



# River Cities News

Volume 12, Issue 4

April 1, 2015

## Marines in the Movies

By Bob Reutter

### Who Am I?

#### Inside this issue:

Marines in the Movies	1
Marine Corps History	2
Service Record Request	2
MCLA, Southern Belles Unit 441	3
Newsletter Boosters	4
Life Membership	4
Sponsors	5
Event Calendar	6



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Although he was born into a 'showbiz' family on 14 Nov 1921 this golden haired boy was enamored by the Marines from an early age. He devoured stories of Marines in China, at Belleau Woods, where ever their exploits took them. In the summer of 1941 he enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve. Shortly after Pearl Harbor he was ordered to Parris Island where he rated expert on the rifle and pistol ranges. Following graduation he was assigned as a marksmanship instructor at OCS, Quantico.

In the summer of '42 he was sent to Bougainville where he was assigned as a rear gunner on a SBD Douglas Dauntless dive bomber of VMSB-244. He flew missions for over 2 years and although never wounded his aircraft came home with holes many times including a 3 foot long hole in one wing and his headphones were shot off once. In the evenings the Marines shared guard duties to fight infiltrators and banzai charges from the remaining Japanese on Bougainville. Celebrating VJ Day in Miami he was involved in a bar room brawl resulting in having to choose between 90 days in the brig or loss of a stripe. He was honorably discharged from the Corps in 1945 as a corporal. Following in the family tradition was more appealing now so he worked in the theater, radio and finally television where he appeared in several series. He then moved to the big screen appearing in more than 50 movies. He finished his career back on television where you might remember him as the father of Marine Major 'Mac' McGillis. In 1988 – better late than never – he was presented with an Air Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign medal with 3 bronze stars, the WWII Victory Medal and rifle and pistol expert badges. Like many in the war his awards were lost but a letter to the Commandant from a fellow Marine who had served with him in the Solomon's campaign was verified and the situation was corrected. Our Marine star for this month is veteran actor Brian Keith.



## ONCE A MARINE ALWAYS A MARINE

## This Month in History

### Selected April Dates of Marine Corps Historical Significance

**3 April 1945:** On Okinawa, Marines of the III Amphibious Corps continued to make good progress all along their front, clearing Zampa Misaki and seizing the Katchin Peninsula, thus effectively cutting the island in two. By this date (D+2), III AC elements had reached objectives thought originally to require 11 days to take.

**5 April 1947:** Five Marine guards were killed and eight wounded when attacked by Communist Chinese raiders near the Hsin Ho ammunition depot in Northern China. This last major clash between Marines of the 1st Marine Division and Communist forces occurred shortly after withdrawal and redeployment plans from China were issued for the 1st Division and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on 1 April.

**10 April 1959:** Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, Jr. was named as one of the original seven Project Mercury astronauts selected for space training. The seven astronauts, all volunteers, were selected by NASA from an initial group of 110 leading military test pilots. Three years later, on 20 February 1962, Col Glenn would become the first American to orbit the Earth.

**12 April 1918:** Marines of the 4th Brigade suffered their first gas attack on the night and early morning hours of 12-13 April when the Germans bombarded the 74th Company, 6th Marines near Verdun with mustard gas. Nine Marine officers and 305 enlisted Marines were gassed and evacuated, and 30 Marines died from the effects of the gas shells which hit in the middle of the reserve area cantonments in which they were sleeping.

**15 April 1962:** Marine Corps operational involvement in the Vietnam War began on Palm Sunday when HMM-362 with its Sikorsky UH-34s arrived at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon. The task unit was called "Shufly" and its first operational employment involved lifting Vietnamese troops into battle.

**18 April 1983:** One Marine Security Guard was killed and seven were wounded when a large car bomb exploded just outside the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. Lance Corporal Robert McMaugh was standing guard at Post 1, just inside the front entrance when the bomb exploded outside the door. The explosion killed 61 people including 17 Americans. LCpl McMaugh was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on 26 April.

**21 April 1951:** Marine carrier-based airplanes made their first aerial contact with enemy planes over the Korean front lines. Captain Philip C. DeLong shot down two YAK fighters and 1st Lieutenant Harold D. Daigh destroyed one more and damaged another in the heavily defended Pyongyang-Chinnanpo area. Both pilots were with VMF-312 flying from the USS Bataan.

**27 April 1805:** First Lieutenant Presley N. O'Bannon, who with seven other Marines was part of a force of Greeks and Arabs led by American Consul William Eaton, raised the United States flag for the first time over a conquered fortress of the Old World at Derne, a stronghold of the Tripolitan pirates. Two Marines were killed and one wounded in the assault on the walled city.

**28 April 1993:** The last A-6E Intruder departed from Marine Corps service. Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 332 transferred the last Marine A-6E to St. Augustine, Florida, and prepared for the squadron's transition to the F/A-18D and eventual movement from Cherry Point to Beaufort, South Carolina.

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## Service Record Request

Don Landers Sr, Adjutant/Paymaster

### Request Your Military Service Records Online, by Mail, or by Fax

(Includes DD 214/Separation Documents, Personnel Records, and/or Medical Records)

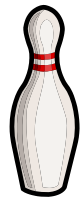
You can use the link listed here to request not only your DD 214 but all of your military records. Be sure to follow the instructions. This service is free to veterans and next of kin.

