



MESTENGO

Volume 22 Issue 1

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2022 Marine Corps Mustang Association Officer and Director Elections



This is to formally announce the commencement of the 2022 Marine Corps Mustang Association Officer and Director Elections. The MCMA continually needs new leaders with the motivation and dedication to reinforce our survival as the term of current Officers and Directors comes to a close. This is your opportunity to take a more active role within the MCMA by being a part of the leadership team responsible for continued growth and sustainment. All positions are for a 3-year term, are not full-time positions, and only require your time and energy as available. All routine business is conducted by email, quarterly conference calls and the annual membership meeting. Additionally, there are “turnover” jackets in place to help the transition of new officers and board members. Election results and swearing in of new officers will be held at this year’s annual Muster in Washington, D.C., from August 4, 2022—August 7, 2022.

We will hold elections for President and two (2) Directors.

Position powers and duties are outlined in the Bylaws which can be found in the members area of our website at www.MarineCorpsMustang.org. The process for submitting for an officer or director position is outlined as follows:

- A candidate must be a current/paid member in good standing
- A candidate must be cognizant of the position description and willing to discharge the duties to which elected
- Candidates must submit a 125 word (or less) statement to the position they seek including information on the candidate’s willingness to serve accompanied by a recent photo. Email the statement and photo to BusinessMngr@MarineCorpsMustang.org no later than June 1, 2022.
- Ballots for the Elections will be forthcoming in future correspondence via the MCMA website and/or email. The ballot will consist of a listing of the names of the candidates for each position.

**MARINE CORPS MUSTANG
ASSOCIATION, Inc.**

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www.MarineCorpsMustang.org

HONORARY CHAIRMAN

Gen Alfred M. Gray, USMC (Ret)
29th Commandant of the Marine Corps

OFFICERS

President: Maj Joe Featherston,
USMCR (Ret)
Vice President: Maj Warren F. Muldrow,
USMC (Ret)
Secretary: CWO-5 Ronald K. Cookson,
USMC (Ret)
Treasurer: Maj John Darracott, USMC (Ret)
Chaplain: 1stLt Ernest E. Johnson,
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CWO-4 Timothy A. Cook, USMC (Ret)
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ON THIS DAY...

January 11, 1945— Marine Aircraft Group 24 deploys to Lingayen, Luzon, Philippine Islands to provide close air support for U.S. 6th Army.

January 16, 1991— Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm. 415,000 coalition troops take part in removing Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

January 21, 1918—Marine Corps' 1st Aeronautical Company arrives in Ponta Delgada, Azores for anti-submarine duty. They are the first completely equipped U.S. aviation unit to serve overseas.

February 1, 1967— Operation Prairie II begins in Quang Tri Province, Vietnam. During the 46-day operation, 3rd Marine Division lost 93 Marines KIA. Enemy KIA number 693.

February 15, 1898— 28 Marines and 232 Sailors lose their lives when the battleship USS MAINE explodes in Havana Harbor, Cuba.

February 23, 1945—Four days after landing, 40 men from Company E, 2nd Battalion, 28th Marines raise a US flag on Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima.

March 8, 1965— 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade lands in Vietnam. Marines of BLT 3/9 on the beach, and Marines of BLT 1/3 land at Danang airfield.

March 13, 1943—First group of 71 Women Marine officer candidates arrive at U.S. Midshipman School at Mt. Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA.

March 17, 1967—First Woman Marine reports for duty in Vietnam. MSgt Barbara J. Dulinsky is assigned to Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) in Saigon.

FROM: THE PRESIDENT



Major Joe Featherston, USMC (Ret)

Greetings fellow Mustangs.

I prepare this message to you in mid-March as the seasons change to more comfortable temperatures for most of us, the daylight lasts longer allowing more outside activities and Daylight Saving Time goes into effect next Sunday. It should be a time of more pleasant rebirth and positive expectations. Unfortunately, it is just not so. As the pandemic seems to wind down a bit the over-riding concerns facing the world is now the ongoing horrific war in Ukraine and the many critical unknowns it might have across the world. For many of us it is a resurgence of issues facing us as we grew up decades ago and with far more potential for real issues in all areas. I wish it were not this way, but it is.

