



Second Battalion, 4th Marines Association, Inc. The Magnificent Bastards



ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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stevejckdnls@charter.net

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nyjack_9@msn.com

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Newsletter Editor
Jim Rogers:
Jwr313@verizon.net

May 2014 *Sea Horse*

President's Scoop

Memorial Day, May 29, 2014, is a time to "Remember Them!" A few years ago, I was privileged to revisit Vietnam with Major General James Livingston at which time he stated, "The Vietnamese do not honor their fallen like we do." The memorials we visited were, in some cases, near ruin.

Here in Knoxville, TN, we will honor those heroes that have given their lives for this great country. The high schools will march and play those traditional military marches. Various veterans' organizations will march and ride the floats and often there will be a fly by, and all of the community leaders will sit on the viewing stand. Most importantly the names of all Tennessee Volunteer heroes will be read on the campus of the University of Tennessee. Other veteran organizations will host various ceremonies throughout the Memorial Day weekend. Personally, I will respectfully wear my medals and attend the reading of names. Take the time to attend, "Welcome Home", honor, and celebrate our warriors of today and yesteryear.

Congratulations and "Welcome Aboard!" to our 45 new Ramadi era members. Also, I would like to recognize Brooks Wilson (VP) for his outstanding recruiting in attending the Ramadi Reunion in California April 5-6, 2014. Included in this effort was one Gold Star member. I would strongly like to give a shout out to all of those Gold Star Mothers of 2/4 and ask you to consider joining the Magnificent Association that we are. Our Ramadi members represent the "new" life blood of this Association and we salute you. Again, thank you to those individuals contributing to this event and its success. Individually, special thanks to BGen Bill Weise, LtCol Fritz Warren, Frank and Becky Valdez, Scott Laidig, and Ray and Teresa Del Rio for their support in this collaborative Association effort.

The 2/4 Association has lost Marine, Past President, and Board member Jack Petrowsky. Jack lost his life to Agent Orange, but dedicated his love, along with his wife Peggy, to this association. One's life is exemplified by one's soul. Jack may have lost his human life but his soul is reflected in his willingness to express his love and devotion for this Magnificent Association. We salute you Marine Jack Petrowsky, and thank you Peggy for sharing him with us.

Congratulations to Lieutenant Colonel Mike Wilonsky on command of Second Battalion, Fourth Marines. I might also say welcome back home to the Magnificent Bastards once again. For those that are unaware, LtCol Wilonsky formally served as 2nd platoon commander and executive officer of Echo Company in a previous tour. Also, welcome home to Mrs. Holly Wilonsky, son Barrett and daughter Harper.

Again keep tuning in to the web site: 2-4association.org for all the latest scuttlebutt. Keep your calendars marked for the August 13-17 reunion and get your registration forms sent in. Also, keep us informed of changes in your status, i.e., changes in contact information, illnesses, and events happening in your life.

Semper Fidelis,

Steve Wilson

NEWS FROM THE CO

State of the Battalion—1 May 2014:

Magnificent Bastards, families and friends—spring is upon us, though it feels more like summer the past few days, and the Battalion is making its final preparations for Division's capstone exercise; Desert Scimitar. We are set to depart on 11 May for 29 Palms and return on the 17th—a quick turnaround. In fact, today we executed the Division's ROC drill to ensure all the key players were in synch and tracking with each other. In total, there are over 6,000 participants in the exercise, and a good portion of them come from the Bastard Nation. Fox, Golf, Weapons and H&S will truck/bus to the Delta Corridor, while Echo Company flies into the Expeditionary Airfield and then links up with the Battalion a day later. The following day, the Battalion will assault through the corridor with engineers, tanks, AAVs and close air support—as Regimental Combat Team 5's main effort. As the sun sets, we expect to move into a defensive position until the sun reappears, and we conduct our final live-fire. The following day, we will pack up and retrograde back to Camp Pendleton for a few days until we head out to Bridgeport, CA for our Mountain Exercise.

I'd also like to thank each and every one of you for your support this last month. We began April with our 10 year Anniversary of the Battle of Ramadi, and the support and outreach from you and San Clemente was tremendous. We hosted over 750 Marines, Sailors, Gold Star Families, and friends on a picture perfect Sunday. The Division Commander, Major General Nicholson, joined us and made the day a bit more personal and special. Upon completion of the ceremony, we served a fantastic meal—with the assistance and generosity of San Clemente.

