

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1

SPRING 2024

THE BLACK SANDS



80TH

ANNIVERSARY

— OF THE —

BATTLE FOR IWO JIMA

1945 - 2025

THE PUBLICATION OF THE IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

WWW.IWOJIMAASSOCIATION.ORG



THE ISLAND OF IWO JIMA

THE IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (IJAA) *Mission Statement*

The Iwo Jima Association of America (IJAA) is dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history of the battle for Iwo Jima and other Pacific Islands. IJAA sponsors two educational and historical symposiums, in the Washington, DC locale and on the island of Guam. The symposium on Guam includes the “Reunion of Honor” memorial service on Iwo Jima (now called Iwo To), jointly held with the Iwo Jima Association of Japan (IJAA). The primary purpose of these symposia’s is to honor those veterans on both sides who sacrificed so much, and to educate the young generations on the history of the battle for Iwo Jima and the Pacific

BLACK SANDS PUBLICATION

IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 1
Spring 2024

INDEX

	<u>Page</u>
The Island of Iwo Jima	Inside front cover
Index	3
IJAA Staff	4
Message - IJAA Board Chairman	5
Message - IJAA Executive Director	6-7
Serialization—By the Dawn’s Early Light	8-10
Scholarship Award	11
Reunion Registration Form	12
IJAA Membership Application	13
Donors	14
We Want Your Story	15
New Members	16
Final Call	17
IJAA Merchandise	18-21

Formation of IJAA

MajGen Fred Haynes, USMC and other veterans of the Iwo Jima battle formed the Combat Veterans of Iwo Jima Association to honor and commemorate the legacy of the Americans who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima. The association reorganized into the Iwo Jima Association of America to include family members and associate members with additional focus on educating the public about the battle. IJAA partnered with the Iwo To (Jima) Association of Japan and the Government of Japan to foster reconciliation and to honor the sacrifices of all who participated in the battle and to pay tribute to the bereaved families of both nations. IJAA participates in the annual Joint US-Japan Reunion of Honor on Iwo Jima each year.



I

J

A

A

BLACK SANDS STAFF

CHAIRMAN

LtGen Norman Smith, USMC (Ret)

PRESIDENT/CEO

MajGen David Bice, USMC (Ret)

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Bonnie Haynes

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LtCol Raul "Art" Sifuentes, USMC (Ret)

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David Babel

GENERAL COUNSEL

MajGen John Ewers, USMC (Ret)

TREASURER

David Scott

SECRETARY

Linda Griffin

HISTORIANS

Dr. Charles R. Neimeyer, Ph.D.

James Oelke-Farley

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Maj Fred Lash, USMC (Ret)

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Shayne Jarosz

EDITOR -*BLACK SANDS*

Laura O'Hara

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Jessamyn Harter

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ray Etter

Kevin Jarvis

Christopher Johnson

Laura Leppert

David Scott

HONORARY CHAIRMEN

Ivan Hammond

Col Bill Rockey, USMC (Ret)

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Craig Bennett

John Butler

Gene Colabattisto

Alfredo Cooke

Bill Davis

Ray Elliott

David Fields

Dan King

Mary Jo Lampe

Annette Loper

Doug Meny

ADVISOR

CWO-4 Jim Casey, USMC (Ret)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings. I hope everyone will find this digital edition of *Black Sands* acceptable. I know many, including myself, prefer a hard copy publication. But increased printing and mailing costs force us to make painful choices in preserving and spending the funds we receive in the form of donations from everyone. Special thanks go to our Black Sands Editor, Laura O'Hara, for her fantastic work in assembling and publishing these editions.

Our 79th anniversary reunion-symposium was an overwhelming success. As you will see elsewhere in this edition, we had four World War II veterans in attendance, including three who were veterans of the Battle of Iwo Jima. We were all amazed with the vigor and enthusiasm on display by these wonderful gentlemen. We hope to see them and others at our 80th anniversary reunion-symposium, February 20-23, 2025. The Hilton Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia provides a wonderful venue and setup for our gatherings, and we will continue with the hotel in 2025. The symposium was particularly informative as we heard from Col Masaka Satoshi, Japanese Military Attaché on Japanese preparations on the island prior to the Battle of Iwo Jima. Additionally, Col Yuka Nakazato, Japanese Air & Space Attaché, updated us on current activities by the Japanese Self Defense Forces on Iwo Jima today. I thank all the volunteers and support staff who made the reunion-symposium such a success.

