DEDICATION CEREMONY DETAILS
ANNOUNCED, PLANNING CONTINUES

T he formal dedication of the National Museum of the Marine Corps and Marine Corps Heritage Center will occur at 1400 on November 6, 2006—the 231st anniversary of the United States Marine Corps. The ceremonies represent a special opportunity for the project’s supporters to celebrate the creation of a magnificent new complex dedicated to the commemoration of Marine service throughout our nation’s history. Dedication of the National Museum has required intricate planning, particularly with respect to registering and providing tickets to donors who have supported the campaign. The information below is a summary of information which continues to be updated and made available to donors and members of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. Tickets to donors who have supported the project’s Founders’ Group will accommodate the anticipated high guest count, an off-site parking and shuttle transportation plan is being implemented to streamline site access. In all, a fleet of more than 200 buses will shuttle guests from the parking facilities to the Heritage Center campus at Quantico and back. As noted above, detailed information on logistics, including parking and transportation, continues to be transmitted to registered guests.

Preprogram
As guests arrive, they will be entertained with a preprogram of field music and other activities. Featured participants include the United States Marine Band and the Drum & Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Graysen, United States Marine Band. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Graysen, United States Marine Band and the Drum & Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps. Also featured will be American Idol participant Sergeant Josh Grayson, Bugle Corps.

The formal dedication ceremony will begin at 1400. Here is the ceremonial sequence:

• Flag presentation, during which the organizational colors of the Marine Corps will be massed and presented.
• 21-gun salute.
• Singing of the National Anthem.
• Invocation.
• Introductions and comments from dignitaries, including the President of the United States.
• 50 airborne, F/A-18 aircrafts.
• Singing of the Marine Hymn.
SEMPER FIDELIS MEMORIAL PARK
DEDICATION WILL OCCUR VETERANS DAY

An initial phase of Semper Fidelis Memorial Park, a solemn place of remembrance over-
looking the National Museum of the Marine Corps, will be dedicated on Veterans Day—
11 November, 2006—with a special ceremony.

Semper Fidelis Memorial Park is a place for remembrance and reflection. It will be a ma-
jor component of the Marine Corps Heritage Center. For many, Semper Fidelis Memorial
Park will be the most emotive component of the Marine Corps Heritage Center. The Park,
which has been described as the emotional soul of the Heritage Center, will allow Ma-
rines, their families and other visitors to return, remember and honor those who have sacrificed
in the service of our country.

The Park, situated on approximately three acres of wooded high ground adjacent to and over-
looking the National Museum of the Marine Corps, will be a major part of the visitor ex-
erience. A network of walking trails will lead visitors past the many monuments that will be
erected to honor various Marine Corps organi-

tations and those who served in them. Portions
of the trails will be lined with commemora-
tive bricks engraved with the names of those
who are being honored by their families and
friends. Aside from the trail system, the Park
includes three major features: a non-denomi-
national Chapel; a major “water feature” that honors the amphibious heritage of the Corps;
and a series of overlooks and rally points that will be scattered throughout the Park.

The first phase of the Park, comprised of a portion of the trail network and the first of the
overlooks, will be completed in time for the dedication of the Heritage Center and National
Museum of the Marine Corps on 10 Novem-
ber, 2006.

Following the last group tour of the Nation-
al Museum on the evening of 11 November,
2006, the dedication ceremony will commence
at [7:00]. Features of the ceremony include:
• Recitation of “Letters of Home,” actual letters sent to and from Marines in the field
during conflicts throughout America’s history.
• Invocation.
• Remarks from the senior leadership of the
Marine Corps.
• Keynote address by Col H. C. “Barney”
Barnum Jr., USMC (Ret), recipient of the
Congressional Medal of Honor.

Completion of the Park to its full vision is a
priority focus of ongoing development and
construction planning.

National Museum Tours
Guests will be able to tour the newly opened
National Museum at the conclusion of dedica-
tion ceremonies. However, many registrants
already have opted to join the group tours that will be offered continuously on 11 November and 12 November. Participants in the group
tours will have more time to view the Museum
and will do so with expert docent guidance.

Guests are encouraged to register for group
tours on the two days following dedication in
order to appreciate the new facility to the fullest.

According to LtGen Ron Christmas, USMC
(Ret), “The Marine Corps and the Marine
Corps Heritage Foundation—the project’s
longtime public/private partners—view the
upcoming dedication ceremonies as a special
celebratory opportunity for those individu-
als and organizations who made the National
Museum and Heritage Center become a real-
ity. We warmly welcome those whose staunch
support is making possible the opening of this
newest national treasure and thank them for all
their generosity and hard work.”

An artist’s rendition illustrates an overlook in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park.