

# 2019 Reunion and Symposium

The 2019 IJAA Reunion and Symposium was held 13-16 February at the Hyatt Regency in Arlington,

and symposium program included a day-long visit to the National Museum of the Marine Corps, where

Virginia and proved to be a wonderful event for all those attending. We were honored to have seven Iwo Jima Veterans attending along with several family members of those who fought in the battle. The reunion



Iwo Jima Veterans, (L-R) Ivan Hammond, Joe Rodgers, John Lauriello, Bud Hampton, Mahlon Fink the attendees reviewed the latest additions and its collections. President and CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, **Major General James E. Kessler**, USMC (Ret) met the group and briefed

See, Reunion and Symposium, page 3

# **IJAA Gets New President**

Major General David F. Bice, USMC (Ret) was elected President, Iwo Jima Association of America, during the Board of Directors meeting on 14 February 2019. He retired from the Marine Corps for the second time in 2007 after being recalled to be Inspector General of the Marine Corps. He has commanded Marines at every level from platoon

to division. He served as a rifle platoon commander with 3rd Bn, 1st Marines in Vietnam.



He led companies in 1st Bn, 4th Marines; 3rd Bn, 7th Marines; and 1st Tank Bn. He commanded

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SPRING 2019

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# **President's** Message

#### Greetings!

I am delighted to become President of the Iwo Jima Association of America. This historic organization has been well known throughout the Marine Corps and its fraternal organiza tions as one of the best in the business of promoting the history of the Battle of Iwo Jima, supporting the Veterans of the campaign, and educating America on the significance of that horrific struggle. I got to know the organization's founder, the late Major General Fred Haynes several years ago when we worked a project together. I am proud to support his legacy.

We have just completed the 2019 Reunion and Symposium, which is described in this issue. The reunion and symposium was a wonderful event, and I am honored to have met so many Iwo Jima veterans, family members of those who served on Iwo Jima, Marine veterans, and students of history. Our Board Chairman, Lieutenant General Norman Smith, USMC (Ret) and other members of the Board of Directors were won-

derful hosts to all of our guests and attendees. The Board of Directors' meeting minutes are displayed in this issue.

I want to thank everyone who assisted and supported the reunion and symposium; especially our Executive Director, LtCol Art Sifuentes; Special Events Coordinator Shayne Jarosz and all the wonderful volunteers who came out to assist. A special thanks goes to all the speakers, the hotel staff and the police officers who providing our Iwo Jima Veterans a police escort.

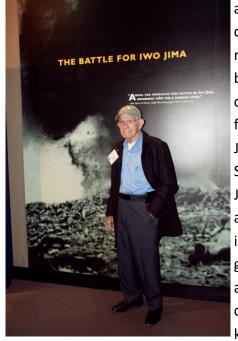
As I wrote this message, we were making final preparations for the 2019 Reunion of Honor trip to Iwo Jima. We will have a full story on the event in our next Black Sands issue. We are also looking ahead for the 75th Anniversary of the battle of Iwo Jima in 2020 and ways to recognize and honor those who fought there.

I am honored to be a part of IJAA and I look forward to serving you. Semper Fidelis, David Bice MajGen USMC (Ret)

**Reunion and** Symposium, from Page 1

them on plans for new exhibits and displays. Following a trip back to the hotel, the group enjoyed a well -stocked hospitality room with many stories and experiences being shared. Thank you Wanda Stump!

We were delighted to see that **John Beele** brought



along his flag that depicted the flag raising at Mt. Suribachi, which included signatures from scores of Iwo Jima veterans. Some of our Iwo Jima veterans attending the reunion and symposium got to sign the flag as well. John, of course, is well known for leading Marines in singing the

**Joe Rodgers** 

Marine Hymn—all 3 verses.

On Friday, the group was given a police escort by the Arlington County Police Department to Marine Barracks, 8th and I in Washington. While at "The Oldest Post in the Corps", the attendees were welcomed by the Barracks Executive Officer and got a chance to meet and talk to several of the Barracks' officers.

#### New President, from Page 1

3D Battalion, 8th Marines and the 9th Marine Regiment. His assignments outside the operating forces have included Series Commander, MCRD Parris Island; Enlisted Promotions Plans Officer, Manpower Dept, HQMC; Exchange Officer with the Royal Marines, where he graduated from the royal Marines Commando Course; and Chief European Division, J-5, the Joint Staff.

