



# The “Ooo Rah”



Newsletter of the Central Florida Chapter  
1st Marine Division Association

Volume 21 Issue 1

January-February 2024

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Chapter Rep. Susan Finnigan

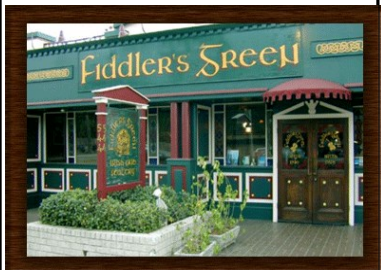
Newsletter Editor: Mike Galyean  
(with a lot of help from Nancy)

<http://www.cfc1stmardiv.com/>

**Next Meeting:**  
**Saturday, Feb. 10**  
**(change from 3rd)**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Fiddlers' Green Irish Pub**  
**544 West Fairbanks Ave.**  
**Winter Park, FL 32789**

**Ph.407.645.2050**



## PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

Marines and Friends,

So much to write about... so little space! (to take-off on a familiar theme.)

First ... please note the change in the February meeting date. The Fiddlers Green annual 5K run will be taking place on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. (Think St. Patrick's Day" busy). Therefore, the new meeting date is moved to Saturday, February 10. We apologize for any inconvenience, but hope you will be able to join us on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Second... I need to remind all of our annual members (not life members) that memberships in the Central Florida Chapter are due to be renewed on **January 1**. Please take a moment to fill in the membership form on the back page and submit it to the address at the bottom. This will insure all of your personal and contact information is correct. Payment can be made by check or money order or by going to the chapter website <https://www.cfc1stmardiv.com/> and paying on-line. Please be prompt in submitting your renewal as your membership will be dropped after 60 days of non-renewal.

Third ... Our annual Valentine "Sweetheart Dinner" will be held this year on Monday, February 12, at Fiddlers Green Irish Pub. Donal O'brien is having the kitchen provide a special menu for our dining enjoyment. RSVP is required. See more on page 3.

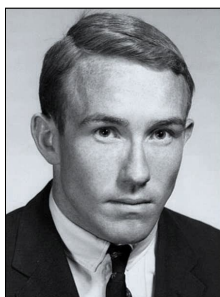
Fourth ... A NEW personalized chapter shirt is being offered. Please see the order form located on page 5

Fourth ... No "SOS Breakfast" in 2024. Since this "SOS tradition began in 2010, none have been held on a day that was not the actual date of the Marine Corps Birthday. Years in which the date fell on a weekend have been skipped. This year the birthday (Nov. 10) falls on a Sunday, and following the precedent, the officers have decided to skip this year and come back in 2025 with our usual Birthday breakfast celebration. We realize this will disappoint many, but hope you will understand our decision.

*(Continued on page 3—"Ramblings")*

## February Program: A Dedicated Journey on the Appalachian Trail with Mike Galyean

The Appalachian Trail follows the spine of the Appalachian range of mountains from Georgia to Maine traversing 14 states along the way. Mike Galyean trekked all 2,128 miles of the "AT"



1Lt. "Pete" Gray

beginning in 1991 and finishing in 1999. Along the way he encountered bears, rattlesnakes, uncompromising weather, and a myriad of other hardships. You will be inspired by his challenging but spiritual journey hiked in memory of 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Pete Gray who accompanied Mike on his first introduction to the "AT" in 1969. Mike will give us details of what his journey was like and describe the beauty, obstacles, and daily life of his 2000+ mile journey in tribute to his fallen friend.

Don't miss this unique program.



Mt. Katahdin

# Tun Tavern

## Being Rebuilt in Philadelphia

*Editor's Note: This article has been taken from the website of the Tun Tavern Legacy Project. The mission of the project is To rebuild and re-establish The Tun™ as it was, a functioning mariner's tavern reminiscent of colonial Philadelphia, serving period-influenced refreshments, food, and entertainment and offering an educational experience through exhibits, historical documents, and special events. All profits from operations of The Tun™ will be donated in perpetuity to support veteran causes, Masonic charities, educational scholarships, and qualified charities as determined by The Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation's independent Board of Directors. For more information, visit <https://thetun.org/contribute/united-states-marines/>*

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In America there are groups who have "created" destinations just because of their membership or interest in an organization or subject. These groups have a passion that draws them to their destinations, be it a love of nature, a love of country, a love of history... or love of tradition.

