



NOW HEAR THIS!

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

2009 Conference—Hampton, VA

Association President Fred “Flash” Lash has announced all systems are “good to go” for the 2009 Annual USMCCCA Conference at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Hampton, VA September 14-18.

“Especially pleasing is the fact that the senior leadership of Marine Corps Public Affairs will be joining us again this year,” Flash said. He also said that CCHQ has been informed that the Marketing and Public Affairs Marines from the Marine Corps Recruiting Command will again be in attendance.

Located midway between Colonial Williamsburg and Virginia Beach the Crowne Plaza Hampton Marina is the only waterfront hotel in Hampton. 172 perfectly appointed guest rooms have stunning views of the Chesapeake Bay, Hampton University, Hampton Public Piers, Customs Marina, and the Hampton Historic District.

All guests of the Crowne Plaza Hotel enjoy complimentary parking, wireless Internet access, and business services. Members will be able to enjoy Busch Gardens, the Virginia Air and Space Museum, Water Country USA and more.

“Other good news,” Lash said, “is that we are able to offer much lower hotel rates than in our three previous conferences. The Crowne Plaza room rate is \$81 per night, which is a bargain in this day and age. Also, our Members-only registration fee is a bargain if members sign up early.”

Members-Only Registration

To ensure maximum attendance, a graduated **Members-Only Registration** is being offered. A form is shown on P-12 of this issue as well as on the website: www.usmccca.org.

March 1-March 30: \$100

April 1-May 31: 120

June 1 – August 31: 130

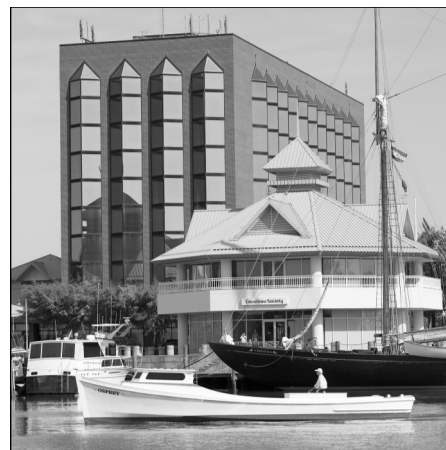
Non-member registration: \$135.

All registrations close September 1.

Preliminary plans call for the traditional Welcome Reception Tuesday evening, the Merit Awards Banquet Thursday evening, and a Friday Busi-

ness Meeting. “Of course this is only a preliminary schedule,” Lash said. “We will be offering various special events, including a wives luncheon. **Special activities are also planned for our younger Marines and members. At press time, Lash said there will be a DJ available each night of the conference in the hospitality suite.**

We’re also looking at a karaoke contest night on Wednesday and will be offering prizes for the most talented.”



Hampton Crowne Plaza Hotel

Hotel Rates a Bargain

Thanks to the good work of our National Hotel Negotiator **Red Carpenter**, your 2009 hotel rates at Hampton’s Crowne Plaza Hotel will be **\$81**, a definite bargain in this day and age and should help boost attendance at the September 14-18 event.

Members are encouraged to go ahead and make their reservations in advance to make sure sufficient rooms are available.

To make a reservation by phone, members can call the Crowne Plaza toll free at **1.866.727.9990**. When making the reservation be sure to mention the **Group Code “USMCCCA.”**

To make a reservation on-line, you can visit the website www.crowneplaza.com/hamptonva. The on-line block code is **UMC**.

A link to the hotel will be placed on our website, www.usmccca.org. Clicking the link takes you to the hotel.

Association '09 Officers

President: Fred "Flash"
Lash

VP: Don Knight

Secretary: Chris Whiting

Treasurer: Tom Kerr

Directors

John Dodd 2010

Michael Mink 2010

Bryan Salas 2010

Don O'Neal 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 '09 Officers

President: Don O'Neal

VP: Ronna Weyland

Secretary: Victoria Turney

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

State of the Association-2008

As we close another successful calendar year we offer the following accomplishments from 2008 and where we hope to be heading in 2009.

First, our finances. Borrowing from the late **Bob "Mo" Morrissey** and, more recently from our own national Treasurer, **Tom Kerr**: "We ain't broke." Yes, we are definitely concerned with the sad state of the national economy and will be working diligently with our new Foundation Board to see that we survive. Fortunately, we run a bare-bones operation so major cutbacks are not as necessary as they are with some veterans organizations. Here are some other 2008 highlights:

Since 2005 we have seen the number of **Merit Awards sponsorships** increase from single digits to 35 in 2008. Obviously, this helps our financial picture. In 2009 we hope to add 10 more sponsorships.

The **Booster Club** has 17 members at this writing. We need more.

Advertising increased in the **2008 Annual Conference Journal** thanks to the great work of Art Director **Chuck Beveridge**. Both our members and our corporate partners recognize the Journal as a professional "book." Our membership is supporting it with their quarter-page (and larger) ads but, even with a profit in 2008, we need more corporate support.

While we had to cut some unresponsive memberships, we managed to bring on board 40 new members in 2008. We end 2008 at 483 members. The concern is that our Honorary and Life members represent approximately 55% of our membership. We have a ready source at the website www.togetherweserved.com. There are more than 500 present and former CCs listed as well as 400+members of the 4600 field. If you have not visited the site we encourage you to use it as a recruiting tool. Our realistic goal for 2009 is 75 new members.

