

Root Scoop II

Vol. VII, Issue 6

"The First Duty is to Remember"

July/August 2011

Silent Warrior

Air Force Doctor Receives Medal 28 Years After Beirut Bombing

Doctor Al Studwell isn't the kind of man who toots his own horn; in fact, he only painfully acknowledges credit when it is due to him.

But when family and fellow servicemen discovered he hadn't received an award earned from life-saving actions back in 1983 after the terrorist bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, they wouldn't let his actions go unrewarded. They worked for more than a year to obtain his long-overdue Air Medal. On June 5, 2011 retired Air Force Colonel Alfred W. Studwell received that medal at Dobbins Air Force Base in Georgia, 27 years after the deeds for which he earned it.

On October 23, 1983 a terrorist truck bomb drove into a Marine barracks in Beirut, killing 220 Marines, 18 sailors and 3 soldiers and injuring many more. History has shown that it was the first major deliberate assault on Western forces by Islamic terrorists in what is considered by many to be the beginning of the Global War on Terror that continues today. U.S. forces were there as part of a multi-national U. N. peacekeeping force requested by the Lebanese government to help calm the region, bring warring factions to the table and give peace a chance.

At the same time, Colonel Studwell was the Commander of the U.S. Regional Hospital in In-

cirlik, Turkey. When an Air Force C-9 on the ground at Incirlik was ordered to reconfigure for 28 liters and fly directly to Beirut to evacuate injured, Studwell and two other doctors there didn't hesitate to help. The other two doctors were dispatched to the USS Iwo Jima, but Studwell, a flight surgeon, stayed on the aircraft.

"Today we honor a fellow military member with an award that is 27 years overdue," said Joe Bunker, a retired Air Force major who was the co-pilot on that C-9 destined to be the first air medevac flight into Beirut after the bombing. "More importantly, we are here to remember the 241 service members who lost their lives."

Studwell is known among friends and family to be a person who will not seek recognition. His brief comments after the award were characteristic of that nature.

"I didn't expect to receive this award," said Col. Studwell. "I just want to take the time to thank everyone who was involved in making this happen. And it's true; our first duty is to remember." (He referred to the motto of the veterans' organization Beirut Veterans of America, "The First Duty Is To Remember.")

See "Silent Warrior" pg. 6



**Colonel Studwell speaks
after the award ceremony.**

BVA President: 28th Remembrance Itinerary Set

Planning is proceeding for the 28th Beirut Remembrance to be held October 21 through 23 in Jacksonville, N.C.

BVA President Craig Renshaw said that this year's itinerary will be similar to years past, the exception being that at this year's Remembrance, planning will begin for the upcoming 30th Remembrance in 2013.

"We hope to make the 30th Remembrance one of the best by starting the planning now," he remarked. Generally the Remembrances that fall on the fifth year increments tend to be more widely attended. The 25th Remembrance in 2008 saw record numbers in attendance.

In order to assure good planning, Renshaw is asking for ideas now. "If you have any ideas as to what would make this one great, please forward them to me and we will discuss it and see if it would be possible to do," he remarked.

28th Remembrance Details as of Press time

As of press time, 28th Remem-

brance planners said that the Holiday Inn Express is once again the Headquarters hotel for the BVA. Nearby Comfort Suites and Candlewood Suites are backups. The Holiday Inn is at 2115 Hwy. 17 N., Jacksonville, NC 28546, phone 910-347-1900.

Attendees must call the hotel directly to reserve a room. Deadline to reserve rooms is September 27th! You cannot get the special rate unless you make the reservation by the deadline. Tell them you are with the Beirut Remembrance to get the discounted price of \$85 per room. **(See page 8 for further details about rooms).**

Starting about mid-day on October 21st, BVA members will be at the Jacksonville USO located at 9 Tallman Street, Jacksonville, N.C. 28540, phone 910-455-3411. The USO is celebrating 70 years of service this year and Remembrance attendees are asked to support the Jacksonville USO as way of thanks for all the help they have provided the BVA over the years.

On Oct. 22, the USO will

open mid-morning for registrations, fellowship and later in the day the BVA Annual Meeting.

The Candlelight Service will be held at 6 a.m. October 23 at the Beirut Memorial, where each name on the wall will be read aloud. **Continued on Page 8**

*See BVA website for updates
www.beirutveterans.org*



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Email: bva.membership@gmail.com

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Root Scoop II

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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.

