



2nd Battalion, 9th Marines

THE BATTALION RUNNER

REUNION SPECIAL and More

Number 23-2 – September 2023



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www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org

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Opening Remarks

Our 30th Anniversary Reunion is rapidly approaching. Final details of all aspects of the reunion are set out below. We've also lost two of our most stalwart members of the 2/9 Network. Larry Kirby and Dennis Murphy both passed away in August. More on them below. I have included details from several messages I received from members or their families/friends in the "From the Mailbox" section. Let's get on with information without this intro getting too wordy.

Reunion Information

30th Anniversary Reunion

November 2023, Arlington, VA

When? 08-12 November 2023

**Where? Marriott Residence Inn Rosslyn, 1651 North Oak St.,
Arlington, VA 22209**

REUNION AGENDA

One thing I want to make clear involving our reunion. Everything you see below – food, beverages, transportation, etc., is free to anyone attending. Your only expenses for attending the reunion or our Birthday Dinner and Jam Session are your transportation to and from the reunion and paying for your room if staying at the hotel. You won't find this in almost any other organizational reunion the size of ours. We can do this thanks to donations from our members in the 2/9 Network. We will accept donations, sell raffle tickets, and conduct a 50/50 raffle. Any raffle items anyone would like to donate would be greatly appreciated.

- 1. Hospitality Room.** Located on the 1st floor of the hotel our hospitality room will be open from 07 November through 12 November. Free snacks, beer, soft drinks, and water will be available. The room will be open until the last Marine hits the sack!
- 2. 08 November.** This is a free day for everyone. There is no official agenda. The Hospitality Room WILL be open.
- 3. 09 November.** Approximately 1500 hours (3:00 p.m. for you civilians), our Jam Session begins. Music is provided by Ben Hernandez and the Gallatin Canyon Band in honor and memory of Ben's Dad, 2/9 member Dan Hernandez. Dan died in a car accident a few years ago. The band does this at no charge and music is primarily Bluegrass. This is the 3rd year for this agenda item and has been a big hit with people attending the reunion. Anyone can drop by to participate. You do not have to be staying at the hotel to

take part. If you live in the Arlington, VA, area come on over! Light food and beverages will be provided.

4. 10 November.

a. 1000 hours. The official USMC Wreath Laying Ceremony begins at the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Memorial). We attend this ceremony in force with transportation provided. Beginning time of our van trips to the memorial will be announced at the reunion. It is also only about a 15-20 minute walk from the Residence Inn to the memorial. If you have not witnessed this ceremony you should be sure to go. The Commandant speaks, a keynote speaker participates, the President's Own – the Marine Corps Band, participates, the Commandant's Own – the Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps, participates, and 8th & I passes in review. It never gets old.

b. 1800 hours (6:00 p.m.). Our Marine Corps Birthday Dinner at the Marriott Pentagon City. Salad, chicken, and dessert. There will be a cash bar available.

- i.** Opening remarks by Danny Schuster
- ii.** Invocation by Paster Dean Christ, the 2/9 Network honorary Chaplain.
- iii.** Short 2/9 Network Business Meeting.
- iv.** Keynote speaker: Retired Marine Corps Sergeant Major Bryan Battaglia. Bryan's last duty assignment was as the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (SEAC). That means Bryan was the senior enlisted man in the entire United States Armed Services. He is now a major and untiring advocate for veterans in his home state of Alabama.
- v.** Marine Corps Birthday Ceremony, including the reading of General Lejeune's message, the current Commandant's Birthday message, and the

youngest and oldest Marines cake cutting ceremony.

- vi. Announcement of 50/50 raffle winner and raffle item winners.
- vii. Benediction by Chaplain Dean Christ.

SPECIAL MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY DINNER NOTE!!!

