



Hall of Fame



Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.

Office of the National President

Joseph H. Geeter III

27 Red Tail Court, Limerick, PA 19468

geeterj@yahoo.com (610) 495-3619

April 2, 2009

Awards Committee
Montford Point Marine Association Inc.
Attn: National Award Chairperson
1stSgt Kenneth Crutcher USMC retired

Mr. Crutcher,

It is with great joy that I recommend the individuals in the attached for consideration for the noted Montford Point Marine Association Awards. I sincerely believe that each of these individuals has distinguished themselves in the performance of their duties for the greater good of the entire Association and they are deserving of the awards they are recommended for.

If any clarification is needed please contact me direct.

Respectfully submitted;

Joseph H. Geeter III
Master Gunnery Sergeant USMC retired
National President
Montford Point Marine Association Inc



Hall-of Fame Nomination

For

Mr. Leo Taylor

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Leo Taylor for consideration into the Montford Point Marine Association Hall of Fame. Leo Taylor has been a very active member of our Association since 1971 and was one of the founding members of the Houston Chapter in 1983. Leo has served continuously since 1984 as the Houston Chapter President and many times served as the lone delegate of his Chapter at the National Spring Council and National Convention.

Leo has served at the National level as the National Veterans Affairs Officer since 1983. Being a disable veteran himself, Leo took his position very seriously and always had the member's best interest in mind. Leo has delivered some of the most in dept reports at our National Conventions informing our membership of not only their rights but the procedures in filing for veteran's benefits. Often Leo has brought in resident experts to address the membership on veteran's issues. These individuals range from local veteran workers to the National Director of Veterans Affairs that Leo brought to our National Convention in Arlington Virginia in 2004.

Most recently Leo and his team from the Houston Chapter hosted one the most memorable and effective conventions that members could remember when he strenuously campaigned for the National Convention Houston in 2008. Many believe that it could not be accomplished because the Houston membership had dwindled to just a handful of members. Undeterred, Leo set out to rapidly rebuild the Houston Chapter with a variety of hardworking former Marines, Airmen and Army personnel to deliver a very successful convention that included the Commandant of the Marine Corps, many General Officers and senior enlisted leadership. Leo's team ensured that everything from the registration to the departing taxis to the airport was accomplished with the military efficiency that our members have grown accustomed to.

Over the years Leo has taken many "green" National officers, including myself, and educated us on the processes and procedures of the National Office. A completely dedicated and unselfish individual, Leo postponed some much needed medical procedures so that the planning of last year's convention was uninterrupted. There are very few members, if any, that can state that they have held both Chapter and National Offices for over a quarter of a century. Leo Taylor is truly "one of a kind" Because of his long term dedication to both the Houston Chapter and the National Association, Marine Leo Taylor is enthusiastically recommended for inclusion into the Montford Point Marine Association Hall of Fame.

Special Presidents Award Nomination (Posthumously)

For

Marine Samuel Campbell

Marine Samuel Campbell is enthusiastically recommended for a MPMA Special Presidents Award. A long time member of the Philadelphia Chapter Sam has always risen to the occasion when most needed. Sam played an important role in the logistics of two very successful Philadelphia Marine Corps Birthday celebrations which feature Major General Clifford Stanley and then Major General Ronald Coleman. No task was too menial for this Marine; be it arranging tables or cleaning up or serving as an escort to attending personnel. When the Philadelphia Chapter was in dire financial straights this Marine would very quietly write a check to help keep us going.

When our clubhouse suffered terrible water damage, Sam was not only there to help clean up but volunteered his own home as a meeting place. Sam's basement served as our meeting place for over a year. Sam was always prepared to receive the members having his basement expertly set up to conduct a professional meeting. Sam always enjoying preparing a meal for the membership after the meeting so that we could socialize.

I would imagine that every Chapter had a Sam Campbell that would do whatever it took for an event to be successful. Sam suffered a heart attack on New Year's Day in the kitchen of his own home and died. The Chapter members, particularly our Chapter President continues to be in touch with Sam's widow, Harriett, who has expressed a desire to once again have the members meet at her home for their monthly meetings. Sam is richly deserving of receiving this honor posthumously.
