

71st Anniversary of the Battle of  
**Iwo Jima**  
17—21 February 2016



Reunion Program



# 71st Anniversary NASM & Iwo Jima Ceremony

## 18 February 2016

0830 Buses Depart Sheraton National  
0930 Arrival National Air & Space Museum  
(Udvar-Hazy)) Lunch (on your own)

1500 Buses Depart for the Hotel  
Hospitality Room Open  
19 February 2016

0815 Buses Depart Sheraton National  
0900 Arrival Marine Barracks, 8th & I

Welcome  
Colonel Warren Wiedhahn, USMC(Ret)  
Executive Vice President, Iwo Jima Association of America

Presentation of the Colors

Invocation  
Chaplin LT Keith Lightner, CHC USN

Speakers  
Colonel Benjamin T. Watson, USMC  
Commanding Officer, Marine Barracks, Washington, DC

Introduction of Guests of Honor  
Lieutenant General N.H. (Norm) Smith, USMC(Ret)  
President, Iwo Jima Association of America

Guests of Honor  
The Honorable Hiroyasu Izumi  
Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Chief of Mission,  
Embassy of Japan in Washington, DC

General John M. Paxton, Jr. USMC  
33rd Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps

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Right-Madam Mayor of Derry!

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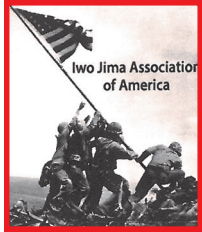
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## **71st Anniversary Iwo Jima Symposium**

**1130—1230 Lunch at 8th & I**

**1300 Viewing of the WWII Monument**

**1400 Wreath Laying at the Marine Corps War Memorial**

**Return to the Hotel/Hospitality Room Open**

**20 February 2016**

- 0830** Welcome—Opening—"Young Marines" Post Colors—Pledge of Allegiance—Invocation  
Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC(Ret)
- 0845** Iwo Jima in the End Game of the Pacific War  
Mr. Richard Frank, Historian/Author
- 0945** Military Working Dog Handling  
SSgt Shawn B. Dockrill, USMC  
Kennel Master, MCB Quantico
- 1030** Operational Concepts during Iwo Campaign  
Col Richard Camp, Jr. USMC(Ret)  
Historian/Author
- 1150** The last Combat Mission flown from Iwo Jima  
Mr. Jerry Yellin, P-51 Pilot, Iwo Jima
- 1230** Lunch with U.S. Marine Corps Guest Speaker  
"The USMC Today"
- 1400** Special Presentation of Arnold Shapiro's PBS Documentary "Iwo Jima: From Combat to Comrades" features the 70th Anniversary "Reunion of Honor" narrator Ryan Phillippe
- 1530** Adjourn



## 71st Commemoration Banquet 20 Feb 2016

**1700 Cocktail Reception** (no host)

**1800 Marine Band Patriotic Interlude**

**1830 Invocation—Chaplain Keith J. Lightner, LT, CHC, USN**



**Presentation of Colors—Introduction—Master of Ceremonies Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC(Ret) Introduction of Guest of Honor (GOH) by LtGen N.H. “Norm” Smith USMC (Ret)**

**GOH—Gen Robert Neller, USMC 37<sup>th</sup> CMC**

**1900—2300 Dinner / Dance Music Provided by the Radio King Orchestra**

*The IJAA would like to send a special thank you to the RKO for all their great music, help & entertainment.*

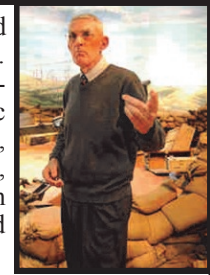
  
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**Author & Historian—Col Richard Camp, Jr., USMC(Ret)** retired from the Marine Corps in 1988 after completing 26 years of service. During his career he served in a variety of command and staff assignments, including the Marine Barracks 8th & I, Instructor, The Basic School, CO, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD San Diego, CO, Recruiting Station, Milwaukee, WI, CO, 12th Marine Corps District, San Francisco, CA, and Aide de Camp, CG Marine Corps Education Center. He served one tour in Vietnam as CO, Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines.

