



Announcements by Joyce Faulkner

Hi everyone,

I hope you are enjoying the spring weather — and have been successful in writing, publishing, and promoting your books. As usual, MWSA officers and volunteers have been very busy.

Our 2009 Awards Event will be held in Orlando, Florida on October the 9-10. We have plans for those who are just beginning the journey, for those who have completed their book and are looking for what to do next, and for those who are old hands in the business. We'll celebrate excellence and recognize those who have been willing to share their time, talents, information, and histories with us.

Our event planner, Lynn Salsi, got us a great deal at the Westin Imagine Hotel — \$250/night rooms for \$109. Then she went back and did one better. The hotel will upgrade our rooms to one bedroom suites for the same price. We should start making reservations mid-June using the hotel's toll free number (See page 18.) Those who make their reservations later than September 1 will not be able to get the special MWSA rates. See more details on the back page of this publication — and start planning your trip to Florida this fall.

To register, send me an email with your name and if you intend to bring a guest. Mention if you are a former medal winner or if you'd like to volunteer to help at the event. Also mention if you prefer to pay with credit card or if you'd prefer to send a check. (www.MWSAPresident@gmail.com). I'll invoice you with the proper information.

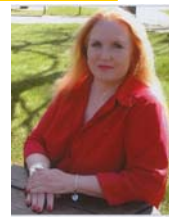
This year, our award winners will be announced on Dale Throneberry's Veterans Radio Network show on September 12, 2009 at 9:00 am. (www.veteransradio.net) Dale has also decided to do a show from our Conference. If you come to Florida in October, you will get to meet Dale — and possibly appear on the radio show. Dale is always looking for good stories and good authors. I assured him

that he will be coming to the "write" place.

I'd like to encourage last year's winners to come to the event as well. We'd like to recognize you because there was no event last year and we'd also like you to participate in the Awards Banquet and in some of the panels associated with various Workshops. I'll be in touch with each of you to explain.

There will also be a special invitation breakfast to honor some very special people — MWSA Book Reviewers and MWSA Volunteers. These people make it possible to do the things that we do — they are folks like Mindy Lawrence who posts to the MWSA Group Calendar and puts your information on the MWSA Blog — and Carolyn Howard-Johnson who posts regularly on the art of promoting books. There's Lead Reviewer Rob Ballister who has supported MWSA in a variety of roles for years now. There's Lynn Salsi who has gone beyond the call of duty in planning our Conference. There's our reviewers and the award committee who selects the books that will be honored at the event. There are people who work on committees to further bake opportunities that are offered as ideas. There are folks who write for this Newsletter. Maria and Jeff Edwards have served MWSA in so many ways — from helping the organization get started to creating the logo, banner, medal designs, original web site, etc. There's our hardworking Webmaster, John Cathcart — and of course, our Board Members and Officers. These are only a few! At the event, you will be able to recognize these special people by their red hats or by the VOLUNTEER button on their hats. I encourage you to meet them — and thank them for their efforts on your behalf.

On the other side of this topic, I want to announce that volunteers and reviewers who come to the Orlando Conference, will get a significant discount in their



MWSA Member Snapshots



Member Nancy Smith at Branson Air Show 2009



MWSA Member & Author John Bandy



MWSA member William Mayer

Inside this issue:

Jerry Yellin	3
Stephen Haywood Brown	4
Tony Lazzarini	5
Gary Doss	6
David W. Taylor	7
Roger Conlee	7
Gold Team	8
Silver Team	9
Alma Bond	10
Michael Angley	11
Latoya Lucas	13
Founder's Thoughts	14
Dr. William Mayer	16
Dwight Jon Zimmerman	17

(Continued on page 2)

ANNOUNCEMENT

MWSA is looking for a volunteer to work with our Webmaster on a special project. No programming experience is necessary.
Contact
MWSAWebmaster@gmail.com

REMEMBER

Make sure you send your book signing and event schedule to Mindy Lawrence, mplcreative@aol.com, to post on the MWSA Member Calendar!

New & Renewed Members

- Bascom Bradshaw
- Lee Salzman
- Martha Kotite
- Tom Shytle
- Jeff Bennett
- Monique Allaire
- David Jones
- Roger Morris
- Daryle McGinniss
- David Salkin
- Chris Avery
- Larkin Spivey
- Revenge Films, Ltd
- John Faulkner
- Diane Murphy
- Jack Lyndon Thomas
- Tana Davis
- Patrick Watson
- Connie Johnson
- Barbara Marriott

Cont'd ANNOUNCEMENTS by Joyce Faulkner

(Continued from page 1)

Conference Fees. (See page 18.) Also, for any other product, service, or activity, volunteers will get the lowest rate usually reserved for Lifetime and Charter Members.

Finally, I'm asking for more volunteers. We will need people to help us work the Conference — things like manning the registration table in the Hospitality Room, helping setup for different events or stuffing envelopes with member information or any number of small tasks. Also, we always need more reviewers.

Starting immediately, we'll be working on a fundraising project to support MWSA activities — like the upcoming Conference in Florida, our Booth in Branson during Veterans Week (November 5-10), and other events across the country. We'll need everyone's help to make it successful, whether you attend the Conference or not. We'll do a 50/50 raffle and sell 500 numbered tickets for \$10 apiece. That means the winner would receive \$2500 if all tickets sell. I hope that all of you help us make that happen. To participate, contact me at MWSAPresident@gmail.com — and tell me how many tickets you want — and which numbers you want. I'll invoice you through Paypal and email back your ticket with your name on it. (Or the name of whomever you want.) If you prefer to write a check, we can also do this through the mail. A matching ticket will be printed out for the drawing which will take place on Dale Throneberry's show on September 12. Dale will draw the winning number and announce it right then and there on the same show where we will announce this years Book Award Winners. You do not need to be an MWSA member to win the 50/50 Raffle so if you sell a ticket to a friend, colleague, or family member, be sure to tell them to listen to the show. See the ticket on page 15.

As the Conference planning team began working on the details of the event, we realized that we don't know enough about you. So each month, we are going to publish a "get to know you" question. Please take a moment and send Pat Avery (patavery@gmail.com) an email answering the question on page 7. We want to make sure that future activities and events meet your needs.

Our article on Wikipedia is out of date. Would someone volunteer to work with me to update it?