There was such a place along Philadelphia's early burgeoning waterfront in the 17th century, and it gave birth to no less than six prominent organizations— all of which are still in existence today with nearly 5,000,000 members who can claim the common heritage of their organizations' founding at this place.



The fact that members of these organizations can NAME this place without hesitation is astounding— because no one has been there or seen it for over 240 years, although most know its exact address: Water Street & Tun Alley.

That place was The Tun tavern, often referred to in historical records as simply "The Tun". Originally opened in 1693 as what would today be called a Micro-brewery, it was one of the first taverns erected in the new settlement of Philadelphia. Originally built by Master Brewer, Joshua Carpenter, with the help of his brother Samuel Carpenter, The Tun had a reputation for the finest beer in Philadelphia. The demand for Joshua Carpenter's beer was so strong that after operating The Tun for only about three months he decided to lease the tavern to someone else so that he could focus on his passion — crafting the finest beer and ale. It was apparently a good decision, as Joshua Carpenter was considered one of the wealthiest men in Philadelphia at the time of his death in 1722. Between them the Carpenter brothers owned four taverns and/or "coffee houses" (coffee and tea on the

first floor, beer and spirits on the second). Joshua Carpenter's businesses were so successful that he was one of the principal founders and financiers of Christ Church in Philadelphia; a structure that still stands to this day.

The tavern changed hands multiple times over the next few decades, and it was under the management of a widow, Mary Campion in the 1730's, that it gained the reputation for good food. By the 1740's it was run by the Mullan Family, and furthered its reputation as the best place to get a meal in Philadelphia under the moniker "Peg Mullan's Beefsteak Club".

Yet, as popular a "destination" as it was in the 1700's, the tavern had fallen into disrepair after standing nearly one hundred years, and was razed in 1781, disappearing from the Delaware waterfront but never from the collective memories of the members of organizations that share a common heritage at The Tun.

It's the destination that the members of these organizations still seek on an almost daily basis according to the Independence National Park rangers who encounter them. Yet, despite knowing the address, they just can't find it.

(Continued on page 3)





## Valentine “Sweetheart Dinner”

Our annual Valentine “Sweetheart” dinner is to be held on Monday, February 12, at the Fiddlers Green Irish Pub and Eatery in Winter Park. The restaurant’s address is on page 1. This is your chance to honor that special person who has put up with you for these many years. Get her/him out of the kitchen and pamper her/him with dinner at this wonderful Irish eatery.

Fiddlers Green will be offering a special Valentine menu selection, but everyone is free to order off the regular menu as well. The wait staff will keep separate checks, so you will only be responsible for the food and drinks you order.

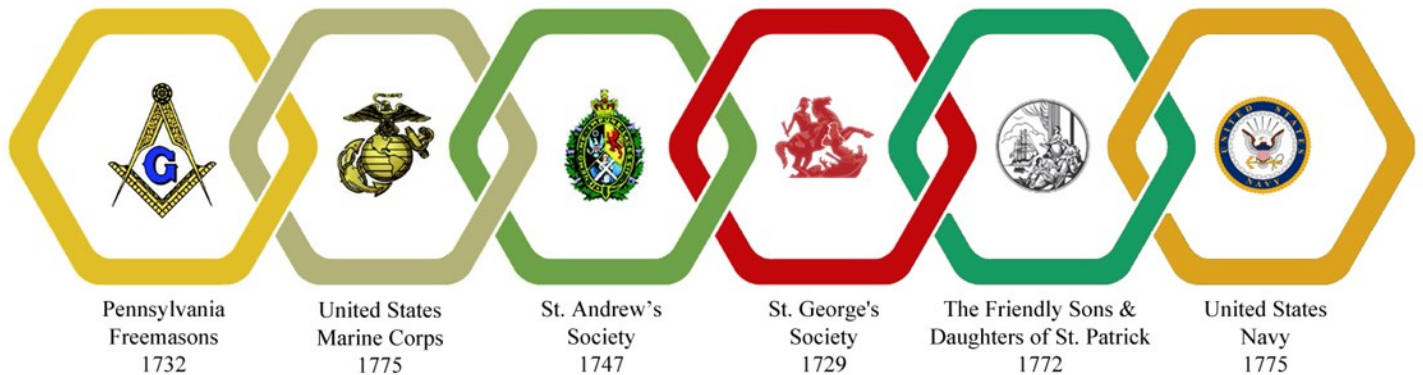
This dinner is not restricted to couples. We welcome “stags,” so don’t hesitate to come alone. In any case, participants will be challenged to think about some “Marine jargon” that was once so much a part of your vocabulary. A special prize will be awarded to one special couple.