We also said good-bye to our Battalion Sergeant Major—Gary Bow. After 28 years of faithful service, Gary and family, decided to turn to their next chapter in life. Gary is settling in Temecula for a bit so he can rearm and refit for the next fight. Fair winds and following seas to our Sergeant Major.

We are also excited about our upcoming Marine Corps Birthday Ball on 3 October at the Hyatt Hotel in Huntington Beach, CA. Thank you all for your dedication and continue support to the Bastard Nation.

Semper Fidelis,

Bastard 6, LtCol Mike Wilonsky

Membership Message

To the Membership New, Life and Annual, and former members,

I would like to **Welcome** all of our **New Members!**

Paid Membership now stands at 498, 406 Life members, 91 Annual and a 125 that are not paid, many of those are missing information and we continue to try and locate these former members to contact them.

Your web site is www.2-4association.org please visit it for much information. If you see those that are missing please advise if you have information on them in helping us to locate.

Thanks to Manuel Travassos, our Secretary early billing for Annual Members has been sent out for the 2014-2015 year.

Life members please do not take this to be any billing for you.

The annual dues are still \$20 at this time, if on Active Duty E-1 E-5 are \$5, SNCO/Officers are \$10.

If interested in a Life Membership the dues are as follows: By age 65 and over is \$75, 55-64 are \$125, 54 and under are \$175.

Active duty Life Membership are 10% off the price and can be made in 3 installments but must be paid in total in nine months.

Dues can be sent to:

Treasurer, 2-4 Association
455 Concord Parkway North # 6511
Concord, N. C. 28207

Membership questions please contact me:

John Hembrough
401 Halifax Dr.
Dothan AL. 36305-3101

email: johna24@aol.com
Phone (334) 673-4959 (call 1st)
Cell (309) 825-0314

Welcome our new members

1. Jeff Andrade	4/19/2014 Annual	jeffrey.andrade@va.gov
2. Justin Archer	4/19/2014 Annual	lustinwarcher@yahoo.com
3. Ramon Barron	4/19/2014 Annual	rbwfg@hotmail.com
4. Brian Britton	4/19/2014 Annual	btbritton@live.com
5. Dan "Dirty" Brown	4/19/2014 Annual	dbrown@signal.com
6. Richard Cantu	4/19/2014 Annual	rich1182@yahoo.com
7. Damien Coan	4/19/2014 Annual	damien.coan@yahoo.com
8. Seth Collard	4/19/2014 Annual	
9. Daniel Crawford	4/19/2014 Annual	dcrawford@controlvisioninc.com
10. Logan Degenhardt	4/19/2014 Annual	logandegenhardt@gmail.com
11. Erik Eggink	4/19/2014 Annual	eteggink@gmail.com
12. Nicholas "Nick" Erwin	4/19/2014 Annual	Jarhead91180@yahoo.com
13. Peter "Pete" Flom	4/19/2014 Annual	pflom@yahoo.com
14. Dustin Fuchs	4/19/2014 Annual	fox_hunt_psg7@hotmail.com
15. Jimmy Gentile	4/19/2014 Annual	jimmy.gentile1@gmail.com
16. Jeremy "Ro Griff" Griffin	4/19/2014 Annual	Rogriff1983@yahoo.com
17. Michael "Animal" Gerdau	4/19/2014 Life	usmcretirede7@yahoo.com
18. Robert "Haf" Hafkesbrim	4/19/2014 Annual	RJHN504@hotmail.com
19. Gabriel "Hendo" Henderson	4/19/2014 Annual	ghenderson3@yahoo.com
20. Ivan "Hern" Hernandez	4/19/2014 Annual	
21. Aaron "Hank" Holladay	4/19/2014 Annual	hank0331@mail.com
22. Justin "Hank" Hulick	4/19/2014 Annual	justin-hulick@yahoo.com
23. Rahmel "RahRah" Jefferies	4/19/2014 Annual	rcjefferies@gamil.com
24. Nickolas Jones	4/19/2014 Annual	
25. Joseph Latham	4/19/2014 Annual	Cmgbob@aol.com
26. Patrick LeBlanc	4/19/2014 Annual	trapmar@hotmail.com
27. Juan Linares	4/19/2014 Annual	Jclu81@gmail.com
28. Thomas Lydon	4/19/2014 Annual	
29. Walter Martinez	4/19/2014 Annual	pheren_85009@yahoo.com
30. Ian McCall	4/19/2014 Annual	ian.b.mccall@gmail.com
31. Lance "Mac" McElhenney	4/19/2014 Annual	l_mcelhenney@yahoo.com
32. David Montel	4/19/2014 Annual	Montiel.d.m@gmail.com
33. Vincent "Vince" Moudy	4/19/2014 Annual	vpmody@yahoo.com
34. Edward "Pepi" Pepitone	4/19//2014 Annual	doubleduge0320@yahoo.com
35. David Reigelsperger, Jr.	4/19/2014 Annual	dmreigeljr@yahoo.com
36. Jeremy Reynolds	4/19/2014 Annual	
37. Johnathan "German Jew" Samuels	4/19/2014 Annual	samuelsjj@yahoo.com
38. Bradley "Brad" Shaver	4/19/2014 Annual	b.shaver0351@gmail.com
39. Zach Shores	4/19/2014 Annual	Zacharyshores1984@gmail.com
40. Alexander Sundberg	4/19/2014 Life	alandarla1@gmail.com
41. Roy Thomas	4/19/2014 Annual	
42. Fabin "Tru-J" Trujillo	4/19/2014 Annual	fbn_trujillo@yahoo.com
43. Robbie Wagner	4/19/2014 Life	
44. Richard White	4/19/2014 Annual	ric0341@yahoo.com
45. Kimble Willougby	4/19/2014 Annual	kimble@nctc.com
46. Patrick "Cyclops" Zimmerman	4/19/2014 Annual	zimmerman82@yahoo.com
47. Dianne Layfield (Gold Star Mom)	4/19/2014 Annual	
48. Sean Schickel	4/19/2014 Life	Sean. Schickel@usmc.mil
49. Lt.Col. Rob Weiler	4/19/2014	robert.weiler@usmc.mil

