

New Orleans: A Record ! O'Neal WOW !

In his column in this issue **President Don O'Neal** used three letters to describe our annual event: **WOW**! With more than 270 at the banquet this set a record. To many, this proves that commands now recognize the value they receive when they send their Marines to our conferences.

Our 2011 winner of the prestigious Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Sr. Memorial Distinguished Performance Award was accepted by author **Charles "Chip" Jones** for his body of work that included "Boys of '67..." and, more recently, "War Shots"



Charles "Chip" Jones—'11 Denig Winner responds to his selection

highlighting CC Norm Hatch and the combat camera Marines of World War II. Chip was humbled by the award and very gracious in his acceptance. Our Donald L. Dickson Memorial Award again came as a surprise to the winner - our very own President Don O'Neal. Each year a nominee is selected and the Board votes in secret ballot. Only on the night of the annual banquet is the selection named. Be assured keeping this secret from a hands-on president is a full time job for this exec. The Dickson award is our membership's highest accolade for a member. In Don's case he (Continued on page 4)

(Continued on page 4)



GySgt. Michael K. Kropiewnicki © accepted the William T. Perkins Combat Cameraman of the Year award from USMCCCA President Don O'Neal ® as Brig. Gen. (s) Paul Kennedy looks on.

2011 Donald L. Dickson Memorial Winner (and Association President) Don O'Neal was the surprised winner of the Association's most coveted member award. (1st Page Photos by LCpl. Audrey Graham)

Now Hear This

Transition



MSgt. Richard "Dick" Brumfield

passed away on 17 Sept. 2011.

Dick was a veteran USMC photographer who had served in "many a clime and place".

After retirement Dick, among other things, helped film a video for **ASK**, a portrayal for kids dying of cancer. This year the video will be dedicated to "Brum".

Services were in Warsaw, Virginia and the family has asked that donations be made to **ASK in "Brum's" name**.

Those wanting to send condolences should do so to **Sandra Brumfield**, 14 Big Oak Road, Warsaw, Virginia 22572. Telephone number 804-333-3319.



Greetings all: **WOW!** Seems the only word to describe this year's conference is **WOW!** If you missed the gathering in New Orleans you missed one of the best conferences in years.

We obliterated past banquet attendance, coming in at roughly 270 dinner guests. We had a stellar awards ceremony thanks to emcee Pat Coulter. Our new Director of Public Affairs, Col. Paul Kennedy (who is also one of our newest members) left us all inspired by his assessment of where we are as an association and what we can achieve in the future.

Our plans for next year in San Diego (Sept. 10-14) were ratified by DivPA and we are ready to move out smartly.

I can't give enough praise to Jack Paxton,

our Executive Director, for all of the hard work he did to ensure a successful conference this year and I know that he is already busy with planning for next year's conclave.

Once again, I'd like to congratulate Chip Jones, this year's Robert L. Denig Memorial Distinguished



2011 President's Award winner **John "Gunny" Harmon** is congratulated by Emcee Pat Coulter as President O'Neal looks on.

Performance Award recipient. His body of work chronicling the accomplishments of Marines in World War II and Vietnam should be a must read for all CCs.

The work of our active duty CCs just keeps getting better. This year's award recipients are entitled to one more salute for the brilliant work they delivered.

Last, I want to thank the Board of Directors for its vote of confidence in presenting me this year's Donald L. Dickson Memorial Award. It is truly the highlight of my career as a Marine Combat Correspondent. To stand beside men and women I have known virtually all of my adult life and be thought of so highly is humbling.

To those of you who are new to the association, I can only say that I hope someday, in

> the years ahead, vou too will be surrounded by Marines who love and admire vou and who have become such an important part of your life. That's what this association offers, so extend your hands and vour hearts in commitment to those who today are your colleagues and tomorrow will be vour life-long friends. Semper Fi, Don



The CC conference of 2011 was a huge success. For the 200+ Marines, members and their families New Orleans, was a place to be a part of history. Elsewhere in this issue you will see that your Foundation Board had a busy time of it considering three financial projects for your consideration.

