



The 2/4 Association

Sea Horse

The Second Battalion, Fourth Marines: “Second to None—The Magnificent Bastards”

DECEMBER 2007

2006–2008 2/4 Association Officers and Chairs

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President's Message

My Fellow Marines and Corpsman:

Does that sound presidential enough? As we approach the end of another year we must all take time to look back at what has happened in our lives and look ahead to our future? Many of our association members have suffered losses within their families "Wives, parents, and siblings" have passed on, we as association members have suffered even a greater loss, not only do we share the losses with them, we also share the losses on members of our "Association." Further, sickness has befallen our ranks and has caused us much pain and suffering. Know that as a "family of Marines and Sailors" we all pray in our own way to our own Supreme Being for your return to good health.

On a positive note, our monument committee has been hard at work and I am happy to report that with their fund-raising talents and your financial support, "Phase one" of our monument has been completed. It is set in Semper Fidelis Park and Phase two (Corpsman and chaplains panels) is now underway with an anticipated installation date set for the spring of 2008. I am sorry to say that I have not yet been able to visit the museum or the park but I have heard nothing but good things from those who have been there.

The reunion for 2008 has been set and there is a section in this newsletter that will give you all an update.

The year 2008, will also be an election year for officers of the "Association" and I hope that at least some of you are thinking about stepping up to the plate. Please notify Fritz Warren or Dave Jones if you would like to be considered for an office.

I have been told that 2008 might also mark the 20th anniversary of our great Association and accordingly this will be our twentieth reunion, therefore I am hoping that it will rank among the best reunions that we have ever had. I have been planning to have a symbol created to pass on to the new president at the banquet. I hope that it will come to pass.

Peggy and I are looking forward to seeing "ALL" of you in August in New Mexico.

Until then please contribute to Toys for Tots and be safe during the upcoming holiday season.

Semper Fi

Jack

2008 Reunion Update~

2008 will be in northern New Mexico during the last week of August. The average daytime temps in northern NM during that time are mid-80s and very comfortable. NO HUMIDITY! The Host City is Angel Fire, NM. Angel Fire is approximately 2 hours north of Albuquerque and is serviced by rental car or a shuttle service that runs 4 times daily. Angel Fire is 27 miles northeast of the village of Taos. A registration form and price information will be published on the Association website right after the first of the year. Members can also call me at 575-373-8621 or e-mail me at nyjack_9@msn.com for a registration form.

Some background on Angel Fire:

In late May 1968, a young Marine Lt serving with 1/4 was reported KIA. His family owned some land in the foothills of Angel Fire and his father decided to honor his son and his unit with a monument built on the family ranch. After reading about it and hearing stories about it, my wife and I finally visited Angel Fire in late Sept of this year. I can only say that it IS as awesome as everyone had said.

Tentative plans, which will be completed soon, because it is a very busy ski area, include an afternoon picnic/gathering at Eagle's Nest lake 9 miles north and possibly a sunrise memorial service at the almost completed amphitheater or in the chapel. Both face the east and would allow an unbelievable view of the valley below. The monument has become part of the State of NM park system and has a visitor's center that is so emotional that there are boxes of tissues placed around the area. No one will forget it soon.

Check out our website after the first of the year for travel information and a registration form.

My wife Peggy, our daughter Jaime, son-in-law Chris and grandson, Jakob look forward to seeing all of you in 2008.

**In Honor of Our Fallen
Written by Stephen Sack**

Date: Sat, 13 Oct -2007

Forty years and a few hours from now, Golf company and command group alpha were in for a fight for their lives. I will always remember what happened in the hours to come and be forever thankful for those that gave their lives for our country and Corps. If there is life after death, I'm sure they made it. L/Cpl. Helms " The Proud Bastards" wrote," I have died your deaths a thousand times as I have grown old. Yet you sleep, forever young in my memory" they sleep forever young while we live our lives for them. Let's not let them down! Always remember "we" are the Magnificent Bastards!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Semper Fi,

Stephen lets all pray tonight not just for the bridge fight but for all the battles 2/4 has fought, they were all important and they all made a difference!

News From The CO....

28 November, 2007

"2/4 is nearly complete with an extremely busy pre-deployment training schedule. The days of long training 'work-ups' are definitely over -- it was almost just yesterday that the Battalion returned from its 9-month deployment with the 15th MEU. We will be heading to Okinawa in early January, then embarking on Navy shipping shortly after that. We expect to deploy into the Western Pacific for exercises across the region after we get underway. The Marines are - as always - motivated and we are ready for whatever mission we may receive once overseas."

