



River Cities News



River Cities Detachment 1090
Marine Corps League—Evansville, Indiana

Volume 18
Issue 4
April 2021

Commandant's Corner

Jim Johnson

I hope this finds everyone well and have received and or scheduled to have their COVID-19 shots. I recently had a shoulder replaced and my wife had a knee replacement. We have been recuperating and doing our therapy. It's no fun getting old. We need to start making plans for a family picnic this summer and the Marine Corps Birthday Ball this fall. Any one with any suggestions or ideas for these events please let us know.

A big shout out and thank you to Melissa West and John Bryant for attending and representing Det# 1090 at the Department of Indiana spring conference in Plainfield, IN. I'm sure a good time was had by all. Another shout out and thanks for doing a great job to our Chaplain Bob Reutter. We are now attending in person (when requested and/or permitted) all Marine funerals. I also want to thank all those who make time to attend

these funerals. The families greatly appreciate our attendance.

Semper Fi

Inside this Issue:

- Commandant's Corner.....1
- Lore of the Corps.....2
- Marine History3
- Marine Spotlight on.....6
- Cartoon Caption Contest.....7
- Southern Belles #414.....9
- Chaplain's Corner9
- April Calendar.....12 & 13
- Our Sponsors.....14,15,18, 20
- Ship's Store.....16
- Life membership.....17
- Dept. of Ind. News.....17
- Announcements.....18
- Detachment Officers.....18
- Advertising rates.....19
- Newsletter Boosters.....19

Lore of the Corps

By Bob Reutter

The following is a speech delivered on 2/10/2021 by G. David Bednar, a private investor and former Marine Infantry Officer, to a group of retired and active-duty Marines in the New York area. He served in the Corps from 1987 to 1991 and in Operation Desert Storm.

Thirty years ago, I sat in your seat. Since, I have done many different things, including earning two degrees from Harvard and working at prestigious banks on Wall Street. But I value nothing more than being a Marine. No amount of money provided the joy of leading Echo 2/7 to the top of Lost Cannon Peak at Bridgeport; nothing was as momentous as speeding through the burning oil fields for Kuwait City; no pride compares to looking at the Iwo Jima Memorial and knowing you own a tiny piece of it.

When a Harvard graduate is convicted of insider trading, it's just news. When a Marine dishonors the Corps, its personal—like family. For dec-

ades I have known a former 0341 (*Marine mortar man*) who has been an LA County Sheriff's Deputy for 25 years. He is a very hard man. The first time I saw him betray emotion was when he shared his son's graduation photo from Recruit Depot San Diego. Two of my sons are Marine Option ROTC. I sent them his picture with advice they have heard before: Marine Corps leadership is the greatest responsibility before it is the greatest honor. Lives are at stake, as are other things just as important.

At firms like Goldman Sachs, I worked with smart, competitive people. They are experts at identifying possessions of value and driven in their pursuit. But when conversation there turned to my time as a Marine, I often noted something like regret, perhaps even jealousy. These masters of attainment sensed something even greater in the title of Marine. Why do these people, and our society, look up to the Marine Corps?
(Cont Page 4)

Marine History

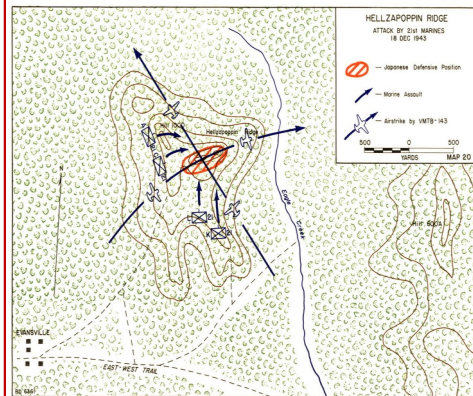
By Gary Burk

(Editors note: this is part two of a two part series.)

Hill 600A

Following the capture of Hellzapoppin Ridge, the Marines began sending patrols to the east over the Eagle River towards the Torokina. These lasted for three days and penetrated far behind the Japanese lines, but they did not prove fruitful for the Marines, resulting in no contact to offset the hardships faced in coming to grips with the terrain. Japanese activity during this time was limited to artillery barrages that were brought down largely on the US supply dumps that were located to the southwest around Evansville and which, as a consequence, resulted in only a few casualties.