The Robert "Mo" Morrisey Memorial

project, proposed by the newlyrejuvenated San Diego Chapter (Page 5, this issue) will pay tribute to our first exec and two-time Association President.

The Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Sr.,

project at the Marine Corps Museum will surely be one of our most ambitious from a financial standpoint at \$35,000 (see story P-8). We have set a "go-no-go" goal of \$17,500 by May 1 as a barometer for this project. In so many words, the Foundation will take the risk of raising the full amount only if we can be assured the first half can be raised from members and friends.

The final project will be a tribute to cinematographers and photographers and will be part of the existing Tarawa exhibit at the Marine Corps Museum. This will cost approximately \$50,000. A Ways and Means Committee will be appointed to determine the funding plan.

I would call your attention to the annual **Conference Journal** for other significant achievements of our Foundation this year. Our **scholarship program** is up and running; our **Merit Awards Sponsorships** are thriving and contributions to both the Booster Club and Dedicated Members program keep us in a healthy profile.

All of this is possible because of your continued support and generosity, for which we thank you.



Florida Chapter President Red Carpenter presented a check for \$11,141 to the USMCCCA Foundation at the Conference Business Breakfast. The check represents proceeds from the 2011 Annual Foundation Golf tournament, sponsored by the Chapter.. (shown from l) Chuck Beveridge, Bob McEwen, Don O'Neal, Mawk Arnold, Carpenter, Tom Kerr, Jack Paxton, Ann Carpenter, Pat Paxton, Trudi and Hank Ehlbeck.

Association '11

Officers President: Don O'Neal VP: Kate Stark Secretary: Chris Whiting Treasurer: Tom Kerr

Directors

Caleb Eames 2012 Jerry Gutierrez 2012 Brenda Varnadore 2012 Angie Mink 2013 Bill Hauptfleisch 2013

Ex Officio

Chaplain: Mawk Arnold Historian: Fred Lash HQMC Liaison: Brenda Varnadore DINFOS Liaison: John Dodd

Executive Director Jack Paxton

Foundation '11

Officers

President: Victoria Turney VP: Ronna Weyland Secretary: Sally Pritchett Treasurer: John Dodd

Directors

Red Carpenter Walt Ford Agostino VonHassel Keith Oliver (ex officio) All present Directors of the Association Board. Executive Director Jack Paxton

Now Hear This

Note: Each year the Booster Club begins anew immediately following the annual conference. Contributions can be made on our website or direct to CCHQ.

Booster Club 2012 <u>Platinum</u>

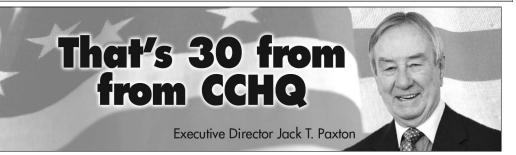
<u>Gold</u>

Florida Chapter Sally Pritchett Gene Smith

<u>Silver</u>

Don O'Neal Jack Paxton Frank Wiley Dale Baird

<u>Bronze</u>



We reiterate **Don O'Neal's "WOW"** regarding this year's conference. Be assured that with announced budget cuts for the active duty Marines and the state of our economy, we had no idea that we would have such a great attendance.

This shows me that our commands now recognize that our conferences are not boondoggles! We train our CC and ComCam warriors from day one to the end. You have only to look at the daily schedules to see the top corporations that give their time to ensure these Marines are getting the best that is available.

Accolades to those who helped make this the best-ever conference. Before she left DivPA for new duties as PA Chief of the 1st Marine Division, **MSgt. Brenda Varnadore** got the planning started. Her relief, **MSgt. Joe Espinosa** kept the ball rolling and **Majors Al Eskalis and Chris Logan** made sure that everything ran on schedule.