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

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# Seventh Annual Marine Corps League Auxiliary Bowling Tournament



Sponsored by  
Southern Belles Unit 441

Bowlers, and non-bowlers can get in on the action of this bowling event. The proceeds from this event will help fund the activities of Southern Belles Unit 441, such as community projects and Operation Care Package. There will be Door Prize Drawings, a 50/50 Drawing, and a silent auction with great merchandise to bid on. So come on down to Franklin Lanes on Saturday, May 9, 2015.

If you don't want to get a team together you can still help by participating in the silent auction.

## Join Us For a Fun Afternoon

Saturday, May 9, 2015

Franklin Lanes

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Entry Fee: \$60 per team of 4

9-Pin No Tap \* Three Games

Mixed Teams (No separate divisions)

Registration Deadline is May 2, 2015

### Your entry fee includes:

Three games of bowling \* Shoe Rental \*

2 Soft Drinks \* Prize drawings

### Prizes

First Place Team - \$200

Second Place Team - \$100

Third Place Team - \$50

High Series Male - \$25

High Series Female - \$25

*Prizes are based on 40 bowlers, we reserve the right to lower prize money based on number of participants.*

*In case of a tie, prize money will be combined.*

### Sponsorship Opportunities

#### Semper Fi Sponsor

[ ] \$200 - Includes business or sponsor name on Semper Fi Signage, 1 team of 4

#### Lane Sponsor

[ ] \$100 - Includes business or sponsor name on Signage

## Entry Form

Contact Person:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Members:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to **Southern Belles Unit 441**

Mail to c/o Paula Landers  
807 Frank Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47712-4548

To pay using debt card or credit card please use our convenient online registration form at

[www.mclrivercities.org/auxiliary](http://www.mclrivercities.org/auxiliary)

## Newsletter Booster Club

<i><b>Booster Member</b></i>	<i><b>Expires</b></i>
Art & Mary Beth Midle	May - 15
Irene Blessing	May - 15
Larry & Casey Scott	May - 15
Joe and Kathy Filipczak	May - 15
Bill Bittner	June - 15
Luddie DeVaughn Jr	Oct - 15
Casey Canfield	Oct - 15
Paul & Yolanda Sowders	Nov - 15
Gary Burk	Dec - 15
David Jones	Dec - 15
Southern Belles Unit 441	Feb - 16
John & Dottie Mills	Feb - 16

A big thank you to all those that donate to the Newsletter Booster Club. We still need Booster Members, **a donation of \$5.00 per individual or more** is all it takes to become a member. As a Booster Member you get your name listed in the Newsletter for 1 year. This lets everyone know that you help support the River Cities News. The Booster Club and Advertisements help to **defray** the cost of printing and postage.

NEWSLETTER BOOSTER MEMBER

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Mail to: River Cities Detachment**  
**P.O. Box 6581**  
**Evansville, IN 47719-0581**

Visit our web site for the forms to submit an advertisement.

[www.mclrivercities.org/news](http://www.mclrivercities.org/news)

Anyone can use these forms to put an ad in the newsletter. The editor has the right to reject an ad that is not appropriate such as loan companies, adult entertainment, etc.

**We have space available in our ad pages.**

**Advertisements are available at the following rates.**

- Business Card Size...\$15.00 for 6 months
- 1/4 page ..... \$25.00 for 6 months
- 1/2 page .....\$50.00 for 6 months

## Information on Life Membership

**National Bylaws Article Six - Members, Section 645 - Life Members:**

Any member of the Marine Corps League who is in good standing may become a Life Member, upon proper payment of the fee, as is required herein. A Life Member shall be subject to payment of no further dues of a Detachment, or National, such member shall have all the privileges, rights, and benefits enjoyed as a member so long as that Life Member shall live.

### Current Life Membership Price Information

*As of January 2014*

- Up to and including age 35 - \$500.00**
- Age 36 up to and including age 50 - \$400.00**
- Age 51 up to and including age 64 - \$300.00**
- Age 65 and over - \$200.00**

The cost of replacing a Life Membership Gold Card is \$10.00

***Support our Sponsors***  
**They help make this Newsletter possible**

**DAVID L. JONES**

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 Telephone: (812) 402-1600      P.O. 1065  
 Facsimile: (812) 402-7977      Evansville, IN 47706-1065

**JONES • WALLACE**

ATTORNEYS



03/2016

***PLACE YOU AD HERE***

***Compliments of***  
***Joe and Kathy Filipczak***  
*Life Member*  
*River Cities Detachment #1090*

05/2015

**Compliments of the**  
**Marine Corps League Auxiliary**



**Southern Belles Unit 441**

06/2015

***PLACE YOU AD HERE***

***Compliments of***  
***John and Dottie Mills***  
*Life Member*  
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10/2015

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WELCOME ON BOARD

**New Members**

Ronald Hughes

**Renewals**

Trever Simon  
 Janet Boyd  
 Kermit Neighbors

**New Associate Members**

-0-

**Associate Renewals**

Paula Landers

**Note: Annual  
 Membership Dues New  
 and Renewal \$35.00**

# Semper Ji

## April 2015



Don Counts 4/2  
 Stephen Johnson 4/30

Note: If we did not list your birthday, it was an oversight or we don't have it on our roster. Please contact us so we can correct the error next year.

**Woof Woof**

Devil Dog Growl  
 Monday, April 26th at 1830  
 Acropolis Greek Restaurant  
 501 N. Green River Road  
 Evansville, IN 47715

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for May 2015 are due NO LATER THAN April 25, 2015			1	2	3	4
4 	5 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	20	21 MCL Det. 1090 7:00 p.m. VFW 1114	22	23	24
25	26 MCLA Unit 441 Southern Belles 6 p.m. AmVets 84	27	28	29	30	