As a General Officer, he served as CG, 3D Marine

Staff Non-Commissioned Officers, and Non-Commissioned Officers. Brigadier General William J. Bowers, USMC, President, Marine Corps University at Quantico, VA addressed the group about the historic importance of the Battle of Iwo Jima in context of not only what it meant for the World War II effort, but its significance on the Marine Corps now and in the future. Following lunch at the Barracks, the group toured the World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington and went on to the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial where IJAA Chairman, Lieutenant General Norman Smith, USMC (Ret) accompanied the Iwo Jima Veterans in laying a wreath at the me-



Iwo Jima Veterans, (L-R) Rhinehart, Mahlon Fink, Lt Gen Norm Smith, John Sofedes, Bud Hampton, Joe Rodgers, Ivan Hammond

morial. The Marine Corps League Detachment from Reading, PA also accompanied their Iwo Jima Veteran in placing a wreath at the memorial.

See, Reunion and Symposium, Page 4

Division on Okinawa, Japan; CG, Marine Corps Base Hawaii; Director Marine Corps Staff; Deputy Commander Marine Forces, Europe in Stuttgart, Germany; Deputy Commander, NATO South Central in Larissa, Greece and CG, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, CA where he initially retired in 2004. Following active duty, he has been an international defense consultant and has supported many veterans organizations including serving as past President, Third Marine Division Association.

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BLACK SANDS

#### Reunion and Symposium, from Page 3

Saturday was a full day of educational talks and discussions by well known experts of the Iwo Jima battle. Author and historian Col Richard Camp Jr., USMC (Ret) gave an informative briefing on the preinvasion operations of the battle. Many were shocked to learn of the limited fire support actually provided to the Marines before, during, and after the landing. Noted Iwo Jima tour leader, James Oelke-Farley presented a well researched talk on the Marine operations ashore. Jim's photos and map depictions dramatically showed the difficult battles and skirmishers all three Marine divisions endured throughout the 36 day campaign. IJAA Historian and noted author, Dr. Charles Neimeyer, LtCol, USMC (Ret) gave a delightful and informative briefing on th men who raised both flags on Iwo Jima. He went into great detail as to how Navy Corpsman John Bradley was mis-identified as one of the flag raisers in the iconic Joe Rosenthal photograph and that PFC Harold Schultz was the actual flag raiser who had originally been thought to be John Bradley. It was a fantastic briefing that captured everyone's attention.

Lieutenant General Brian D. Beaudreault, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Plans, Policies, and Operations, gave an inspiring briefing about current operations throughout the Marine Corps today. The demand for Marine forces throughout the world is as high as ever. The technological demands and skills required of our men and women is extremely high. General Beaudreault gave an uplifting summation on how the bravery and devotion of the Marines who fought on Iwo Jima still inspires Marines of today.

The 2019 Reunion and Symposium was capped off by a superb banquet. The food was delicious and the atmosphere was delightful. The "President's Own" U.S. Marine Band under the direction of **Master Gunnery Sergeant Duane King,** led us off with some great patriotic songs and our National Anthem featuring

the U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard. Our banquet Guest of Honor was Lieutenant General David H. Berger, USMC, CG, Marine Corps Combat Development Command at Quantico. General Berger recounted the diary notes and letters of three lesser know Marines who fought on Iwo Jima and the inspirational messages they provide for today's Marines. Following dinner, the attendees enjoyed dancing to the music of the Radio King Orchestra, which is always a crowd pleaser for these events. As always, the real VIPs for the banquet were the Iwo Jima Veterans who were in constant demand for autographs and pictures.



The 2019 Reunion and Symposium was an overwhelming success thanks to the efforts and support of the National Museum of the Marine Corps; Marine Barracks, 8th and I; Marine Band and Color Guard; Radio King Orchestra; our police escort; the hotel staff; corporate sponsors; and all the wonderful volunteers who devoted countless hours supporting this event. Thank You!