Following his career in the Marine Corps he became a school district business manager in Cincinnati, OH and, after retirement, Deputy Director History Division, MCU & VP for Museum Operations, MCHF. He is the author of over 50 military related articles that have been published in *Leatherneck Magazine*, *Marine Corps Gazette*, *WWII Magazine*, *Vietnam Magazine*, *Naval Institute Proceedings* and *Semper Fi*. In addition he has authored 14 books starting with the acclaimed *Lima 6: A Marine Company Commander in Vietnam* and most recently *Marines: An Illustrated History*.



**Author & Historian—Richard B. Frank** graduated from the University of Missouri in 1969, after which he served four years in the United States Army. During the Vietnam War, he served a tour of duty as a platoon leader in the 101st Airborne Division. In 1990, Richard B. Frank published his first book *Guadalcanal*. His second work, *Downfall: The End of the Imperial Japanese Empire*, appeared in 1999 and has been called one of the six best books about WWII. Both award winning Random House books became main selections of the History Book Club. In 2007, he completed *MacArthur* as part of the Palgrave Great Generals series. Besides his numerous appearances on television and radio, he was a consultant for the epic HBO miniseries, “The Pacific.” He is currently working on a narrative history trilogy about the Asia-Pacific War 1937-1945.



**P-51 Pilot on Iwo Jima & Author of *On War & Weddings*—Jerry Yellin** enlisted in the Army Air Corps on Feb. 15, 1942, his 18th birthday and graduated from Luke Field in August, 1943 as a fighter pilot. He was in combat in the Pacific Theater and Iwo Jima with the 78th Fighter Squadron and participated in the first land based fighter mission over Japan on April 7, 1945 and the last mission of the war on August 14, 1945. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with an Oak Leaf cluster and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf clusters. He was discharged a Captain in December 1945. After many years of hating the Japanese, he started working through this anger and eventually was able to find peace. He is author of the book, *Of War and Weddings*, published in 1995, and now speaks to young people about the war, his experiences, and how he was able to let go of his hatred for the country of Japan.



**Kennel Master, MCB Quantico Military Working Dog (MWD)**

**Handler—Staff Sergeant Shawn B. Dockrill** joined the USMC in September 2004 attending boot camp at MCRD, PI. After Military Police School in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO and MP duty at MCAS Iwakuni, Japan he was selected to become a MWD Handler and attended the Basic Handler Course in Lackland AFB, TX. He returned to MCAS Iwakuni and received his first MWD Marcy B201 before deploying to Ramadi, Iraq where he performed explosive detection. Reassigned to MCB Quantico, he performed as a MWD Handler for base security also provided explosive detection assistance to the U.S. Secret Service in Thailand, Egypt & Tanzania.



**Chairman Emeritus Iwo Jima Association of America—Lieutenant General L.F. (Larry) Snowden USMC(Ret)** retired from the Marine Corps after more than 37 years active service, the last years of which were served as Chief of Staff, HQMC until his retirement on May 31, 1979.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve and upon completion of the OCS he was commissioned a Marine 2ndLt, July 18 1942. From February 1944 until March 1945, he saw combat as a Company Commander with the 23d Marines, in the capture of Roi-Namur in the Marshall Islands, the capture of Saipan and Tinian and the assault on Iwo Jima. In May 1945, he joined the 3d Marine Division on Guam, serving with the 3d Marines and 9th Marines until December 1945.

Additional assignments during his more than 37 year career included tours at Quantico; HQMC; Recruiting Station, New York, NY; US European Command; Paris, France; Camp Lejeune; Camp Pendleton; FMF Hawaii; and U.S. Forces Tokyo, Japan. He was the XO of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Marines during the Korean War. His commands include 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Marines and 7<sup>th</sup> Marines during the Vietnam War.

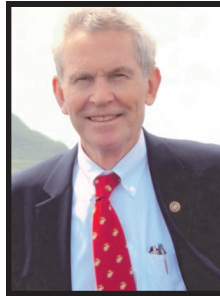
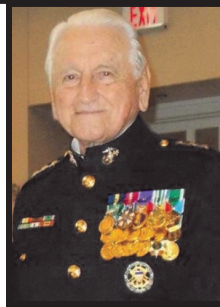
For his service in Korea he was awarded the Legion of Merit with Combat "V." He was awarded Gold Stars in lieu of a second and third Legion of Merit for his service in Vietnam. He was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a fourth and fifth Legion of Merit for outstanding service as well as a the Joint Service Commendation Medal. He was awarded the Second Order of the Sacred Treasure by the Emperor of Japan and the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) for his service in Japan. For his service as Chief of Staff he was awarded a second DSM.