Contact between the two forces was reestablished on 21 December when a Marine patrol was engaged by a force of 14–18 Japanese around Hill 600A. Breaking contact, the patrol returned to US lines where the situation was reported and subsequently a detachment from the 2nd Battalion, 21st Marines was detailed with returning to the location and putting in an attack that afternoon. The attack went in at 15:45 and for the loss of one man killed and another wounded they were successful in wresting



control of the hill from Japanese, who then retired from the position. As the detachment was too small to hold the position against a Japanese counter-attack if one was launched, the Marines returned to their main defensive position before the light failed and reported the situation to the 3rd Division command post.

Upon receipt of the report, Turnage decided to establish a platoon-sized outpost on the hill and the following morning a force from the 3rd Battalion, 21st Marines, which included heavy weapons support and an artillery forward observer, was sent out to occupy it. The Japanese, however, had returned during the night following the battle and had retaken the position and established themselves firmly. Heavy fire prevented the Marines from advancing and forced them to call back to regimental headquarters for reinforcements. Company 'I' was sent up, and its commander, misreading the situation and
(Cont on page 12)

Lore of the Corps

(from page 2)

The answer is simple: because of its values. Through two and a half thousand years of recorded history the greatest glory a man could achieve was on the battlefield. The Spartan Hoplite, the Bowman at Agincourt, and the Marine at Belleau Wood were esteemed for the same reason. Back home, theirs was the seat of honor. Today, our society celebrates nothing more than tolerance; it cultivates relativism, even cynicism. But these are "negative" virtues; they don't require or celebrate admirable action as much as they mandate doing or believing nothing at all. They are hollow, lacking nourishment for the human spirit. No amount of indoctrination can change man's soul: what it is, what it needs.

The Marine Corps celebrates very different virtues. Honor, excellence, accountability, integrity, commitment, discipline, respect for tradition, and courage, the king of virtues. Some call these values "old"; the wise call them

"proven." A man named Oliver Wendell Holmes gave the Soldier's Faith Speech in 1895. He was an extraordinary man, a Supreme Court Justice and veteran of the 20th Massachusetts Infantry in the Civil War. This unit took some of the highest casualties in a war of unusual carnage. Wounded three separate times, he lost many friends. Despite his hardships, he spoke of a need in mankind: "The man of the future may want something different," he said. "But who of us could endure a world, although cut up into five acre lots, and having no man upon it who was not well fed and well housed, without the divine folly of honor?"

Our society flees discomfort, to say nothing of danger. As you know, the Marine Corps specializes in discomfort! It runs to danger! We hear calls to ban football in our country because it's too dangerous. Here is another observation from my life: the activities from which I derived the most

satisfaction—football, mountain climbing, and being a Marine—all required strapping on a helmet. Two hundred years ago a very wise man named Goethe said, “the dangers of life are infinite, and among them is safety.” America is forgetting a human truth that the Corps has not: the greatest things are always the hardest things.

Institutions across America are buckling. Many in leadership positions in business, education, and government act on coercion and fear, not on what they believe. This is a warning to the Corps. Our inheritance is not guaranteed and must be earned every day. The brave, independent mind is essential to organizations of all sizes. In a world of crumbling standards, appreciate the blessing of membership in an enterprise unwilling to betray itself in forced compromise.

The essence of leadership is seeking and achieving what is thought impossible. At some point, every Marine is assured this experience. It

tempers us like a sword, making us stronger. How many of our countrymen have missed the benefit of this hard but invaluable lesson? When the Corps faced extinction, the commandant refused to plead: the value of the Corps spoke for itself. “The bended knee,” General Vandergrift said, “is not a tradition of our Corps.”

The USMC has been defending America for 245 years. The nation has never needed us more. Our marksmanship and tactics, yes, but even more our values. Marines don’t BS each other. Many of us have faced a choice between what we are allowed to say and what we really believe. I have never seen so much fear in the home of the brave. This is a threat to the freedom that is the soul of America.