Ramadi Reunion 2014

10th ANNIVERSARY - BATTLE OF RAMADI

On 5-6 April 2014, I had the honor and pleasure to represent the Association at this event. Major Sean Schickel, a former 2/4 member, and Mark Sperling, 2/4 Family Readiness Officer, organized and executed a superb reunion. It is estimated that some 350 Marines, corpsmen and their families attended from all over the country. The purpose of the reunion was 1] for participants of that very nasty battle in Iraq to come together again to celebrate their brotherhood and friendship, and 2] to honor their 43 fallen brothers from that battle at a special remembrance ceremony at the 5th Marine Regiment Memorial at Camp Pendleton.

During the course of the informal BBQ at San Onofre Beach on Saturday afternoon / evening, I was allowed to speak to the assemblage about the Association and what it had to offer to the newer generation of Marines and corpsmen. We have a sound organizational structure in place, but we need the younger generations to think about joining our ranks to keep the Association going. They presently do not have an organization, but joining a group such as ours provides a readymade opportunity to carry on what has been started. It is a win-win for everyone. As a result, I was able to sign up 44 new members before I ran out of application forms and membership cards. I had to turn people away, but I did give them cards with our web site on them so that they could still pursue a membership. I honestly did not think I would get this much interest, so I planned for a smaller amount of folks to join. A lesson learned! I was prepared, but not well enough. We still got a very warm reception, however, and have definitely broken the ice for future gains. I think some might even attend our reunion.

It is inherent upon all of us to seek out our 2/4 brothers and encourage them to join with us in the bond of brotherhood. Families are also vitally important and should be encouraged to participate as well. The children and grandchildren thus will have the opportunity to see and hear history in person, and perhaps consider becoming a part of it someday, too.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooks Wilson
Vice President, 2/4 Association

The following links contain stories and articles regarding this very successful event.

http://www.dvidshub.net/video/327970/2-4-marines-families-honor-fallen-ramadi-marines-during-10-year-anniversary-ceremony#.U0c8l_lWnj

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/nation/2014/04/09/iraq-ramadi-al-qaeda-bastards/7476343/>

<http://www.americanhomecomings.com/news/2012/06/04/bastards-iraq-vets-open-sports-bar-name/>

<http://www.dvidshub.net/video/327973/2-4-marines-families-honor-fallen-ramadi-marines-during-10-year-anniversary-ceremony#.U0dAjPldWng>

<http://www.dvidshub.net/video/327931/marines-remember-their-fallen-brothers-10-year-ramadi-memorial-ceremony-b-roll#.U0dApvldWng>

<http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/article/20140409/NEWS/304090038/-Magnificent-Bastards-look-back-Ramadi-10-years-later>

Jack Petrowsky

1 Jan 1945 – 15 Apr 2014



Dear 2/4 Members,

I am sorry to inform you that Jack Petrowsky has passed away on April 14th. About one year ago he was diagnosed with a second cancer caused by the treatment from his first cancer CLL. We went to MD Anderson Cancer Hospital in Houston ten times, to try and fight it, but it was not meant to be. Everyone did their best. We were very blessed in that the cancer did not cause any pain; he was able to move around the house if he had to by holding on to things. The worse part of the disease was that he got weaker and weaker over the year; he could not do anything physical which was depressing him, because he was always so active.

