



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



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NOV 2016 *Sea Horse*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the person who we believed would be our new Membership Chairman was unable to fulfill this duty. Thus, we are back to square one trying to find a member, spouse or friend of the Association willing to take this extremely important billet. Presently, our Secretary, Manny Travassos, is maintaining the roster and duties of the Membership Chairman with Cindy Greer assisting. While this helps us to keep a handle on our membership, it is unfair to Manny. He is already functioning as our Secretary which is a busy job in itself. He does a lot more for us than take notes at meetings once a year.

Overloading those few who serve our Association as officers and staff does two things. First, it burns them out quickly when they are needed for the long haul, and two, it is actually a disservice to them and you, our membership. If members do not volunteer to help run our Association, then the few that pick up the slack tend to stay longer than they desire and those who never do anything continue to deprive the Association of their abilities in sharing in the operation of this organization. Where do you stand? Yes, we who do the work understand the requirements of families, jobs and all those things that make it easier to say, "we don't have the time." Please remember, however, that those that fill the officer and staff billets have the same pressures as those who contribute nothing.

We have somewhere in the neighborhood of 500+ members. Of that number, only about 15 people serve the membership in some capacity from being an officer, a staff member or someone assisting a staff member. That is a sad commentary. Marines are known for stepping up to the plate and getting things done. I would like to see some of you consider this and offer to help where you are needed. If you are house bound, you can still help to make a difference by doing administrative work, serving on committees, calling prospective members, etc. We also have no problem with spouses and friends taking up the reins on a project. We are family. Families take care of each other. Marines and sailors take care of each other, too. Please look at what this Association gives you and consider giving something back.

Next, we finally have the dates for the 2017 reunion: 2-6 August 2017 in Charleston, SC. General Livingston and Colonel Bob Mastrion have been working hard on the planning. The headquarters hotel will be the Holiday Inn Charleston in Mount Pleasant, SC. Rooms will be \$149 per night plus tax. You can call now for reservations: 877-355-7693. The reservation identifier is "BAT." There will also be something new this year concerning meals at the hotel. This hotel has a great deal of experience hosting military reunions. As an outgrowth of this experience, the hotel has developed a Military Catering Package (MCP). This package includes four full buffet breakfasts served in the hospitality room and the buffet banquet meal served in the grand ballroom to include tax and gratuity. This fee also includes the hospitality room with coffee service, common rooms for meetings, set up fees and the use of a bar tender for two hours during the banquet. The amount for all of this is \$152.00 per person. While it sounds like a lot up front, if one does the numbers for all these things paid individually, the cost is higher, so this is a tremendous deal. There will also be a number of activities: tour to the Medal of Honor Museum, Patriot's Point and Naval Base with lunch, a battle symposium on various Vietnam battles, a harbor dinner cruise, trip to Parris Island to view training and graduation with lunch, a BBQ, annual memorial service and meeting, and a banquet. Lots of activities to enjoy with some free time to explore. All this will be presented shortly in the Sea Horse and on the web site as plans are locked and cocked. This looks to be a wonderful reunion. The hotel rates apply to several days before the reunion to several days after which avails you additional time to explore Charleston and experience some great restaurants.

Lastly, Colleen and I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to come. Please travel with safety in mind and may the joys of the season extend into a great and prosperous new year!

Semper fi & Anchors Aweigh,

Brooks

Brooks Wilson

President

NEWS FROM THE BATTALION COMMANDER

Marines, Sailors, Families, and Friends,

We are at the end of our overseas tour! Over the last six months we have had our Marines and Sailors from 2/4 participate in four major exercises across 12 different countries and islands, including Okinawa, mainland Japan, Guam, Tinian, the Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Palau and Farallon de Medinilla. Our Marines and Sailors have conducted themselves as outstanding ambassadors to the U.S. and our military leadership team is proud. Our Navy shipmates have been instrumental in helping us achieve our goals our integration with Amphibious Squadron Eleven comprised of the USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6), USS Green Bay (LPD 20), and USS Germantown (LSD 42) had been outstanding. We want to thank our higher headquarters, the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit for their professionalism, guidance, and overall teamwork during this entire deployment. They welcomed us like family and we appreciate the support they provided us.