As you heard, because of uncertainty over volcanic activities around the island, we cancelled the planned trip for US citizens to attend the US-Japan Joint Reunion of Honor (ROH) ceremonies on Iwo Jima this past March. Nonetheless, VP Mrs. Bonnie Haynes, Exec Director LtCol Raul (Art) Sifuentes and I were able to fly into Iwo Jima from Tokyo with the Japanese delegation on March 30 for the ROH ceremony. What made the trip so memorable was the opportunity to meet with the bereaved families of Japanese soldiers lost in the battle. I will forever remember the warmth and great feelings expressed on meeting with them. As always, the ceremony was a solemn reminder of the sacrifices made on both sides in that bloody battle. The III Marine Expeditionary Force units from Okinawa, Japan provide excellent support to the ceremony. Following the ceremony, Mrs. Haynes, LtCol Sifuentes, and I were invited to meet with Japanese Prime Minister Fumino Kishida in Tokyo, where he expressed his profound appreciation of IJAA in helping to bring about reconciliation and assisting in building a strong US-Japan partnership. He asked that IJAA and our counterpart, the Iwo To Association of Japan, continue to support the annual ROH. We were all thrilled to have met the Prime Minister, particularly as he was about to begin his State visit to the US in a couple of weeks.

I hope you will all mark it on your calendars to attend the 80th anniversary reunion-symposium February 20-23, 2025.

With warmest best wishes.



David F. Bice,
MajGen USMC (Ret)



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Left to Right, IJAA President, MajGen David Bice, USMC (Ret), Representative Yoshitaka Shindo and representative of Japanese Bereaved Family Members and Grandson of Iwo Jima Commander, Gen Tadamichi Kuribayashi; Mrs. Bonnie Haynes, widow of MajGen Fred Haynes, Iwo Jima veteran and founder of the Iwo Jima Association of America; LtCol Raul Sifuentes, USMC (Ret), Exec. Dir, IJAA; and unidentified Japanese bereaved family member and member of ITAA.

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Iwo To Association of Japan graciously hosted the Iwo Jima Association of America (IJAA) President/CEO MajGen David Bice, USMC (Ret), Director Bonnie Haynes and the undersigned to the 2024 Joint Reunion of Honor (ROH) on Iwo Jima (Iwo To) on 30 March, 2024.

The first-class hosting, hospitality and attentiveness received by the Japanese MOFA, Iwo To Association of Japan and Japanese bereaved families cannot be overstated. What was most absolutely mind-numbing was the wonderful, warm reception and attention received from the Iwo To Association and bereaved families at the airport prior to departing for Iwo Jima on 30 March. Prior to departing IJAA handed out the US/Japanese Reconciliation lapel Pins at the gate where we met them. The response was as if we were “Rock Stars”. The grace, enthusiasm, hospitality, desire to have pictures taken with us was heartwarming. It was an unexpected, delightful and indeed, an overwhelming experience from these bereaved family members of all ages. Enroute to Iwo To, the socialization continued with the MOFA representatives coming to our seats to chat and shake hands.

Upon landing, we were met by LtGen Robert B. Turner, Commanding General III Marine Expeditionary Force (IIIMEF) and his Marines where we were transported to the Joint Reunion of Honor (ROH) site. In attendance were the aforementioned Iwo To Association and MOFA representative, including Mr. Yoshitaka Shindo, Minister of State for Economic and Fiscal Policy. Additionally, Japan was further represented by many senior level military officers and political dignitaries. US representation included Mr. Raymond Green, US Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission and the III MEF Marines. Joint US/Japanese Color Guards provided the Colors Ceremony, and a US/Japanese Band provided the martial music for the Joint Reunion of Honor.

Welcoming remarks were presented by US, Japanese, Iwo To and IJAA representative followed by the traditional reverent Memorial Wreath-Laying ceremony by US and Japanese government, military and Iwo Jima representatives.

Following the ceremony and post-ceremony courtesies, a group photograph was taken and the Japanese contingent departed for a private ceremony on another part of the island, while the US contingent departed for Mt. Suribachi. The III MEF took advantage of being on this iconic site by presenting awards and conducting

TOKYO REPORT, 10 APRIL 2024

a promotion to a deserving Marine.

Following our return to Tokyo, and on 1 April, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida hosted IJAA for a brief meeting at his residence and emphasized the importance of the Joint Reunion of Honor as an alliance-binding event between our two countries and the criticality of continued collaboration. He highlighted the alliance-binding reconciliation between the United States and Japan the strong bond between our democracies as we stand against the foes of freedom. Attendance in this notable event were high-level members of the Japanese House of Representatives and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Following the meeting with Prime Minister Kishida, members of the Diet and House of Representatives, led by Minister Yoshitaka Shindo, along with the President and Executive Director of the Iwo To Association of Japan, we were hosted to a traditional Japanese dinner providing for the opportunity to further strengthen the bond between the US and Japan in general, and specifically, between IJAA, MOFA and the Iwo To Association. All agreed the critical necessity of continuing the traditional end-of-March Joint Reunion of Honor on Iwo Jima and all are looking forward to 2025.