For all active members who are current with their dues, I've been sending out their Membership card and Membership number which will allow them to get special discounts on MWSA activities, services, and associated third-party entities. I am sending them out one at a time by email, so that I exchange thoughts with each of you personally. If you don't have your card yet, give me another two weeks and then contact me.

Up until this month, the Book of the Month and Author of the Month recognitions were taken from the 2008 winners. However, starting this month, the recognitions will be the highest rated books reviewed so far this year. The Book of the Month/Author of the Month awards will always be featured on the last page of this publication. In addition, MWSA will send a Certificate in the mail and will post an electronic version on www.militarywriters.com. If you receive one of these quality recognitions, you can be assured that your book is still in the running for our annual awards. However, if you don't see your book there, it doesn't necessarily mean that you have been eliminated.

This month's author of the month is **Richard Barone** who wrote *Traces of a Lost War*. Congratulations Richard! This month's book of the month is *Interragation of Morals* by Jason Meszaros. Congratulations, Jason. Good job!

I'd like to encourage you all to forward this newsletter to your fellow authors and/or readers — whether they are MWSA members or not. As we expand the Newsletter to include your work and your introductions, it benefits everyone to also expand the list of folks who receive it. John Cathcart has added a place where non-members can sign up to receive the pdf through email as you all do. Please ask folks who like the newsletter to sign up.

Finally, I was in Gettysburg last week and visited the new visitor's center there. (If you haven't seen it, go. It's fabulous.) Anyway, the bookstore is huge and gorgeous... and displayed prominently was MWSA Member and 2008 Silver Award winner David H. Jones' book *Two Soldiers: One North, One South*. Congratulations, David!

Celebrate Together!

Introducing MWSA member Jerry Yellin

My name is Jerry Yellin. I graduated from Luke Field as a fighter pilot in August 1943 and was assigned to the 78th Fighter Squadron in the 7th Air Force. I flew P-40's, P-47's, and then P-51's in combat over Japan from Iwo Jima. I carried a deep hatred of the Japanese until 1988 when I attended the wedding of my youngest son, Robert, to Takako Yamakawa, daughter of a member of the Japanese Imperial air Force during WW 2. We now have 3 Japanese grandchildren, 19, 17, and 13 living in Japan.

In 1995, my book *Of War and Weddings*, chronicling my life during the war and my experiences in Japan before and after the wedding was published. This life-altering event became a catalyst of understanding that has led me to write and have published, *The Blackened Canteen*. The true story, told as fiction, about the lives of four Americans of the 23 B-29 crewmembers killed in a mid-air collision on June 20, 1945 over Japan, an American bugler on the battleship *West Virginia* at Pearl Harbor and 3 Japanese men. One who was a torpedo bombardier that dropped a torpedo that sank the *West Virginia*, one who buried the Americans in a grave next to the 2000 Japanese citizens killed in the raid and one



Jerry with his 17 year old grandson Simon with a model of one of the planes he flew during

who was 12 at the time and who has conducted a ceremony for the Americans since 1972.

These books are available at Amazon.com from my website, www.jerryellin.com. I look forward to hearing from fellow members by email at jerry@lisco.com.



Branson Air Show, 2009

**INTERESTED
IN
AMERICAN AUTHORS' ASSOCIATION?**

If so, contact
Maria Edwards at
jedward1@san.rr.com
Or go to
www.americanauthorsassociation.com

**Get the most out of
your MWSA
membership.
Volunteer!**

Unfilled MWSA Jobs:

- **Regional Directors**
- **Book Keeper**
- **Membership Secretary**
- **Twitterite interested in creating MWSA Twitter strategy**
- **Reviewers**
- **Conference Volunteers**
- **Reviewers**

MWSA Member Works

Hallowed Be Thy Names

From Dulles Airport I grow impatient
 Not knowing my way around.
 It has taken all day
 Leaning on my cane
 To make final roll call at The Wall.

Anguish long repressed now incites
 A Mekong march, broken bones, shattered futures.
 At peace, brave ones,
 We muster at this desolate,
 This blessed knoll.

Amid children celebrating credulity
 The black gates loom high in the sky,
 A magnificent shrine that enrolls your names
 Amongst forgotten gods.
 This vanquished leader weeps in his joy.

Here hobbles the barnswallow
 Who once lead eagles into the sky.
 And such good fortune is more than I deserve.
 Consummate honor to you, brothers all,
 From the remnants of the spark to my soul.

Lt. Stephen Brown, USN
 South Vietnam, 1972
 North Vietnam, 1973

Stephen Haywood Brown was born in California and raised there and in Ohio. He served five years as a naval officer aboard small combatants that conducted anti-infiltration patrols mere yards off the Vietnamese coast. In 1973 his ship spent eight months clearing key North Vietnamese ports of active mines in exchange for Hanoi releasing all American prisoners of war. He is currently Director of Education for an Ohio college.

In 2002 his first novel, *SWEEPS*, was published. Since then he has written *TRACK OF THE TREASURE*, *WRATH OF THE EAGLE*, and is working on the fourth in his "Sam Wallace adventure" series, *RETURN TO VENGEANCE*.

I wrote **Hallowed Be** upon my first visit to the Vietnam Memorial in D.C. The occasion was my nephew's high school graduation and my parent's 50th anniversary. I took some time off to fulfill a promise I'd made years past. In college I was in Navy ROTC. My freshman year company commander, Terry Graves, elected the Marine option at the beginning of his junior year and went to Vietnam in 1968, assigned the 3rd Recon Battalion.

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a Platoon Commander," the citation to his Medal of Honor begins, and in June of 1993 I rendered his

name a salute at Panel 39 East, Line 71. I hold vivid memories of people walking behind me as I stood in front of Panel 39 East, and recall children playing—Amid children celebrating credulity.

"As for the poem's name, Hallowed Be are, of course, words from the Lord's Prayer, probably 62 of the most revered—and collected—words in Scripture. The title inspires, I trust, one to recall those who never came home from 'Nam with a reverence similar to that of a simple yet evocative prayer. I will leave it for future readers to regard the work as they so choose, but to me Hallowed Be stands as testament to those whose tour remains half complete."

I saluted someone today by Tony Lazzarini

I saluted someone today.

I have not done that in 40 years.

