

# Quantico Chapter Newsletter



**President:** [LtCol Robert Clements](#)  
**Chaplain:** [Capt Michael Williams](#)  
**Treasurer:** [1stLt Thomas Bellamy](#)  
**Membership:** [Maj Tamia Ashley](#)  
**Sgt-At-Arms:** [Capt Jason Roberts](#)

**Vice-President:** [Maj David Everly](#)  
**Public Affairs:** [Capt Paula McNair](#)  
**Secretary:** [CW05 Cassandra Giddings](#)  
**Webmaster:** [Capt Robert Guice](#)  
**Historian:** [Capt Ronella Taylor](#)

## From the President

It is 2006 and we have hit the deck in an all-out sprint. Our first in a series of PME lectures featuring Col John T. Boggs, Dean of Faculty and Academic Programs, Industrial College of the Armed Forces. We then escaped our zone of comfort, journeyed to Richmond, Virginia and fellowshipped with the historic Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church. We have forged a strong and cooperative relationship with the newly established Chapter 32 of the Montford Point Marine Association. Kudos to the superior performance of the executive board and exceptional support from the chapter's membership. That said, the afterburners are lit, and we have commenced our high-speed approach to the objective. We have an aggressive agenda over the next six months that will require

the same level of personal commitment that the Quantico is known for nationally. We are in the execution phase of a joint NNOA/Montford Point Golf Tournament scheduled for 24 March 06. [Finally, Quantico will host the 34th Annual NNOA conference 17-21 July 06.](#) Yes... Quantico has been selected for the 2006 Annual NNOA Conference. Each and every one of you brings a unique brand of expertise and experience fight. I again thank you and respectfully request all to "pick a target" as we press forward turning challenges into accomplishments. Let's make this a conference and a year to remember. ~LtCol Robert Clements

### Upcoming Events

- 23 March 06 TBS (B Co) MOS Mixer, 1600 at "The Hawk"
- 24 March 06 Golf Tournament with Montford Point Marines Association
- 17-21 July 06 National Naval Officers' Association NATIONAL CONFERENCE – QUANTICO!!!

### Inside this issue:

Major General (Ret.) Charles Bolden to be Inducted Into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame	2
NNOA Supports the Montford Point Marines Birthday Ball	3
January 2006 PME Session	3
Quantico Chapter Reaches Beyond The Border	4
Breakfast Fit For a King	4
Montford Point Used As Integration Stepping Stone For Marines	5
NNOA supports MPMA Heritage Dinner 4 February 2006 at EWS	7

## Colonel Adele E. Hodges becomes first female base commander for Camp Lejeune ~ LCpl Brandon R. Holgersen

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. (Jan. 23, 2006) -- Colonel Adele E. Hodges will become the first female colonel to command Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Jan. 23, replacing Maj. Gen. Robert C. Dickerson who was appointed the commander of Marine Corps Installations-East.

"I am very excited," said Hodges. "It's a large base and a large facility, and I am excited to be the first colonel assigned to this challenge."

Hodges plans on upholding

Camp Lejeune's superb reputation and keeping and building on the relationship the base has with the local community.

"I want to keep the base as a viable part of the community and the Marine Corps following in the outstanding footsteps of my predecessor," said Hodges.

Hodges plans on continuing the safety policies and wants to maintain and improve the morale of families and service members stationed here.

Camp Lejeune is one of

Hodges' favorite bases along with Camp Pendleton because they are big beautiful bases, which are much more beautiful than bases of the other services.

"I can't help it, but I get a charge when I am surrounded by Marines," Hodges said.

Hodges' previous duty station was in Stavanger, Norway, working at the Norwegian Joint National

Headquarters installations called Jatta, before coming

## Colonel Adele E. Hodges continued...

here. This is her fourth time being stationed at Camp Lejeune.

“Norway was beautiful, the base was extremely small, the job was good, the people were nice, but I’m happy to be with the Marine Corps again,” Hodges said. “Living and working in an international community was a great experience.”

Hodges never thought when

---

*“I want to keep the base as a viable part of the community and the Marine Corps following in the outstanding footsteps of my predecessor...”*

she joined the Marine Corps in 1978 she would be commanding an installation.

