



SEMPER FI SOUND OFF

The newsletter of the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group

SPRING 2021

President's Message

Greetings for Spring 2021,

Things are looking up for our Support Group. We had our first in-person Board of Directors meeting in a year, thanks to the availability of a newly renovated "Task Force" building in the San Mateo Area.

We have been especially thankful to the community of wonderful patrons that made our last year's efforts so successful. They say it takes a village, but based on last year, we had a City or State behind us. I was reminded by a wise old Marine that our organization is only a conduit and that it is really the community that makes us the success we are, and will continue to be, with their help.

We have overcome the restrictions that COVID put on our support activities last year very successfully. We managed to have a "late but great" golf tournament, and some new "in house" contests for the Marines to help with the competitive spirit that is part of being a Marine.

The Wounded Warrior Trials was the last on-base event we supported last year, but this did not stop our volunteers from continuing their efforts. Task Force Grizzly and Task Force San Mateo are shining examples of what can be done. These two buildings have been repurposed, one to a recreational area where the Marines living in the barracks can relax away from the confines of their rooms and socialize. The other has been upgraded to a meeting/conference/general purpose facility that has been used for a multitude of events, including a "Five Love Languages Class" sponsored by the Chaplain.

Once again, through our contacts, we have been fortunate to have accumulated furniture, appliances and games to outfit these older buildings for current and future use, with enough left over to upgrade some of the common areas in the barracks.

With the relaxation of the COVID restrictions, I am optimistic that we can now return to a more normal year for support, including the Summer Camp program, Baby Showers, Summer Concerts and the 12th Annual Golf Tournament, possibly even Laughs for Leathernecks later in the year.

Your continued generosity has been, and continues to be, the engine that drives our success. Without your donations, we could not continue supporting our Marines, Corpsmen and their families.

Remember we are an all-volunteer organization with ZERO salaries, so please help us continue our mission and be part of our Village by using the enclosed self-addressed envelope making an online donation at danapoint5thmarines.com.

*Semper Fi,
Mike Lipscombe, President
RVN 1965-66*



Hail and Farewell

A Hail and Farewell brings all the Marines and Sailors together; both Officers and Staff Non-commissioned Officers (SNCOs,) for a passing of the torch for our Marines leaving and coming into the unit. The Hail and Farewell on 26 March 2021 at Task Force San Mateo, aboard Camp Pendleton, CA was a big one: 11 Marines were hailed; 7 Officers and 4 SNCO's. With sadness we said farewell to 15 Marines: 9 Officers and 6 SNCO's. All 15 of these Marines have meant a lot to the Regiment and six of them are retiring from the United States Marine Corps within the coming months. With the help of Dana Point Support Group (DPSG) we were able to make this event a success by supporting with tables, decoration, beer and a great meal catered by Bad to the Bone BBQ. We truly appreciate all the support that DPSG provides to the Marines and Sailors of 5th Marine Regiment. Fare winds and following seas.

*Semper Fi!
2ndLt Juan M. Anzures*



Spring Fling

Who would ever think that we would have a drive by Spring Fling, but as COVID restrictions were winding down, the Regiment decided to “keep it simple” and allow families to drive by and celebrate Spring.

DPSG had hundreds of toys remaining from Christmas donations and contributed them to the toy booth where Marine kiddos could select a gift. Additionally, we provided gift cards for Sonic and Dominoes so each participant could have a nice lunch.

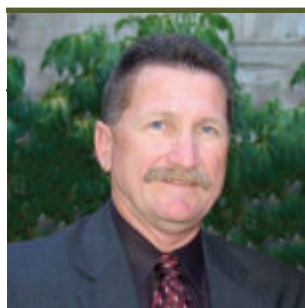
Saddleback church did a phenomenal job bringing Easter baskets and other Spring décor.

We try to never let a holiday go uncelebrated!



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. The last year has been extremely difficult for children due to COVID-19. As if military life is not hard enough on our Marine children, multiple deployments, frequent moves, new schools, having a parent injured or die is a reality for many children in military families. In order to help contend with these stressors and make sure any invisible wounds are healed, our Marine kids are a top priority! DP5MRSOG will award any 5th Marine child a \$350 summer camp scholarship. 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 to 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 “Operation Summer Camp” at DanaPoint5thMarines.com. For more information, please contact Nadine.Reilly@SBCglobal.net.



Welcome to the Hood – DPSG Welcomes Mark Schuler

Mark’s military and law enforcement background makes him a perfect fit for the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group Board of Directors. At 18 after graduation, Mark enlisted in the Air Force where he started his career as a loadmaster. Mark enrolled in the Orange County Peace Officers Academy in 1979. In 1982 he became a

Police Officer for the City of Orange where he specialized in drug enforcement, crime scene investigations and training of junior officers. In his downtime he began organizing police softball tournaments. He left the Police force in 1989. He started a landscape and construction company, working with residential and commercial customers throughout Orange County. In his spare time he likes to play golf. Even pre-selection to the board, Mark volunteered to be Santa’s elf at Christmas time. This audition made him a shoe-in for the DPSG B.O.D.