**Time: Cocktails start at 6:00;  
orders placed at 6:45**

**RSVP Required!!!** Email or text Mike to let him know your number of reservations required at [galyeanmike@gmail.com](mailto:galyeanmike@gmail.com) or text to 321.276.7515

(Tun Tavern—continued from page 2)



William Penn certainly knew its address—his close friend and trusted confidant, Samuel Carpenter built The Tun and served as Penn's Deputy Governor and the colony's first Treasurer. Penn's fondness for fine ale is well-documented.

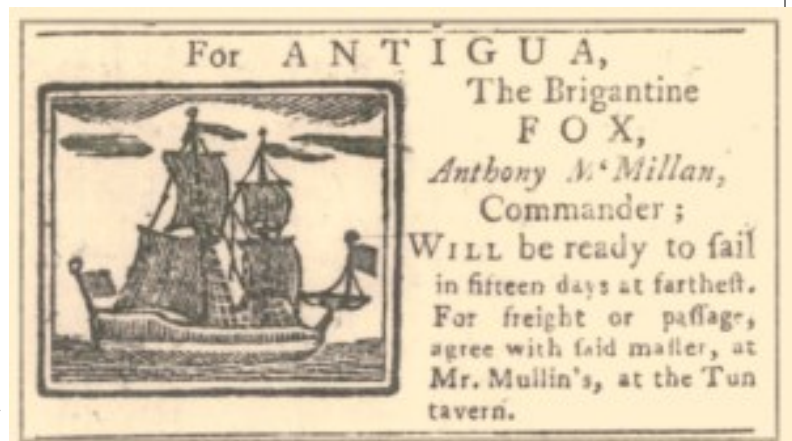
The Continental Congress certainly knew the address. Many members often met there informally after sessions.

John Adams knew the address. As the head of the Naval Committee he and members of the Continental Congress used *The Tun's* second floor meeting room to write the Articles of War that structured and organized what is now the U.S. Navy.

George Washington knew its address. After being chosen as the Commander of all American forces to fight the British, members of the Continental Congress held his celebratory dinner there.

Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Haym Salomon, and most of the supporters of the American Revolution knew its address. They were “regulars” when visiting Philadelphia. And Benjamin Franklin certainly knew its address — he joined two of the organizations founded there, and later printed the “menus” for one of the other organizations who met there for fundraising dinners. That organization still has one of those original menus... and the receipt!

(Continued on page 4)



From The Pennsylvania Gazette, September 7,  
1749

(Continued from page 1—  
"Ramblings")

I would like to welcome Terry Strassburg as Chaplain and Carlos Cuevas into his new position as Treasurer for 2024-05. Other chapter officers remain the same. In saying that, a HUGE THANKS goes to Greg Melnick for holding the position of treasurer for the past several years, after the passing of Art Dreves. Thanks Greg!

The officers of the Central Florida Chapter are looking forward to the coming year and have some unique programs lined up for the year's meetings. Susan Finnigan and I will be traveling to San Antonio in March to begin the planning for our 2024 FMDA annual reunion to be held **August 19 – 25 at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk...** put the dates on your calendar and make plans to attend. San Antonio is a great place to visit, with the River Walk, Alamo, and many side trips in the area. More information coming soon.

