Hotel 2/5 Newsletter

AUGUST 25 2017 RETREAT HELL ISSUE NINETEEN

Editor's Column

We are now within 30 days of the cutoff for registration for a room reservation and to sign up for the reunion. I have to admit that the internet makes it a lot easier to wait until the very very very last minute. Theoretically you can now wait until the evening of the last day and hope your wifi does not go down and sign up on line. I would just relate that my wife, Carolin was standing in line to purchase the winning Powerball lottery ticket with just 45 minutes until sales closed and was told that the computers had gone down. So, I urge you all to get it done sooner rather than later. I have mine in now so it is easier for me to chastise those of you who are still not registered. The rooms are limited and there is a savings that you will lose if you wait too long.

We may still be able to accommodate you at the last minute, but you won't get a sweatshirt and maybe other stuff. So in the immortal words of a great American "Git er done" ***REGISTER BEFORE SEPTEMBER 25TH.***

A friend here in San Luis Obispo is from Santa Fe and is excited that I am heading to his home town. He visited Santa Fe a few weeks ago and brought back every glossy magazine he could find that lists restaurants, bars, museums, and events in the Albuquerque-Santa Fe area. We arrive a few days early, but after reading all of the things listed it would appear that I should be coming in about a week early.

The best resource available if you don't have a friend bring you a stack of magazines is santafe.org. This online resource can link you to just about everything there is to see and/or do. Of Note: There are over 400 restaurants, 40 Bars and 17 major museums. Santa Fe was founded in 1610 and is the oldest capital city in the United States (407 years old). Santa Fe is also at an elevation of 7,000 feet and gets an average of 325 days of sunshine. So use plenty of sunscreen and drink plenty of liquids.

The liquids should be water. However, the hotel has allowed us to bring our own beer and wine into the hospitality room They won't allow us to bring in hard liquor. I will bring some Hotel Company Wine and have it available for consumption.

Hope to see you all in New Mexico.

Semper Fi.

Jay



Your Editor

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Asst Editor in charge of everything digital
Carlie Peterson



Larry is working on getting up a page for those who served with us, returned home, but who have now passed on. It is a work in progress as is everything in life. If you have info about anyone that would be appropriate for this page please let Larry know so he can get it posted.

I have received, over the years, quite a bit of info which I promise I will get to him shortly. Then it will be his job to format and get it up. I admit I am a bit of a bottleneck due to my work schedule. That will not be changing, but I have learned to delegate (dump) on my daughter Carlie. So with her help I will try and get more info into the pipeline.

One Marine that needs to be added to that list is Ken Kromer. While I did not serve with him, I was honored to have met him at the reunions and conversed with him many times over the years about his work to keep the Hue Hotel Marines in contact with each other. He provided me with his data base which I have tried to update. He will be missed.

Kenneth Wilbert Kromer, Jr.

Kenneth Wilbert Kromer, Jr., 72 of Colliers, died peacefully at home on Thursday, April 13, 2017.



Born November 25, 1944 in Connellsville, PA a son of the late Kenneth W. and Mary Alice (DeMoss) Kromer, Sr.

Shortly after his birth, the family moved to the Weirton, WV area where Ken was raised. Ken graduated from Follansbee High School in 1962 and went on to graduate from Westminster College with a degree in History. Upon graduation, he was accepted to Officer's Candidate School of the United States Marine Corps. He was a proud Vietnam Veteran, and served with Hotel Company, Second Battalion, Fifth Marine, First Marine Division between 1966-1968, including the Battle of Hue City. He was awarded the Purple Heart during his service in Vietnam. The bonds of friendship and brotherhood that he developed with the Marines with whom he served impacted him throughout the rest of his life. After coming back from the Vietnam War, he enrolled in law school at the University of Tennessee where he obtained his law degree and practiced in the Knoxville area for many years until his retirement.

In 1987 the honorable Mayor Raymond R. Flynn of Boston, Massachusetts presented a proclamation to Ken that read, "Like thousands of brave young American men, Ken Kromer enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, and was sent to the republic of Vietnam, in defense of his Country; and while in the performance of those duties Ken Kromer was appointed Platoon Leader of Hotel Company, Second Battalion, Fifth Marine, First Marine Division; and in Compliance with his leadership position, Ken Kromer, heroic in action and stoic in leadership, led a severely undermanned Marine unit against the onslaught of overwhelming Communist Troops, in the City of Hue, during the Hellacious Tet offensive; and it was through the Courage, the tenacity and the unflinching leadership under fire, that Ken Kromer became a hero in the eyes, hearts, and minds of all those who served under him; and this valiant fighting Marine was eventually wounded in action in February of 1968 and was returned to the United States but was not and never will be forgotten by his men for his actions under fire; and after 17 years Ken Kromer reunited those 33 men at the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., in a fitting, tearful and long awaited reunion".

He is survived by his wife, Beverly (Mason) Kromer as well as his former wife and mother of his two sons Lindsay (Miller) Kromer, his two sons, Michael Scott (Charmaine) Kromer and Benjamin Daniel (Cammy) Kromer, four grandchildren, Gage, Madison, Anderson, and Ellis Kromer; and his wife Beverly's children, Donald and Bryan Perkins and her grandson Billy Perkins and his fiancé Jade Spencer.

2017 Reunion Info Santa Fe, New Mexico

Less Than 30 Days !!!
We need to have your registration by September 25th.

