



WOUNDED MARINE CAREERS FOUNDATION

MONTHLY UPDATE



Providing wounded Veterans new and marketable professional skills for careers in media following their rehabilitation

ADAPT AND OVERCOME



PHOTO BY TIMOTHY STREET



**WOUNDED
MARINE
CAREERS
FOUNDATION**

Back row left to right:
Daniel Asmelash
Jeffrey Galloway
Ricahard Gooding
Gabrielle Soto
Joshua Davis
Anh Nguyen

First row left to right:
James Eagleman
Brandon Steinmo
Jeffrey Underwood

Service Dogs:
Magnum Nguyen
Zoe Underwood

Your Executive Council Reports ... “Adapt and Overcome” The Class 02-09 Mantra

Faced with a demanding curriculum and multiple physical and/or mental challenges, our students are performing beyond all expectation.

WMCF is training a unique group of men who are now well on their way to working in the entertainment industry. Over the past two months these students have attended courses six and sometimes seven days-a-week. They have learned an entirely new Apple operating system; (“Operating System X”) and editing with Final Cut Pro 6. We are teaching Still Photography, Lighting, Sound and Safety. The Class is half way through the Cinematography, Storytelling, Scriptwriting and Sound curriculae.

Time has flown by, the students are over the hump and are gaining momentum as graduation approaches. The move into the second half of the training has transitioned students into producing their own pieces. Individual discipline enforces team work with a common goal of finishing all individual projects. Students learn the art of being a DP (Director of Photography) from their faculty mentors and amidst their peers. They must maintain their school schedule under professional conditions while managing their assignments and time (for instance, during the past week there have been four ten-hour shooting days which started at 5:00 a.m.) Six students and two faculty members live together in one house provided by the Foundation; we understand that many a late night is spent collaborating on classwork and individual projects. A music video is underway and the business plan for a Native American television network is in development by one of our students.

We are proud of Class 02-09’s achievement scoring above 90% in Final Cut Pro 6 testing along with their overall performance throughout the course ... individual work ethics are collectively inspiring.

The week of 3/16/09

- 1. Job hunting** - Faculty starts marketing students to potential employers. Resumes will be built along with portfolios and reels.
- 2. Recruiting** for next class begins.
- 3. PhotoShop CS4** class launches.
- 4. On-the-job Training @ Camp Pendleton:** ACMC-Directed “Suicide Prevention” dvd series’ production, USNAF El Centro Air Show filming.
- 5. ABC Marine Cameraman Ken Johnson** serves as visiting cinematography professor for the week. ABC internship as well as filming at Camp Pendleton underway.
- 6. IATSE Union Film Loader’s seminar** taught by ASC Cameraman visiting professor Dick Rawlings along with 1st Asst. Cameraman’s duties.
- 7. NYU Sound Professor Chat Gunter in residence** for a cohesive week of sound training.

*Faithfully in service,
Kev, Judith, Norman,*



**Kev Lombard, Executive Director
Cinematography Instructor**

For the last week the current Class has trained under my direction as a professional film crew on a real-life shoot for the USMC in five + locations throughout Camp Pendleton. These students have been most effective PR machine for the Foundation and the Training Center. Two commanding Generals and their staffs were highly impressed with our student filmmakers, watching as the students worked cohesively as a team to build the sets and prepare to shoot. Several of these men have never met a General,

let alone working side-by-side with the top command of the Corps.

We have much talent in the Class 02-09. Our men pick up very quickly with the hands-on training element of the Cinematography curriculum. One of the USMC Public Affairs officers said to me today; "You really love your job". I replied; "Actually I love working with my students". And that's the way it's been with this class from the start.

I truly did not think that we would achieve this level of individual investment representing four national service branches in such a short amount of time.

**Judith Paixao
Director of Community Relations**

Development Underway ... Proof of Concept ...
Lessons Learned ... One Team, One Fight!



