



MESTENGO

Volume 11 Issue 2

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Summer 2011

"Our National symbol standing guard"
"Semper Fidelis" ~ "Always Faithful"



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Once a Mustang Always a Mustang
There is no resigning

Soon the loyal Mustangs will once again gather in annual convention that we sometimes call musters, tall tale time & other more colorful descriptions of what goes on at these remarkable events.

This years gathering in the Clearwater FL area promises to be a good one. Those members who reside in the Deep South, who have been on occasion inappropriately, recklessly called the Florida Mafia, know how to throw a shin dig. This will be the third time that Chapter has hosted a National Muster. The first one was in the Disney World area near Orlando, the second was at Daytona Beach next to the ocean and now over on the West Coast of Florida next to the Gulf of Mexico. The hosts are well experienced in their chosen endeavor, and from what has been advertised, it will be another reunion to remember. If it is at all within your capability, don't miss this one or you will be on the outside with your nose pressed against the glass saying gee whiz there's where I should have been.

On a more serious note, the National situation can be best described by the oft quoted phrase "These are the times that try men's souls" or words to that effect. With some "experts" (one definition is a drip under pressure) claiming a coming 50% unemployment rate and a 90% stock market crash in 2012. The bright side is I'm making a rental car reservation for 14 August in Nashville, TN and after the transaction is complete I ask the individual with the heavy accent just where is he located & the answer is Guadalajara, MX. At least he has a job. Most of us are concerned about the coming world events & it is one reason travel is down especially for overseas flights. This is another good reason to attend the National Muster this year in Florida. Spend your hard earned ocani in the good old USA.

The management part of the Association has been upgraded with the Addition of an Assistant Office Manager who is into computers and giving Roger a much needed hand in getting things done in a timely manner. The individual jobs of Secretary & Treasurer have been combined into that of Sec/Treas and Chuck Boyle has been a real champion in taking on that chore for you and me to keep the Mustang organization running. The situation of IRS not for profit tax reporting is being brought up to date as this is being written. A meeting between a certified public accountant, our new Sec/Treas and our Office Managers has taken place up in GA to iron out the reporting situation and other accounting matters that need to be taken care of. John Jenkins our man in the trenches for so many years, who has done so much with so little for so long he can do anything with nothing has finally turned in his duty belt, arm band & computer for a much needed time to "bake er' bask" in the desert sun out there in the Badlands. Thank you JLJ for your many years of dedication to all things Mustang. John will be around to accept free gratuitous beverages for a long time.

As some of you may know, Sid our President is not up to snuff, health wise, so I'm writing this comment section of the Mestengo. We all wish Sid fair winds & good health.

See ya'll at the Mustang Muster in Clearwater Florida this late September.

SEE *ALERT*** PAGE-5**

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OFFICERS

President: Capt Sidney L. Spurgeon, USMC (Ret)
Vice President: Maj George W. Fritch. USMC (Ret)
Secretary/Treasurer:
Maj Charles J. Boyle, USMC (Ret)

DIRECTORS

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Capt James E. Brown, USMC (Ret)
CWO-3 Ronald R. Fisher, USMC (Ret)
Maj Robert D. Hawkins, USMC (Ret)
LtCol Phillip H. Ray, USMC (Ret)

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Maj Joseph Castro, USMC(Ret) Deceased
Col William A. Lee, USMC(Ret) Deceased

ASSOCIATION INCORPORATORS

Capt Herman H. Walbert, USMC (Ret)
Maj Joseph Castro, USMC (Ret) Deceased
1stLt Al Tidwell, USMC (Ret) Deceased

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Editor Roger V. Speeg
Historian John Darracott

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OFFICER SLATE



George W. Fritschi, Maj USMC Retired

Marine Corps Mustang Association Member R-810

Major George W. Fritschi, USMC (Ret) was born in Flushing, NY on September 9, 1930. Before graduating from High School he did a lick in the U.S. Merchant Marine aboard ESSO tankers, traveling between US oil ports and Venezuela. Finished High School in 1948 and went on to Schools in West Virginia and Norman Oklahoma. At

Oklahoma University, after a stint in the Navy ROTC, he got a wild hair and enlisted in the USMC.

