

December

2009

Volume: 3



Issue: 12

BLACK MARINE NEWSLETTER

We Served, We Endured, We Perservered

*We don't gossip, we don't pass on Bum Scoop,
We sometime Bulls- -t,
We Tell Sea Stories
But, you always get*

“The Word”!

Purpose:

This Newsletter provides information about Black Marines, to Black Marines as Black Marines see it.

Topics are:

- ***“Muster”*** To give account for all persons on the Mailing List!
 - *Illness, Deaths, etc.*
 - ***“Events”***, Provide notice of scheduled events relative to Marines!
 - *Reunions, Meetings, Conventions, etc.*
 - ***“Notes from the members”***
 - ***“Mailing List Additions”*** To list new Marines added to the Mailing List or other changes affecting the lists.
 - ***“Sea Stories and down right Marine Lies”***
No jokes, because we just don't know any! (Smile)
-

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Muster:

All present and counted for, Sir!

1. William "Sid" Simmons passed away November 23, 2009 in Oceanside, CA. Sid joined the Marine Corps in 1951 and retired in 1973. Sid joined Walker Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1955 and faithfully served the church leadership and its members for over 54 years. Sid is survived by his son William Simmons, Jr. (Betty) ; Grandsons; William Simmons III and Christopher Simmons; Great-Granddaughter: Rhiana and Tenaya and a host of family and friends and his church family.

William "Sid" Simmons



2. MGYSGT Ezekial Davis passed away December 16, 2009 in a Moreno Valley, CA. hospital at 06:00. Zeke joined the Marine Corps in 1957 and retired 1987. Zeke was preceded in death by his wife Inez in 2005. He is survived by two sons a daughter and his step-daughter.



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News From The Membership And Other Sources:

News from our Media Group:

We are Proud to announce that changes and updates to The Black Marine Reunion Website are now complete. Our new Webmaster, Winston Walker has made our website absolutely dynamic. It is complete to the point that we able to release it for access to the membership and public.

We ask that everyone visit the website www.blackmarinereunion.com to see the changes.

When you visit the site, be sure to create a profile so that you're able to communicate with fellow Marines.

We thank Winston, the new webmaster for his great and masterful work in making the website interactive, user friendly and dynamic.

Let Winston know what you think about the website.

Bobby Wallace

Bill Woods

Beneficiaries, Vets Shielded From Health Reform

Week of November 30, 2009

The national health reform bill passed by the House last month and the Senate version to be debated in early December pose no threat to current health care benefits provided to military families, retirees or veterans, say advocates for these beneficiaries as well as congressional committee staffs. The House-passed

Affordable Health Care for America Act ([HR 3962](#)) states in Section 311 that "nothing" in the bill "shall be

construed as affecting" authorities used by the departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to provide TRICARE

Provided By:

Military News

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Different Christmas Poem

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.

My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.

Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming, the yard to a winter delight.

The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.

In perfect contentment, or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.

Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know,
Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.

My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.

Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.

A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.

*Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.*

*"What are you doing?" I asked without fear,
"Come in this moment, it's freezing*

out here!

*Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"*

*For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts...*

*To the window that danced with a warm fire's light
Then he sighed and he said, "Its really all right,*

I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night.

*"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
That separates you from the darkest of times.*

*No one had to ask or beg or implore me,
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.*

*My Gramps died at ' Pearl on a day in December,"
Then he sighed, "That's a Christmas 'Gram always remembers."*

*My dad stood his watch in the jungles of ' Nam ',
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.*

*I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile."*

*Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red, white, and blue... an American flag.*

*"I can live through the cold and the being alone,
Away from my family, my house and my home.*

*I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.*

*I can carry the weight of killing another,
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother..*

*Who stand at the front against any and all,
To ensure for all time that this flag*

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will not fall."

*"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no
fright, Your family is waiting and I'll be
all right."*

*"But isn't there something I can do, at
the least, "Give you money," I asked,
"or prepare you a feast?"*

*It seems all too little for all that you've
done, For being away from your wife
and your son."*

*Then his eye welled a tear that held no
regret, "Just tell us you love us, and
never forget.*

*To fight for our rights back at home
while we're gone, To stand your own
watch, no matter how long.*

*For when we come home, either
standing or dead, To know you
remember we fought and we bled.*

*Is payment enough, and with that we
will trust, That we mattered to you as
you mattered to us."*

PLEASE, would you do me the kind
favor of sending this to as many
people as you can? Christmas will be
coming soon and some credit is due to
our U.S service men and women for
our being able to celebrate these
festivities. Let's try in this small way to
pay a tiny bit of what we owe. Make
people stop and think of our heroes,
living and dead, who sacrificed
themselves for us.



Ed Carter

What I like about the Marines Corps:

I like the fact that we know the taste
of freedom and would give our lives
for it! And that is a taste the
protected will never know!

Websites of Interest to Visit

ACES Museum honoring Black and minority veterans of World War II and their families

<http://www.acesmuseum.org/main.html?src=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.acesmuseum.org%2Findex2.html>

Montford Point Marine Association:

<http://www.montfordpointmarines.com>

Veterans Benefits, News and Information:

Visit this website for information
regarding veterans!

<http://www.veteransnetwork.org> or
<http://www.veteransnetwork.net>

Dave Culmer is Chairman of the
Board of Directors of the National
Veterans Foundation.

Support These Internet Sites

www.16centsaday.org

You have got to visit the site below
for some great deals. Tommy White
made me aware of this site and I
believe you will really enjoy it. For
those of you who attended the

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Bill Woods

“The Gunny”

949-364-4318

Distribution Request:

We ask that you provide a copy of this Newsletter to fellow Marines who do not have access to e-mail. Also, if they have access to a Fax machine we will fax a copy of the Newsletter and other information to them. Tell them to send their fax number to 352-259-2435 or 949-364-4300.



Bobby Wallace

“The Gator”

352-259-2435