

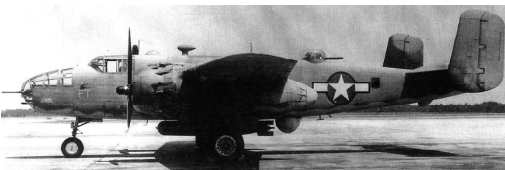
THE BUGLER

A newsletter of the MAG61 Reunion Association

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Volume 4, Issue 7



Officers and Board of Directors for 2011-2012

Stu Allen, President
(No 1st Vice President)
Irv Kaplan, 2nd Vice President
George Stilwell, Immediate Past President
Cappy Caprini, Director
Dutch Gallon, Director
John Manning, Director
Stu Allen, Secretary, Newsletter Editor

Honorary Officers

Gen. Earl Anderson, Honorary C.O.
Col. McDonald Tweed, Honorary E.O.

Non-Board Member

Nick Anselmo, Treasurer

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Our reunion plans are hanging in the balance, our ranks are growing thinner, but our thoughts and prayers for each other are very much alive.

Please keep in touch by passing on information on your activities, experiences, and health situations so we can keep the membership informed and updated through our newsletter.

**WE HOPE ALL OF YOU HAVE A VERY JOYOUS
CHRISTMAS SEASON AND DELIGHTFUL NEW YEAR.**



A SAD FAREWELL TO A DEAR AND FAITHFUL FRIEND

Several years ago Cappy Caprini, one of our regular reunion attendees, who served as one of our Directors, met another Marine veteran at a Chicago social affair. Cappy invited this other Marine to attend our annual MAG61 BANQUET. That Marine was, ACHILLE MARCHIORI. The invitation was accepted and his attendance to that reunion and all reunions to follow left many endearing memories for all attendees who met him.



Achille Marchiori is much better known to all of us as "ARCHIE." One of the questions I received from many members as they signed up to attend, was "Will Archie be attending?"

Archie was not a member of MAG61, during his tour in The Corps, but he was a MARINE and served his country well. MAG 61 WAS PROUD TO ADOPT HIM AS A MEMBER.

Archie talked to me by phone, just prior to the 2011 reunion and it was obvious that he really wanted to be there. It was also obvious to me that he was not up to the trip.

Archie passed away on October 12, 2011 and leaves us with a very loving memory.

Archies daughter, Diane Dassow sent the following letter along with a funeral card that contained a very nice picture of Archie.

Dear Mr. Allen:

I regret to inform you of the death of my dear father, Achille (Archie) Marchiore. Our family feels that we have been blessed to have had him for so many years.

I know how much it meant to him to participate in the MAG61 group reunions, and how sorry he was to have missed the 2011 reunion.

You can read about Dad at the funeral home website: belmontfuneralhome.com

All the best,

Diane Dassow

MARINE CORPS BALL

Stu Allen and friend, Flo, attended a Marine Corps Ball sponsored by the Semper Fidelis Detachment #204 of Wenonah, NJ. With an attendance of about 200, there were only three WW II Marines. As is traditional, the Guest of Honor, the Oldest Marine and the Youngest Marine, were called up to cut the cake. Stu was the oldest Marine. He felt specially honored when the Colonel (just retired after 39 years of service) leaned over at the cutting ceremony and said, "I would be honored to escort you back to your table." We had a wonderful time and met some very fine and dedicated people.

RETURNED MAIL

The following mail was returned from the previous newsletter. If anyone has information on the following members, please forward it to Stu Allen.

George Lord

Fred Wiswell

Ruth Kreiger

I . N. Nagrodsky

Les W. Bradley

Paul R. Strandberg

Billy D. Leagon

Justin Mackelprang

Richard Holiday

Jack Broadbear

THANKS FOR ANY ASSISTANCE YOU CAN OFFER

IN MEMORIAM

Archie Marichiore – See article in this issue

Harvey Ebright – 12/16/08 (message from widow)

Alfred Smigiell – 8/16/11 (message from widow)

HONOR ROLL UPDATE PROJECT

We have allowed ourselves to fall behind in maintaining and updating our Honor Roll. Please assist us in our efforts to rectify this situation. Check the names on our website, www.mag61.org and send names you know of that are If you cannot access the website, feel free to send us names that you are aware of and we will check the list and update it accordingly. Don't worry about duplications, they will be sorted out when we check the list

We will proceed with the updated list as rapidly as we receive your information. Send your information to: Linwood S. Allen, 300 Johnny Boy Lane, Berlin, N. J. 08009.