Through the efforts of many at **DINFOS**, we are seeing graduates now accepting the complimentary memberships we offer. We use the word "accept" as we now require the graduate to activate his or her membership by contacting CCHQ.

Thanks to the top-down encouragement from **Division of Public Affairs** to field commands, we now are seeing many repeat registrations at our annual Conference. This means we now can place faces with names with these new breed CCs. Likewise, they are able to get better exposure to us. This has to pay future dividends from a membership standpoint.

Our relationship with DivPA at HQMC has never been better. The Public Affairs Chief, **MGySgt. Phil Mehringer** is a Life Member and one of our most ardent boosters. Unlike Macy not talking to Gimble, CCHQ speaks to the DivPA staff at least once per week.

In 2009 we are going to attempt a re-write of **Gary Cameron's Last to Know, First to Go**. We have a willing editor and will be asking all CCs for their remembrances of events from the 1970's onward.

Our newly-launched national website www.usmccca.org is certainly one of the year-end highlights. What a great job **Kate Stark** has done in a short time! In 2009 we look for the site to be more inter-active with members being able to have dialogue with one another and with members able to use the site for conference registration and the paying of dues.

In December, right on new **Foundation President Don O'Neal's** target, we split the Foundation from the Association, re-wrote the bylaws, elected new officers and now expect big things. We did this to protect the Association from violations that could affect our non-profit status. Our concern was/is that we keep the Foundation under the control of our membership. All current Association Directors automatically become Directors in the Foundation although none of the present officers can hold dual offices. You can read about the new Foundation board in Don's column on page 5

Finally, with the leadership of **Fred "Flash" Lash** at the Association and the new **Foundation President, Don O'Neal**, we can look forward to a prosperous (and happy) New Year.

Semper Fidelis

Jack T. Paxton
Executive Director

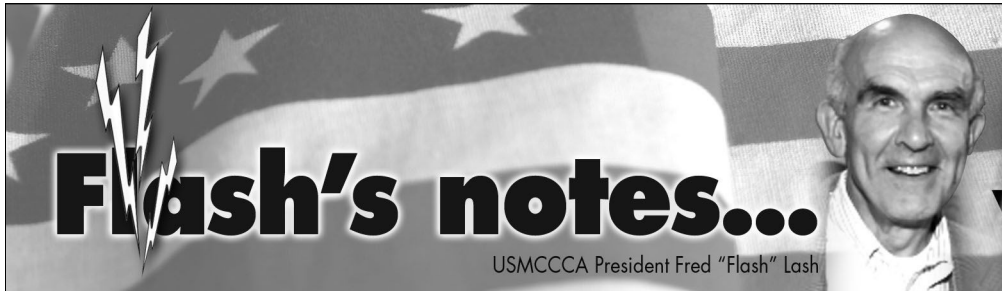
Versatile Website Offers Various Member Options

Yes, we're excited about our new national website www.usmccca.org!

Now there is a complete **membership roster** is in the Members-only area. You can either read it on line or print a copy for your records.

Also, in the upper left corner of the home page we are asking each member to contact us and update their personal info. We are losing too many memberships by members moving and leaving no forwarding address.

Prospective members can now join us by completing the on-line **Membership Application**. Members can also **renew** their memberships. **Conference Registration** is now up. PayPal is acknowledged to be the safest way to handle credit card payments and we now offer it to you. Enjoy.



To begin with, your Prez has now taken up residence in the Department of State and works for the Press Secretary. Up until the 16th of January, it was Sean McCormack; however, with the advent of a new administration coming in on the 20th, he will depart and I'll get a few new bosses (including a new Secretary of State!).

I recently met with Colonel Dave Lapan, the Director of Public Affairs for the Corps, and we now have an agreement that the PA Leadership Conference will occur in Hampton, Virginia, where we will gather in September of this year. That, in itself, is wonderful news, since there has been some consternation on the part of Div PA regarding the selection of the site for the USMCCCA 2009 Conference.

A preliminary site evaluation revealed a need for more nightly activities on-site. While many of the nearby restaurants feature entertainment, we recognized that in-house nightly entertainment would be much more palatable for members and our young Marines than for them having to spend money for long and expensive distances for liberty.

Having heard this, we immediately went into action, meeting first with the Div PA leadership (including **Colonel Lapan, LtCol Matt McLaughlin, MGySgt Phil Mehringer, and MSgt Kyle Olson**), then with a selection of young Marines (both in Div PA and at the Defense Information School), asking them what would be some of the activities we could possibly arrange that would tempt them to remain in the hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday nights during the conference, instead of going out on liberty. By and large, they seemed to favor karaoke and a DJ with music. So, we've now arranged to have both during that week, thus providing some great entertainment for our hard chargers, both young and old (I personally love

singing in karaoke contests, and I also sense that **Joanne Schilling Peck** will also be willing to cut loose with some tunes!).

The bottom line to this discourse is this—I'm asking each of you to put on your creativity hats and come up with a few more fun activities that we can employ in Hampton, that'll ensure the most attendance by the Marines who will have traveled a long way to be there and are always looking for ways to 'blow off steam.' Should you have talent as a magician, stand-up comic, musician, or game show host, let us know and we'll look at putting you to work in Hampton.