“My only aspiration when I first joined the Corps was to be the best Marine I could be for four years,” Hodges said. “Even after I was commissioned, the thought of commanding Camp Lejeune, or any other installation, was something I thought could never happen to me.”

Hodges was not always an officer. She started her career as a supply administrative clerk, received her commission and went back to supply school to become a supply officer. During her first tour, her administrative

chief convinced her to apply for the Enlisted Commissioning Program when he found out she had a bachelor’s degree and credit towards her master’s degree.



Col Adele Hodges

## 2006 U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame Honoree Announced Major General (Ret.) Charles Bolden to be Inducted Into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame

Kennedy Space Center, FL – Space history will be made on May 6, 2006, as one of America’s finest Space Shuttle commanders is honored and inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame.

General Bolden will join such American space heroes as Neil Armstrong, John Glenn, Alan Shepard, Jim Lovell, Sally Ride and John Young, when he is enshrined during a May 6, 2006 public ceremony at [Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex](#).

He was selected by a committee of current Hall of Fame astronauts, former NASA officials and flight directors, historians, journalists and other space authorities in a process administered by the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation. Charles Bolden is part of the fifth group of Space Shuttle astronauts named. Earlier inductees came from the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Skylab and Apollo-Soyuz programs.

To be eligible for induction, an astronaut must have made his or her first flight at least 20 years before the induction year and must be retired from NASA’s astronaut corps at least five years. A candidate must be a U.S. citizen, NASA-trained and must have orbited the earth at least once. In balloting, committee members evaluate not only an individual’s flight accomplishments but also how he or she contributed to the success and

future success of the U.S. Space Program in post-flight assignments.

General Bolden has flown on four Space Shuttle missions, logging 680 hours in space. During his first mission in 1986 on STS-61C, the crew deployed a SATCOM satellite and conducted experiments in astrophysics and materials processing aboard the Materials Science Lab.

General Bolden piloted STS-31 in 1990 to deploy the Hubble Space Telescope and conduct a variety of mid-deck experiments. The crew used a variety of cameras including IMAX for Earth observations from their record-setting Shuttle altitude of 400 miles. On STS-45 aboard Atlantis, General Bolden commanded a crew which included two European Space Agency payload specialists for the first Spacelab mission dedicated to NASA’s Mission to Planet Earth. Bolden also commanded the historic first joint United States/Russian Space Shuttle mission, STS 60 in 1994, involving the participation of a Russian cosmonaut as a mission spe-

---

*“General Bolden will join such American space heroes as Neil Armstrong, John Glenn, Alan Shepard, Jim Lovell, Sally Ride and John Young...”*



Major General (Ret.) Charles Bolden

## MajGen Bolden (ret) continued...

cialist to conduct science activities. General Bolden left NASA to return to active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps as the Deputy Commandant at the Naval Academy. General Bolden later served as President of American Puretex Water. He has served on numerous boards including The Astronaut Memorial Foundation.



*This is an extract of a press release originally appearing at: <http://www.kennedyspacecenter.com/pressRoom/pressRoomDetails.asp?pressId=39>*

## NNOA Supports the Montford Point Marines Birthday Ball

~Maj Tamia N. Ashley

The respective Quantico Chapters of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) and Montford Point Marines Association (MPMA) were in full force at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on 18 Nov 2005. This formal event was sponsored by the Washington, DC MPMA Chapter. Notable Quantico NNOA members in attendance were Colonel Ron Bailey, Major Tamia Ashley (Membership Chair), Captain Paula McNair (Public Affairs Officer), LT Angela Simpson (Navy Representative), CW05 Cassandra Giddings (Secretary), and CW03 James Averhart.

15th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, John L. Estrada, delivered an outstanding message, focusing on the gallant efforts and ultimate sacrifices made by those Marines forward-deployed for GWOT. SgtMaj Estrada’s complete biography can be found at <http://www.marines.mil/sgtmaj/smmc15/>.