Jack was very proud to be a Marine! He belonged to a number of veteran's organizations; he did not only attend meetings but participated in the programs that they sponsored. For the Marine Corps League, he served on the funeral honor guard, for all services, headed up the organization putting flags on the graves of the veterans on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. He served as Commandant and was also Marine of the Year one year for the State of New Mexico. He served on the Mayors Council for Veterans for about 10 years. Jack was also very involved in the Letter Carrier Union, for many years he organized the annual food drive, he served as union president and for many years he served as a shop steward.

Together we ran the Marine Corps Toys For Tots program in Dona Ana County for 18 years. He was unable to help much this year, but I told him not to worry it would get done. Everyone pitched in and we were able to help around 4600 children. In 1996 when we first started we helped 65 children. We were very fortunate to find great people to take it over, and knowing that made Jack very happy. We ran the program through 35 local schools and were fortunate enough to get two people who work for the schools to step up.

Jack and I were fortunate to have a great many memories from the reunions we attended and the two we had a great time running. We made great friends. Thank You All!!!!!!

Peggy Petrowsky

Condolences may be sent to:

P.O. Box 7214

Las Cruces, NM. 88006

petrowsky7@msn.com

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/lcsun-news/obituary-search.aspx?affiliateId=2035&daterange=30&firstname=Jackie&lastname=Petrowsky&stateid=39>

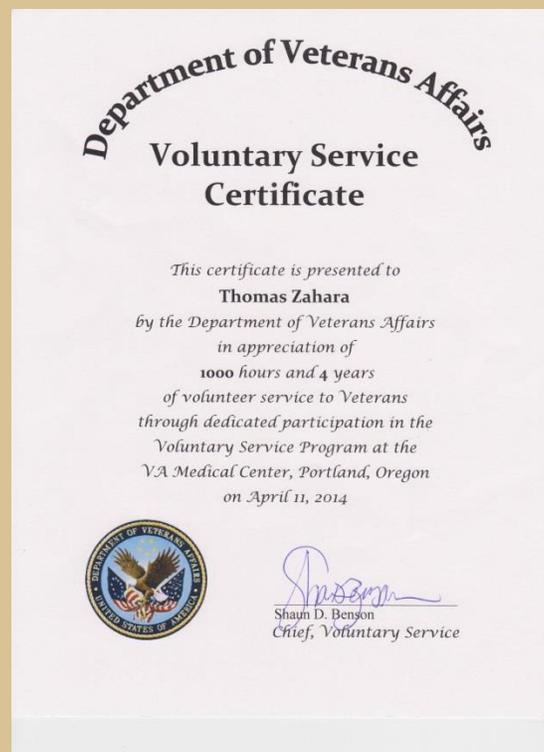
Twins Platoon

You can see the article on the below link that will appear for the month of May. Last month the Vet of the Month was Twins Platoon member Tim Sather and next month it will be Twins Platoon member Paul (Chuck) Ennis. Also, they run commercial's during the month and play excerpts from their taped interview with the Vet of the Month. The good things just keep happening!

<http://cbsloc.al/1iVNh7Z> or <http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/tag/veteran-of-the-month/>

Christy Sauro authored "Twins Platoon", a highly successful book about 76 Marines (including Wallace "Skip" Schmidt, F/2/4, Silver Star and Purple Heart recipient, died 1972) who enlisted in the Marine Corps in June 1967 at the opening ceremony of a baseball game between the Minnesota Twins and The Boston Red Sox. Six months later most of them were in Vietnam in time for Tet and Post--Tet Offense. Sauro's book was widely acclaimed, has received a number of awards, and has proved therapeutic for many Vietnam Veterans. I strongly recommend The Twins Platoon by Christy Sauro. Available on Amazon.com

Congratulations to Thomas Zahara Still Serving



Tom and his wife Candy live in Florence Oregon which is located on the coast due West, one hour, from Eugene. We have 2 DAV Vans parked here at our Florence ELKS Lodge parking lot. They are purchased by the DAV and Elks Foundation.

