



## *Lt. Gen. Natonski is 2009 Guest of Honor*

National President Fred “Flash” Lash has announced that Lt. Gen. Richard F. Natonski, Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command, Norfolk, VA has accepted our invitation to be the Guest of Honor at our 2009 Conference.

“We are very pleased that General Natonski will be able to join us for our annual Merit Awards Banquet, Thursday, September 17.”

A veteran Marine with more than 25 years service, Natonski more recently commanded the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division during counter insurgency operations in Iraq, including the Battle of Fallujah (Operation AL FAIR) and the Iraqi National Elections in January 2005.

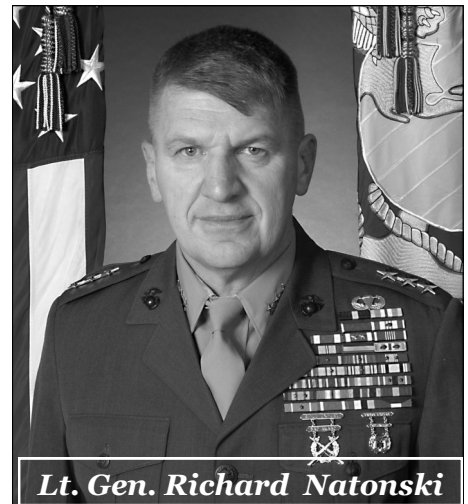
General Natonski’s current command is headquartered at Naval Base Norfolk, VA. and serves as the U.S. Marine Corps component of U.S. Joint Forces Command. The three major Marine Corps commands MARFORCOM, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve provide operating forces to support unified or joint

task force commanders and fleet commanders.

The MARFORCOM commander serves as the principal adviser to the commander of U.S. Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) on Marine Corps’ matters.

MARFORCOM’s war-fighting arm is II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF). II MEF is composed of approximately 45,000 personnel from the 2nd Marine Logistics Group and 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing.

General Natonski also serves as commanding general of FMF, Atlantic, and commander of U.S. Marine Corps Bases, Atlantic.



***Lt. Gen. Richard Natonski***

## *Journal Ad Sales Begin*

As you read this the 2009 advertising campaign for the Conference Journal will have begun.

If you will read Foundation President Don O’Neal’s column on Page 5 this issue you will have some idea of what we are facing this year.

One person suggested not publishing the Conference Journal as one way to cut down on Association expenditures. Unfortunately, were this to happen, you might as well close the doors of the Association. As Don O’Neal points out, the Conference Journal is the key ingredient that will have to keep this association alive until some of our corporate partners are back with us.

Members who might have leads to potential advertisers are

*(Continued on page 9)*

## *Conference Entertainment*

Calling it one of the largest hospitality suites we’ve ever had, CC Hotel Negotiator **Red Carpenter** says the Command Post at the newly-renovated Hampton Crowne Plaza Hotel will be a great place for the nightly entertainment being planned.

CC President **Fred “Flash” Lash** has completed negotiations with a professional karaoke entertainer for a contest on Wednesday night. Beginning Tuesday night and continuing Wednesday and, after Thursday’s Merit Awards Banquet, Florida Chapter’s **Allen Moore**, a professional

*(Continued on page 9)*



**Herb Schlossberg**

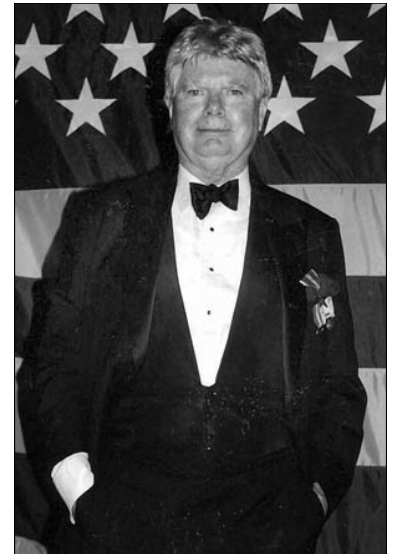
# We Keep Losing Our CC Legends

**Herb Schlossberg**, 92, died February 24 in Los Angeles, CA. He was a photo officer who saw extensive action at Roi Namur, Saipan, Tinian and on Iwo Jima. On Iwo Herb was entrusted with the first official motion picture film taken during that epic battle. Returning to Warner Brothers, he then assisted in the making of the landmark film, To The Shores of Iwo Jima.

