



Tic Toc: Counting Down to New Orleans

If you are keeping up with the Tic Toc portion of our great website you will see we are fast approaching our annual conference at the **Westin Hotel in New Orleans September 12-16.**

In March, planners from Division of Public Affairs, DINFOS, Marine Forces Reserve (MarForRes) in New Orleans, **Association President Don O'Neal** and your Executive Director visited the hotel to look over meeting room spaces and go over final planning with the hotel staff. We can assure you the Westin Hotel is a superb venue.

Also during this visit the group checked out the great **World War II Museum** a few blocks away from the Westin.

At this point in the planning, we will adjourn sometime Wednesday afternoon and those who wish to tour the Museum and see the great IMAX film may do so a greatly reduced prices.

Life Member LtCol. Fran Piccoli, PAO, MarForRes, is the Conference Chair for the 2011 event and promises a great program for both the senior leadership of Marine Corps Public Affairs as well as the professional sessions for the junior Marines attending.

Of course, the highlight of the week will be the **Merit Awards Banquet on Thursday evening.** Our "pro" emcee **Pat Coulter** will once again team with Merit Awards Program Chair **Don Knight** in an attempt to give each of the award winners their personal "15-minutes of

fame."

Piccoli reminded attendees planning on driving to the conference that, while we are trying to alleviate the situation, parking at the hotel and the surrounding area is expensive. He also is discouraging those planning on renting a car during the conference for the same reason. "This is something we (and the hotel) have no control over." Piccoli said.

Those flying to New Orleans are reminded of discounts available by using our partner airline, **Continental**, and through the **New Orleans Airport Shuttle.**

Registration for the conference is now available on our website www.usmccca.org. The registration fee is \$100 for everyone until June 30 then it increases to \$115.

Attendees are also reminded that the special room rate of \$98 is available on the website using **group code UMI11A.** This special rate ends when our allotted number of rooms are booked.



***This Sneak Peak** of our 2011 Conference Journal Cover is to remind you to register and get your personal ad in at the special member rate of \$150 before July 1.*

Dedicated Member Drive Opens

By the time you read this you should have received your special **Dedicated Member Envelope** and a window decal. This campaign is for those members who do not participate in the Booster Club but still want to contribute to the financial success of the organization.

In Transition



Mark Dysart

CC Mark J. Dysart, 57, Windsor, CT died Sunday, April 24. He grew up in a military family



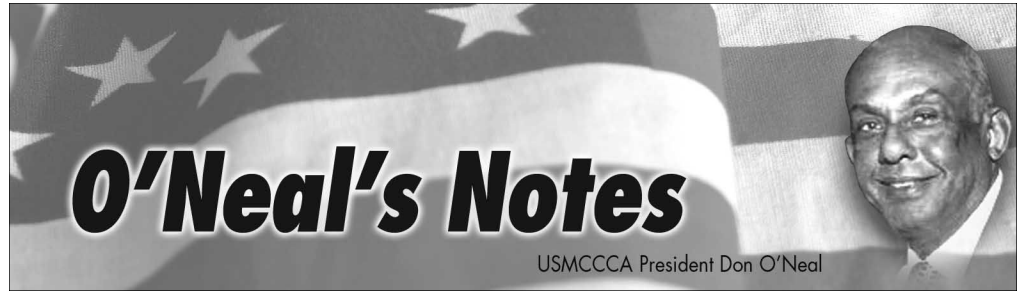
that took him all over the world, and he later served during the Vietnam War. During his years with the Marine Corps,

Mark was Editor in Chief the first year the Quantico Sentry won the Thomas Jefferson Award.

After the War, Mark worked with the Windsor Auxiliary Police before becoming a police officer with the town of East Granby where he would work for 27 years before retiring.

In honor of his commitment, the town of East Granby retired Mark's badge when he left their service.

Besides **Donna**, his wife of 37 years, (also a CC member), he is survived by his daughter, Kimberly Hodgkins, and her husband, Michael, of Vernon, CT; his father, Beaulo Dysart, Jr.; three brothers: Rev. Paul Dysart and his wife, Kathy; Joel Dysart and his wife, Ann; and Rev. Logan Dysart and his wife, Becky, and a sister, JoAnne.