A "shout out" farewell to **Col. Bryan Salas**, retiring Director of Information. From me to you, my friend, I could not have asked for better backing and cooperation. I know the Association can count on you down the line after you settle in to your new life. God speed!

An old vaudeville "saw" was never follow a banjo act with a banjo act! In our case, we have been blessed once again. Then **Brig. Gen. "Boomer" Milstead** began with my tenure back in 2005. He was followed by **Bryan Salas** and once again we have struck gold with incoming Director of Information, **Brig. Gen. (s) Paul Kennedy.** We were pleasantly surprised with email notification on the first morning of the conference that our new Director had also become a member of the Association the day before. **That's leadership!** We look forward to working with him in the coming years.

Wow! A Record!

(Continued from page 1)

was cited for his many actions including forging a relationship with the Marine Corps representative at Brook Army Hospital where Marines with burn wounds received in Iraq and Afghanistan are treated. In fact Don was instrumental in the rehabilitation of a badly burned CC who was treated there. He continues his good work with these Marines and others who have been so badly burned. He is the former President of the USMCCCA Foundation where he supervised the rejuvenation of that organization. Under his guidance the Foundation's finances, organization and overall functioning was transformed into a very successful and supportive arm of the U.S. Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association.

Another surprise for the recipient, was the naming of long time CC **John "Gunny" Harmon as the 2011 President's Award winner.** The organization has many fine supporters but John was cited for his outstanding financial support of the Merit Awards program, assuring that the Foundation is now able to make a cash award to each first place winner.

Finally, the prestigious William T. Perkins Combat Cameraman of the Year award was presented to **GySgt. Michael K. Kroiewnicki** for his outstanding leadership in the Combat Camera field as NCOiC of the MCAS Iwakuni, ComCam Section.

San Diego Chapter Re-Named After "Mo"

If you have been following the news on our website, www.usmccca.org you will know that there has been a resurgence of interest in the all-but-defunct San Diego Chapter.

Led by a group of active duty CCs from Camp Pendleton and nearby Miramar MCAS, a petition was made to the Association to keep the initial charter but request a name change to the **Robert "Mo" Morrisey Chapter**.

Accordingly, at the Old Board Meeting, held Thursday, September 15, the BOD voted to grant the name change. At the Annual Business Meeting September 16, the Association voted approval. New officers and members are:

Luis Agostini - President (active duty public affairs chief with Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Public Affairs) Jennifer Brofer - secretary (active duty public affairs chief with 1 s t Marine Logistics Group) Tiffany Carter – treasurer (active duty external information chief for Marine Corps Air Station Miramar) Heidi Agostini - (active duty combat correspondent with I Expeditionary Marine Force) Steven Williams - regular member (active duty public affairs chief with Marine Corps Air Station Miramar) Eugenio Montanez - Life member (Purple Heart recipient, active duty cc with 1st Marine Division) Alfred Lopez - regular member (active duty combat correwith spondent 1st Marine Division). Alicia Dean- Affiliate Member, general assignment producer, NBC San Diego.

Many of the members are well-known to the CC community for their winning ways in annual Merit Award competitions.



Florida Chapter Members met during the annual conference. President Red Carpenter (back to camera) presided. Attending were (from l) Cal Openshaw, Bob McEwen, Chuck Beveridge, Tom Kerr, Mawk Arnold, Jack Paxton and Hank Ehlbeck and Kate Stark (both not shown).

One of the first projects the Chapter is taking on is honoring Mo with a commemorative plaque, photo and inscription on the Mount Soledad Memorial in La Jolla.

A fundraising effort to be announced in the very near future will attempt to raise \$1200 for the memorial. The effort has been sanctioned by the USMCCCA Foundation and funding will be sought from the many friends of Mo. Watch for the announcement on the



www.usmccca.org website. Contributions will be made directly to the Foundation with the proceeds going directly to the Chapter for the Memorial. Dedication is planned during the 2012 annual conference in San Diego.