Because of the distance to the Portland VA Hospital many Vets cannot get there. The second Van goes to the Roseburg VA Hospital, South, about one and a half hours. The Vans also leave from Bend, Oregon. Also four hours, as well as quite a few other city's here including Astoria, Eugene, The Dalles, Vancouver and Albany. There is a Van that leaves Crescent City, Cal, that go's to Bandon and another van picks up the Vets and takes them to Roseburg. As well as from Medford and Grant's Pass area's and gets them to Eugene where they get on another Van to Portland. The Portland Hospital is located on a mega campus along with Oregon Health Science University, a massive facility itself, comprised of a quarter mile sky bridge, and a half mile tram going down to the Willamette River. Quite an impressive facility. The University Hospital supports the VA Hospital with Doctors and equipment. Also on the same campus, believe it or not are, (ready for this?) Shriner's Hospital, Dornbechers Children's Hospital, Casey Eye Clinic, Mc Donald House, and a Nursing School. Actually I think I missed something, I forget it all. Every weekday, not Holidays, our Florence Van leaves Florence for a four hour ride. We have 23 pickup points (all memorized) as well as some home pickups for special needs. The designated driver for the day receives the locations he is to stop at the night before his drive. We only hold 10 passengers comfortably. (Guide dogs with restrictions are allowed) We leave at 5:30. Four hours along the Oregon Coast We are emailed our route pick up location for that following day. We get there and have multiple sign in and paperwork duties. Have to wear a badge for access. The vets complete their appointments, which always varies in time, and then we leave for the four hour ride home. Some only go one way for overnight or

longer stays and we also bring some back whom have completed their stays. It is a very tiresome, big job making sure we have everyone accounted for. There are only 11 drivers right now. All of us seniors, have to cover the month among us. I just went over 4 years now. It is a 12 hour day so racking up 1000 hours was not hard to do. 4 hours each way and 4 at the hospital usually. I proudly represent 2/4 in every way I can in the conversations with the Viet Nam Korean and, WW2 Vets.

God Bless. Always Faithful.... Tom Zahara

Girl Scout Troup 2375

Becky Valdez had been contacted by local Girl Scout Troup leader Katie Moore, who had 250 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies that her girls wanted to donate by hand to some active duty Marines. She told her about Operation Help A Hero that was organized by THE AWESOME Cindy Farnum. Operation Rack Pac (<http://www.operationhelpahero.org/Volunteer-Sign-Up.php>) was set for April 19th. Katie and her Scouts were able to join in that day. They set up a booth at the staging area to pass out their cookies to the other volunteers in order to prepare the barracks for the returning Marines.

The girls were able to clean several rooms after passing out the cookies. They spent their free time and energy serving. After the event Katie sent the following message. **"Thank you so much for helping us find a place to help out! It was a great experience for the girls! The all went home after and bragged about it! If your organization (or other organizations you partner with, like this one) ever needs any help with anything please don't hesitate to ask! The girls loved doing this and some mentioned that they may want to do it with their families as well!"**



David Lind

"On the afternoon of 2 May 1968, (then) Sergeant David T. Lind was a member of the BLT 2/4 Communications Platoon at Mai Xa Chanh when he along with other headquarters Marines were sent to the Dai Do area as replacements for the many casualties incurred during the battle. He served as a replacement assistant Machine gunner in one of the ad hoc companies organized by (then) Major G. F. "Fritz" Warren. On 3 May, Sgt. Lind participated in the recovery of friendly bodies by the 1st Battalion, Third Marines and the remnants of BLT 2/4. Sgt. Lind remembers being subjected to enemy supporting arms and small arms and believes that he qualifies for the combat action ribbon. However, he requires eye witness verification of his participation in direct combat. If anyone can verify Sgt. Lind's recollections please contact BGen Weise at: wweise2@gmail.com."

GWOT COLORS



On behalf of the Marines and Corpsmen of 2/4, I want to thank you for your generous offer to frame our GWOT Colors. It will be a fantastic addition to the walls of the 2/4 CP. Thanks again, please see the attached pictures.

Semper Fidelis,

LtCol Rob Weiler

The Journey Back to Vietnam

I never thought anything could get me to return to Vietnam. Over the years I've tried to forget and have managed to do it most of the time, but not and then something happens that triggers a memory, and in an instant I'm back there. So why, more than 30 years later, am I going back? It's for the 81 Marines and the corpsmen we lost at Dai Do. I wish there were some way they all could know they are not forgotten. -Maj. Dale Robinson, USMC (Ret) - See more about this article at:

http://www.moaa.org/main_article.aspx?id=13857&hrl=WUCAQLPH&mc=01519156#sthash.q10vpOAU.dpuf

Operation Shufly

Veterans Remembered 50 Years Later

15 April 1962- 8 March 1965

<http://community.marines.mil/community/Pages/OperationSHUFLY.aspx>

WW II True Story-U.S. Marines KIA Makin Island

IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THIS - BE SURE YOU'RE SITTING DOWN. THIS ONE OF THOSE GESTURES FOR WHICH THERE ARE NO WORDS. Click on link below!