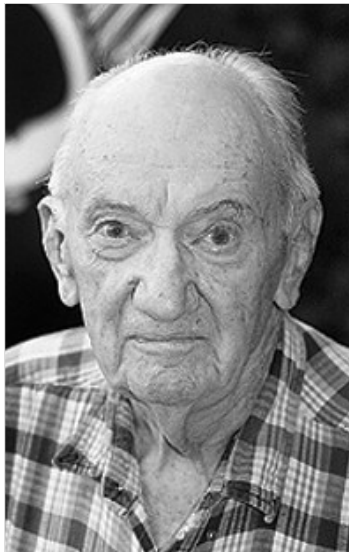
He was recalled to active duty in Korea. Following his active duty periods he attended and graduated from law school and began a career specializing in distinguished entertainment USMCCA, Herb organizer of a cement that be- the Toys for Tots serve with the



attended and graduated from law school and began a career specializing in a leader in the was the prime or- lebrity golf tourna- came a mainstay of campaign. He re- Marine Corps Re- rank of colonel.

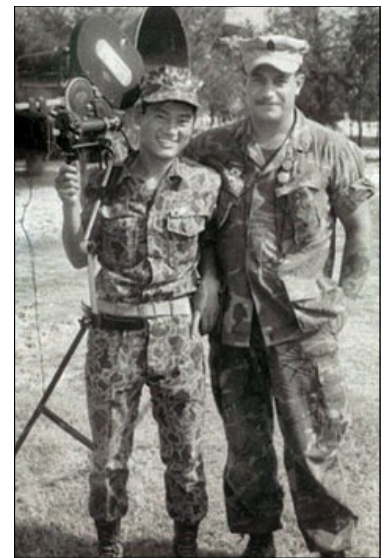


**HLM Jim Brady**



**George Burlage**

**James “Jim” Brady**, noted Marine Corps author and celebrity interviewer for Parade Magazine, has passed on to his rewards, checking in with the Marine sentry posted at Heaven’s main gate. His “voice,” still strong at 80, will be missed, but he left a vast reservoir of Marine lore and legend that will be tapped for years to come. When the United States Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Association honored Jim with the Denig Award this past August, Jim commented that he had received no higher honor than this recognition from fellow Marine journalists. The award citation mentioned his use of his status, books and Parade Magazine column as “bully pulpits” to put forth the Corps message of courage, honor and commitment. He was never reluctant, when called by Commandants or lowly leatherneck, to step up and provide



**Rudy Marth (r)**



**Hank McCann**

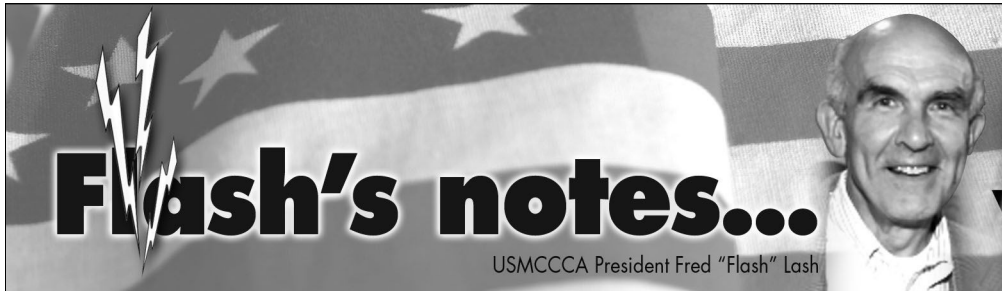


**HLM Millard Kaufmann**



**Wes Hammond**

(Continued on page 6)



To begin with, we are extremely pleased that **Lieutenant General Richard Natonski** (CG, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command) has accepted our invitation to be our Guest of Honor at the Awards Banquet on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. Rich and I go back to the days of the mid-70s at Marine Barracks, 8<sup>th</sup> and I when I was a major and he was a first lieutenant (he certainly has done well over the years and I'm still a major!!), so it will indeed be a very special evening.

Also, tentatively, our guest speaker at the Business Meeting on Friday will most probably be retired **Brigadier General Vincente Blaz**, a former U.S. Representative for Guam.

Plans are currently ongoing for the conference, but one thing we already know is true. There will be lots of opportunity for singing and dancing on both Tuesday and Wednesday nights, with a DJ on the 15<sup>th</sup> and karaoke on the 16<sup>th</sup>. We're also trying to work out a sightseeing day that will include the many attractions of the Norfolk-Suffolk-Hampton area, to include the USS Monitor (Civil War) turret, the Navy Base, the Maritime Museum and Virginia Beach.

Having attended a semi-annual meeting of the National Marine Corps Council last Saturday, as both the representative of the USMCCCA, but also as the Chair of the NMCC for the next year, there were a few presentations that I thought you all should be aware of.

At the **National Museum of the Marine Corps**, construction has begun on the \$4.7 million chapel in Semper Fi Memorial Park, and it should be completed in September of this year, with the dedication to be in October. For those of you who

have purchased them, 12,785 bricks have been placed in Semper Fi Park and in front of the Museum entrance. The museum has begun installation of three new galleries to cover the period from 1775 to the end of World War I. I have submitted the design approval paperwork for our USMCCCA memorial to **Brigadier General Denig**, in the name of **Sam Stavisky**. It'll be a bronze relief, depicting combat correspondents with cameras on landing beaches, a profile of Gen. Denig, and a Marine CC pounding out a story on a typewriter. I'll describe it more in detail at the conference in September.

