



Denig Memorial: Help Honor Our Founder

With two exceptions of engraved bricks from the Florida and Joe Rosenthal Chapters there is no recognition of combat correspondents or photographers at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

Now, with a push begun by the late Sam Stavisky prior to his death several years ago, that situation is about to change.

As announced in the final edition of this newsletter last year, the Museum has given the USMCCCA Foundation approval to memorialize our founder, **Brig. Gen. Robert L. Denig Sr.**, who began the combat correspondents program shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

A four person committee consisting of Leatherneck's Walt, Ford, past President Fred Lash, Foundation Secretary Sally Pritchett and direc-

tor Bill Hauptfleisch, has been formulating a plan to raise the \$25,000 necessary for a handsome monument on Semper Fidelis Park that will honor CCs past and present.

For a gift of \$750 to the Foundation, the donor will also receive an engraved brick which will surround the proposed memorial. The amount donated can be given over a three-year period.

For those who cannot afford the \$750 amount, individual bricks will be sold for \$300. Each brick can be engraved to honor the donor, a friend, or a former CC, for example. The memorial area can handle 80 bricks. Each brick allows for three engraved lines of 20 characters each.

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These photos taken by CC Red Carpenter in December show the actual planned Denig Memorial Site (l) and its location in relation to the Museum Chapel (r). To the left of the Denig site is Puller's Ridge where a statue will honor the famous Marine. The benches and the stone retaining wall are directly in front of our site.

Transition



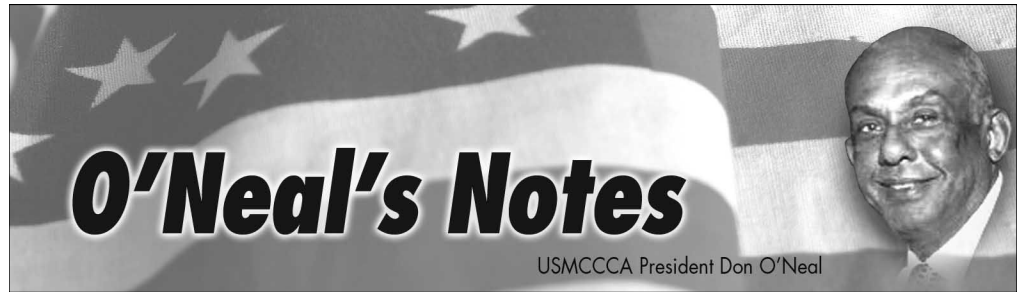
Richard "Dick" Brumfield

passed away on 17 September, 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. 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.

John Harmon

Long-time Life Member John "Gunny" Harmon 94, passed away November 21 at the California Military Retirement Home in Barstow, CA.

He was survived by two sons and a daughter.



USMCCCA President Don O'Neal

Fellow CCs: I have written difficult stories and columns in the past but this one is extremely tough. In November, we lost one of our most treasured members, Gunny "Jawn" Harmon. Most of you know the Gunny as a perennial conference figure. I assure you he was much more.

I had the pleasure of recognizing his contributions to our association at last year's conference in New Orleans, where I presented him the 2011 President's Award. The award was given for his selfless devotion to our association and in particular to our efforts to recognize the accomplishments of our active duty Marines. His pledge, one he made good on time and again, was that he would personally fund any shortage we had in the Merit Awards program. **Last year, he sponsored five awards. "Jawn" Harmon will be missed**

We are now busy meeting the challenge of planning our 2012 conference in San Diego. As I'm sure you aware, the budget issues facing the entire Department of Defense, put a strain on the 2012 budget of the Marine Corps and that of the entire public affairs field. **A recent SecNav instruction, in fact, specifically addressed the subject of conferences and conventions and established a set of criteria for conferences that will challenge us in the future.** While, we've been given no clear guidance as yet, we believe the 2012 conference is still a go. What happens after that is unclear, but be assured, the association will adapt to new requirements as best we can to ensure future joint conferences with DivPA. **Jack Paxton, our Executive Director, is already hard at work lining up proposals from hotels in Las Vegas for the 2013 conference so stay tuned for**

more info on where we go and how we get there.