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=C6f_FvZpm3g

GENERAL CARL E. MUNDY, JR., 30TH COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

16 July 1935 - 3 April 2014



One of the Great Magnificent Bastards

2/4 The beginning to the End in Vietnam

March 7-15 2015

Tour Host Maj Gen Jim Livingston USMC ret Tour Director Capt Ed Garr USMC ret

Sat Mar 7 Day 1: Depart LA for Vietnam on Korean Air at noon time

Sun Mar 8 Day 2 Arrive Incheon and connect with our flt to Danang. Arrive Danang at 2200 Hotel; Brilliant

Mon Mar 9 Day 3 Visit Hill 55 and Dai loc and Marble Mountain where 2/4 operated in 1966 -67 while under command of LtCol Gene Bench. Hotel: Brilliant, B, L, D

Tue Mar 10 Day 4 Drive to Chu lai View where the initial landing which occurred in 1965. Visit the Op Starlite area in the Van Tuong Peninsula where Lt Col Joe Bull Fisher commanded and Hill 43 and 69 where Lt Col Rudy Trevino and Lt Col PX Kelley commanded Hotel; Brilliant, B L, dinner on your own

Wed Mar 11 Day 5 Visit Red Beach where 3/9 landed Mar 8 1965. Continue on to Dong Ha with stops at Camp Evans and Quang Tri. Hotel: Huu Nghi B, L, D

Thu Mar 12 Day 6 DMZ Drive to Cam Lo, Camp Carroll, Rockpile Khe sanh, Con. Return to Dong Ha where Lt Col Wes Hammond Commanded. Hotel: Huu Nghi, B, L, D

Fri Mar 13 Day 7 Drive to the Washout, Con Thien, Market Place, Gio Linh, Ben Hai River, Dai Do and the Dong Ha Bridge where Lt Col Bill Weise and Lou Rann commanded. Return to Hue Hotel Huong Giang B, L, D

Sat Mar 14 Day 8 AM flight to Saigon and take the hydrofoil to Vung Tau to include briefing on Frequent Wind where 2/4 under the command of Lt Col George Slade provided security at key installations the final days during April 1975 around Saigon for the final evacuation of the US Embassy staff. Hotel Majestic, B, L Sea food Buffet at hotel with wine

Sun Mar 15 Day 9 Early AM flt to Hanoi Hotel Silk Path B, L, Dinner on your own

Mon Mar 16 Day 10. Early AM flt to US arriving LA 1500 Mar 16 Silk Path B, L,

Cost \$3195.00 including International Air. Single Supplement \$695.00

The 2014 Reunion Portland Oregon

August 13-17

Hosts John and Nancy Schausen welcome you to join the following festivities.

We will leave the Red Lion by bus and travel to the Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum in McMinnville, Oregon, which is about 45 miles southwest of Portland. This is where Gunny Brandon volunteers much of his time. We will have the Memorial service at the Chapel located on the museum grounds at about 10:30. After the memorial service, those who wish can take a guided or unguided tour of the museum. This is where the Spruce Goose is housed and is something to see. The guided tour takes about 1-1/2 hours. We will have a no-host lunch in one of the two cafeterias and then board the bus again to travel back to Portland to Washington Park where we will visit the Viet Nam memorial.

After the park, we will return to the hotel. We should arrive between 3:00 and 5:00 PM. There will be a fee for the bus plus a separate \$14 fee to tour the museum. Also on the museum grounds there is a water park (for those bringing grandkids.) They would only have approximately two hours in the pool. Separate fees for the water park.

Red Lion Hotel on the River - Jantzen Beach

909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland, OR 97217 (Formerly Doubletree)

Call directly (503) 283-4466 do not forget to mention the 2nd Bn 4th Marines Reunion to receive the group discount.

Please keep in mind that there are NO SALES TAXES in the state of OREGON.