Semper Fidelis,

C. F. Wortman

LtCol, USMC

CO, 2/4

760-763-3693

wortmancf@1mardiv.usmc.mil

The 2/4 Association *Sea Horse*

During the Charleston reunion, on behalf of the 2/4 Association, President Jack Petrowsky gave me a beautiful Charles Waterhouse bronze statuette of a World War I Marine Rifleman for my work on the 2/4 Monument project. Fritz Warren wrote the following for the Seahorse and asked that I send it to you along with a picture of the statuette and information about my father.

"At the Association 2007 Reunion held at Charleston, SC, in July, President Jack Petrowsky presented a bronze statuette by Charles Waterhouse to Brigadier General William Weise, USMC (Ret). The "Weise Bronze" of a WWI "Grunt", titled "Marine, Mud and Misery" was given to General Weise in honor of his father. It is engraved with the words, "In Honor of Albert Weise, US Army." The presentation to General Weise was made in appreciation of his leadership role in making the 2/4 Monument a reality. The monument honors 2/4 Riflemen through the ages and also will also pay tribute to our Corpsmen and Chaplains. It will be erected in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park, adjacent to the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

"General Weise expressed his deep appreciation for the statuette, thanking everyone present and told the following story of why it meant so much to him:

"In 1916, after serving a hitch in the Navy, my Dad, Al Weise, enlisted in the Army. He initially served in the cavalry, along the Arizona-Mexico border, under Brigadier General John Pershing. Pershing was tasked with protecting US citizens against raids by Pancho Via and others. Dad gained the rank of corporal and became a squad leader.

"When the US entered World War I in 1917, My father took a reduction to private in order to transfer to the infantry and become one of the first 500 American soldiers to sail for France. When asked why he took the reduction to transfer, he replied, "In the cavalry I was responsible for my horse, a carbine, a saber, a pistol, and nine other soldiers. In the infantry as a private all I had to take care of was my rifle." He was assigned to Company K, 23d Infantry of the 2d "Indianhead" Division. The 2d Division had two brigades, one Marine Corps with the 5th and 6th Marines, and one Army with the 9th and 23d Regiments. (Initially commanded by Army General Harbord, Marine General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the Division in late July 1918. Gen Lejeune is the only Marine to have commanded an Army Division in combat.)

"So, my Dad, although a Soldier, fought along side the Marines in five major engagements and under the command of a Marine general. He achieved the rank of Sergeant of Infantry, despite being a liberty risk whenever his outfit was in reserve. He was wounded, gassed and endured many privations, but he was always proud of his wartime service with Marines and Soldiers. He claimed that the Marines always got more publicity than they deserved but he was always glad to have them on his flank in a firefight – pretty good coming from an Army Grunt.

"Needless to say, I'm proud of my Dad. I'm also proud of my older brother, George, (Navy Aviation Ordnanceman 1/C, WWII), and my younger brother, Jack (Army Sergeant, Korean War). And, although we rib each other, we are all very proud of serving the greatest country in God's universe. "

Warmest Regards,

Bill



Monument~

GREAT NEWS!!!

Yesterday, the father /son team of Dan and Jonathan Modlich (grandson and great grandson of the founder of the Modlich Monument Company) completed installation of our rifleman Monument. To say that our monument is beautiful would be a gross understatement. It simply took my breath away when I first saw the center one ton panel being carefully put in place. You just have to see it to believe it. George Arensberg, the Modlich etching artist, captured the essence of the famous Waterhouse rifleman of five eras in meticulous detail. The black granite center panel of today's rifleman stands eight feet tall.

The side panels of WWII, Vietnam and Desert Storm Marines taper down to six feet. Ken Johnson (E/2/4, 1968) filmed the installation. Dennis Springer, Leatherneck Magazine, shot a number of photos, which he promised to send me. When he does I'll email you the best of the lot.

Now we have to focus on raising the money for our Corpsman and Chaplain panels. Our treasurer, Doc Swann, tells me that we need an additional \$55,000.00 to finish the job. You'll be receiving an appeal for donations in early December. However, we welcome your help right now. Send your donations to:

2/4 Association Monument Fund
PO Box 6087
Annapolis, MD 21401

Our Monument is located close to the future Memorial Chapel, planned for construction next Summer. It's one of the best spots on the trail.