Semper Fi,  
Mike

(Tun Tavern, Continued from page 3)

And if you wanted to volunteer as a Marine in 1775, you HAD to know *The Tun's* address, as it was the sole recruiting location for Marines in the entire country! Tavern proprietor, Robert Mullan was a Freemason as was Samuel Nichols, the man charged by the Second Continental Congress with raising "two battalions of marines", and together these two friends accomplished this at Mullan's tavern (*The Tun*), likely because of its proximity to the Delaware River where the new ships of the Continental Navy were being finished.

## Mark Your Calendars

**Saturday, February 10 ...**  
Regular chap. Mtg.  
(change from 2/3)



**Monday, Feb 12 ...**  
Valentine  
"Sweetheart  
Dinner"

**Saturday, March 2 ...** Ch. Exec  
Comm. Mtg. TBD

**March 5-7...** FMDA Directors'  
Mtg., San Antonio, Holiday Inn  
River Walk

**Saturday, April 6...** Regular  
Chap. Mtg., Fiddlers Green

### The Larry E. Smedley Detachment of the Marine Corps League—

Monthly Meeting, **2<sup>nd</sup> Tues.**, -  
7pm – 8pm

American Legion Post 243  
491 W. Broadway St.  
Oviedo 32799

Info: [mclcf@gmail.com](mailto:mclcf@gmail.com)

Or call Michael Segura  
(407)415-1504

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### "Heart of Florida" Women Marines Assoc. Chapter

Meets Second Saturday -10am .  
Rio Pinar Golf and Country  
Club, 8600 El Prado Ave,  
Orlando, FL 32825.

Contact: Susan Finnigan  
[Susan@lynnamorris.com](mailto:Susan@lynnamorris.com)

CF Marine Foundation:

We are told by the Park Rangers working at Independence Hall National Park that the second-most asked question after "Where are the restrooms?" is "Where is Tun Tavern?" For over 240 years they haven't had an answer. With your help, in 2025 we will give them one.



## 1ST MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION

### ~IMPORTANT~

*Central Florida Chapter members (whether membership is regular or associate) need to be members of the 1st Marine Division Association...contact the FMDA office or visit the website for membership information.*

**NEW Association website**  
give it a look!

[www.1stmarinedivisionassociation.org](http://www.1stmarinedivisionassociation.org)

### Address and contact information

**1st Marine Division Association**  
P.O. Box 9000, Box #902  
Oceanside, CA 92051

Call Us : [1 \(760\) 763 3268](tel:17607633268)

Open from Monday to Friday  
08.00 AM - 16.00 PM PDT

Association President:

William Godfrey  
Email [wsgsr9454@aol.com](mailto:wsgsr9454@aol.com)

### Staff

**Dennis J. Coady**  
[dennis.oldbreed@fmda.us](mailto:dennis.oldbreed@fmda.us)

**June Cormier**  
[June.OldBreed@FMDA.us](mailto:June.OldBreed@FMDA.us)





# NEWS FROM THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION Kristen Mills

The 1st Marine Division is the oldest, largest and most decorated Marine division. Headquartered at Camp Pendleton, California, the Division is a force of 22,000 men and women organized to conduct combat operations. The 1st Marine Division is an adaptable expeditionary force in readiness; generating, deploying and returning forces in support of global force management. The Division stands ready to conduct contingency response requirements and is prepared to deploy as a scalable ground combat element to defeat peer, near-peer and hybrid threats across the range of military operations.

The Division is employed as the ground combat element of I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed. The 1st Marine Division provides amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force and conducts subsequent land operations in any environment.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Sgt. George Freelove

Anglico—3rd Marines

Vietnam

Associate

### Ponce Inlet Printing Inc.

1726 S. Nova Road in Daytona Beach, Florida,  
32119

Contact

Mary Racila—386-761-3355

[ponceinletprinting@gmail.com](mailto:ponceinletprinting@gmail.com)

Central Florida Chapter.