You can't escape your destiny and back to school he went. In those days "school boys" had non-promotional MOS's, so he languished as a PFC until he completed 26 weeks of school. In the 10th Marines, 2nd MARDIV rank came so fast, most of his uniforms had different stripes on them. After Screening and TBS at Quantico, his orders to Division were changed to attend Navy Flight School at Pensacola. This change of orders happened because, while on night training maneuvers in the rain and mud, the word was passed that anyone who wanted to take the Aviation Aptitude test could go back to the barracks and get cleaned up. This sounded like a good idea and that is how he became an aviator.

George served in all Divisions and all Air Wings in Aviation Recon, Attack, Atomic Weapons Delivery and Employment and All Weather Night Fighter/Attack Squadrons. Along the way he became an Aviation Maintenance Officer and Squadron Commander. His several tours in Vietnam included Air Officer for the 9th MEB, the 1st large Marine Infantry presence in country and both 4th Marines and Asst. Division Air Officer, 3rd MARDIV.

He was elected to the Board of Directors and has served tours in that slot, including Chairman of the EXCom. In addition, George is a Past President and Past Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida Mustangs. He also was the co-chairman and Chairman of several National Musters.

He presently lives in Talent, Oregon and is concentrating on breaking clay pigeons with a 12 Gauge Shotgun.



Ron Fisher, CWO3 USMC Retired

Marine Corps Mustang Association Member No: R-584

I am a retired reservist with 22+ years of active duty, having enlisted on active duty in June 1970 and served until June 1980 when I requested a discharge to pursue a college degree. During this period, I served with 3rd MAW at MCAS El Toro, (H&MS-13), 1st MAW with VMGR-152 to include deployment to The Rose Garden at Nam Phong, Thailand, 2nd MAW with HMM-461 to include deployment to the Mediterranean aboard USS Guadalcanal with HMM-264 (Rein), 4th MAW at MARTD Dallas,

Texas and again , 2nd MAW with VMAQ-2 to include two six month deployments aboard USS Midway, home ported in Yokosuka, Japan.

As a reservist with 4th MAW, I served as a CH-53 Crew Chief with HMH-772 at MAG-41, NAS Dallas, Texas until I graduated from The University of Texas at Arlington with a BBA degree in Business Administration. Coincidental to my graduation from collage, I was selected for appointment to Warrant Officer in MOS 6002. I then applied for and was accepted for the Full Time Support (FTS) Program.

While on the FTS Program, I served initially as the Quality Assurance Officer at MAG-41, NAS Dallas, Texas, and then two subsequent tours as MMCO at MAG-41. My final tour was as MMCO at MAG-49, NAS Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, where I served until retirement on July 1, 1993.

I am currently employed with DynCorp International as a Proposal Development Manager.

RUNNING FOR THE BOARD



Willard Walker, Capt USMC Retired

Marine Corps Mustang Association Member R-293

I was born at Posey, WV on January 12, 1934. After graduation from High School I accepted a position with The American Stove Co. in Lorain, Ohio. A short time later I received my Selective Service Draft Notice and I decided to join the Marine Corps rather than be drafted into the Army. On February 2, 1953, I arrived at MCRD Parris Island SC. After Aviation Prep School at Jacksonville, FL and Aviation Electronics School at Memphis, TN I reported to MCAS Cherry Point, NC for duty with VMFT (N) 20 as an Aircraft Radar Technician.

