



September 15, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL MTIA MEMBERS

SUBJECT: Annual MTIA Newsletter

**1. CMSgt Jay Pavey, President, MTIA:**

As we embark upon our seventh year as an organization I want to thank the many people who have contributed their time and efforts through the years. During this time, these individuals have brought forth outstanding ideas to help grow this organization. I am very proud of our many accomplishments. Most notably, our Annual Convention, the Honors Banquet, the Academic Scholarship, the MTI Benevolent Fund, and the Spouse's Group to name a few. Each of these programs or events have had a positive impact upon the lives of current and former MTIs. Those of you involved in these various activities have much to be proud of and we as an organization are grateful and thankful for your efforts.

Moving forward as an organization I want to challenge everyone who is a part of this group to step up and make us even better. Since our inception, I have received more emails and letters than I can count about how proud they are of this Association and what it has meant to them. That said, I believe there are some stagnant areas within our organization and I want us to be more than just a vehicle by which we meet annually to renew friendships. We need committed individuals to take on a variety of roles as we continue to try and expand our impact and influence. At this year's convention we will have elections for the position of President, Second Vice President, Secretary, and Treasure. We need a full-time Director of Membership, someone willing to aggressively sell our message to current and former MTIs. We need an individual to spearhead our Awards Program. We also need individuals to assist with full-time fundraising. There are a host of other positions we need help with as well. If you think you would like to be a part of what we do, please contact me, or show up at our general membership meeting at this year's Convention

Finally, plan on attending our Seventh Annual Convention. BMT continues to respond to worldwide needs and training today is more impressive than ever before. Come see it first hand, as well as make some new friends and acquaint yourself with some old ones!

**2. New BMT Commander:** In the early part of the year, Colonel Edward B. Westermann took over command of Air Force Basic Training. He was previously Professor of Military

Strategic Studies and Director of Curriculum Integration, Department of Military Strategic Studies, Air Force Academy. His complete biography can be found at:

<http://www.lackland.af.mil/library/biographies/bio.asp?id=10729>

**3. Death of SSgt Tim Johnson:** On September 1, 2008, Tim Johnson was killed in a motorcycle accident just outside of Sacramento, California. He was on a two-lane road when a vehicle coming from the other direction lost control and came across the centerline and struck him head-on, killing him instantly. He was on the support team of the San Jose BMW Motorcycle Race Team and was heading to Bonneville Flats, Utah to cover the Team's attempt to set various world records in land speed racing. Tim was one of the Founding Board of Director's for the MTIA and was instrumental in building this organization into what it is today. He was the Association's web master and volunteered countless hours in mailing out membership packages to more than 600 members, as well as an untold number of renewals at his own expense. His memorial service was conducted on September 6, 2008 in San Jose, California before a standing room only crowd of more than 250 people. In recognition of his extraordinary contributions to the MTI Corps and the MTIA, the BMT Commander, Colonel Westermann, and the BMT Superintendent, CMSgt Ludwig, posthumously bestowed the Master Military Training Instructor Award upon him. Tim was 53 years old and is survived by his wife Debbie, a son Andy, and a daughter Casey.

**4. 2007 Annual MTIA Elections:** The following individuals were elected as an officer of the MTIA for a two-year term to run from October 2007 – October 2009:

First Vice President: CMSgt (Ret) Nick Zuehl

**5. 2008 Annual MTIA Elections:** The term of service for the following positions will end at this year's convention and voting will take place to fill this position:

President	Treasurer
Second Vice President	Secretary

Please submit nominations to fill this position to CMSgt Zuehl at [chiefz1933@yahoo.com](mailto:chiefz1933@yahoo.com)

**6. 2008 Annual Convention:** The Seventh Annual MTIA Convention will be held at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, from 22 – 24 October, 2008. This is a great event that grows year by year. If you have not had the chance to attend, please start planning now. BMT rolls out the red carpet for everyone. There will be plenty of tours to see the latest in basic training, as well as numerous social events in which you can just sit back and enjoy yourself. If you have not been to Lackland in many years, trust me, you need to make a trip soon. The changes will absolutely astound you. The agenda is posted on our web site.