Denig Museum Memorial, Tarawa Addition, Okayed

The Foundation Board of Directors voted to back three projects; **one from the rejuvenated Robert "Mo" Morrisey San Diego Chapter (see story this page)** and two located at the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico.

A memorial to Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Sr., our founding CC, will have been announced on the website as you read this. The memorial will cost \$35,000. If members/others will pledge \$17,500 by May 1, the Museum will be told to go ahead with the memorial. If not, money will be returned and the plan shelved. The Foundation feels that, by offering a three-year plan for pledges, the full amount can be raised. Members will also have a chance to submit their own plans for the memorial. All information is contained on the website. Contributions can be made on the site or by contacting CCHQ with checks or credit card info. The Denig Memorial will be in the Semper Fi Garden area. (Full details also on P-8 this issue).

The final project involves placing a combat cameraman in the existing Tarawa exhibit in the Museum to honor all World War II cinematographers and photographers. This addition will cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000. A Ways and Means committee will announce plans for this fundraiser in coming months.



It Was Not All Work and No Play—Daily sessions for all Marine attendees ran from 8 to 5 p.m. but, at the Tue old and new to come together. Thanks to the continued generosity of the Heineken Corporation free "product" was with red beans and rice, jambalaya, and New Orleans famed bread pudding. Thursday's Merit Awards Banquet u Pat Coulter made sure each recipient received his or her 5 minutes of fame. The banquet also allowed us to introduce great week!



esday Welcome Aboard, the Thursday evening Merit Awards Banquet and at the hospitality suite it was a chance for welcomed by most attendees. The Tuesday evening reception allowed all attendees to get a "touch of New Orleans" vas, as usual, our premier event honoring the work of several hundred active duty Marines. As per usual, Emcee duce our new Director of Information (and new Association member), **Brig. Gen. (s) Paul Kennedy**. In all, a

Foundation OKs Denig Museum Memorial

The Marine Corps Museum has agreed to a USMCCCA Foundation plan to memorialize our founder, the late Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Sr.

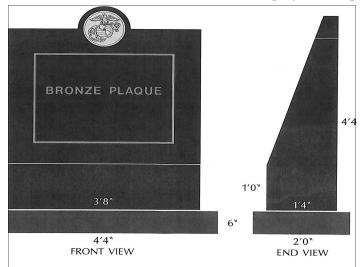
The memorial, similar to the ones shown below, will be located along the Semper Fidelis Trail and will cost \$35,000. At our most recent conference in New Orleans the USMCCCA Foundation Board voted to fund the effort through a membership appeal that will be launched in coming weeks.

Basically, members and others will be asked to make pledges of support, either with a one-time gift or a gift payable over a three-year period. The Memorial effort will be placed on hold until at least one-half of the money needed -\$17,500 is pledged.

Once that amount is reached a commitment to the Museum will be made for construction to begin. The appeal will continue until all of the money necessary for the completed monument is reached. If the \$17,500 half-way mark is not reached by May 1, 2012, the project will be abandoned and members will be offered their money back or a chance to contribute to other Foundation endeavors, including the Scholarship fund.

Concurrently, a contest will be launched for those members who wish to submit their own design for the memorial. While the Museum has fairly strict parameters, members have some latitude and the design must ultimately meet those parameters. The ultimate winner of the design contest will receive an Honorary Life Membership or, if already in that category, a cash award equivalent to their category age bracket.

Pledges to the Denig Memorial Campaign can be made on our website www.usmccca.org by clicking



on the drop down box found on the right hand side of the opening page titled: Denig Campaign; by emailing usmccca@cfl.rr.com, calling CCHQ at 352.748.4698 or by regular mail and using the cut out coupon below.

The Foundation is cognizant of the fact that this campaign falls in the midst of other annual appeals. Accordingly, pledges may be counted towards either Booster Club or the Dedicated Member campaign or both.



