



# **THE BUGLE**

**SPRING 2013**

**Volume I/Issue 2-2013**

**MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER  
SECOND MARINE DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
CONNECTICUT – DELAWARE – MARYLAND  
NEW JERSEY – NEW YORK – PENNSYLVANIA  
OHIO – VIRGINIA – DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**



**SECOND MARINE DIVISION**

**“FOLLOW ME”**

## **President's Letter**

To all Marines and their families and friends.

Hope you all made it through the winter and Super Storm Sandy OK. I know some of you were not as lucky. I hope we all have a great spring and summer and a safe one. So let's start by coming out to the Mid-Atlantic Chapter Reunion in Quantico, VA on June 20, 21, 22, 2013.

We have a Great Reunion planned by staying at the Best Western Plus Aquia/Quantico Inn, a super place to stay with a Deluxe Continental Breakfast included every day. Plan on a tour of Quantico Base including the Martial Arts Command and Raider Museum as well as a trip to 8th and I. There will also be a tour of the Marine Museum with lunch on your own. We will be going to the Globe & Laurel, Quantico, for our Banquet. If you have never been to the Globe & Laurel you will not want to miss it and I know you will return some day. See the enclosed registration form for more details.

For those of us who were at Camp Lejeune for the 72nd Birthday Celebration (WOW) was it great and I am ready to go back right now. If you weren't there go next year, you won't regret it.

Hope to see you at the reunion at Quantico, VA, in June. Don't miss a good time with old friends and make new ones.

I hope you all will read the write up about the 72nd Birthday Celebration at Camp Lejeune on January 30, 31 and February 1, 2013 by Gunny Mike in this Newsletter.

Great Job Mike!

God Bless and Semper Fidelis

Robert Willoughby C-1-8, President

[rawilloughbysr@aol.com](mailto:rawilloughbysr@aol.com)

H - [302-834-7080](tel:302-834-7080)

## **A YEAR'S REFLECTION**

It was quite a year, 2012. It started and ended well for both the National and the Mid-Atlantic Chapter, SMDA.

First was the 71<sup>st</sup> Second Marine Division Birthday at Camp Lejeune at the end of January The Second Marine Division Birthday is February 1 and the celebration is as close to that date as possible, from Wednesday through Friday. See the article about this year's celebration, the 72nd Birthday, in this newsletter.

Next was the National Reunion as well as the Chapter Reunion. They were held at the same time in Buffalo NY, from September 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>. Visits to Niagara Falls, Fort Niagara, and buffet dinner on the fan tail of the USS Little Rock, tours of the Little Rock, the USS The Sullivan's, the USS Crocker (WWII Submarine) and a bus tour of the city were some of the activities. The Chapter's current slate of officers were reelected and a new staff of National Officers was elected. See the "Follow Me" for the names and positions of the National Officers.

Our own 1<sup>st</sup> VP Tom Higgians out did himself in arranging tours and even surprised everyone with a troop of young Irish Dancers at the banquet. He also raised money from various Buffalo organizations such as the Marine Corps League as well as some civic groups to help offset the costs for the reunion. OORAH, Tom.

I hope to see you at future SMDA Birthday Celebrations and National and Chapter Reunions. Plan on attending, you will not be disappointed. See dates in the newsletter.

Semper Fidelis & GOD BLESS

Gunny Mike, Editor:  
C-1-8: 1961-1962 / G-2-2: 1962-1963  
[map0491@gmail.com](mailto:map0491@gmail.com)  
H: 732-269-8663 C: 732-691-6407

**PS:** I had hoped to put more in this newsletter but I had to change this issue a few days before publication. Please see "TAPS" for Fred Flammini at the end of this newsletter.

### **MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER STAFF FOR THE YEAR 2012 – 2013**

President	Robert Willoughby	302-834-7080
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Thomas Higgins	716-825-4261
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Louis Goldstein	609-409-9280
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	John Daly	914-737-7496
Judge Advocate	Kenneth Einhorn	908-753-1391
Adjutant/Secretary	Michael Piserchia	732-269-8663
Sgt at Arms	Michael Dillon	910-326-0162
Treasurer	Michael Piserchia	732-269-8663
Chaplain	James Challender	609-587-7176
Executive Secretary	Deborah Piserchia	732-269-8663

**Chapter & National SMDA Reunions**

## **CHAPTER REUNION**

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter Reunion in 2013 will be at Quantico, VA, June 20, 21, 22

**Please use the Registration Form with this Newsletter if you plan on attending and mail with your remittance before May 15, 2013.**