Reading our position today, the fight has been hard won with more ground to cover. WMCF now has a solid relationship with the VA, a fund-raising initiative that has netted large sums in the first quarter of a dismal market, and an unparalleled working partnership with the Marine Corps and the USArmy. This has been achieved by a new and highly organized Executive Council at the helm. Our Foundation has truly adapted and overcome. To a man our students are 100% ready, willing and chomping at the bit to get out to work. Our faculty each wear at least four hats, our budget is honed and our spending is cut.

As others fold around us, we recognize that a house divided against itself cannot stand. We not only need your support, we count upon it. Thank you for your patience and unflagging belief that we can see through this mission, together. Your Foundation is firm.

**Norman C. Smith
Director of Productions
Dean of Students
Editing/Story Telling Professor**



After a long, charmed and eclectic career in the Media Industry, I shuttered the business I started in NYC in 1976 and moved to Miami in 1989, and afterwards was invited by Kev and Judith to join them in their WMCF adventure. Having known Kev from my days in New York, I knew right away that it was a good time to collaborate with good people on a noble project.

Since the graduation of Class 01/08, we have worked tirelessly with the first students, each in their own field, to move the center forward. Despite the obstacles we now have a wonderful class in place, and an incredible body of work to show.

WMCF has entered into a new phase of our operations which include great new team members; our focus is upon becoming totally organized, transparent and efficient. I am very excited to see the Center mature and we are giving our all to the Veterans that seek our guidance and support. Thank you for yours.

Thank you,

**Kit Lavell and Stu Segall:
\$285,000 appropriated by Congress
for WMCF!**

Not many have met either Kit Lavell or Stu Segall of Strategic Operations ... these men are typically found installing urban warfare training sets at Twenty-Nine Palms, redesigning container units as Afghani village sets or leaving before dawn to build another simulated warfare zone at Camp Pendleton.

Kit, Stu and Congressmen Bob Filner and Duncan Hunter's families go way back in San Diego. Exactly one year ago Kit suggested that we apply for an FY09 appropriation to provide for "Veterans' Employment Training Initiative" scholarship funding.

On Tuesday, 2/24, WMCF was notified by David Wetmore and Ken Carpi of Carpi Clay / D.C. that the Omnibus appropriation package sponsored by Congressmen Filner and Hunter was approved; President Obama signed this great example of job stimulus funding into law last week.

**Bob Woodruff Family
Fund Awards \$ 99,875
for 2009 Scholarship and
Equipment ... an \$11,200
increase over 2008!**

SSgt James Eagleman is an active duty Marine attached to WWBn-W and is the beneficiary of a complete scholarship funded by Bob Woodruff Family Fund. Given Bob and Leigh Woodruff's experience and depth of knowledge in the industry, this grant represents the highest honor bestowed upon the Foundation. The Woodruff family, along with Rene Bardorf and recent addition of CFO Alexis George, have believed in us personally and the mission of WMCF from the very beginning, tracking our progress from the moment we met with CMC Gen. Conway in D.C.

AATCE "Military Training Academy for all Services in Media Arts"

In keeping with the WMCF SEMPER Films Business Plan developed in late July '08, the WMCF will launch our Nation's first and only Apple-Authorized Training Center for Education exclusively serving disabled Veterans. A revenue-producing entity, the first class will start training in Final Cut Pro, all Apple applications as well as the Flame and Smoke special effects editing systems in July '09. Nine of our graduates, including Faculty Directors Norman Smith will become certified FinalCut Pro Trainers in late April '09.

3/3/09

"I know you. You, Kev and the program have our unyielding support. Thank you for all you do for the Corps and particularly our wounded warriors."

Semper Fidelis

Walt Ford

Colonel USMC (Ret)

Publisher/Editor Leatherneck Magazine

3/3/09

"You're doing great...like the new class picture."

