

NOW HEAR THIS!

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR THE UNITED STATES MARINES CORPS COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION

Reno: We Keep Getting Better Each Year

While member attendance was down from recent conferences the 2010 annual celebration was a hit by any standard as 220 Marines, members and guests gathered at the Silver Legacy Resort August 23-27.

Conference planners had been asked by Director of Information, **Col. Bryan Salas** to develop a theme showing our long and illustrious heritage and the panel of veteran CCs on Tuesday did just that, telling of their exploits in covering our Marines from Korea through the beginnings of the desert conflicts in early 1990.

Concurrent sessions ran each day of the week with the Corps' senior PA leadership meeting in one room and the professional mili-

tary educational panels for sergeants and below in another.

Both **Col. Salas** and outgoing CC President **Fred Lash** were high in their praise for the success of the conference.

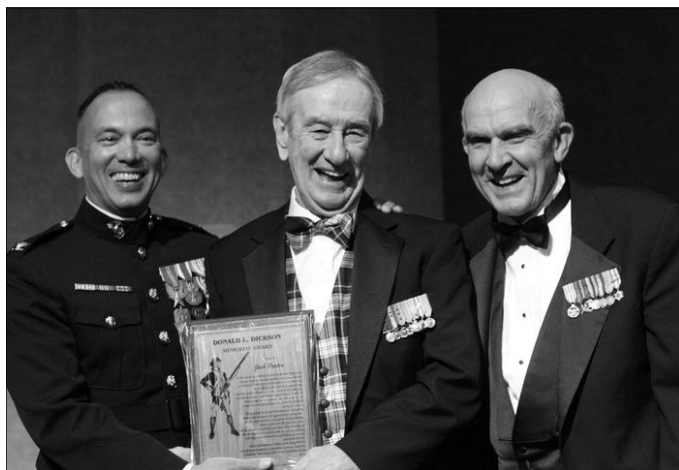


Sgt. Pete Thibodeau, 3dMar Div, proudly shows off his William T. Perkins Combat Cameraman of the Year award as Col. Bryan Salas (l) and Fred Lash look on.

On Wednesday evening Conference Chair **Don Coleman** hosted an "old timers' night out" at a local Japanese steak house and more than 40 spent several hours rehashing careers and telling sea-stories.

On Thursday night our annual Merit Awards Banquet went off like clock-work thanks to the continued emcee mastery of **Pat Coulter** who was assisted by Awards Chair **Mike Rhea**. While many winners were deployed, 50 others were on hand to receive the plaudits of their peers. Also, for the first time in

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Donald L. Dickson Memorial Award— Executive Director **Jack Paxton** © accepts the Donald L. Dickson Memorial award from (l) Col. Bryan Salas and Fred Lash.



President's Award— Our great emcee **Pat Coulter** was the 2010 recipient of the President's award and is shown with CC President Fred Lash ® and Col. Bryan Salas.

In Transition



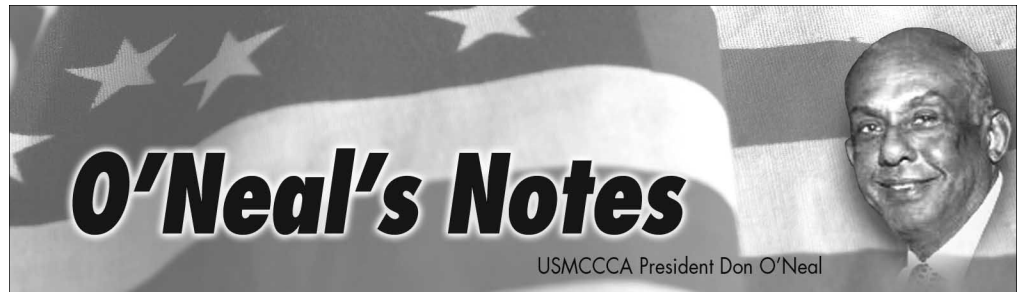
MGySgt. Richard Mescall Jr.

Life Member Richard F. Mescall, Jr., 67, passed away suddenly at his home in Fallbrook, Calif., July 11, 2010. Dick joined the Marine Corps one month after high school graduation in 1960. He served for 21 years, retiring as a Master Gunnery Sgt.



LCpl. Ralph J. Fabbri

LCpl. Ralph J. Fabbri, of Gallitzin, PA, died at age 20 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to the Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton.