~ January 1955-August 1957 Korea and Japan w/ MAG 33 and MAG 12. ~ August 1957-August 1958 MWSG-27 MCAS Cherry Point, NC. ~ September 1958-October 1959 Student at AT-B School, Memphis, TN. ~ October 1959-October 1962 1st Marine Brigade, MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. Duties included Electronics Maintenance Supervisor with additional duties as Instructor on NAMO Trainer, quality control inspector and radio operator on CG FMF Pac's airplane. ~ October 1962-January 1965 MWSG-37 MCAS El Toro, CA. and in 1964 I was selected for the 1965 Warrant Officer Class. ~ Upon completion of the WOCS, the Basic School and Aviation Supply School in 1965 I reported to Iwakuni, Japan for duty as Material Officer of MABS-17. Late in 1965 I was commissioned a Second Lieutenant. After completing Nuclear Weapons Courier School and the Embarkation for Amphibious Operations Course I moved to Danang, RVN with the forward echelon of MWSG-17. ~ January 1967-December 1968 Duty with MAG-24 and MCCRTG-20, 2nd MAW. Assignment included SRS Officer, GASSC Officer and Group Supply Officer. ~ 1969 Material Officer, H&MS 36 Phu Bai, RVN. ~ 1970-May 1973 Duty with MAG-26 MCAS New River, NC. Retired on 1 May 1973. Served as MCMA Secretary for two years (2009 & 2010).

I am married to Melva Jean Walker (Retired School Teacher). We have two children, a son who resides in Albuquerque, NM and is a 757 pilot with Delta Airlines and a daughter that is a full time mother/housewife for three of our grandchildren and a part-time employee with the local school system.



Jeffrey A. Landis, Maj USMC

Marine Corps Mustang Association Member R-3324

Major Jeff Landis, a native of Sunbury, Pa., was born Jan. 11, 1968. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in March 1989 and after boot camp at MCRD Parris Island, S.C., and Marine Combat Training at Camp Geiger, N.C., was sent to the Defense Information School (DINFOS) Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., for the Basic Journalist Course. After DINFOS graduation in December 1989 and as a lance corporal, he was assigned to the Fleet Hometown News Center in Norfolk, Va. He was promoted to corporal in June 1990 and to sergeant in December 1992. In December 1993, he was transferred to the Department of Defense High School News Service, serving as editor of *Profile* magazine.

In March 1994, he was transferred to Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan, serving as a combat correspondent and later Public Affairs bureau chief for Camp Hansen. In September 1994, he was sent to DINFOS for the Basic Broadcaster Course and graduated in December 1994. Upon return to Okinawa, he was quickly transferred to the Special Purpose MAGTF Belleau Wood for Operation UNITED SHIELD in Somalia. He returned from deployment in March 1995 and was transferred back to the states to Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., as the Press Chief and Editor of the Rotovue newspaper as well as MAG 29 Bureau Chief/correspondent. He attended the Sergeant's Course in 1996, was promoted to staff sergeant in 1997, and then attended the SNCO Career Course in 1997 before he was transferred to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit in October 1997.

While on deployment to the Mediterranean with 24th MEU, then SSgt. Landis was accepted for the Meritorious Commissioning Program and was short-toured on the MEU to attend Officer Candidates School and was commissioned a second lieutenant in April 1998. After The Basic School, he retained the Public Affairs MOS and was sent back to DINFOS for the Public Affairs Officer Course. After graduation in March 1999, he was briefly assigned to the Camp Pendleton, Calif., Media Office, and then assigned to the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit. His two deployments with the Command Element of 13th MEU included operations DETERMINED RESPONSE (Yemen) and ENDURING FREEDOM (Afghanistan), and various humanitarian missions in Africa and East Timor as well as the USS Cole rescue mission.

He was promoted to captain in May 2002 and soon after transferred to Marine Corps Combat Development Command Public Affairs in Quantico, Va. In February 2005, he was transferred to Marine Corps Systems Command in Quantico and then again in June 2007 to The Basic School as a war-fighting instructor. He was promoted to major in June 2008, and served as the Protocol Officer/Public Affairs Officer for The Basic School. He was then transferred to Camp Lejeune, N.C., in June 2010 and currently serves as the Public Affairs Officer for Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command.

Maj. Landis has more than 22 years leadership experience managing internal and external information programs, developing and implementing communication strategies and campaign plans, conducting marketing and brand recognition and serving as spokesperson for Marine Corps, Navy and Department of Defense commands.

marinecorpsmustang.org/mestengo

RUNNING FOR THE BOARD Cont...