As Americans, it is our right to speak the truth. As Marines, it is our obligation. The USMC is one of the most diverse organizations in the world. We were leaders in breaking down racial and ethnic barriers. (Cont Page 8)



Marine Spotlight On:



Tim
Jones



On Pearl Harbor day in 1948, Timothy Stephen Jones came into the world. Tim graduated from Reitz High School in 1966 and started college the next year. When his college deferment ended, I told him about openings in the 17th Rifle Company, USMCR here in Evansville. He joined and was told to report to leave for PI on April 1st, 1971. He showed up to be told “April Fools—you don’t leave until next week” A lesson perhaps he should have learned from! After graduating from PI in July of 71 with a MOS of 0351, Tim was assigned to Weapons Platoon in the 17th. Later he was sent to 2111 school to become a

small arms repairman for the reserve unit. In November of '77 Tim received the “Marine of the Year” for Detachment K, 3/24, 4thMarDiv. Because of his college education (and with some encouragement from a friend—me) Tim was moved into the Training Aids area to keep records on the Reserve training—an important part of a reserve unit. He separated from the Active Reserves in 1976 as an E-5.

Tim joined the River Cities Detachment in 2004 and has served 2 terms as Commandant and several hitches as Adjutant. Tim also received MOY honors with River Cities.

After joining the MODD in 2006, Tim worked up to PDD in 2009.

Tim is married to Susan and they have two kids (Nic and Kristin) and three grandkids (Chance, Jakobi and Theo.) He is an avid bowler since age 11 and worked at Franklin Lanes during college. He was a member of a City Championship Bowling Team twice.

Tim has plans to build an N-gauge railroad layout and he hopes to complete trips that were cut short by Covid to Nova Scotia and the western United States.



Cartoon Caption Contest



So young man you said you don't like the Corps, and you want out? Do you want to leave graciously by the door that you came in, or suddenly through the trap door that you are standing on?

Our winner in March's caption contest was Roy McWilliams. Roy will his choice of a Detachment Challenge Coin or Picture Frame.

Our April Cartoon is:



Submit your caption idea to rapid1@evansville.net. Deadline is April 19. Winner chooses between a Challenge Coin or K-bar letter Opener.

Lore of the Corps (From 5)

As in the teams I played on in high school and college, ethnicity is totally irrelevant to what matters: winning. The Corps does not divide based on immutable superficialities of skin color; we unify in a shared mission. Marines are shades of one color: green. When I see a Marine, I see a sister or brother. Racial division, like a virus, dooms teams, units, and nations. Marine Corps values are its antibodies.

Everyone here raised their hand to stand at the front of a line 330 million people long, to be the "tip of the spear" for our country. If you don't believe in America, you are in the wrong place. But I am here to assure you that you *are* in the right place. I have been a citizen and student of our nation for 55 years. I have traveled and lived around the world. Like the Marine Corps, America sets for itself the highest bar.

Our nation has often fallen short. But America has never stopped fighting to improve

and uphold the highest ideals; we are a noble work in progress among nations. The more I know our country, understand its place in the world, its striving, its failings and glories, the more I know America is the greatest modern political achievement on earth. She is worthy, if anything is worthy, of the sacrifice asked of Marines.

The Marine Corps is a fighting force, but even more a fighting spirit. We have jets and artillery, but our values are our greatest weapons. We don't just have a history: we stand watch as guardians of an unmatched tradition. These things make us Marines. Without them the title is just another word and the dress blues are just another uniform. Be courageous. Speak the truth even if you are the only one who will. Preserve, nurture and spread our virtues in a land where they are scarce. America needs leadership, and that means it needs Marines.

Southern Belles Unit #441

I would like to send a big *Thank you* to all who helped out during our Craft Fair in March. We had more foot traffic this year believe it or not. The wonderful Vendors not only showed their amazing wares but some of them also donated an item for the auction table. Now that Vanderburgh County is slowly opening back up we are hoping the Southern Belles will be able to get back out to the VA Clinic to serve refreshments again very soon. Pray you all take care and be safe.

Semper Fi,
Dani Cook
President



Chaplain's Corner

After a year of paying our respects to deceased Marines in our area remotely, we began our 'in person' visits on March 11th at a 'walk through' for a 96

year old WWII Marine, Benjamin E. Newman Jr. Marine Newman served with the 4th MarDiv landing in Saipan and Tinian. He was awarded the Purple Heart for a wound on Tinian. The entire Newman family thanked us honoring their Marine.