At present, the section of trail on which our monument is located is still under construction. So visitors are not allowed access until completion in December or January. The monument is covered with heavy tarpolins to protect it from accidental damage from equipment during construction. The tarps will be removed when the trail is completed.

More info to follow.

Semper Fidelis,
Bill Weise



The 2/4 Association *Sea Horse*

We look forward to counting you among our partners in this project, which will endure for future generations. We hope that you will be able to visit the monument and the museum for an experience you will never forget.

Semper Fidelis,
William Weise
BGen, USMC (Ret)
Commanding Officer
2d Bn, 4th Marines
(1967-1968)

A LASTING TRIBUTE TO THE SECOND BATTALION, FOURTH MARINES

Yes, I want to help build a monument to honor Marines & Sailors of 2/4 from all eras.

Yes, Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of \$_____ to help build this monument in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park, Quantico, Virginia. My check or money order is enclosed.

Yes, In addition, I pledge to raise \$_____ and send by September 30, 2007.

This donation is given in ____ honor of in ____ memory of _____

(Name, please print)

(Address, Street, City, State, Zip Code)

(Telephone)

(Email Address)

Make checks payable to: 2d Bn, 4th Marines Assn Monument Fund.

Mail to: 2d Bn, 4th Marines Association, PO Box 6087, Annapolis, MD 21401-0087

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS TRIBUTE A REALITY. PLEASE SEND YOUR TAX EXEMPT
CONTRIBUTION (AND/OR MAKE YOUR PLEDGE) TODAY!**

I was in the Corps 1964 - 1968 stationed at Marine Barracks 8th & I Wash. DC. Bear with me on this, sir, and a short story.

Over Memorial Day my wife and I were invited to spend a few days at Myrtle Beach Sc. Upon arriving and getting settled in the condo I decided to check the lay of the land. After getting my wife seated in our truck I saw this "old coot" walking in my direction. I said hello and he returned the greeting with a twinkle in his eye. He then looked and saw a "Semper Fi" sticker in my rear window. He asked, "were you in the Corps"?

Yes sir, I was. Out went the hand and I heard "me too"! I looked into (what I found later to be 93 year old eyes) and jokingly said "What were you a Horse Marine"? The answer "close a China Marine". You could have knocked me over with a feather at that point. From there I received an invite the next day to visit. Leaving three hours later I have befriended a true "Old Breed" China Marine! We spent three hours, me listening and asking questions and I walked away having, shaken the hand, that shook the hand of Smedley Butler. Had Chesty Puller, as a friend and knew several Commandants as friends, referring to them by their first name, loosing me at times and had little good comment for Lou Diamond referred to as "Mr. Marine or Mr. Leatherneck".

Ski as this Lt. Col. insisted I call him enlisted in the Corps in 1931 and saw duty in Haiti, Nicaragua and onto China. He was stationed aboard the USS Tulsa and served with the Forth during the Sino Japanese Controversy. I believe as others do that I have befriended one of, if not the last, "Old Breed China Marines!"

The Corps, as seen in his original Discharge papers from the Corps to the Reserve, has his DOB Jun 29 1909 making him 98, but remember he enlisted at 15, having his parents, who neither read nor write, sign his enlistment papers.

Ski went on in his later years to become the first commissioned offer in the Corps to reach Lt. Col. in USMC Foods Services. He retired in 66 or 67 from the Corps and still went on to put fear into Marines he knew, one being Sen.

Charles Robb. I also happened to have served with, Lt. Robb, when I was in.

I have been told he (Ski) put fear into Marines and spoke with one retired Major who knew Ski who related the time Ski "crawled up his ass" as the Major said and thinks he's stilled "pissed at him"!

My question to you is, what do we do with what may be the "Oldest and Last of the Old Breed China Marines"?

Better still an Old Breed China Marine, who served with the 4th when it was activated in 1932?

Semper Fi!