One of the most exciting things that I've seen HQMC and the Division of Public Affairs undertake in a long time is "Marine Week—Chicago" that will run between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of May. Week-long events in the Windy City, with performances by the Silent Drill Platoon, The Commandant's Own (Drum and Bugle Corps), aircraft demonstrations, etc.

Check out the listing of events on [www.Marines.mil/MarineWeek](http://www.Marines.mil/MarineWeek).

I will indeed be proud to be representing the Combat Correspondents when I do a guest speaker 'gig' at the annual reunion of the Marine Embassy Guard Association in May. I have been asked to relate my experiences surrounding the terrorist attack on the American Embassy in Beirut in April of 1983.

Lastly, a word of praise for our **Web mistress Kate Stark**. What a site she has developed. I check it daily and am amazed at how topical it is and how she has managed to create a site that all CCs should be extremely proud of. I encourage each CC to support it.

## 2009 Booster Club

**Platinum**  
Florida Chapter  
Gene Smith, PGA

*Anonymous*

### **Gold**

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

*John "Jawn"  
Harmon  
Tony Parzanese  
Sally Pritchett*

### **Silver**

**\$101-\$999**

*John Abel  
Red Carpenter  
Chas Henry  
John Fales  
(Sgt. Shaft)  
Norm Hatch  
Jack Lewis  
Don O'Neal  
Jack Paxton  
Randy Mitchell  
Bob McEwen  
Mike Rhea*

### **Bronze**

**\$50-\$100**

*Cochise Cash  
Ed Evans  
Maryland Chapter*



## 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

## That's 30 from from CCHQ

Executive Director Jack T. Paxton



Very early in my Marine Corps career one of my WWII mentors gave me some great advice: "Paxton, you can call a man an SOB but you better make sure you spell his name right."

Fortunately for me I remembered it well...well, at least until a year ago when we ran a great yarn about a China Marine CC who worked with the **Tsingtao Queen** back in 1946. It was a good story and we even ran the CC's photo with it —————>

But, unfortunately we made a slight mistake: We credited the story to CC Tom Rutherford. **The real writer, to our embarrassment, was Tom Russell.**

Tom lives in Dallas, TX so, if you are ever in his neighborhood, get him to tell you about the Tsingtao Queen. Makes us wonder, though, why **Tom Rutherford** didn't let us know about the goof.

**Members are asking about airlines** and airports serving our conference site in Hampton, VA. Both Newport News and the Norfolk Airports are within 12 miles of the Crowne Plaza Hotel, our conference site. Hotel van service is not available. Taxi service is \$35 from Norfolk, and \$25 from Newport News. Most major airlines serve these airports.

**Okay, Class: Hands up.** How many CCs have ever sung the National Anthem before the President of the United States? Uh...to the best of anyone's knowledge, none until recently.

**CC Angela Mink**, MCAS New River, won that honor during President Obama's visit to Camp Lejeune recently. —————>

Was she scared? Will she sing for us in Hampton? Remained tuned.



*Marine CC Tom Russell, Circa 1946*

Clarification: Recently we were asked if all WWII vets were entitled to Honorary Life Membership. As this happened on former President Don Gee's watch, we asked him.

"No," he replied. "On the 50th Anniversary of WWII the Board decided to honor all then-regular member CCs who served in WWII. This was a one-time situation."

Since then your BOD has amended the By-Laws to extend HLM status to any veteran of Korea forward who has been wounded.

*SSgt. Angela Mink*





You've all read newspapers and heard much on television about the state of the national economy and how Americans are being forced to scrimp on many things that we've taken for granted almost since the Great Depression. We all know the stories of companies laying off employees and the reduction in spending this is facilitating. Even stalwarts like defense companies are feeling the pinch as the Pentagon reins in spending on weapons platforms. For our Foundation the downturn has become truly personal.

As planning began last year for this year's conference in Hampton, VA, we were optimistic that corporate sponsors, who have done much in recent years to help us grow our foundation while honoring our award winners, would stand with us once again.

Early this year, however, we learned just how mistaken we had been. Long-time sponsor, the Raytheon Corporation advised us it would not be a sponsor this year. In rapid succession, the Boeing Company also withheld its sponsorship and Heineken USA, while still providing product for our welcome reception and hospitality suite, declined to provide a cash contribution. In all, we were down \$15,000 in sponsorship contributions. Needless to say, this was a loss.

Enter Life Member, **Gunny "Jawn" Harmon**. Unexpectedly, Gunny Harmon made two very large contributions that covered at least half of Boeing's previous year's sponsorship.

