



NOW HEAR THIS!

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

Standby San Antonio, Here We Come

Knowing that all who attended the previous conference in San Antonio really enjoyed themselves, your Board of Directors has voted to return for the 2008 event, August 12-15. Also as a repeat, we will again headquarter at the famed Menger Hotel on the River Walk.

President **Keith Oliver** recently appointed former President **Red Carpenter** to a two-year term as Conference Hotel Negotiator. In his new duties, Carpenter will work closely with Conference Chair **Don O'Neal**. Both promise something of interest to all, including the traditional Welcome Reception—this year featuring a Taco bar—the Merit Awards Banquet on Thursday night and a Sayonara Business Brunch Friday morning.

Once again we will meet jointly with the senior leadership of

Public Affairs from commands all over the world.

Carpenter said he and Don would do all they could to hold down the price for this year's conference. "As anyone who travels knows," he said, "hotel prices are skyrocketing. Unfortunately, unless we want to be stuck out in the 'boonies' somewhere we have to pay the going rate. In the case of the Menger, the hotel nightly rate will be \$112. On the plus side, we have negotiated meal prices so that we will offer a member-only registration rate of \$120." (Ed. Note: See member-only hotel and ad rates on P-2 of this issue and Conference registration info on P-11.)

Carpenter encouraged all attendees to both register early and make their hotel reservations by July 18 to avoid the problems experienced in Los Angeles where we had to add two hotels to handle the overflow. **(See Info on P-11)**

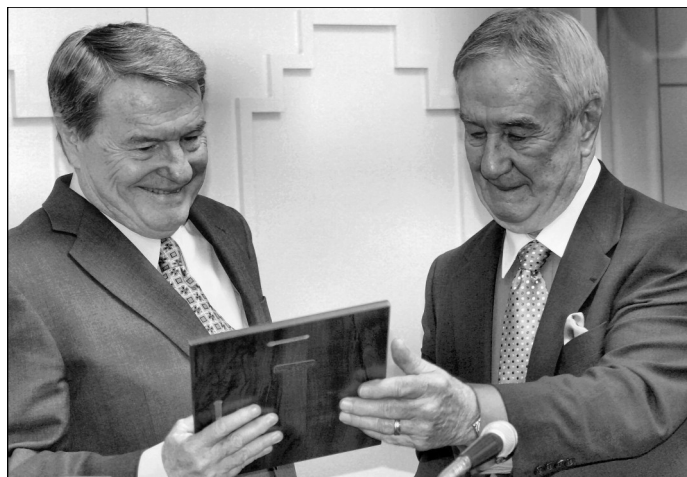
Denig Award: Jim Lehrer

Calling it an award he would always treasure, PBS NewsHour anchor Jim Lehrer accepted his overdue Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Memorial Distinguished Memorial Award at a luncheon November 28 at Ft. Meyer in VA.

The luncheon, put together by Board member Don Knight and ably assisted by Jim Kyser, was attended by 58 members and guests, including several members of the original Denig Demons from World War II. (See photo coverage on P-5)

Lehrer, who served during the mid-1950s, was a first lieutenant and officer in charge of the BOOT newspaper in an eight month period prior to his discharge in 1958. His editor, then gunnery sergeant Jack Paxton, was given the honor of presenting the award during the luncheon. The two had not seen each other since 1958 but had kept in touch over the years.

During his acceptance speech Lehrer acknowledged the "tribal elders" who perfected the art of combat reporting from World War II onward but also had words of encouragement for the entourage of new officer and enlisted CCs from classes at DINFOS who were in attendance. →



Denig Award—PBS NewsHour Anchor Jim Lehrer (l) accepts the prestigious Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig award from Executive Director Jack Paxton at the Nov. 28 luncheon at Ft. Myer, VA. In 1958, 1stLt. Lehrer became officer in charge of the Parris Island BOOT for an eight month period prior to his discharge. Paxton, then a Gunnery Sergeant, was editor. At the luncheon President Oliver read the nomination then surprised both Lehrer and Paxton by asking the former editor to make the actual presentation. The two had not seen each other since 1958. (USMC photo by LCpl. Michael Darnell)

Transitions



Paul Shaner

Jack Lewis reports the death of retired MSgt. Paul Shaner December 13 at an Orange County, CA retirement home. Lewis reported that, at his retirement in the early 1960s, he was NCOiC of the Hollywood PA office. After a short stint as technical director on several military movies he ended up running the printing and repro office of the University of California at Irvine. When the Corps asked senior staff ncos to come out of retirement for Vietnam, he reported to Danang and was largely responsible for putting the AFRS operations—radio and tv—on the air. He then returned to the university until retiring. As Jack put it: “Paul was one of the finest Marines I have ever known from my mis-spent youth to present.”

