



Newsletter of the Semper Fidelis Society

DISPATCHES

OFTEN TESTED, ALWAYS FAITHFUL, BROTHERS FOREVER

“The bended knee is not a tradition of our Corps.”

2018 Leadership

Officers:

President-Paul McLaughlin
Treasurer-Bob Adelmhelm
Admin/Sec-George Hurd
Chaplain-Henry Moreland
Historian-Klaus Maurer
BOD-Fred Blaz
BOD-Suzanne Carson
BOD-Reiss Tatum
Advisor-Sam Handlee

Past Presidents:

2000 Bob Adelmhelm (Founder)
2001 Pete Dowling
2002 Bert Costa
2003 Sam Handlee
2004 Len Slack
2005 John Winkler*
2006 Jim Mitchell*
2007 Murray Morgan
2008/09 Paul McLaughlin
(co-Founder)
2010 Jesse Vaughn
2011/2012 Sharon Leahy
2013 Sam Handlee
2014 Bert Costa
2015 Ed Churchill
2016/18 Paul McLaughlin
(co-Founder)

** denotes incomplete term*



President's Message:

OOORAH, Marine and FMF Corpsmen Brothers and Sisters...

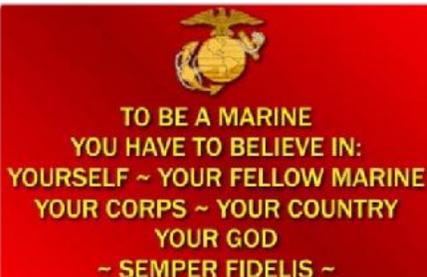
It pleases me to report that there was a strong turnout for our first meeting on January 16 at Hidden Hills Country Club. There were quite a few guests present, which I am always happy to see and several decided to join the

Society. It will be my distinct pleasure to introduce the new members at our next meeting.

There is a wave of change taking place in Jacksonville and the entire north Florida area! What I mean by that is there is a growing realization and acceptance of the importance of Veterans. This is welcome, but long overdue. This change has been brought about in large measure by the efforts of the Vets 4 Vets movement, which has brought together Veterans groups from all over north Florida. This movement has been spearheaded by our own Bob Adelmhelm, who has worked tirelessly for a number of years to bring this about. At the last quarterly meeting, our speakers included the President of the Jacksonville City Council, Anna Brosche and Ron DeSantis, from the Congressional House of Representatives, now a candidate for Florida governor and a host of others. All the speakers had either personal military experience or military family members.

I encourage our members to attend future Vets 4 Vets to meet and network with members of other Veterans groups and to gather important information from the speakers. The next meeting date has not been set, but will probably be in late March or early April. You will be notified as soon as the date is determined.

A reminder to **PAY YOUR 2018 JSFS DUES!** Your dues are the main source of funds allowing us to continue our awards, charitable activities and keep our name in front of the community. This may be a Navy town, but we Marines are an important part. Thank you to all who have paid and continue to support the Society.



President's Message ...continued

Finally, I encourage you to invite younger Marines as guests to our meetings. Most, if not all, of our guest speakers have knowledge of interest for these younger Marines and their families.

Our next meeting will be on March 20 at Hidden Hills Country Club from 1130 to 1300. We hope to have Paige Kelton from local media and Councilman Al Ferraro as guests. We would like Councilman Ferraro to give us an update on the new city park that will have a new Veterans monument to honor those who succumbed to PTSD.

We are still working to address the city Veterans Memorial Wall and getting the honor and integrity restored back to the process of recognizing those who go on it and ensure there is more transparency to the process than there has been in the past. Our delegates on the new Duval Veterans Council David Trotti and Ester Byrd, both new members, are overseeing this issue for the Society.

Speaking of the Duval Veterans Council...this is the old NEFVC. It has undergone a name change, new leadership and is engaged with the new Council of County Veteran Council Presidents from the surrounding counties and V4V.

See you at the next meeting!

Semper Fi, Paul

From the Staff...

Treasurers Report: Treasurers Reports are made available upon request. We are currently collecting 2018 dues. Operations account is currently \$5629.69. We are still supporting the NJROTC Scholarships of \$1000 each to Bishop Kenny and Terry Parker High Schools, donating to support the Atlantic Coast Young Marines, presenting a Gung Ho Awards and Marine Officer's Sword to JU NROTC, conducting the Evergreen Marine and FMF Corpsmen Memorial and ensuring wreaths are placed at the Veterans Wall and National Cemetery on Memorial Day. We do this with your dues, donations and sale of Semper Fi gear.