MAG 61 2012 CALENDAR INFORMATION

Since we have had several inquiries about having a calendar for the upcoming year, and a couple of people sent in checks already, we have decided to put one together. Please bear with us as we check the files and perhaps repeat some pictures from previous years.

The price will remain the same (\$10 EACH, to cover the cost of printing and shipping)

PLEASE MAKE CALENDAR CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
LINWOOD S. ALLEN (NOT MAG61)

Mail to: 300 Johnny Boy Lane
Berlin, N. J. 08009

Thank you for your patience as we prepare to assemble it. We will do so as quickly as possible.

THE CORPS' 5TH SPECIAL BASICS CLASS, 1951

This article appeared in the October 2011 issue of *Leatherneck* and is mentioned here because of its relationship to the development of the fine career of a VMB 443, MAG 61, S/SGT, Navigator/Bombardier. A man most of you know as Brig. General George Bartlett (USMC Ret.)

Every man in the 5th SBC came from the ranks. Sixty years ago these former enlisted men were commissioned Marine Second Lieutenants on a desolate Camp Barrett parade field. In 1951, the place was little more than a muddy crossroads in Quantico's Guadalcanal Training Area. Almost half the class became infantry officers and many commanded Marine platoons in Korea. They are a tight group who know each other and their families.

Every six months, 5th SBC members gather at their monument on TBS's "Memorial Walk" to honor their departed classmates. The impressive monument lists all 291 Proud Mustangs. The 118 living members are all in their 80s. It is time to tell their story.

Brigadier General George Bartlett, still charging at 87, is the leader of the "Fire Team." They meet regularly to honor their comrades. He enlisted in 1943, flew numerous combat missions as a Navigator-Bombardier in WW II (MAG 61) and was Air Controller in Korea. He retired in 1977. He later served as Executive Director of the Marine Corps Association.

WE ARE PROUD OF GEORGE AND HIS 5TH SBC 1951 CLASSMATES

FUTURE PLANS???? SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS REQUESTED

Many members have put limitations on the amount of travel they are willing to plan, and others have scheduled family affairs and obligations that have to take priority. However, I am anxious to continue to hear or read your comments or suggestions as you are willing to send me. Even responses from members who know they cannot attend will be welcomed, and ideas will be carefully considered.

One thing that could assist in our decision process is the number of family members who would like to attend, either with the veteran, or in honor of his service. We have really enjoyed those contacts in recent years.

The fact that we had attendance of friends and family member and some with more recent Marine service as well as some veterans from other services, certainly adds to the enjoyment, especially at the banquet.

I have mentioned the attendance of the other interested parties (family, friends, other veterans and other services) as an example of ways to help offset the annual reduction in attendance by our MAG 61 Membership.

We need to have comments from as many members and interested parties as we can get. Don't hesitate to voice your opinion on changing format, location suggestions, length of time for events, type of events, or any plan or idea that comes to mind. Maybe a combination of a few ideas will give us a satisfactory solution.

Some individual squadrons are still holding reunions, but previous efforts to combine with them have drawn no satisfactory responses.

Thank you for any comments or suggestions that will assist in determining the future activities of the MAG 61 Reunion Association.

HEALTH REPORT

John McGhee – Had a hip replacement and blood clot in his leg. He had a dizzy spell, fell and hurt tailbone

Manny Roy – Is doing better after six months of problems but not traveling much

Wes Slagle – Having trouble walking except for short distances. Wife, Doris, had a knee replacement and is getting around very well

John Manning – Still moving around slowly but not traveling much. His wife is a huge help as she is doing well

Bennie Leonberger – House-bound with leg swelling but doctor says no blood clot. Awaiting further diagnosis

George Stillwell – Had a very bad November but seems to be doing better at this time

Helen Kaplan – Irving reports that she has started medical treatment and he will keep us posted



Happy Holidays...