USMCCCA President Don O'Neal

Fellow CCs:

First, I'd like to thank all of our members for the vote of confidence you've shown in electing me your president. I've been a CC for more than forty years and I've tried my best to help our association grow and prosper during that time. Most recently I served as president of our Foundation and I leave that job in the very capable hands of our new Foundation president, Vicky Turney. I'll continue to do all I can to ensure that our Foundation continues to thrive.

As president of our Association my most compelling job will be to grow our membership. I am pleased that with each national conference, we pick up a few new members but I am also mindful that the list of deceased members announced at our awards banquet also seems to be getting longer each year.

I became a CC in 1968, realizing that having covered our Corps in combat operations I had earned a unique title, second only to being a Marine. Those of us who have had the honor and privilege of telling the story of Marines at war, whether in print, still or motion picture photography, combat art, broadcasting or today's web-based media, inherited a legacy that dates back to the dark days of World War II.

Our Corps is the world's pre-eminent military force but most Americans would have no way of knowing how fine a war machine it is without our work. In essence, we are the "keepers of the flame."

Ours is a professional Association, not unlike the American Medical Association. Our members are experts at what they do and membership in the USMCCCA must be earned. Our annual conferences provide

an opportunity for attendees to enhance their professional skills and network with each other.

I believe that each and every staff NCO and officer serving in one of our related fields has an obligation to be a member and to introduce membership to his or her troops. The future success of the CCs is a leadership challenge! I believe that leaders lead and so I am calling on today's cadre of leaders to accept this challenge with the dedication necessary to succeed. The best leaders lead by example, so I'm asking you to go out and set the expectation.

During the coming year, I'll be visiting as many of our major commands as possible. I want to meet our members and potential members and I want to know what it will take to make our Association something that you all want to be a part of. I want your thoughts on what it would take to develop your interest and enthusiasm for being a CC.

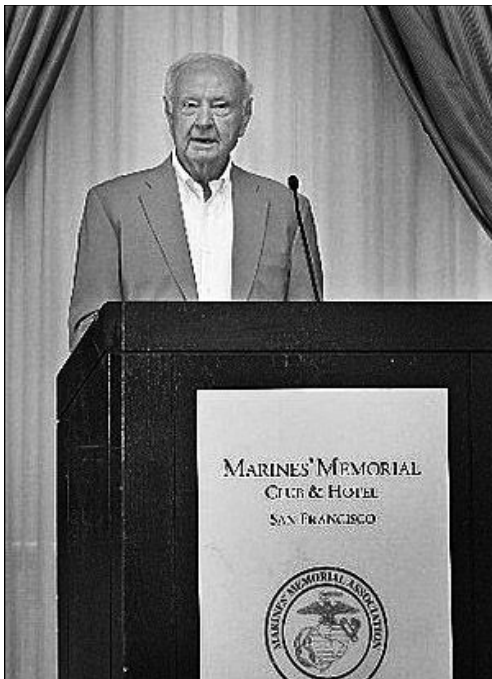
For years, we "tribal elders" have attempted to divine the answer to those questions in conference rooms and smoke-filled bars and cafes. Well we've failed...largely because we really haven't asked the right people the right questions. That's going to change. Today, I'm asking you. If you have any ideas or thoughts on this subject shoot me an email at oneal.d@sbcglobal.net and I'll read your input and respond to you personally. Provide a phone number and I'll call you and give you a chance to give me an earful. I want to know what's working and what isn't, what you think we need and what we don't. In short, I may be the president but this is your Association and it will only be successful if it's what you want it to be. Semper Fi, Don



Have you ever wondered, "where does the time go?" Time is a valuable resource. We've seen it saved, spent, shared, wasted and, sometimes even crunched and hammered. So, what does this mean to us?

As CCs we recognize the value of time because we are all busy. None of us has the time to do what we do for the CCs but we somehow make the time because what we do in support of the organization is important.

I volunteered to become President of the USMCCCA Foundation this year because I know how important the Foundation has become to this organization in the very few years of its existence.



"Red" Carpenter journeyed to San Francisco in early August to speak at the annual Combat Camera Conference. The former USMCCCA President encouraged the ComCam Marines to become more involved with our organization.

Chartered in March of 1997, our 501(c)(3) nonprofit Foundation serves all members of the Association in a number of ways. It is the financial arm that funds and manages the Annual Merit Awards and scholarships program, as well advertising, the Booster Club and the annual Dedicated Members appeal.

As we begin our fiscal year we are also mindful that we are approaching the end of the calendar year. I encourage you to consider end of the year gifting if it could help your individual tax situation.