Quantico MPMA members along with National President, MGySgt (ret) Joe Geeter

## January 2006 PME Session

On 18 January 2006, Colonel John Boggs, Dean of Faculty & Academic Programs at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, spoke at a PME session on career, intermediate and top level PME schools. Colonel Boggs is the immediate past president of the NNOA National Chapter.



Col John Boggs

## Quantico Chapter Reaches Beyond The Border

~ Capt Mike Williams

Sunday morning service for Richmond's Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church was notably different on 22 January 2006. The historic church, which was organized in September of 1867 and earned a reputation as a leading post Civil War ministry, opened its doors on its annual "University Day" to also welcome members of the Quantico Chapter of the National Naval Officers Association.

The Quantico Chapter, whose members generally reside in the Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. area, decided to make the 70 mile trip to Richmond Virginia so that individuals who do not normally have an opportunity to intermingle with Naval Officers could recognize that the leadership of the Naval Services is diverse in nature and is continually trying to strengthen and expand that diversity.

Pastor Tyrone Nelson, the leader of Sixth Mount Zion, was open in his welcome of the

Quantico Chapter and supportive of America's military in general. Colonel Ronald Bailey, the senior member present, and LtCol Robert Clements, president of the Quantico Chapter, addressed the congregation, discussed the goals of the association and thanked the ministry for welcoming the chapter for fellowship.

After conclusion of the worship service, the Quantico Chapter joined the University students for lunch in the ministry's fellowship hall. The chapter members encouraged the students to continue to progress in their studies and reminded them that the Naval Services is always looking for bright and talented young leaders. Major David Everly, Quantico Chapter vice-president, remarked at the conclusion of the event that it was well worth the time and effort and hopefully the chapter could continue to reach beyond the borders.



LtCol Tommy Scott, Col Ronald Bailey, Maj David Everly, Capt Jason Robert, Capt Michael Williams, LtCol Robert Clements



## Breakfast Fit For a King

~ Pvt Andrew S. Keirn

Residents of the Quantico community and Prince William and Stafford counties enjoyed an inspirational breakfast Friday, in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., one of the most important civil rights activists in United States history.

Members of the Pi Lambda Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity hosted the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Breakfast at The Clubs At Quantico to celebrate King's visionary message of the civil rights movement of the 1960s and to establish and strengthen current community relationships. The buffet style breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, biscuits and gravy, grits and home fries was held in the main dining hall. People talked and ate their breakfast while celebrating King's birthday together for the inaugural leadership breakfast.

"This was our first year, but we plan on holding many more to come," said Dwayne Patton, the breakfast's committee chairman. Patton's mission was to bring people together to share in this special occasion. "The reason for having this breakfast is to bring Dr. King's vision of a beloved community to life," Patton said. "We wanted to involve the leaders of Quantico and the surrounding areas to make a better community and future for our children." Patton explained that his organization only held the breakfast for the King holiday, but they are involved in many different events throughout the year dealing with the community. "For example, the proceeds of this breakfast help fund our scholarship foundation for the

area youth," Patton said. "Seniors in the local high schools are awarded the scholarships to further their education in college."

The guest speaker for the breakfast was retired Major General (ret.) Leo V. Williams III. MajGen Williams brought forth an inspirational message to all. He painted a picture of civil equality and understanding that only the likes of King envisioned 40 years ago. "I feel very honored to have been chosen to be able to speak on such an important occasion," Williams said. "I always look forward to speaking, because I always learn something new and meaningful while preparing my speech. Hopefully, I am able to import some knowledge and inspiration each time I am able to give one of speeches."

MajGen Williams is not new to speaking in conjunction with King's birthday. "I normally speak at least once a year for a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday event, and have been for the past six or seven years." MajGen Williams believes in the messages he projects to his audience and never tires of doing so. "An event such as this is tremendously important to me," MajGen Williams said. "I have been a part of the movement since I was 13 or 14 years old. Being able to continue in the movement will always be important to me. Thank goodness somebody gives me an opportunity each year."

