



# THE THUNDERING THIRD

## NEWSLETTER



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**THIRD BATTALION FOURTH MARINES ASSOCIATION**  
**23 Hampton Meadows, Hampton, NH 03842**

### **Letter from the President**

To All 3/4 Marines and Corpsmen,

Spring is in the air.....finally! Here, in the Midwest, we have been awaiting warmer days, less snow and the friendly chirp of robins. Soon, it will be warm enough to play golf, go fishing and begin the never-ending ritual of “yard work”.

It won't be long before the Battalion saddles up for yet another deployment to the Middle East. When I last visited with the C.O. he indicated they would probably be going to Afghanistan, instead of Iraq, on this trip. Wherever they deploy, we wish each of them God speed while in harms way, and a safe return home.

Association membership continues to grow, based on the Membership Certificates I have been signing these past several months. I've been watching the chatter on the website and have noticed that several new, and returning members, have stated they will be at the reunion in September. Keep up the great effort to continue adding to our rolls.

The “annual dues notifications” have arrived via Snail Mail. Please don't hesitate to return that card with your dues payment attached.

Don't forget the 2009 Reunion in San Diego on Sept. 16th-20th. It will be upon us before we know it. Pam and I look forward to seeing you there. With the recent drop in airfares it will, hopefully, provide many with the opportunity to go to this reunion that might not otherwise have been able to attend. If you have not yet made your hotel reservations for the San Diego Reunion you should do so as soon as possible. Rooms will begin to go fast and we only have a limited amount set aside in our name. You should contact: CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL & RESORT at phone number (1-888-233-9527) to make your reservation. **It is extremely important that you complete the attached Reunion Sign Up sheet and forward it to Frank Pedersen. We need to know who is coming so he can accurately plan for buses and meals.**

For those members who have fallen on hard times but would like to attend the reunion, please contact the Association Chaplain, Stan Beach, for assistance. He will arrange for you to be able to attend and you can be assured that your request will be held in the strictest of confidence. You can reach the Chaplain at his email: stanbeach@aol.com or you may call him at his home at 352-638-2311. He has great difficulty hearing on the telephone and his wife answers his calls for him. You can also contact John Masterjohn, the Assistant to the Chaplain, at email: johnmjon@optionline.net or at his home at 631-928-8856. John is assisting Chaplain Beach in his work, with reunion matters, and will arrange to meet with the Chaplain with your request.

Lastly, thanks to the membership for your continued efforts of using our website for its intended purpose, and restraint from using undesirable language. There have been a few “minor slips” but for the most part it has really taken on a whole new atmosphere.

Semper Fidelis,  
Roger Kimble  
President

**Dues**—A reminder is appropriate here about dues. If you received this Newsletter and have not paid your dues, someone else has picked up your tab. Dues are only \$20 a year. Please make your check payable to “**Third Battalion Fourth Marines Association**” and send it to our treasurer: **Chuck Lear, 2497 Hertzog Lane, Lees Summit, MO 64086**

### **The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial**

The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial will soon be built in our nation’s capital. It is a testament to the honorable service and patriotic sacrifice of the more than 3 million living veterans disabled in the line of duty, and all those who have gone before. This \$87 million tribute to the women and men who have paid an extraordinary price with their bodies and their emotional well-being for the rest of their lives, has been approved by the Congress of the United States in Public Law 106-348, signed by President Bill Clinton.

Conceptualized by former Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the late Jesse Brown, and given substance by Philanthropist Mrs. Lois Pope of Florida, through generous donations exceeding \$10 Million, the foundation charged with collecting private donations, building and administering this memorial to the extraordinary heroism of American sons and daughters injured, wounded, or falling ill in the line of duty, is now but \$5.5 Million from ground breaking.

With the approval of the Memorial design concept in 2004, by the National Capital Planning Commission, and final acceptance of the Memorial design by the Commission of Fine Arts in 2006, the 109th Congress passed, and President George W. Bush signed the land transfer legislation transferring the 2.4 acre Memorial site to the National Park Service.

Additional information about the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial (AVDLM) is located at the AVDLM website: [www.avdlm.org](http://www.avdlm.org)

The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial will be entirely funded by private donations, where, at present, more than 1 million individuals, small businesses, large corporations, and many, many veterans organizations have already donated over 90% of the total needed to begin construction.

Donations may be made to: AVDLM, 6290 Linton Blvd, Suite 104, Delray Beach, FL. 33484  
Michael C. Corbett (3/4: ‘65-’66) Veterans Fundraising Coordinator  
Disabled Veterans LIFE Memorial Foundation, 6290 Linton Blvd - Suite 104, Delray Beach, FL 33484  
800-331-7590, 561-637-1525 ext: 207, [mcorbett@dvlmf.org](mailto:mcorbett@dvlmf.org)

## **Association Reunion – San Diego, CA**

### **Wednesday, September 16th Through Sunday, September 20th, 2009**

**Where:** Crowne Plaza Hotel and Resort, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108

**Reservation Phone #:** 1-888-233-9527 (DO NOT call any other number than this one, or your reservation may not get established correctly—if you have attempted to make reservations prior to now and used a different number it is suggested you confirm them at the number provided above.)

**Reservations Under:** Third Battalion Fourth Marines

**Website Address:** <http://resweb.passkey.com/go/3bat4mar>

**Room Reservation CUTOFF:** August 26, 2009 (If you reserve a room after this date you will be required to pay the FULL ROOM RATE established by the Hotel for this time of year – NO EXCEPTIONS!!)

