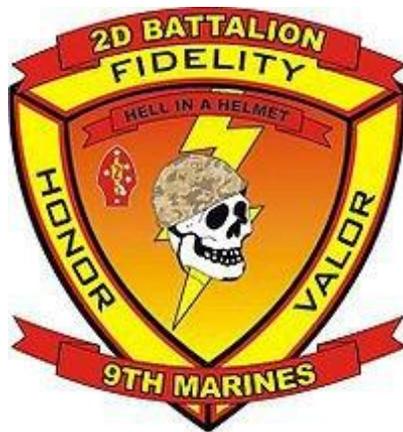




# The Battalion Runner

2015 – No. 4 – October 2015

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Marines



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## **SPECIAL NOTES**

If you are reading this Battalion Runner and you did NOT receive it from me via email there are only two possible reasons for that. I do not have a valid email address for you or you are not registered on the 2/9 Network website at [www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org](http://www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org). If you send me an email at [ditson35@verizon.net](mailto:ditson35@verizon.net) or, if not registered on the website, go there and click on the "Member Registration" button on the left side of the screen, fill out the information and submit it. I will get an email with your information and promptly register you and add you to our email distribution lists.

### **23rd ANNUAL REUNION IN ARLINGTON, VA. 8-12 November 2015**

**WOW!!! Less than three weeks away.**

#### **50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF 2/9'S DEPLOYMENT TO VIETNAM!**

**ALL 2/9 MARINE VETERANS, FAMILY & FRIENDS ARE WELCOME**

See the last page of this newsletter for information on our attendance at the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Iwo Jima War Memorial the morning of the 10th

#### **REUNION DINNER PLANS ARE FINALIZED**

**We now have 222 people signed up for the Birthday Dinner at the Marriott Key Bridge hotel, 1401 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA.**

We must give the hotel a final count of attendees no later than 72 hours prior to November 10<sup>th</sup>, the date of the dinner. THAT MEANS WE WILL PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT DINNER RESERVATIONS AT THE REUNION!!! The list below is of individuals at the Marriott Residence Inn who have room reservations but whom I have NOT heard from about the Birthday Dinner. If you are on this list and want to go to the dinner please send me an email ASAP with the number of people in your group who want to go. If anyone recognizes a name on this list (see notes with the names), please contact them and tell them I need to know about dinner numbers. If there is a

name of the list with no comments it means I have no record of them in either the website database or the Microsoft Access database I maintain.

Last Name, First Name	Comments
Armstrong, Wayne	warm640@cs.com ??? Email sent and rejected 9/27
Centi, Richard	richleerosie@aol.com ??? Email sent 9/27
Collins, Jaquelyn	
Kinney, Richard	kinney57@fuse.net Email sent 9/27
Mahler, Rick	gmahler590@sbcglobal.net ??? Email sent 9/27
Molloy, Martin	
Parker, Billy	bparker141@yahoo.com Email sent 9/27
Payton, Marsha	Don Payton???
Rastetter, Edward	
Scime, Tara	
Winningham, Donna	

We have the function hall reserved from 1800 – 2300 hours (6:00 – 11:00 p.m. for civilians). A professional photographer will be in place at the Key Bridge Marriott by 1700 hours to take individual photos. NO PERSONAL CAMERAS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE PHOTOGRAPY AREA, PER OUR CONTRACT WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPANY. Please plan on arriving early so you can get that done. We will likely have a cocktail hour/half hour prior to dinner, and perform all annual after dinner functions at the hotel. The cake cutting ceremony, guest speakers, raffle, Hot Damn tribute, etc., will all take place in the function room. Parking at the hotel is FREE! After dinner events are expected to begin approximately 1930-2000 hours. If you are not going to the dinner you are welcome to join us for the after dinner festivities. We are going to rely on your integrity to pay for the meal at the reunion. Credit cards will NOT work, so please be prepared to pay by cash or check.