When I was in the Army, it was required for the person being saluted to acknowledge and return the salute. This was not done. I did not take it personally, nor did the 143 other people who were with me. We were veterans of one war or another and had come to pay our respects to a fallen soldier. I did not know him but in a way I knew the kind of person he was.

I had served with guys just like him in Vietnam. I was 20 years old at the time. Jake Velloza was 22 when a sniper ended his life outside the town of Mosul, Iraq.

There was no "welcome home" committee for me when I stepped off the plane at Travis Air Force base on a cold November day in 1967. No fanfare or American flags held high with their stars and stripes supported by a light afternoon breeze. It did not bother me any.

It was important for me to be there when Jake arrived at San Francisco International Airport by charter aircraft.

His flag draped coffin was slowly unloaded and met by a well-disciplined Honor Guard. To say it was a sad vision to mentally capture would be a gross understatement. I watched his parents drape the flagged receptacle with their bodies, the father not wanting to leave, or believe, until he was ushered away by family members. Like my other comrades, I held back my tears, feeling unworthy to be part of something so personal. In a way I was paying respect to my own fallen friends who were owed such a return but never received one.

We mounted our flag bearing motorcycles and formed a procession to follow Jake from the San Francisco airport to his transitory resting spot in Petaluma. The road would lead us under multitudes of overpasses with hundreds of other Americans taking time out to forget about their own problems and honor one person who paid the ultimate price for service to his country.

The reality of war will always cost more than the money it takes to fight one.

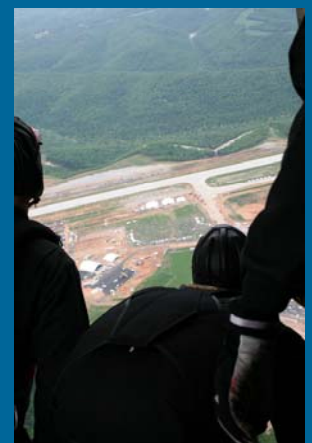
As I rode, I thought about how one day Jake I and would meet and my salute would be returned.

Award winning MWSA author and former President, Tony Lazzarini, will make his debut as film director for the documentary, *Arabian Silk-Horses of Endurance*, this June 20th at the Reno Film Festival in Reno Nevada. The film, conceived, edited and produced by his sister Christine Lazzarini of Reno, was selected as one of the three finalists among 200 entries in its category.

The film focuses on the riders and horses that compete in 100-mile endurance rides. Entrants must complete a predetermined course in 24 hours or less. Tony Lazzarini is best known for his book *Highest Traditions - Memories of War*; a

memoir of his two tours of duty in Vietnam as a helicopter door gunner. He was also one of the highlighted personalities in Peter Anderson's 2004 book, *100 Faces of Marin*. Christine Lazzarini has produced four documentaries under the name of Gypsy Moth Productions, one of which received an "Outstanding Short Film" award from the Military Writers Society of America in 2006.

For film showing times and tickets, go to <http://www.arabiansilk.com/>



Pictures from
Branson Air Show
May 2009

Member Works

If you have a poem, short story or essay that is 500 words or less, or a photo, or artwork that you'd like to share with other members, please contact Joyce Faulkner at MWSAPresident@gmail.com. You retain full rights to your work.

While we may all have strong political beliefs, this Newsletter is not the platform for airing them. Other than that, it's anything goes — write about your experiences while in the military, about being the spouse or child of a veteran, or about your book, history, or about writing.

We are especially looking for essays that provide information for or move your fellow authors.

Celebrate Together! Promotional Opportunity

Donate your books to be on display throughout the event. They will then be used for Banquet Table Centerpieces to be given away during the Awards Banquet in Orlando, FL on October 9-10th. Details will come in July Newsletter!

A Mother's Love by Gary Doss

At approximately 0955 hours the distant yet distinct throbbing beat of UH-34s in flight announced the arrival of the aircraft. Tandem Marine helicopters YL-37, escorted by YL-38, were once more heeding duty's call. This event was not unlike countless missions in times not forgotten, when the drone of these helicopters signaled the wounded and weary on the ground that redemption and salvation were at hand. The birds were over the cemetery grounds in a fly-by preparing for a 1000 hours touchdown to commence a Memorial Day remembrance unlike no other!

The picturesque grounds below featured flowing avenues throughout the sanctuary. They were sculptured with ponds, trees, birds and flowers surrounded by manicured lawns that exuded peace, rest and serenity. This, a powerful sight in its own right, was now enhanced by the symbol and reminder of America's strength, courage and resolve – the flag of The United States of America. Two thousand seven hundred and thirteen (2,713) to be exact (one hundred and thirty one (131) added this year! Each mast held aloft a burial flag, each awarded on behalf of a grateful nation to a Veteran upon their departure from this life. A stirring sight to behold for the helicopters on final approach preparing to land.

Thousands of folks were already in place and cars still streamed into the overflow parking, each one here to remember their own... and Pvt. Warren Nicholls, a soldier and patriot. Pvt. Nicholls was a Nam Vet. He had been severely wound in action, paralyzed and wheelchair bound for the remainder of his natural life. Not unlike countless other veterans, he was cast aside and forgotten to survive as best he could. In less handicap-friendly environment, he achieved a Bachelors Degree from Texas Christian University under the watchful eye of his mother who assisted, loved and cared for him until his death in 1987.

Unable to find assistance to render a proper Military burial, Mrs. Nicholls was determined to safeguard his cremated remains until proper honors could be bestowed to this American Hero. In his footlocker, she placed his remains, along with his Purple Heart, his boots and records. She died some years later knowing that someday Pvt. Nicholls would be found and identified with his records in place.

Some say the unopened footlocker was removed from the attic to be sold in a garage sale, others indicate a pawnshop



may have discovered the hallowed remains. Whatever the case, a grave injustice was discovered and a resolution began. Once aware of the discovery, Floral Haven Cemetery graciously committed to fulfill a Mother's hope and dream that someday Pvt. Nicholls would be given a funeral with military honors. With assistance of the Order of the Purple Heart, the U. S. Army and countless veterans participated or were in attendance. Nobody is left behind!

Pvt. Nicholls remains along with his personal effects were honored and placed into a permanent memorial bench beside the cremated remains of his mother who cared for him in life and now watches at his side in death.