ROOT SCOOPS

Paul Prindeville Passes Away

Judith Young received the news that Paul Prindeville died in June. Judy wrote that Paul called her husband, Jack, every week and they talked for hours. "His son said he always perked up when he talked to Jack," she said. "They would solve the worlds problems. He was so informative about the world and what is going on. Our sympathy to Michael, Sean and Kathleen."

2nd Beirut Memorial Run Planned

The Marine Corps League in McDonough, Georgia is again planning to hold the second annual Beirut Memorial Run in McDonough on October 23. BVA founding vice president Randy Gaddo will again represent the BVA at the event. This year, event organizer Jeff Owen has secured a helicopter fly over and is seeking ways to honor the memories of the fallen in Beirut and eventually raise additional funds to support the Beirut Memorial. At last year's inaugural event more than 250 runners turned out, a strong showing for a first year event.

Membership Stats After 19 Years

The BVA has existed since 1992 as a place for Beirut veterans and families to rally. While membership grew slowly, it has been steady. Currently there are 1,127 members in six categories: Regular, NOK, Life, Affiliate, Associate and Prospect. That is a good showing as the group approaches the 28th Remembrance, but members are urged to spread the word to potential new members. Contact membership coordinator Bill Thompson at bva.membership@gmail.com with potential new members.

Bob Muffler Passes Away; son Johnny Was Root KIA

It is with great sadness that we must tell you of Bob Muffler's recent death. Bob was a devoted husband to Joan, as well as a wonderful father to his daughter Diane and son Bobby, a terrific grandfather, and a special friend. He was also one of the "silent partners" of the *Beirut Connection*. In 2005, Bob and Joan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary -- a milestone that few achieve. Bob read a lot, was particularly knowledgeable about Beirut and the terrorist attack in 1983 where his youngest son Johnny was KIA on 23 October. Whenever a new book, or article, or TV showed aired, Bob always knew about it. He had the ability to cut through the chaff and see the real message and politics behind it. While many of us kept "looking for answers," Bob knew that there were none to be found. He also knew that because of the policies pertaining to Beirut -- putting the Peacekeepers in harm's way -- our lives would forever be filled with the loss of our loved ones. That's a feeling he took with him. Rest in peace, Bob. You will be missed.

Semper Fi....

Mary Ellen & John Jackowski

Gold Star Mothers Need Your Help

The Gold Star Mothers need legislative support to realize their long-sought-after goal of having a national monument dedicated in Washington, D.C. This monument would honor mothers whose sons and daughters have given their lives in service to America.

Judith Young, a Gold Star Mother

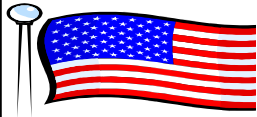


whose son, Jeffrey, was killed in the Beirut bombing, is closely involved with the effort to gather congressional support for the monument.

House Resolution 1980 was introduced May 25th with 27 co-sponsors, and as of June 19th a total of 35 were signed up in support. The Bill authorizes the Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation to establish a monument in the District of Columbia area as a unit of the National Park System to be known as the Gold Star Mothers National Monument.

"This is the second time this bill has been introduced and with each session we only have two years to get it from committee to a House vote, so we need people from all across the country to ask their representatives to co-sign the bill," said Young.

The Gold Star Mothers National Monument Foundation Inc. has a website (gsmmonument.org) that has more information. "All our casualties from Beirut had moms who became gold star mothers and this monument is for all," Young said. "It is not to be mistaken for a memorial to those moms who joined the national organization, but for the 650,000 mothers who lost children beginning in WWI when the term Gold Star Mother was first used."



Carry On: A Forum for Beirut Families

Information of, for and by Families of Beirut Vets

Carry On is a forum to share information about families of Beirut veterans. Families may forward their information to Rosalie (Ro) Milano: email, ojgroup@ojcpi.com or fax 610-268-0305 or call 610-268-0304. The RSII will attempt to include as much information as possible but may need to edit for space considerations.

