

Special 2013 Conference Edition

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NOW HEAR THIS!

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

Sequester or Not, We're Going to Andrews

The 2013 Annual Training Symposium and Conference of the USMCCCA and its Foundation is in "go" status for July 22-25 at Joint Base Andrews (aka Andrews AFB) in Maryland.

Conference Chair Manny Pacheco announced on April 9 that, while governmental budget issues are still a consideration and will no doubt affect attendance, "we feel we can still have a meaningful, interesting conference and training session for our members and the active duty Marines able to attend."

The schedule of events as developed by **Program Chair Fred "Flash" Lash** will include a welcome "cookout" Monday evening July 22, the traditional Merit Awards Banquet Wednesday, July 24 and our Annual Business Breakfast on Thursday morning, July 25.

Lash also announced that on Tuesday attendees will be transported the short distance to the Defense Information School (DINFOS) at Fort Meade for a tour of that installation and the new headquarters of the Defense Media Activity (DMA) where Marines in both of our occupational fields receive basic and advanced schooling.

Later Tuesday afternoon attendees will be transported to the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Statue) in Arlington for the colorful Sunset Parade featuring the Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps and Silent Drill Platoon.

Training sessions for active duty Marines and others attending will take place Wednesday as well as old and new board meetings of both the Association and Foundation. Board members of each are especially encouraged to attend.

On Wednesday evening the Foundation's annual gala - the Merit Awards Banquet - will honor all winners of the 2012-13 Merit Awards competition, as well as the six candidates for MPA of The Year Honors.

The conference will officially wrap up following the Thursday morning Business Meeting Breakfast and election of officers.

Because the event is being held on a military installation, your Association is pleased to announce the lowest registration and fees in recent history. **The registration fee will be \$75 per person and will include the three meal events.** The room rates at the Andrews Presidential Inn are \$53.95 per night for a

President's Message

Come one come all and welcome!!! Where else would you rather be this July as we gather again for our annual conference of the United States Marine Corps Combat Correspondence Association, our 72nd year! From the 22nd to the 25th of July we will be gathering at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland, a short hop from the nation's Capital, and the Defense Information School and Defense Media Activity (DMA).

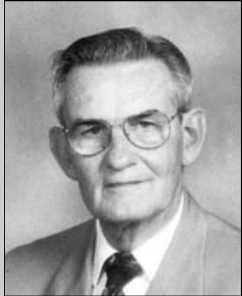


When we were considering new locations for the conference there was something about Joint Base Andrews that we really liked, location, location and location! Easily less than a day's drive from the Camp Lejeune/New River area to the South and the great metropolis's of the North East. This will help make it convenient for a large contingent of CC's both active and retired to at least attend our annual merit awards

(Continued on page 2)

(continued on Page 4)

Transition



Erik Hansen

Erik Hansen, age 78, of Lockport, NY died March 26, 2013 in Blue Ridge, GA. Born November 18, 1934 in Nunda, NY, Erik served in and retired from the United States Marine Corps following 20 years service. He served in many places throughout his Marine Corps career, mostly as a motion picture photographer, including Quantico, Camp Pendleton and Vietnam where he was exposed to Agent Orange. He also served in Korea in another occupational field before moving into photo. He retired from the USMC as a Gunnery Sergeant. He was a Life Member and strong supporter of the USMCCA.

After retiring from the Marine Corps, he operated Erik's Carpet Cleaning. He had also worked at Harrison Radiator, for US Customs and retired from Corson Manufacturing. Erik is survived by his children, Knud (Debra) Hansen of St. Petersburg, FL, Elizabeth "Shelly" (Jimmy) Ruffner of Powder Springs, GA and Chris (Terri) Hansen of Blue Ridge, GA.

Funeral services were to be held on April 6 at Zion Lutheran Church, 4447 Central Avenue, Gasport, NY at 11:00 AM.

Getting To Joint Base Andrews

Joint Base Andrews is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Washington, DC in Prince George's County, MD.

Driving Instructions

If you are driving the most common way to approach Andrews is on I-95/495, usually referred to as the Capital Beltway. Whether approaching Andrews from Virginia or Maryland, use Maryland exit 9, Allentown road, Andrews AFB, State Route 337.

If coming from Virginia, make a left where the exit intersects with Allentown road. The Main Gate is just a few hundred yards on the right.