Whereas some other venues (like next year in Reno) may not require such activities in the hotel, we've come to the conclusion that this one certainly does, thus the efforts to put together an appealing package to both attract more commands to send their Marines and also keep them in the hotel while they're present.

And, lest I be remiss in congratulating someone whose efforts to support the CCs has been nothing short of outstanding, let me take my hat off to **Kate Stark**, who has created and developed a Web site for the USMCCCA that is both top notch and state-of-the-art. If you have yet to do so, make sure you pull up www.usmccca.org as soon as you can and check it out.

I'm sure that, like me, you'll be astounded by the quality of work and design that you see! Thanks so much Kate for your diligent efforts and creativity. It is certainly appreciated by us all!! **Flash out....**

Still a Member? Are You Sure?

The current membership year ended September 31. Call or email CCHQ to find out. usmccca@cfl.rr.com or 352.748.4698

Transition



Col. James W. "Wes" Hammond

(Ed. Note: At NHT press time we were notified of the death of CC Wes Hammond)

USMCCCA member, Colonel James W. (Wes) Hammond, Jr. USMC (Ret.) passed away on January 14, 2009 in Reno, NV with his family at his side. He was born March 6, 1929 in New York City.

Upon graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1951, the former enlisted Leatherneck was commissioned in the Marine Corps. During 25 years of service, he fought in Korea and Vietnam and was assigned to posts from Hawaii, to Washington, to Camp Lejeune.

He commanded the famed "Magnificent Bastards" in Vietnam, turning the battalion over to Lt. Col. P. X. Kelley when Hammond was wounded in combat and forced to evacuate. Later, he was editor of the Marine Corps Gazette at a time when the Marine Corps Association filled many of its Gazette and Leatherneck billets with active duty members.

In 1959 he married the former Donna Selby. He retired from active duty in 1975 and moved to Reno.

A more complete obituary may be found on our website: www.usmccca.org.

Do You Know These Former PA Types?

Tom Rutherford has found these folks. Why aren't they members? If you know one or more, email or call them.

Scott
Schultz: scott.schultz@ecpc.com

Lorri Newcombe: lorri@jjprint.com

Joe Kaither: jo-seph.kaither@us.army.mil

Marv
Price: mprice@calvarybaptistky.org

Greag Merriwether: greagmerriwether@frontiernet.net

Chuck
Fries: cval4312@bellsouth.net

Johnnie Gilley: jpg@sc.rr.com

Steve Igo: igohome@naxs.net

O.C. "Mac"
McBride: ocmack@yahoo.com

Mike McGlasson: Mmcglass@aol.com

Larry Lambert: llambo1077thend@cs.com

Jim Scapillato: jscapillato@centralia.ctc.edu

Oscar
Sester: o_sester@msn.com

Bob Stanley: rcarbob51@aol.com

David Petravich: dpetravich@classicincentivegroup.com

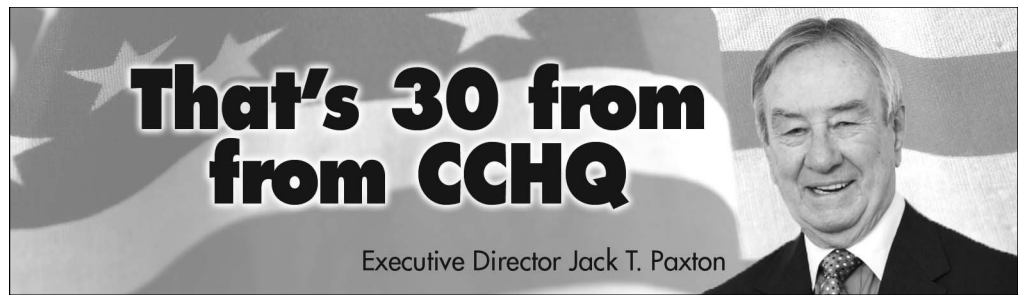
CJ
Layton: newzboy13@hotmail.com

Joe Carr: ta-kobuddy@yahoo.com

Michelle Faciolli: mfac@paintersdc711.org

Daniel Haberer, 11203 Dodson Ln, Silver Spring, MD 20902-4409, (301) 946-2848

Tell them to visit our website: www.usmcca.org.



Several interesting calls from members over the holidays. **Jack Baird** called right after Christmas telling us the new website had helped the sale of his book "**Combo Marine**." While his health is not good he remains upbeat and wants to thank all of you who purchased the book. The notice certainly prompted a lot of discussion on Fast Eddie Evans' CCFYI pages.

Cochise Cash called checking on his dues status. We were tickled to finally meet him at the San Antonio Conference. Speaking of annual dues, there are still a bunch of you out there who have not re-upped for 2009.

We called 90-year-old **Cy O'Brien** after reading the great article he did for **Leatherneck** on the death of former CMC Gen. Barrow. **Leatherneck** called O'Brien the Dean of the CCs which we suspect he is now that **Sam Stavisky** has passed on.

Speaking of Christmas calls, past President **Keith Oliver** told of his recent call to **Marea O'Leary**, wife of the late **Jerry O'Leary**. She asked to be remembered by all who knew Jerry.

We mourn the loss of long-time Lucas Chapter member and good friend from RVN days, **Bob Poos** as well as **Mary Carter McEwen**, wife of several time CC president, **Bob McEwen**. Elsewhere in this issue you will read the obituary of **Bob Powell**, who many of us knew, and of **Rudy Marth**.

