

Root Scoop II

Volume 6 Issue 5

The First Duty is to Remember

September/October 2008

BVA Board of Director Positions Opened for Nominations *Nominations Also Being Taken for Officer Positions*

Nominations are being sought for several BVA board and officer positions opening up due to current or upcoming vacancies. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the annual meeting to be held on October 22 in Jacksonville, N.C.

There are a total of 9 board positions, 7 regular and 2 next of kin. The positions are staggered so that a minimum of four posts is up for election each election year. Directors must be regular members of the BVA, except for the two NOK directors. Board members are elected by majority vote of regular members present at the annual meeting. In accordance with recently revised BVA by-laws, elections for the board positions are to be held every two years, on even numbered years, at the annual meeting. 2008 is the first even year after the revision.

This year four board members have announced their plans to step down; regular members **Jeff Bucchi, Tim Greer and Don Inns and next of kin member Judith Young**. Nominations are opened for these positions. At press time, **Rosalie Donohue and Alicia Sanchez** were nominated to fill the NOK slot and **Rick Cunningham and Bill Kibler** were nominated for a regular position.

Nominations are also being sought for officer positions. The four officer posts are president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Per the by-laws, nominations for officer positions can be taken from

membership but the Board of Directors appoints officers.

At press time, two officers had announced decisions to step down. BVA **president Randy Gaddo**, founding vice president of the BVA, announced his decision to step down as president but to stay actively involved in the BVA in an advisory role. **Craig Renshaw**, immediate past chairman of the BOD and still an active board member, has accepted nomination to that post. If appointed, his board position would also open up for nominations. Previously this year, **vice president Rich Ray** stepped down for personal reasons and no nominations have been received for that post.

Nominations for any of these posts can be sent to BVA secretary Michael Fullarton at 1511 Martin Lake Drive, Richmond, TX 77406; Fax: 281-750-0148

or email
MICHAELFULLARTON@sprintpcs.com. Nomination forms can be found in the current RSII and on the BVA website, www.beirutveterans.org.

Banquet Dinner Deadline Extended

The reservation deadline for the Banquet Dinner has been extended to October 10. Registration forms **must be sent to Craig Renshaw no later than October 10**. Craig is asking that not only to send in your registration form, but to personally call him to make sure there is seating available and you are definitely put on the list. His number is 912-496-2710.

Marine Takes Memorial Bike Ride to Jacksonville, N.C.

Prior to the 25th Beirut Memorial Service on Oct. 23rd, 2008, Mike Bangert, a Beirut Veteran who served in Beirut with 3/8 2nd Recon Co. B and BVA member, will ride his bicycle from Petersburg, PA, just outside of State College, to the Beirut Memorial in Jacksonville, N.C., approximately 500 miles. Mike will stop in towns along the way for press releases and opportunities to garner support from citizens for the Beirut Memorial Stamp and raise awareness to the 25th Anniversary of the Beirut Bombing. Mike plans to reach Jacksonville on Oct 21 or 22 in time for the Remembrance Ceremony events. Mike "felt compelled in doing some-

thing because of the 25th anniversary to raise awareness in both the Stamp effort and the bombing anniversary". As of press time he has already picked up Congressman Shuster as a supporter to the Stamp Bill and several others are currently in the works.



2008 BVA Board of Directors

Mark T. Hacala , Chairman 3350 Conquistador Court Annandale, VA 22003	703-698-7667
Craig Renshaw RR#3, Box 1303 Folkston, GA 31537	h: 912-496-2710 c: 912-276-0321 renshaw62@yahoo.com
Tim Greer 1461 Tall Oaks Circle Conyers, GA 30013	h:770-760-0679 c: 404-679-7233
Donald G. Inns II 640 Cloverfield Lane Greenwood, IN 46143-7370	c:317-508-2570
Pat Metcalf 11 Trotter Circle Fredericksburg, Va. 22407	h:540-834-5546 c:540-538-9128 hope4@verizon.net
Glenn Dolphin 164 Wisteria Drive Aiken, S.C. 29803	w:803-648-0728 c: 803-508-9015
Judith C. Young 30 Eraser Road Moorestown, NJ 08057	(H) 856-235-6918 jcyoung83@yahoo.com
Mary Ellen Jackowski 20 Stagecoach Road Chestertown, NY 12817	(H) 518-494-4609 jjandme@peoplepc.com

Beirut Veterans of America

BVA President - Randy Gaddo
 Vice President - vacant
 Secretary - Michael Fullarton
 Treasurer - Steve Godfrey
 Membership - Bill Thompson,
 Jon Warmeling, and Bill Yontz
 "Scoop" mailout - Jeff Handy

Root Scoop II

Managing Editor, Randy Gaddo
 217 Sandown Drive,
 Peachtree City, Georgia 30269
 (h) 770-629-2613
 Email: cwo4usmc@comcast.net

Editor, Bill Kibler
 2005 Columbia Pike #624
 Arlington, VA 22204
 cell: 703-209-USMC
 Email: bill@beirutstamp.com

This publication is intended as a communication tool for members and friends of the BVA. Views and opinions are those of contributors and do not necessarily reflect views of BVA board, officers or members.