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE BIRTHDAY DINNER, WHETHER YOU ARE STAYING WITH US AT THE RESIDENCE INN, LIVE LOCALLY AND WANT TO ATTEND, OR JUST WANT TO GO TO THE DINNER. YOU ARE WELCOME, BUT, I HAVE TO KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE AT THE DINNER. YOU MUST SEND ME AN EMAIL TELLING ME YOU ARE GOING AND HOW MANY ARE GOING TO BE WITH YOU. FRIENDS, OTHER MARINES, FAMILY, ETC., ARE ALL WELCOME BUT I HAVE TO KNOW HOW MANY. PLEASE GET THAT DONE AS WE HAVE TO TELL THE HOTEL HOW MANY DINNERS NEED TO BE PREPARED. OUR CONTRACT IS BASED ON NUMBERS AND IT AIN'T CHEAP! EMAIL ME AT TWONINENCOIC@AOL.COM.

c. Trip to The Wall. Approximately 2300 hours (11:00 p.m.) we make our annual visit to our Vietnam brothers on the Vietnam Wall. This takes place at the conclusion of our Birthday Dinner. We return to the Residence Inn and once all are back there we meet at the entrance to begin our journey. Vans will be available for transportation to and from The Wall. Anyone is invited to attend as we say hello to our lost brothers.

5. 11 November, Veteran's Day. We have no official agenda item on Veteran's Day. However, there is a Veteran's Day Ceremony at The Wall that is usually well attended and very good. The Marine Corps Museum in Triangle Virginia is

also about a 45 minute ride down 95 South. Obviously there are dozens of places to visit in the Arlington, VA/Washington, D.C., area.

6. 12 November. Say goodbye until next year!

The Hospitality Room will be open throughout the entire reunion.



Our new banner at it's debut last year: L-R: Dave Garner, John Kasparian, Danny Schuster



WAR MEMORIAL
NOVEMBER 10, 1993

Row 1
Doc Woody Woodruff
Dave Bigler
Rafael C. Renteria
Marty Corona
Ken Elliott
Patrick A. Pearce
Peter M. McClaine
Ed Gorman
Okla C. Spence
Bill Ambrose
Ed Rogers
Kathy Upchurch
Frank Zimmaro

Row 2
Don Truesdale
Michael "Mike" Neely
Barry Yeakle
Keith Johnson
Mike DuPas
Tim Blinn-Flag
Gus Ebbinger
Rich Centi
John Kasparian
David Garner
Bill Corbett
Ray Nieto
Bruce Dean
Roger Spurr
Richard (Red) Hill
Henry P. Ostaszewski

Th

First 2/9 Network Reunion held November 1993, with original banner held by Red Hill

Hotel Information and Room/Parking Rates

1. Room rates will be \$139/night, plus taxes. The hotel has set up an exclusive internet reservation page for us at [Book Your Group/Corporate Rate | Marriott International](https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1680024458050&key=GRP&app=resvlink). If clicking on that link does not work type this link into your internet browser to reach the page: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1680024458050&key=GRP&app=resvlink> You can book rooms a day or two earlier or later if you want to plan a D.C. area vacation around the reunion dates, and our rates still apply.

Note: The links should work directly from here in the PDF version of the newsletter.

2. **Room reservation cutoff date is Friday, 13 October.** If you do not make a room reservation by that date you may be forced to accept normal room rates at the hotel, and they are **MUCH** higher than our negotiated rates of \$139/night. Parking

is normally \$25/night but our contract gets us half off, so the rate for parking will be \$12.50 for reunion folks.

Details

All these details will be published on our website on the 2023 Reunion page that can be accessed from our Home Page at www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org

2/9 Network Stalwart Losses

This is unusual for me to do in a newsletter, but we lost two of our most stalwart members of the 2/9 Network during August.

On 12 August, Larry Kirby, a WWII veteran of 2/9, passed peacefully in his sleep at 99. Retired Major General Dennis Murphy, Battalion XO as a Major in 1967-68, and Battalion Commander as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1973-74, passed away on 28 August at the age of 91.

Larry Kirby

MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA — Marine Corps veteran and author Lawrence F. “Larry” Kirby, who as a young soldier survived the Battle of Iwo Jima which many of his fellow Marines didn’t, and who witnessed the raising of the American flag on Mount Suribachi on Feb. 23, 1945, died over the weekend.

The longtime Manchester-by-the-Sea resident was 99. Photographer and Gloucester City Councilor at-Large Jason Grow posted to Facebook on Sunday: “Cape Ann has lost one of its greatest of the Greatest Generation with the earthly departure of Lawrence Kirby, 99.”

“Larry epitomized to me, the essence of our WWII veterans in this simple quote: “I showed up. I did my job. I got lucky,” Grow wrote.

About 2015, Grow photographed Kirby for a portfolio of World War II veterans featuring their photographs and stories.