After filling out the Registration Form, mail to:

**Mid-Atlantic Chapter, SMDA  
7 Duck Court  
Bayville, NJ 08721-1910**

Please make checks payable to: **Mid-Atlantic Chapter, SMDA** - In memo area indicate: **Quantico Reunion**

## **NATIONAL REUNIONS**

The National SMDA Reunion will be in the Chicago, IL area September 10 – 15, 2013. See the next “FOLLOW ME” for more details

The National SMDA 2014 Reunion location has changed since the last newsletter. It will be at Camp Lejeune, late July early August.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

In Memoriam of a Great Marine & Friend

### **Colonel Willard James Woodring, Jr.**

On January 23, 2013, at the Marine Memorial Chapel of Camp Pendleton, CA, a Service of Remembrance was held for Colonel Jim Woodring, who joined the Marine Reserves in 1947 and left for Parris Island the night of his high school graduation, serving in Korea, Vietnam and the Cold War.

I had the honor of being one of (then) Captain Jim Woodring's Marines in D-1-8 and I am sure any of you who also served with him will remember him as being a man of integrity and honor; one who epitomized the Marine leader. He always led by example, “Do what is right – take care of your Marines!” That mantra became mine and I followed it successfully in my life.

May he be with almighty God in eternity and may God send His peace to Jim's wife, Ruby, and their children.

Semper Fidelis!  
Rest in peace, Marine!

**REMINDER**

For those who still desire to receive a mailed copy of the **BUGLE** this year (2013) please send \$5.00 to cover printing and postage. If you desire to receive both a mailed copy and e-mail copy please provide e-mail address below. Telephone numbers are also important, so that we can make you aware of anything that might pertain to you personally.

It is important to update your mailing address as well as any e-mail addresses if changes occur.

All checks and dues should be made payable to the **Mid-Atlantic Chapter, SMDA**. That and any updated information should be mailed directly to:

Mid-Atlantic Chapter, SMDA  
7 Duck Court  
Bayville, NJ 08721-1910

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ ZipCode \_\_\_\_\_

**PASTE A RETURN ADDRESS LABEL ABOVE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE**

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

All annual dues for this year should have been received by December 31. You may become a life member at any time and any annual dues paid will be applied to that fee. Life Membership has the advantage of 3 years membership with no more additional cost ever.

**THANK YOU**

**The Chapter would like to thank the below Chapter members for their donation:**

**Tom Fitzpatrick  
Frances J. Cantrel  
James Daneker**

**72<sup>ND</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION  
SECOND MARINE DIVISION  
JANUARY 30, 31 – FEBRUARY 1, 2013**

If you did not attend the 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Celebration of the Second Marine Division you missed a great event. Registration was held Wednesday, January 30. At 1600 the National Staff met to discuss many things, among them was the 2013 reunion in Chicago in September and the location of the 2014 reunion. The 2014 reunion is scheduled to be at Camp Lejeune in late July or early August of 2014. This location was selected to encourage Marines and sailors of the division to join the SMDA and attend.

Thursday morning we boarded busses to Camp Lejeune where we were split up into groups. One group visited the simulated Machine Gun, M4 Carbine and 9 MM Pistol indoor ranges. This is much like an arcade with real weapons and their receiver components replaced with electronics so that a real recoil effect is experienced. We fired at large screens of personnel, tanks and other vehicles. Another group went to an area where 4 trailers are set up. Here Marines going to Afghanistan go through training on how to detect IED's. We also visited a re-creation of an Afghan Village complete with Americans of Afghan descent role playing. It was complete down to the smells. Marines are trained to communicate, observe and detect possible insurgents. Each group attended all events.

Thursday evening we went to the Marston Pavilion on the New River at Camp Lejeune where we were hosted by all the Sergeant Majors of the division. There was hot and cold food and a cash bar. Each Sergeant Major identified their unit and what they were doing. The SMDA Sweepstakes were drawn. No winners were present but will be notified.

Friday morning had us boarding buses again for Camp Lejeune. We went to the Base Chapel where a Memorial Service was conducted and our own SMDA Chaplain Rev. Dr. Anthony DeMarco again gave an inspiring message. After the service we bussed over to the base movie theater where we rededicated the Battle Streamers of the Division. The Chapter President Robert Willoughby and I were honored to be part of that ceremony.