Jim Donovan

donovan@ntelos.net

In The Spotlight~



Born Aug 25, 1930 in Northeast Kentucky. Reared on a farm. My family moved to Ohio in 1934. I graduated Manchester, Ohio High School in 1947. I enlisted in the Ohio National Guard in 1947 and was discharged in 1948. I graduated boot camp PISC March 1951. Transferred to the Marine Barracks Roosevelt Roads, PR. Transferred to MB Crane Indiana until Sept 1953. I joined Recon Co 1st Mar Div in Korea as Plt Sgt. 3d Plt Promoted to SSgt. Mar 1955 transferred in September 1956 to RS Cincinnati, Ohio. Promoted to SSgt. (E6) April 1960. Transferred to CLNC as Tactics Instructor ITR until November 1960. Transferred to PISC as DI until February 1963. Selected as Instructor to DI School. Promoted to Gunny Sgt. July 1964. Transferred to Camp Pendleton 2nd Bn 1st Mar as Chief Scout. Transferred to 3rd Mar Div 3rd Bn 3rd Marines until February 1965. Transferred to Saigon and served as Adv to Vietnam Marine. Joined 3/3 at Chu Lai as chief scout. Transferred to K. Co as platoon commander weapons platoon until November 1965... Transferred to HQ Co 4th Mar as Company GySgt until return to the United States in March 1966. Commissioned 2 May 1966. Transferred to 2nd Anti Tank bn. CLNC, attached to 2/8 for Caribbean Cruise until May 1967. Transferred to Quantico, as Assistant PMO until April 1968. Transferred to Vietnam and joined 2/4 May 1968. Served as CO Hq Co until May 1969. Promoted to Capt. and transferred to PISC May 1969, as CO MP Co until February 1970. Served as training and Guard Officer until retirement Mar 71 would I do it again? Damn right Breeze

THIRD MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION
6915 Peppertree Lane, Niwot, Colorado 80503

Association Membership Information

The 3rd Marine Division Association was founded in 1949 at Camp Pendleton. Since then, it has been a means of continuing friendships forged in the Corps and making new friends through Association activities.

Today, the Association is largely made up of Vietnam-era veterans. It is sad but inevitable as our older brothers have gone to their final formation. We are actively working to bring in our younger brothers from Desert Storm through the War on Terrorism. Even if you are already a member of a battalion-level association (I'm a co-founder of the 2/4 Association myself), the 3rdMarDiv Association can still be of benefit to you. Through the Association, for example, I was able to find several members of my Boot Camp platoon for our 40 year reunion in 2006.

I urge you to take a look at the website and see if it's something you want to consider. The 3rdMarDiv Association NEEDS YOU!

Regular dues are \$30.00 (\$7.50 for active duty personnel). Life memberships range from \$250 to \$125, depending on your age, and can be paid in installments.

For more information:

contact: Peter W. Schlesiona (e-mail: pschles@comcast.net)

Visit our Web Page at: www.caltrap.com

Semper Fi, Marines

The 2/4 Association *Sea Horse*

Membership Application, Second Battalion, Fourth Marines Association

Name: _____ Home phone: (____) _____
 Address: _____ Work phone: (____) _____

E-mail address: _____

Current rank if active duty or highest rank if discharged or retired: _____

Personal awards and decorations: _____

Period(s) of service (total): From _____ To _____; From _____ To _____; From _____ To _____

Period(s) with 2/4: From _____ To _____; From _____ To _____; From _____ To _____

Place(s) served with 2/4: _____

Unit(s) assigned to while with 2/4: Company ____ Platoon ____; Company ____ Platoon ____; Company ____ Platoon ____

Other military affiliations: _____

Married ____ Single ____ Widowed ____ Spouse or significant other's name: _____

Dues Information

Life membership can be paid in up to three installments over a period not to exceed nine consecutive months. Dues guidelines are the same for Regular Membership and Associate Membership. Please indicate below the type of membership you desire.

Membership Class:	Regular Membership: ____ Associate Membership: ____
Life Member	____ 54 and under: \$175(Lump sum or two payments of \$58.34 and one payment of \$58.32)
	____ 55 to 64: \$125(Lump sum or two payments of \$41.67 and one payment of \$41.66)
	____ 65 and over: \$75(Lump sum or three payments of \$25.00 each)
Annual Member	____ \$20

It is the applicant's responsibility to schedule payments, since the association will not send invoices. If the applicant fails to complete payment of life membership dues as set forth above, amounts paid and received towards life membership will be converted and credited as annual membership dues. Please mail checks (payable to "2/4 Association") and application to:

2/4 Association Inc
 c/o James Swann
 P.O. Box 6087
 Annapolis, MD.21401