

1 April 2020

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The Ordnance Bomb



Marine Corps Ground Ordnance Maintenance Awards 2019

Congratulations to the selected Ordnance Marines for a job well done from the Ground Ordnance Maintenance Association. These recipients will be presented their awards during the annual Ground Ordnance Maintenance Association Awards Dinner.

Ground Ordnance Maintenance Advisory Group (GOMAG) will hold its annual meeting at FT Lee, Virginia from 1-5 June 2020.

Maintenance Marine of the Year

LCpl Austin J. Baker

Maintenance NCO of the Year

Sgt Tiffany N. Luther

Maintenance SNCO of the Year

SSgt Joshua A. Martin

Maintenance Officer of the Year

CWO2 Matt C. Rogers



Ordnance Events

On 6 November 2019 we held a Ground Ordnance Social Event in Albany, Ga. There were 15 Active duty and Retired Marines present. A update on where the GOMA is at was briefed along with future goals. We all had had a great time with fellow Ordnance Marines.

On 19 December 2019 some Ground Ordnance Marines in California held a social event for all Ordnance Marines. There were 19 Active duty and Retired Marines present at this event where we discussed the future of GOMA and its importance to the Ordnance field.

On 19 February 2020 Ground Ordnance Marines in California held a social event for all Ordnance Marines. This social we discuss the future endeavors for the Ground Ordnance Maintenance Association to be successful.

On 26 February 2020 an Ordnance Shoot was organized in North Carolina by CWO2 Victor Hernandez, Ordnance Officer 2nd Tank Battalion. John Z of the Zombie Shooter's Association hosted this group and they had approximately 40 participants/Marines at the Shoot. (continued on page 2)

The Ordnance Bomb

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“...disseminating knowledge of Ground Ordnance Maintenance among Marines, to provide professional development opportunities for Marines, to foster the spirit and preserve the traditions of the Marine Corps...”



Ordnance Events (continued from page 1)



Fun had by all and the top shooter was Cpl Harlan Schmaltz who was awarded a one year annual membership to the GOMA.

Future Events

Lejeune Ordnance Social at Carolina Ale House, Jacksonville NC.

Who: All Ordnance Marines, and significant others are invited too – if your MOS is 21XX, this means you!

What: Gather together for food and drinks with other Ordnance Marines

When: 7 April 2020, starting at 1700 and going until you're ready to go home (may vary

greatly depending on age!)

Where: Carolina Ale House, in the outside seating area – we have the whole area reserved

Why: To get Ordnance Marines together with those from other units and generations – to bridge the gap.

Dress: Informal – there is no dress code, but nice pants and a collared shirt is always a safe bet

I MEF Annual Golf Tournament at Marine Memorial Golf Course on Camp Pendleton, Ca.

On 21 April 2020 the I MEF Annual Golf Tournament will be held at Marine Memorial Golf Course on Camp Pendleton, Ca. It is a Shotgun start at 0800. Cost: Officers, SNCO and Retires: \$40.00 and NCO and below is \$30.00. If you require golf clubs the golf course rents for \$10.00. Sgt West at 1st Marine Division is collecting money. 7 April 2020 is the deadline for money.

Member Spotlight

GREGORY G FRICH USMC 1979-2007

GOMA Plankholder , Membership #3, Joined February 3, 2011



Greg began his career in public service by enlisting in the United States Marine Corps in 1979. His first MOS was 2142 as an AAV Mech. After meritorious promotion to the rank of Sergeant he was recommended for and selected to the Marine Corps' Warrant Officer commissioning program and was promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer in 1985.

Upon receiving his promotion to Chief Warrant Officer 3, Greg was then promoted to the rank of Captain under the Limited Duty Officer commissioning program. Greg successfully served the remainder of his Marine Corps career and achieved the top rank available to LDO's of Lieutenant Colonel. Greg served in both Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He received many awards and commendations during his time in the Marine Corps including the Navy Achievement Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Bronze Star. If you are interested in seeing the full article, it can be found at www.usmcmgoma.org.

What does a new member get when they join?

Whether you become a Life or Annual Member, you will receive:

- GOMA Coin
- GOMA Lapel Pin
- Membership Card
- Members only access to the USMC-GOMA Website

Lifetime Members will also receive a Certificate.

Join today at www.usmcgoma.org and support your Ground Ordnance Maintenance Community!

Your Board

First and foremost, I would like to welcome you all to our very first United States Marine Corps Ground Ordnance Maintenance Association Quarterly Newsletter and thank you as well for taking the time to read it.

It is our goal to make this Association something that you are all proud of and I can assure you we are working towards that goal with a zeal that historically all Ordnance Marines have always done, both in and out of uniform.

The best way to improve is to receive input from all of you, the members and non-members alike. As you have read through the newsletter, please consider providing your input with recommendations, art, or even articles for future quarterly newsletters.

Feel free to contact any of us at any time.



