



# SEMPER FI SOUND OFF

The newsletter of the Dana Point 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment Support Group

SPRING 2019

## President's Message

Spring is here and with it the change to not only the weather but to our organization. In January I accepted the role of President of DPSG and have the opportunity to lead this great group of people in their mission to support the Marines, Sailors and their families of the 5th Marine Regiment. In addition, with my background in engineering and finance, I have a personal goal of updating some of the current systems we are using. In this Semper Fi issue, you will learn more about our internal Change of Command as Terry Rifkin, Past President, remains with us in a new role.

To be truthful, I am a little prejudiced in my role, as I am a Vietnam Marine and consider helping those serving today a great honor.

We have finished our holiday season and after welcoming home our deployed Marines we had the opportunity to provide a special event for the members of the SPMAGTF. This enabled the Marines, Sailors and their families to get together and celebrate as a group for the last time before they left for their own units across the country.

Recently at the Wounded Warrior Trials, thanks to your support of our campaign "Meals for the Brave", we provided meals for 3 events, Cycling, Powerlifting and Track and Field. I had the opportunity to watch service men and women compete and it was a show of both competitive spirit and camaraderie that made these events special.

Without your help none of these activities would have been

possible and I thank you many times over for your past support. This newsletter will detail many of the exciting events coming up later this year. We hope you will continue to work shoulder to shoulder with us to make every mission successful that we undertake.

Remember, DPSG a 501c(3) and donations made to us are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. We are an all-volunteer force with zero salaries and your generous donations go straight to those we serve. Please use the self-addressed envelope or make a donation online for any of our programs that you feel passionate about.

We are proud of our 11 year history in providing the morale-building and social events that are not covered in the DOD budget. These are important to the families of the Marines and Sailors, especially during deployments. I am sure that these provide a certain level of comfort to the families as an additional level of encouragement from their community.

Our efforts are on-going and we are privileged to support our Marine family and ask you to assist us in our mission.

*Semper Fidelis, Mike Lipscombe, President/CEO*



*(IL) Terry Rifkin, Chairman, (C) Col George Schreffler III, 5th MAR Command, (R) Mike Lipscombe, President*

## DPSG Change of Command

After leading the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group as President/CEO since 2013, I have handed off the reins to our esteemed Board Member, Mike Lipscombe. I am proud to continue my service to our Support Organization and our Marines, Sailors, our Wounded and their families in a new role as Chairman of the Board. Mike has demonstrated his deep commitment to DP5MRSG since he joined the board in 2012. He has great organizational and leadership skills as well as a heartfelt dedication to serving being a proud Vietnam Veteran himself. I have no doubt that he will continue to lead the way and maintain the "Gold Standard" we always aspire to and take pride in.

I will remain very much involved at DPSG in an advisory capacity as well as working on public relations and fundraising. My heart is with our Brave Defenders and families. Being with them is my inspiration and the wind beneath my wings. Working with our Board, Brigade, volunteers, sponsors, donors and Friends of the 5th in the community has been an honor and a privilege. It is my hopes that I continue to provide value to the team.

*Semper Gratus, Terry Rifkin*



## Meals for the Brave

The Wounded Warrior Trials at Camp Pendleton are a wonderful way for our Combat wounded, ill and injured to find the "Warrior Athlete" within themselves and build esteem and confidence in their recovery. The Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group proudly participated again this year in the March 2019 events.

We thank all our Friends of the 5th who donated to Meals for the Brave. We served healthy and nutritious meals at the Cycling, Track and Field, and Powerlifting events. Special thanks to 3 of our Companies for the Courageous donors who helped us succeed with our mission; The Stanley W. Ekstrom Foundation, The Strand at Headlands, and the Transportation Corridor Agencies. Semper Fidelis and thank all our friends on behalf of our Warrior athletes "Still in the fight."



## Save the Dates

### Richard Henry Dana Charity Regatta

benefitting our Fighting Fifth Marines

**September 12-15**

Join the party as we Celebrate Marine Corps Families, "The Force Behind the Force."



### Laughs for Leathernecks

**October 7**

Comedy, dinner and silent auction FUNdraiser!