7. **2008 MTIA Honors Banquet:** The Seventh Annual MTIA Honors Banquet will be held on 23 October 2008 on Lackland AFB. This year's guest speaker will be CMSgt (Ret) George Barrett. Chief Barrett served in a number of positions throughout his many years in BMT, from a flight instructor to several positions at headquarters. An extraordinary instructor, Chief Barrett was sent TDY to San Diego Marine Corps Recruit Depot to formulate the Blue Rope Awards Program. He is currently a high school Junior ROTC Instructor in the Dallas, Texas area. With more than 30 years on active duty and an additional 20 years in his current position, he has proudly worn the uniform for more than 50 years. Chief Barrett is truly one of the legends of BMT, so do not miss out on hearing of his experiences.

8. **USAF Military Training Instructor Benevolent Fund (MTIBF):** The MTIBF continues to assist active and former MTIs as the need arises. Please send all donations to, "MTI Benevolent Fund", P.O. Box 276477, San Antonio, TX 78227-6477.

9. **Department of State Recruiting Notice:** Former MTI John Shippy, Major, USAF, Retired, currently works for the Department of State as a recruiter. For those who are retired or are contemplating retirement and are looking for a second career that is extremely challenging and one where you can make a difference, please contact John Shippy at [shippyjd3@state.gov](mailto:shippyjd3@state.gov) or visit the Department of State web site: <http://www.careers.state.gov>.

10. **Membership and Renewals (Understanding the Process):** All membership applications and renewals should be sent to the San Antonio Post Office Box, as listed on the official MTIA web site ([www.usafmtia.org](http://www.usafmtia.org)). The MTIA staff at Lackland checks the post office box on a regular basis. All checks are deposited in the bank on Lackland and the membership roster is updated. The roster is then forwarded electronically to SSgt (Vet) Tim Johnson in California who prepares the mail-outs. Try as we might, someone seems to get overlooked from time to time. I would appreciate your patience. The members of the MTIA staff are strictly volunteers and they serve out of their passion for the MTI Corps. If your application, renewal, or inquiry is not handled as quick as you think it should or if for some reason we have overlooked something, please contact me and I will ensure the matter is looked into and resolved immediately.

11. **MTIA Academic Scholarship:** The MTIA is proud to announce that, in conjunction with BMT, we will again award a \$500.00 academic scholarship to an active duty instructor who has excelled academically and continues to pursue educational accomplishments while assigned as an instructor. The scholarship will be presented at the MTIA Honors Banquet in October. This award is restricted to active duty instructors who carry the MTI special duty identifier.

12. **Volunteers Needed:** Volunteers are always needed to assist with the operation of the MTIA. The only requirement we have is that you are either currently an instructor or have served as an instructor in the past. If you want to get involved, please contact any board member. If you are willing to help, I promise you we can find something for you to do. We

especially have a need for those who are on active duty. Please contact your squadron representative SMSgt Walt Myhre if you are interested.

13. **MTIA Web Site:** SSgt (Vet) Rick Blankenship has taken over as the official web master for the USAF MTIA. He is always looking for photographs from any era to add to the site. Additionally, he is also looking for any information related to the history of former squadrons, e.g., past commander and training superintendent names, annual award winners, and so forth. Please feel free to email him anything you may possess to him at [rick@usafmtia.org](mailto:rick@usafmtia.org) or to his physical address at 4363 Chatham Drive, King George, VA 22485.

14. **BMT Flight Picture Project:** The Lackland AFB Historian's Office recently created a database of flight pictures from past years. The purpose of this ambitious project is to include a flight picture of every flight that went through basic training! Please take the time to dig through your old records and see what you can find to help out. You can send a scanned flight picture to: [37trw.ho@lackland.af.mil](mailto:37trw.ho@lackland.af.mil) or you can mail a hard copy to 37 TRW/HO, 1650 Carswell Ave., Lackland AFB, TX 78236. The History Office is also accepting other photographs involving basic training as well. Please ensure any photographs submitted are clearly identified.

For further information, please go to: <http://www.lackland.af.mil/info/flightphoto.asp>

15. **On-line Renewals and Membership:** You can now renew or join the MTIA via our web site. Please go to [www.usafmtia.org](http://www.usafmtia.org). Click on "The MTIA" on the side panel, then click on "Membership in the MTIA" to find the email sign up option.

*John J. Pavey, Jr.*

JOHN J. PAVEY, JR., CMSgt, USAF, Retired  
President, USAF Military Training Instructor Association

*USAF Military Training Instructor Association  
P.O. Box 276477, San Antonio, TX 78227-6477  
[www.usafmtia.org](http://www.usafmtia.org)*