This is not a fund solicitation. Just a reminder that your year-end gifts could be tax exempt.

One program we are now examining closely is the Gladys McPartland Scholarship fund and how we can do a better job in getting the word to our members about what scholarships are available. As we move into a new calendar year you will hear more about this and other programs we are working with.

In the meantime I encourage you to follow our progress on our great website www.usmccca.org as well as in the newsletter, **Now Hear This**. Vickie

We Need to Hear From You

If you have an email address we want to hear from you. Please send your current email address as well as your postal mail address to CCHQ as soon as possible. Also, if you have not renewed your dues, now is the time to do so.

Association '11 Officers

President: Don O'Neal

VP: Kate Stark

Secretary: Chris Whiting

Treasurer: Tom Kerr

Directors

Caleb Eames 2012

Jerry Gutierrez 2012

Brenda Varnadore 2012

Frank Lee 2009

Victoria Turney 2009

Ex Officio

Chaplain: Mawk Arnold

Historian: Frank Burke

HQMC Liaison: Phil

Mehringer

DINFOS Liaison: John

Dodd

CVIC Liaison: Tony Lopez

Executive Director

Jack Paxton

Foundation '10 Officers

President: Victoria Turney

VP: Ronna Weyland

Secretary: Sally Pritchett

Treasurer: John Dodd

Directors

Red Carpenter

Walt Ford

Agostino VonHassel

Keith Oliver (ex officio)

All present Directors of the Association Board.

Executive Director

Jack Paxton

Booster Club Platinum

Florida Chapter

Gold

**John Harmon
Keith Oliver
Sally Pritchett**

Silver

**Anonymous
Ralph Austin
Ralph Campbell
Red Carpenter
Tom Kerr
Bob McEwen
Don O'Neal
Jack Paxton**

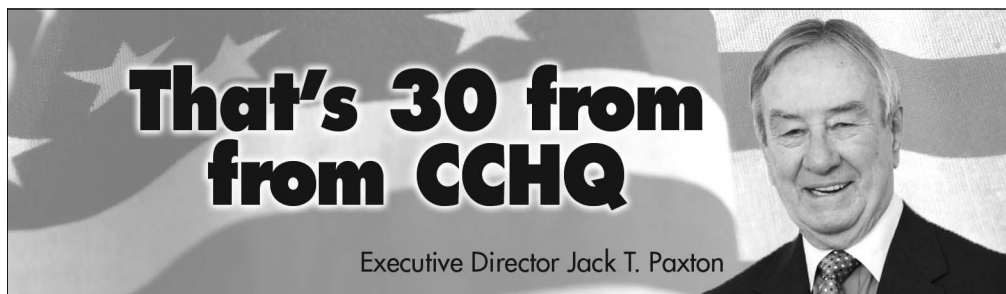
Bronze

**Cochise Cash
Chris Whiting**

Dedicated Member

Note:

**The response to the
2010 Dedicated
Member Campaign
was fantastic. All
names are shown in
the 2010 Annual
Conference Journal.**



You'll note by the adjacent **Booster Club** column that we are running these names for the last time this year even though the new Booster Club year starts immediately after the annual conference. We do this because these folks and our Dedicated Members are so valuable to us. As new **Foundation President Vicki Turney** says in her inaugural column, now is the time to consider your year-end tax situation and see if a contribution to the Foundation could help your individual situation.

We also must apologize profusely to CC **Charles Bonilla** who sponsored three Merit Awards this year and who asked that we dedicate them to his late father, **Albert Bonilla** (1929-2010) who served in the USAF in Korea. Yep, we credited Charles with three awards but forgot to include the dedication. He forgave us.

Our oldest CC, **Cy O'Brien** underwent open heart surgery several months ago, then suffered a slight stroke. While he is slowly recovering he told us he sure felt a lot better immediately following surgery. You can call him at 301.949.2999 or drop him a line at Kensington Park, #112 The Highlands, 3620 Littledale Rd., Kensington, MD, 20895.

We announced at the Conference that CCHQ is now out of the QM business. In the five years of our stewardship we did not sell enough to make it worthwhile. We did, however, negotiate with the on-line **Queensboro Shirt Company** of Wilmington, NC to offer quality merchandise with our CC logo at bargain prices. Check them out by clicking on the link: **USMCCA Items For Sale Here** located on the right hand side of the opening page of our website www.usmcca.org. This is our "corner store" and we make a

small profit on what you purchase.