We went Sunday to honor an 82 year old Marine but when we showed up at the funeral home, we were told 'the family' wanted nothing military at his service. I found out later that it was one daughter who didn't want not only us but didn't even allow an American Flag on his casket. Apparently the widow and the other siblings gave in to 'keep the peace.'

It is important that you make certain your family knows full well what your wishes are before your time comes. Don't leave it open to the chance that a decision is made contrary to what you want.

On Saturday March 20th, we

(continued on page 20)

Marine History (from Page 3)

thinking that the Japanese held the crest of the ridge, rather than the foot of its reverse slope, ordered a three-pronged "double envelopment" maneuver, utilizing two elements of his force to flank while the third attacked frontally. With almost no appreciation of the situation or the terrain, the maneuvering elements turned-in to affect the envelopment too soon and consequently moved into the flanks of the platoon that was in contact, rather than the Japanese emplacements. Consequently, they too began to take heavy fire and as a result, the American company commander gave the order to withdraw so that an artillery strike could be called down on the Japanese. This too proved to be unsuccessful in forcing the Japanese from the hill and Company 'I' returned to the main defensive position before sunset.

The following day, 23 December, Company 'K' from the 3rd Battalion, 21st Marines, renewed the attack with a heavy-weapons platoon attached to provide support by fire. Forming up for an attack further south from where Company 'I'

had attacked the day before, one platoon was sent on a reconnaissance along a steep, narrow ridge. Receiving heavy fire, it was forced to fall back and artillery was called in. This had only limited results due to tree bursts; nevertheless, half an hour later, a second platoon was thrown in and this too was turned back by stiff resistance.

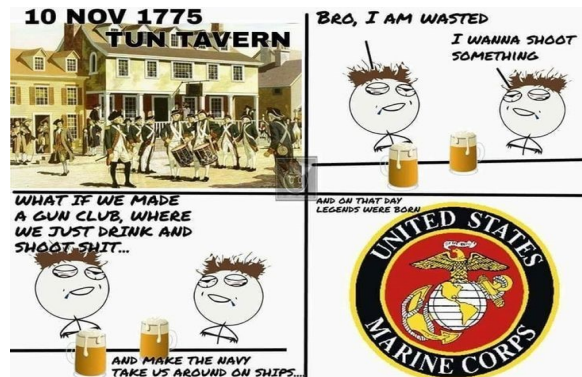
Once again indirect fire support was called in, this time lasting only ten minutes but augmented by mortar fires, after which a flanking attack was attempted. This proved unsuccessful and as night fell, Company 'K' withdrew. The next day, however, Marine patrols found that the Japanese had abandoned the position during the night. Four Marines had been killed and eight wounded in taking the position; only one Japanese body was found when the position was searched later.

Aftermath

The capture of Hellzapoppin Ridge allowed US troops to finally neutralize the Japanese artillery firing down on the beachhead around Cape Torokina. The buildup of US

forces continued and by the end of 1943, although there were about 44,000 Americans on the island, a stalemate had developed.¹ While the main Japanese force established itself around Buin in the south of the island with the intention of securing food sources, shortly after the fighting around Hellzapoppin Ridge and Hill 600A the US Marines on Bougainville were relieved by soldiers from the US XIV Corps, which – consisting of only two divisions, the 37th and Americal – adopted a mainly defensive posture around Torokina to protect the four airfields that had been constructed there. As a part of this strategy, outposts were established along the main tracks leading to the port, while Fijian troops patrolled the interior of the island.

Between 8 and 25 March 1944 the Japanese commander, Hyakutake, launched an offensive on the American perimeter with 15,000 troops, consisting mainly of the 6th Division and two battalions from the 17th, from Buin and Numa Numa. Suffering considerable casualties – over 5,000 killed compared to American losses of 263 – the Japanese withdrew back towards the south. From then until the Australian 3rd Division took over responsibility in November 1944, the Japanese forces of (about 52,000) sought to avoid contact and American forces, while continuing to maintain a presence through fighting patrols and the establishment of outposts in the north and around Numa Numa, generally pursued a strategy of isolating the Japanese garrison.





