

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Headline: Marine Corps Families Houston Bound!

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The MarineParents.com, Inc. Annual National Conference will be held in Houston, Texas the weekend of April 21-23, 2006. The conference offers a phenomenal lineup of six guest speakers, many authors, Marines and Sailors, breakout sessions, and plenty of opportunities to meet and network with other Marine Corps and Navy parents, spouses, families and friends. Join Marine and Navy families from all over the United States for a weekend of education, friendship, entertainment, patriotism, and esprit de corps!

Guest Speakers include: Lieutenant Colonel Bill Cowan, USMC Retired, Fox News Contributor; Colonel Bryan P. McCoy, active duty Marine; Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin S. Blankenship, active duty Marine; Michael Phillips of the Wall Street Journal and Author of *Gift of Valor*; Rear Admiral Stuart F. Platt, US Navy Retired and author of *The Armament Tide*; and Lieutenant Carey H. Cash, US Navy active duty, and author of *A Table in the Presence*.

The Marine Parents Conference registration includes two pre-conference sessions on Friday, four breakout sessions on Saturday, keynote speaker, guest speakers, entertainment, Authors' Hall, Marine Corps Mall and a fantastic menu of gourmet dining including dinner on Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. The documentary *Make Peace or Die* featuring 1/5 Marines in Iraq in 2003 will debut at the conference. Saturday's breakout sessions include titles such as "Deployment Discussion Panel", "Recovering from Combat", "Tasting an MRE" and many other educational and entertaining topics.

All conference attendees will receive a copy of the book *Down Range: to Iraq and Back*. The book addresses PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) for our military personnel returning from combat. Attendees will have an opportunity to attend a panel discussion with the authors Bridget C. Cantrell, Ph.D. and Chuck Dean on Saturday.

Additional authors include John Koopman, author of *McCoy's Marines: Darkside to Baghdad*; Nathaniel Fick author of *One Bullet Away*; Charles Latting, author of *Once a Marine*; and Deborah H. Tainsh, author of *Heart of a Hawk, Eye of the Eagle*.

All conference events and dining will be at the The Crowne Plaza Houston - Downtown, a beautiful hotel with all the amenities, located in the heart of the downtown district. Make reservations early to assure the special group rate.

Houston is jam-packed with attractions for every interest, ranging from museum masterpieces, downtown entertainment, and shopping at the Galleria, to NASA's Johnson Space Center. There are lots of activities and site-seeing opportunities within walking distance of the hotel.

MarineParents.com, Inc., a 501(c)(3) public charity, was founded in January, 2003 in response to parents' needs to find information and to Connect & Share™ with one another during deployments. Their free online services and connections have expanded to support and educate Marine moms & dads, spouses, families and friends and we're now offering our own Annual National Conference. We've helped over 30,000 Marine and recruit families during bootcamp, training, active duty and deployments. We've shipped thousands of care packages overseas to our Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan. We are a Place to Connect & Share™.

For more information, log on to www.MarineParentsConference.com or contact Tracy Della Vecchia at (573) 449-2003.

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