My Pledge To The Denig Memorial Campaign

I hereby pledge a total of \$_____ to the **USMCCCA** Foundation to help fund the planned memorial to Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Sr.

My pledge will be paid as follows:

() One-time pledge of \$ _____ to be paid by March 1, 2012

() Three-year pledge of \$ _____ to be paid annually on _____ each year.

My pledge will be paid by () credit card either on the website or direct to CCHQ, or () by check to CCHQ.

Print name:

Signature: _____

Address: _____, City: _____

Zip: Email:

Merit Awards Banquet: Our Oscar Night



Cpl. Ryan Roles accepts the Leatherneck Best Story Award from MCA President MajGen. Ed Usher, President MCA



Our own GySgt. John (Gunny Jawn) Harmon receives the 2011 President's Award from Don O'Neal to a standing ovation.



Navy Commendation Medal to Sgt. Ed deBree as MPA of the Year.

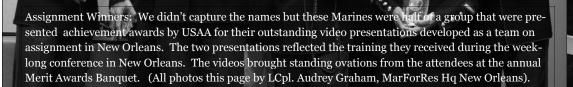


MGySgt. Jerry Gutierrez © accepts the Charles Grow ComCam Station of the Year as Capt. Charlie Grow (ret.) looks on. MPAs of the Year: (from l) Sgt. Ed deBree, Sgt. Scott McAdam, Sgt. Drew Hendricks, Sgt. George Papastrat, and Sgt. Monique Wallace. Not shown: SSgt. Andrew Hurt.

Multiple Merit Winner (5) Sgt. Mark Fayloga with Brig. Gen. (S) Kennedy and President Don O'Neal

Another Mutuale Award winner was SSgt. Jeremy Vought (DVIDS) who captured 5 Merit Awards this

year.



Executive Summary: All Board Meetings

USMCCCA Old Board Meeting: Thursday, September 15, 2011 New Orleans, LA

Don O'Neal presiding. Quorum present.

Significant reports: Treasurer Tom Kerr reported the Association was solvent. Executive Director Paxton reported a membership increase of 54 since the first of the year.

Old Business: President O'Neal reported on his visits to the Rosenthal Chapter in San Francisco, the Public Affairs shop at Camp Pendleton and the hotel site in San Diego where the 2012 Conference will be held. He was especially pleased to see the rejuvenation of the San Diego Chapter by a group of active duty Marines from Camp Pendleton, Miramar and San Diego. He cited the Florida Chapter for its outstanding success and the fact that more than \$10,000 will be contributed to the Foundation. O'Neal announced the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego will host the 2012 Conference September 10-14.

O'Neal reported the group rejuvenating the San Diego Chapter had requested a charter but, following BOD discussion, it was felt only a petition to change the name of the chapter was needed. Accordingly the chapter voted to honor the first Association Director and twice president, Bob Morrisey by naming it the Robert "MO" Morrisey Chapter. He said the chapter would also launch a fundraiser for a Mount Soledad Memorial to Mo in the near future.

Tom Kerr briefed the Board on an audit he had conducted to ensure IRS compliance. As we are a parent organization with support units (chapters), those units with an IRS tax ID number must report income - both positive and negative. This requirement will be included in a forthcoming By Law change. Kerr reported he is compiling a Chapter SOP which will contain these provisions.

USMCCCA New Board Meeting: Thursday, September 15, 2011 New Orleans, LA

Don O'Neal presiding. Quorum present.

Significant reports: None.