Hang in there and sf,

Les

Maj Gen Les Palm

President, Marine Corps Association

3/3/09

"I think you are doing the right thing and encourage you to openly share the article and your response with everyone on your mailing list. Lanny Davis, Bill Clinton's lawyer, says get an accurate response out fast and then let it go. I think one point you can make is that the first class was expensive while you got the bugs out and the second class is 25% cheaper, and the third class will be even cheaper. Also we are hoping this concept can be picked up by all kinds of industries; we are trying to create a model. I also suggest mentioning that the first class was on average 22 and you decided to focus on older Warriors with the second class average age of 31 - you have learned who can best benefit from the program. Just be proud of what you have done and always maintain positive tone.

Best wishes,

David

USMC Hires WMCF as “PREditors”: \$18,500 Awarded As On-The-Job Training Scholarship Income

MGySgt Andrew Willis of I MEF (First Marine Expeditionary Force) notified WMCF at noon on Thursday 2/26 that we had been short-listed on a short fuse to produce, shoot and edit a four-dvd “Suicide Prevention” series for the USMC. Short-fuse indeed: the contract was awarded by 5:00 p.m., the script was developed that night with the I MEF command and your WMCF went immediately into production.

Tasked directly by ACMC (Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps), the Cinematography class is on location this week at Camp Pendleton filming the top command of each west coast subordinate division: 1st MARDIV (1st Marine Division), 1st MLG (Marine Logistics) and 3dMAW (3d Marine Airwing) as well as I-MEF.



Medal of Honor Society Retains Class to Produce Gen. Petraeus Honoree Video

TriWest Healthcare Alliance donated \$25,000 to WMCF in December 2008 for “services going forward”. Our first official assignment was to write, produce and edit two honoree videos which were shown at the annual Medal of Honor Society Gala held this year 3/7/09 at the Ronald Reagan Library in Burbank. The Class split into two groups; “Team Petraeus” and “Team Durning”, in honor of WWII Veteran actor Charles Durning (recipient of three Purple Hearts). Led by Dean Norman Smith, the dvds were completed 3/2/09 and shipped out well within deadline. Three of the class travelled to Hollywood with Kev several weeks ago to film Charles Durning in his home. We urge you to request a viewing of these tremendous first efforts by our students which were shown on trinitron screens to Nancy Reagan and 114 MOH recipients.

Ground-Breaking Symbolic for Two Start-Ups

On 28 Feb our class filmed the Wounded Warrior Battalion-West Campus ground-breaking ceremony at Camp Pendleton. The Wounded Warrior Regiment was formed by the USMC in April 2007, the same week that Kev and Judith met the Commandant, Gen. Conway in D.C., seeking the green light to move forward. Little did we know at that time that we would each come down such a rocky road, from Quantico to San Diego, blazing the trail simultaneously only to intersect two years later with wounded Warriors filming a ground-breaking in celebrating of future development for all.

Laying of the Foundation

MajGen Mike Lehner heartily acknowledged our work from the podium; LtCol Greg Martin (CDR, WWBn-W) cited WMCF as a “solid example of a civilian-led organization that has successfully helped wounded Warriors transition from military to civilian life and into new careers”.

Four of our students (and one from the first class) were former residents of the on-site Battalion Med Hold barracks; it was a proud

moment for these men to return as trained experts utilizing new skills learned in media arts.

More than 200 people saw our men in action that day. Our students had the best camera positions, the most technical gear and arranged exclusive access to those flag officers present. Our men are learning on-the-job; taught to get the best story right on the first pass.

Afterwards Col. Greg Boyle, Commander of the Wounded Warrior Regiment, told a small group assembled that “WMCF has accomplished in one and a half years what he thought would take 3+ years to achieve”.





Art. Dep. SecNav Col. Barney Barnum and Panasonic film making camera at school.



Marine West Exps with R. Lee Erney.



Students on location @ CP1st MARDIV.



USMC and USArmy student Richard Gooding learning to use the teleprompter.



Former Director of Selective Service Bill Chatfield (USMC), Judith Paisan, Kevin Lombard, Robin Cleveland and 1st Class Graduate Tai Cleveland.



WMCF faculty, USMC Ret. ABC Cameraman Ken Johnson meets WWRV Commander Colonel Gregory Boyle.