Thank you, Rick Dreves!

<http://www.cfc1stmardiv.com/>

Visit the "In Their Own Words" page for  
anecdotal articles by members.



## The Central Florida Chapter

wishes to recognize and honor its members  
now serving in the Corps Eternal



Plt.Sgt. Joe Adamik (2014)  
Capt. John Adamson 2015  
Sgt. Ray Bauer (2015)  
Cpl. Chester Bened (2012)  
Joyce Bowden, assoc. (2017)  
Sgt. Tim Broughton (2013)  
Sgt. Glenn Brown (2011)  
Col. Harry Clarke (2013)  
Amy Clarke, assoc. (2017)  
Col. Richard A Connell (2022)  
Pfc. John Cromwell (2010)  
M.Sgt. Louis Curtis  
Wade Curtis (2011)  
Col. Ed Danowitz (2012)  
1stSgt. Richard DeVasto (2019)  
Sgt. Arthur Dreves (2019)  
Plt. Sgt Robert Fincher (2014)

Olga Fincher, assoc. (2022)  
Capt. David Fowkes (2021)  
Capt. William Harwood (2010)  
Lt.Col. Dick Holt (2008)  
Carolyn Immerman, assoc. (2017)  
Sgt. Wade Jones (2012)  
Sgt. Joe Karlberg (2019)  
1stSgt. Russell Kauffman (2023)  
Cpl. John "Rick" Kennedy (2012)  
Cpl. Louis Lang (2010)  
Sgt. Maj. Les LeBlanc (2005)  
C.W. "Bill" Marks (2014)  
M.Sgt. Malcolm MacLean (2007)  
GySgt. Rudy Miller (2008)  
Capt. Ray Nielsen (2008)  
Sgt. Donald Neiss (2009)  
Col. Patrick Otoole (2018)  
Pfc. Athanasse "Al" Parsons (2013)

Capt. Jack Paxton (2018)  
MSgt Edward Payton (2015)  
Sgt. Victor Petris (2015)  
1Lt. Steve Reich (2021)  
GySgt. Charles Ross (2013)  
1Lt. George Schultz (2008)  
Cpl Don Schyberg (2017)  
Col. Bill Tate (2019)  
Pfc. "Wild Bill" Taylor (2010)  
Col. John Terry (2018)  
LtCol. John Tomlinson (2014)  
M.Sgt. Dale Wasson (2009)  
Cpl. James Weinberg (2022)  
Sgt. Carl Wenhold (2017)  
LtCol. Erich H. Wieler (2022)  
Col. Paul Wilson (2019)

**Semper Fi, Ladies and Gentlemen.**  
**You'll always be remembered.**

## Minutes

Central Florida Chapter, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Association  
 Saturday, December 2, 2023  
 Fiddlers Green Irish Pub  
 Winter Park, FL

Attendance: Terry Strausberg, Leroy Thomas, Jeff Clark, Greg Melnick, John Gionet, Ron DeVasto, Mike Segura, Luis Cambal, Barron Mills, Alice Weinberg, MaryAnn Smith, Elmer Hawkins, Nancy Galyean, Mike Galyean, Susan Finnigan, Jackson Finnigan, Matthew Martin, LCpl Nicholas Teyek, Piper Shpigler, Shawn O'Bright

Call to Order, Opening comments.....	Mike Galyean
Opening Prayer .....	Mike Galyean
Pledge to the Flag ....	Sgt Piper Shpigler
Welcome to guests.....	Member Introductions
Secretary's Report .....	Susan Finnigan
Motion to approve minutes passed	
Treasurer's Report .....	Greg Melnick
PX Chits	\$ 40.00
Savings Account	\$2,266.27
Checking Account	\$4,078.08
Total	\$6,384.35
PROGRAM: Young Marines	Sgt. Piper Shpigler ..... introduced by Barron Mills
Ages 8 thru high school	
Must maintain good standing in school	
"Strengthen the lives of America's youth"	