**President Iwo Jima Association of America—Lieutenant General N.H. (Norm) Smith USMC(Ret)** last served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, HQMC.

As a general officer, he was ADC, 2nd MarDiv and followed as Commanding General LFTC, LANT/4th MAB in Norfolk, VA. He was the first Marine general assigned to a NATO staff when he assumed the duties of Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations at HQ, Allied Forces North, in Oslo, Norway. Following that he was assigned as Director, Plans and Policy Directorate, USCIN-CLANT, Norfolk, VA and Commanding General, III MEF/3d MarDiv, FMFPAC & Commander, MCB, Japan.

Early in his career he served as a rifle company executive and company commander, and in July 1965, he reported to the Military Assistance Command in Vietnam, for duty as Senior Advisor to the 3d Battalion, 3d Regiment, 1st ARVN Division, located north of Hue. His other assignments include various schools, a NROTC MOI, ships detachment XO, Battalion I/I & Commander of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines and Fleet Marine Officer on the Staff of Commander, U.S. Sixth Fleet. Currently General Smith is President of the Iwo Jima Association of America.

General Smith's decorations and awards include: the Distinguished Service Medal; DSSM; Legion of Merit with gold star in lieu of a second award; Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" & gold star in lieu of a second award; Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with silver star; & the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Ray (Japan.)



## **GUEST OF HONOR**

**37th Commandant of the Marine Corps—General Robert B. Neller, USMC** is a native of East Lansing, Michigan, he graduated from the University of Virginia and was commissioned in May 1975. He previously served as the Commander, Marine Forces Command from June 2014 to September 2015.

General Neller has served as an infantry officer at all levels. He commanded the Marine Security Force Company Panama during Operations JUST CAUSE and PROMOTE LIBERTY, 3d Light Armored Infantry Battalion during Operation RESTORE HOPE in Somalia, 6th Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division and Marine Forces Central Command.

His Joint assignments include service in the Policy Division of Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Casteau, Belgium, and as the Director of Operations (J3) of the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C.

He has also served as Executive Officer, 7th Marine Regiment, G-3, 2d Marine Division, G-3, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Assistant Division Commander for the 1st and 2d Marine Divisions, and Deputy Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM 05-07.

General Neller is a graduate of the Advanced Armor Officer Course, the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, the NATO Defense College and the Armed Forces Staff College. He holds a M.A. in Human Resource Management from Pepperdine University. General Neller assumed the duties of Commandant of the Marine Corps on September 24th, 2015.





## GUESTS OF HONOR/SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

**Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan in Washington, DC, The Honorable Hiroyasu Izumi** was appointed to his current position in September of 2013. Born in Hiroshima, Japan, he joined the Foreign Ministry in 1981 from the University of Tokyo and has ably served the Government of Japan for almost 35 year. His important duties have included Chief Assistant, Economic Bureau; Chief Officer, China Division of Asia Bureau; Director, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division; Director, Overseas Establishments Division and Director, China and Mongolia Division, Asian and Oceania Affairs Bureau. His overseas postings include Counsellor, Embassy of Japan in UK in 1996; Counsellor, Embassy of Japan in China in 1998; Minister, Embassy of Japan in China in 2006 and Consul General, Consulate General of Japan in Shanghai in 2010. He has a Master of Arts, East Asian Studies from the University of California at Berkeley in 1985.



**33rd Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps General John M. Paxton, Jr. USMC** was promoted to General and assumed the duties of Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps on December 15, 2012. A native of Pennsylvania, he graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor and Master of Science in Civil Engineering and was commissioned through Officer Candidate School in 1974. General Paxton's assignments in the operating forces include Rifle and Weapons Platoon Commander and Company Executive Officer (XO), Co. B, 1st Battalion, 3d Marines; Training Officer, 4th Marine Regiment; XO, Co. G, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines; Company Commander, Co. L and Operations Officer, 3d Battalion, 5th Marines; GCE Operations Officer, II MEF, and Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, 1st Marine Division. He commanded the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines in support of operations in Bosnia and Somalia and later the 1st Marine Regiment. Other assignments include Company Commander, Co. B, Marine Barracks Washington and Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Recruiting Station New York. He served as a Plans Division Officer, Plans, Policies and Operations, HQMC; the Executive Assistant to the Undersecretary of the Navy; and Amphibious Operations Officer/Crisis Action Team Executive Officer, Combined Forces Command, Republic of Korea.