VOICES FROM BEIRUT: The Peacekeepers Speak

Note from Mary Ellen Jackowski:

Letters are continuing to trickle in for our project (which we plan to have completed for the 30th Beirut Remembrance). We feel very strongly that these feelings must be expressed before it's too late. 241 Voices were lost on 23 Oct 1983 -- please don't let your Voice be silenced. This project is for the families and Beirut Vets -- not for commercial purposes.

BVA Next of Kin members Mary Ellen Jackowski and Peggy Stelpflug plan to collaborate on a collection of letters from the Peacekeepers.

They would like family members and Beirut Vets to participate by submitting either one of their letters -- or excerpts from various letters -- written by the Beirut Peacekeepers.

Since memories fade, this will be a permanent record of the thoughts and feelings at that time.

"Though this process may open up painful memories, the desire to record the thoughts of the US Peacekeepers, 1982-1984, overcomes this very real concern," said Mary Ellen. "Those who died in Beirut can no longer speak for themselves, but we can be their voices and ensure that their words are heard. Through this project, by sharing personal thoughts, Beirut Vets can continue their healing process."

If no letter from Beirut is available, a present-day written account regarding a particular serviceman can be submitted. This account may include any specific memory or experience such as why he joined the military, thoughts about the peacekeeping mission, future plans or any memory or experience shared during his time in Beirut.

The format of the collection will include an alphabetical listing of one page per serviceman:
Sgt. John S. Doe

U.S. Marine Corps

H&S 1/8

MOS: Cook

An introductory paragraph about the serviceman;

The letter or excerpts from several letters;

Your name and relationship to the serviceman which indicates your permission to publish the information.

Before the *Beirut Connection* became part of the BVA, many families and vets shared letters from Beirut. Permission to reprint any of those letters would be greatly appreciated. (Please follow the sample format.)

"I just got an email from Sgt. Tommy Keown's brother with his last letter from Beirut," said Mary Ellen. "I hope everyone will submit a letter. I feel strongly that if we don't do this project soon, no one will hear their 'voices.'"

"This project was in the planning stages before the 25th Remembrance and it is our hope that it will be realized before the 30th Remembrance in 2013."

Please submit your information to: Mary Ellen
(jjandme@peoplepc.com), or
Peggy (pegstelpflug@charter.net).
Hard copies (copies-- not originals) can be mailed to:
Mary Ellen Jackowski, 20 Stagecoach Road, Chestertown NY
12817- (518) 494-4609 (or)
Peggy Stelpflug, 2600 Orchard Circle, Auburn AL 36832 - (334) 821-8671



Voices From Beirut

Example From Stelpflug Family Given To Help Others Contribute

EDITOR'S NOTE: BVA family members Mary Ellen Jackowski and Peggy Stelpflug have been working hard since before the 25th Remembrance in 2008 to get the word out about "Voices From Beirut." (See page 4 for details) Unfortunately, they aren't getting the participation they had hoped for. They do have submissions trickling in, but not at the rate it should be. I cannot stress enough how very important this project is. The letters from our fallen brothers speaks volumes about what we did in Beirut and this will be an important document for researchers years from now, when they want to go back and find out what the troops were saying. The excerpts from Bill Stelpflug below provides one example of how it can be done. It is meant to encourage others to submit material. It can be entire letters, excerpts from letters or a written account of the serviceman from a family member. If you are uncertain about what to submit, call or write Mary Ellen or Peggy at the contacts provided on page 4. They want to hear from you. We all want to hear from you. We want to hear the Voices From Beirut.

Semper Fi, Randy Gaddo, Editor

Bill Stelpflug, Lance Corporal, USMC

(Also known as Billy or William John)

Born March 13, 1964, Air Force Academy, Colorado
Parents: Lt. Col. (Ret. USAF) William J. and Peggy A. Stelpflug

Hometown: Auburn, Alabama

Entered U.S. Marines September 24, 1982, after early enlistment on June 11, 1982, following graduation at Auburn High School, Auburn, AL

Trained at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina.