Despite that, we are a very privileged group of men and women. The common ground of being Marines, sharing an overwhelming number of experiences in both war and peace times, the friends we made along the

way, the true camaraderie of our lives, is simply amazing. Separated by distances we somehow never forget our friends and miss the opportunities to just sit and reminisce. We served our country, made significant sacrifices in both professional and family lives, lost too many friends along the way, and somehow survived. I am truly humbled to know many of you and count my blessings that we continue to share our lives.

As I write this, I am focused on the upcoming muster/reunion in Washington DC on 4 August 2022 because it will be the first time that we can gather after several years of pandemic effects. It should be noteworthy and a pleasant reminder of our Corps and association heritage. It will also be my personal Sayonara as your president after my 3-year term. It is time to look at younger members with ideas, energy, leadership, and the willingness to step into the role of guiding the association forward. Additionally, we have openings for several new members of the Board of Directors. Whether you are a long-term member or just coming aboard, we ask you to thoughtfully consider applying for either the president's position or a board slot now. We really do need you to be an active asset! Now in our 37th year we see the number of Charter members dwindling but the association continues.

Please look for additional details on both the reunion and the election process in this issue. You do not need to be there physically, but it could be a great experience. Reach out to any of the officers, board members or our Business Manager if you need more information.

My respects and very best wishes to ALCON,

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Featherston".

Joe Featherston



PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BYLAW'S

Amendment #1

Section 1-02. Purpose. Second *

Current line reads: *Encourage enlisted Marines to aspire to a career in the commissioned ranks.

Proposed new line: *Encourage enlisted Marines to aspire to a career in the commissioned or warrant officer ranks.

Amendment #2

Section 4-07. Membership Dues

Current section reads: Section 4-07. Membership Dues The annual fee for membership in the Mustang Association, and the due date for such annual fee, will be set by the Board of Directors and published in the "MESTENGO" and on the website. All money received for the current fiscal year (1Nov to 31Oct) membership fee shall be placed in the General Fund that will be processed and managed by the Treasurer and Business Manager. *(See Board of Director's Resolution #2 Installation of Officers and Directors for details)* Advance payments received for future year's dues will be placed in a separate savings account. Those funds, to include any interest accrued, shall be moved from the savings account to the checking account in January each year. Any interest accruing on this be transferred in January each year to the general fund. For this assessment, each will receive:

- Welcome Letter from the President
- Embossed Permanent Membership Card
- Membership Certificate
- *MCMA Challenge Coin
- Recruiting Bumper Sticker
- Newsletter "The MESTENGO"
- *Membership Directory
- *MCMA Article of Incorporation and Bylaws

***Hardcopy documents available via mail upon request, for a minimal cost** *(See Board of Director's Resolution #1 Challenge Coins Initiative for details)*

Proposed new section: Section 4-07. Membership Dues The annual fee for membership in the Mustang Association, and the due date for such annual fee, will be set by the Board of Directors and published in the "MESTENGO" and on the website.

All money received for the current fiscal year (1Nov to 31Oct) shall be placed in the General Fund that will be processed and managed by the Treasurer and Business Manager.

Advance payments received for future year's dues will be placed in a separate savings account. Those funds, to include any interest accrued, shall be moved from the savings account to the checking account in January each year. Any interest accruing on this be transferred in January each year to the general fund. New members will receive:

- Welcome Letter from the President
- Membership Card
- Membership Certificate
- MCMA Challenge Coin *(See Board of Director's Resolution #1 Challenge Coins Initiative for details)*
- Recruiting Bumper Sticker
- Newsletter "The MESTENGO"
- *Membership Directory
- *MCMA Article of Incorporation and Bylaws
- *MCMA Letter Opener

***Hardcopy documents available online at <https://www.marinecorpsmustang.org/>**

Amendment #3

Section 4-10. Expulsion (subparagraph (5))

Current subparagraph (5) reads: (5) The Business Manager will contact all Board members to obtain available date(s) and time (s) for the meeting to take final action on the matter. The President will cause the meeting to be scheduled. The accused member will be afforded the opportunity to address the Board of Directors at this meeting prior to a final vote on the matter.