Chris Gugas

Tom “Ace” Peters of the LA Chapter reports that Chris Gugas was a former president of the chapter and died in December. Jack Lewis recalled that he thought Gugas was president about the time that the Toys For Tots campaign began.

Commentary: Paul Shaner

(Ed. Note: We had quite a few emails regarding the death of Paul Shaner. Following are several of them.)

Eddie Evans: From 1960-62, MCAS El Toro was my first duty station out of boot camp, and MSgt. Paul Shaner was often in and out of there. He always carried a swagger stick, was the soul of kindness and the image of a gentleman in Marine green; with his pencil thin mustache he always looked like he just walked off the pages of an illustration of a fashion plate of the “perfect” Marine. At that time the then-ISO consisted of **Major Walt “Red” Sullivan, Lou Cappazoli, Rip Smith, Bob Springer, Vera Lavalley, Virginia Cruse, Joe Dominguez, Chuck Kester, Ken Maddux, Jim Schwaninger, George Wilson, Jim Keeling, George Webb, Benny Marrufo, Howard Shinrock, Tom Segel, “Big” John McKay, (much bigger) Jim Dorough, Bob McEwen, a blonde WM Corporal** whose name escapes me, and a thin, tall LCpl. from Illinois who was the first monorail driver in the U.S., operating the new one at Disneyland where most of us worked on weekends; also a photographer whose name escapes me. I seem to remember that he and **Chuck Kester** worked together a lot. Seems like there was also a **Capt. Schmidt** who went on to become a California congressman. Those were amazing times, the best of times. Since I was just out of recruit training, I thought they had sent me to a different Marine Corps, but then, Marine Corps aviation has always been a little different. **MSgt. Paul Shaner** was one of the best.

Red Carpenter: The photographer's name was **Chuck Tyler** and I believe at the time he and Kester were West Coast stringers for Leatherneck Magazine. I knew Paul only after retirement and at USMCCCA conferences. Thought he was a good man and fine Marine. I do remember playing golf with Paul a couple of times and he is the only golfer I ever knew to play golf in cowboy boots with spikes on the bottom

Jim Schwaninger: The Lance Corporal from Illinois was (and probably still is) named **Ted Suter** and he was from Indiana. Ted would

check in at Disneyland with his employee pass, come through the main gate and get his hand stamped, then give me his employee pass so I could get in through the employee gate w/o paying. I would spend the rest of many evenings free-riding on the monorail while Ted worked.

Heineken on Board

The CC Board of Directors in a historic move has invited an official from Heineken.USA to serve in ex officio status on the Foundation Board of Directors.

Effective February 1, **Patrice Webb**, Public Affairs Manager-West, with headquarters in El Segundo, CA, will begin an un-specified term as an advisor for corporate affairs to the board. While her duties are still being developed, she is expected to work closely with Bob Jordan, who has accepted the position as Chair of the Foundation Board.

Heineken USA began its liaison with USMCCCA when Bob Long, LA Chapter president, invited them to participate with us at the 2007 Conference. At that time Heineken pledged significant product and financial support for both the 2007 and 2008 conferences as well as product support for other activities, including the annual Florida CC Golf Tournament.

President Keith Oliver said that having Heineken on board will be a definite advantage as we begin a more concerted effort at attracting both corporate and private contributors for our programs and for advertisers for the annual conference Journal. “As a non-profit 501©(3) Foundation, we have only scratched the surface in both of these areas. This should be a great cooperative endeavor for us.”

Your Dues Status

Dues are payable to CCHQ by September 30 each year. If you are in doubt as to your status, call 352.748.4698 or email usmccca@cfl.rr.com.

National President Keith Oliver

CC Six sends...



Happy New Year, fellow ink slingers and combat shutterbugs!

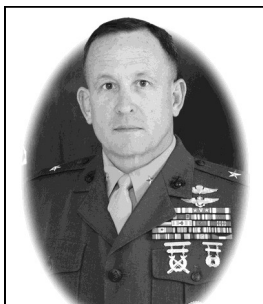
Your Association is off to a rock 'em, sock 'em 2008, with Awards Chairman **Don Knight** and Co-Chair **Al Eskalis** already neck-deep in HQMC coordination. Their lofty goal: to make this year's ceremony even more special than our star-studded Los Angeles event.