One of our selling points for corporate ads this year was the promise to put them into rotation on the website for a one year period. If you have business with them, please let them know you appreciate their support.

A lot of folks were responsible for the success of our 2010 conference. We would especially like to thank long-time CC and Conference Chair **Don Coleman** for his yeoman service working behind the scenes to make sure everything "happened" and to **GySgts. Brenda Varnadore**, DivPA, and **Joe Espinosa**, DINFOS, for being "left" and "right" hands during the conference.

We also want to thank long-time CC **Dale Dye** for taking time from his very busy schedule to give us some Hollywood insight and also to help inspire our "new breed" at the Business Breakfast.



Exec-speak—A highlight of our post-conference travels was being invited to speak to a class of CCs at DINFOS. These Marines are learning the ABCs of our profession. One, stopping as we got into our car, thanked us for our service and for taking time to speak to them. The torch is in good hands. (Photo by **Rick Corral**, DINFOS)

A Story That Exemplifies Semper Fidelis

(CC **Don Knight** is the Association's former Awards Chair, a prolific writer and the best proofreader we have met. This is his account of the death of a Marine friend.)

Numbers don't lie. They tell us that our ranks, elders from World War II, are a vanishing breed. We are, after all, in our 80's or 90's, some older.

Gordon Paige and I were high school pals. We had a common goal. We went to Boston upon graduation in June, 1943, to join the Marine Corps. He chose to get on the train to Parris Island immediately after being sworn in. I opted for the 10-day leave. My mother had planned a going-away party with our neighbors.

Paige became a radar operator with an air warning unit of the 2nd Marine Air Wing. He was on the front line at Saipan and Okinawa. I was in the South Pacific and later on four different islands in the Philippines.

Gordon wrote to my mother from Saipan in 1944. He said he did not know where I was in the Pacific. He knew that my mother did not know. But he did convey a few comforting words. **"Your son is out here somewhere," he wrote. "But be sure of this. We are Marines and we'll win this thing and be coming home soon."**

After the war we kept in touch. He became a successful realtor and president of the South Shore (Boston) realtors association. As a reservist I was back in uniform, as a CC, on the same day of my graduation from college on June 25, 1950. North Korea had invaded South Korea. We were separated for long periods in the years to follow. We sat together at one high school class reunion.

This past August I traveled from Maryland to Cape Cod for my daughter's wedding and made a phone call. His wife Roma said her husband was dying of cancer. "He can still hear us but he cannot respond. I know he would like to see you."

At his home I was met by family members. One of them had a question: "Did my presence have something to do with the esprit de corps of the Marines, such as, once a Marine, always a Marine?" I said yes, but there was more to it than that. I said we were pals in high school and I mentioned the letter from Saipan.

I spoke to Gordon. His eyes were closed. My last words were "Semper Fi old friend." He died two hours later and his wife said he had waited for me to visit. I would like to believe that.

Former Marine PFC Gordon Paige was buried at E. Bridgewater, Mass. on August 27. He was 85. A Marine color guard was present and a Marine sounded taps. His grandson, also a Marine, stood guard during the ceremony.

Gordon's name and mine are among several hundred engraved in bronze on a WW II memorial at the high school in Weymouth, Mass. It is on the same ground where we stood at our graduation day in 1943. (**Don Knight**)

Reno: We Get Better

(Continued from page 1)

CC history, first place winners received a cash prize in addition to their plaques and complimentary one year CC membership.

Col. Salas did a yeoman's job as guest of honor applauding the Merit and MPA winners and calling for even greater participation in the program in coming years.

He was joined on the podium by **Walt Ford**, Publisher/Editor of Leatherneck Magazine, who presented the three MCA awards and also awards to the six Marketing and Public Affairs Marines representing the six Marine Corps Districts.

The MPA of the Year Award went to **Sgt. Martin Harris**, RS Cleveland.