USMCCCA President Don O'Neal

My Fellow CCs: Let me begin by extending my best wishes for a happy and successful 2011 to you and your families.

Your association is busy preparing for our annual conference. **This year we are meeting in New Orleans, LA, Sept. 12-16**, in conjunction with DivPA's Senior Leadership Conference. Start making your plans for the trip to New Orleans. Your conference Chair LtCol. **Fran Piccoli** and program chairs MSgt. (s) **Brenda Var-nadore** and **Joe Espinosa** are developing a conference agenda that has something for everyone and the venue we've selected is one of the city's finest.

We are building a program that provides our junior Marines the chance to gain valuable insight on how to better perform their

duties as CCs and earn PME credits while attending the conference. This year we are working with **MGySgt. Guiterrez at Combat Camera** to expand our PME offerings to provide increased focus on the photo side of the house. Our senior leaders will, as always, face a busy schedule of critiquing what's working well and planning ways to improve the effectiveness of our Corps' message. We've extended an invitation to **Marine Commandant General James Amos** and we are hopeful that he will grace us with his presence as our guest of honor for the awards banquet.

For our "tribal elders" there will be the sights and sounds of the "Big Easy." We're going to do things a bit differently this year by allowing attendees to pick and choose what they want to do from an ala carte menu. The welcome reception, awards banquet and business breakfast will still be included in the registration fee but we'll also be offering a visit to the World War II Museum and a spouse event that won't be part of the registration fee. More details on these options will be coming soon.

Finally, in my last column, I asked all of you to email me with your thoughts on how we make this Association more meaningful for you. I'm interested in anything you might have on your mind, from conference locations and agendas to ideas for improving the way we communicate and what you want from your Association. So far, I've only heard from couple of you. The ideas that have been put forth have been considered and where possible included in our arsenal. I know from experience that CCs are not "shrinking violets." You usually have a lot to say, so let me hear it at oneal.d@sbcglobal.net.

Semper Fi, Don

Dedicated Members

(From P-1)

Your contributions to the **USMCCCA Foundation** help make it possible for us to continue to support such activities as the Injured Marines Semper Fi Fund. **Because of your generosity, the Foundation was able to recently make a \$1,000 contribution to the relief fund of those Marine families devastated by the tornadoes that tripped through the Tarawa Terrace housing area at Camp Lejeune. (See Photo P-3)**

As always, you may make your contribution in memory of a family member or a buddy. The names of all contributors will once again appear in the Annual Conference Journal and on our website www.usmccca.org.



Many national and international events have occurred in our world the first few months of 2011, probably the most noteworthy the terrible weather that has wreaked havoc on many parts of our country.

When we heard about the terrible tornado damage to many of the homes at Camp Lejeune's Tarawa Terrace and the forced evacuation of Marine families we asked the USMCCCA Foundation Board to consider a contribution to help in the relief effort.

In a unanimous vote, members allocated \$1,000 to the Jacksonville USO, which is one of the agencies coordinating the relief effort. In the photo below one of our most

active CCs, **Life member Jacki Huneycutt** of the Base Public Affairs Office, recently made the check presentation.

This is a perfect example of your generous support through the Booster Club and Dedicated Member Program being put to work. An article elsewhere in this issue outlines the program and the fact that, as you receive this newsletter, you should have received our special annual Dedicated Member letter and envelope outlining this program.

Since establishment, the Foundation has been able to support an annual contribution to the Injured Marines Semper Fi

(Continued on page 7)



Reinhild 'Jacki' Huneycutt, (r) Life Member of the USMCCCA, presents a check in the amount of \$1,000 on behalf of the **USMCCCA Foundation** to **Deborah Fisher, Director, USO of North Carolina Jacksonville Center** to aid military families who were impacted by the recent tornado at Camp Lejeune. (Official USMC Photo by CC LCpl Demany Coleman)

Association '11 Officers

President: Don O'Neal

VP: Kate Stark

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Jerry Gutierrez 2012

Brenda Varnadore 2012

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Executive Director
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Foundation '11

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Secretary: Sally Pritchett

Treasurer: John Dodd

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Walt Ford

Agostino VonHassel

Keith Oliver (ex officio)

All present Directors of the Association Board.