Doves were released and the lonely sound of Taps floated on the breeze – the wish of a mother's heart and love for her son was honored - on May 23, 2009.

Gary Doss – Ugly Angel 1967



Introducing MWSA Member David W. Taylor

Dave Taylor is a retiree from the business world and Army Reserve Special Forces. He served four years on active duty including a combat tour in Vietnam with the American Army Division, where he was awarded the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts. After active duty he served twenty-two years in the Army Reserve in special operations with a focus on Latin America. He retired a Colonel in 1993.

Taylor retired in 1999 from the business world where he served for twenty-seven years in management positions in the plastics industry, including international assignments, advertising and public affairs, product management and new business development. He also was the principal of a business consulting company, The Business War College, and taught the use of military thinking in the business world. His articles have appeared in national business publications such as *Business Marketing* and *Contemporary Issues & Practices in Marketing*.

In 1997, Taylor made his first post-war trip back to Vietnam and visited his old battalion base camp, LZ Gator. Time had erased all evidence of its presence (5th/46th

Infantry – the last infantry battalion sent to the Vietnam War). He was resolved to write the story of his battalion's three years of combat in the war. After considerable research at the National Archives, where he copied the battalion's official records and brigade operational reports, Taylor set to work writing its history. He expects to complete the book draft by the end of 2009 with publication in 2010.

Taylor is also the current National Commander of the American Division Veterans Association (ADVA) and has written articles about the division in the Vietnam War and World War II in their quarterly magazine, the *American Journal*. Taylor lives in Medina, Ohio. Any one wishing to contact him can do so at dwtaylor@ohio.net.



Introducing MWSA Member Roger Conlee

Author Roger L. Conlee's third novel, *The Hindenburg Letter*, was published early this year. It deals with Nazi Germany in wartime 1942 and an impetuous American reporter who sneaks there from Los Angeles trying to exact some family revenge.

Conlee's first two novels are "*Every Shape, Every Shadow*" (2004) and "*Counterclockwise*" (2007). "*Every Shape*" received a Distinguished Honor Award from MWSA and "*Counterclockwise*" won top honors in the Science Fiction/Fantasy Category at the 2007 San Diego Book Awards.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Wernher von Braun, Walt Disney, William Randolph Hearst and other prominent figures of the period play key roles in *The Hindenburg Letter*, which Midwest Book Review calls "a delightful and exciting read all the way through." It also calls Conlee "an experienced writer of thrillers with a focus on World War II, a subject he knows well."

Conlee had a long career as a newspaperman and public relations executive. He was a sportswriter, reporter and editor for the San Diego Evening Tribune and Chicago

Daily News. He's always loved writing, and was on the school newspaper in junior high school, high school and college (San Diego State) before "turning pro."

He has lectured at Northwestern University, the University of California and San Diego State University. He is a past director of both the San Diego and Chicago Press Clubs. Conlee was born in Galesburg, Illinois, and has lived in Chicago, Detroit and Fort Worth, but has made San Diego his home for many years.



MWSA Member Survey for June:

What do you want to take away from the MWSA Conference in October?

Send your answer to Pat Avery at patavery@gmail.com. Make sure to use "MWSA Member Survey—June, 2009" in the Subject Line.

Help Honor the WASP by Amy Goodpaster Strebe

The International Women's Air & Space Museum (IWASM) in Cleveland, Ohio is in the process of making its third deck of historical playing cards. This newest deck is devoted exclusively to the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) of World War II. Each card face in the deck can be sponsored by a business, family, organization, or any individual who would like to honor a WASP. If you do not know any WASPs personally the museum can suggest one for you to sponsor. For more information and to download an order form, please visit the museum's website at www.iwasm.org or call Heather Alexander at (216) 623-1111 or e-mail her at halalexander@iwasm.org

Celebrate Together!

Past MWSA Gold Medal Winners,

I have a proposal for you.

Let's make the most of our special status and join together to support other MWSA authors' efforts, cheer for this year's winners, and enhance the value of our own medals by making MWSA activities more useful, frequent, educational, fun, and newsworthy.

I'm hoping that most of you will come to the Conference this year and participate as panelists in our workshops, presenters during the awards ceremonies, and become an integral part of the program. We will be known from here on as the "Gold Team" — and there will be a variety of activities in the coming months that will give you more opportunities to grow as a writer, a promoter, and a member of MWSA. Let's take a leadership role in the organization and plot together to outdo the "Silver Team" who will be hot on our heels — eager to overtake us. I'll be waiting for your ideas, suggestions, and energy to keep MWSA vital and growing. Contact me at MWSAPresident@gmail.com with "GOLD TEAM" in the subject line.

I'll be emailing you about what role you'd like to play in the conference — whether you can come or not. There are so many things you can do — like writing articles for the Newsletter or the Conference Program, or participating in Dale Throneberry's radio show. You can send out media releases alerting your audiences of your appearance at the conference and mentioning your Gold Medal. Perhaps you will say a few words at our opening Mixer or lead a discussion in the Hospitality Room. Perhaps you can write a poem for the Program or to be read at the Ceremony. You can rejoice at the success of others — and let us rejoice at your achievements and recognize you and your work again.

Beat out the Silver Team — be the first to register for the conference and receive a prize at the event!

Let's Celebrate Together!



*Mike Mullins,
"Vietnam in Verse: Poetry for Beer Drinkers"
2007 Gold Medal for Poetry
Vice President of MWSA*

Celebrate Together!

Are you a past Silver Medal recipient? We want you and we need you!

Have you ever attended a convention not knowing anyone? Have you ever felt like you just can't walk up to all those people and start a conversation? Have you ever just wished you had stayed at home?

Silver Medal Winners, we're forming a team - the Silver Team - to keep that from happening to our first-time attendees, newbies, and maybe just shy members. You are successful. You've earned recognition for a book well written. You know a lot about the book world. Will you share your success with the new folks?

The Silver Team members will serve as buddies to new members in a win-win situation. By introducing and mentoring your buddy, you will create a fan, meet new people, and generate exposure for your book. Every time you help your buddy, you help yourself. What a great chance to build an organization on the framework of supporting each other. Won't it be great to know there's a new friend to share your present and future successes? It will be just as great to share in your buddy's future accomplishments.