Respectfully, submitted.

Raul Sifuentes

Raul Sifuentes
LtCol, USMC (Ret)
Executive Director



LtCol Raul Sifuentes, USMC (Ret), second from left, with Iwo To Association of Japan Iwo Jima Bereaved Family Members at Haneda Airport prior to departure for Iwo Jima 30 March, 2024



A traditional Japanese water memorial ceremony on Iwo Jima



Does your local Lions, VFW, educational, school, church, social, veterans, library, community club, organization or association need an event?

Most organizations do, as events provide the rationale to bring members together to socialize, increase membership, maintain interest, and learn. Let the Iwo Jima Association of America (IJAA) serve you.

To that end, IJAA would be pleased to present **“Let Us Never Forget...”** to your group.

The **Iwo Jima Association of America** is chartered to maintain and perpetuate the legacy of our Iwo Jima and WW II Pacific veterans and ensure their sacrifices will never be forgotten. One way of fulfilling that charter is through an educational outreach program on the Pacific War, beginning with pre-WW II Japanese aggression, to the hard fought battles for the Pacific Island to the final battle for Okinawa, with heavy emphasis on the iconic Battle for Iwo Jima.

We would be honored to provide this presentation at **no cost** to your organization. It helps fulfill our charter and to help ensure America **never forgets** the price of the freedoms we enjoy, and take for granted, as Americans. For further information contact:

LtCol Raul Sifuentes, USMC (Ret)

Executive Director

Iwo Jima Association of America

rsifuentes@iwojimaassociation.org or Call/text 703 963 6895

The following is a continuation of "By the Dawn's Early Light" by William W. Byrd. Part I can be found in the Fall 2023 issue of The Black Sands.

2 GOING TO WAR

Bootcamp

The bus that brought us to boot camp in San Diego was filled with wide eyed, scared kids. We were greeted by a burly Sergeant by the name of Lou Diamond. As he had so many times before, he gave us wide-eyed kids a talk on what to expect in the next six weeks.

Our barracks was on the side of the famed parade grounds. On the other side were some ranch style homes common in the California hills. Seeing these homes made me feel like I was in prison knowing people were living in them enjoying freedom. It made me feel very homesick and I thought often of going AWOL (absent without leave).

We learned to sew, iron, and tie a tie. Tying a tie was the hardest for me because I had never done that before. Being clean at all times was very important. We had to be clean shaven. We had to polish our dress shoes. Our bunks had to be made just right. Our foot lockers were inspected. We had to clean our rifles every day. We had to take them apart piece by piece. Top to bottom everything and everyone had to be up to code. The obstacle course was very demanding. We had to crawl under wire with bullets popping above our heads. I did very well on the rifle range, qualifying as a marksman. On the last day of boot camp I received my Pfc stripe, and for the first time our drill instructors were civil to us.

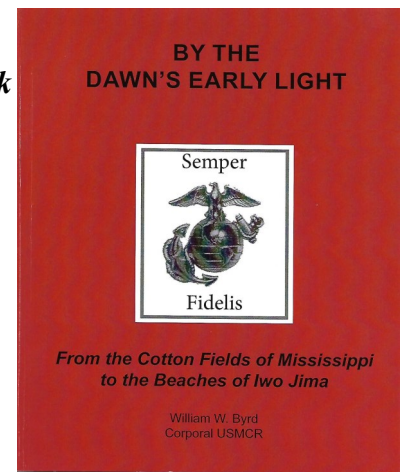
The Raiders

Later, I was asked to join the Raider Battalion that was located a few miles north. I don't know why I said yes, but I did and they sent me there right away. I enjoyed being in the battalion. It was a happy-go-lucky group and there were fewer inspections. Times were better but they weren't great. My first guard duty was near a beach one night, and the only sounds I heard for hours was the lonesome sound of the waves of the Pacific Ocean. I made instructor in the "crawling on your stomach class," everyone was amazed at how good I was at that. Lieutenant Edwin Armstrong took us on long hikes over hills and rough terrain. Most of the hikes were 20 miles or more and he, at 6'4", had a very long stride. At the end of the hikes we had to run the last hundred yards yelling "Gung Ho!"