Grow said he was struck by Kirby’s humility. As a reconnaissance scout and platoon sergeant, Grow said Kirby was someone who would be leading the way out on his own. He saw some horrific battles and was wounded in Guam. Shortly after photographing him, Grow said Kirby showed up at his house with a copy of his book and vial of black volcanic sand he had saved from Iwo Jima.

“He was a phenomenal guy, he was terrific,” said Rockport Selectman Paul Murphy, a retired school administrator with the Manchester Essex Regional School District.

He recalled having Kirby speak to middle and high school students when Kirby was in his early 90s. The Memorial Day assembly in 2015 also featured U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton, D-Salem, a Marine Corps veteran who served four tours of duty in Iraq.

Murphy said Kirby gave a terrific speech and the entire student body gave him a standing ovation without any prompting.

“He was a force to be reckoned with. He was a great guy,” Murphy said.

After that assembly, Kirby would go on to speak at Moulton’s Veterans Town Halls.

“What a privilege and an inspiration it was to know Larry Kirby,” Moulton said. “He was the best of the best — the last of a generation that saved the world from true evil. He was not only a courageous, highly-decorated Marine who saw some of World War II’s fiercest battles, but also a loving family man who was a fixture of this community for decades. Larry could have spent his twilight years just sitting back and letting the world go by, but instead he chose to speak up and defend the

nation he fought for when he saw threats to our own democracy emerging.

"Larry understood the true meaning of patriotism, and I hope future generations will hear his story to learn from him as much as I did," Moulton said.

"He was a very interesting guy," said Manchester-by-the-Sea resident George Nickless, a friend of Kirby's who said his oldest brother, Fred, and his wife were especially close with the Kirbys. "He and his wife, Mary, were a wonderful couple." They were both parishioners of First Parish Church Congregational.

He said Kirby was always jovial and a great speaker. "And, boy, could he tell a joke."

Nickless, a Korean War-era veteran who is now 92, recalls when he was 83 and Kirby was 90, they went skydiving together in Orange.

Larry Kirby went sky diving to celebrate his 80th birthday in 2004. At the time, the 45-year Summer Street resident said he didn't want to let himself feel old.

Handout

Kirby, the author of "Stories from the Pacific: The Island War 1942-1945," was present at the 75th anniversary observance of the Battle of Iwo Jima in the State House's Memorial Hall of Flags in February 2020. He was a 20-year-old platoon sergeant at the time of his landing on Iwo Jima.

He recalled plenty of small-arms fire while he lay on his back, about 50 yards from the foot of a hill on Iwo Jima when somebody yelled, "Look!"

"And I rolled over and looked back, and I saw them putting the flag up. All that meant to me was, we won't be taking fire from that hill," Kirby told a State House News Service reporter after the ceremony. He attributed the continued focus on the Battle

of Iwo Jima to the iconic image of that flag raising by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

"I just showed up, did my job, and got lucky," he said of his service in World War II. Kirby told the New Service there were 230 Marines in his company when he went ashore. After 36 days of battle, only seven remained.

He would go on to recall his friends who were killed in battle. The United States lost about 7,000 troops on Iwo Jima, 22 of whom were friends of Kirby's.

At an Iwo Jima observance in the State House this past February, he described what love meant for the young Marines in battle: "But I saw young Marines risk their lives, and deliberately give their lives, for their friends. Because they loved them. So that was the lesson I learned: Love is the most valuable thing in the world. Priceless."

In November 2019, Kirby spoke of the men he served alongside at the annual Lt. William S. Bush Memorial Breakfast at the USS Constitution Museum, according to a story in the Times.

"I can guarantee you that as long as I am able to breath I will remember them every single day and I will always be in their debt," he said.

According to Grow's portfolio, Kirby was born on June 21, 1924, and raised in Brookline and was one of five children. After high school, Kirby enlisted in the Marines in 1942 at age 18. He was trained as a scout sniper and held the rank of platoon sergeant. He served in the Pacific Theater with the 2nd Battalion, 9th Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, taking part in amphibious landings at Bougainville, Solomon Islands, in 1943; the liberation of Guam in 1944; and the Battle of Iwo Jima from February to March 1945. Kirby sustained shrapnel wounds during the Guam invasion, according to Grow's portfolio project.

According to the website of "The Log Book Project," which contains photos of Kirby's military records, Kirby was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart and the Navy Commendation Medal, among others.