John Lauriello

**BLACK SANDS** 

# Photos from the 2019 Reunion and Symposium





Mahlon Fink, Gen. Bowers



(L/R) Joe Rodgers, Lt Gen Brian Beaudreault, Bud Hampton



Featured Veterans: Joe Rodgers, John Sufedes, Bud Hampton, Ivan Hammond

# **Board of Directors Minutes**

## Call to Order

The Iwo Jima Association of America Board of Directors meeting was called to order at1600 on 14 February, 2019 by Chairman of the Board **LtGen Norman Smith**, USMC (Ret).

## Roll Call

**LtCol Art Sifuentes** called the roll and determined a quorum was present.

## Approval of 14 February 2018 Board Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the 19 October, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting.

## **Opening Remarks**

**LtGen Smith** opened the meeting with a welcome to all, including laudatory remarks on **Shayne Jarosz'** recent Outreach Presentation at Randolph-Macon College, and the introduction of the new IJAA President and CEO, MajGen David Bice, USMC (Ret).

MajGen Bice noted the importance of payback to the Marine Corps and his involvement with volunteer activities. He went on to state his expectations for the Board Members in providing governance and funding. Additionally, he mentioned the criticality of getting the word out to our IJAA membership and the issue of soliciting funds from sources other than "fishing in the same pond" consistently. He explained that we should seek support from beyond the IJAA membership, educate the public and seek grants. He stated the need to get our financial house in order. To that end, David Scott commented on the challenges ahead given IJAA's organizational structure. David Scott, General Bice and Art Sifuentes will address the issues associated with the consideration of grants.

At this point, non-Board members were excused for an executive session pertaining to board personnel matter.

See Board of Directors Minutes, Page 6

#### **Board of Directors Minutes**, from page 5

# 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration Gala.

Gene Colabatistto and Andrew Jazwick are the principal leaders for the upcoming fundraising Gala to be held in 2020. Gene, as Chairman of the Development Committee, along with **David Fields**, discussed the fundraising concept and plan, bringing industry aboard. This dovetails with Andy's Gala plan concept which he briefed to the Board. All agreed the purpose of the Gala is to honor the veterans, raise funds, provide an awareness of IJAA and execute a plan to make IJAA financially healthy over a period of years. Andy estimates the funds raised could exceed costs by 50%.

All agreed it is imperative a fire-wall be maintained between IJAA general income of dues and donations and the funds earmarked strictly for the gala. Accordingly, David Fields is engaged in setting up a separate account for the Gala funds at Wells-Fargo

For Gala planning, points under consideration are the establishment of a date that coincides historically with the battle for Iwo Jima, and yet, for fundraising purposes, provides for the allimportant attendance of key political figures such as the leadership from the House and Senate Defense sub-committees. Additionally, potential locations were discussed, along with funding and administrative issues.

**Col Warren Wiedhahn** re-iterated there would be two 2020 separate 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events: The Gala/Symposium and the Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor in March.

Andy Jazwick will provide a detailed plan to IJAA which will include a review, monthly report with established milestones and "go/no go" dates for execution and completion.

## Treasurer's Report

**David Scott** submitted the Treasurer's Report advising the report submitted covered the last six months of the calendar year. The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented. Incorporation of Quick Books now provides a

better control of information regarding income and expenses which Art Sifuentes will track monthly.

A 2018 Short Form 990-EZ is available upon request.

The Contract between IJAA and MHT was renewed for the coming year with no changes. **Budget**—Art Sifuentes, David Scott and General Bice will develop a working budget for IJAA.

#### <u>Membership</u>

**Art Sifuentes** provided a general report and advised the IJAA membership is approximately 1800. As indicated at the last Board meeting, this is a soft number given some members, such as those coming from the World War II Museum, Valor and other organizations are required to join as an FAA requirement to board the chartered aircraft to Iwo Jima. Most do not renew. A concept for IJAA membership cards was presented. More discussion to be pursued on implementation. One item still to be addressed was the desire to have membership dues increased. It was determined that this could be addressed electronically with the Board.

## **Fundraising**

2018 Golf- Three golf outings netted \$17,500 2018 Marine Corps Marathon netted \$5,049

## 2019 Iwo Jima Trip

All is on track for this year's Guam/Iwo Jima tour. We are sold out and can expect the same for the 2020.

## **Outreach Program**

**Shayne Jarosz** reported the Randolph Macon College presentation was highly successful with outside organizations attending, resulting in this presentation becoming a community event. A film of the presentation will be put on the Website and other social media.