Proposed new subparagraph (5): The Business Manager will contact all Board members to obtain available date(s) and time(s) for a meeting to take place in order that final action on the matter can be accomplished, this meeting may be held in person or using available video conference or similar communications, e.g., the use of Zoom. The President will cause the meeting to be scheduled. The accused member will be afforded the opportunity to address the Board of Directors at this meeting either in person or via available video conference prior to a final vote on the matter.

Amendment #4

Section 5-01. Membership Meeting.

Current section reads: Section 5-01. Membership Meeting. The members shall meet as prescribed by the Board of Directors for the election of Officers and/or Directors and for the

transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting. The time and place of the meeting shall be fixed by the Board of Directors. The notice of the time and place of the membership meeting shall be published in the MESTENGO and posted on our website www.MarineCorpsMustang.org. Newly elected officers and directors will be installed into office at the membership meeting banquet. *(See Board of Director's Resolution #2 Installation of Officers and Directors for details)*

Proposed new section: Section 5-01. Membership Meeting. The members shall meet as prescribed by the Board of Directors for the election of Officers and/or Directors and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting. The time and place of the meeting shall be fixed by the Board of Directors. The notice of the time and place of the membership meeting shall be published in the MESTENGO and posted on the website www.MarineCorpsMustang.org. Newly elected officers and directors will be installed into office at the membership meeting. *(See Board of Director's Resolution #2 Installation of Officers and Directors for details)* If a newly elected Officer and/or Director is not present at the membership meeting they will be administered the oath of office via phone call or available video conference, e.g., use of zoom, at their earliest convenience. Once the Board determines that a phone call or video conference is needed so that the oath maybe administered to the elected Director(s) not in attendance at the membership meeting the Association Secretary will setup the meeting and provide meeting information to the Board and those elected Director(s) that required to be administered the oath of office. If National Chaplain is not available for the administration of the oath of office, the oath may be administered by the Association President, Vice-President, or Secretary.

Amendment #5

Section 6-04. Election.

Current section reads: Section 6-04. Election. The slate of candidates for Officer and Director shall be published prior to the Membership Meeting in the "MESTENGO" and posted on the website. Nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting may be accepted. Voting on the election of Officers and Directors shall be by written ballot or oral vote at the Annual Meeting and shall be determined by plurality vote.

Proposed new section: Section 6-04. Election. The slate of candidates for Officer and Director shall be published a minimum of six (6) weeks prior to the Membership Meeting in the "MESTENGO" and posted on the website <https://www.marinecorpsmustang.org/>. Nominations from the floor at the Membership Meeting may be accepted. Voting on the election of Officers and Directors shall be by written ballot and/or oral vote at the Membership Meeting, phone call or available video conference, e.g., use of zoom and shall be determined by plurality vote.

Amendment #6

Section 6-06. Board of Directors' Meetings (subparagraph (A))

Current Section 6-06. (A) reads: (A) The Board of Directors shall meet at the site of the membership meeting. There are three meetings during this time; the first consist of the OUTGOING Board of Directors shall convene before the membership meeting. The second is the GENERAL meeting itself. The third, consisting of the INCOMING Board of Directors to convene after the membership meeting.

Proposed new Section 6-06 (A): (A) The Board of Directors shall meet at the site of the membership meeting or virtually via Video Conference as directed. There are two meetings during this time; the first consist of the membership meeting. The second, consisting of the INCOMING Board of Directors to convene after the membership meeting.

Amendment #7

Section 11-04. Financial Reporting. (Subparagraph e. (2), and (3))

Current section reads: Section 11-04. Financial Reporting. (Subparagraph e. (2), and (3))

(2) Treasurer will prepare an annual financial report to be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Report will cover line-item of receipts and expenses. Report will be submitted as early as practical following the end of the Associations fiscal year.