Kirby came home on Christmas Eve, 1945. He went on to graduate from Northeastern University where he also studied at its School of Law. Kirby worked as a marketing analyst and as an operating vice president while also starting a family. He would also talk about how he would put his personal family life over his professional life.

Kirby was predeceased by his wife of 76 years, Mary Elizabeth Crane Kirby, who died on Dec. 6, 2022, at age 96, according to her obituary in the The Cricket. The couple raised three sons and a daughter. According to the obituary, the couple had seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

"Larry was a true legend and hero in every sense of the way," said Cape Ann Director of Veterans Services Vionette "Vee" Chipperini. "He was humble with his accomplishments, always reminding us of the gallant service of others but never his own. His love and admiration for others is something we should all aspire to share more of. I pray his family finds comfort in knowing the impact he has made and the inspiration he was to us all."

Larry was the keynote speaker at our Marine Corps Birthday Dinner during our reunion on November 10th, 2018, at the age of 94. Those who heard that speech will never forget it. Danny

There will be a celebration of life service held for Larry on 30 September 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the First Parish Church in Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA.

Retired Major General Dennis Murphy

Major General Dennis J. Murphy, USMC (Ret.) passed away on August 28, 2023, in Wyckoff, New Jersey with family holding his hands. Dennis was predeceased by his two sons Steven and Brian. The Murphy men are together again in heaven. Dennis is survived by the love of his life, Dorothy. They were to celebrate their 69th Wedding Anniversary on September 11th. Together they traveled the world, moved 35 times, and created a family that stands tall and proud. He is survived also by his daughter Grace Marie (Jack), his daughters-in-law Lise and Kelly Murphy, his grandchildren Ashley, Sarah, Connor, William, Kyle, Madden, and Sean. He has nine great grandchildren who are so lucky to have known their Great Grandpa. He was a faithful servant of the church, an amazing Dad, and an exceptional Marine.

Dennis was born January 8, 1932, in the Bronx, New York. He was a graduate of Cardinal Hayes High School and then Georgetown University, where he wore number 14 for four years as a starter on the Hoyas men's basketball team. He was almost too tall, but he went into the Marine Corps just out of college and took his bride away from NY for quite the ride of their lives. Dennis served 34 years in his beloved Marines Corps, commissioning in 1953 as an infantry leader of Marines. Along the way he completed the U.S. Army Ranger School, Amphibious Warfare School and earned a master's degree from The George Washington University. His service included combat leadership in Vietnam and operational and staff assignments, including Commanding Officer of The Basic School, and ultimately, as the Commanding General of the 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

General Murphy was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Combat "V" and Gold Star, the Purple Heart Medal, the Korean Cheonsu Medal, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry and several other awards and campaign medals.

Many said they would, and did, follow Dennis into any fire fight.

He was wise counsel to all he encountered. He was incredibly well read and passed an enthusiastic love of crosswords to his children and grandchildren. He was smart, sharp, and selfless in service to God, his family, and this nation.

The passing of this Murphy giant leaves a giant hole in all of our hearts.

A funeral mass will be held on September 16, 2023, at 2:00 pm in St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church, 700 Wyckoff Avenue, Wyckoff, NJ.

Military Honors will take place at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, at a future date.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to Semper Fi America's Fund, <https://thefund.org/donate/>, 825 College Blvd, Suite 102 PMB 609 Oceanside, CA 92057. or The Pine Haven Boys Center, <http://pinehavenboyscenter.org/pine-havenfoundation/>, 133 River Road P.O. Box 162, Suncook, NH 03275.

Military Biography of Major General Dennis J. Murphy, USMC (Ret.)

General Murphy was born January 8, 1932, in New York City. He graduated from Georgetown University in 1953 with a B.S.S. degree in History and Government. In 1973 he earned a master's degree in International Affairs from The George Washington University.

He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1953. In his early career he served as a Rifle Platoon Commander, participating in vertical assault development and in atomic bomb tests. He qualified in Army Ranger training, served as a Series Commander at the Recruit Depot, San Diego and commanded the Marine Detachment on the aircraft carrier Bennington (CVA-20). He commanded a Rifle Company and the Anti-Tank Company in the 1st Marine Brigade in Hawaii from 1961 to 1964.