Ray Kunkle, Capt USMC Retired

Marine Corps Mustang Association Member No: R-2973

I am declaring my candidacy to be considered for a member on the Board of Directors for the coming three years. Following is a brief background of my military and civilian experiences:

I am native of Steubenville, Ohio. Enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in March of 1953 and went on active duty in September of 1959. Upon completing boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA, I served with the 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA. In January 1961 I attended Marine Security Guard School and was assigned State Department duty in Kabul, Afghanistan, 1961-1962; Ankara, Turkey, 1962-1963; and Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 1963-1964.

Upon returning to the United States in February 1964, as a Sergeant I was assigned as Career Planner for the 2nd Battalion, 10th Marines, Camp Lejeune, NC. I reenlisted myself for a change of MOS, schooling and a bonus. After completing the basic Combat Engineer School in July 1964 I was transferred to 2nd Engineer Battalion and participated in Operation "Steel Pike I" which deployed to Spain. The following year I returned to Court House Bay, Camp Lejeune in completing the Combat Engineer Advanced Course. I was assigned as an instructor for the next year.

In December 1966, I graduated from the Nuclear Ordnance Course and for the next three years was assigned to the Nuclear Ordnance Platoon and the 1st and 3rd Marine Divisions. ~ In April 1969 was selected as a Warrant Officer and upon graduating was assigned to 2nd Engineer Battalion as the Battalion Construction Officer. ~ In May of 1970 I reported to the Marine Barracks, Guam, serving as a Guard Officer and later as Commanding Officer of Company "B". ~ Transferred from Guam in 1972 to 1st Engineer Battalion, Camp Pendleton. I served as the Construction Officer, Maintenance, Motor Transport Officer. ~ In July 1975 was assigned as the Construction Officer for 3rd Engineer Battalion, Okinawa, Japan. Later was transferred to Range Company, Camp Fuji, Japan as the Maintenance Officer until August of 1976. ~ Returning to the United States, I was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion and served as the Engineer Equipment Officer, Commanding Officer of Combat Engineer Support Company, S-4 Officer. ~ Within a week of retiring from the Marine Corps in August of 1981, after 23 years of service, I became a Division Manager for the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LAMTA). ~ I retired from LAMTA after serving 15 years as a trouble-shooting manager at five different divisions.

In October 2001 I joined the Camp Pendleton Mustang Chapter and was elected as the 1st Vice President in 2003 and was the Chapter President from 2005-2007. Since joining MCMA I have attended most all of the Musters. In addition to belonging to MCMA, I'm a member of four other veteran's organizations, serving on two Boards of Directors.

I look forward to serving as a member of the Board of Directors of MCMA with great enthusiasm.

*****ALERT***ALERT***ALERT*****

FLORIDA 2011 MUSTANG MUSTER HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR THE REDUCED MUSTER RATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED FROM AUGUST 29TH TO SEPTEMBER 5TH. AFTER SEPTEMBER 5TH, HOTEL RATE MAY GO TO THE REGULAR COST OF \$180 PER NIGHT, PLUS TAX.

**SEMPER FI,
MCMA BUSINESS MANAGER**

MUSTANG CHALLENGE COINS NOTICE



We anticipate that the first production run of 250 ea Mustang Challenge Coins will be available for purchase at the 2011 Muster in Clearwater, FL. Pricing at the muster will be \$10. USD and \$15. USD (including S/H) afterwards.

A number of members have already placed advance 'holds' for quantities of coins. Expressions of interest should be directed to Joe Featherston at 803-644-5995 or jrhd@aol.com

marinecorpsmustang.org/mestengo



Financial Report
FY-2011 (as of 13 August 2011)

BM ACCOUNTS: (GA Region Banks)

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|------------------|--------------------|
| Checking Acct: xxx...191 | \$ | 56,159.50 | as of Jul 31, 2011 |
| Deferred Dues Acct: xxx...183 | \$ | 16,552.00 | |
| | \$ | 72,711.50 | |

ASSETS:

First Community/US Bank

| | | |
|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| Acct: CD xxx...200 | \$ | 38,378.54 |
| Acct: CD xxx...537 | \$ | 95,446.20 |
| | \$ | 133,824.74 |