In the bigger conference picture, honcho **Don O'Neal** reports that the City of San Antonio is ready to help us make CC history with a special blend of programs and activities tailored to both young and older members. Watch next quarter's *Now Hear This!* for details on our group visit with America's wounded warriors at Brooke Army Medical Center; a special update from Beirut Veterans of America (BVA) president **Randy Gaddo**; presentations from the San Antonio-based USAA; and a couple surprise guests of national note. Assisting Alamo Don as Co-Chair for Programs is **Danny Chung**.

Bravo Zulu to 8th and I's **Cpl. John J. Parry** for his January *Leatherneck* cover shot; and to **Capt Paul Croom II** for his article, "A Lesson from Thermopylae" in the January *Marine Corps Gazette*. Check out everything our

2 Stars For Milstead

Brig. Gen. Richard E. "Boomer" Milstead, Director, Public Affairs, HQMC has been selected for major general. No info has been given as to his promotion date or his next command.



R. E. "Boomer" Milstead

friends at the Marine Corps Association are up to these days by visiting **Walt Ford** and company online at www.mca-marines.org.

Published: Recent Naval Institute *Proceedings* authors among our membership include **Dave Danelo** ("Stop Blaming the Media," in the January issue) and **Capt. Amy Malugani** ("Helping the Press Get it Right" in the December 2007 edition). Also appearing in the **Bob Timberg**-edited journal was **Lt. Col. Bobbie Shea's** book review of *Band of Sisters*. The colonel serves on the Commandant's Action Group and was tasked with preparing **Gen. Jim Conway's** remarks for our Washington National Conference in 2006.

Sad to report that **Jim Crawley**, formerly with the San Diego Union-Tribune and current president of the Association of Military Reporters and Editors ("MRE"), has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Please remember Jim in your prayers and feel free to contact fellow war correspondent **Sig Christenson** (saddamscribe@yahoo.com) for more detailed information.

Congratulations to the USMCCA's own **Staff Sgt. Bryce Piper**, the most junior Marine to finish top o' the class in DINFOS' Public Affair Qualification Course. He graduated last month. The evolving, 8-week "PAO" course opened up enrollment to selected enlisted leaders last year. A pair of gunnies, **Will Price** and **Troy Ruby**, are presently on-deck.

Thanks to **Jason Fischer**, **Danny Chung** and **John Olmstead**, the CCs' one-year complimentary membership program at DINFOS has finally reached maturity. Each new Marine grad receives a special certificate and membership card in a formal presentation delivered by the likes of **Bob Jordan**, **Al Eskalis**, **John Dodd**, *et al.* None of this would be possible today without **Mike Pitts**, **Don Gee** and **Red**

2007-08 Booster Club

Platinum
\$5,000 Up

Heineken
Raytheon
Florida Chapter
LA Chapter
(KNBC-TV)

Gold
\$1,000-\$4,999

Silver
\$100-\$999

Red Carpenter
Norm Hatch
Keith Oliver
Jack T. Paxton

Carpenter patiently implementing and nourishing the program a decade ago. Gentlemen, our Association remains in your debt. Finally, a hearty "Get Well!" to CC tribal elder, **Bill Bied**, forced to endure a leg amputation this winter. With wife **Margaret's** love and his slightly-crotchety sense of humor intact, Bill is coming through this tough challenge with flying colors. But cards, calls and letters always appreci-

(Continued on page 6)

Reminders for 2008

Membership year: 2009 dues are due at CCHQ by **September 30**. Checks or credit cards accepted. \$30 staff and above; \$20 sergeants and below.

Booster Club: What you contribute to our Booster Club now may well be to your tax advantage for 2008. Checks or credit cards accepted.

Merit Award Sponsorship: We hope each of our 2007 sponsors will "re-up" but we can always use more. Your \$200 supports a first place winner in our annual contest for "picture takers" and "story tellers." Everyone deserves "15 minutes of fame" and these warriors deserve theirs.

2008 CC Conference : You can begin registering now for the conference. **You must make your hotel reservation by July 18.** See the special member-only form on Page 11 as well as hotel reservation info.

Journal Ads—Member-only rates for quarter-page ads are \$150 color, \$125 b&w. Member deadline April 15. Credit cards, checks to CCHQ.