If you have won a Silver Medal, you are automatically a member of the Silver Team, but it is up to you to pass the torch of success to other members. If you win a Silver Medal this year, your Silver teammates will be there to say "We're proud of you!" Come to the convention and help define the future of the Silver Team! Make a difference! Let's celebrate together.

Be a Silver Team leader. Be the first to register for the convention and receive a prize at the event. Email me at patavery@gmail.com and let me know you'll be there.



Pat Avery
Author of "They Came Home"
MWSA Secretary
Silver Team Coordinator

If you wish to submit a book for review and consideration for awards, you must be an active member.

If you are inactive, join at www.militarywriters.com or Send check to MWSA, PO Box 264, Bridgeville, PA 15017.

Check www.militarywriters.com under "Search Membership" to see if you have paid your annual dues before submitting your work for reviews and the bookstore.

Memberships:

- \$25/YR
- \$42.50/2YR
- \$60.00/3YR
- \$250 LIFETIME



MWSA Logo

The MWSA Member Logo is available on the members page. Be sure to save and use on your own web sites.

!!!

Interested in appearing on Veterans Radio to discuss your book?

Contact Joyce Faulkner at MWSAPresident@gmail.com

Introducing MWSA member Alma Bond



I am a psychoanalyst who retired from a highly successful Manhattan practice to write full time. I belong to the International Psychoanalytic Association, the American Psychological Association, and am a fellow and former faculty member of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research. I also am a member of the Dramatists Guild, the American Society of Journalists and Authors, Florida Freelance Writers Association, and the Writers Guild.

Since my "retirement" I have had fifteen books published. My latest, *"Margaret Mahler, A Biography of the Psychoanalyst,"* was published by McFarland Press, and awarded Best Books Award Finalist USA Book News 2008 and Foreword Magazine Award Finalist Book of the Year 2008. My other books include: *"Tales of Psychology: Short Stories to Make You Wise," "The Autobiography of Maria Callas, a Novel," "Who Killed Virginia Woolf? A Psychobiography," "On Becoming a Grandparent, Is There Life After Analysis?," "Dream Portrait,"* and *"America's First Woman Warrior: The Courage of Deborah Sampson"* (with Lucy Freeman). My play *"Maria"* (about the life and loves of Maria Callas) was presented off-off Broadway at Ye Waverly Inn Dinner Theatre, and is presently touring Florida.

I have had many professional articles published in prestigious psychoanalytic journals, and written numerous interviews for magazines and newspapers. Two of my favorites are "My Memories of Marlon Brando," published in *Remember*, and "The Romance of the Golden Greeks: Maria Callas and Aristotle Onassis," in *Greece Travel Magazine*. Both articles received awards for fine journalism from the state of Florida. I was on the faculty of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training

and Research for many years, and am now a faculty member of WritersSchool online, where I teach *Psychology and Writing*. My website is http://alma_bond.tripod.com. My book, *The Autobiography of Maria Callas, a Novel*, was runner-up in the First Novel Contest of Hemingway Days. My articles, interviews, and novel chapters also received many State of Florida awards. My short story, "The Latch That Wouldn't Lock," was included in *Ten Top Short Stories of 1993*. I am listed in *Who's Who in America, International Authors and Writers Who's Who*, and twenty other biographies.

I am the widow of the late stage, screen, and TV actor, Rudy Bond, whose book, *I Rode a Streetcar Named Desire*, was published posthumously, and the mother of three children, all of whom are writers. They are: Zane Bond (author of *A Prophet Operating at a Loss*), Jonathan Bond (CEO and co-founder of the hip advertising agency, Kirshenbaum and Bond and co-author of *Behind the Radar*), and Janet Bond Brill, a professor of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology at the University of Miami, whose manuscript *Cholesterol-Down* was published by Random House, and is a best seller. I am also the proud grandmother of eight young children, none of whom have published books as yet. But it's only a matter of time. As a witty friend says, "In the Bond household, it's publish or perish!"

And in case anyone needs reminding, I was a Lt. (j.g.) in the U.S. Navy (WR).

Celebrate Together!

GOING TO THE 2009 MWSA CONFERENCE?

VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT AND SAVE ON YOUR CONFERENCE FEES PLUS BE RECOGNIZED AT THE REVIEWERS & VOLUNTEERS BREAKFAST!

CONTACT PAT AVERY AT PATAVERY@GMAIL.COM FOR DETAILS!

Introducing MWSA member Michael Angley by Lynn Salsi

Michael Angley's real life as a special agent prepared him to take the role of a writer when he retired from the U. S. Air Force in 2007. "I had a passion for writing as far back as high school," he said. "The years I spent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI) gave me ideas for creating a character with paranormal abilities. When I retired from the military, I put my imagination into action and created the *Child Finder* trilogy."



Inspiration for his protagonist, Special Agent Patrick O'Donnell, an Irish Catholic with conflicting emotions about service, family, community, secrets, and personal values came from Mike's five tours to the world's top "trouble spots."

Early in his career, Mike served in Japan where his unit successfully blocked a KGB effort to steal secret U. S. military technology. Other assignments involved service in Saudi Arabia in 1996 following the Khobar Towers attack. Eventually, he became commander of all OSI units in the Middle East where his team neutralized terrorist threats. Then, in 1999, he became Chief of Counterintelligence within the Directorate of Intelligence, U.S. Strategic Command.

Mike set on his journey as a special agent when he earned a B.A. degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology and later earned an M.A. in National Security Affairs. He also served as a National Defense Fellow and an Adjunct Professor of

International Relations at Florida International University in Miami, Florida.

Translating true-life experiences into fiction came easily to Mike as he gave his main character abilities to make the right decisions in the face of danger. He sets up Patrick O'Donnell for adventure during the 9/11 attack at the Pentagon, where he is serving, triggers a paranormal ability after the protagonist experiences nightmares about abducted children.

While O'Donnell works to find lost children and bring the perpetrators to justice, the FBI discovers the agent's powers. Angley weaves a "twist" into the thriller when O'Donnell's abilities are exploited for "dark" purposes, causing him to discover "cracks" within his department.

Mike enjoys life at home with his family in Colorado where he is completing *Child Finder: Resurrection* and *Child Finder: Revelation*. When he's not creating new mysteries for Patrick O'Donnell to solve, he enjoys sharing the exploits of his three children and Brynn, his beagle.