Nancy's email is schassenjc@aol.com

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

2/4 Association Members,

Your board has become aware that the Association's bylaws are not in compliance with the Internal Revenue Service rules, with respect to categories of membership. Therefore, it is necessary to amend the bylaws and bring them in compliance with the Internal Revenue Service rules, section 501 (c) (19) that govern the Association. Please review these proposed changes on the website www.2-4association.org and/or the attached as appropriate. Per the bylaws thirty (30) days' notice must be given to the Membership prior to any changes to the Bylaws. Therefore this posting will fulfill the requirement.

ARTICLE I - GENERAL, Section 3: Policy

In order to better identify the Internal Revenue Service non-profit classification of our Association, the following information has been added [highlighted in yellow] to this section:

A. This Association is defined as a 501(c)(19) organization for non-profit purposes in accordance with Internal Revenue Service [IRS] letter dated February 27, 2007, subject: Application for Tax-Exempt Status, Federal EIN 31-1720488, and State Department of Assessments and Taxation, State of Maryland letter dated 9 May 1989, subject: Approval of Articles of Incorporation, account number D2790236.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Based upon the Internal Revenue Service rules concerning membership in our Association, our present bylaws are not in compliance with respect to categories of membership. These categories should represent life members or annual members only. The terms Regular Members, Associate Members, In Memoriam Members and Honorary Members are not consistent with the IRS rules.

Therefore, it is proposed that Sections 2 through 6 of this ARTICLE be deleted and that the following new sections [Section 2: Annual Members and Section 3: Life Members] be inserted:

Section 2: Annual Members. All officers and enlisted members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, and her allies, who are serving now, or who have served honorably, with the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines [assigned or attached] are eligible for membership. Those veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States and allies who did not serve with the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, and civilians, who support the spirit and purpose of the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and this Association, may become members.

Annual membership applications from those having served in the military should include a copy of Copy 1 of the applicant's DD-214, active / reserve ID or other documentation substantiating proof of service in the Armed Forces of the United States. This allows the Association to 1] substantiate the IRS requirement for at least a 75% membership count of active and former military members, and 2] ascertain what awards have been made to individuals so that they may be honored appropriately on the association's Wall of Honor.

Section 3: Life Members. Applicants for initial membership into the Association and annual members in good standing may take the option to become life members. The prerequisites cited under Annual Members also apply to life membership. There is no time requirement to request a life membership.

Note: Those members previously having been identified as Associate Members would now be considered as either Annual or Life Members, depending upon their previous status as associate annual or life members. Honorary Members would now be considered as Life Members. Former Associate and Honorary Members would have all rights of the former Regular Members. In Memoriam Members will be honored on the association's In Memoriam list as before, but no longer identified as "members" in these Bylaws.

Note: These membership identification changes, if passed, will require respective changes in the

Present membership application form [please see below].

Sections: 7 - 11 will be renumbered **Sections: 4 - 8** respectively.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND STAFF

In order to preclude a conflict of interest, the Vice President would still be responsible for the creation of all committees, as presented below, but will not chair or participate in them.

Section 4: Vice President. The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President at meetings of the Board of Directors and Association. He shall be responsible for creating, but not chair or otherwise participate in, all standing and ad hoc committees not otherwise designated chairmen. He will also perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the bylaws or the Board of Directors.

Section 9: Staff

To ensure our membership percentage breakdown represents 75% former and active military members as dictated by IRS rules, the following has been added [highlighted in yellow]:

C. Membership Chairman. The Membership Chairman shall seek and encourage the membership recruitment of active and former members of the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines. The Membership Chairman shall also collect and maintain a roster of members with the cooperation and collaboration of the Secretary, and manage all categories of membership to include delinquent members. The Membership Chairman will be responsible for updating and maintaining a current membership application form for publishing on the web site, and dispersal to potential members. The Membership Chairman will ensure that association members having served, or are presently serving, in the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and the Armed Forces of the United States, must represent no less than 75% of the total membership.

In order to bring Section 4: Vice President into sync with Section 10: Committees and Boards, the following is recommended:

Section 10: Committees and Boards. The following committees and boards shall be established, but not limited to, for the conduct of specific business as identified below.

- A. **Nominating Committee.** The Nominating Committee shall be the selected by the Board of Directors composed of at least three [3] persons selected from membership at large each election year and shall have an odd number of members. No member of the Board of Directors may serve. This committee will be responsible for the nomination of association members in good standing, and as allowed herein, to serve in the aforementioned elective billets.
- B. In order to bring our bylaws into compliance with the spirit of the IRS rules, all references to the membership categories should be consistent. The wording in the following article has been changed to reflect this.