(3) The Association Secretary will insert the latest monthly report into the Mustang website.

Proposed new section: Section 11-04. Financial Reporting. (Subparagraph e. (2), and (3))

(2) Treasurer will prepare an annual financial report to be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Report will cover line-item of receipts and expenses. Report will be submitted as early as practical following the end of the Associations fiscal year, but no later than 30 November.

(3) The Association Business Manager will post the latest quarterly report in the Mustang Newsletter and on the Mustang website. <https://www.marinecorpsmustang.org/>

Amendment #8

Section 11-07. Telecommunications

Current section reads: Section 11-07. Telecommunications. One or more member (s) of The Mustang Association may participate in a meeting of the Board and of the Executive Committee, or of another committee of the Board, by means of a telephone conference or similar communications equipment specifically to include electronic mail or facsimile by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear or read and consider each other's opinion. Participation in a meeting pursuant to this Section shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

Amendment #9

Section 11-12. Fiscal Year Budget.

Current section reads: Section 11-12. Fiscal Year Budget. Each year the Treasurer with the assistance of the Business Manager shall prepare the next year budget. They shall first determine the estimated revenues for the next fiscal year, and using those estimates as a guide, prepare a

line-by-line budget based on that level of funding. The budget and estimated revenue, along with explanation of each expenditure, shall be sent to the Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to the Annual Board meeting for review. The budget will then be finalized by the Board of Directors and presented to the members at the Membership Meeting for approval. Once approved this will become the authorized spending level for the Association. All expenditures above this approved level will require authorization of the Board of Directors.

Proposed new section: Section 11-12. Fiscal Year Budget. Treasurer, with the assistance from the Association Business Manager, will prepare the annual budget. The proposed budget will be forwarded to the Board of Directors not less than five (5) days prior to the quarterly November Board Meeting for approval/disapproval. If a regular quarterly Board Meeting is not scheduled for November, then a special meeting will be scheduled. When the budget is approved it will be published to the membership within thirty (30) days.

The approved budget will become the authorized spending level for the Association. All expenditures above the approved level will require authorization of the Board of directors. See Section 11-13 for financial commitments.

Financial Reports:

1. As outlined in Section 7-09, the Treasurer, with the Association Business Manager, will render to the Board of Directors a quarterly financial report indicating an account of all his/her transactions as Treasurer and of the results of operations and financial conditions of the Association.

2. As outlined in Section 11-04, Treasurer will prepare an annual financial report to be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Report will cover line-item of receipts and expenses. Report will be submitted as early as practical following the end of the Associations fiscal year. Once the Executive Committee and Board of Directors reviews the report it will be sent to the general membership within thirty (30) days. This end of year report will cover the period 1 November, of previous year, to 31 October of the current year.



WELCOME ABOARD

Maj Richard J. Armstrong, USMCR (Ret), Folsom, CA
LT Larry R. Barnes, Jr., USN (CHC), (Ret), Frisco, TX
CWO-3 William R. Black, USMC (Ret), APO, AE
Col Will Brown, USMCR (Ret), Raleigh, NC
Capt Franklin L. Cornelius, USMC (Ret), De Pere, WI
Col James E. Davis, USMCR (Ret), Birmingham, AL
LTC Robert V. Docherty, USA (Ret), Trinity, FL
Maj Wendell C. Farmer, USMC (Ret), Sidney, TX
CWO-5 Donald K. Freese, USCMR (Ret), Lanexa, VA
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CWO-2 Timothy M. Huffman, USMCR (Ret), Bethalto, IL
CWO-4 Mark C. Nielsen, USMCR (Ret), Oshkosh, WI
Maj Frederic A. Parker, USMC (Ret), Woodstock, GA
CWO-4 Michael R. Sears, USMCR (Ret), Prince Frederick, MD
LtCol Devin A. Smiley, USMC (Ret), Arnold, MD
Col Larry N. Snow, USMCR (Ret), Placentia, CA
Capt Richard K. Stryker, Marine Veteran, Shepherd, MT
Capt Kenneth C. Williams, Jr., USMC (Ret), Schertz, TX
CWO-2 Laura L. Wright, Marine Veteran, Arma, KS

