**Sergeants Major Cornerstone Course Take Away**

**What we do here at History Division for you**

* We preserve the history that you created
  + We retain all the command chronologies
  + We conduct oral history interviews
  + We collect relevant historical records and other relevant secondary source materials
  + We receive personal papers donations from Marines of all walks
* We research, write and publish the history that you created
  + Our writers are researching and writing books about your history from the American Revolution to Iraq and Afghanistan
  + We also write articles and publish *Marine Corps History* Journal
* We tell everyone about the history that you’ve created
  + We attend conferences and give papers to other academics, give PMEs to units, private organizations and the public
* We help you when you become veterans with VA benefits
  + Using your own command chronologies, and other records
* Vet and review all insignia (aviation and non-aviation)
  + We review aviation insignia before Navy approves/disapproves
  + We retain all descriptions and images (if they are sent to us)

**What we can do for you at History Division**

* Use your unit’s history to build esprit de corps
  + We create historical packages on your unit, which you can then use to build historical displays, create PME presentations, use in promotion boards, etc.
  + We have photos you can print and use to decorate your quarterdeck or other rooms.
  + We can provide you books to create a library for your unit (no charge!)
* Update your unit’s lineage and honors certificates
  + We review all command chronologies and update your lineage and honors roughly on a five year rotation.
  + We also issue and update streamer entitlements on a regular basis.
* Authenticate your unit’s streamer requisitions
  + Anytime you requisition streamers, they are vetted by us before fulfillment.
  + Have questions about what you rate, we can answer those.
* Compile Commanding Officer lists
  + We review command chronologies and muster rolls to compile the listing of past CO/CGs for unit
  + We can sometimes do SgtMaj lists—records are spotty (more holes than not) before 1976.
* Get you ready for Commanding General inspections
  + Check with us before your next inspection—make sure your streamers are right, do you have commemoratively named buildings? What about your insignia? And more.

**What can you do for history?**

* Ensure your command chronologies are well written, have complete names of Marines, are submitted on time and aren’t classified (or at least properly marked by paragraph).
* Use your own history to help build espirt de corps and encourage your younger Marines to learn more about their history with PME lectures, short readings (3-5 pages) or simply encourage them to ask us questions like “Who was the first Marine to hold the rank of Sergeant Major?”
* Preserve your own history—your diaries, photos (with captions), letters, etc. Your family and history will thank you!
* Ask us first before inviting your Guest of Honor—we can make sure the person is a solid guest and save any possible embarrassment.
* If you’re unsure, just ask!

**Invitation**

Archives Branch and Historical Reference Branch 0700-1700 each day during Cornerstone Course! We are located in the Simmons History Center next door to the library. Archives is on the first deck and Reference is on the third.

Archives Branch: Command chronologies, personal papers, maps, and other historical documents. 703.784.4685

Historical Reference Branch: Unit histories, CO/SgtMaj lists, lineage and honors, streamers, etc. 703.432.4893

**How do you access all this? Just send an email to** [**history.division@usmcu.edu**](mailto:history.division@usmcu.edu)