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Section 1: Elections. Elections shall be held every year in a staggered fashion. The positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and one Director will be voted upon during odd years, and the positions of Treasurer and the other Director will be voted upon during even years. Nominations will be presented to the membership by the Nominating Committee at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting via electronic communications, newsletter or U. S. Postal Service, as appropriate. Additional nominations may be accepted from the membership prior to the conduct of an election. ~~Only regular or regular life members in good standing may be considered for the offices of President, Vice President and the two [2] Director Positions.~~ Annual or life members in good standing, having served, or are presently serving, in the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines and the Armed Forces of the United States, may be considered for the offices of President, Vice President, and the two [2] Director positions.

~~Regular or associate members, to include associate life members,~~ Annual and life members not having served in the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines or the Armed Forces of the United States, but in good standing, shall be eligible for all other offices, with the exception of the Immediate Past President. Only past presidents may fill the position of Immediate Past President, an appointed staff position.

Section 3: Voting. ~~All regular, life and associate members.~~ All annual and life members in good standing may vote in officer and director elections, for bylaws revisions and amendments, operational policies and other business that requires a vote. Voting may be called for whenever required and will not be restricted in any manner. Voting may also be accomplished using paper ballots via the U.S. Postal Service or by electronic balloting means. Voting will not be accomplished by secret ballot, but all decorum concerning voting will be observed at all times.

ARTICLE VII - FINANCES

It has been determined by the association board, with advice from legal counsel, that the present bylaws requirement requiring officers and staff handling association funds to be bonded is unnecessary and prohibitively expensive. Additionally, historically the association officers and staff have never been bonded. It is recommended that:

Section 3: Bonds be deleted from the bylaws and that **Sections: 4 - 8** be renumbered **Sections: 3 - 7** respectively.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2014-2016 BALLOT

This ballot contains the names of the candidates, submitted by the Nominating Committee, who are seeking your vote for the positions of Treasurer and Director. Per the Bylaws, ARTICLE V – ELECTIONS AND VOTING, Section 1, Elections: "Elections shall be held every year in a staggered fashion. The positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and one Director will be voted upon during odd years, and the positions of Treasurer and the other Director will be voted upon during even years". Please review the brief summary of each candidate and cast your vote for the candidate of your choice. As in all elections, a space has been provided for write-in candidates in the event you choose to vote for someone not presented by the Nominating Committee. Per the Bylaws, thirty (30) days' notice must be given to the Membership prior to any vote. Therefore, this posting will fulfill the requirement.

LIST OF CANDIDATES

Treasurer:

James "Doc" Swann [Incumbent] - Doc has been a proud member of 2/4 and the Association for many years.

For a number of those years, he has served faithfully and honorably as Treasurer of the Association. His accuracy and attention to detail has been outstanding, maintaining and administering all funds with due diligence, as well as, providing the IRS and the State of Maryland with all reports and required documentation in a timely manner. His service to the Association and the Board has been immeasurable.

Director:

Jim Rogers [Incumbent] - Jim has served the Board of Directors faithfully for many years and in many capacities. He is known by most and trusted by all. He is willing to serve another term.

Roger Pittman - Roger is one of our treasured corpsmen and is a life time member of the Association. He has attended numerous reunions and he would be honored to fill the position of Director.

Sean Schickel - Presently a Major on active duty preparing for retirement. He was the organizer of the recent 10th anniversary of the Battle of Ramadi [Iraq] at Camp Pendleton. He represents the 43 new members from that generation we signed on in April. This presents an opportunity for the younger generation to become involved in their Association.

Once you have completed your review, unless voting at the business meeting in person, please mark the ballot below for the appropriate candidates and return it via U. S. Postal Service to:

Sergeant-at-Arms Pat Burns

2850 Avenida DeSoto

Navarre, Florida 32566

Or via e-mail: Sergeant-at-Arms Pat Burns emmalaoise@msn.com

PROPOSED 2014 BYLAWS CHANGES BALLOT

Member's name _____ Date _____

Member's signature _____ (If submitted by U.S. Postal Service)

___ I DO accept the new proposed changes to the bylaws

___ I DO NOT accept the new proposed changes to the bylaws

Please mark the appropriate box for the candidates of your choice and mail this page to Sergeant of Arms:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2014-2016 BALLOT

Member's name: _____ Date: _____

Member's signature: _____ (if submitted by U. S. Postal Service)

Treasurer:

[] James "Doc" Swann

[] _____

(Write-in)

Director: (Please mark only one for Director)

[] Jim Rogers

[] Roger Pittman

[] Sean Schickel

[] _____

(Write-in)