Gunny Harmon was not alone. A number of CC have stepped up big by subscribing to our Dedicated Members page. Others have contributed to the Booster Club. Many of you have bought personal ads in the con-

ference journal and still others have volunteered to sponsor one of our merit award categories. A few of you have done it all. For that support, the Foundation cannot thank you enough.

However, we still have a major shortfall. Now we need the chapters to get their space reservations in for the chapter ads that are so vital. At the same time, we need everyone's help in identifying potential advertisers beyond our CC community.

Let me provide some often overlooked and little understood facts about the necessity of a successful ad campaign. Of the slightly more than 500 USMCCCA members, more than half are life members, honorary members or World War II combat veterans, while others are recipients of the Purple Heart.

What they all have in common is that they no longer pay annual dues. Last year, annual dues barely offset the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter. That means that revenue from other sources (corporate contributions, member donations and ad sales) are the lifeblood of the Foundation which funds USMCCCA programs, such as scholarships and merit awards, as well as the donations the Foundation must make to maintain its federal tax-exempt status.

I hope this clearly illustrates why we need your support contributing to the Booster Club, the Dedicated Members page, buying ads, and identifying non-CC sources for other ads. To say that we need the help of everyone is an understatement, therefore I am asking each of you do whatever you can to make a real difference.

I know that we can count on you.

Semper Fidelis, Don.

## '09 Dedicated Members

Ed Note: Full tributes will be carried in the 2009 Annual Conference Journal. Due to space limitations in this newsletter only contributors are listed here. (Date of list: April 22.) See full tributes at [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org).

*Malcolm G. Barr Sr.  
Sue Sousa  
William S. Clark  
Dennis Neal  
Thomas Rutherford  
Herbert Schwarzbach  
David Silcox  
Tom Kerr  
John "Jawn" Harmon  
Steve Illes  
Donald Haley  
Don Parzanese  
Alex Wasinski  
Cal Openshaw  
Lu Caldera,  
George Chrisman  
Mike and Sarah Pitts  
William Goodman  
John Funk  
Sally Pritchett  
Don O'Neal  
John and Dale Dodd  
Charles R. Kester  
Ralph J. Austin  
Lisa & Mert Mrdutt  
F. G. Williamson  
Jack Paxton  
Bob Caulkins  
Col. Walter Ford  
Ron Harwood  
Rodney Ayers  
Gen. Al Gray  
Dale Baird  
Maurice Curran  
Robert Montgomery  
"Red" Carpenter  
Eddie Kafafian  
Agostino vonHassell*

# Nominations Due for Association Board

CC Regular and Associate Members are reminded that May 15 is the deadline for nominations for four officer and two board member positions of the USMCCCA.

Each officer is elected for a one year period. Board members are elected to fill staggered two year terms. This year we will fill two Board of Director positions. Members whose terms expire this year are Don O'Neal and Vicki Conkel Turney.

Once nominations are received at CCHQ, the Nominations Chair will canvas each candidate as to their desire to serve. After this determination has been made viable candidates will be required to furnish biographical material which will be made available to the voting membership.

Absentee ballots will be mailed to all members by July 15. Members NOT attending the annual conference in Sep-

tember at Hampton, VA, will be required to return their marked ballots to CCHQ by August 1 in order for them to be counted at the conference.

If a member mails his or her absentee ballot then decides to attend the conference, that ballot must be retrieved prior to the Annual Business Meeting, Friday, September 14.

Where possible, board members are expected to attend the annual business meeting where Association business will be conducted.

Nominations may be made by email or "snail" mail but must be received at CCHQ by May 15.

Email to: [usmccca@cfl.rr.com](mailto:usmccca@cfl.rr.com). Regular mail: CCHQ, 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 348785

## CC Legends: Their "Works" Became History

(Continued from page 2)

support.

**George E. Burlage** of Denton, TX died November 30, 2008 at Denton Presbyterian Hospital after a brief illness. He was 90 years old. Burlage grew up during the Great Depression and following his graduation from junior college, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1939 and was stationed at Cavite in the Philippines. George was captured by Japanese forces after the Battle of Corregidor on May 6, 1942. He was held as a prisoner-of-war by the Japanese for 40 months and worked as a slave laborer in the Philippines and in the Mitsubishi coal mines in Japan. After World War II, he served on the USS New Jersey and became a public affairs liaison for the Marine Corps. He was a staff member of Leatherneck magazine and served as a correspondent in the Korean Conflict. He served as the communications director at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, retiring from the Corps in 1959.

**James W. (Wes) Hammond, Jr.**, passed away on January 14, 2009 in 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 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. He retired as a colonel.

**Rudy Marth**, CC Life Member died 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. No formal obituary is available. His son reported that the funeral was held January 14. He was interred at the National Cemetery at Quantico.

**Henry "Hank" McCann**, 82, Massapequa, NY died November 14 following a lengthy illness. Prior to his death Hank was the long-time President of the New York Chapter and was very active in the Association for many years. He was interred in the National Cemetery in Calverton, NY.