Angley's first book in the trilogy, *Child Finder*, is set to debut on June 7, 2009 at a special launch at the Borders Book Store in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Additional events are planned throughout the summer and fall. The schedule is available on his website, www.childfinder.us.



At Branson Airport Air Show, May 2009



MWSA Author Lloyd King and Tony Lazzarini at MWSA Conference 2007

2009 Branson Stars and Flags Book Award

The works must be about military-related topics and published in English on or after Jan. 1, 2000. 5 categories - non-fiction, fiction, inspirational, poetry, photography/art, and audio/video

Winners in each category plus GRAND PRIZE WINNER

Works judged on (1) General excellence and the author's ability to relate a good story; (2) The potential of the work to reach a wider audience; and (3) Overall visual impact (cover and text) or artwork.

PRIZES

Cash Awards,
Scheduled book signing opportunities at the Veterans Village during Branson Veterans Week
VIP Treatment including Veteran's Day Parade
Promotional Opportunities
Special Appearances
Consultation with book marketing industry experts.

\$50 Submission Fee
MWSA Members receive
20% Discount

Deadline

Submissions must be postmarked by the close of business on August 1, 2009 to Branson Stars & Flags with a check. (An additional 10% discount will be given for entries postmarked by April 30, 2009.)

To find out more detail about entries, please visit www.bransonstarsandflags.com and

Celebrate Together!

LISTEN TO VETERANS RADIO NETWORK ON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2009
9:00 AM EST
www.veteransradio.com

DALE THRONEBERRY
WILL HOST
the

MWSA 2009 AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS!

and

MWSA 2009 50/50 RAFFLE DRAWING WINNER!



L-R: Bob Gould, Gov. Granholm (MI), Dale Throneberry, Gary Lillie and Ashley Wenk



Introducing MWSA member Latoya Lucas



Latoya Lucas has proven that a person can persevere with a little encouragement and determination. Whether serving as a soldier in the United States Army, or providing her time and expertise to serve with various non-profit and civic

organizations, Latoya has always recognized that there is pride and honor in helping others.

In 2003, just one month after the initial invasion, Latoya deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She was severely wounded carrying out a supply mission in Iraq. The wounds that she suffered earned her the Purple Heart Medal. After enduring a four-month hospitalization and a subsequent two-year rehabilitation, Latoya emerged even stronger in faith and an even more determined individual. She was the first female member and the first female elected officer within the Military Order of the Purple Heart's Department of Colorado. She also became the first female member and elected officer in the Department of North Carolina. The Military Order of the Purple Heart is the only congressionally chartered organization exclusively for combat-wounded veterans.

Since her retirement from the U.S. Army, Latoya has become a motivational and inspirational speaker that is often sought after for various events. She has made it her duty to travel around the country encouraging individuals through the example of her own life story. She outlines the steps that she followed that ultimately helped her remain positive through her darkest time as a severely wounded service member. With faith and encour-

agement, Latoya believes that everyone has the capability to persevere when faced with life-changing obstacles, even during the hardships of war. In 2005, she received the prestigious Soroptimist International "Woman of Distinction" Award. This award is presented only to women who have made outstanding achievements in their professional, business, or volunteer activities. In 2009, the Colorado State Legislature honored Latoya at the Colorado state capital with a *Resolution of Commendation* for her service to the United States Army and for her contributions to the citizens of Colorado. Also in 2009, The Denver Urban Spectrum chose Latoya to be honored as one of their "African Americans Who Makes a Difference", for her contributions to the state.

She is the author of the book, "The Immeasurable Spirit: Lessons of a Wounded Warrior about Faith and Perseverance."

Tom Brokaw, journalist and author of the NY Times bestselling book, "The Greatest Generation", says "The Immeasurable Spirit" is a remarkable story of patriotism, courage, near death, recovery and inspiration. We should all be proud to share our citizenship with Latoya—and thank her for her service."

www.latoyamotivates.com

Advertisement



MWSA Member William Heuisler

A short-timer Marine is recruited from Quantico into anti-Castro, "Operation Mongoose" to train Cuban refugees on raids into Cuba. Readers are led through a bizarre world where ambush is only the dawn of misfortune, and where the horrors of combat, shipwreck, starvation and worse become commonplace.

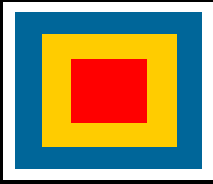
The saga of bravery, betrayal, personal heartache and bittersweet retribution is completed as friends give the ultimate sacrifice and the U.S. Government indicts its own mercenaries.

Mercenary's Tale is on sale at amazon.com for \$15.99. I cannot change the Amazon price, but can offer a 25% discount at \$12.00 if Military Writers will order from me at wheuisler@comcast.net

Delivery will take 4-7 days longer than Amazon.

**MWSA Members — You are invited to
Flag Retirement Ceremony at Dawn's Early Light Flag Retirement Plaza
South Park, Pittsburgh, PA
Thursday, June 11 at 6 pm**

Contact John Kovach at JLK1953@verizon.net



REMEMBER

Procedures for submitting your book for review:

1. Go to MWSA website.
2. Select "Reviews."
3. Choose "Submit your book"
4. Fill out the form and submit.
5. Wait while Rob Ballister, Lead Reviewer, checks your membership status and decides which reviewer will read and review your book.
6. Rob will email you with the name and snail mail address of your reviewer.
7. Send your book to the reviewer.
8. Your reviewer will take 6-8 weeks to read and complete your review.
9. Once review is complete and approved by the Lead Reviewer, John Cathcart, MWSA Webmaster, will post them to the website.
10. Once published, you may use the review in any way you like as long as you give the MWSA Reviewer credit.

The Founder's Thoughts by Bill McDonald

MWSA Membership & Fellowship

One of the motivating factors in building and establishing this society of military writers had more to do with fellowship than just having a loose association of writers. The original base membership was more about getting together for a book signing, sharing the time and company and a few beers —and if they happened to sell any books that was an extra benefit. That comradeship that comes from people of like minds and interests was what built the very foundation of the *MWSA*.