New Business: Director salary. Paxton reported he did not need a raise. After discussion on his duties relating to both Association and Foundation, a vote was made to allocate 5% of Paxton's salary to the Association, and 95% to the Foundation. The Board voted to increase the Webmaster's salary from \$200 to \$300 per month. The Board also voted \$3,000 annual compensation to Journal designer Chuck Beveridge. President's travel budget: The Board voted to increase the President's travel budget from \$500 to \$1,000. Future conference sites: O'Neal announced the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego as site of the 2012 conference. In discussion, Paxton told of discussions with DivPA regarding a change to the old practice of East/West Coast alternates. To assure maximum attendance by the active duty Marines, we need to conduct conferences giving consideration to which MEF is not deployed. **Paxton reiterated the fact that we cannot conduct a successful conference without the active duty establishment.** Chapter ad rates: After discussion: Chapters can realize a 10 percent profit on any ad they solicit and lock in. Chapters will continue to receive a 20 percent discount on their own chapter ads.

USMCCCA Foundation Board Meeting: September 15, 2011 New Orleans, LA

Victoria Turney presiding. Quorum present.

Significant reports: Secretary: Minutes from the previous year's meeting were accepted as having been read. Scholarship Chair: Sally Pritchett reported three awards were made. She thanked committee members Walt Ford and Fred Lash.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report as carried in the 2011 Annual Conference Journal were accepted as a report for this meeting.

New Business: Walt Ford moved that we prioritize three proposed projects that had been presented to the Foundation for action. These are:

Funding for the **Bob Morrisey Memorial**, proposed by the rejuvenated San Diego Chapter was given first priority. **A memorial honoring Brig. Gen. Denig** at the Marine Corps Museum was given second priority and third priority would given to funding the addition of a **cinematographer to the existing Tarawa exhibit**, also at the Museum.

Walt Ford moved that parameters for the Denig Memorial be put on the website and in the newsletter. An amendment was made to ask for pledges to the project. This was seconded and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

All minutes of each of the 2011 Board Meetings are maintained at CCHQ, 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785. Copies may be requested by contacting CCHQ at usmccca@cfl.rr.com. If electronic request: no charge. If a print copy is requested there will be a printing, handling and mailing charge of \$5 per copy.

The 2011 Annual Business Meeting

Annual Business Meeting, September 16, 2011 New Orleans, LA

President Don O'Neal presiding: A quorum was present.

Approval of New Board Members: O'Neal told the members that the slate of officers was unopposed and asked members to accept Angela Mink and Bill Hauptfleisch as new directors. It was so moved, and seconded. The motion was passed and carried.

Reports:

Secretary: A motion was made accept the minutes of the Reno Business meeting as having been read. **Chris Whiting** added that the board voted by e-mail on the hotel for the 2012 conference and the Denig and Dickson Award nominees.

Treasurer: Treasurer Tom Kerr told the members that the Association is solvent. He said we should end the year with about \$25,000 in the Association treasury and \$43,000 in the Life Membership Account. He said the IRS is looking more closely into organizations with supporting units. He said he has prepared some information for the chapters on a requirement to send an annual financial report to National Treasurer. The chapter reports will be included in the Association's annual Form 990 to the IRS. He said he would bring up an amendment to the by-laws under new business to add this requirement. Kerr added that a full copy of the Treasurer's Report was printed in the Conference Journal.

Executive Director: Jack Paxton reported a gain of 55 new members and he credits the website. He reported changes in corporate ad rates being sold and told of the new package plans which enable us to purchase coffee for the conference. He called these advertising packages "the thing of the future". Paxton said at this conference, HP (Hewlett Packard) set up an internet café, allowing conference attendees to go online. He said they will do the same next year and have offered to host an outing for everyone to Petco Park, including transportation and food.

Paxton said we will be meeting in San Diego at the Crowne Plaza Hotel next year, Sept. 10 - 14. He added that the East Coast/West Coast conference site plan may be a thing of the past. The plan calls for the 2013 conference to be in Las Vegas, because the MEF is "in" on the West Coast. Subsequent conference sites could be based on which MEF is not deployed, allowing more Marines to attend.