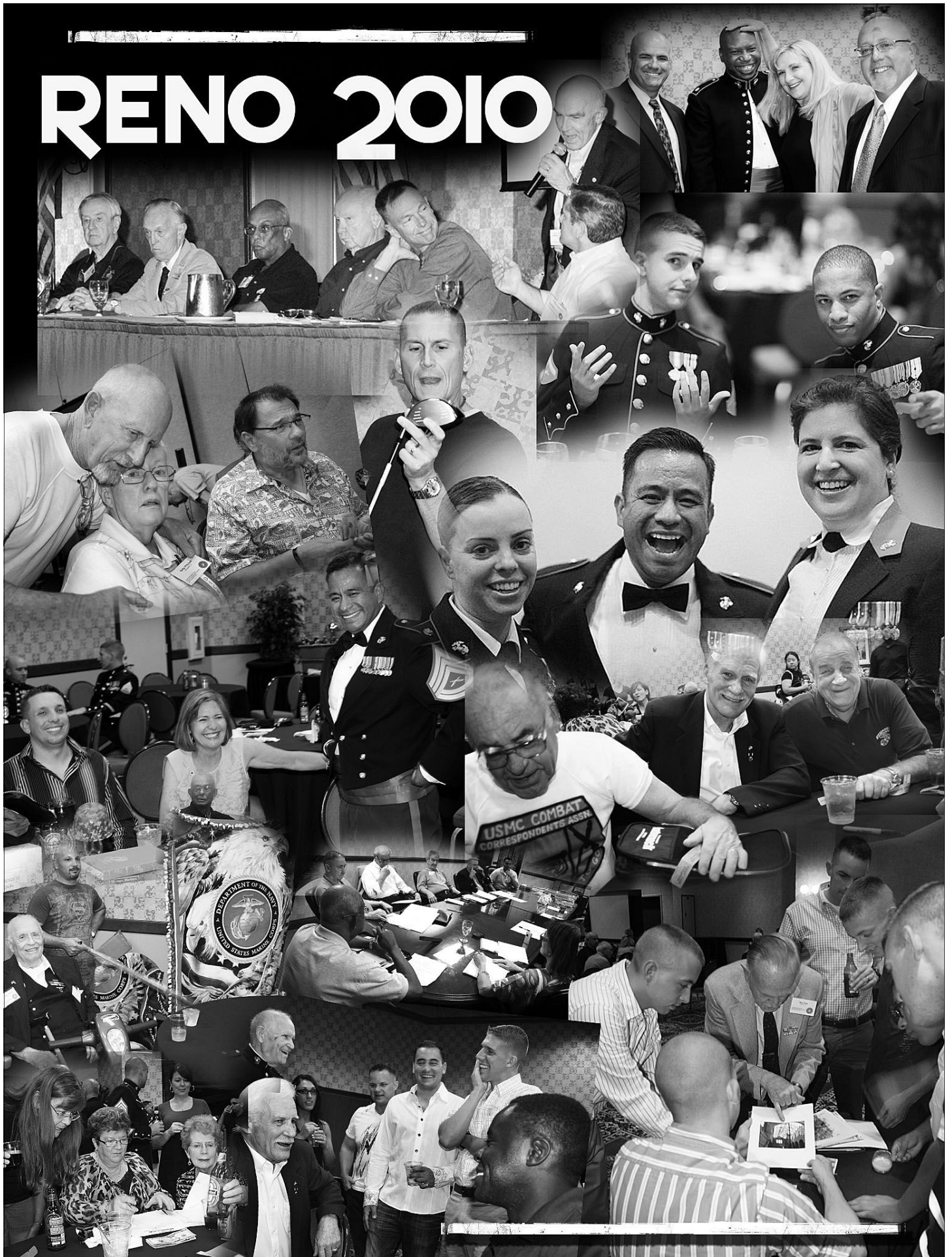
Sgt. Peter Thibodeau of the 3rd Marine Division was the 2010 winner of the William T. Perkins, Combat Cameraman of the Year award.

The 2010 Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Memorial Distinguished Performance Award to actor/producer **Tom Hanks**, was accepted by long-time CC **Dale Dye**, who has served as senior military advisor on most of the movies or television series produced by Hanks.

The 2010 **President's Award** went to long-time emcee **Pat Coulter** for his superb work in making the annual banquets the success they have become.

The Donald L. Dickson Memorial Award was presented to Executive Director **Jack Paxton** for achievements made during his five year tenure as Association and Foundation exec.

RENO 2010



More Merit Awards Given at Quantico



*MCB Quantico CO, Col. Daniel J. Choice presented USMCCCA Merit Awards to those winners unable to be present at the USMCCCA Reno Conference in August. Clockwise from the top are **Pfc. Jacob Banks**, Combat Camera, First Place, Layout & Design (Military); **Yvonne Carlock**, MCB, Quantico, First Place, Tabloid Format Newspaper; **David White**, Quantico Sentry, Honorable Mention Best News Article category; **Harrison Thomas**, MCB Quantico, Honorable Mention, Tabloid Format Newspaper, and **LCpl. Jahn Kuiper**, Honorable Mention, Art and Graphics in support of a publication. (Official Marine Corps photos by **LCpl. Christina O'Neal**, Combat Camera)*



More Photos From a Great Conference



Long time CC Dale Dye regaled conferees with his experiences as senior military advisor to some of the great movie and television series.