McPartland & USMCCCA Scholarship Funds— Applicants must submit applications by June 15. Contact CCHQ for info.

Board Elections: We will elect three members to the BOD in 2008. Applications must reach CCHQ by June 30.

That's 30 from from CCHQ

Executive Director Jack T. Paxton



Elsewhere you will read about the 2008 Conference in San Antonio. While a number of interesting activities are being planned, **we would like to hear from you as to your likes and/or dislikes.** Because you will be reading this in February some events will have been planned. But, if there is something bugging you or something you feel is needed, call us at 352.748.4698 or email us at usmccca@cfl.rr.com. **Don O'Neal** has already promised there will be something for all—both old timer and current warriors.

You will not see the term, "**Early Bird**" mentioned in our registration process this year. We are not doing away with the discount, only the name. **We are now going to call this a Member-only discount applying to the entire package of events.** Obviously, the idea of paying less, might attract new members. Why not try it? **The price for the non-member package will be higher as will ala carte pricing for the individual activities.**

The registration deadline date will apply to all and will coincide with hotel requirements, e.g., the hotel requires us to give them an accurate count of attendees approximately two weeks in advance of the conference. **We have no control over this requirement.** This also helps us in planning accurate meal counts – which has given conference planners heartburn in the past.

Hotels traditionally ask for accurate meal counts 72 hours prior to each event. If we have accurate registration data we're okay. If we have many last minute walk-ins, as we did last year, it becomes a guessing game and we stand to lose. Example: For last year's Thursday Awards Banquet, we were required to give an accurate count by Tuesday morning. We knew would get last minute attendees from Camp Pendleton, San Diego and

Miramar but did not know how many. So, we guessed and overestimated by 30 meals. **The guess cost us nearly \$1500.** This year we will have a near-exact count for each meal event through the advance registration process. Late comers will be fed but, it might not be the same thing everyone else gets.

The Menger Hotel will offer the guaranteed room rate of \$112 until July 18. **After that date the rate will go up substantially.** It will be up to you to get your reservation made prior to that date if you want to stay at the Menger. Last year, because so many waited till the last minute, the conference hotel ran out of the number of negotiated rooms. We had to work with two additional hotels at a higher price to take care of late comers.

Finally, the "early bird" designation for discounted quarter page ads for the Annual Journal is also being changed. This year members will get the discounted rate of **\$125 for a black and white ad; \$150 for color.** Non-members and businesses wanting the quarter page ads will pay \$150 and \$180, respectively. Members will continue to get a 20% discount on all other sized ads. Ads sold by chapters will continue to get the 20% discount as well. **In case you don't get it, we're going after members.**

While we hated to see **Fast Eddie Evans** give up his weekly CCFYI that Mo started, we can appreciate that he needed to take a break. He now informs us he is coming out of retirement at the request of his old employer, the Army Corps of Engineers. Good men are hard to find. They found one. We wish him well.

Belated but happy 93d birthday greetings to **Sam Stavisky** who celebrated on December 6. Many more, Sam!

(Continued on page 6)

The Jim Lehrer Luncheon Crowd



The Winners—Dickson award winner **Fred “Flash” Lash** (l) and Denig winner, **Jim Lehrer** (r), pose with National President **Keith Oliver** at a special luncheon honoring Lehrer November 28 at Ft. Myer in Virginia. (Story on P-1)



CC Jim Keyser, a docent at the Marine History Museum, gives an update on the Museum’s progress as Lehrer Luncheon emcee and organizer **Don Knight** ® looks on. In photo at right, Denig honoree **Jim Lehrer** thanks the large crowd of active duty, retired and others who attended the Ft. Myer luncheon.



Bob Poos and wife, **Bobbi**, made it to the luncheon in spite of Bob’s recent illness. “I’m gradually getting there but it’s been tough,” he said.



PBS NewsHour’s Jim Lehrer—posed for a photo with this group of active duty Marines from DINFOS after the luncheon.



A Photo for Our Archives—One of the largest group of CCs from all conflicts from World War II through the Gulf War sat for a group photo following the Lehrer Luncheon. From left standing: Bob Jordan, John Shotwell, Don Knight, John Abel, Dave Hugel, Herb Hart, Chas Henry, Fred Lash, Jim Kyser (partially hidden), Jack Paxton and Pat Coulter. Seated (l-r) Bob Poos, Sam Stavisky, Cy O’Brien, and Norm Hatch.



