

Marine: Below are announcements of membership interest:

**NEW MEMBER:** The West Coast DI Association welcomes the following new member:

**1stSgt Frank L. Fisher (Vet) 12/1980 - 12/1983 San Diego; 04/1987 - 06/1989 San Diego**

**REUNION UPDATE:** The reunion activities are still in development, however the information below is what most members need to know for planning.

**REUNION DATE:** The reunion will be held from **Thursday, 1 August through Sunday, 4 August**. The reunion date was moved up this year to accommodate more members who often have conflicting dates with other activities. We also want to welcome the children of members--their schooling usually starts in late August or September.

**HOTEL:** We will continue to use the **San Diego Crowne Plaza Hotel in Mission Valley** because of the location near MCRD as well as the accommodations they provide for our event. This year the daily rate will be their **reduced rate of \$129 per day plus tax and a nominal parking fee**. Members who desire to come a day early and/or stay a day after the event ends may do so at the same rates. Of note, we have also reserved room 1139, which is the end-unit next to the Duty Hut for anyone who wants to be close to the action--that room is a studio with a Murphy bed. The hotel has advised us that it will take until Wednesday, 6 February to get all the contract information into their system. As a result members are asked to wait till then to make a reservation. When making the reservation **please call their local number (619) 297-1101**. The 800 number goes to a call-center out-of-state and they normally have no information on local hotel offers. **Always mention you are with the West Coast DI Association in order to get the group rates.**

**THURSDAY, 1 AUGUST 2019:** This is check-in at the Duty Hut. **The Duty Hut normally opens around 1500 and the fun begins**. Members who pre-registered will receive their registration packages that will contain the tickets for the paid events. The bar will be stocked with lots of adult beverage options courtesy of the Board of Directors, and for those want something less potent there will be plenty of soft drink and juice options. We will have a supply of snacks to munch on, and fried chicken and pizza will arrive around 1700. If space is available we will take a group photo prior to sundown. All sorts of our "782 Gear" will be available for nominal donations. You can never have too many shirts and caps! We may also have a field trip to Camp Pendleton--more to follow.

Melody Stoner dealing with the crush of registrants just arriving.



**FRIDAY, 2 AUGUST 2019:** The events for Friday will be the same as prior years, but this year the events will be put on by MCRD personnel and MCCA. This is an enormous assist to the WCDIA, as it eliminates some of the issues we have had in the past with regard to coordinating our needs for seating, BBQ areas, etc. This day is still being worked out with MCRD staff, but will basically be as follows:

- 0600: Breakfast at the Mess Hall (Duncan Hall)**
- 0750: CG's Morning Color Ceremony at Building 31.**
- 0845: Tour (to be determined)**
- 1000: Graduation Ceremony**
- 1200: Known Marine Memorial**
- 1300: BBQ at the Boathouse (Still in the planning stage)**
- Best Damned Cadence Caller in the West contest.**
- Guest Speaker**
- Great meal (type and price to be determined)**
- Announcements**
- 1600: Back to the Duty Hut for more fun and stories.**

**The late MGSgt Bobby Biers (white shirt) enjoying breakfast at the Mess Hall with friends**



**SATURDAY, 3 AUGUST 2019:** Activities for this day are still in planning phase. Events and times below are subject to change:

**0800: All member meeting at the Crowne Plaza Hotel** (subject to change).

**0900-1600: Free time activities** (planned options may be available)

**0930: WCDIA Golf Tournament** (subject to change)

**1700: No-host cocktail hour in the Crowne Plaza banquet area**

**1800: Banquet** (still in planning stage)

**Colors**

**Welcome**

**Buffet dinner**

**Guest Speaker**

**SOP Violators donations**

**Silent Auction**

**Live Auction**

**SMMC Gene Overstreet looking for his ball . . .**



**SUNDAY, 4 AUGUST:** Last day to meet with old friends and give farewells.

**0800: Burrito Breakfast and Farewells** (free to members who registered for it)

**BATTLE COLOR CEREMONY IS COMING TO MCRD ON 16 MARCH:** An annual favorite of all Marines is the Battle Color Ceremony and Silent Drill Platoon. The event will take place on **16 March** (starting time is not yet known). The WCDIA normally has a bleachers reserved for us with seating available on a first-come, first-served basis the day of the event. We do ask members who wish to come to please let us know how many will be in your group. The MCRD Museum will be open following the event and that is another great opportunity to bring your guest and share your Marine Corps Legacy with them.

**MISS PIGGY SAYS:** "As my photo shows, there are a lot of little obligations that require your help to fund. Thanks to all of you that have made a nice donation to me, but we still need more help. Please help me reach our goals."



Make your check payable to: West Coast DI Association. Mail to West Coast DI Association, PO Box 400084, San Diego, CA 92140. Credit card donations may be made by going to the following link: <https://pay.xpress-pay.com/?pk=1148>. Miss Piggy appreciates all donations sent in, large or small--every dollar makes a huge difference in meeting our WCDIA goals of helping DIs and their families.

Semper Fidelis,

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