You may have seen the story on our website www.usmcca.org about **GySgt. Jason Fischer**, our former Maryland Chapter president switching to the Navy because he wanted a commission and assurance he could stay in his chosen field. Makes one wonder why dedicated, talented Marines have to chose this route. Whoever caused the old LDO or warrant officer program for 43s to disappear needs to have his/her head examined.

For all of my **Facebook "friends"** who have been emailing, please forgive me for not verifying or whatever I am supposed to do. I set up a profile but, when I get your emails I am finding that I have to go in and (as I understand it) recreate the profile. I simply do not have enough time in the day to do that. Or, maybe I just do not know how. Be advised that I do recognize most of you.

What really would be appreciated is for each of you to go to <http://marines.togetherweserved.com> and take a look at the 500+ 4300 and 450+4600 field Marines listed and find out why they are not CCs. If you know any of them, ask.

You'll see various references in this issue to our new website www.usmcca.org—there, we've done it again. Well, why not?. There was so much bitching and moaning about the old site that shutting it down was probably the best thing we could do. Now, with Kate Stark at the helm we have a site we all can be proud of.

As we were taking this issue to press we were also putting info on the site how you could use your **Visa or Master Card** to do everything your check does now for you including paying dues, making contributions, paying for Merit Award sponsorships, paying for your Journal ads and other things.

We want to assure you that these transactions are safe. We have set up our accounts through **PayPal** and that is considered one of the most safe organizations going.

As we close this issue you are reminded you can also use the new website to update your personal information for the Member Roster.

You need to remember we are now accepting nominations for the Association Board of Directors. We fill two slots this year. Have them to us by May 15.



Fellow CCs:

As we embark on 2009 your Foundation has made some changes that I hope will revitalize it and make it an even more valuable asset to the Association. First and foremost, we have rewritten our bylaws and restructured our financial operation in order to more completely comply with IRS rules by creating greater transparency in day-to-day operations. **For example, our new bylaws do not allow officers of the Association to serve in the same positions in the Foundation.** This eliminates any appearance of a conflict of interest and more clearly establishes the Foundation as a separate entity. Association board members will continue to serve on the Foundation board, but the Foundation board will also consist of other CCs and non CCs who bring special skills and attributes to the board.



Ronna Weyland



Vicki Turney

In an effort to bring more diversity to the Foundation board, in terms of age and gender, we have elected **Ronna Weyland** as vice president. Ronna, is an active duty gunnery sergeant, serving at DivPA following completion of the photojournalist course at Syracuse University. She served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and wrote articles for the Association newsletter while deployed.

We have elected **John Dodd**, who serves on the DINFOS staff, as our treasurer and

Victoria Turney as our secretary. Victoria is currently director, marketing and corporate relations for Prime Power Services, Inc. To round out our team we have elected former CC president **Red Carpenter**, Leatherneck Publisher/Editor **Walt Ford**, and **Agostino VonHassel** to the board. Past president Keith Oliver joins us as an ex officio board member.

This team brings experience and continuity while also providing a infusion of youth and enthusiasm that will help us better understand and address the needs of the Association's "tribal elders" as well as those of today's active duty CCs.

In order to fulfill its mandate as the primary endowment source for the association's programs, the bottom line for the Foundation in the coming year and those that follow is fundraising. Several of you are members of the Booster Club. Many of you are contributors to the dedicated members' page, while still others are merit awards sponsors. Many of you who support these programs also subscribe to ads for our conference journal. The Foundation thanks you for this tremendous support. Each of you provides much needed revenue to support CC programs.

In 2009, the Foundation will increase its efforts to secure outside contributions to help fund Association programs. In reality, the current economic climate has put a severe crimp in philanthropic outreach so our challenge is great. We, therefore, will need your continued support. Please do all that you can to help us continue supporting the scholarship, merit awards and Wounded Marine Career Training programs. Thanks again for stepping up as only Marines can! **Semper Fi, Don**

2009 Booster Club

Platinum
\$5,000 Up

Boeing
Raytheon
Florida Chapter
Gene Smith, PGA

Anonymous

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

Tony Parzanese
Sally Pritchett

Silver

\$101-\$999

Red Carpenter

John Fales
(Sgt. Shaft)

John Funk
Norm Hatch

Tom Kerr

Jack Lewis
Bob McEwen

Mike Arnold
Keith Oliver

Don O'Neal
Jack Paxton
Randy Mitchell

Bronze
\$50-\$100

Ed Evans

CC's Mourn Poos, Marth, Powell, McEwen

Robert Poos, who covered the Vietnam War as a reporter for the Associated Press and later served as managing editor for the outspokenly pro-military magazine *Soldier of Fortune*, has died at age 78. Poos died in mid-December at a hospice in Arlington, Va., where he had been under care for nearly two years for respiratory ailments, his wife, Bobbie Poos, said. He recently had suffered a broken hip and a broken elbow in falls.



Bob Poos

Born in Hillsboro, Ill., on July 12, 1930, Poos was the son of Omer Poos, a U.S. District Court Judge in Springfield, Ill. In early years, he knocked about as a coal miner, merchant seaman and deckhand on a Mississippi river boat before joining the Marines at the outset of the Korean War in 1950.