“Gee, Boomer, I do kind of miss it,” National President **Keith Oliver** ® “might” be reflecting as DivPA Director, Brig. Gen. J. E. “Boomer” Milstead looks on in disbelief. Milstead and other senior officers from HQMC attended the Lehrer luncheon. (All DINFOS photos this page by **LCpl. Michael Darnell**)

About Overdue Dues & Association Costs

Many of you have received telephone calls from members of our Board reminding you that your dues are overdue and your membership will end by February 15. Many of you have also said you did not know this and why didn't CCHQ send out reminders or invoices?

The simple answer: We sent reminder postcards over six months ago and followed this with reminders in your third and fourth quarter newsletters. We cannot send invoices. One, it is too time consuming and two, too costly. In each of these, we announced that the membership year was changed to October 1 to September 30.

We mail the newsletter, *Now Hear This*, four times a year and, depending on when the conference is, a special conference edition in hopes that many of you will attend. While we have bulk rates as a non-profit, each newsletter mailing costs us ap-

proximately \$115 in postage. (Print cost: Approximately \$320, depending on number of pages.)

We also mail once a year the **Member Directory** (now in progress). Depending on size, this will also cost us about \$115-150 this year.

Depending on numbers running for the Board of Directors each year, we have a mailing of an absentee ballot and biographical material. This can run about \$115-\$125.

Our postcard reminders about membership dues cost this year \$156 in postage alone. This does not include printing costs which we try to do in house. **When members forget and we have to send another postcard mailing as we did in January to about 272 delinquent members this cost was about \$73**, again not counting cost of cards or the in-house printing.

Yes, several of you were sent these cards in error. You can blame either the mail program or the executive director. The latter will accept the blame. Hopefully the matter has been corrected. One thing the January mailing did do is show us that many of you have moved and have not kept CCHQ informed about the address change.

Your organization operates on a virtual shoe-string yet we try to give you the best service possible. We answer emails and telephone calls within 24 hours – sometimes sooner. We try to get your newsletter to you early in the second month of the quarter and we try to fill it with a mix of news, photos, humor (at times) and information that will appeal to all.

We are not mind-readers, however. We do hope you will try and remember when dues are due and get them in so that we don't have to spend money on reminders.

We like to hear from you, especially if you have a story to tell, a photo to share or just want to chew the fat about who's where or what it was like in the "old corps." We especially want to know your correct email and home addresses.

Finally, CCHQ is located at 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785. Our telephone number is 352.748.4698 and you can email us at usmccca@cfl.rr.com.

CC6 Sends...

(Continued from page 3)

ated! Until next time, please join me in selling journal ads and recruiting new members ...Semper Fidelis, **Keith**

That's 30 from CCHQ

(Continued from page 4)

Bill Bierd continues on the mend following a partial amputation of a leg. Margaret reports he had a rough time but is now in rehab and working towards being fitted with a prosthesis. We can only offer solace to his nurses! **To them, this too, shall pass.**



Bill and Margaret Bierd send their best to all CC friends as Bill recovers from a leg amputation. He's now in rehab and can be reached for the next few weeks at 520.546.3800. Ask for room 313. (Photo courtesy of John Boring)

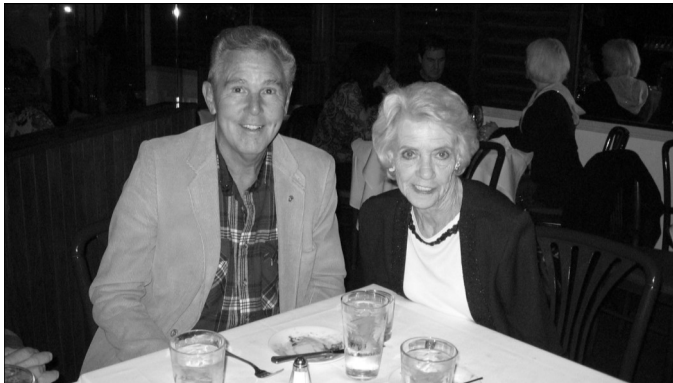
CC Chapters Very Active over Holidays



Rosenthal Chapter Christmas—We'll let you identify these members of San Francisco's Rosenthal Chapter. We recognize Bob Stanley in the foreground.



Pauline Tallent and Marines from the I&I staff, 23d Marines, celebrated Los Angeles Toys For Tots success..