Executive Director
Jack Paxton

Booster Club **Platinum**

Gold

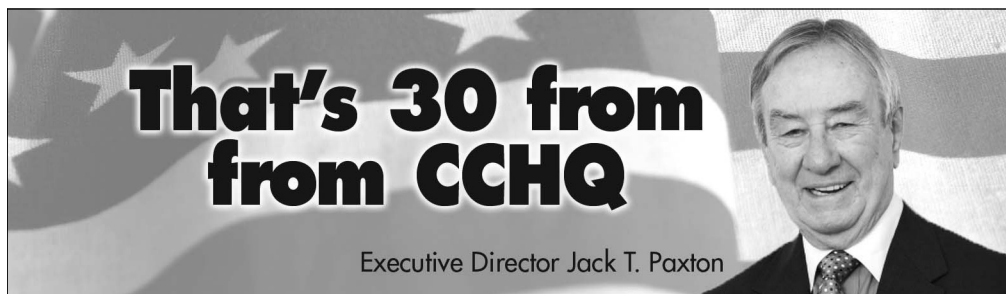
Florida Chapter
Sally Pritchett

Silver

Ralph Austin
Anonymous (2)
Dale Baird
Dave Biesel
George Chrisman
John Dodd
Gen. Alfred M. Gray
John (Gy) Harmon
Bill Hauptfleisch
Tom Kerr
Bob McEwen
Don O'Neal
Keith Oliver
Jack Paxton
Gene Smith

Bronze

John Fales (aka Sgt.
Shaft)
Norm Hatch



We're making a special effort this year to get some of you "old timers" to our New Orleans conference. First, you'll enjoy it! Second, while I am hoping it won't happen, we expect some loss of active duty participation due to budget cuts.

On the off chance that some unit commander is reading this, please know that your junior enlisted are limited in the training they receive. **DINFOS**, of course, does a superb job for basic OCC field training but our conferences offer the crème de la crème for specialty training. Under the watchful eyes of soon-to-be-Master Sergeants **Brenda Varnadore** and **Joe Espinosa** your Marines are exposed to professional "teachers" from both the Marine and corporate world. In so many words, you get your money's worth!

Not surprisingly, our membership is growing. Since the first of the year we have joined 22, many of these are former members coming back to us; one is a new Life member. **Why? Can you say: Website?** There is no question we are being looked at as a first rate professional organization. **Webmaster Kate Stark** keeps the site bright and topical. We know we are getting many hits because email to usmccca@cfl.rr.com has increased as well and most of the email traffic can be traced back to the website.

Your **Association Board of Directors** has voted to accept a proposal by the **Crowne Plaza Hotel, San Diego** to host the **2012 Annual Conference**. We looked at five hotels during our trip to that city in late April. While all were very good the Crowne Plaza excelled in a number of areas. Mark your calendars for September 10-14, 2012.

To give you a sneak preview of the 2011 Annual Conference Journal we go to our past. **Director of Information, Col. Bryan Salas** asked us last year to start talking about our heritage—how things got started back in the early days of World War II. His objective was/is to show today's CCs and ComCam Marines their beginnings and what many of us went through to develop techniques, many still in use today.

To this end, we asked a few veterans of the our OCC fields to share their remembrances of the early days, days we fondly refer to as pre-crossed rifles. We plan to further explore these years at the New Orleans Conference.

Each Director of Information has left his or her mark on our Association. **We thank Col. Bryan Salas for this nudge back to our beginnings. -30-**

2011 Journal Ads

The 2011 advertising campaign for the Annual Conference Journal has now begun. **As we have for the past several years we are offering a Member-only price of \$150 for a quarter-page full color ad.**

Members can create their own or, if they wish, have Art Director Chuck Beveridge create an ad using a member's idea.

Chapters will continue to be given a 20 percent discount on full or half-page ads they purchase.

The ad campaign will run through **July 15**. Payment may be made to the USMCCCA Foundation, 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785.

Merit Judge: “Darn Good Subject Matter”

By Don Knight, Awards Chair

Start with about **1,500 entries**. Assemble 10 professional civilian judges. Add 40 hours of judging over 3 days, then announce the winners in more than 40 categories involving photography, print journalism, videography and radio.

That’s the recipe for another **Merit Awards Program**, a joint effort by the USMCCCA and the U.S. Marine Corps. The final scenario will unfold on a hotel ballroom stage at New Orleans in September, when active duty Marines, most of them combat correspondents, step forth to claim their awards for tasks well done.