**VOTING BALLOT FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENT CHANGES TO BYLAWS AS APPROVED BY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Please identify your vote for the following Bylaws changes by checking either the “Yes” or “No” Box, fill out your information clearly at the bottom of the page and return this ballot, **no later than 1 June 2022**, to the Business Manager of the Association by either email: BusinessMngr@MarineCorpsMustang.org or by U.S. Mail to the following address:

**Marine Corps Mustang Association
P.O. Box 190
Quantico, VA 22134-0190**

Proposed Amendment #1: **Section 1-02. Purpose.** Second*

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #2: **Section 4-07. Membership Dues.**

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #3: **Section 4-10. Expulsion.** (subparagraph (5))

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #4: **Section 5-01. Membership Meeting.**

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #5: **Section 6-04. Election.**

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #6: **Section 6-06. Board of Directors’ Meetings (Subparagraph (A))**

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #7: **Section 11-04. Financial Reporting.** (Subparagraph e. (2), and (3))

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #8: **Section 11-07. Telecommunications.**

_____Yes _____No

Proposed Amendment #9: **Section 11-12. Fiscal Year Budget.**

_____Yes _____No

TYPE OR PRINT YOUR NAME HERE: _____

MEMBER # _____

DATE: _____

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The Association thanks the following for their generous donations:

Col Patrick A. Garrett



Tetra Tech, Inc., a major, multinational firm with 22,000 employees worldwide is seeking contract employees for short term engagements across CONUS. Assignments could run up to three weeks long. Work could include relocating a support utility van (no CDL required) cross country, then low-level technical (iPhone & android) and logistical support for teams conducting utility assessments. Contract is currently with US Navy, but other bases are likely to request these services in coming months and years. Pay is strictly hourly, to \$50/hour with time and a half for hours over 40 in a week. Compensation includes full government per diem for lodging, meals and expenses. As a Mustang myself, I know that we bring a unique combination of dirty hands experience with leadership tools, which are truly unique TO Mustangs. If you'd like to know more, please email me, Rick Stryker, (rick.stryker@tetrattech.com) for more details.

Semper Fi!

Disclaimer:

The views expressed in the Mestengo are those of the authors. They do not reflect the views or opinions of MCMA Board of Directors, Officers or Staff.

Leadership and Amphibious Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations

By Captain Raymond Lee Maloy, USMC (Ret)

I am writing this as a retired Mustang Officer because the traditional avenues of dissent are not open in today's culture and I believe that it is past time for us, as retired officers, to become involved in trying to correct an out of control, dangerous path being taken by the "leadership" of the armed forces.

This is written out of concern for the apparent inability of the Corps to perform the variety of operations for which it was designed and the intent to deliberately reduce or eliminate armor and artillery capabilities. I am writing from the experience of a retired officer who mounted out with all three Marine Divisions: The 2nd MarDiv for the Cuban Missile Crisis; 3rd MarDiv from Okinawa to Danang; and 1st MarDiv from Camp Pendleton to Chu Lai; and many times during training exercises. I was an Assault Amphibian Officer who served in all three Marine Divisions; on Inspector-Instructor Duty; and the Republic of Vietnam in Assault Amphibians and as an Infantry Officer. At the School of Infantry, I was a Company Commander and the Academic Operations Officer responsible for rewriting the Infantry Syllabus at the conclusion of the Vietnam War because of the need to refocus from jungle warfare. I was the Operations and Training Officer (S-3) of The 3rd AAV Battalion from 1974-1976. We planned and executed complex amphibious and mechanized operations from Alaska, San Clemente Island, Camp Pendleton and the desert of 29 Palms, California. These operations were ongoing without loss of life or equipment because of unremitting training, inspections, and maintenance along with brutal adherence to training and safety requirements. After retirement, I was elected as the Charter President of the Marine Corps AmTrac Association, during which time we saved the Amphibian Vehicle Museum at Camp Pendleton for future generations by having the vehicles declared National Monuments.