Jon and Donna Goodman smile for the camera that we suspect was held by LA 's "ace" photog, Tom Peters. They attended the LA Chapter Christmas luncheon.



Debbie Tallent, daughter of Pauline and the late Bob, is shown today and as a baby in this Christmas photo taken years ago by the late H. B. Wells. Debbie participated in the LA Toys for Tots effort. That was not her dad, Bob, in the photo.



LA Chapter Members enjoy a Christmas Luncheon—This smiling group included Joanne Rebecca, Harold Nebanzal, Angie Lam, and Eddie Kafafian.



LA Chapter President Bob Long presented **SSgt. Mike Hjelmstad** a CC Certificate of Appreciation and inducted him as an Honorary Member of the Chapter. Mike offered invaluable assistance to both Chapter and National during the 2007 conference. Navy MC2 Elizabeth Thompson is shown.

Dateline Iraq: Baghdadi Now Secure

(By: Cpl. Adam Johnston, Combat Correspondent – Regimental Combat Team 2.)

COP BAGHDADI, Iraq – How many Marines does it take to secure Baghdadi? Last year, it took an entire company. Then, as the situation improved, that number dropped to a platoon. And now, with the onset of 2008, the grand total is zero.

The Marines of 2nd Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 2, have completely pulled out of Command Outpost Baghdadi. Fortunately for local citizens, their replacements are already hard at work.

In a monumental step toward Iraqi sovereignty, the Baghdadi Police force has taken sole responsibility of security within the city limits. They are the first to do so in all of Al Anbar Province.

“In the past, battalions were measured on how many battle positions they established during a deployment,” said Lt. Col. J.J. Dill, commanding officer, 1st Bn., 7th Marines. “It showed they were moving out into the community, partnering with (Iraqi Security Forces) to make things happen. But in this stage of the counterinsurgency battle, it’s not how many we put up – it’s how many we take down.”

The transfer of authority comes as a direct result of the Baghdadi IP validation, which is determined by U.S. and coalition forces.

“It’s a checklist of where they’re at,” said Capt. Craig T. Douglas, the company commander of Co. A, 1st Bn., 7th Marines. “Can they run their own investigations, conduct security patrols, etcetera.? Are they self-sufficient?”

With their own battlespace, the Baghdadi IPs face their toughest challenge yet. Can they do it alone?

“The IPs of Baghdadi are ready to take over,” Douglas said. “They want the bad guys out of here just as much as we do. With logistical support from the government of Iraq, they should be ok.”

If, however, Baghdadi should need emergency assistance, the Marines of 1st Bn, 7th Marines, won’t be far behind.

“The COP is in the middle of our (area of operation), so we’ll still be in an overwatch capacity,” said Douglas. “But they know that one day, we’ll be gone. They’ll need to be able to do things for themselves.” The building itself, upon completion of the new police station, will become host to city council meetings and other functions.

“Many people back home think the Anbar awakening happened overnight,” Dill said. “But where we’re at today is the culmination of four years worth of hard work and dedication by Marines and Iraqis alike. I want this city to stop looking like it’s under siege. This is a huge step toward the return to normalcy.”



Lt. Col. J.J. Dill (l) CO, 1st Bn, 7th Marine Regiment, stands with Muhanad Zubar Mutlak, the mayor of Baghdadi, during a recent ceremony. Community leaders gathered to commemorate the removal of Marine forces from the city limits. The Iraqi Police are now solely responsible for the security of their fellow citizens.



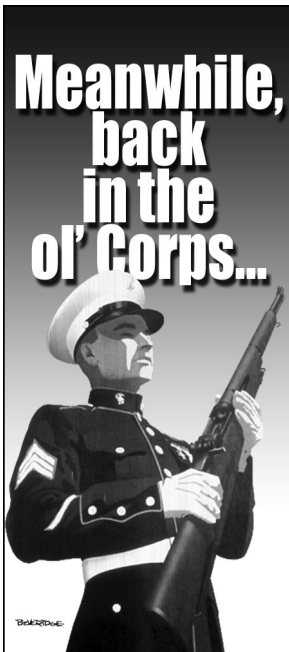
COMBAT OUTPOST NORTH, AL QA'IM, Iraq – Iraqi Army soldiers from 1st Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division, and Marines with the Military Transition Team partnered with Marines from Weapons Company, Task Force 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 2, in immediate action drills at Combat Outpost North, Al Qa'im, Iraq. The Iraqi Army at COP North has gained the respect and admiration of their Marine comrades and continue to excel at their training.