New Business:

Bylaw Changes: Tom Kerr proposed a by-law change to bring us into complete compliance with IRS requirements for tax reporting because of emphasis the IRS is putting on groups like us that have supporting units. He said we are a 501 c (7) organization and the IRS definition of that is social. Our latest revision of the by-laws left it out. Kerr asked membership to approve an amendment to the by-laws as a remedy. After discussion, former Executive Director Don Gee said an amendment isn't needed. He said this can be accomplished with a simple administrative revision. The previous motion was reworded to this effect. It was seconded, passed and carried.

Kerr also explained he wanted to "put teeth" into the requirement for chapters to tell the Association Treasurer what they're doing with their money every year. He proposed a new "Section d" of the by-laws to read: "Chapters operating under the IRS Group Ruling will report all Chapter financial information to the Association Treasurer to be included in the Association's annual Form 990 or other required IRS report. This requirement applies to Association matters only. Any Chapter projects that may be considered under the USMCCCA Foundation's charitable rules must be coordinated with Foundation officers and the Executive Director." Gee said this should also be a change in policy procedure as he didn't feel it should be in the by-laws, because any future changes to IRS regulations would require more by-law amendments. Kerr asked for a motion to put the requirement in the minutes. It was moved, seconded and passed.

Foundation Proposals: O'Neal told the membership that the Foundation and Association board met jointly to hear proposals for three expenditures. He said the San Diego Chapter has been revitalized by a group of hard-charging young Marines out there and commended them for the work they're doing to get that chapter back up and running. O'Neal said they came to the board with a request to rename the chapter after Bob Morrissey - it will be the Robert "Mo" Morrissey San Diego Chapter, USMCCA. At this the membership applauded. He said, part of what they are doing is a project to memorialize "Mo" at the Mount Soledad Veteran's Park. They're going to have a plaque installed on the Wall of Honor there, with an inscription noting his service to the USMC and the USMCCCA. He said this will require an expenditure of about \$1,200. He said the Foundation has agreed to fund it, based on donations from members. He said it will be done

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

USMCCCA Headquarters 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785



Now Hear This

Now Hear This is the official publication of the USMCCCA and it's Foundation.

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.

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Museum Proposals: More from Business Meeting

(Continued from page 11)

quickly, as there are several who have their checkbooks ready.

Denig Proposal: The second priority is a proposal initiated by Fred Lash to honor the memory of Brig. Gen. Denig and all CCs. Complete details of this proposal is contained on Page 8 of this issue.

Tarawa Proposal: The National Museum of the Marine Corps has also approved the addition of the figure of a cinematographer to the existing Tarawa tableau in the Museum. This project ranges between \$25000 - \$35,000. O'Neal said we will look at that and see how we can support it. He said Norm Hatch has already pledged a sizeable portion of that money and the Foundation President is confident the rest can be raised from "friends of the Marine Corps" as well as Association members. O'Neal said these things that are in the works and the members will hear more about them as the board decides how to move forward.

Florida Chapter Donation: O'Neal commended the Florida Chapter, saying the it is the only chapter to have a significant fundraising event. He challenged the other chapters to hold their own golf tournament. He said the Florida Chapter raised more than \$10,000 and were making a donation again. Florida Chapter President Red Carpenter said that, since the tournament was a Foundation project this year, all the money raised must be given to the Foundation. He called up the rest of the chapter and wives and they presented O'Neal a check for \$11,141.

Approval of Slate: Don Gee made a motion that the slate of nominees be unanimously elected. He pointed out that we only approved the two new directors. O'Neal said that the slate of officers this year for the Association ran all unopposed. Lash seconded. It was passed and carried.

Nominations Open: O'Neal opened nominations for the 2012-2013 board. He said three seats on the Board of Directors would be open. Jack Paxton nominated Manny Pacheco for the board. Tom Kerr nominated Sergio Jimenez for the board. Angela Mink nominated Jennifer Brofer for the board and Chris Whiting nominated Carol Rees for the board. Nominations remain open until May 1, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.