**Henry McMahon**, 81, died Aug. 8, 2008 at the Merrimack Valley Hospital, Haverhill, MA after a long illness. As a young teenager he saw action with the 1st Marine Division on Guadalcanal and throughout the Pacific campaign. Later, he worked for Jack Lewis for several months before being assigned to HMR-161 in Korea. His photos of the first combat application of moving troops to forward positions by helicopter were widely published. (There was no photo available.)

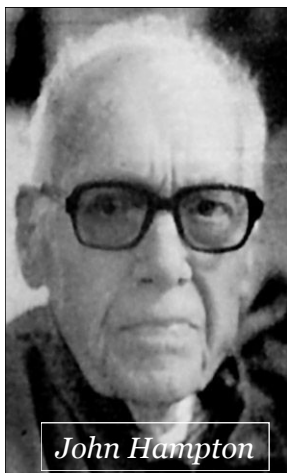
**Millard Kaufman**, the Oscar-nominated screenwriter of "Bad Day at Black Rock" and the co-creator of Mr. Magoo who waited until he was 90 to become a first-time novelist, has died. He was 92. He was an Honorary Life Member of the USMCCCA and one of the founders of the Los Angeles Chapter.

(More complete obits at [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org).)

## John Hampton: CC's Oldest Nearing 102

John L. Hampton, the oldest member of the Joe Rosenthal (San Francisco Bay Area) Chapter of the USMCCCA will celebrate his 102nd birthday on May 24th, 2009. He is still going strong, though a bit slower than the pace he set while on active duty as a Marine public affairs officer during and after World War II.

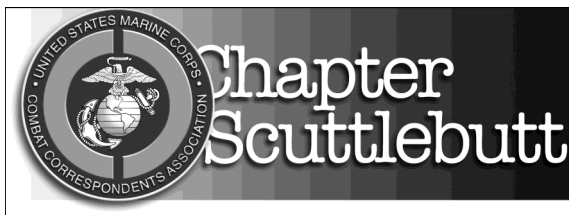
Hampton is a founder of the USMC Toy's for Tots program. In 1947 as a public affairs officer in Los Angeles, a fellow Marine officer, Maj. Bill Hendricks, offered an idea to set up barrels at movie theaters in Los Angeles to collect toys for needy children. The barrels were marked "Toys for Tots."



John Hampton

The next year, the program went nationwide and became an "immediate success," Hampton recalls. Marines and everyone who became involved were

"fascinated with the concept." The whole Marine Corps helped out and it "snowballed over the years" into the program it is today because "Marines have a soft spot for chil-



## Distance Not Florida Problem

Proving that distance poses no problem, the Florida Chapter continued its annual tradition of moving at least one quarterly meeting annually around the elongated state.

On March 27, 10 members from diverse locations – two from as far away as Birmingham, AL - gathered in Daytona Beach on Florida's east coast for a Friday social gathering and 1st Quarter meeting on Saturday. Two others joined the group for the Saturday luncheon.

The weekend gathering, hosted by Port Orange members Hank and Trudi Ehlbeck began Friday afternoon with a tour of the Daytona International Speedway, its various exhibits and a special showing at the IMAX Theater. The group then enjoyed "happy hour" at their motel and a group dinner following. (Read more at [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org))

dren in need," Hampton smiled.

Before Hampton became a Marine Officer and served in the Pacific during World War II and in China at war's end, he was a career journalist who worked for his Texas hometown newspaper, the Waco Times-Herald, The Borger Daily Herald and the bureaus of the United Press International wire service in New Orleans, Kansas City and Dallas.

Hampton was an early participant in USMCCCA activity with the San Francisco Bay chapter, later renamed the Joe Rosenthal Chapter **(Submitted by Norb Malecki)**

**(Submitted by Norb Malecki)**

## Jon Abel: State of Play

Movie-goers will easily recognize Russell Crowe and Ben Affleck playing leading roles in the new Hollywood flick "State of Play."

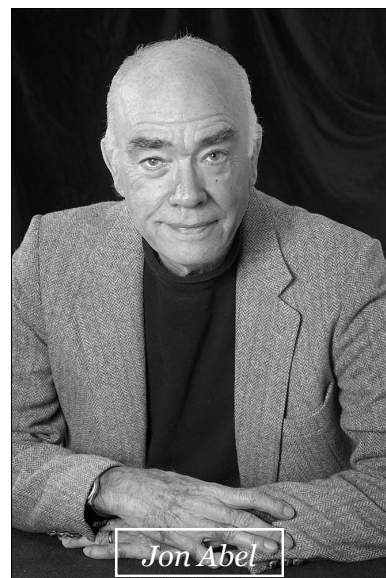
But look real close and you just might recognize Lucas Chapter member and former Marine CC **Jon Abel**.

Abel, a professional actor, does his latest stint as an "extra" in the two-hour film which opened in theaters nationwide on April 17.