The Raiders were disbanded a few months after I entered camp. We were ordered to begin training at one of three tent camps. There was no hot water and a lot of our meals were eaten in the field. We trained very hard and we had lots of short order drills. I became friends with a Sergeant from Missouri by the name of Harold Schrier. He would later become the man to lead thirty men from his platoon up Mount Suribachi with the now famous flag.

Every other weekend we would finally get a break and get liberty which was a seventy-two hour pass to go anywhere we wanted to. Most of the guys would go to Los Angeles; but I went to Laguna Beach a lot. A couple of times I went to Hollywood to see the lots where movies were being made. Some of the actors joined the Marine Corps to be near home. Glenn Ford, Tyrone Power, and Robert Ryan were just a few that joined.

My weekends were very tame compared to most. One time I did go to a Burlesque show, but during the show a man made a pass at me so when he got up to go to the rest room I moved to the back of the theater. There was also the time that another Marine and I followed two girls down the street until they agreed to go to the movies with us. When we got to the ticket counter though, I realized I had already spent all of my money and the girls had to pay my way in. I was so embarrassed as soon as we got inside, I pretended I needed to go to the rest room and I left. One time I tried to go to the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena. I had to change buses so

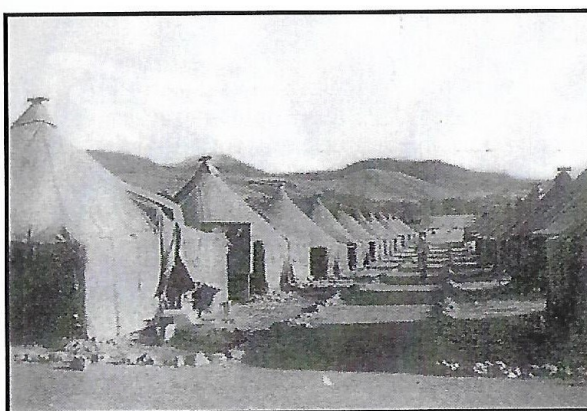


many times I gave up and went back to LA and went to a U.S.O. dance.

Overseas Duty

After several months of training we shipped out to Camp Tarawa in Hawaii. It didn't look much like Hawaii. It had cactus, dust, and mountains, so it looked more like Texas to me. The citizens there looked up to us. They were very friendly no matter what branch of service we were in.

We were there for a few months and we learned many types of warfare. We threw hand grenades, shot many types of weapons and we learned hand to hand combat. I bonded with guys from many different states; we truly became like brothers. One day, we got the word that we were leaving. The older guys knew what that meant because they had been there before. In a few days, we were all called to the sick bay and each Marine received a series of seven shots. The very next day we were told to pack up everything that we owned. All Regiments of the Fifth Division, the 26th, 27th and 28th went aboard troopships and sailed to an isolated island where we would practice landing on the beach. We had to climb into small boats and get used to being at sea. I got sea sick right away. I wouldn't wish that on anybody.



A "Street" in Camp Tarawa.

This photo shows the pyramid tents common in all military camps during WWII. The Second Marine Division built the camp when they returned from the Tarawa Operation in late 1943. The Fifth Division trained there from October 1944 until we left for Iwo, in January 1945. From Iwo we returned to Camp Tarawa and trained there for the invasion of Japan until the war was over. Official Marine Corps Photograph.

The day after we got back from sea, we heard we were headed for Honolulu. We were glad to hear that we would get liberty (72-hour leave). While on leave, I hitchhiked to a theater showing a Hedy Lamarr movie called Ecstasy. Afterward I made a phonograph record for twenty-five cents. I believe I sang "Walking the Floor Over You." How ironic that after the war was over I would have my own radio show.

Voyage to Combat

After our shore leave was over, we boarded a large troop ship and headed for an unknown destination. On the second day at sea, I remember looking out across the Pacific Ocean, remembering the last words I had spoken to my dad. As I got on the train in Jackson, MS, he said: Take care of yourself, son. His own dad had said the same thing to him as he prepared to go to France to fight the Germans. While in the trenches he had been gassed which no doubt had caused him to contract tuberculosis, which he would succumb to in 1950. I watched as the sun set on the vast Pacific Ocean. I can still remember how beautiful that sunset was.

I don't remember exactly what time it was, but sometime during the day, the loud speaker rang out and called my company below deck to the conference room. I had heard the other companies in the second battalion called but I hadn't really paid it any attention. The guys huddled around a big conference table and as I got closer I saw a lifelike model of an island. I remember thinking that it looked a lot like a pork chop. You could see and feel the rough terrain and at the bottom there was a mountain. Iwo Jima is four and one half miles

long and about two and one half wide at its widest point.