Chairman

Charles W. Bushnell MGySgt (Ret)

Chairman@usmcgoma.org



Vice-Chairman

Michael S. Lewis, MGySgt (Ret)

ViceChairman@usmcgoma.org



Secretary

Jerod Murphy, CWO4, USMC

Secretary@usmcgoma.org



Treasurer

Vacant

Treasurer@usmcgoma.org

Monthly Meetings

The Board of Directors holds a board meeting (Conference Call) the second Wednesday of each month at 1900 East coast time.

We are asking you to join us by calling in to the following numbers: 848-220-3300 Access Code 306434.

It is important that we know what you want and desire from the Ground Ordnance Maintenance Association and look forward to hearing your ideas on making this organization grow.

Our Website

<https://www.usmcgoma.org>

Please go the website and look at what is growing. If you have any recommendations, feature requests, questions, or concerns, don't hesitate to email your organization Board of Directors or webmaster@usmcgoma.org with your input.

You must be a member and logged in to see all of the functions of the website.

Trout Busters — by Dennis Adams

Recently, I attempted to qualify to represent the Southeast Region in the first Fly Fishing Championships. Coming from the coast where we don't have any trout and are reduced to fly fishing for less worthy species such as Carp, Gar, Bream, Cat Fish, Gators and such, it was hard to find a partner that possessed the skill and finesse to use a fly rod properly. Once a suitable partner was found who I will just call Jim to protect him from further prosecution, we made our way to Tennessee for the competition.

Upon arrival, we toured the facilities and the stream we were going to fish in during the competition. To say I was impressed would be an understatement! There were monster trout seen in all the pools and I even told Jim that we would need to keep an eye out or we might be eaten by one of those big critters. However, right from the start I had a bad feeling about the crowd of folks that had gathered there to fly fish in this contest

of skill. Most of them looked like they had stepped right off the page of a L.L. Bean catalog. It was YUPPIE Heaven.

The first day of the competition was the "casting event" where it was to determine who could cast the furthest and most accurate. Jim did not do well in this event and it did not help our score any when he hooked one of the judges on his back cast. It was not so bad that he hooked the man, but when he turned around and started fighting him on the line and yelling that he had a good one and damn the net for me to get a club to subdue it with. I quickly looked around for a club, but was much relieved when the number 4 tippet he was using broke and the man fled to safety. The Yuppie crowd seemed to be impressed because they were talking among themselves and pointing toward us. The excitement had overcome one of the onlookers completely. We could tell because he had fainted. That evening, after the casting event, is where things

really went sour for us.

You see, unknown to any of the contestants in this competition you had to tie your own flies for the first day of fishing and the sponsors of the event provided all the tools, hooks, and material required. This was a scored event also. You could tie any fly you wanted so both Jim and I agreed that along with all the regular patterns needed we would also need to tie at least two trout busters for use the next day. However, when we looked at the material provided, we did not see the required material. We approached the judge and asked if we could obtain the needed material. I explained in detail that we would need two pairs of wood duck wings, small wire, two delayed timed fuses, and two medium size sticks of dynamite. That if he did not have what was needed available that we had it in the truck. *(continued on page 5)*



USMC GOMA
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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the USMC Ground Ordnance Maintenance Association is to support the Marine Corps by disseminating knowledge of Ground Ordnance Maintenance among Marines, to provide professional development opportunities for Marines, to foster the spirit and preserve the traditions of the Marine Corps to offer special benefits to USMC GOMA members!

Trout Busters (continued)

Clearly, he had never fished this fly and asked how it was used. The other Yuppies in the room gathered around for this period of instruction also. Jim started by first stating that you needed to locate a pool with large trout that was free of water hazards such as low hanging tree limbs and slick rocks. The judge asked why low hanging tree limbs and slick rocks were a hazard? Jim explained that low tree limbs would interfere with his cast and the slick rocks may slow his retreat to a sheltered area. Jim stated that the preferred cast was a side-hand barrel cast where the fly would land gently upon the water like an actual wood duck landing. He stressed that for larger species of trout you should use drake Mallard wings to keep the small ones

away from the bait. The trout would hear or see the wood duck fly land on the water and they would all turn toward the fly and look up at it. Jim then described how their little fish brains would be contemplating eating the duck as a substantial snack and that is when the time fuse should go off. When Jim got to the part about how you may have to finish a couple of them off with a large stick the crowd started moving closer toward us. One of the judges seemed real impressed and informed us that some gentleman from the ATF was coming in the door that wanted to talk with us. Jim got all excited when he thought that some folks from the American Trout Fishing (ATF) Association wanted to talk with us.

Our conversation with the gentleman did not go as well as we expected and I will use the term "gentleman" loosely because there was nothing gentle about what they and that crowd of Yuppie's did to us. Not to mention we were unable to get those evil women we live with that claim to be our better halves to post our bond money. I had to put my truck up as collateral for the bond money. We got out just in the nick of time because I think Jim was starting to consider becoming a Jail House Whore to make the money. I noticed that he was starting to smile a lot at a big hairy bastard that was in there waiting to see the judge on a murder charge.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Fair winds and following seas...

We all hope you have enjoyed reading our very first publication. If you have pictures or articles of interest you would like to see in here, contact any of the board members.

If you enjoy writing newsletters and would like to take this over then by all means contact us!