The loss of life in the 3rd AAV Battalion off of San Clemente Island last year was due to the lack of proper maintenance, training and supervision of this unit and inability of Marine and Navy commands to coordinate and conduct amphibious operations. I can say this with certainty because I was the Operations Officer of this battalion in 1975-76 when I retired. Why it has taken so long to conduct the investigation and fix responsibility is beyond my understanding, but I do know that operations are on hold during this process. My investigation of an LVTE1 sinking off of Okinawa in 1971 took 10 days, including recovery and evacuation of the vehicle.

Since the Corps is struggling to conduct what were, at one time, routine operations, I question the decision of CMC to take the drastic action of removing the experience and combat power of the Tank Battalion and other heavy artillery from the inventory while the Corps is obviously in a state of flux, trying to transition from essentially small unit operations without real goals to complex, large scale events. Marine infantry officers generally do not like the responsibility that goes with combat support attachments, but professional leaders learn their capabilities and how care for and employ

attached units to multiply combat power. Undoubtedly, when combat equipment is put out of action, it becomes a problem, but when it is needed, it is needed desperately.

Apparently, the Commandant has convinced himself that small unit littoral operations, which he describes as highly mobile and hard-hitting, can be game changing. I've seen nothing to suggest that these units will have either mobility or combat power once ashore. The Corps we built over the years was not designed to be some small unit hit and run outfit with no staying power. I realize that there is a fear of enemy long-range hypersonic missiles or even nuclear weapons, but that must not convince us that a conventional conflict with China is out of the question. No one knows where or how the nation will need the Corps and it better be ready for all events. We must have the ability to confront the Chinese army, in any situation, on the Asian mainland with every weapon at our disposal. Conducting raids will not get the job done.

The Chinese must be contained both militarily and economically...Again, I see nothing to suggest that we are doing either. Our own business CEO's are working against our best interest by placing strategic, innovative experimentation, development and ultimately, manufacturing in China, under the control of the Communist Chinese Peoples Army. It was only during the previous presidential administration that the Defense Department even admitted that China was a threat to our country. Their expansion in the China Sea and South Pacific was of little concern to Marine generals and Navy admirals until bases were established in the China Sea and Chinese naval capabilities became too sophisticated to be ignored.

People today like to redefine terms to suit a variety of nefarious purposes, but the military term "expeditionary" refers to a force that has the ability to fight away from established bases...It is self-sustaining with an organic logistics capability and with a full array of supporting arms. This does not sound like anything the Marine Corps can do today or is planning.

When we (the 1st Marine Division) landed at Chu Lai, RVN, there was nothing but sand dunes, jungle and enemy, who had to be dispossessed before we could begin building our camps for sustained operations. Infantry battalions moved out to take and hold critical terrain; Recon teams moved into the mountains; combat support battalions, i.e., assault amphibians, tanks, anti-tanks and artillery moved into place to protect the base and conduct operations; HAWK missile batteries deployed for air defense; helicopter operations began; engineers began to construct a SATS airfield for 24 hour jet operations ashore...At the same time, wells for drinking and showers were dug; tents pitched, all by the troops who were doing the fighting. Electricity for lights, etc., was provided by our generators; field mess facilities set up in tents. Everything we needed had been packaged and maintained for years. The weight, CuFt and TacMarks were stenciled on each box with a packing list inside. Everything in accordance with the Table of Equipment was manifested, inventoried, periodically inspected and maintained...It went ashore with us and allowed us to operate independently without relying upon local infrastructure. The First Marine Division and first Marine Aircraft Wing was quickly ashore and in full operation...All without civilian contractors or Army and Air Force support which were not available or expected.