If coming from Maryland make a right turn from Exit 9 onto Forestville Road, go across the overpass and make another right onto Allentown road. Make a left at the first traffic light, Suitland road, to enter the Main Gate.

Directions By Air or Train

If planning to come to the Washington, DC area by commercial airlines there are three airport choices: **Ronald Reagan Washington National, Washington Dulles International or Baltimore Washington International Airports.**

Ronald Reagan Washington National is the closest airport to Andrews.

If traveling by train, book passage to the New Carrollton

train station, rather than Union Station in downtown Washington, DC.

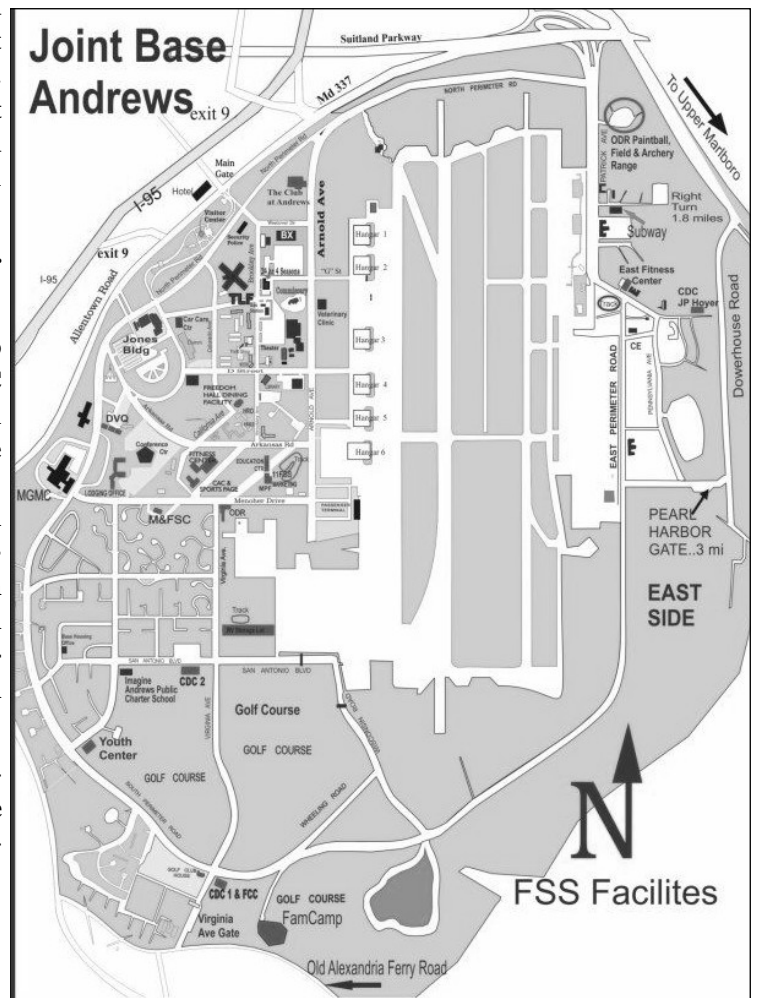
The New Carrollton, or Beltway Station, is only a few miles north of the base, off I-495 exit 19. Train reservations can be made by calling 800-USA-RAIL.

Hauptfleisch Welcome

(Continued from page 1)

banquet. For those who can stay longer you will be treated to a schedule filled from the first day to the last, thanks to program chair Fred Lash.

Special thanks to Manny Pacheco, Fred Lash, and Jack Paxton for their true diligence and behind the scenes efforts.



Your 2013 Annual Conference Chairpersons



Manny Pacheco

As the Conference Chair for your 2013 USMCCCA Conference, it gives me great pleasure to invite you to our National Capital Region, for what I'm certain will be a very memorable trip. Your conference planning committee has been burning the midnight oil to ensure that you have the opportunity to re-acquaint with dear old friends, make some new young ones, and have an overall great experience!

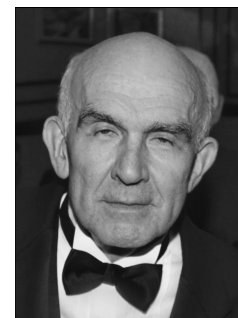
At Joint Base Andrews, you will be treated to the best hospitality our joint military community has to offer. It will start with our five-star (military) lodging at the Presidential Inn (OK, don't hold me accountable for the wet-bar), located near a completely renovated shopping area, which includes a food court and a Starbucks, and finally the "piece de resistance" a superb Merit Awards Banquet with some awesome chow (Air Force cuisine), to be chased down with a cold one from our friends at Heineken.

