



PHCC NEWS

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Learn the meaning of being a hero

The timing will be perfect Sept. 27 at the PHCC convention in Chicago to hear New York Times' bestseller "Flags of our Fathers" author Jim Bradley talk about his book about the young Marines who raised the American flag at Iwo Jima in World War II.

A movie based on his book, and produced by Clint Eastwood and Steven Spielberg, is scheduled to be released in August, just one month prior to the convention. Based on the typical popularity of movies by Eastwood and Spielberg, the movie will undoubtedly be generating a lot of interest among Americans at convention time.

"We feel incredibly lucky to have engaged Jim Bradley to talk at Network '06," PHCC President Jim Stack said. "This will be a great opportunity to see a famous person at the height of his fame. Hearing him will stir your spirit to be thankful for the freedoms you enjoy. Old and young will enjoy this session."

Bradley will present the "American Spotlight" keynote address, titled "Achieving the Impossible," from 9 to 10 a.m. Sept. 27 at Network '06. He also will be available to autograph books afterwards.

"Flags of Our Fathers" is about a man's quest to learn more about his father, a medical corpsman in World War II at the Battle of Iwo Jima. The battle, the largest sea armada invasion ever assembled and the costliest one ever fought by the U.S. Marines,



was also a turning point in the war because control of the island of Iwo Jima (Japanese territory) allowed Allied forces to launch B-29 bomber raids into the heart of Japan with the eventual dropping of the atomic bombs that would end the war.

The book centers around the life stories of the six men who raised the American Flag above a deadly battlefield and were captured forever in a famous black-and-white photograph by Joe Rosenthal. The book also shows in times of national crisis, ordinary Americans have found within themselves an uncommon courage and a capacity to attempt, and achieve, the impossible.

Three of the Marines were killed in battle and three lived and became reluctant heroes. For two of them, the attention was shattering. Only John

Bradley truly survived, displaying no copy of the famous photograph in his home, telling his son only, "The real heroes of Iwo Jima were the guys who didn't come back."

"PHCC members are some of the most patriotic people around," Stack said. "We think they will love hearing Jim Bradley's story of bravery and courage, and will be reminded of how proud they are to be an American."

More information about the book is available at <http://www.flagsofourfathers.net>. Visit www.network06.org for the full convention schedule.



Three hidden cardboard boxes start journey

His father never talked about his war experiences. There wasn't even a copy of the famous Iwo Jima photograph in Jim Bradley's father's house. But shortly after his father died in 1994, Jim Bradley discovered three hidden cardboard boxes that contained photographs and documents that told a story "Doc" Bradley had seldom spoken of.

After finding these boxes, Jim Bradley began a journey to find out more about his father and the other flag raisers.

He pored through his father's materials, interviewed Iwo Jima survivors and even visited the island. Four years later, he finished the book.

But there were complications in getting it published. After 27 rejections by publishing houses, however, he signed with Doubleday. The result in 2000 was the bestseller "Flags of our Fathers."

Bradley has been quoted as saying that now he understands why his father never spoke of his experiences.

"My father was a medical corpsman. He was constantly running from one broken body to the next. He probably held 200 young boys in his arms as they were dying. He had a lot to not talk about."

Be sure to attend Network '06 to hear the full story in person.

Network '06 offers it all

The high quality of speakers is one of the main attractions of Network '06 and the ISH North America trade show Sept. 28-30 in Chicago. You'll find it all-education, inspiration and entertainment-from the numerous experts who are scheduled. Plus, enjoy many networking opportunities, the PHCC annual business meeting and more. For the complete schedule of events, visit www.network06.org, or call (800)533-7694.