After completing Amphibious Warfare School and the Nuclear Weapons Employment Course, he served in the Operations Section of the Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic. In July 1967 he was assigned as the Executive Officer of the 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines in Vietnam. He later served as Operations Officer of the 3rd Marine Regiment (Reinforced) operating along the DMZ in Vietnam until July 1968.

After completing the Marine Corps Command and Staff College he was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, where he served as the Ground Lieutenant Colonel Monitor and as Head, Ground Officer Control Unit, Personnel Department until August 1972.

He completed the National War College in June 1973, and subsequently reported to the 3d Marine Division on Okinawa. He served as Commanding Officer, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines and later commanded Battalion Landing Team 2/9 in Australia until June 1974.

He then served as the Special Assistant and Marine Corps Aide to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. In September 1976, he returned to Quantico as Head, Leadership Instruction Department. In August 1977, he assumed command of The Basic School. While serving in this capacity, he was selected for promotion to brigadier general.

He was advanced to that grade in July 1979 and assigned as Assistant Division Commander, 2d Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, NC. General Murphy was assigned duty as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Plans, Korean/U.S. Combined Forces Command, Seoul, Korea in July 1980. In July 1982, General Murphy was assigned as Deputy Commander, Fleet Marine Forces, Pacific in Hawaii. He was advanced to major general on March 1983, and assigned as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower/Director, Personnel Management Division at Headquarters Marine Corps in June 1983. He assumed command of the 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, NC in August 1984. He continued in that command until his retirement in November 1987.

He retired to Norfolk, VA where he served as Executive Director, Hampton Roads Naval Historical Foundation until February 2003.

From the Mailbox

Gerald Arthur Letendre, Echo, KIA 03/25/1966

I received the following note from Gerald's niece Chelsea on 06 September:

Hi,

I am the niece of Gerald Arthur Letendre (3rd Marine Division, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, E Company). I know only what my aunts have been able to tell me of my uncle, as my mom was young when he was killed 3-25-66 in Quang Nam. I was wondering if there happened to be anyone who remembers

him who could tell us of their time with him. He has 5 sisters and multiple nieces and nephews, and great nieces who would like to hear more about him.

Thank you for your time.

Chelsea

Chelsea Daniels (danielschelsea25@gmail.com)

Ronald Clyde High, Hotel, KIA 31 August 1968

I received the following note from Richard McGlathery in May this year.

Dear Danny,

I am writing in regards to a fallen brother named Ronald Clyde High, who was KIA on 31 Aug 1968. He was attached to 3rd Marine Division, 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, Hotel Company. My name is Richard McGlathery, and I served in USNR, (Air Navy), from 1970-76. I am writing a story about Ronnie High because my closest friend, John High, lost a brother a couple of weeks ago and now has no living siblings. John moved to

Jerusalem, Israel, and his name was changed to Yochanan Elrom. He is a News Anchor on a show called Israel Now News (Daystar 263 on Dish TV). He has resided in Jerusalem for more than two decades. I want to write a bio about Ronnie High and present it to Yochanan, as the loss of his younger brother was a life long tragedy for him personally. He is not aware that I am working on this project. All I have found so far is that he died in the south in small arms fire. It is officially listed on the wall as "Died through hostile action .. small arms fire. Incident location: South Vietnam, Quang Tri province." I would like to get copies of any pictures, any narratives of the action that he was killed in, or any other information that you can find out. Again, I am not writing this for anyone other than Yochanan and his family, but would be glad to give you a copy of it once it is completed. Thank you so much for your great service . I heard many stories from my fellow mates coming back from there in 1970-73, and I have to admit that I learned to hate the political aspect of that war. Nonetheless, it was hard fought war in which I had friends who were killed or maimed in it. I am hopeful that if I can give a thorough accounting of Ronnie's last days to his brother, that it might help to complete some of the lifelong heartbreak that he suffers. Thank you for your help!

Richard McGlaythery (richardtavor@protonmail.com)

**Retired Master Sergeant William T. Wright
Sr., Golf and Echo Companies, Oct. 66 –
Nov. 67, 3.5 Gunner**

**I received the following note from MSgt. Wright
on 31 July.**

I was with Golf and Echo between Oct 66 to Nov 67. I just found your site. I was a 3.5 gunner. Can't remember anyone. Hoping someone remembered me.

**WILLIAM T WRIGHT SR
MSGT RETIRED
3916 HWY 39N MERIDIAN, MS 39301
601-513-9288
williamwild@aol.com**

**Randal “Pete” Peterson, 2/9 at Khe Sanh,
1969.**

I got the note below from Pete’s son Micah on 06 August.