"I have several background appearances," Abel said, "but I'm way back in the background." One scene is in a cafeteria, another on a porch and there are several other sequences during the two-hour film.

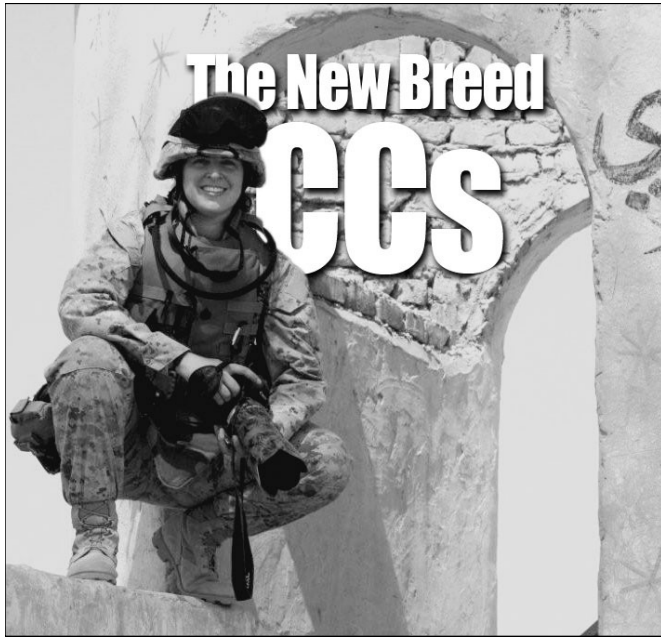
**"State of Play,"** filmed last year in Washington, D.C. and environs, depicts politics, journalism and crime as practiced in the nation's capital.

**(Submitted by Don Knight)**



Jon Abel





## Scout/Flight Jacket Cease Publication

Like many of their civilian counterparts, the Camp Pendleton Scout, the Miramar Flight Jacket and the San Diego Navy Compass newspapers ceased publication last week.

According to a reliable source, the publisher was faced with both declining and (uncollected) advertising revenues and simply could not continue to pay the operating expenses.

It was learned that the publisher had been negotiating to print the papers every other week but that did not pan out.

Many “old timers” in the military news business can remember when the base paper was the mainstay of post or station news and, typically in many cases, the “mouth-piece” of the command.

In the old days, the base newspaper was paid for by either special funding or from Exchange profits.

Today’s surviving military publications are often paid for by a nearby community publisher who is free to seek advertising to pay for the publication and, prior to recent downturns, quite possibly make a profit.

In many cases, the publisher supplemented the military staff by offering to pay for civilian staff to help put out the publication. This was a boon to posts or stations who saw their commands decimated by frequent deployments.

## Eight TJ Awards Won by Marines

Winners of the 2009 Thomas Jefferson Awards were announced April 13. Here are the Marines honored for their work.

**News Article:** Fearing Restrictions, Marines Load Up on Firearms, **Lance CPL Graham Benson**, Yuma Public Affairs Office, Yuma, AZ.

**Commentary:** Death of the Marksman, **SSgt Ethan E. Roche**, Marine Corps Base, Okinawa, Japan.

**Series:** The Untouchables, **SSgt Ethan E. Roche**, Marine Corps Base, Okinawa, Japan.

**Stand-Alone Photograph:** Maj Smith with Liberian Children, **Sgt Rocco DeFilippis**, Marine Corps Forces Europe/Africa, APO AE.

**Outstanding Flagship Publication:** Marines Magazine, Defense Media Activity Crystal City Marines, Arlington, VA.

**Web-based Publication:** Pendleton.USMC.mil, Camp Pendleton Public Affairs Office, Camp Pendleton, CA.

**Radio News Report:** “Marines Aid Afghans”, **Sgt Jeremy Ross**, USMC, Pentagon Channel.

(A complete listing of 2009 USMCCCA Merit Award Winners can be found on [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org).)



*Public Affairs Plans Chief, **MSgt. Kyle Olson** ® is congratulated by MajGen. (s) **Boomer Milstead**, on his retirement following 20+years service. Milstead, Olson’s former boss, now heads Marine Corps Recruiting Command. The ceremonies were held at Quantico April 3.*



## Conference Hilite: Tech for “Dummies”

Remember as a young CC tapping out stories on a manual typewriter using carbon paper and a threadbare, ink ribbon? How about when you were a MoPic producer/director using a wheelchair as a dolly to get the shot? Or, as still photographer, possibly forgetting to pull the dark slide?

If you can remember these times then you know the world has changed a lot in the past twenty-plus years. The question is, have you kept up? Did you give the old Remington to Good Will and switch to a computer? Did you ditch the



Kate Stark

Speed Graphic for that point and shoot digital camera?