Something For All

The success of the 2010 conference can be attributed to a number of things. First, the Silver Legacy staff went out of their way to assure conference planners that nothing would be left to chance.

Second, Conference Chair **Don Coleman** and Program Chair **Jenny Holbert** working with the great staff at DivPA came up with a good mix of program that included a salute to our heritage, how we work with Hollywood on movies and television productions, as well as a seminar on Life After the Corps.

Don and Ann Coleman hosted an "Old Timer" Night at the Ichibon Steak House where sea stories were as plentiful as the flying shrimp.

CC Pat Brent flew in from Honolulu to do a seminar on the proper pronunciation of the name Lejeune (lu jerne, please).

In one of the more emotional moments, **Chaplain Mawk Arnold** was reunited with one of his Vietnam "snuffies", presenting a Life Membership plate to **Bob Bayer**. Bayer reciprocated after the conference by referring two more "snuffies" **Frank Wiley and Richard Lavers** for CC membership.



National Chaplain Mawk Arnold was reunited with one of his "Snuffies" when he presented a Life Membership plate to Bob Bayer



CC Pat Brent (l), the foremost authority on the pronunciation of Lejeune, presents a K-bar to GySgt. Joe Espinosa, DINFOS.



Old-timers (fr l) Mawk Arnold, Dale Dye, Norma and Chuck Tyler, Bob Said and (partially shown) Ralph Austin enjoy dinner.



If you were not sure how to pronounce Lejeune before the conference, CC Pat Brent's PME would make a believer of you. It's "lujerne."



Leatherneck Editor/Publisher Walt Ford, Vickie Turney, "Col. Sally" Pritchett, and Alan Ables enjoyed Old Timer Night.

And Now, A Word From Our Sponsors

For the first time we were able to offer vendor tables at our 2010 conference which permitted conference planners to offer morning coffee each day to participants.

While this might not seem a big deal, hotel coffee prices can run as high as \$1500 for four mornings' worth of brew.

Packages were offered vendors which could include a full-page Conference Journal ad, a merit Sponsorship and the vendor table.

Metro Star Systems and **USAA** elected to take the full package, including merit sponsorships while **J. Walter Thompson (JWT)**, **B&H Photo**, **Boeing** and **the Silver Legacy** took the ad package and vendor table.

DVIDS, Atlanta, GA was not a sponsor but was on the program. We have assurances they will be vendor sponsors next year.

You will note on one photo to the right that long-time **CC Jackie Ostrum's** company, **NHA Clip Sheet** is shown. Jackie supports us in many ways, this year as a Merit Sponsor.

Obviously, our primary sponsor, **Heinen USA** came through like champs

again, sponsoring its product for the Welcome Reception, the pre-Banquet reception and each night in the hospitality suite.

Because of the success of this venture, we will expand the program for future conferences.

**ATTENTION
ALL CC's...
SHOUT-OUT
A BIG
OOH-RAH!
FOR OUR COFFEE
SPONSORS!**

BOEING **JWT**

SILVER LEGACY
RESORT • CASINO • RENO
silverlegacy.com

USAA

METROSTAR SYSTEMS
Advancing Technology Daily

B&H
PHOTO • VIDEO • PRO AUDIO

This large Chuck Beverage creation greeted conferees each morning.



CC President-elect Don O'Neal thanks Greg Pratt of USAA for their participation in the 2010 conference. In addition to being a vendor, USAA also contributed eight engraved cut glass award pieces that went to the winning active duty Marine teams, competing in several of the professional military training categories.



*USMCCA's Welcome Sign—While not a conference sponsor per se, **John Funk Jr.**, son of the late long-time **CC MGySgt. John Funk**, owns Skyline of Orange County, CA, that makes portable banners like the one shown and, on his father's death, offered this one that welcomes all conference-goers each year. **John** and brother, **Jerry**, are also Merit Sponsors each year.*



*The **Metro Star Systems** display as well as **CC Jackie Ostrum's NHA Clipsheet** table were well received by conferees. Each vendor table was conveniently located in the general meeting areas of both the Senior Leaders group as well as those Marines receiving training in the various PME categories.*

Executive Summary: All Board Meetings

2010 USMCCCA (Old) Board Meeting, August 23 - Reno, NV

Meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum.