## Operation Summer Camp

Our Support Organization is dedicated to our Fighting Fifth Marines and families. Military life can be a source of psychological stress for children. Multiple deployments, frequent moves, new schools, having a parent injured or die is a reality for many children in military families. In order



Photo courtesy of LeJeune Photography, Former 5th Marine Mom

to help contend with these stressors and make sure any invisible wounds are healed, our Marine kids are a top priority!

DP5MRSBG will award any 5th Marine child a \$300 summer camp scholarship. 35 total scholarships will be offered this year. We want to contribute to our 5th MAR children to be adaptive, resilient, make friends, and most of all laugh and giggle.

Since summer camps vary, families can select the best camp for their child and apply for a Scholarship. It makes no difference whether it's a camp in the woods, mountains at the beach, a sports or craft-oriented camp.

Would you like to help our Marine kiddos thrive and find an opportunity where they will soar? If so, please consider contributing to a Camp Scholarship for our "Lil Treasures." You may use the enclosed return envelope or donate online at [DanaPoint5thMarines.com](http://DanaPoint5thMarines.com).



You voted for the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group in the Dana Point Times Best of Dana Point People's Choice Lantern Awards and because of your overwhelming support, we won the **Golden Lantern Award for the Best Non-Profit in Dana Point** for the 4th year in a row!! On behalf of our Marines, Sailors, our Wounded and their families, **THANK YOU** for your enduring support! Each and every one of you truly made a difference. Ooh-Rah!



## From the Command Post

Dear Friends of the Dana Point Fifth Marines Support Group,

Your regiment is entirely back together since the Marines who deployed with the Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force returned from Kuwait in December. Thank you for sustaining us while deployed and for welcoming us home so warmly with refreshments, parties, and fellowship. We are also grateful for your care of Colonel Munro and the regimental headquarters team and our families who remained in California. All four of the regiment's infantry battalions are in Camp Pendleton until the beginning of May. This rare occurrence makes for a very full camp, and a unique opportunity to train together. While we continue to hone our combat skills to be ready to win the nation's battles when called, we will reflect on the achievements of those who preceded us in the regiment. In early June we will mark the 102nd anniversary of the regiment's activation and the 101st anniversary of the Battle of Belleau Wood. Late in June I will relinquish command to Colonel Robert Weiler, another veteran of the regiment who served twice with 2/4. Amidst the succession of changes that constitute the life cycle of 5th Marines it is comforting to rely on the stability and generosity of your support. We remain inspired by your service to those who serve the nation.



Col. George C. Schreffler, III

*Semper Fidelis, George C. Schreffler, III; Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps; Commanding Officer, 5th Marines*



## Ask for the Leatherneck Special!

The 1st week of every month (Monday thru Sunday) will be the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group Car Wash Week. Local residents may come at their convenience to Doheny Village Car Wash and request the "Leatherneck Special" and a percentage of the proceeds of any service will go to our support organization. All water used at the car wash is reclaimed and recycled.

Tremendous appreciation goes to our host from the Doheny Village Hand Car Wash, James Surber, for designating the 1st week of every month The **DPSG Car Wash Week** and supporting our mission for our brave defenders and their families.

Saturday May 4, 2019 will be a kick off for **DPSG Car Wash Week**. We will be having a Thank You BBQ courtesy of our good friends and community partner Damian Collins and his Stillwater and Waterman's Harbor BBQ Dream Team starting at 11:00 a.m. and running until 2:00 p.m. There will be a huge celebration with FREE food and music. We invite the community to come and visit with our Marines and take the opportunity to thank them for their service and sacrifices. Our patrons can also learn about the different DPSG projects benefiting our Marines, Sailors, our Wounded and their families from the 5th Marine Regiment.

After the May 4th kick off, mark your calendar for the 1st week of every month and swing in to the Doheny Village Hand Car Wash for the **Leatherneck Special**.