USMC Beirut Archive Seeks Contributions

Historical documents and photos of the Marines and Sailors who served in Beirut will form the cornerstone of the newly created Beirut Archive in the Library of the Marine Corps in Quantico.

The Archives & Special Collections department of the library, part of Marine Corps University, has gathered a variety of records pertinent to the Marines' presence in Lebanon to form the new collection, according to department head J. Michael Miller.

By bringing together a range of materials from both official and individual sources, the archive will provide future historians with a well-rounded view of the Marines' service in Beirut. Among the current collection of source materials are official records, still images, and oral history interviews covering the 1982-1984 period.

The university wishes to grow the collection by obtaining materials from personnel who served in Beirut during that time. Photos, letters, diaries, audio recordings, and other materials are greatly desired. Submissions may be either originals, duplicates, or digital files.

Archives & Special Collections staff will be present at Camp Lejeune around the time of the anniversary in October, planning to set up a table at the USO or other convenient locations. They will have contact information and CDs with samples of the kinds of material in the collection.

Additionally, a web site tribute to the Marines in Beirut is under construction at:

<http://www.mcu.usmc.mil/MCRCweb/Archive/Beirut/intro.html>

For further information about the Beirut Archive and how you can donate materials, contact Michael Miller at millerm@grc.usmcu.edu.

Congressman Walter Jones (R. NC) Introduces Legislation on Behalf of Beirut Veterans and Family Members

On September 25th, 2008, the House voted on and passed House Resolution 1421, "**Title: Solemnly commemorating the 25th anniversary of the tragic October 1983 terrorist bombing of the United States Marine Corps Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon and remembering those who lost their lives and those who were injured.**" They needed at least 50 co-sponsors to bring this resolution to the House floor for a vote. With enough support from Veterans and Family Members calling their Reps, it was enough support to bring the resolution to the House floor for a vote before Congress adjourned for the fall break. By an act of Congress, this makes October 23, 2008 Beirut Remembrance Day.

BVA Selected to Have Christmas Tree at the National Museum of the Marine Corps

In their inaugural year of having an Association Christmas Tree, the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia has asked three associations, the BVA, the Woman Marines Association, and the Monford Point Marines Association, to be a part of their new Holiday tradition. An idea has been suggested and a committee is being formed with Mary Ellen Jackowski as Chair. The dove has been discussed as one option.

There will be 270 ornaments inscribed with "They Came In Peace" with each persons name attached to represent the 270 Marines, Sailors, and Soldiers KIA in Beirut, Lebanon.



Notice to all Beirut Veterans From Remembrance Chairman Craig Renshaw

I would take the time to inform you that planning for the 25th Remembrance has been a challenge. We have had some set backs that were not helpful to us. But we have overcome most of them, Thanks to the persistence of the Planning committee personnel and others. We would have liked to have been able to inform you 3 months ago of the schedule of events that are taking place starting on the 22nd. So as of this date things are progressing and we do expect to have tied up most the loose ends by the first week of October.

I would also like to clear up something that I have heard from people for several years. The BVA is just what it says, We are the Beirut Veterans Of America. The Organization was formed for ALL Beirut Veterans of the 1958, 1982-1984 and recently added 2006 Veterans that went to Beirut. This Includes those that served aboard ships. We also have some that served that were flown in. If you know of someone who feels that he does not qualify to be a member please inform him otherwise. If they are unsure, contact us and we will help them determine whether or not they could be a member.

For me, this year has been a year of meeting new members and talking with a lot of you. I have learned a lot. Some of the stories I've heard, some being things you have done, some of how you have felt and what you have gone through. The phone calls I've had from you have been the driving forces for me to make sure this years Remembrance Gathering is a great one and I hope it is. We have tried to do everything to make it so. There is an old saying "you can't please everyone", well we all know you can't but, I hope you understand that we have tried. Please overlook those that you see, or bring it to our attention so we can straighten it out.

For those of you first timers to the gathering, here are a few things that you may

want to consider.

1. Jacksonville HAS changed since you have been there, so expect it to be so. They now have a new By-pass that was not there 5 years ago, just to name one.
2. Do bring your old Pictures and stuff. You will have a few laughs from them.
3. Do have a small writing tablet and pen on you at all times, It will come in handy for several things. Most of all getting the name and contact info of old friends to take home with you.
4. Do make sure to bring your camera.
5. Do make every effort to get involved, met people and see what you can. You will take home with you more memories and have a better time if you do.
6. Do help our brothers and the family members. You may be that one person that someone is looking for answers or to meet.
7. Do make it known if you are looking for a certain person or group of people. Don't be scared too ask.
8. Please keep in mind that your OLD friend is longer young and can't do the things he use to do back in his younger days. And he may not look like he did 20 odd years ago.

There are probably others that could be listed, but I hope these give you a good start to having a good time.

First and foremost keep this in mind. We gather each year to remember those that can't be with us. OUR FIRST DUTY IS TO REMEMBER. I ask for your help in doing this.