Graduated December 17, 1982, with Platoon 3080, 3rd Recruit Bn MCRD, Parris Island, SC

Assignment Beirut, Lebanon, with 3rd Section, Dragon Platoon, Weapons Company, BLT 1/8, 24th MAU, 2nd MarDiv

KIA October 23, 1983, Beirut, Lebanon

[Letter written to his brother Joe on July 21, 1983, from American University Library, Beirut]

You know I'm at the University and we see some pretty fine babes, nothing compared to A.U. [Auburn University] though. The chicks around here hold hands and look so f---- fine I want to shoot myself in the f---- foot. Must be the f---- Sun. I think I'm going nuts, bonkers, and out of my f---- mind....I get along with everybody. They call me all sorts of nicknames, from "Tin Man" (they think I look like the f---- tin man in Wiz of Oz) to "Vilhelm" (I told them the "Old Man" was a German interrogator). Well as long as they don't call me late for chow.

[Letter written to his sister Kathy and her husband Mike around September 10 near Beirut International Airport.]

Well, I've always dreamed about being in combat, and here I am a teenager giving them hell....We take a lot more than we give though. America I guess is too big to fight. For that matter, what the hell are we doing here

besides giving the Moslems target practice.

[To Bill's parents, October 19, 1983, BLT, Beirut]

Well, it won't be long now. Can't wait. I think I'll have them drop me off 10 miles from home, so I can savor every pasture, pond and familiar sight. As for why I get myself in these positions, you know I'm just getting material I can write with. But I'll have to be captured by cannibals in the Amazon, and be in a riot in South Africa before I can settle down and put my experiences to words....I dreamed I got married last night. I woke up in a cold sweat. Maybe someday far from now.

[To Bill's parents, October 1983, BLT Headquarters Building, Beirut, Lebanon]

I think I will take a bus back just to see what it is like to come home so slow and happy instead of leaving so fast and sad....I hope you won't get mad at me if I lie on the sofa too much....See you in a while. Love, Bill

Bill and some other Marines would get together to write poetry. [Contributed by Danny Joy, Weapons Company, 1/8, Beirut, Lebanon, 1983]

And the War King calls his subjects to battle
To hear the rockets whistle
And the very ground to rattle.
The trucks are revved, the knives all glisten.
The desert sun shines on a million guns.
When the War King calls, everybody listens.
Many will die. Many will fall.

And will give their soul
To the War King's call.

[From Bill's poem "The War King Calls" found by Father George Pucciarelli, Reverend Danny Wheeler and fellow Marine Danny Joy in the ruins of the BLT.]

Silent Warrior: Doctor Receives Medal...from Page 1

Bunker recounted the story of what happened that October day in 1983.

“Once the C-9 was reconfigured and medical supplies were loaded, the plane took off for the 50-minute flight to Beirut,” he told the audience of more than 100 people who had come to the award ceremony. “On approach, (now re-designated) Aerovac 10E1 was handed off to Beirut tower.”

The pilots expected to hear the phase “cleared to land.” But the Beirut controller replied, “Sniper fire reported in the area. Marine

helicopter gunships patrolling parallel to the runway. Land at your own risk.”

Upon hearing that warning, young Lt. Bunker looked over at the aircraft commander, who was a Vietnam veteran with numerous combat missions in gunships. The crusty old major looked back at the green copilot and simply said, “That means we’re cleared to land.” After landing, the crew avoided craters in the taxiways, the result of artillery and mortar fire. This was a war zone and the Marines had been in the middle of it

for some time.

As the C-9 taxied to a stop, Marine helicopters began bringing severely wounded patients and triage began. Col. Studwell demonstrated stellar clinical skills as he led the team which would ultimately save the lives of all but one of the 24 Marines on the aircraft. One Marine went into cardiac arrest shortly after takeoff and died enroute to Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany.

Continued on page 7

New J’ville USO Director Puts Beirut Memorial Room Top of the List

Deborah Fisher is ready for the USO of North Carolina Jacksonville Center to regain its prominent position in the community.

Her first initiative after accepting the interim position in Jacksonville was the revitalization of the Beirut Memorial Room. Lowe’s Home Improvement and Freedom Furniture provided the makeover. Then through its Lowe’s Heroes Program, the two local Lowe’s stores provided the manpower and materials to spruce up the entire center inside and out for the holidays.

“I think it is critical to make this USO successful,” said Fisher, who was recently named director of the Tallman Street center after serving three months as interim director. “This is the longest continually serving USO in the world. We are responsible for bringing the USO mission to the largest Marine Corps base in the world as well as other military in the area.”