Many different people attended the breakfast to support the memory of King. Some came to

*"The reason for having this breakfast is to bring Dr. King's vision of a beloved community to life,"*



MSgt Stewart, GySgt Tisdale, Major Ashley, GySgt Johnson, CW03 Averhart, MajGen (Ret) Williams, LtCol Clements, and Major J. Green

## Breakfast Fit For a King Continued

show their support while others to join the celebration with their brothers and sisters of the different fraternities and sororities involved. Captain James A. Noel, a Reserve Marine, came to show his support in connection with the Pi Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi. “This is recogni-

tion of an incredible American who has made a difference to all of our lives,” Noel said. “Any occasion to honor Dr. King is worth the time.”

King’s contributions to history place him among the most influential people in the na-

tion’s timeline. King was instrumental in helping to recognize and resolve some of the biggest flaws that were casting dark shadows across the United States. Without his courage and unwavering commitment to equal rights, America would likely be much different today.

## Montford Point Used As Integration Stepping Stone For Marines

~ *LCpl Adam Johnston*

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. - (Feb. 17, 2006) – Prior to World War II, the Marine Corps’ policy concerning African-Americans was one of zero tolerance. According to a set of rules approved by the Secretary of War in 1798, no Negro, Mulatto or Indian men were allowed to enlist. But with the proclamation of Executive Order 8802 on June 25, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt effectively opened the door for blacks to serve in any branch of the U.S. military.

“I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or government because of race, creed, color or national origin,” reads Executive Order 8802.

Even though the Marine Corps was being forced to open its ranks to African-Americans, nothing in the order specifically prohibited the practice of segregation within the services. This is where Montford Point Camp originated.

Chosen most likely for its remote location, the original Montford Point Camp site was an area of about 5.5-square miles of rugged terrain. It was surrounded by thick pine forests, which were inhabited by bears, snakes, mosquitoes and a variety of other critters. An initial \$750,000 was allotted to construct and enlarge temporary barracks and supporting facilities. For the black recruits,

this was their Parris Island.

Recruiting officially began June 1, 1942. The initial quota set forth by the Commandant of the Marine Corps was a total of 900 men, between the ages of 17 and 29, who met the existing standards for enlistment.

“Guys from all walks of life answered the call to become a Marine,” said Finney Greggs, the director of the Montford Point Museum on Camp Johnston. “Some were in college, some worked as day laborers and some were in other branches of the service. But when the opportunity presented itself, they gave it all up to do something that had never been done before, to make history.”

The first black recruits to arrive at Montford Point Aug. 26, 1942, were met by a group of drill instructors who had been specially chosen for their firm demeanor and high level of military bearing.

Sgt. Maj. Gilbert “Hashmark” Johnson, a former Montford Point recruit, recalls some of his earliest impressions of the men who transformed him into a Marine.

“They set about from the very beginning to get us thoroughly indoctrinated into the habits, the thinking and the actions of the Marine Corps,” said Johnson. “Discipline seemed to be their lone stock in trade, and they applied it with a vengeance, very much to our later benefit.”

The majority of those who

managed to make it through the grueling eight weeks of basic training were assigned to the 51st Composite Defense Battalion on Montford Point. The unit contained seacoast artillery, anti-aircraft artillery, infantry and tanks. Originally commanded by Col. Samuel A. Woods Jr., its purpose was to defend overseas bases.

Voluntary enlistments in the Armed Forces were

discontinued Dec. 5, 1942, for all men ages 18 through 37. Beginning January 1943, all men in this age group would be inducted into the services through the Selective Service System.

At its present size, Montford Point was designed for a maximum of 1,200 men, one defense battalion and its training base. Needless to say, with a large influx of draftees on the way, the camp was due for some serious expansion and reorganization.

Among other changes, new recruit companies were organized, a Stewards’ Branch Battalion was created and a motor transportation company was added to the camp headquarters battalion. But the most noticeable difference was on the drill field. By the end of April 1943, almost all of the white drill instructors had left. Therefore, for the first time in the history of the Marine Corps,

---

*“Discipline seemed to be their lone stock in trade, and they applied it with a vengeance, very much to our later benefit.”*  
Sgt. Maj. Gilbert “Hashmark” Johnson

## Montford Point Continued....

black sergeants and corporals took over as senior drill instructors of recruit platoons.