In 1951 he was among the "Frozen Chosin" Marines who staged a fighting winter retreat from the Chosin Reservoir, under attack by Chinese Communist forces who had entered the w a r .

Poos joined the AP as a newsman in St. Louis, Mo., in 1957 after journalism studies at Southern Illinois University and working as a reporter-photographer for the Southern Illinoisan newspaper in Carbondale, Ill.

In 1965, he was assigned to the AP's Saigon bureau and quickly became noted for aggressive and daring combat reporting. During the January 1966 battle of An Thi, where U.S. cavalry troops were surrounded by communist forces, Poos and AP photographer Henri Huet helped recover and stand guard over wounded GIs. **(By Richard Pyle, AP, NY)**

It is also with great sadness that we have learned of the passing of **CC Life member Rudy Marth** on January 9 in Woodbridge, VA. Marth, both a motion picture and still photographer in the Marine Corps, was a retired Gunnery Sergeant who later became a film editor and worked for Capitol Films. He was interred at the National Cemetery at Quantico. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy and three sons, Mark, Kirk and Scott.

Editor's Note

More complete obituaries may be seen at our official website: www.usmccca.org



Recently passed CC Bob Powell (r) is pictured with (l-r) Col. John Ripley and Brock and Jonathan Oliver in this 1988 photo taken at Camp Lejeune.



CC Bob Powell died Oct. 19, 2008 in Mechanicsville, Va. A WWII veteran who was recalled to active duty to train Korea-bound Marines at Camp Lejeune, he earned a Silver Star and two Bronze Star Medals during fighting in the Pacific.

An associate member since the 1980s, Bob was also active in the Marine Corps League and as a leader at Fairmount Christian Church in Mechanicsville. His business, Tru-View Presentations, took him all over the country giving multimedia patriotic programs at public schools, veterans' homes and military venues including Parris Island and the Naval Academy. He would typically dress in the persona of "The Old Timer," a vintage cowboy with authentic Winchester rifle. He also appeared as an American Revolutionary soldier or a WWII U. S. Marine, wearing the same herringbone utilities he was issued as an Old China Hand.

Mary Carter McEwen, 84, wife of two-time CC President **Bob McEwen**, died December 12 in Indian Shores, FL following a series of health problems over the past three years. She met Bob while employed at the USNH Great Lakes where the then SSgt. McEwen was stationed. They married in 1956. She is survived by Bob and two children



Mary Carter McEwen

Strange Case of The Disappearing Gunny

Marine GySgt. Jason Fischer, formerly President of the DINFOS Chapter, USMCCCA, switched services February 1 when he reported to Newport, RI for Navy Officer Candidate School. Although it sounds a bit unusual, Jason reports that he attended and graduated from DINFOS Public Affairs Qualification Course (officer's course) and, because the Navy does its officer accessions by MOS, he decided to compete for their program. Of 64 applicants in his MOS, he was one of four selected.



GySgt. Jason Fischer

This is how he explains it: "It's no longer possible to take an LDO route from the Corps to the Navy. What I'm basically doing is totally exiting the Corps and entering the Navy like a college kid off the street."

My Marine contract ended Jan 3, but I got an extension to Feb.

3. As long as there is no longer than one day gap between the two services, I will continue to receive Gunny pay and

San Francisco Marines Celebrate Iwo's 64th

Bob Stanley and **Dale Cook** of the Joe Rosenthal chapter remind us: The Iwo Jima 64th Anniversary at Marine Memorial Club in San Francisco will be held Feb. 25, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.

In 1945, the epic battle of Iwo Jima was waged, and from that small island, the WWII legacy of Marines and Corpsmen was firmly established.

There will be a cocktail reception followed by a commemorative service and luncheon. The cost is \$35 for club members, and complimentary for Iwo Jima veterans and their spouse. If you have any questions about this event you can call (415) 673-6672, ext. 215 or ext. 229 to make your reservations

BAH at OCS (as opposed to the newbies who will receive E-5 pay while they're officer candidates).

"I competed for this slot against Navy enlisted PA types as well as regular civilian college grads. Once commissioned, I will be O1-E, and have unlimited potential in rank advancement. In the Navy a person in public affairs could advance to the rank of admiral if selected.

"If we still had warrant officer in our community, I would have done that long ago, just as I would have stayed Marine if I could have been given a pretty solid assurance I could have stayed in PA once commissioned.

"Public affairs near and dear to me, as is the Corps, but I guess it's time for me to move on and explore the other side of the house."

(Ed. Note: Jason assured us he would keep his USMCCCA membership).



Ye Olde Grippe & Grinne—Former PA Marine **Kate Stark**, official USMCCCA webmaster, receives her 1991 **Donald L. Dickson Memorial Award** from Florida Chapter President **Red Carpenter** during a chapter meeting in December. Kate had been working out of country and never received the award.

A Lighter Side of the late LtGen. Krulak

Some time ago **Tony Scaran** sent us Lt. Gen. **Victor “Brute” Krulak’s** farewell luncheon remarks as he prepared to relinquish his FMFPac command in 1968. Ironically, the General died in December before we could use it. Tony explains his relationship with the legendary Marine.:

“I became the “acting” ISO at FMFPac while ISO at Kaneohe Bay. **Jim Williams** was on his way to Vietnam so General Krulak ‘volunteered’ me to drive from KBay to Makalapa and back each day. This went on for 11 weeks. The speech he made at the luncheon shows he was ‘on’ that day. Many, many laughs which most of us thought were never possible.”