Col. Brian Salas, director of public affairs, Marine Corps, visited the judges on the final day of deliberations and presented them certificates of appreciation from **Gen. James F. Amos**, Marine Commandant, for their volunteer work as judges in the annual Merit Awards competition.

Lou Priebe was a newcomer among the judging panels. He brought a long and productive career as an award-winning writer and public relations executive in Washington, D.C. to the judging of print entries. “**Darn good subject matter, a really interesting day,**” he said.

He was especially impressed with entries from the Marine base newspapers. “**They really tell what’s going on, not only on base but in the neighboring communities,**” Priebe, a former Army infantryman, added: “I’m ready to help the Marines anytime.”

* * * *

Seven of the 10 judges were captured at work judging the 1500 entries in the 2011 competition. They are identified as

Upper photo: Three good judges started a long day looking over base publications entered in the 2011 Competition. From left are **John Bennett**, **Lou Priebe** and our own CC **Mike Rhea**.

Center photo: Special Certificates of Appreciation issued by **Gen. James F. Amos**, Marine Commandant, were presented to all 10 judges. Here, **Col. Bryan Salas** © is shown with **Red Stuckey** (l) and **John Metelsky**.

Lower photo: **Judges Patrick McGrath** (l) and **Don North** take a break during their day of judging all of the Broadcast entries.

Judges not shown were **Mike Pitts** and **Chas Henry** who did radio broadcast judging at their homes. Also not shown was **Don Knight**, who judged and supervised the program.



Denig Winner CC Jim Lehrer Honored

Former Marine **Jim Lehrer**, the **USMCCCA 2007 Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig** award winner, has done it again. Lehrer, who has set a standard of broadcast excellence at PBS for more than 35 years, has been selected as the winner of the **National Press Club's 2011 Fourth Estate Award**, the highest honor presented by the world's leading professional organization for journalists.



"**Jim Lehrer** has embodied the time-tested core values of journalism dating back to when many people had only black and white screens and continuing through today's era of high definition television and social media," said **Club President Mark Hamrick**, after the Club's Board of Governors chose Lehrer for the honor. "Amid the cacophony of a sometimes shrill media landscape, he has remained the true voice of reason, balance and fairness."

Previous award winners include **Walter Cronkite, Christiane Amanpour and David Broder**. Hamrick said the selection of Lehrer was in keeping with that tradition. Lehrer has moderated 11 debates over the course of the past six presidential elections.

After an early career in newspapers he entered the Marine Corps in the mid 1950s and, prior to his discharge in 1958 he served as Officer In Charge of the Parris Island BOOT Newspaper. Lehrer joined a public television station in Dal-

las and later moved to PBS in Washington, where he first appeared as Washington correspondent on the Robert McNeil Report in 1975. A year later the show was renamed "The McNeil/Lehrer Report," and began to amass a remarkable record of achievement.

Attention: Merit Sponsors

Our Merit Awards program continues to grow as does our listing of sponsors. **In 2010 we had 44 categories** and sponsors for each.

Also in 2010 we began adding a cash award in addition to the traditional plaque and complimentary one year membership in the Association with each first place finish by our active duty Marines. As you may imagine, this was very well received by the winners.

This year there are first place awards in 43 categories. **In coming weeks we will be contacting each of the 2010 sponsors to ask them to repeat again this year.**

Each sponsorship costs \$200. If you were a 2010 sponsor (or in years previous) we hope you will "re-up" with us this year. Make checks payable to the USMCCCA Foundation. On the website, look under Foundation Payments and enter Merit Sponsorship. Credit cards also accepted at CCHQ: usmccca@cfl.rr.com or call 352.748.4698.



Veteran Newsmen (and CC) Joseph L. Galloway recounted his experiences to students and faculty members March 31 at the **Defense Information School**. The co-author of "**We Were Soldiers Once and Young**," Galloway based the book on his experiences as a war correspondent for United Press International in Vietnam. Known for telling it like it is, Joe is officially retired but remains popular as a speaker and part time columnist. He assures us he will be on hand at our upcoming Annual Conference in New Orleans. **(Photo by Rick Corral)**

Jack Pulwers Dies in VA

Longtime CC supporter, **Jack Pulwers**, Ph.D. of Fairfax, VA died March 29, 2011 at Fair Oaks Hospital of extended illness after congestive heart failure.