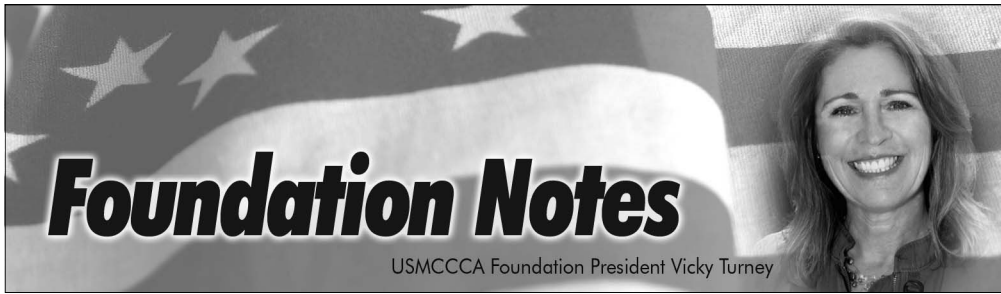
In closing, I can only say that while we face some challenges in the coming year, I am confident about the future of our association. Our membership rolls continue to grow. **As I said in my last column, our new Director of Public Affairs became one of our newest members during the New Orleans conference. Colonel Paul Kennedy, soon to be one of the Corps' newest Brigadier Generals clearly understands what it means to lead from the front.** I am happy to welcome him to our association and to wish him well in his new position. I am also proud to offer him the full support and cooperation of the U. S. Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association.

Colonel Bryan Salas, who served as Director of Public Affairs for the past two-plus years retired from the Corps in late January. I want to thank him for his leadership and his devotion to the USMCCCA. We wish him God speed and complete success as he begins his life as a retired Marine. Semper Fi, Don

Project "MO" a Win

The resurgent San Diego Chapter conducted a successful fundraiser in late December to memorialize former Chapter, National President, and first Association Executive, Bob "Mo" Morrisey at San Diego's Mt. Soledad.

It took less than two weeks to raise the \$1200 necessary for the memorial. The Chapter is now working with local officials for the presentation ceremony. Watch for details on the website www.usmccca.org.



2012 has begun and your CC Foundation is in great financial shape as your leadership prepares for this year's goals and the conference in San Diego.

The Foundation's financial shape is due in part to the great leadership of **John Dodd** and his wife **Dale**. It is with gratitude that I take this opportunity to thank John for his years of dedication as the Foundation Treasurer. Accompanied by Dale, a CPA in her own right, the Dodd team has guided the Foundation financial arm since its revitalization several years ago. **Thank you John and Dale.**

With some transition support from the Dodds, long-time member **Carol Rees** (see website for posted bio) has agreed to step into the treasurer position and give back to the organizations she joined more than 30 years ago. "I vividly remember attending multiple conferences when I was on active duty in the '80s," said the Illinois resident. "I appreciate everything our

Denig Memorial

(Continued from page 1)

You may follow the financial progress of this drive on our website www.usmccca.org. At NHT press time our total was at \$10,060.

As an added incentive, CCHQ will offer a **two-night stay at the Westin Hotel in New Orleans** for the first six contributions of \$750 each. The hotel gift certificates are worth \$400 each. They do not include transportation to New Orleans. Certain blackout dates—including Mardi Gras—apply.

membership does to support our Marines, and I'm very happy now to give back what I can," she added. **Welcome aboard Carol.**

During the conference in New Orleans, the Foundation board was presented with an opportunity to support and obtain funds to ensure the CC story is shared with the community through a memorial in the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico. The committee of Sally Pritchett, Bill Hauptfleisch, Fred Lash and Walt Ford have been overseeing and researching opportunities in support of the memorial. A special thanks to the memorial committee for all of their work and dedication to ensure the completion.

While the committee does their job, we are asking all CCs to get involved as well.

I would strongly encourage you to consider a donation at any level. A contribution of \$300 will enable you to purchase one of 80 engraved bricks which will surround the Denig Memorial. Each brick will carry 3 lines of 20 characters each in which you can honor anyone of your choosing.

Please keep in mind that this memorial will be the only reminder at the Museum of the wonderful work our Marines have done and continue to do in telling the Marine Corps story throughout the years..