Lt. Gen. Krulak’s Farewell Luncheon Remarks

“Gentlemen: A light word on luncheons. I have been the bull of the woods in this headquarters as I’ve been in FMFPac longer than most of you. That’s not as important as the fact that I have gone through more stuffed tomatoes than the rest of you including one stuffed with lobster that cost \$3 a copy.



“I am grateful for my plaque...and remember the large number that have been passed out to some of the finest people who have worn the Marine uniform.”

Then, speaking of statistics and the likelihood of all in the room attaining the rank of general, he said “whether or not you do, remember the story of the young Marine who told a buddy ‘the thing I hate about generals is they don’t have any guts.’ His friend replied: ‘Have you looked at one sideways recently.’

Then Krulak remarked: “Well, it isn’t just Generals who have guts. It’s everybody in the Marines and I expect you to take that seriously in its most profound sense.

“Unless you have them, (guts) unless you exert them and make yourself felt, unless you are really a performer, unless you become involved, the Marine Corps won’t be able to make it because its survival is dependent upon the involvement of the well dedicated, thoroughly knowledgeable people such as you.”

“I would acknowledge at the outset that this is indeed an organization-men era where the premium is placed on the

individual who avoids involvement, who avoids taking a stand.

“You would never believe it possible that one could get to the exalted rank of lieutenant general having made all of the mistakes I made.

“I was ill-starred from the beginning. The day I was due to be commissioned, 25 of us lined up but only 24 were commissioned – I was the last one as they could not find my credentials. The 24 were commissioned May 31. I was commissioned June 1, 1934.



Lt. Gen. Victor Krulak

“I put in a claim for that one day’s pay in 1960 and I got a growl on the phone from General Shoup.

“He thought I was crazy, asking for that day’s pay of a second

lieutenant plus 6% interest compounded for 30 years. I didn’t give a damn what he thought. I knew I was right and I stood up for it. I haven’t gotten the money. Lots of mistakes...

“Could you make lieutenant general with a reprimand on your record? I have one. The JAG reprimanded me for running into a train in my private car. I was a second lieutenant at the Philadelphia Navy Yard and officer of the Day.

“In those days you didn’t get a sedan to inspect sentries or even a pickup truck; they issued you a bicycle. Well, it was snowing, about a foot on the ground and you had to wear your sword with this bicycle. I elected to use my brand-new Ford convertible for which I owed a sou or two.

“As I was crossing the railroad track with no chains on my tires, I got stuck on the track and got out to go and get help. Much to my consternation, I saw a train coming and I stood there, complete with sword and watched the train hit my brand new car, dragging it way up the track.”

2009 Merit Awards Program Kicks-off

Hundreds of submissions in the 2009 USMCCCA Merit Awards program are being screened and assembled at the Division of Public Affairs, Marine Corps headquarters, Pentagon.

With a deadline of February 16 the entries were still pouring in at press time for NHT. Another record breaking year in terms of volume in the print, broadcast and photographic competitions may be in the making, says **MGySgt. Phil Mehringer**, chief of Marine Corps public affairs and liaison to the association.

His headquarters team for the project includes **GySgt. Ronna Weyland**, **GySgt. Steve Williams (Marines TV)**, **Sgt. Clinton Firstbrook** and **LCpl. Bryan Carfrey**. **Association Awards Chair Don Knight** met with several members of the team at the National Press Club in December to discuss the recruitment of judges, a judging venue in Washington, D.C. on March 5 and 6, and the presentation of awards at the 2009 Annual Conference of the USMCCCA at Hampton, VA in September.

The Merit Awards program reached record dimensions in 2008 with more than one thousand submissions in 47 categories. At San Antonio last year there were 133 presentations of plaques and certificates, including the first and second place and honorable mentions in the Merit Award competition. Included were awards to seven Marines in marketing and public affairs from the recruiting command; three Leatherneck magazine awards and the Association's Denig, Dickson and Presidential awards.

A lineup of 25 civilian judges brought an extraordinary range of experience and talent to the judging process last year. One panel of six professional photographers worked long into the evening at the Pentagon to review hundreds of entries in the photo competition. The broadcast judges took three days to review tape and film submitted in the many broadcast categories.

The use of civilian judges with extensive backgrounds in journalism and public affairs puts a stamp of legitimacy on the awards program. The judges, in turn, say they are impressed with what they read, watch and hear during the many hours of volunteer duty.

Each judge was asked last year to submit a personal critique on the awards program.

One print judge, **Richard Truitt** of Rowayton, CT, is a former Marine platoon leader in the Korean conflict. He is also a former Chicago Tribune reporter, a Presidential

speech writer, author and a journalism teacher at Northwestern and New York Universities who has also run two global public relations firms, He summarized his one full day of judging at the Pentagon:

"In the best stories the use of quotes and attribution was sound and inventive and some of the leads were spectacular...I thought the categories were fine and that the cheerful help of the staff made for a stimulating and happy day."