Fred Lash has put together a superb agenda, and the Marine Corps Public Affairs leadership is working hard to get as many uniform members to join us as possible. Unfortunately, the financial challenges facing our nation and our Marine Corps, is making it difficult for the Division of Public Affairs to host as large an event as they had hoped. They are, however, doing a full-court press on getting as many of the Merit winners as possible, along with encouraging commands to send as many Marines as possible.

A special treat this year will be our tour of the "school house," which I'm certain, will leave us all in awe! Additionally, we are working with DINFOS to get as many of the students to our awards banquet as possible --- don't be surprised if a few other service uniforms show up to share in the celebration!

If you have been planning a trip to the the National Museum of the Marine Corps, at Quantico there will be no better opportunity.

I look forward to a fun and rewarding event. Semper Fidelis! Manny



Fred "Flash" Lash

As the Program Chair for this summer's USMCCCA Conference, I can assure one and all that we'll be packing as many activities, trips, and events into our three days together as we possibly can!! Beginning on Monday, July 22nd, a day of arrivals and registrations will be followed by a very welcome cookout and Happy Hour, giving all of us an opportunity to get re-acquainted (and re-new old sea stories!).

Early on Tuesday the 23rd, we'll board buses and travel north to Fort Meade, MD where we'll be met by Col. Jeremy Martin, the Commandant of DINFOS and LtCol. Aisha Bakkar, at the newly established Defense Media Activity (DMA), who will both facilitate tours of their respective organizations.

While at Fort Meade, we'll also have a no-host lunch at Club Meade. Then, following our DINFOS and DMA tours/visits, we'll again board buses and head back south to Andrews. That evening, we'll proceed to the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Statue) to witness the Sunset Parade, presented by Marine Barracks, Washington, DC, that begins about 1930.

On Wednesday morning, the 24th, we'll be in for a treat as a panel of experienced military reporters join together to discuss, and take questions on, matters regarding current trends in defense-related reporting and issues commonly dealt with. Those invited thus far include: Barbara Ferguson (who joined us in San Antonio), with Arab News; Dan LaMothe (Marine Corps Times); Jim Miklaszewski (NBC); and Michael Phillips (WSJ).

Of course, throughout that day, there will be various board and committee meetings. And, who would possibly leave out the highlight of every CC Conference, our annual Merit Awards presentations at the evening banquet.

On Thursday morning (25th), we'll conduct the CC business meeting and enjoy a sumptuous breakfast at the Officers' Club before concluding yet another CC Conference!!...I'm looking forward to seeing you.

"Flash"



The Presidential Inn opened in 2010 offers rooms similar to this at \$53.25 per night. Registered guests may also eat in the Base Dining Hall by showing their room key. (U.S. Air Force Photo)

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More on Andrews: Registration, Fees, Room Rates

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superb, very modern room with queen-sized bed. **For those staying in the Presidential Inn your room key permits you to take meals in the Air Force Dining Hall.**

For those active duty Marines attending the Merit Awards Banquet only we will offer a special rate of \$15 for sergeants and below and \$25 for staff ncos and officers.

Your \$75 registration fee (per person) is required in advance. While we need to know how many room nights you will need, no advance payment is required for the room. You will pay on checking out of the Presidential Inn at Andrews.

Register on line at www.usmccca.org or by calling CCHQ at 352.748-4698 or by sending credit card info to usmccca@cfl.rr.com. Also indicate room nights needed. **Due to AFB security requirements you also must indicate in your registration whether or not you are holding a retired military identification card.**

Names of non-retirees will be furnished to HQMC, then to Andrews Security in order for passes to be obtained.

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 more topical news we invite you to visit www.usmccca.org.

If Mailing Registration To CCHQ

Name _____ Mil. Ret'd:(Y)___ (N)___

Spouse Name _____ Address: _____
City/State/Zip

Registration Fee: \$75 each person Total enclosed: _____

Credit Card: _____ Exp. Date _____

Last 3 on back _____