### Business

President Galyean welcomed LCpl Nicolas Teyek from the Marine Reserve Center.  
 Election of 2024-2025 Officers; Slate of officers presented:  
 President – Mike Galyean; V.P- Barron Mills; Treasurer- Carlos Cuevas;  
 Secretary- Susan Finnigan; Sgt. at Arms - Ron DeVasto; Chaplain- Terry Strassburg.  
 Motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote to accept slate of officers presented.  
 Greg Melnick's name will be removed from the Additions Financial chapter account. Carlos Cuevas will be added to the Addition Financial chapter account, along with president Mike Galyean.  
 2023 MC Birthday "SOS Breakfast" After-action report ...  
 Attendance: 95; Income: \$4,152.05; Expense: \$3,592.41; Net: \$599.64.  
 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Assoc. report..... Mike Galyean  
 2024 Reunion set to be San Antonio, Holiday Inn Riverwalk; 18 – 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2024  
 Mid-year Directors' meeting March 5 – 7; San Antonio Holiday Inn Riverwalk  
 New FMDA website: <https://1stmda.org/> Check it out. An impressive website.  
 Presentation of MC League Gold Citizen's Award from National Commandant to Elmer Hawkins by SgtMaj. John Gionet  
 Chapter shirts – Information pending... current shirt no longer available.  
 Russ Kauffman Memorial Stocking Stuffing Event.  
 MC League, supported by FMDA. For residents of the Lake Nona CLC.  
 Sunday 12/3; noon to 2PM  
 Oviedo Mall, meet inside the Mall near District Six / Macy's  
 For information contact Michael Segura 407-415-1504  
 Discussion - Appreciation to Rick Dreves, webmaster of C.F. Chapter website  
 Motion approved to provide gift to webmaster.

### Announcements

Barron Mills – Local Veterans Programs; Camaraderie Program; Veterans Beer Club, etc.  
 VBC – Wednesday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, Ivanhoe Brewery 6-9pm  
 FourBlock – Just finished Fall Cohort. Spring planning starting  
 Wreaths Across America – Dec 16<sup>th</sup> Greenwood Cemetery  
 Next Chapter meeting – Sat. Feb 3  
 Closing (see back of agenda) ..... Barron

Adjourn .... Members and guests invited to stay for lunch and beverage.

**Respectfully submitted, Mike Galyean (substituting for Susan Finnigan)**

Central Florida Chapter  
1st Marine Division Association  
746 McIntyre Ave.  
Winter Park, FL 32789



*In order to belong to the Central Florida Chapter, you must...*

**Be a member of the 1st Marine Division Association**

*World War II ~ North China ~ Korea ~ Cold War ~ Vietnam ~ Gulf War ~ Iraqi Freedom ~ War on Terror*

Call the 1st Marine Division Association in Oceanside, CA at (760) 763-3268 or email [june.ldbreed@fmda.us](mailto:june.ldbreed@fmda.us) for information

## Central Florida Chapter

Select Membership type: \_\_\_\_ Regular (\$20) ~ \_\_\_\_ Associate (\$20) ~ \_\_\_\_ Life (\$200) ~ Active Duty(\$10) \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_ Renewal

**PLEASE PRINT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Rank / Grade) (First Name) (Middle Initial) (Last Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street or P.O. Box # Spouses name

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip)

I was with: (list two units, max) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Company - Battalion - Regiment/Squadron - Group)

WWII \_\_\_\_ China \_\_\_\_ Korea \_\_\_\_ Cold War \_\_\_\_ Vietnam \_\_\_\_ Gulf War \_\_\_\_ Iraqi Freedom \_\_\_\_ War on Terror \_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Recommended by \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose \$20 for Regular / Associate Membership; \$200 for Life Membership; \$10 for Active Duty  
Make checks payable to: Cent. Fla. Chap., 1st Mar. Div. Assoc.. ~~~ Return to Mike Galyean, 746 McIntyre Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789  
**You can now pay on-line by using PayPal. Go to the chapter website at <http://www.cfc1stmardiv.com/>**