See the article on Page 1 for more information. Better yet, go to our website: www.usmccca.org and make your contribution. Best...Victoria

Association '12

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: TBA

DINFOS Liaison: John Dodd

Executive Director
Jack Paxton

Foundation '12

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

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

Platinum

Gold

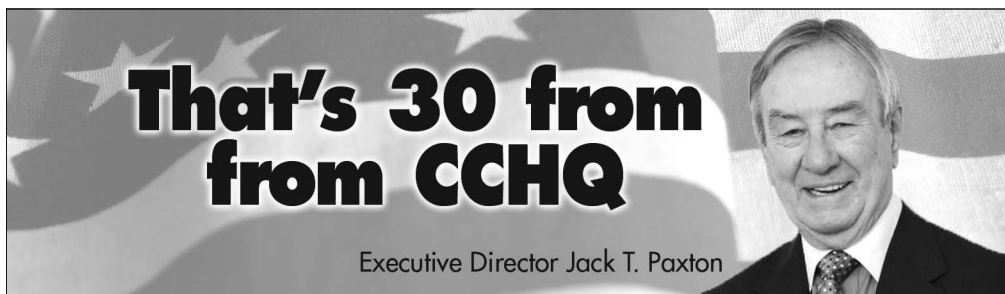
Florida Chapter
Sally Pritchett
Gene Smith

Silver

Don O'Neal
Jack Paxton
Frank Wiley
Dale Baird
Tom Kerr
John Dodd

Bronze

George Chrisman
Norm Hatch
Vicki Turney



We hope you have been following the Denig vignettes posted on our website www.usmccca.org. In addition to giving us a better insight into this rather obscure gent who got us started in early WWII it has been a learning experience for us. We continue to appreciate the great job that the late **Gary Cameron** did in putting this unofficial history together in his book **Last To Know, First To Go**.

What is of concern to a lot of us "greybeards" is who will step forward and compile "our history" from late 1980s through present day? **Cameron caught a bit of flack** from his contemporaries for some omissions or playing a bit loose with facts but **the fact remains, he gave us our only unofficial history and, without it, today's warriors would not have the slightest idea of what our forebears (and many of us) went through to see our "stories" reach the light of day.**

The Association lost one of its most devoted members when John "Gunny" Harmon journeyed to



Heaven's scenes November 21.

John's passion was the Merit Awards program for today's Marine story tellers and picture takers. Each January I could expect a phone call: "**Gunny Harmon here,**" he would bellow! Then proceed to quiz me on how many sponsors I had for the first place winners. "**Don't sweat it, Jack! I'll send a check.**" True to his word a check, usually for \$1,000 would arrive several days later and five more winners would have sponsors. During our tenure we never remember him missing a conference where he could always be found in the midst of a bunch of young warriors. They, and we, will miss him!

Four years ago we were contacted by the grandson (we believe) of our founder, **BrigGen. Robert L. Denig Sr.** Since that early email correspondence, this person has disappeared from our contact list. Anyone with knowledge of any Denig descendant is asked to contact CCHQ at usmccca@cfl.rr.com or call me at 352.748.4698.



The faces of our Gunny "Jawn" - Whether it was striking a ferocious pose with a young Marine or happily accepting the 2011 President's Award you always knew when Gunny Harmon was aboard! (Kate Stark photos)

Crane Davis: Came From Good CC Genes

(**Ed. Note:** We learned two things recently: One, old timers do come back to us and, when they do, it can be gangbusters! The second thing we learned was there were **Woman Marine combat correspondents in World War II**, at least one we now know of. In an email, former **CC Crane Davis** notified us he was making a contribution to the **Denig Memorial Fund** and wanted to know if we could list it in memory of his Mom and Dad, both CCs during that war. While space is limited on the left side of our web page we assured Crane we would do our best if he could enlarge upon his parents' service. Here's Crane's reply with a great photo of his mom with the World War II CC tools of the trade: typewriter, steel pot, and the-then traditional cigarette. P.S. He also sent in his membership application.)

"In early September 1941, my dad, **Bob**, was a junior at University of Maine and a reporter at the Bangor Daily News, with a beat that included recruiters. The Marine Corps announced a program to recruit radio and print reporters, then train them as publicity men for local recruiters and return them to their hometown. Bob ended up working in Portland, then set up a new office in New Hampshire. **My guess is that he put in for combat correspondent in the winter of 1942-43** and he said that he was almost immediately sent to Londonderry for almost a year. In early 1944, he went to Camp Pendleton, where the 5th Division was just forming.