San Diego Charter Presentation— Randy Mitchell received this photo from the late Walt Stewart's son. As Randy says, the guy on the left is me. Walt is presenting the charter to two guys I do not know. If you do, let us know.



Danang Press Center—These two photos show members of the Danang Press Center in different years. At top, sent by Bob Caulkins, and taken sometime in 1967. Standing (from l) SSgt. Tom Kraak, an unknown, WO Parks, Capt. C. Johnson, MSgt. Glover, two unknowns. Sitting (from l) unknown, Cpl. Dave Martinez, behind him, SSgt. Johnson, Cpl. Wick Fowler, Sgt. Dale Dye, Cpl. Gus Hasford, two unknowns and Cpl. Earl Gerheim. Up front an unknown beside Sgt. Steve Berentson.



Visitors —The grinning guy on the right in the back row (above) invited three Tribal Elders (his words) to visit with his Cherry Point PAO staff in this photo taken in 1990. The three (with ties) were (l-r) Red Carpenter, the late Jim Smith, and Jack Paxton who were visiting as part of their never-ending investigation of East Coast golf courses. The grinner was the-then Major Keith Oliver, now national CC president.

In the below photo, sent by Red Carpenter, the CIB team from 1965 is shown. The late Maj. Mike Styles was seated 5th from left.



Kaneohe Bay Aloha—In the photo at left taken by Donnie Shearer, two Marines were feted at an aloha farewell at the old Golf Course Quonset party hut in October 1963. We can't give you a left to right identification of all of the participants but we can tell you some of the following names were involved in the party. **Jim and Sharon DiBernardo, Jim Mitchell, the late Al and Bobbi Steele, John and Gloria Funk, Phil Phillips, Mal Barr, John Babyak, the late Bob and Mary Jane Morrisey, Jack Paxton, Ed and Frieda DeCola, and the late Jim Williams.** Paxton & Phillips with leis.



Florida Golf: Get Group & C'mon Down

The Florida Chapter's 2008 Golf tournament is fast taking shape and President Red Carpenter has issued an invitation to all CCs – especially those residing on the Eastern Seaboard to “come on down and make a vacation out of it.”

The tournament, to be held on Friday, June 6 is being played at the Ridgewood Lakes Golf Club, which is about 20 miles from Disney World located near the intersection of Highway 27 and Interstate 4.

Carpenter encouraged golfers to consider playing in the tournament and bring their families with them. **“We have excellent hotels, vacation rentals and dozens of restaurants plus all of the famous Florida resorts within a few miles of the course. This could be an excellent early summer**



Florida Chapter President Red Carpenter (I) discusses plans for the June tournament with Greg Gagliardi, Manager of the Ridgewood Lakes Golf Club and annual emcee of the popular and highly successful auction that follows play.



DINFOS Christmas Luncheon—At DINFOS the instructor staff took over serving chores for all students. Evi Jordan, wife of Instructor CC Bob Jordan offers a heaping portion of food as MarDet CO, (and CC) Danny Chung (behind Evi) looks on.

getaway. Another idea might be to get a foursome together play in our tournament then spend a few days playing some of the great courses nearby. Don't forget there is the excellent military hotel, the Shades of Green, right on the Disney property for those eligible to stay there.”

This will be the fourth year for the tournament which has grown in popularity and profitability. Originally, a joint venture of the CCs and the Florida Marine Corps League during the first two years, the Chapter decided to go it alone in 2007 and, due to sponsorships, auctions, and player fees, the tournament produced a profit for the CCs of slightly over \$8,000.

Carpenter praised the efforts of Chapter members who put many hours each year into producing the event. He especially lauded the efforts of CC Gene Smith who also happens to be a tournament director for the PGA Champions Tour (old Senior Tour).

“Gene has contacts throughout the golf industry and, because of his effort, we are able to offer some really great prizes and items for our silent auctions.”

Thanks to the success of the tournament, the Chapter made a contribution of \$10,000 to the national association at the Los Angeles Conference last September. Additionally, contributions were also made in support of the Wounded Warrior funds at Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton.

CCs who are interested should contact Red at 352.688.6720 or email him at JCAR1@tampabay.rr.com.