Troop Quarters aboard an Attack Transport on the way to Iwo Jima.
Official Marine Corps Photograph

If the ten or more young Marines in the photo were infantrymen, at least half probably were casualties on Iwo, perhaps all of them. Several probably were killed: Official Marine Corps Photograph. Anyone who shipped out overseas remembers the troopships with GI's packed into bunks seven high, two meals a day, and salt water showers. Sea conditions were not too bad in the Central Pacific. They were hell in the North Atlantic or North Pacific

The room was very quiet and I looked around and saw the looks on my buddies' faces. Through all of the tension and concern you could still see the pride in their eyes. As we looked at the island one of the officers said what we were all thinking. *So that is what we have been training for.*

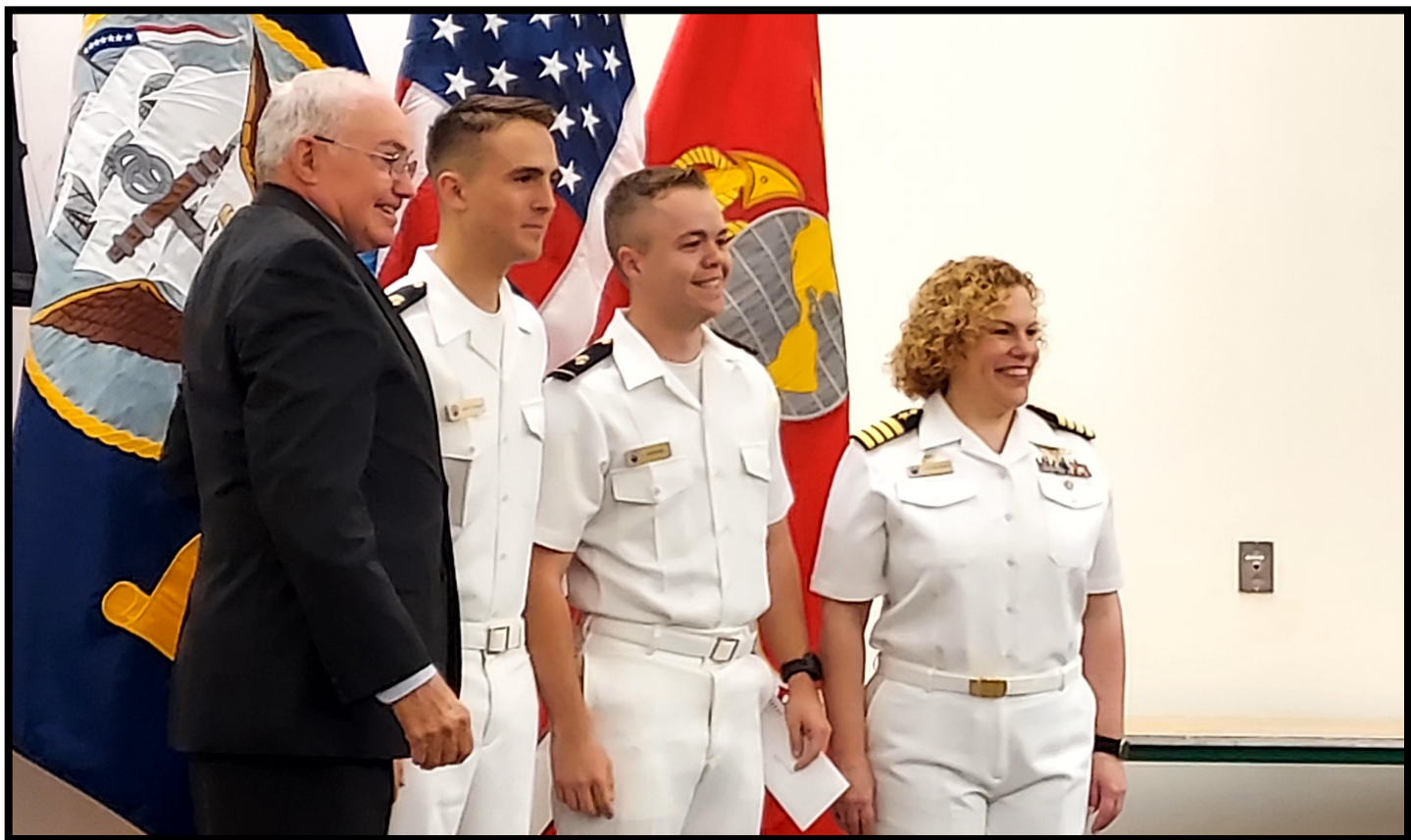
A day or two later the troop ship refueled at Saipan. I can remember how rough the sea was at the time. The last morning aboard our troopship a bunch of us decided we would shave. It probably would be the last chance we would have. When I was shaving y red-headed guitar player buddy from Colorado, John Critchfield, noticed I had my mouth contorted and he laughed and mocked me making a face about as ugly as mine. We were as close as brothers. It would have been nice if we were on our way to a friend's house to play music or to a ball game instead of to a war.