Thank you and Semper Fi
Craig Renshaw



**Beirut Veterans Formation 2008
Camp LeJeune, October 22nd**

There will be a formation of all Beirut Veterans at the football field behind Gottege Field House, which is located in front of Building one (Base Commanding Officer Building) on Camp LeJeune, on **October 22nd at 1:00 pm.**

This formation includes ALL Beirut Veterans from 1958, 1982-1984 and 2006. You will need to be on time, so we can arrange this formation. We will be divided into the correct time period of arriving in Beirut. If you are not sure which group or time period you need to be looking into it now so you will know or have an idea when you arrive. The arrangement will be established in this order:

- 1958 time line-** Beirut Veterans
 - 32nd MAU-** August 16th - November 1st 1982
 - 24th MAU-** November 1st 1982 - February 15th 1983
 - 22nd MAU-** February 15th - May 29th 1983
 - 24th MAU-** May 30th - November 18th 1983
 - 22nd MAU-** November 17th 1983- April 9th 1984
 - 2006** Time line- Beirut Veterans.
- Any other time lines not shown above.

If you are not sure, look for the time period in which you were there.

During this formation, we would like to have the Command Element during that period at the front of each time lines formation, so if you see or know who they are please inform them during that time to go stand in their position.

This will also be a great time to have someone take pictures from the stands. We hope to have pictures taken of each formation

from the bleacher area.

We ask that you be on time and cooperate so we can do this in an orderly, and timely manner (I bet a lot of you haven't heard that in awhile). If possible and time permits, we will allow the Co's of each time period an opportunity to speak and address their men. If you are unable to stand for a long period (40 min or longer) you may want to bring a small folding chair.

Thank you
Craig Renshaw

Schedule of Events for the Remembrance / Reunion

- Oct. 21 Noon—1800 Registration at the USO
- Oct. 22 - 1000-2000 Registration at the USO
- 1300 Formation
- 1500 Annual BVA Membership Meeting
Gottege Field House
- Oct 23 - 0600 Candlelight Ceremony
- 1030 Remembrance Ceremony
- 1400 Devil Dogs Ceremony—Camp Geiger
- 1800 Cocktail Hour before Banquet
- 1900 Remembrance Banquet
- Oct 24— Golf Outing with Wounded Warriors Battalion



BVA (reproduce form as needed for multiple nominations)

Board/Officer Nomination Form

Nominee Information

Position (circle one): Director President Vice President Secretary Treasurer
NOK Director

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's address: _____

Nominee's Phone: _____

Nominee's email: _____

Nominee's Brief Bio: _____

Continue on Back of Sheet If Needed

Why Nominee Is Good Candidate For This Position: _____

Nominee has been contacted and agrees to serve: Yes _____ No _____

Nominee Holds Required Membership? Yes _____ No _____

(Directors - Regular Members) (President, Vice President – Regular Members) (Sec., Treas. – Regular or Associate)

Nominator's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Spirit Wear !

Photos of all updated Spirit Wear items can be seen at the official BVA website: www.beirutveterans.org

#2: Sweat Shirt w/ full-front embroidered BVA Logo; 95% pre-shrunk cotton available in white, ash grey, hunter green, maroon, black, light blue Adult sizes S, M, L, XL, 2x, 3x\$23 (3x in white, ash grey, hunter green only)

#3: Golf Shirt w/embroidered BVA Logo; 6.5 oz., 100 percent combed cotton pique golf shirt w/ quarter sleeves; welt collar and cuffs; side vents w/2" dropped tail; red, purple, blue (bimini & corporate), true royal, true navy, black, white, sports gray, putty, butter, tangerine, mango, wine, jade; Adult Sizes: M, L, XL,2X, 3X - \$27

#4: Sport Cap; brushed cotton twill, 6-panel, soft crown, low-fitting, adjustable strap, front embroidered logo, script on back; available in Maroon with green visor; Tan or Chestnut w/ black visor: Price.....\$15 each

#5: BVA Bumper Stickers...\$3 each

#6: BVA Mousepads (blue), \$5 (8" x 9")

#7: L Round Cloth Patches, \$7.50 (3.5x3.5")

#8: BVA Bronze Challenge Coin, \$6.50 each

#9 : New Item: Static Window Clings: \$3.00

#10: Commemorative K-Bar - (see website for details)

Shipping Charge rates:	
Subtotals up to \$14.99.....	\$3.00
Subtotals from \$15 to \$49.99...	\$5.00
From \$50 to \$99.99.....	\$10.50
\$100 to \$199.99.....	\$18.50
\$200 to \$300.....	\$25.00
Over \$300, call Cliff Walling for cost	

Item Number Color	Description Price	Qty.		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____	SHIPPING	_____
_____	_____	_____	TOTAL	_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make check payable to BVA. Send order form and check to:
 Cliff C. Walling
 123 Prentice Avenue
 South River, N.J. 08882-2210
 Expect Delivery in 4-6 weeks.
 For more information Call Cliff @ (h) 732-613-0441
 Email: wallingclan@msn.com

Root Scoop II

The official newsletter of the Beirut Veterans of America



September/October

**Bill Thompson
741 Buena Vista Avenue
LaHabra, CA 90631-7121**