She said she hopes to bring the center some much needed consistency and continuity after a frequent turnover in directors lately. “I wanted to make a commitment to that. I know how important it is to the community and I’ve seen how much the community will do for it,” she said. “We have a great staff here now and I think we’re all going to be around for a while — continuity and consistency is what it’s all about.”

Prior to coming to Jacksonville, Fisher served as executive director of the USO in Northern Ohio for five years, overseeing five different locations — Cleveland, Toledo, Youngstown, Akron and Canton.

Fisher said she still has a housekeeping wish list, including new furniture for the media room. More importantly, she said, she wants to reach out to the family members of military personnel. “The first quarter of next year Camp Lejeune is deploying some 16,000 troops; that’s going to be a lot of family members left behind,” she said. “We have some great programs to keep the family members connected with their deployed service

member. We want to let them know we’re here and what we can provide.”

After meeting Fisher as interim director, Joseph Traumer, the president of Onslow County Council of Veterans Organizations, said he knew she would be suitable for the job as center director.

“She’s outstanding,” he said. “She’s already made things happen and is a very positive person. She will be very good for active duty, retirees and their families.”

With her experience and her overall qualifications, she rose to the top over the other candidates, said John Falkenburg, president of the USO of North Carolina.

Story by Suzanne Ulbrich, ENCToday



**Deborah Fisher,
new J’ville USO
Director**

Warrior...From Page 6

The discovery that Studwell had been overlooked for this award came about during the 2008 Beirut Remembrance held in Jacksonville, N.C., home of the Beirut Memorial Wall. Each year on October 23rd family, friends and fellow service members have gathered since 1984 to remember their fallen heroes. 2008 was the 25th annual Remembrance and several hundred had turned out for the event, more than ever before. Bunker and Studwell, unknown to each other, were both there for the first time since their chance encounter in 1983. Neither of them had been able to attend in previous years. It appeared predestined that they should meet.

During an evening social event, Bunker was telling a Beirut veteran Marine about his C-9 experience. The Marine mentioned that he had previously spoken to a doctor who had told him he was the flight surgeon on the first C-9 that landed after the bombing. When the Marine found Studwell and introduced him to Bunker, emotion that had been pent up for 25 years flowed from the two Air Force officers.

"We had barely spoken a few words to each other back in 1983," said Bunker. "There just wasn't time. But when I met him there that night in 2008, it all came back to me in an instant. It was overwhelming."

During one of many conversations Bunker and Studwell had during the Remembrance, Bunker learned that Studwell had not received an Air Medal.

"The rest of the team had all received theirs and I didn't understand why Colonel Studwell



(Left to right) Retired Air Force Major Joe Bunker, Mike Toma and Colonel Studwell exchange memories after the awards ceremony. Bunker was the co-pilot of the C-9 in Beirut; Toma was one of the injured Marines whose life was saved by Studwell's actions on October 23, 1983.

hadn't," said Bunker. So during a conversation with retired Marine Colonel Tim Geraghty, who had been the Marine commander in Beirut, Bunker mentioned the oversight to him. "Colonel Geraghty was in the midst of publishing a book about his experiences in Beirut ("Peacekeepers At War: Beirut 1983 – The Marine Commander Tells His Story," Potomac Books, 2009), but he said as soon as that was done, he would see about getting something done about that," Bunker recalled. "True to his word, he soon put the wheels in motion."

Bunker describes the lengthy process to have the medal awarded as an arduous journey through bureaucratic red tape, even though the actions were well documented and witnessed. Perseverance paid off though, along with help from key people along the way.

Colonel Geraghty could not be at the ceremony, but passed a

message to Studwell on behalf of all members of the U.S. Multinational Peacekeeping Forces, Beirut. "I want to congratulate Colonel Studwell on the occasion of being awarded The Air Medal for extraordinary service," he said in a statement read by Bunker.

"Your legacy, along with the C-9 "Nightingale" crew, reflects professionalism, courage and honor, in the rapid response that saved the lives of many Peacekeepers."

"He filled the gap when it was needed," said Col. Timothy E. Tarchick, Wing Commander of the 94th Airlift Wing, who presided over the award ceremony at Dobbins. "He didn't have to do it, but he did it anyway, which is the sign of a true hero. This is a big deal and had to be approved by the president of the United States. I am pleased to be standing before a silent warrior - one who paved the way for people in uniform, particularly those in the medical field."