"In the Spring of 1943, **Dorothy Jeanne Crane** had a morning talk show on WTAD, Quincy, Illinois, her first job out of Stephens College. Shortly after the CC program was announced, she did an interview with a WM recruiter, who mentioned the CC program. She enlisted in September 1943, and in March 1944, **Pfc. Crane and her Speed Graphic**

Others Who Came Back To Us

If you have read the above story about **Crane Davis** and his parents you will also note that Crane has re-upped with our merry band after a lengthy absence. He resides in Palenville, NY.

Shortly after finishing Crane's story, we received an email from former Marine **Joe McMahan**, Oceanside, CA with his application and dues payment.

The first to be signed on this year, however, was **Tim Hodge**, Fort Collins, CO who joins us after graduating from the Broadcast Journalist Course at DINFOS with a one-year comp membership.



Pfc. Dorothy Jean Crane plying her trade as a CC in '44

were assigned to cover a Woman Marine in an all-Marine wedding at the Camp Pendleton chapel. Coincidentally, **Sgt. Davis** was assigned to cover the groom for the hometown news. They became engaged at Pendleton in April 1944. Two months later, Bob was transferred with the 26th Marines to Hawaii. DJ arrived in Hawaii in early 1945. **They were married in Hawaii in March, 1945.** Bob then went on to the Philippines and DJ was discharged in the summer with me.

"I grew up surrounded by CC's: **Jimmy Driscoll and Vance Jobe** among them. I was in NROTC at Princeton and was commissioned in June 1967, then went through Infantry Basic and high-intensity VN language training at Quantico. With an infantry MOS, I was assigned as S-5 of the 27th Marines, who arrived as a response to Tet. I eventually commanded a rifle platoon in C/1/27 south of Danang and was WIA. In the Fall 1968, the 27th returned stateside and I was transferred to the 1st Marines, who took over the same TAOR, where I became Assistant S-3. In early 1969, I extended my tour 6 months and transferred to 1st MarDiv Informational Services Office, where I trained under **Mawk Arnold**, then headed the shop after his departure, working with **CC President Don O'Neal** and **Florida Chapter member Gene Smith**. In October 1969, I was transferred to the New York PAO, located on Fifth Avenue, where I worked under **LtCol. Dick Stark** until June 1971. I was elected to the board of the USMCCA around that time, but resigned soon thereafter. **It's good to be back!**"

Carol Rees Named Foundation Treasurer

John Dodd, Treasurer since the USMCCCA Foundation was revitalized several years ago, will resign that position at the end of the First Quarter, 2012. As most know, he is a master instructor at the Defense Information School (DINFOS) and the time constraints of that job preclude him serving any longer.



Carol Rees New Treasurer

In reality, the Foundation is also losing the valuable services of John's wife, **Dale**, who is a CPA and has served unofficially as an advisor to the Foundation throughout John's tenure as Treasurer.

Vicki Turney, Foundation President, expressed her thanks to both Dodds for the tremendous help they have given us as the Foundation moved from

infancy to financial stability. "Without their day-to-day hands-on help we certainly could not have achieved our tremendous growth."

Turney announced that **Carol J. Rees** of Belleville, IL has volunteered to take on the Treasurer duties and will transi-

Board Nominations Open

Nominations for three two year terms on the Association Board of Directors will be open but will close May 15.

At the 2011 Annual Business Meeting at the New Orleans Conference, four names were put forth as candidates for the Board. They include **Manny Pacheco**, **Sergio Jimenez**, **Jennifer Brofer** and **Carol Rees**. **Carol Rees**, also nominated, has accepted the position of Foundation Treasurer. As such she becomes ineligible for the position. No Association Director may hold an officer position in the Foundation.

Due to a By Law change several years ago, if no further nominations are made and we have three candidates for the three board positions, we are not required to send out absentee ballots.

You may make a nomination by notifying CCHQ prior to May 15. If you are nominating someone, please assure that person is willing to serve the two-year tenure.

tion with John Dodd over the next month or so.

Carol served from 1979 to 1986 as a broadcast journalist with assignments at the Far East Network, Okinawa; MCB Camp Lejeune; MCAS El Toro; FEN, Republic of the Philippines, and MCLB, Barstow.