Semper Fi Gear: Our gear consists of a shirt with logo, coins, pin and now the Marine Corps ring paperweight. These rings were impossible to find, out of production, but we were able to get a Marine to help us mint some. We now have the only remaining rings left in the US. To those of you who already have one, hold on to it...there aint any more except for the few we currently have. Interested in one, contact Paul McLaughlin jsfs.usmc@gmail.com



Operations Report: Semper Fi is actively involved in and manages Vets 4 Vets. We are currently waiting for a date from the arena staff to set up the 1st gathering of 2018. The first meeting of Semper Fi was held on Jan 16th with a good turnout. Good venue, good food and always good to see fellow Marines and FMF Corpsmen. The BOD meetings will now be held at Hidden Hills; all are welcome. We will do it over a lunch at the club. This year, we are hoping to plan a few social events to catch some of the members who can't make the regular meetings...More to follow. Next meeting is March 20th. We are looking to invite Paige Kelton as a speaker to address the coverage of Veterans and Veterans issues here in Jax.

JOIN US

Meetings at Hidden Hills CC , Monument Rd, Jax, FL
Contact us at jsfs.usmc@gmail.com

Find THE TIME
Take THE TIME
Make THE TIME

Did You Know...

CNN medical correspondent and neurosurgeon Sanjay Gupta saved a Marine's life after he was shot in the head during the opening days of the invasion of Iraq. Without proper tools, Gupta performed the brain surgery with a Black and Decker handheld drill. The Marine lived.

The US Marine Corps is currently working on Project Hot Eagle, a program that when finished, may be able to place squads of Marines anywhere on the planet in two hours' notice.

The US Marine Corps is older than the United States itself, predating the Declaration of Independence by a year.

The United States Marine Corps has a required reading list including items ranging from war histories and biographies, to the US Constitution, to Ender's Game.

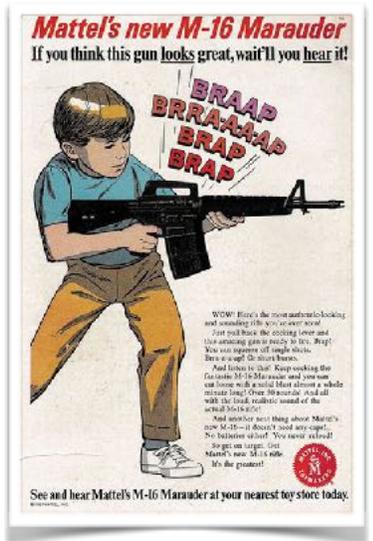
Chesty Puller joined the Marines as a private, got promoted to Sergeant and then became an officer as a Lieutenant, then got discharged, enlisted as a Private again, then became an officer again, and ended up being a Lieutenant General.

From Dec. 7, 1941, to Aug. 14, 1945, over 200,000 recruits passed through Parris Island. The peak load topped 18,000 recruits in August 1945. At the war's end, demobilization came quickly. By the end of 1946, all but three recruit battalions had been deactivated. Page Field, once thriving with activity, was placed on maintenance status.

At the age of 50, Paul H. Douglas became the oldest Marine to undergo recruit training at Parris Island. After graduation in 1942, Douglas went on to the Pacific theater where he won two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. In 1948, Douglas was elected Senator from the state of Illinois and served until 1966. In 1977, the Parris Island Visitor Center was renamed in honor of Senator Douglas.

During the Vietnam War, more than 200,000 recruits graduated from Parris Island with the peak load being 10,979 in March 1966. No new battalions were added, but training was cut from 11 weeks to eight weeks, and the size of the recruit platoons was increased.

Remember when...Old Ads that wouldn't fly today:



Check us out at
www.facebook.com/jaxsemperfi



**It's easy
to stand with
the crowd.
It takes
Courage
to stand alone.**



**HONOR
COURAGE
COMMITMENT**

“When it's all over, it's not who you were. . . it's whether you made a difference.”



Semper Fidelis Society 2018 Dues are currently due. Stay on board; we made a difference in this community and with your continued support will continue to make a difference. Semper Fi Society has been around for 18 years. If not for Semper Fi, there would be no Marine and FMF Corpsmen Memorial at Evergreen or the National Cemetery along with many other things we currently do to ensure Marines are recognized in this community like starting Vets 4 Vets. Semper Fidelis isn't about a select group of Marines, we are about ALL Marines. \$40 per year helps keep the Marine spirit alive here in Jax not for a few, but for all those who earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor and their families.

Semper Fidelis Society
P.O Box 28188
Jacksonville, Florida 32226



Semper Fidelis Marine

Semper Fidelis is more than a motto

“Marines Taking Care of Marines”

Together We Are Stronger

“I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.”