If Marine units, today, are unable to perform such a mission, why do they exist? I have seen nothing in the proposed new doctrine for Advanced Base Operations that even hints at being expeditionary as I know it and the Marine Corps practiced for years. How are any of these proposed units any different from several U. S. Army and Navy organizations that can do the same thing, but also without sustainability. If the Marine Corps cannot go on the attack with a traditional Marine Amphibious Force that includes all supporting arms and Marine Aircraft Wings, it does not differ in any measurable way from the U. S. Army. If the mission calls for it, the force can always be task organized but to voluntarily cut Marine Corps assets just to save dollars that will be misspent in a heartbeat. If we can not hold what we take, what is the point? Irrelevance leads to extinction.

When viewed from the lofty perches of joint commands such as CentCom and EuroCom, by Marine generals, the Corps must seem like small potatoes. The lack of Purple Hearts among the vast array of medals that generals wear today is just one of the indicators that today's senior leadership did not learn their craft in combat as junior officers. This joint mindset is reflected in the poor inspection, planning, training and execution of traditional Marine Corps operations. The Marine Corps was a joint service in its own right with everything needed to conduct independent operations in a hostile environment until the Army and Air Force can gear up to join the fight...These joint commands seem superfluous.

When a TV commentator recently compared the Chinese military with our own in relation to women, a major command, the II Marine Expeditionary Force made the following comments: "Get right before you get left, Boomer"; "Come back when you've served and been pregnant". I do not know the rank or experience of the individual(s) responsible for those comments, but the public rightly responded negatively to this nonsense from the United States Marine Corps which it has always held in the highest esteem.

The unit then retreated and made things even worse:

"We are human and we messed up. We intended to speak up for female Marines and it was an effort to support them. They are a crucial part of our corps (sic) and we need them to know that. We will adjust fire and ensure the utmost professionalism in our tweets."

“We’ve strayed away from our brand and realize that. Our standards and practices will be in effect and you can count on us to correct our mistake going forward.”

“We are here to train, fight and win. That tweet was intended to defend our women in uniform. We understand it was aggressive and we will reflect and do better.”

When did Marines start using such jingoistic nonsense? Talking down to the public is stupid and pointless. And, the comments in retreat were even worse. Do female Marines not know they are supported by their fellow Marines? I can’t believe that women Marines are that fragile. The term “adjust fire” sounds rugged...Have those people ever actually done it? “Strayed from our brand” - What brand are you? The Corps used to have an ethos, not a brand. In the future, save the aggression for the enemy. Bragging and trying to sound tough and salty to civilians is a waste of time...Spend more time in the field getting lethal, not tweeting about it. I expect that Chinese generals are wondering how the hell they got beaten in Korea, if this is representative of the Marine Corps.

A risk averse attitude toward training and equipment will be fatal in the long run. Training must be tough and under adverse conditions. If the Corps leadership cannot figure out to protect the force while using it effectively, they must be replaced.

In 1946 the Corps fought valiantly and successfully against Army and Air Force “unification” attempts because the goal was to reduce the Corps to a small landing force. Today, It appears that joint commands and the Commandant are doing the job they could not by reducing the Corps to a small landing force. Irrelevance leads to extinction.

Active duty officers cannot, by law, openly criticize their seniors and forums for professional disagreement are apparently not available or tolerated. Today’s “cancel culture” is rampant in the armed forces and it appears that engagement in critical, necessary discussion is not possible without leaders getting hysterical and taking offense at different points of view which may be embarrassing but absolutely necessary.

Semper Fi

*Do you have something you would like to share with your fellow Mustangs? Send your articles/photos to **BusinessMngr@marinecorpsmustang.org**.*

2022 MUSTANG MUSTER * UPDATE*

Planning is underway for our next Mustang Muster. We will join with the 8th & I Reunion Association in Arlington, Virginia, **August 4 – 7, 2022**.

The Muster/Reunion will be in the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, 1700 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202. Reservations should be made at 1-800-228-9290 and be sure to let the reservations person know you are with the 8th & I Reunion group. Or, hold CTRL and click [here](#) to book your group rate for 8th and I Reunion Association Banquet 2022. Rooms are \$129. + tax. A banquet will be held on Saturday, August 6th. Cost is \$85 per person.