If you didn't or you did and you still need your grandkids to show you how to use email because you are clueless, don't worry. The CCs will drag you kicking and screaming into the 21st century with a seminar entitled, "Technology for Dum-

mies," held by **Kate Stark, USMCCCA webmaster**, at the annual USMCCCA Conference in Hampton, VA, Sept. 14-18.

It will be geared toward CCs and spouses who have/want a computer but don't know how to use it very well. Other topics will touch on the Internet (and how to get the most from **www.usmccca.org**), digital photography and how to make grilled-cheese sandwiches on your hard drive... (uh, the last part is not true, don't try it at home!)

"A computer is a tool, like a power drill or an electric mixer. Once you learn how to use it, it makes tasks easier. The days of blowing up your computer with one wrong click are over." said Stark. "If you can drive a car, make a phone call, mow the lawn, then you can use technology to enhance your life."

If you have specific questions about computers, the Internet or digital cameras that you'd like addressed at the seminar, send them to: Kate Stark, 385 SW 254th St, Newberry, FL 32669 or Email: kvstark@msn.com.

**(Ed. Note:** When you snail-mail info for the newsletter and the website, someone is required to retype it. Neither the webmaster nor your exec have the time to do this. When you snail-mail 35mm photos to us most require scanning and all lose quality. If you were using a digital camera all you would have to do is download them to a file, attach the photos to an email and we get a fast, very useable product. If you are producing a newsletter and it is not electronically prepared and transmitted we read it but cannot borrow from it. We would gladly post it on the website [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org) but it has to be prepared and transmitted from a computer. This is what Kate will be stressing in her Conference presentation. Let's hope a few of you "grey beards" show—or at least send your wives!)

## Ad Rates Still A Bargain

(Continued from page 1)

encouraged contact CCHQ. Every effort will be made to make contact and secure the ad.

**If a chapter purchases or secures a half-page or larger ad, the chapter will receive a 20% commission. Members will continue to receive individual 20% commissions on half-page or larger ads that they personally purchase or secure.**

On the optimistic side, Art Director Chuck Beveridge promises another bright edition saluting our Merit Winners and looking at other accomplishments this year.

Your quarter-page color ads remain at \$180. Chuck will again personalize them to incorporate your sentiments.

Full page color ads are \$1,000; B&W: \$800.

Half-page color: \$550; B&W: \$475.

Second, third covers: \$1800.

Rear cover: \$2500.

## Nightly Entertainment

(Continued from page 1)

DJ, will hold forth in the CP with music for every generation.

Website manager **Kate Stark** is bringing her Wii equipment and promises continual challenges in various sports.

Wii elbow, anyone?

# Annual Merit Awards Judging

Fast forward to Sept. 17, 2009. The Marines stepping onto the ballroom stage at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Hampton, Va. are wearing their blues. They are greeted by a Marine officer and are photographed holding a first place plaque as a winner in the annual Merit Awards competition. There is loud applause, cheering.

At the podium MC **Pat Coulter**, with his professional discourse, is saying something about the winning entry and the Marine holding the plaque. He has already mentioned that "tonight we are honoring the best of the best."

This is the USMCCCA's annual awards conference and banquet, the final act in a nine-month drill that began in early 2009.

A thousand entries in more than 40 categories arrived in January/February at the Corps' Division of Public Affairs, Pentagon, from all points on the globe, were then screened for compliance with the rules and turned over to 13 volunteers, all but one being civilians, to review, discuss, often argue, then to make judgment.

They are the judges, some might say the most important and perhaps the most unsung participants in the year-long process. On March 5-6 they assembled in Washington, D.C. They all carried credentials showing expertise in photographic, print and broadcast journalism. Some came from afar. All volunteered out of a common interest in the Marine Corps and its efforts to tell an important story to the American public about Marines at work.

**Mike Rhea** is no newcomer to the program. He drove down I-95 from Dover, DE during rush hour on March 6 to serve once again as one of the judges in the print competition. He teaches English in Dover, worked for many years at the Reuters news agency in Washington, D.C. and at other journalism and teaching jobs. He has a strong attachment to the awards program.

**Ron Keene** is associate editor of Leatherneck magazine and a retired MGSgt. He had judged before and brought a special expertise to his review of Marine stories and publications.



**Stucky, Wallace, Metelsky**

**Dick Truitt** was a Marine officer in Korea and then spent more than five decades as a news man



**Rhea**

**Keene**

**Truitt**

(Chicago Tribune and United Press), as a president of two public relations firms, as an author and speechwriter, as a wordsmith of repute. He is impressed with what the Marine Corps and the USMCCCA is doing with this program. He traveled, as he did last year, from Rowayton, CT to take part.

**Official Marine Photos by Sgt. Jeremy Vought, Sgt. Michael Cifuentes**

Three judges reviewing some 300 submissions in eight photo categories had a busy, day-long session, also at the Newseum in Washington. All of the images were projected by computer to a large screen for review.