New Mexico B&T

| | | |
|-----------------|----|-------------------|
| Acct: CD xxx019 | \$ | 47,984.69 |
| Acct: CD xxx020 | \$ | 37,186.72 |
| Acct: CD xxx022 | \$ | 6,212.79 |
| Acct: CD xxx023 | \$ | 6,212.79 |
| Acct: CD xxx024 | \$ | 6,212.79 |
| Acct: CD xxx026 | \$ | 6,212.79 |
| | \$ | 110,022.57 |

Note: CD interest paid in November annually, above \$ amounts do not include interest paid in FY-2011

Grand Total \$ 316,558.81

LIABILITIES: as of 13 August 2011 = \$ 59,500.00

| | | | | |
|----------|-----------|----|-----------|----------|
| 1-Jan-07 | 31-Oct-07 | \$ | 8,750.00 | Deferred |
| 1-Nov-07 | 31-Oct-08 | \$ | 11,750.00 | Deferred |
| 1-Nov-08 | 31-Oct-09 | \$ | 12,000.00 | Deferred |
| 1-Nov-09 | 31-Oct-10 | \$ | 14,500.00 | Deferred |
| 1-Nov-10 | 13-Aug-11 | \$ | 12,500.00 | Deferred |

In the best interest and for the good of the Association, the Business Manager has been deferring his salary since 2007. There are now sufficient funds in the checking account to pay for his 2007, 2008, & 2009 salaries (\$32,500 less tax, FICA & Medicare). He will continue to defer his 2010 & 2011 salary until there are sufficient funds in the checking account, by Dues Renewals, to pay his 2010 & 2011 salary. It is estimated there will be sufficient funds in the checking account, by Dues Renewal, to pay the balance of the deferred salary on or before 31 December 2011. This plan will allow us to maintain a minimum balance in the checking account of \$9,000 - \$10,000 for 2012. When this plan is complete, the MCMA's liability will be zero.

APPROVED: _____ **Date:** _____
Charles J. Boyle
MCMA Treasurer

MARINE CORPS MUSTANG ASSOCIATION, INC.

2 0 1 1 The BALLOT 2 0 1 1

PLEASE RETURN BALLOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING: Please mark an (X) for your choices and complete the information at the bottom of this page, enclose it in an envelope and mail it to: MCMA, Bunker 127, Mountain City, GA 30562-0127. Please mail as a ballot ONLY do not include a current membership renewal letter. Please write "Ballot" on the outside of the envelope.

KEEP IN MIND THIS BALLOT HAS TO BE RECEIVED IN MOUNTAIN CITY, GEORGIA NO LATER THAN 24 SEPTEMBER 2011 TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE 2011 MUSTANG ELECTION.

The below listed Members are running for the Office indicated.

PRESIDENT: Vote for ONLY one candidate

- George W. Fritschi Maj USMC (Ret) Mbr# R-810

VICE PRESIDENT: Vote for ONLY one candidate

- Ron Fisher CWO3 USMC (Ret) Mbr# R-584

DIRECTORS: Vote for two candidates – 3-year terms.

- Willard C. Walker Capt USMC (Ret) Mbr# R-293
- Jeffery A. Landis Maj USMC Mbr# R-3324
- Ray Kunkle Capt USMC (Ret) Mbr# R-2973

NAME: _____ **MEMBERSHIP #** _____
Print

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

*National Headquarters
Marine Corps Mustang Association, Inc
Bunker 127
Mountain City, GA 30562*

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Moving? Retiring? Address Wrong?
Please let us know your new address. Your date of Retirement. Any required corrections. And, don't forget to let us know your new telephone number and email address. Please include all nine (9) digits of your zip code.

*****FOR YOUR ACTION***FOR YOUR ACTION***FOR YOUR ACTION*****

WE ARE TRYING TO UPDATE EVERYONE'S RECORD WITH THEIR CURRENT/CORRECT E-MAIL ADDRESS, PLEASE SEND AN E-MAIL TO THE BUSINESS MANAGER AT "mustangbusmgr@winstream.net" SO THAT WE CAN VALIDATE/UPDATE YOUR RECORD.



**2011 MUSTER NEWS
FOR YOUR TRAVEL PLANNING VISIT TAMPA, FL
ARRIVE 29 SEPT – DEPART 2 OCT**