And speaking of professional involvement, after all of the work by the Marine combat correspondents, by the headquarters staff and the judges there has to be a fitting climax. Enter **Patrick Coulter**, the voice of Raytheon and the voice of the merit awards program. Coulter, a former Marine CC, will return as master of ceremonies for the awards banquet at the Hampton conference in September. "The awards banquet represents a proud moment for these talented Marines," he says. "It's also a proud moment for our association and for the United States Marine Corps."

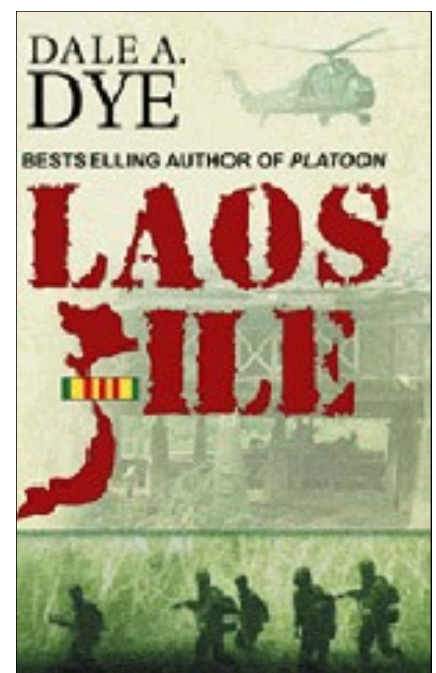
New Dale Dye Book Out

In addition to spending most of 2008 out of country working on a war series for HBO, Dale Dye has found time to pen his latest adventure novel "Laos File."

A retired Marine Corps captain and CC Life member, Dale served in several tours in Vietnam, picking up three Purple Hearts and various other decorations as an enlisted Marine. He rose to the rank of master sergeant before being chosen to attend OCS.

In retirement he went to work for Soldier of Fortune Magazine before founding his own company, Warriors, Inc.

As a Hollywood technical director he won acclaim for his work on Saving Private Ryan and Platoon. Members are invited to visit his Warriors, Inc. website.



Foundation Honors Lewis & Hatch

Don O'Neal, President of the USMCCCA Foundation announced at press time that two Merit Awards were going to be named in honor of two long-time members, **Jack Lewis** and **Norm Hatch**.

"Last year, we named the Combat Reporting award in honor of one of our original "Denig Demons" the late **Sam Stavisky**. Fortunately, we did it while Sam was still alive. As his wife, Bernice, said: 'Sam regarded this as the greatest honor in his lifetime.'

"Now we feel it is time to honor these long-time stalwarts of our Association. Accordingly the following Merit awards will carry these names:

Magazine Format Publication: Will be named the **Jack Lewis Magazine Format Award**.

Combat Camera category: Will be named the **Norman Hatch Combat Photography Award**.

Jack Lewis, has often been referred to as the 'glue' that held the Association together some years ago during some serious financial times. His screenwriting career began in 1950

with several Westerns including the Lash LaRue feature "King of The Bullwhip." In addition to his screenplays, film work, stunt performer and story writing, Jack became editor of a magazine and, after three years observing



Jack Lewis

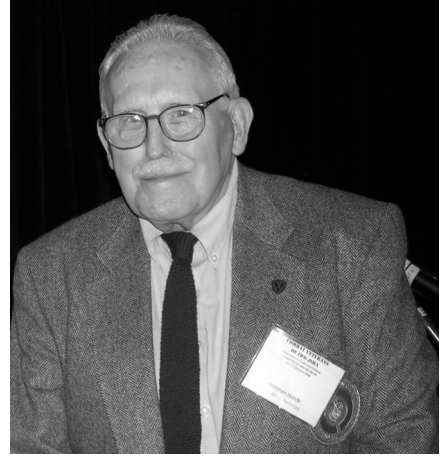
Looking for A Few Good Former CCs as Members

CC **Tom Rutherford (and we also)** are looking for the following former CCs. If you can help, his email address is: thomasrutherford@sbcglobal.net. If you can locate them we would be interested in recruiting them into the CCs. Let us know also.

Tom Guido, Bruce Bentley, Bob Demuth, Bill Wright, Mick Young, Mark Mahoney, Amy Wendell, Bill Reese, C.D. Gilbert, Susan Walton, Tom Tomkowiak, Tom Griggs, Don Silva, Jon Seamon, Sean Boyd, Terry Pruitt, Debbie Scott, Susanne Taylor, Dave Ramsey, Dave Pearce, Stan Pederson, Stan Novak, Ed Medina, Chuck McCormack, Doug Lord, Jim Klick, Doug Gray, Mark Gentile, Gordon Genser, Tony Delgado, Earl Bolender, John Black, Jim Eakle, and Richard Hollingsworth.

the process, teamed up with the magazine's art director to publish Gun World Magazine in 1959. His writings are often featured in Leatherneck Magazine. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his work as a combat correspondent during Korea.

Norm Hatch, much honored for his World War II cinematography, won an Academy Award in 1944 for the Most Outstanding Documentary Short: "With The Marines At Tarawa." His military awards include the Bronze Star for Iwo Jima in 1945, the 1946 National Headliners Award for combat photography in World War II and the 1979 Secretary of Defense Meritorious Award.



Norm Hatch

(Ed. Note: See complete bios and photos of these CC stalwarts at www.usmccca.org. Look under the Bio section).