**NOT ABLE TO ATTEND? Please consider donating online or via the enclosed remittance envelope.**

## The Captain Trevor J. Yurista Martial Arts Facility

Captain Trevor J Yurista was a dear friend to our support organization. He helped us execute many Dana Point community events and he was exemplary to his Marines. Trevor was just about to get out of the Marine Corps when a mission came up in the Helmand Province to replace Marines in a unit where there had been many casualties. He raised his hand and stepped up to accept the assignment. It was a dangerous mission and sadly, he was KIA in Afghanistan on October 27, 2008.



Trevor's passion was Martial Arts and working out. In his honor and his name, the Dojo in the 62 area of San Mateo was established; The Captain Trevor J Yurista Martial Arts Facility. Through the years, with the help of the Yurista family and DPSG, this Dojo has come into its own as a premiere facility where Marine Corps Martial Arts are taught.

The Marine Corps Martial Arts Program is a combat system

*continued on next page*



## 10th Annual Combat Golf Tournament: Monday, June 10, 2019



**10TH ANNUAL COMBAT GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
 MONDAY JUNE 10TH, 2019  
 ARROYO TRABUCO GOLF CLUB, 26772 AVERO PKWY, MISSION VIEJO

### TWO GAMES OF CHANCE

#### Helicopter Drop

Win \$2,500 if your ball drops in the hole!

**\$10 PER TICKET**

#### Big Ticket Sweepstakes

200 Sweepstake / Raffle Prizes including: Dinner, Golf, Wine, Travel, Hotel Stay, 42"TV and \$2,500 Cash!

**\$20 PER TICKET OR  
 6 TICKETS FOR \$100**

**Not a Golfer? No problem!** Please consider Sponsoring a Marine or Wounded Warrior to participate in this great event. The proceeds from the Combat Golf Tournament will assist in our mission to help the Fighting Fifth Marines and their families as well as our "Wounded Warriors."

**Sponsorships are still available. Please call 949-500-4951.**

Reserve or buy your tickets at [DanaPoint5thMarines.com](http://DanaPoint5thMarines.com)

### Yurista Martial Arts Facility, *continued from previous page*

developed by the United States Marine Corps to combine existing and new hand-to-hand and close quarters combat techniques with morale and team-building functions and instruction in the Warrior Ethos.

John Hicks, Chairman of the Advisory Brigade, has taken this project under his wing and made sure that the facility is well outfitted with state-of-the art equipment and maintained properly. As Marine instructors transition out and new instructors come in, he shares the history of the Dojo and Trevor's legacy. This facility is heavily used and we know Trevor would be smiling from above knowing that students are becoming lethal weapons in combat while training in the facility that he envisioned.



In the picture you will see Gold Star Mom Donna Yurista and friend Richie Winzig who visited the Dojo and Martial Arts Facility named after her son Trevor. Our Gold Star families are never forgotten and always part of our 5th MAR and DPSG families.

### Board of Directors

#### Executive Board

Mike Lipscombe, *President*  
 Terry Rifkin, *Chairman*  
 Hank Snyder, *Treasurer*  
 Cathy Nelson, *Secretary*



#### Directors

Nick Frankovich	Sheri Schneringer
Mike Lipscombe	David Shahoian
Judy Mastracchio	Patti Short
Cathy Nelson	Hank Snyder
Terry Rifkin	Jill Watson

Learn how your business or company can support our American Heroes and gain the benefits of becoming a Dana Point 5th Marine Support Group Sponsor. For interested company representatives, please call (949) 373-5375.

## COMPANIES FOR THE COURAGEOUS

Supported our Wounded, Families of the Fallen, Marines, Spouses, and Children

#### Presidential Level \$25,000

Dana Point Yacht Club  
 Crisp Imaging  
 Waterman's Harbor Restaurant

#### Commandant Level \$10,000

Stanley W Ekstrom Foundation  
 The Strand at Headlands  
 Transportation Corridor Agencies  
 VCA Code  
 Norm and Lory Kaufman Foundation  
 Bruce and Anne Fettel

#### General Level \$5,000

City of Dana Point  
 Knox Company

#### Colonel Level \$2,500

Software Placement Group  
 UnicornTribe.com  
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Donations of any size are gratefully accepted!