DINFOS Commandant Navy Capt. Curry Graham gives the master instructor badge and certificate to John Dodd, PA leadership instructor, in a ceremony January 8. Dodd a member of the CC Board of Directors received the award for achieving top instructor level status at DINFOS (Photo by Army Pfc. Stacey Bonnar)

**Book Your
Hotel Room
Now**

July 18 is the deadline for making reservations at the Menger Hotel. Last year, some registrants were forced to use other hotels at a higher rate because they failed to secure their reservations at the headquarters hotel before the room allocation ran out.

You are encouraged to book your room NOW. The Menger has less than 400 rooms. **They have allocated a certain number at our special reservation rate of \$112.** After that allocation is used up available rooms will be charged at a higher, rack rate.

Also, if full, late-comers may be referred to adjacent hotels at whatever rate can be negotiated.

To make a reservation, call 1.800.345.9285. Tell the reservations person you are making a reservation for Ma-rine Corps Combat Correspondents 600638. If there is a problem ask to speak to Stephanie Pheanis, Sales Manager.

Unfortunately, you will not be able to make your hotel reservation on line this year.

Let's see you there!!!!

Get Your Members-Only Registration Discount

No more Early Bird Registration. Instead, we are offering a members-only discount of \$120 which will be good from the time you read this until **July 1**. After that date and through Thursday, **July 31** the full registration of \$140 will be assessed.

The non-member registration fee is \$140 and will be good through July 31.

The registration fee will cover the Welcome Reception on Tuesday, the Merit Awards Banquet, Thursday and the Sayonara Business Brunch, Friday.

At press time a **Wives Event** was being planned for Friday. As this materializes we will publish details in the 2d Quarter newsletter. As planned, the registration fee will cover the event for wives. If there is no wives event, the fee will cover their attendance at the Sayonara Business Brunch.

Registration Fees

I am a member. Sign me and my guests up for the special Members-only rate of \$120 (ends July 1). No. registered: ___ \$ ____.

No, I'm not a member. Sign me up for a rate of \$140 (ends July 31).

No. registered: ___ \$ ____.

Credit Card Info - (Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Card # _____

Expires: _____ 3-Digit Code: _____

Amount: \$ _____



The historic Menger Hotel is located on Alamo Plaza, literally next door to the famed Alamo. Built in 1859, it's one of the oldest buildings in the city and is the oldest continuously operating hotel west of the Mississippi River. In-room amenities include coffeemakers, iron and ironing board, data ports, cable TV and radios. Children's cribs are available.

Individual Event Registration

Please note, if you elect not to take the full registration fee of \$120 (members) or \$140 (all others) the following individual, or ala carte, rates will apply for the various events:

Event	No.	Amount
Welcome Reception:	___@ \$35	\$ ___
Awards Banquet:	___@ \$75	\$ ___
Business Brunch:	___@ \$40	\$ ___
Total:		\$ _____

Name Badge Information

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Please return to the Executive Director, USMCCA, 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL, 34785

CCs Have Key Roles in Iwo Reunion

Two former combat correspondents from the Lucas CC Chapter have key roles in the annual national reunion of the Combat Veterans of Iwo Jima scheduled at Arlington, Va., Feb. 15-17.

Third Division Reunion

The Third Marine Division Association will hold its annual family reunion July 30-August 3 in Iselin, NJ at the Woodbridge Sheraton Hotel.

Anyone who served in, was attached to, or served in support of the Third Marine Division at any time since it was formed September 6, 1942 is eligible and cordially invited to attend.

For membership and reunion information, contact SgtMaj. Bill Kreuger (Ret.), Telephone 703.451.3844 or write him at 7622 Highland St. Springfield, VA 22150-3931 or visit their website at www.caltrap.com.

Cyril O'Brien is handling advance publicity for the event. He served as a CC during the recapture of Guam from the Japanese in 1944 and again with the Third Marine Division in the battle for Iwo Jima in February-March of 1945. Norman Hatch, who served as a Combat Cameraman with the Fifth Marine Division at Tarawa and Iwo Jima will be a speaker and show some of the combat footage he shot on Iwo.

The reunion, marking the 63rd anniversary of the historic battle, is open to all veterans, students, military guests and historians. Major General Fred Haynes, president of the organization, said the reunion aims to "shed new light and ensure a broader understanding of the epic battle."

Speakers include Marine Commandant James Conway and former Commandant James Jones. For more information contact Combat Veterans of Iwo Jima, Inc. at (703) 212-8128 or email at

combatvetiwo@miltours.com.



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