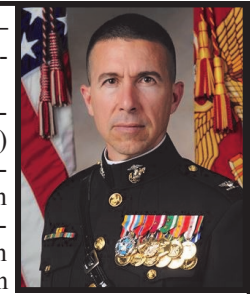
As a general officer, he has served as the Director, Programs Division, Programs and Resources, HQMC; the Commanding General (CG) of MCRD, San Diego/Western Recruiting Region; CG, 1st Marine Division; Chief of Staff, Multi-National Forces – Iraq; Director for Operations, J-3, The Joint Staff; and CG, II Marine Expeditionary Force and Commander Marine Forces Africa. Most recently he served as the Commander, Marine Corps Forces Command; CG, Fleet Marine Force Atlantic; and Commander, Marine Forces Europe.

General Paxton is a graduate of the U.S. Army Infantry Officer Advanced Course and Marine Corps Command and Staff College. He has also served as a Commandant's Fellow at the Brookings Institute as well as at the Council on Foreign Relations.

**Commanding Officer Marine Barracks, Washington, DC—Col. Benjamin T. Watson USMC** assumed command of the oldest post of the Marine Corps in June 2014.

He graduated from Cornell University in 1991 with a BA in History and was commissioned a 2ndLt. After The Basic School (TBS) and Infantry Officer Course (IOC), he served as a Platoon Commander and XO of K/3/8 deploying with both the 24th & 26th MEU(SOC.) In 1999, he served two years as the Weapons Company Commander and Operations Officer of 2/6 deploying with the 22nd and 24th MEU(SOC). He served in the I MEF G-3 in Operation Iraqi Freedom and with RCT-7. He was transferred to 1st Marine Division as the G-3 Plans Officer before assuming command of 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines. He led BLT 3/1 on a 31st MEU deployment, and to Garmsir District, Helmand Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Col Watson has served at TBS, IOC and Expeditionary Warfare School in Quantico, VA as an Instructor; XO for 1st Marine Regiment (rear); Senior Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Defense for Asian & Pacific Security Affairs and as Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff Office of the SECDEF.

His personal decorations include the DSSM, Bronze Star Medal w/combat distinguishing device, Meritorious Service Medal w/gold star, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal w/2 gold stars, and Combat Action Ribbon w/gold star.



**18th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps SgtMaj Ronald Green, USMC** assumed his current post on February 20, 2015. A native of Jackson, Miss, he attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, in November 1983. He has been meritoriously promoted to the ranks of private first class, lance corporal, corporal, sergeant and staff sergeant.

Throughout his career, Sergeant Major Green has been assigned numerous duties to include: field artillery cannoneer; field artillery nuclear projectileman; tower operator; drill instructor, senior drill instructor and drill master; battery section chief and battery gunnery sergeant.

He has also been assigned as the Assistant Marine Officer Instructor at Southern University and A&M College; first sergeant of Inspector-Instructor Staff, B Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment; and Sergeant Major of Headquarters Marine Corps Henderson Hall, Marine Corps Forces Europe/Marine Corps Forces Africa, and 1st Marine Expeditionary Force.

He has deployed to Somalia with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) during Operation Restore Hope in 1993; to South America in support of Operation United Americas (UNITAS) in 2002; and with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2006. Sergeant Major Green holds a B.S. in Cybersecurity and a M.S. in Cybersecurity Policy from the University of Maryland University College.

**Chaplain Marine Barracks, Washington, DC—Lieutenant Keith J. Lightner, CHC USN** reported to be the Command Chaplain at Marine Barracks 8th & I in June 2015. Prior to arriving at Marine Barracks, he served as the Deputy Command Chaplain at Marine Aircraft Group 13 in Yuma, Arizona. He is an ordained Minister of Word & Sacrament in the Reformed Church in America, and has nearly 16 years of active and reserve military service.