# REUNION SITE

The site for the reunion is the **Marriott Residence Inn in Arlington, VA, 1651 N Oak St, Arlington, VA, 22209. Phone: 703-812-8400 or 800-331-3131.** Click here to visit their website to view photos of the hotel: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-information/travel/wasrr-residence-inn-arlington-rosslyn/>

Our reservations at the hotel are booked solid. This is going to make it very difficult for those who have been tardy in making reservations to get our special group rate and want to come to the reunion. If you call for a reservation they will charge you full price. Please contact me via email or phone and I will try to help out. However, at this point it will be difficult. The Residence Inn has already gone well beyond the normal number of rooms they authorize for group activities. There is a fee for parking at the hotel we cannot avoid. The lot is operated by an independent vendor, so plan on spending between \$15-20 per day for parking if you are driving. When checking in park top-side, check in and get the parking pass to take down to the parking spaces. Be careful what type vehicle you drive when coming to the reunion. There is a height restriction on their underground parking garage.



On line bookings at the hotel have not worked for some time, so those instructions have been removed. If you are attempting to make a reservation please call the number cited below and follow those directions.

Reservations using Toll-Free numbers for Residence Inn Arlington at Rosslyn

1. Dial 1-800-831-3131.
2. Give the agent the Hotel name, "Residence Inn Arlington/Rosslyn".
3. Give the arrival and departure dates.
4. Give the group code: TNN.

**IF YOU GET A RESERVATION MAKE SURE YOU GET A CONFIRMATION NUMBER AND WRITE IT DOWN!!!**

The Marriott Residence Inn is half a block from Clarendon Blvd and a block and a half from Wilson Blvd where there are many restaurants, a Safeway, and a drugstore. It is a 10-15 minute walk to the Marine Corps (Iwo Jima) Memorial but we expect to have a shuttle. Everything else is within easy walking distance. We have the conference room at the hotel booked for the entire reunion, so gathering in small groups, telling war stories, lies and other fantasies is encouraged. The 2/9 Network will provide beer and snacks throughout the reunion.

## **PHOTOS**

Henry Ostaszewski has completed planning for a professional photographer to take photos for us. **We will have the official reunion group photo taken on the steps of the Iwo Jima War Memorial shortly after the Wreath Laying Ceremony is completed.** Hopefully we will have the Commandant join us for the photo. Barney Barnum has also noted he will see us at the Ceremony. Individual photos will be taken at the Birthday Dinner. See above for those details. We are NOT being charged anything by the photographer! They will make their money by selling photos and photo albums to reunion participants if you are interested. Prices will be available and posted in the Residence Inn conference room the entire reunion.

As I have noted before, we have a fairly large contingent of men coming to a reunion for the first time. Hopefully they will find men they served with but let's greet them and treat them like to brother warriors they are. I am sure all of you remember the first time you attended a reunion and the possible nervousness associated with that time. Let's make them feel welcomed!!!

## **RAFFLE**

**As always we will be conducting a raffle at the reunion. Please consider donating an item. If you are attending the reunion just bring the item with you. If you are not attending you can still donate items by mailing them to me at the following address: 21 Moseley Street, Billerica, MA 01821. If you are mailing something get it done ASAP since we are leaving home on 6 November. Nancy and I are driving down so can bring them to Arlington with us. In addition to the raffle we will have a 50/50 drawing that has always been very popular with our members at the reunion.**

## **VOLUNTEERS**

**Several people have answered the call for volunteers I put out in the last Battalion Runner. We need volunteers to man the table selling raffle tickets and**

50/50 tickets. We also will have our usual array of 2/9 gear, like covers and shirts that we will be selling and we need help there also. We'll be moving all these items to the Marriott Key Bridge for the evening of the Birthday Dinner and will need help transporting the items. One of the other things we need to do is sort all the raffle items so we have a "proper" package for every winner. If you are going to the reunion and want to help out just approach either Henry O. or myself at the reunion and let us know.

## **BIRTHDAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT THE WAR MEMORIAL AND BIRTHDAY DINNER TRANSPORTATION**

We will be making arrangements for transportation to and from the Iwo Jima War Memorial the morning of the Birthday for those who need it. We will also be shuttling people back and forth to the Marriott Key Bridge for those who need that. The War Memorial is about a 10-15 walk from the Residence Inn and the Marriott Key Bridge is farther. We'll get people back and forth one way or another. Remember that parking for the Birthday Dinner is free.