RSII

Beirut Veterans Plan 28th Annual Remembrance...from page 2...

At about 2 p.m. the official Remembrance service, hosted by the City of Jacksonville and supported by Camp Lejeune, will be held at the Memorial. The event is normally in the morning but was changed because Oct. 23 falls on a Sunday this year.

When at the USO attendees are reminded to spend some time in the newly remodeled and refur-

nished Beirut Memorial Room there. Then find Deb Fisher, USO director, and thank her for making this remodeling a priority. "My goal was to provide a nice, comfortable place for survivors and family members to go and relax," said Fisher. "I want them to get comfort and know that people still remember their loved ones." (See **related article, page 6**)



The Remodeled Beirut Room at the USO

Holiday Inn Express 2115 Hwy. 17 N., Jacksonville, NC 28546

Phone: 910-347-1900 Fax: 910-347-7593

HOTEL AMENITIES

All rooms feature microwave, refrigerator, coffeemaker, hairdryer, iron and board
Complimentary hot breakfast buffet
Free Wireless High Speed Internet Access: 37" Flat Screen TV's
Complimentary local phone calls and USA Today Newspaper
Complimentary passes to a full fitness center/indoor pool
On site laundry service
Bus Parking Area & Luggage Service
Complimentary fresh baked cookies
Restaurants & shopping within walking distance

RATES

You must call the hotel directly and use your credit card to hold the room to receive the special rate. If you must cancel please do so 24 hours prior to your arrival date so you are not charged. If you fail to arrive the 1st day of your reservation, the remainder of your stay will be cancelled.

All guests of **The Beirut Memorial Group** will receive a discounted rate of \$85.00 plus tax. We have set aside a block of 30 rooms for you. Please call with a credit card to reserve your room. Please call by September 27, 2011 or we cannot guarantee the above rate or room availability.

Rooms are based on occupancy of 2 adults per room; we have an additional charge of \$10.00 per adult. Maximum of 5 people per room.

FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT THE HOTEL DIRECTLY AT 910-347-1900. TELL THEM THE GROUP YOU ARE WITH ('BEIRUT VETERANS'). PLEASE CONTACT THE HOTEL DIRECTLY WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE.

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

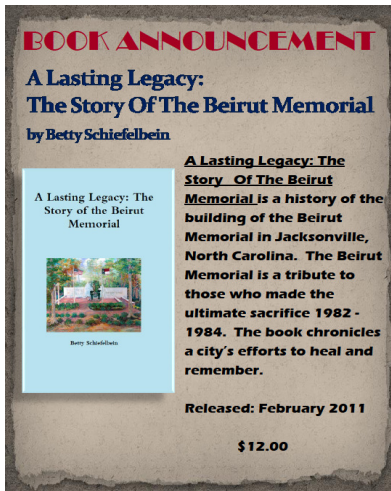
Comfort Suites

130 Workshop Lane, Jacksonville, NC PHONE: (910) 346-8900

Candlewood Suites

119 Penny Lane, Jacksonville, NC PHONE: (910) 333-0494

Beirut Memorial Book To Be Available at 28th Remembrance



Available now to BVA members for \$10 + \$4 s/h by author. Send check or money order to: Betty Schiefelbein, c/o Dan Joy, P O Box 1553, Jacksonville, NC 28541-1553. Expect 4-6 weeks for delivery. The book starts by explaining how the U.S. got involved with the Middle East problems in 1982-1984. It discusses the US Embassy –Beirut bombing, through the Marine Barracks / French Barracks bombing, into the U. S. official responses and Grenada. The primary focus of the book deals with the who, what, where, when, why and how's of the events surrounding the building of the Monument.



2011 Beirut Memorial Observance Events; Jacksonville, NC

FRIDAY Oct. 21, 2011

Noon - 6 p.m.: Registration at the USO

7 - 10 p.m.: Hospitality Suite: Beirut Veterans and Families: Holiday Inn Express

SATURDAY Oct. 22, 2011

10am—9 pm: OKTOBERFEST: Downtown Jacksonville: (This event NOT sponsored by B.V.A.)

<http://onslowcm.org/index.php?pr=Oktoberfest>

10am –6 pm: Registration at the USO until 6 p.m., then at Holiday Inn Express 6 to 11:30 p.m.