From the Command Post

Dear Friends and Supporters of 5th Marine Regiment,
 Being a part of 5th Marine Regiment is very rewarding because we have so many Marines and Sailors that care about each other doing a job we are proud of...and we have the support of one of the most patriotic communities in America – Dana Point. Since the last newsletter, we finished our assignment as the Global Crisis Response Force. Luckily there was not a crisis that required a military response. We continue to train so we are ready if called. I am very proud to say that we have not lost any significant training days this year or last year due to COVID. We stayed focused on being proficient in warfighting while the country appeared to be distracted. We were able to maintain our physical fitness and perform well during training exercises despite the COVID mitigation policies that make training more difficult. We were even able to integrate with the Navy to conduct several amphibious exercises. We demonstrated once again that the Navy and Marine Corps make a powerful team. Our Marines and Sailors have proven to be resilient. We recently had a 5th Marines Fitness Competition where the Dana Point Support Group along with a few church organizations supported the event with prizes and refreshments—we have some very fit Marines. Your support also helped provide some of our newly promoted Marines with a “Blood Stripe.” A new “Blood Stripe” is a red strip of cloth that is sewn on the side of each trouser leg. It is presented

to newly promoted noncommissioned officers designating them as leaders. We recently held a Spring Carnival / Easter Celebration for our families. Your contributions to family events and the morale of our young Marines is priceless, we really could not do many of these things without your support.



Currently, part of the Regiment is assisting civil authorities in distributing COVID vaccines and we have several Marines deployed protecting ships in the Pacific. The remaining Marines are training to deploy on a regular basis to be the Nation’s 911 force. We hope you are proud of us. We love having you on our team. I continue to be astounded and impressed by the outpouring of support and volunteerism by the Dana Point Support Group—you are an amazing group.

Thank you.
Semper Fi,
Col Rob Weiler, Commander 5th Marine Regiment

Team Nick Gives New Life to Task Force San Mateo

Col Robert Weiler identified two areas that he wanted renovated and outfitted so Marines could get out of their barracks and enjoy fellowship and camaraderie without leaving the base; Task Force Grizzly (TFG) and Task Force San Mateo (TFSM.) These facilities are old buildings at Camp San Mateo (Home of the 5th Marines.) In the last year during COVID, DPSG spent considerable time and expense updating both facilities. TFG now has couches, pool tables, TVs, and games. Since we finished the painting and cleaning the floors, TFSM is already being used for meetings, classes, and the Chaplain held a Marriage Encounter there. Our Board of Directors even had our first in-person Board meeting in a year utilizing this newly renovated facility last month.

Nick Frankovich, our DPSG Director of Base Projects and his trusted comrades affectionately called “Team Nick” have been at the tip of the spear for the major transformation of these old Task Force facilities.

It was determined that it would be a huge asset for TFSM to have at least three bottle coolers so that each Battalion could entertain and lock up and leave their beverages. Further, we decided a sink was necessary to be able to facilitate meeting catering and beverages. DPSG decided to ask for some help from each of the 5th Marine Regiment Adoptive Cities because this project reached across all the Battalions.

The following Cities and organizations answered the call:

- Team Darkhorse (3/5)
- Team 2/5 and Rancho Santa Margarita
- The City of San Clemente

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Not Just Your Ordinary Golf Tourney: Combat Golf

Join the Dana Point 5th Marine Regiment Support Group (DP5MRS) for the most fun you'll ever have on the links!

Where: Experience challenging Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club, 26772 Avery Parkway, Mission Viejo, CA.

When: Monday June 14th. Check-in for the golf scramble format starts at 9:00 AM. The Tournament begins at 11:00 AM.

Price: Just \$200 includes golf, box lunches, range balls, a player swag bag, plus an after-Tournament BBQ on the outside patio complete with no host cocktail bars, awards ceremony and up close view of the chopper ball drop.

Sponsor a Marine or Wounded Warrior to play: Just \$200 gives our deserving men and women in uniform the opportunity to enjoy the day of fun. Won't you support those who have sacrificed so much?

Where do proceeds go? All proceeds benefit our marines, sailors, Wounded Warriors and their families.

BE A WINNER!

Don't miss out on a chance to win **\$2,500.00** with our Helicopter Golf Ball Drop Opportunity (\$10 per ball). Tickets may be purchased online. You need not be present to win.

We welcome the business community and local organizations to support the annual event, including sponsorship. Please go to our website to see all sponsorships opportunities www.CombatGolf.org.



Team Nick Gives New Life to Task Force San Mateo, *continued from page 3*

- The Heritage Foundation
- The Marine Corps League

Thank you to all the volunteers and donors for making this vision a reality. For our Marines to have a really cool place for informal camaraderie, formal meetings and recreation without leaving the base is just what our they needed and was beyond what Col Weiler envisioned.

Board of Directors

Executive Board

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

Directors

Jan Bennett	Mike Lipscombe	Terry Rifkin	Patti Short
Nick Frankovich	Mark Schuler	Sheri Schneringer	Hank Snyder
Dean Koukas	Cathy Nelson	David Shahoian	Jill Watson