I am proud to relay that during our deployment we have promoted over 250 Marines and Sailors, awarded over 75 Marines for outstanding work, and graduated over 400 from Professional Military Education schools. Despite a fast-paced and challenging schedule, our Marines and Sailors made time to volunteer in the local Japanese communities and abroad during our liberty ports and training opportunities. They organized park clean up initiatives, visiting and playing games at orphanages, to sporting events with our allied militaries across the Pacific.

Our next mission: coming home! Your Magnificent Bastards are working hard to complete a full turnover of accounts with another infantry unit, and making sure we conduct a safe and expedient retrograde back to

our friends and family in America. We have accomplished all that we set out to do, and continue to operate at a high level, ready to be called upon when our nation needs us. Thank you to all the friends and families who have supported your Marines and Sailors the past six months.

A special thank you to our adopted city San Clemente for championing the care packages we received this week. We are truly blessed to have such a great city to call home. If you would like to see pictures of our training with the 31st MEU and updates on our battalion, please "like" us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/2dBattalion4thMarines>

Semper Fidelis,

Brian Greene

Lieutenant Colonel Brian Green (Battalion Commander)

STATE OF THE BATTALION

Nov. 10-20 – Main Body Homecoming Window

Dec.

9 - Family Day

12 - Jon Hancock's (2/4 Ramadi Vet) walk across America

14 – French Fourragere & Bastards Awards Ceremony

15 - Birthday Ball

2ND BATTALION, 4TH MARINES ASSOCIATION

2-6 Aug. 2017 REUNION – Charleston, SC

Information in the next Newsletter and on the Association website

Cpl. Patrick Gallagher Hotel Co March 1967

I am involved in a project / petition for a Marine who was from my company KIA MARCH 30, 1967 Patrick Gallagher who was from Ireland.

Patrick had been awarded the Navy Cross in an earlier engagement. The petition is to have a US Navy Ship named after him.

Signatures are required to do so. The goal is to have the ship dedicated on March 30 2017 fifty years to date from the date of his death.

I Have a representative of the family in Ireland coming to my home Nov 6 for an interview along with several other members from our Company who she(Kathy Rafferty) has made contact with in the States .

For a full story on Patrick Gallagher key in his name and Patrick Gallaher USMC.

Please click on the link to view full information and hear interviews with the family.

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/patrickgallagher>

Please pass this information on to fellow Bastards and their family members to sign the petition and honor Patrick and his family members.

SEMPER FIDELIS,

FRANK MORELLI

YOU MAY REACH ME IF NEEDED AT 727-372-8860 TRINITY, FLORIDA

Foot Note: Frank Morelli was Navy Corpsman, assigned to Hotel Company March 10 '67 until July 26 1967. He transferred out at that time to First Amtrak then 3Rd Med Battalion during Tet of '68. On March 30 Frank was assigned to First Platoon .Being new he chose to fall in with second platoon to be with a fellow Corpsman whom I went through training with.

This move saved my life as I would have been in the middle of the squad who took the brunt of the casualties. Last year Frank reunited with Patrick for the first time in 48 years.

Semper Fi video by Trace Adkins <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roKCUFeWFmQ>

Please view the Battle of Dai Do video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-ZI1BGr3Mw>

SOCKS FOR HEROES



We received this from an Army Unit in Iraq. They write:

"We received your package yesterday and thank you very much! Your group has gone above and beyond; we truly appreciate the package. Attached is a small part of the headquarters that were free to take a picture. Everyone sends their warmest appreciations and gratitude."

If you'd like to help, please go to <http://scmcsg.org/socks-for-heroes> and make a donation today.