Friday evening we went to the Officers Club at Camp Lejeune for a banquet where the Executive Director of the Association, LtCol Dave Brown, USMC Retired, hosted the event. He introduced the President of the Association SgtMaj Joe Houle, USMC Retired, who gave a short speech and introduced the Commanding General of the Second Marine Division, BGen Lukeman. The General told everyone what the division was doing and what and where are its future roles in the War on Terror. A great meal was had by all and we all returned to our hotels anticipating next year's celebration. Most departed Saturday morning for their homes.

If you have never attended a birthday celebration or a reunion you are missing something that will be a lasting memory. You may meet an old Marine friend, and you will make new ones.

These are not just words, but a way of life.

## SEMPER FIDELIS

### Gunny Mike

#### SHORT HISTORY OF THE SECOND MARINE DIVISION

##### "Follow Me"



The 2nd Marine Division is an infantry division of the United States Marine Corps. The 2nd MarDiv serves the USMC as the ground maneuver element of the II Marine Expeditionary Force. The Marines of the second division have served their country with distinction during World War II, the Persian Gulf War, and now in the Global War on Terror. The 2nd Marine Division is stationed at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

The unit's shoulder patch was designed and authorized in late 1943 for wear by 2nd Marine Division units serving in the Pacific Theater. The spearhead-shaped patch is scarlet and gold, in the center is a hand holding a torch with the number two. Around the torch are the stars of the Southern Cross constellation as a reference to Guadalcanal. Although the Marine Corps officially disallowed shoulder patches in 1947, the insignia still appears on buildings, signs, documents, and non-uniform clothing. [http://www.amazon.com/Boldest-Plan-Best-Parachute-Battalion/dp/0983963215/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1325418926&sr=8-3](http://www.amazon.com/Boldest-Plan-Best-Parachute-Battalion/dp/0983963215/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1325418926&sr=8-3)

The 2nd Marine Division participated in the Battle of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands from January 4 to February 8, 1943. However, even before the Division headquarters was deployed, the 2nd and 8th Marine Regiments reinforced the 1st Marine Division in the early weeks of the battle. The 2nd Marine Regiment participated in the Guadalcanal and Tulagi landings Aug 7-9, 1942. The 8th Marine Regiment went ashore on November 2, 1942. Both the 2nd and 8th Marine Regiments were awarded a **\*Presidential Unit Citation** for their performance while attached to the 1st Marine Division.

In the Pacific Theater of WWII, the 2nd Marine Division also saw action on Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands from November 20 to December 4, 1943, where the Division was awarded a **\*Presidential Unit Citation**. The 2nd Marine Division fought in the battle for Saipan in the Mariana Islands Campaign from June 15 to July 24, 1944. The Division participated in the capture of Tinian Island from July 24 to August 10, 1944. Their last combat action of WWII was to act as floating reserve for the Battle of Okinawa from April 1-10, 1945. A detachment from Division Headquarters and the 8th Marine Regiment went ashore to reinforce June 1-30, 1945. At the end of the war, elements of the 2nd Marine Division were part of the occupation of Nagasaki, Japan. They arrived just twenty-five days after the dropping of the nuclear bomb.

The 2nd Marine Division did not deploy to the Korean or Vietnam wars. The decades following WWII were highlighted by multiple peacekeeping and security deployments for elements of the Division. Noteworthy deployments include the U.S. intervention into the Lebanon crisis of 1958, the reinforcement of Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962, and Operation Power Pack where elements of the Division landed in the Dominican Republic in 1965. The 2nd Marine Division deployed as part of the Multi-National Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon from August 1982 until February 1984. The 2nd MarDiv suffered the loss of 241 Marines and Sailors during the 1983 bombing of the Beirut barracks. In December 1989, the 6th Marine Regiment and other elements of the 2nd Marine Division participated in Operation Just Cause, the deployment to liberate the country of Panama from Dictator Manuel Noriega.

The 1990s began with elements of the Division participating in Operation Sharp Edge, the evacuation of American and allied civilians out of war torn Liberia. On August 2, 1990, Iraqi Dictator Saddam Hussein invaded neighboring Kuwait. The 2nd Marine Division deployed to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Shield, which began on August 7, 1990 to defend the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Operation Desert Storm, the battle for the liberation of Kuwait began on January 17, 1991 with an extensive air campaign. The ground campaign kicked off on February 23, 1991, when the 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions, along with Kuwaiti forces crossed into Kuwait and headed toward Kuwait City. They overran the well designed, but poorly defended, Iraqi trenches in the first few hours. The Marines crossed Iraqi barbed wire obstacles and mines, and then engaged Iraqi tanks, which surrendered shortly thereafter. Most Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait opted to surrender rather than fight. Following the war, elements of the Division participated in Operation Provide Comfort to defend Kurds fleeing their homes in northern Iraq in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf War.