Some of the men were playing blackjack, their favorite card game. Sometimes they would play for some pretty high stakes. Some exercised on the deck and others were just shooting the bull or scuttle butting. Scuttlebutt is the Navy and Marine term for rumor. Sometimes scuttlebutt was dead on, sometimes it was wild imagination.

Most of us had already written home. Most of the letters would say, *I'm fine, don't worry about me.* Some would say, *I think of you every day, please pray for me.* A few would say, *I may not come back.*

The next day we were all put onto a smaller ship called an LST, or Landing Ship Tank. We were sprayed with disinfectants even though we had already gotten a series of seven shots. At some point during the night we climbed into Amtracs, amphibious craft that used treads to move through the water. I don't remember anyone sleeping that night.

The serialization of "By the Dawn's Early Light" will continue in the next issue of the Black Sands.



Pictured from left: MajGen David Bice, USMC (Ret), MIDN 4/C Truman Lazarus, USN, MIDN 2/C Weston Bush, USN and Commanding Officer, Capt Jean Marie Sullivan, USN.

IJAA President and CEO, MajGen David Bice presented two **MajGen Fred Haynes Scholarship Awards** to George Washington University (GWU) ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Midshipman 2/C Weston Bush from Phoenix, AZ and Midshipman 4/C Truman Lazarus, from San Diego, CA for \$5,000 each. Each Midshipman presented a prize-winning essay on the WWII Pacific Island Campaign. The awards were presented at the GWU Campus on Friday, 26 May. The Scholarships were made possible through donations from Mr. Ray Etter, CEO Terra Concepts, Mr. Gene Colabatistto, General Aerospace Corporation, CSSI and Sheetz Corporation.



IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM 2025

Listed below is the registration cost for the Reunion and Symposium. Please enter how many people will be participating and total the amount. Send that amount payable to IJAA in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at https://www.iwojimaassociation.org/?page_id=1535. A 3.5% convenience fee will apply for all credit card payments. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **February 3, 2025**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. Go to [The 80th Anniversary of Iwo Jima Reunion - Start your reservation \(passkey.com\)](https://www.passkey.com) to reserve your hotel room at a discount.

Iwo Jima Association of America
PO Box 680
Quantico, VA 22134



OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Date Received _____
 Inputted _____ New ☐ Revision/Addition ☐

CUT-OFF DATE IS 1/25/25

	Price Per	# of People	Total
Friday, 2/21: Bus Tours To National Museum of the Marine Corps & Memorial Service & Wreath Laying at the USMC Memorial and WWI Memorial	\$45		
MEALS			
SATURDAY: SYMPOSIUM LUNCH – 1 Entrée Buffet	\$40		\$
SATURDAY: BANQUET (Please select your entrée below) – Includes Valet Parking for the Evening and 1 Drink Ticket			
Herb Marinated Flat Iron Steak	\$95		\$
Seared Free Range Chicken Breast	\$95		\$
Vegetarian Entree	\$95		
Fish Entree	\$95		
Registration for Iwo Jima Veterans ONLY	FREE	#	\$
Registration for spouses, family, guests and supporters	\$15		\$
Donation			\$
Total Amount Payable to IJAA			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAME

Note: Correct names and addresses are very important because of the prominent position of some of our guests. You will be required to go through metal detectors at the Museum.

FIRST _____ LAST _____ EMAIL _____

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) _____

GUEST NAMES _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____ PH. NUMBER (____) _____ - _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? ☐ YES ☐ NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. NUMBER (____) _____ - _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES ☐ NO ☐ ARE YOU FLYING? ☐ DRIVING? ☐ RV? ☐

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays)**. Call 703 212-8128 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.

You may also register online and pay by credit card at https://www.iwojimaassociation.org/?page_id=1535



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby make application for membership in the Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc. If applying for full membership, I certify by my signature that I am either a veteran of the battle or a direct descendant of a veteran of the battle.