## Symposium Update

Shayne Jarosz also reported the 2019 Symposium attendance was down from last year. No explanation as why.

See Board of Directors Minutes, Page 7

		Board of Advisors
Board of Directors Minutes,	From Page 6	Col Dick Camp
IJAA Board Realignment		Col Bill Davis
David Fields, Nominating	Committee Chair, pre-	Scott "Bull" Durham
sented and moved for a re	-alignment of Board	Dan King
members to reduce the nu	mber of the Board of	Doug Meny
Directors in order to reduc	e the cost for Directors	Noreen O'Leary
and Officers liability insura	nce. Accordingly, the	James Oelke
Board of Directors voted to	o reduce to number of	Col Steve Snowden
board members to nine (9)	). Next, the Iwo Jima	Anne Swenson
Veterans, who were previo	ously board members,	
were appointed to the posi	ition of Honorary Chair-	IJAA Directors and Officers Insurance
men. Correspondingly, the		LtCol Art Sifuentes stated the Directors and Offic-
ability to vote with the Boa	rd of Directors.	ers insurance is now in effect.
Some previous Board mer	nbers were moved to	
the Advisory Board positio		Committee Reports
Officers		Covernon committee
	Norman Smith, USMC	Governance Committee
	n David Bice, USMC	Mrs. Bonnie Haynes suggested Board meetings
Senior Vice President: Mr		meet semi- annually. To do this would take ad- vantage of addressing issues electronically.
Board of Directo	•	Mrs. Hayne distributed copies of the Original
LtGen Norman Sr	nith	Conflict of Interest Document signed by General
MajGen David Bio	e	Haynes. All present acknowledged and signed
Mrs. Bonnie Hayn		the document.
Mr. Gene Colabat	istto	
Mr. David Fields		Development Committee
Mr. Kevin Jarvis		Gene Colabatistto reported on the establish-
Mr. Christopher Jo	ohnson	ment of the IJAA Development Committee com-
Mrs. Laura Leppe	rt	prised of LtCol Raul Sifuentes, David Fields and
Mr. David Scott		Shayne Jarosz. A Development Program Strate-
Appointments		gy has been drafted and a "Signature Event" con-
Committee Chairpersons	6	cept has been developed. The committee will
Governance Committee	Mrs. Bonnie Haynes	adopt a Plank Holders' program for the corporate
Development Committee	Mr. Gene Colabatistto	support that is anticipated from the industry lead-
Compensation Committee	Mr. Doug Meny	ers.
Nominating Committee	Mr. David Fields	
Treasurer	Mr. David Scott	Compensation Committee
Honorary Chairm		<b>Doug Meny</b> was unable to attend, but forwarded
Mr. Arnold Shapiro	Gene Bell	the initial results of his research.
John Butler	Ivan Hammond	
Ira Rigger		Adjournment. General Smith adjourned the
Col Dave Severance, USM	1C	meeting at 7:30PM.
Col Bill Rockey USMC		
CWO J. "Woody" Williams	, USMC, MOH	

## **My Story**

By John Phillip Lauriello

I was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1923. I grew up in Philadelphia as well. During those years, everybody was absolutely broke and there was no money. My father would take naps on the sofa in the afternoon and sometimes change would fall out of his pocket. We would search the sofa and chairs or loose change the we could use. Sometimes we would find a quarter, which was a fortune. When I went to high school, I had to walk maybe about four or five miles and the soles on my shoes were worn out. When I walked to school, I had to walk a certain way in order for the flaps to stay up. Back then, though things like a newspaper were two cents and a stamp cost a penny, a loaf of bread cost a nickel. In other words, things were very cheap.

When I graduated from high school, I was on the verge of being drafted. I was working at the time so I could have some money in my pocket. I would earn a couple of bucks a day, which was good money then. When World War II had been declared, there was this patriotic feeling in the air. You had two choices back then, either join or be drafted. I was home reading my newspaper and that's when I decided to quit my job. I got one step ahead and enlisted in December 1942. After I joined, the response for the Marine Corps was so great that they would call you once a month and tell you to report for induction. The only ones they were taking were guys who lived near the enlistment office, which is where we would enlist from. I was told to wait for a month.