**Henry**



**Reese**

**Rex Stucky** brought a 43-year career as a professional photographer into play, including 28 with the National Geographic Society where he managed the color print

*(Continued on page 11)*



**Liz Murray & Dave Hugel**

# LTK, FTG Re-write: We Need Your Stuff

(Ed. Note: This was originally written as an editorial by your Executive Director for the website).

If you have followed the news on the website [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org) you know we are in the process of updating Gary Cameron's unofficial history, **Last to Know, First to Go**. The big question is: Why aren't we hearing from you? Bylines and photo credits are always appreciated by each of us and this is could be your chance for posterity!

Okay, how should you proceed? First, depending on your age, get out your slate, Etcha-sketch, crayon, IBM Selectric or – for you more advanced types – that evil-eyed box that greets you each morning – no we don't mean your TV – your computer.

Think about sections of your career or your tour in the Corps. Certainly, you had high and low lights. [Even the mundane may be interesting 100 years from now!]

For example: I took my years as a PANCO and picked out certain things and people; then I did a piece on my mentors – again names. Then I did a section dealing with my newspaper experiences at post and station papers, and yes I named names. I wrapped things up with a section on characters I worked with – again more names. Finally, I did the bad times, and we all had them. If you were a photographer we need your photos and captions – again names.

**We have a publisher, an editor or three, as well as an overwhelming desire to see this project succeed. We cannot do it without you!**

Need help getting started? Use the following as a guideline and remember, if you have access to a computer, digital files will be easier to compile.

Time in the Marine Corps, and career highlights: (i.e. MCRD Parris Island, San Diego, OCS, etc.)

Ranks: final rank important. Service dates. If you retired, when? MOSs held.

Famous CCs and journalists you might have worked with.

Key events you covered. Most dangerous. Funniest.

Best mentor you ever had? Best advice a Marine ever gave you?

Most memorable Marine you covered? Books or key articles you wrote or photos you took (with captions please.)

If you were a cinematographer or videographer list some of the events you covered—especially if it was a combat situation. What about films you produced and awards you re-

ceived. You get the idea.

If you had a civilian career be brief but don't forget: Who, what, when, where, why...and how?

**Submit to our special email address: [usmccca-alpha@cfl.rr.com](mailto:usmccca-alpha@cfl.rr.com) by June 15, please.**

## 2009 Judges: Busy!

*(Continued from page 10)*

laboratory.

A second photo judge, **Jim Wallace**, served the Smithsonian Institution for 29 years, during which he was a director and curator of the Imaging and Photographic Services.

**John Metelsky** directed the press office at the Agency for International Development, where he photographed and wrote stories about projects on three continents.

**Radio and television judges** convened over a two-day period at the Naval Media Center in Washington, home to Marines TV. The seven judges included **Christopher Reese**, owner of a media production company where he alternates as a photographer, video producer and where his body of work includes NASA, PBS and other government operations.

Former Marine officer **Chas Henry**, who has extensive experience as a broadcast journalist covering security and national defense programs, gave up one day from his post as director of communications at the U.S. Naval Institute to serve as a judge and **Dave Hugel**, recently retired from his post at the U.S. Department of Transportation was on board for one day of judging. He is a former Marine CC with credentials in film and broadcast.

Other broadcast judges included **Laura Billet**, a former White House television videographer, currently a producer for the Department of Health and Human Services; **Bryan Drenning**, also a producer at HHS; **Liz**

**Murray**, an employee at the Pentagon TV Channel and **Chief Joe Clark**, an award-winning Navy radio broadcaster.



**Drenning**



**Billet**

# Member-Only Registration Still Saves \$\$

You may have missed your earlier registration savings but members can still knock off \$10 by signing up between now and June 1 for \$120. After June 1 registration will cost members \$130. The non-member registration fee is \$135. **Conference dates are September 14-18. (Note: You can register on line at [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org).)**

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.

CCHQ has been asked if wives are considered in the Member only rate. If it is your wife OR your guest accompanying you, the Member rate applies.

The easiest way to register is on-line at [www.usmccca.org](http://www.usmccca.org). Remember to follow the registration instructions. You do NOT have to have a PayPal account.

For hotel reservations call 1.800.727.9990. Tell the operator Group Code USMCCCA. On-line: [www.crownplaza.com\hamptonva](http://www.crownplaza.com\hamptonva). Block Code: UMC

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: <a href="mailto:usmccca@cfl.rr.com">usmccca@cfl.rr.com</a> )	



NON-PROFIT PRESRT STD  
Wildwood, FL 34785  
Permit No. 5

**Now Hear This**

**Now Hear This is published four times each year. Copy deadlines are January 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1.**

**Submit copy to CCHQ, 110 Fox Court, Wildwood, FL 34785**

**CCHQ: 352.748.4698**

**Email: [usmccca@cfl.rr.com](mailto:usmccca@cfl.rr.com)**

**FAX to 1.314.248.4698**