**Room Rate:** \$115.00 per night + applicable taxes and fee's (Note: You can obtain a room at this SAME RATE for additional days—3 days prior and 3 days after the Reunion dates—for those who might want to come early, or stay longer to tour Southern California)

**Hotel Parking:** \$5.00 per day

## **Sword Presentation 2008**

*by James B. Conklin*

On January 6, 2009, Mike Siebentritt and I traveled to 29 Palms to present the annual NCO parade sword to the top NCO of 2008, Sgt Mario J DeSalvo. We were joined by fellow Association members Frank Pederson, John McGinty and Frank's friend from 2/4. We were greeted by Sgt Major JD Walsh who introduced us to the new CO Lt Col Martin F. Wetterauer, III. They showed us a great time and the CO provided a briefing about the upcoming deployment to Iraq, scheduled for August. (The rumor is however that this deployment may be re-scheduled for Afghanistan.) Both the CO and the Sgt/Major expressed a keen interest in our Association and plan to continue our close working relationship. Unfortunately, we learned that Sgt Maj Walsh has been reassigned, effective Jan 23, 2009. He assured us however that his replacement, Sgt Maj Jonathan R. Cagle will carry on the outstanding relationship that we have developed.

We joined several of the troops for lunch in the chow-hall. Nothing much has changed, the troops were outstanding and the food was edible. Afterwards, we went to the range for live-firing at the simulation range. And, let me assure you we all shot expert! Or, at least we didn't hit anyone except for a numerous Iraqi terrorists trying to penetrate our lines on the screen.

Our own MOH recipient, John McGinty presented Sgt DeSalvo with the sword on stage in front of the entire battalion. He was truly appreciative for the gift and asked that I personally thank all members of the association. The highlight of the ceremony was afterwards when McGinty personally spoke and autographed an MOH card for each member of 3/4.

The sword recipient was Sgt Mario J. DeSalvo. He's been with the battalion since March 2006 and has done two Iraq deployments with the Btn. He is an 0331 Machine gunner by MOS and during the past year or so he has been a section leader in one of our CAAT (Combined Anti-Armor Team) Platoons, meaning he was responsible for 4 Armored HMMWVs, about 20 Marines, and about \$500,000 worth of weapon systems and equipment.

We followed up with a social for all at the "O" Club. We told lots of good stories from the old corps which have certainly grown bigger and better over the years.



*McGinty presenting Sgt Maj Walsh with a MOH card.*



*McGinty having chow with the troops.*



*Another Maggie's drawers.*



*Guess which one is on active duty?*



*McGinty presenting the sword to Sgt DeSalvo.*



*Lt Col Wetterauer, Sgt DeSalvo and Sgt Maj Walsh.*

**SAN DIEGO REUNION REGISTRATION**

**Please complete both sides of this registration form and mail it to:**

**Frank Pedersen at:**

**789 Oro Street, Elcajon, Calif. 92021**

**fpedersen57@hotmail.com**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2009**

8:00 am to 5:00 pm Hotel Check-in and Reunion Registration

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm VFW Steak Dinner (\$15.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ people attending X \$15.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ people riding on the bus (cost will be collected prior to departure)

**Thursday, September 17, 2009**

8:00 am to 9:30 am Mt. Soledad Memorial Cross

\_\_\_\_\_ people riding on the bus (cost will be collected prior to departure)

10:00 am to 11:00 am Marine Corps Air Station Museum (Free) (Donations Accepted)

\_\_\_\_\_ people riding on the bus (cost will be collected prior to departure)

11:00 am to 1:00 pm Lunch at the MCAS Officers Club (\$16.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ people attending X \$16.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ people riding on the bus (cost will be collected prior to departure)

1:30 pm to 4:30 pm USS Midway Museum (\$10.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ people attending X \$10.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ people riding on the bus (cost will be collected prior to departure)

Dinner is on your own

**Friday, September 18, 2009**

8:00 am to 9:30 am Breakfast at Mess Hall MCRD (\$6.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ people attending X \$6.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ people riding on the bus (cost will be collected prior to departure)

**SAN DIEGO REUNION REGISTRATION**

**Please complete both sides of this registration form and mail it to:**

**Frank Pedersen at:**

**789 Oro Street, Elcajon, Calif. 92021**

**fpedersen57@hotmail.com**

10:00 am to 11:30am Recruit Commencement Ceremonies

Lunch is on your own

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm Memorial Service at Base Chapel

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm Royal Hawaiian Luau at the Hotel

\_\_\_\_\_ people attending X \$36.95 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, September 19, 2009**

9:00 am to 10:00 am Board Of Directors Meeting

10:00 am to Noon General Meeting

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm Banquet Reception (Cash Bar)

7:00 pm to ??:?? pm Banquet Dinner (\$35.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ people attending X \$35.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday, September 20, 2009**

Depart at your leisure

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR SPOUSES NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE AND ZIP WHERE YOU LIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK NUMBER: (for Bookeeping only) \_\_\_\_\_

***Coins and Decals***  
***I got 'em – you want 'em***  
***Go to <http://thundering-third.org/Px/Px.html>***



Note: Sticker applies to inside of window

**John “Doc” Holladay**  
**Former Captain of Marines**

**Travis Fryzowicz, Lima Co. 1966, Donates Headstone**

On May 26, 2008, Travis Fryzowicz and his wife Grace donated a headstone pictured below to the War Memorial Walkway in Spotswood, New Jersey.



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23 HAMPTON MEADOWS, HAMPTON, NH 03842



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Visit our website at:

<http://Thundering-Third.org>