I chose the Marine Corps since it was a strong outfit, a neat outfit, and efficient. When you are in

When you are in the Marines, you are the best!

the Marines, you are the best. The Marine Corps had the best uniforms, and the training was great. When you are a part of the Marines, there is a certain bond you all share, if I run into a former Marine, me and him can just start talking like nothing's wrong. I went to boot camp in South Carolina for three months from January to March of 1943.

I was sent to New River, North Carolina and was put into a radio operators' course. I studied that for three months. I was taken out of that and sent to Omaha, Nebraska, where they taught me about receivers and transmitters on radios. I entered my combat area as a repairman. That was good at your home base. I repaired all the equipment for my regiment. When we got into combat, it took me an hour to realize my job was useless, because if the transceiver was hit, it was useless. I went from repairman to infantryman.

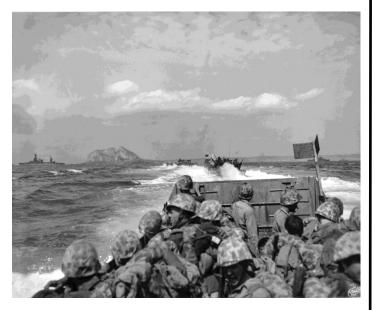
At the end of the war, we had six divisions in the Marine Corps. We started out with a few at first. After a few months, it would be up to 6 divisions. At the last two battles in the Pacific, we had the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Divisions (on Iwo Jima) and the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Divisions on Okinawa. On Iwo Jima, I was a part of the 27<sup>th</sup> Marine Infantry Regiment, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Division, which was the initial assault division.



#### My Story, from Page 8

We shipped out in 1943 from Camp Pendleton, CA, which is about 30 miles north of San Diego. We shipped out on a converted cargo ship, that took us to Hawaii to a camp near an active volcano. We were up so high that we would have to stop and sit down, since a cloud would come by and make it foggy. We were at about thirteen thousand feet. I didn't give it any thought that we were shipping out. It was a first-time adventure and it was the first time I had been on a troop ship overseas. It was all things to be learned over time.

We were sent to Iwo Jima on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1944. That was New Year's Eve. They loaded us aboard another converted cargo ship named the Rutland. That would be our home for the next 50 days. When we got to Iwo Jima, we were 10 miles off shore. We had to climb into a landing craft vehicle personnel with our equipment. They took these L.C.V.'s and idled them at a slow speed. In those L.C.V.'s, there were about 35 Marines. They circled the L.C.V.'s, and the smell of the diesel fumes made the guys sick. Eventually, we got to the beach.



When our shoes hit the sand, we still had to throw up from the landing craft diesel fumes and the smell of the bodies. Also, now there was the smell of gunpowder. That was asking a lot of kids. I was 21 when we landed and we had 17-year old's with us. Being 21, I was considered and old man to the rest of them. The Japanese were firing at us with 30 caliber machine guns; they were also firing proximity artillery shells that would spray shrapnel all over you. We had shrapnel, artillery all around us. It was hell on earth.

We got to Iwo Jima on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February and the



flag went up on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. I remember seeing the flag go up on Iwo Jima. The conditions on Iwo Jima were rough. It was a beat-up island because the bombers had been causing damage before we arrived. Our bomber didn't do too much damage to the Japanese, since they had been dug in almost 40 feet underground. Reports stated that the Japanese were on the island; they were the island itself! We tried to dig foxholes, but the sand was so soft that more sand would go right back in. There were 18-foot-high piles of black sand that was like climbing a pile of loose stuff. If you tried to walk in it, your feet would go backwards, not forwards. There were machine guns set up by the enemy in all high places. There was death from the sky and you never knew if it would hit you.

#### My Story, from Page 9

Me and my buddy were turned into infantrymen. We both originally had the job as electronic technician, but that changed when we reached the front lines. After Iwo Jima, we were sent back to Hawaii. We were training to invade Japan.

We were on our ship when the atomic bomb was dropped in Japan. I was very happy about the bomb, because that meant Americans had cleared a path for us. We arrived on Kirshi at a Japanese naval training center. I was there for about four months, but eventually I had enough points to be discharged. I was taken on a ship to San Diego and was discharged in January, 1946. I was thankful, since I did not know if I would make it out of the war. If we had invaded Japan, the whole Marine Corps would have been wiped out. I left the military as the rank of corporal.