In early 2003, elements of the 2nd Marine Division deployed to Kuwait to reinforce the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force in preparation for the invasion of Iraq. These units formed a Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) designated Task Force Tarawa. Task Force Tarawa crossed into Iraq on March 21, 2003, the first day of the ground war, with the initial task of seizing Jalibah airfield in southern Iraq. Following this, the Task Force pushed north and took part in a major battle in the town of Nasiriyah. After the war, these Marines were moved north to Al Kut, where they provided security and stabilization operations in central Iraq. Task Force Tarawa returned to the United States via Kuwait on May 14, 2003.

The 2nd Marine Division deployed to Camp Fallujah, Iraq as the II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF) headquarters in January 2005 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom III (OIF III, later re-designated OIF 04-06) to relieve the 1st Marine Division in the Al Anbar province. The division again deployed for another yearlong tour at Camp Fallujah from 2007 to 2008.

As of 2013, units of the 2nd Marine Division continue to serve their country in the Global War on Terror in deployments to Afghanistan. Members of this storied Marine Division persistently live up to their motto, "Follow Me!"

**\*The Presidential Unit Citation** is the equivalent of every Marine in the unit being awarded the NAVY CROSS.



## Note:

I had originally planned on showing all the streamer awards of the division but I replaced them with a notification and tribute to Fred Flammini. I will put them in a future issue. Please see the next page.



**TAPS**

## Fred Flammini

Frederick (Fred) Flammini, age 71, died Wednesday February 27, 2013 after a brief illness. He was a devoted husband of Christine R. (Zilelli) Flammini for 50 years. He retired in 1997 as a Lieutenant from the Brockton, MA Fire Department after 30 years of service to the city. Fred proudly served in the U. S. Marine Corps. He was an active member of the Second Marine Division Association (SMDA) and Metro South Marine Corps League. Fred served as National President and Adjutant of the SMDA. He was Past President of the New England Chapter of the SMDA. In addition to his wife Christine, Fred leaves his three children, Steven J. Flammini and his wife Patricia of Mansfield; Carla M. Flammini of Brockton; Michael A. Flammini and his wife Stacy of Simsbury, CT. Loving grandfather of Matthew, Thomas, Kristen, Carolyn, Joseph and John. He was the brother of Sandra Weiner of New Jersey and nephew of Gerry and Mary Ciampolillo of Winthrop. Services were held at Conley Funeral Home at 138 Belmont Street, Brockton on Sunday March 3, 2013. The funeral Mass was held at Our Lady of Lourdes and Burial with full Military Honors were at Melrose Cemetery, Brockton March 4, 2013. Please consider donations in Fred's name to the Wounded Warrior Project, P. O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675 or [www.woundedwarriorsproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorsproject.org). Condolences can be sent to:

Christine Flammini & Family, 100 Hatchfield Drive, Brockton, MA 02301

There was standing room only at Conley's Funeral Home as people waiting in line stretching outside to pay their respects to Fred and his family. Inside were displays showing pictures of

Fred as a Marine and as a member of the Second Marine Division Association which he loved and gave so much to. There were newspaper articles telling of his heroism as a Firefighter and EMT.

Among those attending were a number members of the Second Marine Division Association who were there not as members of the Association but as friends who loved Fred as a friend and a brother Marine. Present were Past President Jim Challender and his wife Nancy, Past President Dave Earley and his wife Nita, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Mike Piserchia and his wife Deborah, Past 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Tom Fitzpatrick and his wife Peg and Past Executive Director of the Association. Col Peter Grimes. Jim Challender is a Deacon of the Roman Catholic Church and gave a wonderful tribute to Fred at the funeral home telling funny stories of Fred, as well as leading visitors in prayer. He helped conduct the Mass for Fred at Our Lady of Lourdes Church and did the grave site service for family and friends.

The funeral procession from Conley's Funeral Home to the church and then to the cemetery was more than a half mile long with family members, friends and community members whom he served as a member of the Brockton Fire Department. The funeral procession passed a Brockton Fire Station and Firefighters were standing out front and saluting Fred as he passed.

Present at the funeral home, at the church and cemetery was a Color Guard from the Brockton Fire Department. At the grave site were three Marines in Dress Blues. One played taps and two folded the American Flag which was then presented to Christine.

Please keep Christine and family in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.

Life is short. Live it to the fullest. It has an expiration date.

Fred lived his life to the fullest. Let us all do the same. We who knew you will miss you deeply.

REST IN PEACE MARINE

**SEMPER FIDELIS**