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership—Iwo Jima Veteran | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership—Legacy Member | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | |

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Unit served with on Iwo Jima & Dates _____

Method of Payment:

- ☐ Check
☐ Visa

- ☐ Master Card
☐ American Express
☐ Discovery

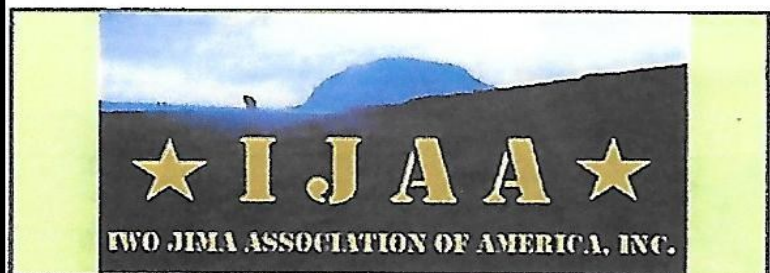
Credit Card # _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Security Code _____

All personal & contact information is maintained in strict confidence.



Iwo Jima Association of America, Inc
P.O. Box 680 Quantico, VA 22134
Phone: 703-212-8128 Fax: 703-590-1292
e-mail: Director@IwoJimaAssociation.org
website: www.IwoJimaAssociation.org
A 501(c) (3) veterans organization

Thank you **FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Phillip Amann
William Aydelotte
David Babel
Craig Bennet
Betty Morgan Benton
MajGen David Bice
Pamela and Timothy Burke
Garrett Calhoun
CCSIINI
Peter Clay
Gene Colabattisto
Howard Denton
Ray Etter
MajGen John Ewers
Jessamyn Harter
Martin Johnson

Lang Rogers Family Foundation
Annette Loper
Daniel McKinnon
Frances Molter-Deck
Estate of John Murphy, Jr.
M.A. Rauer
John Richards
Kim Rodriguez
David Scott
Robert H. Scott
Sheetz Corporation
Harry Smith
LtGen Norman Smith
Scott Stevinson
L.S. Taylor
Gilberte Vansintejan-Glaser
Patrick Zenishek

*In appreciation to all our donors, businesses and individuals, who make it possible for our
Iwo Jima and Pacific Veterans to attend.*

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF IJAA



***WE WANT YOU—
Veterans, and Families
IWO JIMA
AND
OTHER BATTLES IN
THE PACIFIC WAR***

***Can we feature your story?
Your story is one to be told and shared***

Where you grew up.

Family... growing up and now.

When did you enter the military—volunteered or drafted?

Boot camp (traveled by bus, train, car)? Your experience in boot camp.

Military schools. Awards/ribbons. Rank on discharge?

Where did you serve?

Memorable experiences—events that can never be forgotten....?

What did you do after service? Hobbies, etc.?

And what you would just like to share?

If you have difficulty writing your story, do your best or call and we will chat with you and write it for you...and Pictures are welcomed.

YOUR STORY IS IMPORTANT

***Black Sands Editor
IJAA
P.O. Box 680,
Quantico, VA 22134***

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Alyse Almond
Charles Andrews
Robert Austin
Jet Ballard
Stev Bellan
Corbie and Harold Boltz
Michael Bough
Richard Bourgault
Samantha Bresnahan
Mark Brickell
Pamela & Timothy Burke
Damien Burnett
Larry Burns
Anthony Capurso
Mark & Kathy Cassidy
Patricia Clop
John Conner
James Cordillo
Gary Crutchfield
Robert Dayton
Stephen Dayton
Eric Dean
Frank Deptola, Jr
Jeffrey Deptola
Edward Ellison
Nathaniel Espenes
Lori Fairchild
Thomas Fields
Lloyd Galbraith
David Gustafson

James Hamm
Francis Hannigan
Jordan Hargrave
Enrique Hernandez
Thomas Hoffman
Cathy & Clifford Hutton
Mary Jarvis
Jennifer Jasper
Marc Jasper
Mickey Jones
Kenna Joyce
Michael Kazel
Charles Leedy
Samuel Lewis, Jr
Dennis Mar
Jenny and Ralph Matlack
David Mattingly
Tom McDonough
Dirck McDowell
Joseph Messenio
Mark Metcalf
Craig Meyer
James Miller
Mark Minton
William Morris
Kevin Mulligan
Kevin & Liz Mumford
Randy Nederman
Gary Nordlinger
Thomas Novicki

Patrick Organ
Brett Pendleton
Robert Proctor
James Quinlan
Russel Raymond
Sara Raymond
Todd and Sherri Richardson
Louis Robert
Richard Robertson, Jr
Joe Robison
Pete Robison
Timothy Rogers
Jake Schaeffer
Lloyd Scott
Larry Sniff
Mike Steidle
Carlton Taylor
Michael Taylor
Virgina Taylor
Chris Theodossiou
Rodger Thompson
John Toler
Herbert Valle
Alan Voracek
Phillip Wasik
Whitney Wellbanks
John Whiten
Mike Willbanks
Dale Wilson
Parker Wilson



Roy Earle, Jr.

