the new Heritage Center shown in the background and reports that it is a wonder. They then toured the site but were not able to decide on the perfect site as the construction is not complete. More news will be forthcoming in future issues.



ENLISTED COMBAT AIRCREW ROLL OF HONOR REQUIREMENTS

**FIRST IN ~ LAST OUT**

Bob Skinder  
20 Claytor Rd.  
Hopkins, SC 29061

Phone:803-783-3019  
E-mail: rskinder@att.net

The next ROLL OF HONOR inductions will be held in Nov 2006, if there are enough men selected. NOW is the time to come forward to take your place on the ROH.

Inductions are held in a Prestigious Ceremony aboard the USS YORKTOWN in Patriots Point (Charleston S.C.) each Nov.

The following items are needed to get each crewman nominated. Some items if not retrievable I may possibly work around.

1. Copy of flight record or document showing how many missions and type flown
2. Copy of dd 214/ 215 showing service and decorations
3. Copy of award citations received.
4. Copy of several pictures of nominee in Vietnam, preferable by aircraft or with weapon.
5. Several detailed hot Distinct combat missions flown, starting with before the mission until after landing with any noted results of action. (Destroyed enemy troops, installations, life saving actions, protecting units from being overran, installations from being destroyed etc). This is your story, so not to detract from what you did, you can initially insert the name of the and Pilots and there after refer to them as the Pilot or Copilot.
6. A completed Bio/Nomination found at [www.vpnavy.org/aircrew.html](http://www.vpnavy.org/aircrew.html)
7. A Paragraph or two from one of your Pilots or POINC is always a plus in this endeavor
8. Contact me, SR CHIEF, Bill Rutledge, at 1-858-569-0697 or your newsletter editor , GUNNY Bob Skinder



## Memorial Day, May 29, 2006

If you are able, save them a place inside of you  
and save one backward glance when you are leaving  
for the places they can no longer go.  
Be not ashamed to say you loved them, though you may  
or may not have always.  
Take what they have left and what they have taught you  
with their dying and keep it with your own.  
And in that time when men decide and feel safe  
to call the war insane, take one moment to embrace  
those gentle heroes you left behind.

Major Michael Davis O'Donnell  
1 January 1970  
Dak To, Vietnam

Cpl. Philip R. Anderson	Cpl. Thomas E. Douglas	2d Lt. Anthony E. Kisucky	Sgt. Daniel Pesimer
Cpl. George A. Bird III	Cpl. William E. Franklin Jr.	LCpl. Lawrence C. Kleinhans	Cpl. Victor J. Pirker
Cpl. Thomas M. Boyd III	LCpl. Otis Green	1st Lt. Roger D. Knudtson	Cpl. James H. Post Jr.
Cpl. Joe H. Brubaker	1st Lt. Andrew M. Haglage	Capt. Steven W. Martin	1st Lt. Peter E. Schryver
1st Lt. Michael J. Carle	LCpl. John D. Harrington	LCpl. Kenneth N. Mac Beth	1st Lt. Francis E. Visconti
Capt. Denver D. Colburn Jr.	Cpl. Lantie L. Harris Jr.	1st Lt. Richard A. Miller	Cpl. Kenneth R. Yantis
Maj. Robert M. Cramer	LCpl. William B. Hays	Cpl. John H. Mooney Jr.	
LCpl. Jeffrey C. Crouse	1st Lt. Lawrence E. Houck II	LCpl. Gregory J. Niccoli	
Capt. Donnie L. Darrow	1st Lt. Ronald J. Janousek	1st Lt. James D. Opsahl	

Courtesy B. Rytli/  
J. Moriarty