Hello there,

Found your website searching for 2/9 info. My dad, Randal Peterson, (aka “Pete”), was in 2nd Battalion 9th Marines. My understanding is he was in Khe Sahn around 1969.

I am hoping to connect with other Marines who served with him and in particular any Marines from his unit who might have met up with him at a reunion back around 2012

Is there any sort of message board you have or know of where I could put the word out?

Thanks

Micah Peterson
208-243-9695
freehometours@gmail.com

Ed Henry, 1st Marines and also Military Historical Tours

**I received the following information from Kathy
Upchurch**

**Ed died in a tragic car accident on Aug 30, 2023
He was Tboned by another car on a blind stretch of road. He
was unconscious at the scene and died at the scene. His Dog
Bones was with him. Bones was not hurt.
Survived by his son Dylan (Sophie) and granddaughter Evie.
Significant other Peggy.**

**Ed “Doc” Henry wasn’t a member of 2/9 yet
he led trips to Vietnam starting in the late 80’s. Then he
started leading the Tours for Military Historical Tours in 1996.
He took me to Vietnam in 1994. Ed served with 1st Marines in
DaNang. He was in Battle Starlite. He knew many in 2/9,
including Barney Barnum. In 1998, he led the 30th Anniversary
of Tet 68, and the tour “Return of our Khe Sanh Marines - 30th
Anniversary”. I was on that trip and was glad to see some of
our 2/9 Marines there. Ed was well known. He worked with
Friends of the Vietnam Wall and was a member of Washington
Veterans Poet group who have a tent on Veterans Day and
Memorial Day.**

Danny, you may not know Ed but he'd drop by the 2/9 reunions when Red was there. Many know him.

Dylan Henry, his son, shared this a few days ago

At St. John's Church, Western Run Parish — A reception to celebrate the life of Ed Henry will be held on Saturday Sept 16 at 4:30 PM at St John's Episcopal church, Western Run Parish. It will be in their parish hall.

For those who want to pay tribute to Ed, we will have a mic. If you have text that you would like us to read to honor Ed, feel free to send it to me before Saturday.

Address:

3738 Butler Rd

Reisterstown, MD 21136

Website: <https://www.stjohnswrp.org>

Donations

Thanks to the following who graciously have donated to our cause since the last newsletter in May 2023.

Ed Gorman

Larry Noon

Jim Riordan

Amanda Slattery-Yanzek

AJ Langford

Mary Minnis

Mick Smith

Charlie Davis

Jim Fullwood

**James Joyce
Tom Callum
Tom Crites
Bob Slattery
Joe Mannino
Dennis Voge
Karen Lanning
Cliff Siegfried
Jack McDowell
Gary Griffis
Glen Siegler
Kevin Jewers
Tom Fenerty**

I hope I did NOT forget anyone. If I did I apologize. Despite the great response from those listed above, our overall donations are down. I'm pretty sure we have enough to cover reunion expenses, but anything you can donate would be greatly appreciated.

CONCLUSION

Well, that pretty much wraps up this version of the Battalion Runner. Just a couple of notes. Don't forget to get your room reservations if you are going to the reunion. Cutoff, as stated in the reunion section here, is October 13th. After that it gets expensive. I've had as many as a dozen people tell me they were coming this year, yet I do not see their names on the hotel reservation list. Please get that done. It's a sad reality that we are losing more and more of our Vietnam members. If you have been thinking about the reunion, just DO IT. I am living (luckily), proof of how your situation can change in a heartbeat at our age. I also am continuing to hope that our younger, post-Vietnam, 2/9 Marines seriously consider the

reunion. Without you guys it isn't going to be too long before our entire Network will suffer from lack of membership, etc. We Vietnam guys are getting OLD! I don't think anyone would be disappointed once they attend a reunion. I also want to add that folks should check out our website if they haven't already.

There is a ton of information on there about 2/9's history, member rosters with contact info, lineage for 2/9, links to some great websites that inform or help vets, thousands of pictures, and much more.

Semper Fidelis everyone and see you in November!!!

As always, if you have questions or issues please do not hesitate to contact me.

SEMPER FIDELIS

DANNY SCHUSTER

2/9 NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR AND REUNION COORDINATOR

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