“From what I’ve been told by the guys who were there,” said Greggs, “it was hell; tougher than anything you could imagine. But if they wanted to be one of the few, they had to be better and do more than their [white] counterparts.”

Following World War II, the rapid demobilization of the Marine Corps led to a decrease in the overall requirement for troops, both black and white. By 1947, there were only about 1,500 blacks left on active duty. Ironically, this cutback in manpower played a big role in the end of segregation in the Marine Corps.

In a memorandum issued to commanders Nov. 18, 1949,

the Marine Corps established a new policy regarding black Marines.

“Individual negro Marines will be assigned in accordance with MOS vacancies in any unit where their services can be effectively utilized,” according to the memorandum.

This has often been referred to as the official beginning of integration in the Marine Corps.

With the number of black Marines so small, it became uneconomical in the postwar period to continue separate training facilities at Montford Point. In the spring of 1949, recruit training was switched to Parris Island and on Sept. 9, 1949, Headquarters Company, Montford Point Camp, was deactivated. The remaining Marines were, for the most part,

transferred to other Camp Lejeune units.

“That was a sad day. It was a black day. A black mark as far as I’m concerned,” said Sgt. Maj. Edgar R. Huff, one of the first black drill instructors. “Myself, and to my knowledge the majority of black Marines ... we wanted to stay together, we had our own camp, we had our own resources, and we were taken care of, holding our own we called it at that time. I didn’t care to go anyplace, and I was sorry to see it happen.”

The first black Marines to wear the Eagle, Globe and Anchor were trained at Montford Point Camp. From the day it opened in 1942 until its closure in 1949, more than 20,000 African-Americans received training there

---

*“The first black Marines to wear the Eagle, Globe and Anchor were trained at Montford Point Camp.”*

## December 2006 - Quantico Chapter Holiday Social at EWS



1stLt Bellamy, Mrs. Gaskin, Capt Roberts, Ms. Hoggard



Capt Roberts, 2ndLt Jaysura, 1stLt Bellamy, Major Ashley

## NNOA supports MPMA Heritage Dinner 4 February 2006 at EWS Honoring the First Black Marine Aviator, LtGen (Ret.) Petersen



*BGen Coleman, MajGen Gaskin, LtGen (Ret.) Petersen, Ms. Petersen, MajGen (Ret.) Stanley, Col Bailey*



*Guest Speaker LtGen (Ret.) Petersen and Maj Ashley*



*Capt McNair, GySgt Williams and Maj Ashley enjoy LtGen Petersen's remarks.*

*National Naval  
Officers Association,  
Inc.*  
P.O. Box 812  
Quantico, VA 22134



Website: <http://www.quantico-nnoa.org>

---

## About NNOA

National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) actively supports the Sea Services in the recruitment, retention, and career development of minority officers.

We are an essential element in maintaining operational readiness. We provide professional development and mentoring and support cultural diversity. We establish and maintain a positive image of the Sea Services in communities and educational institutions. National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) is the "Gateway to Success" in the Sea Services. We are innovative thinkers committed to a shared vision of leadership, professional exchange, and networking. We are dedicated to achieving a diversified workforce. We are the premier professional development organization in the Sea Services. Our members are empowered with the skills necessary to achieve their full potential. We are an invaluable partner of the Sea Services in the achievement of their recruitment, retention and readiness goals. We recognize our responsibility to our community as we promote and foster American ideals.

We are an inclusive organization that seeks diversity in our membership. We value all members and are committed to treating everyone with dignity, respecting individual differences, and affirming organizational and personal strengths. We are "TEAM NNOA" composed of active duty, reserve and retired officers and civilians. We achieve our mission and vision through enthusiastic support and dedicated service at the national and local levels. We are an organization of professionals whose accomplishments are attained through teamwork and accountability. We are dedicated to the professional development of our members. We promote an atmosphere conducive to self improvement and forward thinking. We promote honest, effective, and open communications. We communicate and process information using the best resources and technology available. We recognize achievements and maintain our valued reputation.



**General Body meetings are held at 1700 on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Officer's Club.**

---