Register online for the reunion by copying and pasting or clicking on the following address: http://hotel25vv.org/reunions/2017-santa-fe-new-mexico/registration/

2017 Santa Fe Reunion
Oct. 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th
Hosted by Dave & Bonnie Harbin

REUNION REGISTRATION

- **Registration Marine:** $165.00 (includes Sweatshirt)
- **Registration Guests:** $150.00 (does not include Sweatshirt)

REUNION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

If money is an issue, you can apply for a reunion scholarship by copying and pasting or clicking on the following address: http://hotel25vv.org/reunions/2017-santa-fe-new-mexico/apply-for-reunion-scholarship/ to request consideration for a paid scholarship. **This scholarship does not include hotel arrangements or transportation costs associated with a reunion.**

For a complete list of relevant tourist information SantaFe.org is a great link!

A virtual tour of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial State Park at Angel Fire, New Mexico is available at the following link: https://www.vietnamveteransmemorial.org/virtual-tour/15/TheGrounds/

Hotel Reservation Info Santa Fe, New Mexico

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR HOTEL

The dates for the reunion are Oct. 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th, 2017 at the Hotel Santa Fe, 1501 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Look at the Order of March on the next page for daily events.

ROOM RATES

The room rate for our group is $119 per night plus applicable taxes. These taxes are currently 15.313% and are subject to change without notice.

Additional persons after two is $25.00 per person, per night.

Children 12 and under stay free when in the same room as parents.

Rate includes a continental breakfast, parking, Wi Fi, and shuttle service around to Downtown Santa Fe.

Your resort fee has been waived.

There is a 15% discount on a Spa Treatment.

RESERVATIONS

Your reservation must be made by **September 25, 2017** to qualify for the group discount. **Later reservations after the cut-off date must be done directly with the hotel at a higher non-discounted individual rate.** The discount rate is available for October 26th through the 29th if you would like to arrive early and/or stay later. Call the hotel directly and make a reservation or reserve online. The telephone number is (855) 825-9876 or toll free at (877) 259-3409. The group code is “17S010”. If you are going to stay any days before Thursday 10/26 or after Sunday noon, you can register online for the three nights using the group code first. Then call the registration office and they will extend your additional days with the group rate.

There will be an informal dinner with the early reunion arrivals at Hotel Santa Fe or other Santa Fe restaurant on Wednesday, Oct. 25th, 2017.

2017 Reunion Info Santa Fe, New Mexico

ORDER OF MARCH

WEDNESDAY October 25, 2017 (optional)	THURSDAY October 26, 2017	FRIDAY October 27, 2017	SATURDAY October 28, 2017	SUNDAY October 29, 2017
Dinner among early reunion arrivals at Hotel Santa Fe or other Santa Fe restaurants.	**1:00PM** Registration opens in Hospitality Room at Hotel Santa Fe We will need some volunteers to man the registration table on Thursday afternoon and evening. **5:00PM** Dinner on your own if desired (there will be snacks, food and drinks at the reception at 7PM) **7:00PM** Meet and greet reception in Hospitality Room (BYOB)	**7:00AM – 9:00AM** Continental Breakfast **9:30AM** Bus Departure to Vietnam Memorial in Angel Fire **12:00PM** Bus Arrival in Angel Fire for lunch **1:15PM** Bus Departure to Vietnam Memorial **3:30PM** Bus Departure for return trip to Santa Fe **6:00PM** Bus Arrival at Hotel and dinner on your own **7:00PM** Hospitality Room open (BYOB) for men and a Social at the hotel for the ladies hosted by Bonnie Harbin	**7:00AM – 9:00AM** Continental Breakfast **9:15AM** Leave hotel using hotel shuttle & private cars to get to the Santa Fe Plaza **10:00AM** Group guided tour of Santa Fe Historic Sites **12:00PM** Explore Plaza, downtown & lunch on your own. Option to visit New Mexico History Museum. (To return to hotel, call hotel for shuttle pickup.) **6:00PM – 10:00PM** Hotel 2/5 Reunion Dinner. There will be dinner & dancing. ***No formal attire but men should be in tie and jacket, ladies in dresses or pant suits.*** Auction/raffle and cash bar. **10:00PM – 12:00AM** Hospitality Room Open (BYOB)	**7:00AM – 9:00AM** Continental Breakfast and Goodbyes **9:30AM** Company meeting to discuss business items and 2018 reunion in Cincinnati, Ohio and future dates and locations.

Hotel Company Wine



The source for the wine is Windsor Vineyards and BONNIE CLAIBORNE, Senior Wine Consultant has a great offer for Hotel Company Marines and Corpsmen. What you get is a case of wine with FREE SHIPPING (for 1 penny) and 3 extra bottles free. That's 15 bottles for the price of 12 and shipping anywhere in the US (except for a few states*)

You can't find this special deal on line. You must call Bonnie Claiborne at Direct: (800) 289-9463 ext 2612 or send her an email bclaiborne@vintagewineestates.com

Be sure and tell Bonnie that you want the Hotel 2/5 label.
If you live in one of those states where the wine can't be shipped, Utah, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Alabama, Kentucky, Delaware, Mississippi, Rhode Island, South Dakota, talk to Bonnie about alternative ideas for shipping.

This deal may not last for ever so, if you want some great wine at a good price with the Hotel Company logo, take advantage of it soon.

The red at the reunion was the "Fusion". The white was a "Moscato". (Both $12.00 per bottle) Windsor has many great selections at various prices. If you did not like the wines at the reunions or if you just want to try something different, go to the Windsor web site (windsorvineyards.com), review the various choices and prices, and then talk to Bonnie. However, to get the deal you need to call Bonnie at the above number or by email. The offer is not available on line.