Another Demon Heard From - 90-year-old former Marine Combat Correspondent **Irv Schlossenberg** (center) and his son **Marty**, who works with the Kansas City Star, share a moment with **Capt. Eric Tausch** Nov.6 just prior to the Lenexa, Kan., Police Department's annual Marine Corps Birthday Breakfast. Irv, one of the original "Denig's Demons" recruited from the Washington Post, has been honored as the oldest Marine at the annual event since 2001. Tausch is the Public Affairs Officer for 9th Marine Corps District in Kansas City. (Photo courtesy of Frank Ise). Schlossenberg can be reached at 10124 W. 96th St. Overland Park, KS 66212. Tel. 913-492-2210

Breaking News: PayPal To CC Website

Like the proverbial kid with the new toy, our **Webmaster Kate Stark**, has built our new national website, www.usmccca.org, into a daily “news room” that most of us can’t wait to get to each day. After several years of our old site that sat stagnant much of the time, this is a breath of fresh air for the Association. It also gives us nearly unlimited opportunities.

First, it affords us a chance to get new news on the site with the click of a computer mouse. This is great! It also is accounting for an influx of new members—8 since the site became operational in December.

Second, our Member Section, while still building, now contains our Membership Roster and that will be updated each month. Soon Kate will add a photo section and encourage members to send in those old snapshots. With the click of a mouse members can either read the roster or print a copy for their records. Members can also change their personal information and, with another click, it comes directly to CCHQ in an email.

As we go to press we are adding payment convenience to the site. After you read this you can go to the site and pay dues, make contributions, purchase QM gear, sponsor a Merit Award, and even pay for a Journal advertisement.

Disney Offers Free 5-Day Passes To Active/Retireds

Walt Disney World announced January 5 that it will offer **free five-day multi-park passes to military active duty and retired members.** “Disney’s Armed Forces Salute” promotion will run through Dec. 23, 2009 at Disney World. In addition to the free five-day ticket, members of the military can also buy up to five more five-day, one park passes for \$99 each.

The Walt Disney World Resort is offering a room discount to our Military guests for travel dates from now through December 23, 2009 (except 2/13-2/15, 4/4-4/18, 5/22-5/24, 7/3-7/4, 11/25-11/26/09).

Our Military guests can contact their Base ITT office or call the Walt Disney Travel Company at 407-828-8101 to book the **room code MYV** from now thru 12/18/09, with travel dates from 1/4 - 12/23/09.

Dine package add ons for the Quick Service and Disney Dining are also available with this offer!

A valid Military ID will be required at resort check-in.

The 2009 Annual Conference Registration form on P -12 of this issue is now on the site and Members can avail themselves of a Member-only Discount Registration, again with the click of the mouse. Payment options include payment by either Master Card, VISA or PayPal.

Of course there is the downside to this new innovation. We have members who, for whatever reason, do not own a computer and do not use email for their daily communication. For them we will continue to offer snail-mail opportunities.

Museum Mounts Exhibition of Combat Camera Collection

The National Museum of the Marine Corps is mounting a temporary exhibit of some of the combat cameras in the collection (including the Perkins Bell&Howell) and I am hoping that you can help me with some information about two of the cameras we have. One of the cameras is a Nikon F, which is severely damaged. It has a small tag attached which has the name **Sgt TG White**. The tag also states that the Sgt White was killed in Vietnam in August 1966 while attached to the 1st Mar Div.



The other camera is a second Bell&Howell 70. This camera is damaged as well and is marked with **“Byran Hillan - KIA/VN”**.

Both cameras seemed to have come to the Museum in the mid-1980s. Unfortunately, our catalog records from that era are not as complete as could be and simply put, I don’t know a thing about either camera nor the men they are associated with.

I am hoping that your members might be able to provide me with some information on both Sgt White and Mr. Hillan. I would very much like to have more of the story before I put the cameras on display.

Ben Kristy, Aviation Curator, National Museum of the Marine Corps. (Contact Ben at <http://www.usmcmuseum.com/index.asp>)

Member-Only Registration Saves Big \$\$

If you make your 2009 Annual Conference Registration now, you stand to save \$30. Conference dates are September 14-18. (Note: You can register on line at www.usmccca.org.)

Between now and March 30 you can register for a member-only fee of \$100. If you put things off the registration fee goes up to \$120 April 1. After June 1 registration will cost \$130.

The non-member fee is a standard \$135.

This registration fee will cover the Welcome Reception Tuesday, Sept. 15; the Annual Merit Awards Banquet on Thursday evening, September 17; and the Sayonara Breakfast Business Meeting on Friday morning, September 18. Registration also covers an anticipated wives event for those not attending the Sayonara Breakfast on Friday. If no Wives Event this will cover their breakfast.

Individual Event Registration

Note: If you elect not to take the full registration fee the following individual event rates apply:

Event	No.	Amount
Welcome Reception:	___ @ \$40	\$_____
Awards Banquet:	___ @ \$80	\$_____
Sayonara Breakfast & Business Meeting:	___ @ \$25	\$_____
Total	___	\$_____

Name Badge Information

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Mail to: CCHQ 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785

Credit Card Information-Visa/MCard Only (Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Card # _____ Exp. _____

3-Digit Code: _____ Amount: \$ _____

(Call 352.748.4698 or email: usmccca@cfl.rr.com)

Now Hear This



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