## **VISITING OUR BROTHERS ON THE WALL**

As we do every year we will be traveling to The Wall to visit our brothers and lay a wreath in their memory. This visit will be shortly after completion of the Birthday Dinner activities. Transportation will be arranged so that anyone who wishes to join us will be able to do so. The Wall is a special place, but to many of us it is even more special later in the evening. The peace and quiet of the evening seems to make our visit more special.

There is a draft Birthday agenda included as the last page of this newsletter.

## **NEW MEMBERS SINCE BATTALION RUNNER 15-2**

Frisby, Daniel G.  
Cooper, Patrick "Coop"

Marysville, OH  
Sneads Ferry, NC

Echo  
Golf

Kradel, David	Titusville, PA	Fox
Amoruso Jr., John J. "Doc John"	Hawthorne, NY	Golf
Baran, David	Columbus, OH	Golf
Acevedo, Reynaldo "Mike Gulf"	Atlanta, TX	Hotel
Briggs, Kevin	North Richland Hills, TX	Echo
Byrne, David	Tucson, AZ	Hotel
Mainville, Richard J. "Rick"	Lakeland, FL	Fox
Fincher, Gary	Fayetteville, AK	Fox
Budinko, Matthew C. "Matt"	Amberson, PA	Fox
Morales III, Ponciano "Ponci"	Cedar Park, TX	HQHS
Newsome, Anthony	Cedar Park, TX	HQHS
Toro, Fernando	Odessa, TX	HQHS
Winn, Karl "Doc"	Montgomery, AL	HQHS
Morales, Johnny "Doc"	Morro Bay, CA	Echo
Mills, Robert	Norfolk, VA	HQHS
Sanchez, William "SSgt Chez"	Lone Rock, WI	Wpns
Simpson, Larry G.	Martinsville, IL	Golf
Somerville, Robert "Bob"	Springfield, MO	Golf
Baggs, Edward "Doc"	Staten Island, NY	Fox
Clack, Richard	Baltimore, MD	Wpns
Brugger, Jack	Prescott, AZ	Echo
Monkelis, David	West Mifflin, PA	Hotel
Flint, Gerald S. "Flintstone"	Kaiser Slauten, GER	Echo
Odom, Harold	Rancho Cucamonga, CA	HQHS
Karakhanina, Howard "Alphabet"	North Berwick, ME	Golf
Lucero, LeeRoy	Los Lunas, NM	Golf
Eizenga, Victor "Vic"	Sherman, TX	Hotel
MacLeod, Joseph	Edgewood, NM	Echo

Please keep an eye on the Network website, [www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org](http://www.2ndbattalion9thmarines.org), for any important updates concerning the reunion or other Network news between now and the reunion and/or the next Battalion Runner. I hope to get that one out before Christmas with a reunion report, and all the other Battalion news.

Semper Fidelis,  
Danny

***See the Birthday agenda below!***

## DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE BIRTHDAY, TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER



2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Marines

23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Reunion, 50 Year Vietnam Anniversary  
Agenda for The Birthday - 10 November 2015



- Meet at the Iwo Jima War Memorial to walk to Wreath Laying ceremony as a group. LOOK FOR THE 2/9 BANNERS. Meet at 09:30 at the latest!
- Attend Iwo Jima War Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony: 10:00
- Group photo at the steps of the War Memorial: 11:00 – 12:00
- Free time until 17:00.
- Individual photos beginning 17:00 at Marriott Key Bridge Hotel.
- Birthday Dinner, Cake Cutting, Hot Damn Ceremony, Raffle and more: 18:00 – 23:00 at the Marriott Key Bridge Hotel. Free parking at the hotel.
- 2/9 Wreath Laying Ceremony at The Wall, at conclusion of Birthday Dinner events: Approximately 23:00. Transportation provided if needed.
- Residence Inn conference room open from 15:00 on 08 November through 11 November. Free beverages and snacks.
  - Note 1: Shuttle vans will be available to transport people to and from the War Memorial services, the Marriott Key Bridge Birthday Dinner, and to The Wall for the 2/9 Wreath Laying Ceremony.
  - Note 2: There are no formal agendas for November 9<sup>th</sup> nor Veterans Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>