2010 (Old) Foundation Board Meeting - August 25

President Don O'Neal called the meeting to order at 1300 and called for the following reports:

Nominations: President O'Neal nominated Victoria Turney to succeed him as Foundation President. The motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Kerr, acting for the absent John Dodd, reported a balance of \$137,581.97, showing the Foundation to be in very good standing.

Executive Director: Jack Paxton gave a brief overview of the Association/Foundation status and requested his full report be made at the Association Business Meeting.

Old Business: The revamp of the scholarship process is underway and an email vote will be requested when finished. Jerry Gutierrez led a discussion of the progress of the ComCam merit awards. A recommendation was made and accepted to add an additional merit award for Community Relations. Brenda Varnadore and President Turney will develop a proposal prior to January 1.

New Business: Red Carpenter made a motion that detailed communication be established with the Los Angeles Chapter regarding future ad compensation. President O'Neal will discuss this with the Chapter.

Red Carpenter discussed the success of the Florida golf tournament and that he would be presenting a check at the Business Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1400.

2010 USMCCCA (New) Foundation Board Meeting, August 27, Reno, NV

Newly-named Foundation President Victoria Turney called the meeting to order at 0945 and asked for a motion to appoint Sally Pritchett as Foundation Secretary. Motion was made and seconded. She then called for the following reports:

Scholarship: A report is being readied and will be made when finished.

Contracts: The following contracts were approved: Executive Director, \$1200 per month; Webmaster, \$200 per month, Journal Art Director, \$3,000 per year.

Journal Advertising: Tom Kerr brought up the subject of chapters getting a return on ads sold. This means new ads with a signed contract. There was general agreement. Jack will have a list of previous ads to encourage chapters to sell new ads.

Merit Awards Sponsorships: President Turney is going to work on previous and current winners with Carol Rees to bring in sponsors and encourage CCs to include USMCCCA in their estate planning. There also was discussion of packaging sponsorships with ads and getting previous life members involved again. We should also use "Together we Served" and Face book to reestablish contact with previous members.

The meeting adjourned at 1015.

2010 Annual Business Meeting, August 27 - Reno, NV

President Fred Lash called the Annual Business Meeting to order at 0830. He called for the following reports:

Treasurer: Tom Kerr reported simply that the Association was solvent and, also reporting for Foundation Treasurer John Dodd (who was not present) that the Foundation was prosperous.

Secretary: A motion was made to accept the 2009 minutes as published in the newsletter "Now Hear This." Chris Whiting then reported results of email voting on the following: Awarding the Denig Award to Tom Hanks; approval of the Westin Hotel, New Orleans for the 2011 conference, and the confidential voting of the Dickson Award to Jack Paxton.

Executive Director: Jack Paxton reported a better financial picture for both the Association and Foundation than had been forecast. He gave particular credit to webmaster Kate Stark for the outstanding success the website has become. Paxton also stated we are out of the QM business and that arrangements had been made with an online store for gear with our logo. He paid tribute to those members who supported both the Dedicated Member and Booster Club programs. He lauded the Florida Chapter for their continuing support. This year the Chapter donated \$4500 to the Foundation garnered from their annual golf tournament.

Old Business: The slate of officers for 2011-2012 were approved. They are Don O'Neal, President; Kate Stark, VP, Chris Whiting, Secretary, and Tom Kerr, Treasurer. New directors seated are: Caleb Eames, Jerry Gutierrez, and Brenda Varnadore.

Executive Summary: All Board Meetings

Florida Chapter Donation: The previously mentioned Florida Chapter donation of \$4500 was made by Chapter President Red Carpenter. He requested \$2,000 go to the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund and the remainder to the Scholarship Fund.

New President Seated: President Lash turned the meeting over to incoming President Don O'Neal who promptly thanked President Lash for his work as president of the Association these past two years. O'Neal lauded the Florida Chapter for its continued financial assistance. He stated that the 2011 Conference would be held at the Westin Hotel, New Orleans, LA September 12-16 and that Life Member Fran Picolli had agreed to serve as Conference Chair. O'Neal thanked all members for their great financial support and introduced Vicki Conkel Turney as the new Foundation President.

New Business: Nominations for the two Director positions that will come open in 2011 were opened. Mike Pitts nominated Angela Mink. Nominations will remain open until May 1, 2011.