I mention this to start off with, because I want our members to realize that this is not about just selling and marketing your book(s). It is about hobnobbing and networking with people who share some of the same world-views on life and who may, in fact, even have some of the same experiences, as is the case for most veterans.

To this end, I am asking members to join me for the *MWSA Conference* in Orlando, Florida beginning **Friday October 9**. I will be there after missing the last couple of annual events due to major health issues. I want to take this opportunity to meet new members and some of the old ones who I have not yet met, and spend time with those who I have not seen in a long time. There is much that I want to share with you on a personal and professional level dealing with your writing, our life choices and the common ground that we all embrace. I look forward to listening to you and talking to you and meeting your family members if they come along.

I want new members to embrace the bigger picture and not focus on "what is in it for me" but on "how can I serve" or "how can I be of help to others?" We do not just want your dues —we want you to become a part of the family.

I have had the honor and privilege of associating myself with some wonderful people over the last decade in this community of writers. Friendships that go beyond the organizational borders that are personal and valued relationships. No clearer was this message made to me then when I was near death. People like Lloyd King, Joyce Faulkner, and Maria Edwards emailed often and phoned me just to check up on me. Many more sent me emails and prayers. Trust me, it is in times like that, that



Bill McDonald on return trip to Vietnam

real friendships are forged. I am grateful for all those who I have befriended in my own life and know that it is in friendship that we grow and prosper emotionally and spiritually.

It is my dream for this society that each of you will reach beyond your own personal boundaries and make it a point to network and talk to other members. Everyone has some experience, contacts, techniques, and ideas that might help another member. This is the real value of this community. We are a huge literary and emotional support group. We have many veterans, widows, and Gold Star Mothers who may be suffering some form of PTSD or related emotional and spiritual wounds — and who better than us, has the understanding and opportunity to reach out to them. Do not sit back and wait to see what the *MWSA* is going to do for you—after all, you are the *MWSA*. WE are the core base and the foundation and it is through us that compassion and fellowship flows.

This organization needs volunteers to help with the conference, with book reviews, with membership issues, with event planning, with leadership positions, with ideas for fund raising, and a host of other things. We need **YOU** to support community activities. Be active and involved and you will see that true happiness and peace comes when consider the needs of others.

I will be at the October Conference and I will be looking to connect with you there. You will find that these events are more about personal growth—and not so focused on selling your book. Oh, you will pick up some good advice and information that will help you market your books —

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

and you may even find out some new things about publishing and agents or related subjects. However, in the end, it is about having fun and fellowship and networking for the future. You will become connected with others, as they will with you. So come, bring your family and a positive and open attitude and heart and enjoy the Florida sunshine with all your friends!

See you in October! God bless you, Bill McDonald

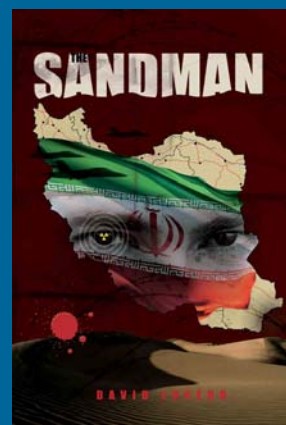


Bill Plummer and friend in 1945 shortly after the Battle of Iwo Jima. Bill died in 1976 still grieving the loss of his fellow Marines. He was my father. Semper Fi, Daddy!

Joyce Plummer Faulkner.

Good News!

The San Diego Union Tribune announced in May 3rd edition that MWSA Member David Lucero's book THE SANDMAN made the Local Best Seller List for April 19-25.



In tribute to our WWII Veterans and active-serving men and women in all branches of our service, David will discuss and sign his book on June 4 at the "Meet the Author" event at Bay Books in Coronado, CA.

For more information, go to:

www.DavidLuceroSandman.com

Celebrate Together!

MWSA 50/50 RAFFLE

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!
\$10.00

ONLY 500 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD
DRAWING ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2009 — VETERANS RADIO SHOW

BUY WITH CREDIT CARD THROUGH PAYPAL
OR
BY CHECK, MWSA, PO BOX 264, BRIDGEVILLE, PA 15017
EMAIL MWSAPRESIDENT@GMAIL.COM TO BUY TICKETS!

Military Writers Society of America
2009 50/50 Raffle
 To benefit MWSA members, events, & activities
 Raffle #: Out of 500
 Purchaser Name _____
 eMail Address _____
 \$\$\$,SSS,SSSS
 Date of Purchase: 6/1/2009
 Winner to be announced on Veterans Radio Network Show, September 18, 2009 — 9 AM EST

ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to MWSA member Cyndee Schaeffer who just signed a contract with McFarland to publish a book about her mother's experiences during World War II, Good luck, Cyndee!

Introducing MWSA member Dr. William Mayer by Pat Avery

William "Bud" Mayer shares his story in his book, *Beyond the Call: Memoirs of a Medical Visionary Pt I*.

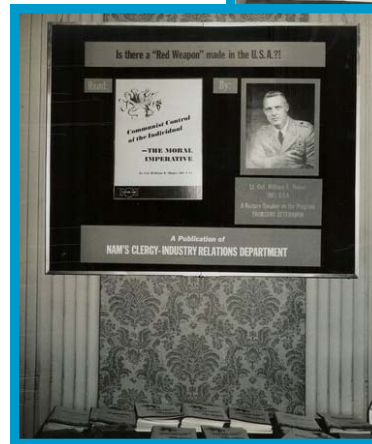
His long and impressive medical career scanned WWII, Korea, and the Cold War. He served in the Navy, Marine Corp, Army and Public Health Service, was Assistant Surgeon General of the US, and Assistant Secretary of Defense in charge of all health activities of the Armed Forces under Defense Secretaries Weinberger, Carlucci and Cheney. During six years in the Pentagon, he held responsibility for the health care of nearly ten-million military and civilian personnel worldwide. He achieved a ten-fold increase in the medical system's readiness to deal with both battlefield and mass casualties resulting from natural and man-made disasters.

Bud received a combat Bronze Star for service in Korea aboard the US hospital ship *Repose* and in four Marine combat hospitals. He twice received the Distinguished Service Medal for his collaboration with military and governmental authorities in 21 countries, culminating in the first top-level US military medical delegation to mainland China in 1989.