Event details are shaping up with the current activities scheduled:

Thurs, 8/4/22—TBD

Fri, 8/5/22—Friday Night Parade

Sat, 8/6/22—Quantico Museum Visit, Association Meeting, Banquet

Sun, 8/7/22—River Cruise

MUSTANG PX



Polo shirt with left side pocket —\$45

These items are available to view and purchase with your credit card on our MCMA website in the Post Exchange area. Or, you can print the form and send it with your check/money order to:

MCMA

PO Box 1190

Quantico, VA 22134-0190



Challenge coin with Member ID # - \$20



Ball Cap —\$25



Notecards with envelopes, set of 10 —\$20



MUSTANG PX EXCLUSIVE

This image of the Iwo Jima Flag Raising is gold foil with full color American Flag. Comes already framed, suitable for placing on a wall or desk. Limited stock. \$35.



Mustang Honor Roll

Capt Brian T. Burke

August 2021

Capt Frederick L. Dowell

Jacksonville, NC

26 August 2021

Capt Johnny M. Floyd

Port Townsend, WA

21 August 2021

Capt Leonard C. Gademsky, Jr.

North Tonawanda, NY

12 May 2021

Capt Roland L. LaBarge

Montgomery, AL

29 January 2022

LtCol Robert L. Mitchell

Orange, CA

11 September 2021

Capt W. John O'Hara

Tucson, AZ

15 December 2021

Col Paul A. Pankey

Wenatchee, WA

17 December 2021

Capt Gerald T. Pothier

Charter Member 53

Moncks Corner, SC

10 November 2021

Maj James R. Robbins

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

25 September 2021

LtCol Minter C. Skipper

Clayton, NC

1 February 2022

Capt James E. Sommerhauser

Mission Viejo, CA

5 December 2021

Capt Sidney L. Spurgeon

MCMA President 2009-2010

Tucson, AZ

12 January 2022

Capt Paul M. Starynski,
Jr.

Jacksonville, NC

27 April 2021

LtCol James L. Trudeau

Folkston, GA

23 January 2021

Col Louis P. Wein

Barnegat, NJ

14 September 2021

MajGen Herbert L. Wilkerson

Greensboro, NC

11 October 2021

Maj Carl R. Yale

Dunkirk, NY

24 September 2021

DoD's 'Best Kept Secrets' Campgrounds

DoD recently launched an online guide to joint-service campgrounds and facilities. 'Best Kept Secrets' connects servicemembers and their families, National Guard, Reserve, DoD civilians and retired military members with campground sites that offer lower rates compared to non-DoD campground sites.

With a new look-up feature, users can search by state to locate the campground of their choice, contact information, details on reservations policies and a list of amenities and activities available.

To access 'Best Kept Secrets', visit <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/recreation-travel-shopping/recreation/best-kept-secrets/>.



MCMA APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NEW

RENEWAL

Name: _____ Date _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please Circle One

USMC (Active) (Ret.); USMCR (Active) (Ret.); Marine Veteran; Other: _____

Rank: _____ MOS: _____ Birthdate: _____

Dates Enlisted: _____ Dates Officer _____

Date Retired/Released from Active Duty: _____

Annual Membership Dues: \$40 - 1 year (\$35 renew) / \$90 - 3 years

Send payment to: Marine Corps Mustang Assn., Inc.
PO Box 190
Quantico, VA 22134-0190

National Headquarters

MARINE CORPS MUSTANG ASSOCIATION, Inc.

Post Office Box 190

Quantico, VA 22134-0190

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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 phone number and email address. Please include all nine digits of your zip code!

PURPOSE

The principal purpose of the Marine Corps Mustang Association, Inc., is to advocate and provide career enhancing support for Officer Members who have enlisted Marine Corps experience. We are an organization made up of Mustang Officers with a broad spectrum of successful military and civilian experience. We pursue this mission through mentoring, networking and facilitating relationships that assist Mustangs in their careers and civilian transitions. We provide a venue of sharing lessons-learned in occupational fields and industry initiatives that support the mission of the United States Marine Corps.