



Center House Association

P.O. Box 6663 Arlington, VA 22206
www.centerhouse.org

27 February 2019

From: President and Chairman of the Board of Directors
To: Center House Association (CHA) Members and Prospective Members
Subject: 2018 Annual Report

I am pleased to report that we made great progress in growing Center House Association (CHA) in 2018. Our membership now stands at 219 members; of those, 22 are 10-Year members and 14 are Lifetime members. We have built, and continue to build, a large and improved contact database in conjunction with our new association management website. Our membership growth campaign has been highly successful this year (a 110% growth rate since 2017!), and we fully expect to keep growing throughout 2019 and beyond.

Because of the generous support of Murtech, Inc., Pratt & Whitney, Patricio Enterprises, the Marine Corps Aviation Association, and our membership, CHA supported the Commanding Officer's enhancement of the environment of Center House through the donation of museum-quality encasements for:

- The Mameluke swords of:
 - General Leonard F. Chapman, USMC (Ret), "The Father of the Evening Parade"
 - Colonel Roy J. Batterton, Jr., "The First Parade Commander"
- Four of the Barracks' historically significant weapons
- Historical maces and baldrics belonging to
 - "The President's Own", United States Marine Band
 - "The Commandant's Own", United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps

CHA also sponsored several significant "camaraderie events" during 2019:

- 29 March: Luncheon celebrating the 217th Birthday of Marine Barracks, Washington, DC
- 22 September: Fall Post-Parade Season BBQ (at which the above encased artifacts were presented)
- 24 October: PME Guest Speaker, LtGen Ron Christmas, USMC (Ret)
- 12 December: PME Guest Speaker, LtGen Larry Nicholson, USMC (Ret)

Our 2018 financial report shows a growing but robust organization -- we are proud to say that it was a very good year for expanding our membership rolls and "giving back" to the Barracks. We ended the

year with a positive revenue of more than \$17,000, thanks to our members and generous sponsors! I am pleased to direct our members' attention to our [2018 End-of-Year Report](#).

In 2019, we continue our "camaraderie" momentum, starting with our Annual CHA Luncheon on **Wednesday, 3 April to celebrate the Barracks' 218th Birthday**, and continuing with the traditional Fall Post-Parade Season BBQ, followed by two distinguished guest speaker PME discussions planned for November and December. CHA members are cordially invited to these events that bring us back to the Barracks to enjoy timeless camaraderie and swap sea stories with many generations of Barracks Officers, and I urge you to take advantage of these great opportunities.

And don't forget that CHA members may obtain up to four tickets to Friday Evening Parades, including enjoying further camaraderie with the currently-serving Barracks Officers in Center House after the Parade!

CHA members are also welcomed to attend our Board of Directors meetings, held at Center House -- our next meeting is scheduled at 0900, Saturday, 13 April 2019. Keep an eye on our website's Events calendar for future meeting dates -- and check out the rest of the site to enjoy many more membership benefits, not the least of which is our Membership Directory!

To continue our momentum, I request that you maintain your dues payments and to join us at the great activities we offer our members. I also ask that you reach out to those with whom you served at the Barracks and encourage them to join CHA. Annual dues are still \$35, a 10-year membership is \$350, and a lifetime membership is \$750. CHA dues and any additional contributions are tax-deductible. Sign up and dues payment are easy -- send your Barracks Officer friends to our website and ask them to click the "Join" button on the home page!

Thank you very much for your continuing interest in Center House Association, and I hope to see you at our upcoming events in the very near future!

Sincerely,



Ron Christmas
LtGen, USMC (Ret)
President and Chairman
Center House Association