3 p.m.: Annual BVA Membership Meeting: USO

6 p.m.: Beirut Veterans BBQ/Get Together: Holiday Inn Express

6 - 10 p.m. : Hospitality Suite: Beirut Veterans and Families: Holiday Inn Express

SUNDAY Oct 23, 2011

6 a.m.: Candlelight Ceremony at Beirut Memorial: Camp Johnson

2 p.m.: ** **Remembrance Ceremony at Memorial: Camp Johnson**

4 p.m.:** **Marine Corps League Devil Dogs Ceremony—Camp Geiger Circle (NOTE** Access to Camp Geiger is through MCAS New River Main Gate)**

6-10 p.m.: Hospitality Suite: Beirut Veterans and Families: Holiday Inn Express

**** NOTE CHANGES IN TIME** Changed due to October 23 falling on a Sunday this year**

*****NOTES*****

Registration at the USO: Make sure we have all your correct info, when you check-in and pick up your Welcome Packet. **The Beirut Room** at the USO has been completely refurbished. Please stop by and see your room.

Vehicle passes: You will need to go to the Main Gate at Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River to get a Vehicle Pass for your car. You need to consider that it may take you up to 45 minutes to get one. Take in with you, your vehicle registration (tag paper), insurance card and driver's license. Tell them you are with the BVA (Beirut Veterans). You are responsible for getting a Vehicle Pass to drive on base, if one is needed. The only EVENT you will need a pass for is the 1400 Camp Geiger Ceremony on the 23rd if you plan to attend, or, if you want to shop at the Exchange/Annex. We ask that you arrive early at each event. If you are late, please be respectful while entering the Remembrance Ceremony.

M.C. Exchange/Exchange Annex/Marine Corps Association Book Store: You will be able to buy only USMC memorabilia at the Camp LeJeune/Camp Johnson/MCAS NEW RIVER Exchange/Exchange Annex/Marine Corps Association Book Store. When you get to the cashier, tell them you are with the Beirut Veterans of America.

BVA membership meeting: We ask that all BVA members attend.

Spirit Wear !

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

#1: 25th Remembrance T-shirts, \$12: youth large, S, M, L, XL: \$15 for 2XL, 3XL

#2: Sweat Shirt \$23; 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; \$25 for 2x, 3x (3x in white, ash grey, hunter green only)

#3: Golf Shirt \$27 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; \$29 for 2X, 3X**

#4: Sport Cap; \$15 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:

#5: New: BVA Christmas Ornament, \$5

#6: BVA K-bar: regular, \$50; Gold Edition, \$100

#7: BVA Family Rocker, \$4; rocker & patch, \$10

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

#9: BVA Mousepads (blue), \$4 (8" x 9")

#10 Round Cloth Patches, \$7.50 (3.5x3.5")

#11: Static Window Clings: \$3.00

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

#13: 1/8 sticker, \$2

Shipping Charge rates:

Subtotals up to \$9.99.....\$3.50

Subtotals from \$10 to \$49.99.....\$5.50

From \$50 to \$99.99.....\$7.50

\$100 to \$199.99.....\$12.50

\$200 and up\$15.50

Over \$300, call Cliff Walling to confirm

25th T-Shirt: Quantity _____ Size _____

Color _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

Sweat Shirt: Quantity _____ Size _____ Color _____ \$ _____

Golf Shirt: Quantity _____ Size _____ Color _____ \$ _____

Cap: Quantity _____ Size _____ Color _____ \$ _____

Christmas Ornament: Quantity _____ \$ _____

BVA K-bar: Regular, # _____; Gold Edition, # _____ \$ _____

BVA Family rocker: Quantity _____ Patch + rocker _____ \$ _____

BVA Bumper Stickers Quantity _____ \$ _____

BVA Mousepads (blue) Quantity _____ \$ _____

Round Cloth Patches Quantity _____ \$ _____

Static Window Clings Quantity _____ \$ _____

BVA Bronze Challenge Coins Quantity _____ \$ _____

1/8 Sticker Quantity _____ \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Shipping \$ _____

Grand Total: \$ _____

Please Tell Us Your:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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 embroidered items; 2-4 weeks for other items

For more information

Call Cliff @ (h) 732-613-0441

Email: wallingclan@msn.com

Official Newsletter of the Beirut Veterans of America

Root Scoop II

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