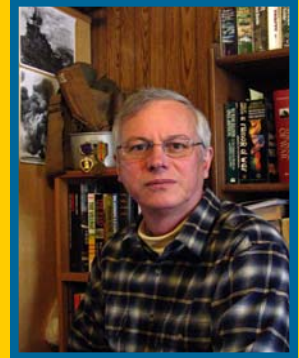
After the Korean War he served as the psychiatrist on the Japan Joint Intelligence Processing Board that studied returning POWs after the Korean War repatriation. The conclusions of that study led to the Code of Conduct. He taught field medical care and the management of mass casualties at the Army's Medical Field Service School, received flight surgeon training by the Air Force at Brooks and Randolph AF Bases in San Antonio and helicopter pilot training at Fort Rucker before becoming division surgeon of the first Army (11th) Air Assault Division at Fort Benning. Among his assignments, Bud served as Chief of Psychiatry at the US Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan, the US Army Hospital La Chapelle, and as Psychiatry Consultant for the Communications Zone Europe.

During his career, he received the Distinguished Service Medal U.S. Public Health Service, the Army Distinguished Military Physician Award, and the Distinguished Service Medal, Department of Defense.

Bud is a three-year member of MWSA. He and his wife Heidi live in University Place, Washington.



COLUMN



FROM BOOK TO BUYER by Dwight Jon Zimmerman

Welcome to a new, regular column whose purpose is to recount some of my experiences in publishing and, more importantly, to offer suggestions and strategies designed to help you get your book into the most important hands of all—the buying public. That “public” can be anyone from an individual purchaser, to a publisher, to a—and here we go all “blue sky”—a television or movie producer. Some ideas I write about you may have already tried, others might be new—or variations on something you’ve already done. While I don’t make any guarantees, the one thing I can promise you is that the suggestions I give are going to be low-cost and will usually take little time. To be honest, the expensive options (such as hiring a public relations firm to push your book) usually work best only after you’ve become wildly successful and/or famous, for reasons that I’ll get into in another column.

Before I get into any suggestions, you need to know a little bit about me. I’ve been in publishing for more than thirty years. To date I’ve written four books and a few score articles on military history, and a few hundred comic book stories. I started in 1976 in the production department at Marvel Comics, designing layouts and doing other similar tasks on their magazines and comics. I wound up spending more than twenty years in the comics industry, in a variety of editorial, writing, and other positions, including domestic licensing and foreign rights sales. In the 1990s I was the executive editor at Topps Comics, a division of the Topps trading card company, and there because we specialized in licensed product comics tied into movies and television shows (*Jurassic Park*, *Xena*, and *The X-Files*, etc.), I came into extensive contact with Hollywood, and with foreign publishers.

Shortly after Topps closed its comics division during the industry collapse in the late 1990s (that saw Marvel go into bankruptcy), I was hired as a senior editor by Byron Press Visual Publications, a book packager. It was at BPVP that I succeeded in pursuing my other great

love, military history. There I worked on books written by James M. McPherson, Stephen Ambrose, Philip Caputo, and others. In 2006, BPVP filed Chapter 7 bankruptcy, and since then I’ve been full-time freelance writing.

The television rights to my first book, *First Command*, were purchased by the Military Channel — and a three-part mini-series, with me as co-executive producer and on-camera “talking head,” debuted in 2005. It won the 2005 Platinum Aurora Award in its category of history documentary. I have two books coming out in September 2009. The first is **The Vietnam War: A Graphic History** from Hill & Wang and is drawn by Wayne Vansant. The second is **The Book of Weapons** from Tess Press. I have signed contracts with two major houses for two new books and am in the middle of research and writing for both.

I’d like this to be an open-forum column, so please feel free to email me. Your questions will let me know what your uppermost concerns are. My email address is: djonzimmerman@earthlink.net.

See you next month.



2006 Award Winner Joanne Allen with MWSA
Founder Bill McDonald

CELEBRATE TOGETHER!



WATCH FOR THIS FACE AT MWSA CONFERENCE IN
ORLANDO, FL OCTOBER 9-10TH.

Military Writers Society of America

2009

Celebrate Together!

Annual Conference
October 9-10th, 2009
Westin Imagine Hotel, Orlando, FL
9501 Universal Boulevard · Orlando, Florida 32819 · USA
Toll-Free Reservations: (866) 716-8108

Conference Pricing does not include Hotel
\$262 for Non-Members
\$232 for 1 Year Memberships
\$212 for 2 Year Memberships
\$192 for 3 Year Memberships
\$172 for Lifetime Memberships & Volunteers
\$50 Spouses/Companions for Banquet
\$100 for Non-members Saturday Workshops only

INCLUDES:

Networking Mixer In Hospitality Suite
Gold Team Participation in Programs
Hats & Buttons
Workshops * Workshops * Workshops
Speakers & Activities TBA later
Geek Classes & Activities
Award Banquet
Silver Team Buddy Presentation
Meet Dale Throneberry who will do
The Veterans Radio Network Show
Directly from the Event

OTHER EXTRAS:

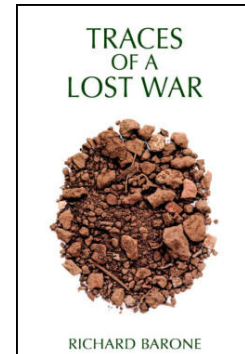
Optional Luau at Sea World on Friday Night — \$40
Breakfast Honoring MWSA Reviewers & Volunteers
MWSA Board Meeting
Door Prizes & Surprises

Discounted Golf & Amusement Park Discounts Available

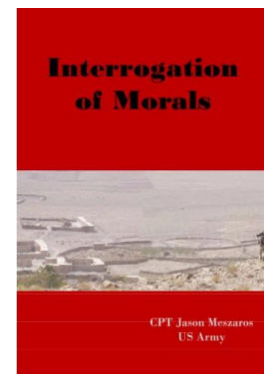
Meet Founder Bill McDonald

MORE INFORMATION TO COME IN JULY NEWSLETTER!

MWSA Author of the Month:
Richard Barone
Active Member —Author of
"Traces of a Lost War",
Fiction/Vietnam War



MWSA Book of the Month:
"Interrogation of Morals"
by Jason Meszaros,
Active Member



MWSA
PO Box 264
Bridgeville, PA 15017

MWSAPresident@gmail.com