She has been an active volunteer in many organizations, including:

The League of Women Voters, Presbyterian Church USA, North Jersey Information Service and National Association of Parliamentarians. She led a successful petition initiative in Sherwood, Ark., for by-ward election of the city council.

Carol is married to **Alan Ables**, a retired U.S. Navy public affairs officer. Both have been active with us at the last three USMCCCA Conferences.



John Dodd

Chas Henry to CBS Radio

Long-time CC **Chas Henry** has been named news anchor and national security correspondent with CBS Radio – the new all-news radio station the company is launching in Washington, D. C.

WNEW-FM 99.1 will begin its 24/7 news broadcasts Jan. 19.



Dedicated Member Campaign

The 2012 Annual Dedicated Member Campaign will begin March 1 and continue through July 15.

A letter announcing the campaign will be sent to all members during February. With the letter will be an envelope in which you may make your contribution. You may also use the www.usmccca.org website or mail your check directly to CCHQ. You may dedicate your contribution to anyone.

All contributors will be recognized in both upcoming newsletters and in the annual Conference Journal.

Foundation Scholarship Deadline: May 15

Members, active duty Public Affairs and Combat Camera Marines are advised that the deadline for 2012 application for a Foundation scholarship is May 15.

In 2011, the Foundation Board made major changes to the application process. Heretofore only available to two-year members of the USMCCCA, applications will now be considered from:

1) Members of the USMCCCA and their dependents, to include spouse. 2. Active duty Marines and dependents in Occupational Fields 4300 and 4600 (and related MOS) who either are already members or will agree to become members of the USMCCCA on selection and agree to maintain that membership throughout the life of the grant and/or subsequent grants.

Scholarships totaling \$6,000 will be granted each year. The Gladys McPartland Scholarship is for applicants pursuing a degree in general educational subjects. The USMCCCA Foundation Scholarship is for applicants pursuing a degree in Communications.

In 2011 the Foundation made three grants of \$2,000 each. Complete information on these scholarships and the applica-

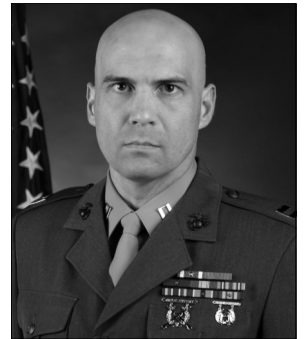
tion forms are available on the USMCCCA website: www.usmccca.org. Fill them out and return them attached to an email or mail them to CCHQ 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785.

Please remember there is a membership requirement that must be enacted if you or your dependents are granted a scholarship.

Yarrish/Carpenter Switch Commands at DINFOS

Capt. Clark Carpenter relinquished command of Marine Detachment Fort Meade, Md., to **Maj. Beatriz Yarrish** during a change-of-command January 12.

Carpenter, who has commanded the detachment since July 2010, will continue his assignment as a full-time instructor in the **Public Affairs Leadership Department** at the Defense Information School here. He served as an adjunct instructor to the department throughout his tenure as the detachment commander.



Capt. Clark Carpenter



Maj. Beatriz Yarrish

Prior to taking command of the detachment, **Yarrish** served as an instructor in PALD since August 2010 where she was a team lead managing a 4-person instructor team. She also served as a member of the Public Affairs Qualification Course development team, which was responsible for developing new course curriculum.

Col. Bryan Salas Retires

Col. Bryan F. Salas, former Director of Information at HQMC, formally retired from the Corps on January 19 during ceremonies at the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes. Col. Salas became Director of Information in 2009, shortly after his promotion to colonel.



Col. Bryan Salas

During his three years in that position he became a very good friend of the USMCCCA, joining the Association shortly after beginning his Pentagon tour. He also served one two-year term as Association Director. He was succeeded as Director of Information by

Brig. Gen. (s) Paul Kennedy late last year. Both **President Don O'Neal** and **Executive Director Jack Paxton** were invited to the retirement ceremonies.

Important Dates to Remember

March 1: Dedicated Member Campaign begins
April 30: Dickson Award nominations close
May 15: Nominations for USMCCCA Board close
May 15: Foundation Scholarship deadline
September 10-14: Annual Conference, San Diego
October 1: 2013 dues are due

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Permit No. 8505



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.

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: _____