2010 USMCCA (New) Board Meeting, August 27, Reno, NV

President Don O'Neal called the meeting of the 2010 USMCCA Board of Directors to order at 9:10 a.m. Present were: President O'Neal, Vice President/Webmaster Kate Stark, Secretary Chris Whiting, Treasurer Tom Kerr and Directors Victoria Conkel Turney and Jerry Gutierrez, and Executive Director Jack Paxton. He called for the following reports:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kerr said we are very solvent. He reiterated that, as a nonprofit Association, we need to submit a balanced budget. He said if we can spend a bit, we will be in good stead. He said we had \$32,000 in the bank two days ago. He said we paid the hotel about \$17,000, which leaves about \$16,000, give or take. He said we took in about \$1,200 in the hospitality suite (silent auction and raffle), and we have bills of about \$800, making about \$400. He recommended the proceeds from the silent auction and raffle be placed in the Gladys McPartland Scholarship Fund. He said the Foundation Treasurer's report has been published in the Journal.

Executive Director: Executive Director Paxton said he is extremely pleased with the cooperation from HQMC, and gave a nod to Col. Salas. He said he is concerned about membership. We currently have about 459 members and he is trying to find 12 others. Director Conkel Turney asked if we could include membership as part of the registration

fee for active duty attendees. Paxton said we cannot build that into the registration fee for active duty.

New Business: Outgoing Director Bryan Salas was invited to state his views on ways to attract active duty membership in the Association. He said we need to inform them of the benefits of joining. According to Salas, the pertinent question is, "If I am a junior or senior Marine, what makes me want to do this?" Discussion ensued, with ideas, such as social events, sports outings, speakers, valuable training being put forth. The board further discussed programs a local chapter might implement to make the active duty Marines want to participate.

Chapters: The discussion then focused on the remaining active chapters, with Paxton commenting that each chapter has its own unique problems. O'Neal said he hopes to visit each chapter and each major command in the coming year. He added that he has asked Mike Pitts to chair a membership committee.

President's Travel Allowance: In light of O'Neal's desire to visit all chapters and major commands, Kerr said he thinks the president is entitled to some reimbursement. Kerr asked for a motion from the board for a presidential allowance for expenses. A motion was made, and seconded, to allocate \$500 for a presidential allowance. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



Florida Chapter Meeting—Florida Chapter President "Red" Carpenter presides over the 4th Quarter meeting of the chapter at the Sanctuary Ridge Golf Club, Clermont, FL October 16. Attending (clockwise l-r) Mary Moore, Ann Carpenter, Pat Paxton, Jack Paxton, Carpenter, Gene Smith, Charlie Ross and Hank Ehlbeck. (Photo by Chapter Member Allen Moore)

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Permit No. 8505

Now Hear This

Now Hear This is the official publication of the United States Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association.

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Copy may be submitted electronically to usmccca@cfl.rr.com or by mailing to 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785.

For topical news we invite you to visit www.usmccca.org.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Salas Mourns Death of ComCam Marine



(Ed. Note: The following is the October Director's Cut from **Col. Bryan Salas**, Director of Information. As he has "been there, done that" it is fitting that we re-print his words of condolence).

It is with solemn regret that I note the death of 20-year-old **LCpl Ralph Fabbri**, combat camera Marine, who was killed in action last month in Afghanistan. I did not know Ralph

Col. Salas personally, but mourn his death and honor his family's sacrifice within the greater public affairs community.

His loss is a reminder to all of us of the lethality of our profession and of the requirement to be ready to fight and win in combat.

Combat readiness is both a personal and leadership responsibility.

Continue to develop your expertise in the warfighting tasks – from martial arts to marksmanship.

Previous months discussed the battle of the narrative, strategic communication and the value of the Corps to our Nation.

While these remain our professional focus, **LCpl Fabbri's** service reminds us to treasure our work, our colleagues, and our families.

Semper Fidelis!

Colonel Bryan Salas, Director of Information, HQMC

2011 Annual Dues are Due

Several months ago we sent postcard reminders to all reminding he dues year ended September 30. If you have not paid you have until December 1 before you will be dropped from our roles. Dues are \$35 for staff ncos and above; \$25 for sergeants and below. Payments by check or credit card can be made to CCHQ, 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785 or by calling 352.748.4698. You may also make payment on our website: www.usmccca.org.

Quartermaster Gear Available at Our Store

If you're looking for some neat clothing, from caps to outerwear with our distinctive logo, we encourage you to visit our website www.usmccca.org and click the link to the USMCCC on-line storefront. Once there, click on All Items and "shop 'till you drop."