After the war, I went to work for the same company I had quit. They had left a spot for me; when I came home, I had 5 years seniority. Men were being laid off, but I got to stay. I stayed there 42 and ½ years. I made enough money to retire at the age of 60. I would like to add that I went into the Marines because I liked it. It made me a better man. I went through everything the Marine Corps threw at me. It was one of the best experiences of my life.



Do you have an Iwo Jima story to share? Send it to us: Publisher/ Editor, Black Sands P.O. Box 680 Quantico, VA 22134 Email: Editor@IwoJimaAssociation.org

# Hiawassee, GA Memorial Ceremony



(L/R) Joe Tedder, Jim McKerel, Glenn Perkms On Monday, 18 February, I was deeply honored to be invited as the Guest Speaker for the Hiawassee, Georgia memorial celebration of the 74<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battler of Iwo Jima.

Led by Iwo Jima veterans Clarence "Bud" Johnson, Joseph Tedder and Mack Drake, the Hiawassee Marine Corps League with Mr. Glenn Perkins, Charley Andrews and Walter Scott joined by representatives of all five military services, The American Legion Post #23, American Legion Auxiliary and Riders, Warrior Veterans' Outreach, VFW Post #7807, Hiawassee Mayor, first responders, local dignitaries and the entire community memorialized that famous battle in Marine Corps History.

It was an honor to be invited as the representative of the Iwo Jima Association of America. The warm and wonderful hospitality of this community and their strong support of our veterans is a template by which all communities should strive to achieve. The Hiawassee Community is the epitome of patriotism with a beautiful veterans' park, but even more so with a separate and beautiful Iwo Jima Memorial statue at the Towns County Recreation and Conference Center at Foster Park in nearby Young Harris, GA which was the venue for this patriotic and wellattended event.



#### **Clarence Johnson & Mack Drake**

#### Photos From Hiawassee, GA Ceremony

"Art" Sifuentes & Jim McKerel



Jim McKerel & Bud Johnson

# Photos From Reunion of Honor Ceremony on Iwo Jima 23 March, 2019 Full Story in Next Issue *Black Sands*



Iwo Jima Veteran Clemons & Gen. Bice

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Use the envelope enclosed in this *Black Sands* issue to mail your check or credit card information. Proceeds go to help funding Iwo Vet's return to Iwo Jima.

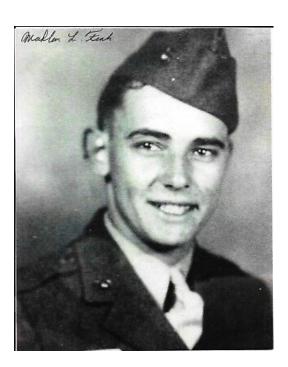
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# Taps

In Memorial to our Iwo Jima Veterans





# Mahlon L. Fink

December 1, 1925– February 27, 2019

At the age of 93, WWII Veteran, Mahlon Fink, has passed away.

Dropping out of high school his sophomore year, Fink joined the U.S. Marines once WWII started. He enlisted on his 18th birthday. During the battle of Iwo Jima Fink sustained injuries and received the Purple Heart.

After the war Fink worked as a self employed painter and decorator until he retired. Fink was an active member of the Marine Corps League and a lifetime member of the Russel M. Butterweck Detachment where he served as Chaplin.

Fifty years after joining the Marine Corps, he received an honorary High School diploma from his original school, Reading High School. During the last 20 years, he gave WWII historical speeches.

He survives by his son , Jeffrey L. husband of Kathleen. He had four grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren .

# Taps

In Memorial to our Iwo Jima Veterans

# <image>

# **Dale John Cook**

April 2, 1926– February 28, 2019

Dale Cook died of natural causes at him home in Brentwood, California. He was 92 years of age and one of the last survivors of the battle of Iwo Jima.

Cook was only 18 years old when he handed on Iwo Jima, February 1945. His fellow Marines and he was tasked to capture the South Airfield. Within the next five weeks, they captured said airfield, but not without the casualties of every man in his squad except him. Cook himself was wounded in the back and leg by a grenade, shortly after being evacuated to a hospital ship.

