

# MarineParents.com

a Place to Connect & Share™

## 2006 Conference



**April 21, 22 & 23  
Fri., Sat. & Sun.  
Crowne Plaza  
Houston, Texas**

### Registration:

Register online at [MarineParents.com](http://MarineParents.com) or download a printable version to mail.

**\$175 Early Bird Registration**  
(registration and payment received before Feb. 1, 06)

**\$195 Regular Registration**  
(registration and payment received on or after Feb. 1, 06)

#### Method of Payment and Confirmation

Payment in full must be received within five business days of registration. We accept payment via check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover credit cards. Registration confirmation will be mailed to you upon receipt of payment in full.

All Meals and hors d'oeuvres are included with your registration fee. Enjoy gourmet dining from the exquisite chef at Crowne Plaza Downtown - Houston, including Hors d'oeuvres and Dinner on Friday, Breakfast, Lunch, Hors d'oeuvres and Dinner on Saturday, and Breakfast on Sunday. Cash bar available on Friday and Saturday during hors d'oeuvres and dinner.

Registration fees are FULLY TRANSFERABLE. Go to [MarineParents.com](http://MarineParents.com) for details on this or our Cancellation and Refund Policy.

**Who Should Attend:** Parents, Spouses, Family members and supporters of United States Marines and Navy; Recruits, Poolies, reserve duty, retired and former Marines and Navy.

**Authors' Hall.** Meet prominent authors during the Friday and Saturday Hors d'oeuvres and Sunday morning. Bring your books, or buy the books on site, to have each author personally autograph your copy!

**Marine Corps Mall.** Opportunities to visit educational exhibits as well as retail exhibits selling items that support and promote the United States Marine Corps, Navy and the military lifestyle.

**Silent Auction.** Bid on great items and one-of-a-kind military memorabilia during the Silent Auction on Friday. Winners to be announced after Friday evening's program.

**Pre-conference Workshops include:** Friday afternoon you have the opportunity to attend two pre-conference workshops to learn more about MarineParents.com, Inc. Meet Tracy Della Vecchia, founder of MarineParents.com, Inc. and the volunteers who make the web site happen.

**24 Breakout Session** titles to choose from on Saturday. A full day of breakout sessions on Saturday to educate, support, enlighten, and entertain.

**Hospitality Room and Networking Opportunities.** Meet and network with other family members in the Hospitality Room which will be open during the entire conference.

**"Our Heroes" Exhibit** will be open all three days to share photos of your Marine, Sailor or recruit. This exhibit will include a special section to honor our Fallen Heroes. All photos need to be submitted prior to the conference start date.



Our keynote speaker will be retired U.S. Marine Lieutenant Colonel Bill Cowan of the Fox News Channel. Known for his insightful, frank, and non-partisan views, his talk will reflect on the Corps, the role of the media in today's Global War on Terror, and the challenges he believes our nation faces in the future.



Colonel Bryan McCoy is an active duty Marine and has served two tours in Iraq with the 3/4 (3rd Battalion, 4th Marines). While serving in Iraq, Col. McCoy, whose radio call sign was "Darkside" and his battalion fought in Al Kut and then toppled Hussein's statue in Baghdad.



Bing West, a Marine in Vietnam, his book, No True Glory, describes the valor and policy confusion at Fallujah, a major battle of the Iraqi war. Universal Studios is developing the movie version, with Harrison Ford in the role of Major General James Mattis. Bing West and Major General Ray L. Smith also wrote one of the first books that came out on the Iraq war, The March Up.



Lt. Carey H. Cash is the author of A Table in the Presence. He is a US Navy chaplain with infantry Marines. As a chaplain to the 1/5 Marines, Lieutenant Cash heard the muttered prayers for courage from the thousand-plus men of the "Fightin' Fifth", the first ground force to cross Iraqi borders during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Admiral Stuart Platt completed a distinguished 31-year military career and has followed it with an equally successful executive career in business, principally in the technology and defense sectors.



Tracy Della Vecchia is the mother of a Marine and the founder of MarineParents.com. The organization was founded in January, 2003 in response to parents' needs to find information and to Connect & Share™ with one another during deployments.



Michael M. Phillips, author of The Gift of Valor and a staff reporter for the Wall Street Journal, has done four tours in Iraq with 3/7, the Third Battalion, Seventh Marines.