Born in New York City on July 2, 1924, Jack was raised there and in Shreveport, Louisiana. He received double degrees from Louisiana State University and a Ph.D. with distinction from Catholic University. He was a distinguished historian, journalist and author. He maintained a long career in network radio and as Broadcast Chief in the Armed Services Radio and Television Service, and authored several acclaimed books, including *The Press of Battle*, on WWII.

He was interred April 6 at Quantico National Cemetery.

\$\$ Available-Still No Scholarship Takers

Your **USMCCA Foundation** is a bit confused. Either there are no members of **OCC Fields 43/46** going to college or the Corps is paying those that are too much and no additional funding is needed! **Earlier this year the Foundation threw out the two year member requirement and extended eligibility to dependents, including spouses but there have still been no takers.**

Sally Pritchett, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, has reiterated the new eligibility requirements.

“If you are a member, dependent of a member (including spouse) or

are a member of OCC field 43/46 on active duty AND agree to join and stay a member for two years or throughout the life of any scholarship awarded, we have funding available,” she said.

For applications, contact CCHQ. Applications must be received by June 1.



Chili Cookoff Winners: Col. Bryan Salas, Director of Public Affairs, HQMC; Jessica O’Haver, HQMC (1st place chili); and Gina Cavallaro of Marine Times (2nd place chili) are shown following the recent Marine Division of Public Affairs annual chili cookoff.

SgtMaj. Barrett New Corps’ Sergeant Major

The Commandant of the Marine Corps made the following announcement April 11 :

“I’m pleased to announce **Sgt. Maj. Micheal P. Barrett** as the 17th sergeant major of the Marine Corps,” said Gen. James Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps. “Sgt. Maj. Barrett, through his long and distinguished service to our nation, has demonstrated that he is particularly well-suited to serve as my senior enlisted advisor through the challenges ahead.”



Foundation Notes

(Continued from page 3)

Fund of Oceanside, CA. Several factors have allowed us to do this. **The highly-successful Foundation Golf Tournament run by the Florida Chapter is one.** The other is the generous support of our membership through the Booster and Dedicated Member programs.

As your support increases your Foundation can take on an even more important role for our Marines.

When you receive your Dedicated Member envelope, please consider what we are trying to do.

See you in New Orleans.

Vicki



Retired MSgt. Scott Woosley received the coveted Master Instructor ID badge from DINFOS Commandant **Army Col. Gary Keck** in ceremonies March 10. **Scott**, who teaches in the Public Affairs Leadership Department, completed a rigorous training program to gain entry into the top tier of DINFOS instructors (less than 5% of the faculty). In addition to having his name added to the Master Instructor plaque, the former tanker was presented a framed certificate and a copy of the Parker J. Palmer book, *The Courage to Teach*. **(Rick Corral photo).**

USMCCCA Headquarters
110 Fox Court,
Wildwood, FL 34785

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Leesburg, FL 34748
Permit No. 8505

Now Hear This

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

Copy deadlines are January 1, March 1, June 1 and September 1. The newsletter is published and edited by the Executive Director of the USMCCCA.

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.

Conference “Early Bird” Registration

This **Early Bird Registration** form is being made available to **ALL active duty, retired and others** expecting to attend the 2011 USMCCCA Conference at the Westin Hotel in New Orleans September 12-16. **Early registration gives conference planners a better idea of how many will attend.**

The early bird fee is \$100 and will be honored until June 31. After July 1 the registration fee will be \$115 and will remain at that amount until the end of the registration on Wednesday Aug. 31.

Hotel Reservation Information

The best way to secure a hotel reservation at the Westin in New Orleans is to go to www.usmccca.org and follow the instructions. For those who do not use a computer call **1-888-627-8180** and use the **Group Code UMI11A.**

The room fee is \$98 plus tax per night. Please understand that we have booked a certain amount of rooms at this rate. When the agreed upon number is exceeded the rate could go up or the hotel might have to make arrangements with another hotel at a different rate.

Name Badge Information

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Credit Card Information-Visa/MCard Only

Please Print

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Card # _____

Exp. Date: _____ 3-Digit Code: _____

Amount: \$ _____

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