1924-2024

USMC

Iwo Jima

Norway, ME

Arthur Fazzone

1926 - 2023

USN

Iwo Jima

Schenectady, NY

James “Les” L. Gadbury

1923 - 2020

USMC

Iwo Jima

Monticello, IL

Thomas Kalus

1926 - 2023

USMC

Iwo Jima

Aiea, HI

Jim Kelly

1922-2024

USMC

Iwo Jima

Urbana, IL

Ira Rigger

1923– 2023

USN

Iwo Jima

Cockeysville, MD

Life Well Lived

A life well lived is a precious gift,
of hope and strength and grace,
from someone who has made our world
a brighter, better place.

It's filled with moments,
sweet and sad with smiles and sometimes tears,
with friendships formed and good times shared,
and laughter through the years.

A life well lived is a legacy,
of joy and pride and pleasure,
a living, lasting memory
our grateful heart's will treasure.

– Author Unknown





ORDER FORM

Please complete order form (if using check attach to order form payable to: IJAA.

**Mail to:
Iwo Jima Association of America,
P.O. Box 680
Quantico, VA 22134**

SUB TOTAL from page 20

\$ _____

\$15.00 For Shipping \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

CREDIT CARD -

Please complete in full if paying by credit card.

Print Name: _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____

State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Credit Card #: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____ **SC Code:** _____

Signature: _____ **Phone:** _____

IJAA is a Non Profit with IRS #80-025508., All proceeds go to funding Iwo and Pacific Vets return to Iwo Jima & to events..

MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>OPTIONS</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
75th ANNIVERSARY POLO SHIRT- Long Sleeves		
Men's Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL	Quantity: _____ Size _____	X \$50.00= _____
Women's Sizes: P/S/M/L/XL	Quantity: _____ Size _____	X \$50.00 = _____
Color: Grey		
IWO JIMA BLUE SHIRT		
Men's Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL	Quantity: _____ Size _____	X \$45.00 = _____
Women's Sizes: P/S/M/L/XL	Quantity: _____ Size _____	X \$45.00 = _____
IJAA POLO SHIRT		
Colors: White/Red/Green/Blue		
Men's Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL	Quantity: _____ Size _____ Color: _____	X \$45.00 = _____
Women's Sizes: P/S/M/L/XL	Quantity: _____ Size _____ Color: _____	X \$45.00 = _____
CHALLENGE COIN		
75th Anniversary Coin	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00 = _____
Iwo Jima Coin	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00 = _____
IWO JIMA BRACELET	Quantity: _____	X \$40.00 = _____
IJAA STICKER	Quantity: _____	X \$3.00= _____
IJAA PATCH	Quantity: _____	X \$5.00= _____
IJAA CAPS		
White/Blue/Green/Red/Gray/75 th	Quantity: _____ Color: _____	X \$15.00 = _____
IJAA PATRIOTIC FLASKS		
IJAA	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00= _____
US/JAPAN	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00= _____
USMC	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00= _____
US/USMC	Quantity: _____	X \$30.00= _____
POCKET WATCH		
WWII-IWO JIMA	Quantity: _____	X \$40.00= _____
Vietnam	Quantity: _____	X \$40.00= _____
PEWTER MEDALLION w/black sand	Quantity: _____	X \$45.00= _____
LAPEL PINS		
Iwo Jima	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00= _____
US/Japan	Quantity: _____	X \$10.00= _____
IWO JIMA KNIFE	Quantity: _____	X \$40.00= _____
MINI JARS w/black sand	Quantity: _____	X \$15.00= _____
STAMPS – 4 STAMPS	Quantity: _____	X \$25.00= _____
STAMPS – FULL SHEET	Quantity: _____	X \$100.00= _____
TOTAL		\$ _____

IWO JIMA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (IJAA) MERCHANDISE



Patriotic Flasks



Pewter Statue



Gold tone Lapel Pin



4 Stamps \$25

Full Sheet of 50 Stamps \$100



**IJAA Bracelet
With Black Sand**



Sticker



Patch



IJAA Polo Shirt
Men's/Women's
P/S/M/L/XL
White/Red/Green/Blue



IJAA Long Sleeved
Men's / Women's
S/M/L/XL/XXL
Blue



75th Anniversary Polo
Men's Sizes:
S/M/L/XL/XXL
Women's Sizes:
P/S/M/L/XL
Gray



Iwo Jima Pocket Watch



Vietnam Pocket Watch



Green/Gray/Red/White

Caps



Two Sided
Challenge Coin



Iwo Jima Knife