After the war, Cook graduated from Washington State University. He had a forty year run as a newspaperman. Being active in his veterans community, he joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Cook led an annual commemoration of the battle for many years, first at the Golden Gate National Cemetery, and then at the Marines Memorial Club in San Francisco.

With the assistance of the IJAA, he returned to Iwo Jima three times, for reunions.

He is survived by brother, Ken Cook; sisters, Ruthie Simons, Jewell Wooldridge, Kay Vancleave, and Kathy Cook. Daughters Debra Kobold and Marie Wynn, sons Dale Jr. and Jim. Seven grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and numerous others whom he welcomed into his family.

His honor and dedication to this country will not be forgotten .

Simper Fidelis

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Dear:

The Iwo Jima Association of America quarterly newsletter, *BLACK SANDS*, reaches a worldwide audience of active duty, retired, and veteran Marines, Sailors, Airmen, Soldiers, and families. The readers often enjoy travel, leisure. outdoor, and hometown activities along with brand loyalty. Please consider advertising in the *BLACK SANDS*. A contract agreement is attached for your convenience. Thank you.

# The IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (IJAA)

# MARINE CORPS MARATHON FUNDRAISER

# COME JOIN US AS WE COMMEMORATE THE 74TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF IWO JIMA AND PREPARE FOR THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY NEXT YEAR!!

COME RUN THE MONUMENTS WITH US IN BEAUTIFUL WASHINGTON, DC ON 27 OCTOBER, 2019!! NO LOTTERY REQUIRED! HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR VETERANS FOR OUR IWO JIMA 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

10K OR FULL 26.2 MILE MARATHON BIBS AVAILABLE. PAY YOUR REGISTRATION FEE AND HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR IWO JIMA VETERANS!!

CONTACT NOREEN O'LEARY AT (973) 476-3146 OR EMAIL: NOREENANNKORSAK@GMAIL.COM

The Iwo Jima Association of America is a 501 (C) 3 non-profit charity



www.iwojimaassociation.org

## SAVE THESE 2020 DATES & JOIN US!

25-29 Feb 2020 75th Anniversary Reunion Hyatt Regency Arlington, VA



23-29 Mar 2020

75th Iwo Jima Anniversary Symposium & Reunion of Honor Guam-Iwo Jima

# **IWO JIMA 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS**



25-29 Feb '20 Reunion & Symposium Arlington, VA

23-29 Mar '20 Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor &

Symposium—Guam

For details: <u>www.iwojimaassociation.org</u> rsifuentes@iwojimaassociation.org



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To enter this fund-raiser, complete the enclosed form and send in your tickets. Winners will be drawn at the Reunion of Honor Banquet on Guam. You need not be present to win. Deadline for ticket donations 19 Mar 2020.

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# UPCOMING TOURS

JUL 4 - 14 Russia WWII Eastern Front Kursk, Moscow & Stalingrad

JUL 18 - 25 75th Liberation of Guam Post Tour: Saipan & Tinian

AUG 3-12 Guadalcanal "Turning the Tide" Pre-Tour: "Bloody" Tarawa

AUG 4 - 12 Morocco-WWII Operation Torch Patton enters WWI & French Foreign Legion

AUG 11-20 75th Anniversary of 2nd D-Day: **Op Dragoon South of France** 

AUG 28 - SEP 9 VN 50th Anniversary of **Operations in I-Corps 1969** 

SEP 7 - 15 **Evolution of the Western Front** World War I Battlefields & Weapons

SEP 10 - 22 VN 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Operations

#### in I-Corps 1969

SEP 12 - 19 75th Anniversary of Peleliu Landing

SEP 17 - OCT 1 Ireland-LtGen Bill Maloney, USMC **Emerald Isle Memorial Tour** U.S. WWII Military Sites

OCT 3-13 Imperial China-Three Jewels Beijing - Xian - Shanghai

OCT 13-25 **Rise and Fall of the Third Reich** Munich - Nuremberg - Berlin

NOV 2-13 WWI Armistice Day France **U.S. Battlefields** 

DEC 3-9 77th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor WWII Sites & Waikiki Hotel

NOV 30 - DEC 11 **Vietnan Holiday Tour** 