April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
28	29	30	31	1
If you have anything you would like to submit for the May Newsletter , the deadline for submission is April 22nd.				
4. <i>Happy Easter</i> 	5 Marines and Sailors from the USS Plymouth landed in Shanghai to protect American Consulate. 1854	6 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's— Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	7 	8
11	12	13 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's— Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	14 M.O.D.D. Growl 1830 Funkhouser Post 8	15
18 Marines joined sea battle as four Union ships attacked ram CSS <i>Albatross</i> near New Bern, North Carolina. 1864	19	20 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's— Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	21 "GEORGIA" operation southwest of DaNang started (21 Apr - 10 May). 1966	22
25	26 Southern Belles #441 AmVets Post #84 2921 Broadway Ave. 6:30 PM 	27 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's— Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	28 Detachment Meeting Funkhouser Post on New Harmony Road 1900 begins—come early to eat dinner from menu.	29

2021



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	2	3 April Fool's Day. U. S. Marines and Army troops landed on Okinawa 1945
	9	10 Marines participated in the sea battle between the USS <i>Hyder Ally</i> and HMS <i>General Monk</i> . 1782
	16	17 
	23	24 The 3rd Marine Regi- ment joined in a show of force at Vera Cruz, Mexi- co, after an insult to the American flag. 1914
	30	1 Marines helos HMH- 462, HMH-463 and HMM-165 with BLT 2/4 evacuated 6,968 people from Vietnam during Operation Frequent Wind. 1975

"Peace Establishment Act" reduced Corps to 50 officers and 942 enlisted. 1817

Marines regained "Carson" Hill during fighting in Korea. 1953

VMB-612 launched night attacks from Iwo Jima against the Japanese coast. 1945



Support Our Sponsors -----



In memory of Detachment #1090
Members who have gone on to
guard the streets of Heaven.

2020

Donald Landers, Sr.
Irene L. Midle-Blessing

Susan Grayson

2021

Keith Benedict
Joe Shimek

04/2021

Compliments of John & Judy Bryant

Life Member

01/2022

Compliments of Bob & Linda Reutter

Life Members

06/2021

Compliments of Casey Canfield

Life Member

River Cities Detachment #1090

01/2022

Compliments of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary



Southern Belles Unit 441

10/2021



MASK UP !

06/2021



---They Help Make This Newsletter Possible

*Place Your Ad
Here*

Our prayers for our nephew who was recently deployed. May God Bless all of our service members, protect them, and give the strength to carry. Amen!

**Roy and Carolyn
McWilliams.**



05/2021

Semper Fi!

Mike Mitchell

Life Member

River Cities Detachment #1090



06/2021

*In Memory Of
Marine Tommy Collins
And All Deceased
Detachment Members*



Semper Fi

09/2021

**Compliments of
Joe & Kathy Filipczak**

Life Member

*River Cities Detach-
ment #1090*

12/2021

**Compliments of
Gary Burk, Life Member**

Optimist Club of Evansville Downtown

Friend of Youth Since 1921

07/2021

Ship's Store

The following items are in stock at the Detachment Ship's Store. The Ship's Store will be brought to each meeting so you may purchase items. A slight increase in cost over National Ship's Store has been added to cover shipping costs.

Item	Cost	Item	Cost	FMF
EGA Cap Ornament, Regular Member, gold, screw-back \$	5.00	FMF device, for Marine of Year ribbon		1.50
Patch, MCL logo with ASSOCIATE rocker, 3" for right shoulder	4.25	Department Staff Elected ribbon, silver		2.00
Patch, MCL logo, for REGULAR member, 3" for right shoulder	4.00	Detachment Commandant ribbon		2.00
Patch, US Flag, field forward, for regular member, right shoulder	4.00	Detachment Staff Appointed ribbon, bronze		2.00
Sunburst Collar ornament, regular member, prong back	12.00	Community Service Ribbon		2.00
Cover, MCL, woman's, 7 5/8	30.00	National Meritorious Unit Commendation ribbon		2.00
Cap Strip, LIFE, Red with gold lettering and border	3.50	Individual Meritorious Commendation ribbon		2.00
Metal Ribbon Holder, 3 ribbon	1.25	Ceremonial Guard ribbon		2.00
Metal Ribbon Holder, 4 ribbon	2.50	EGA Belt Buckle, for leather belt		18.50
Metal Ribbon Holder, 8 ribbon	3.50	Trousers, dress blue, 44R		45.00
Metal Ribbon Holder, 9 ribbon	3.50	Trouser stripe, red, 1 1/8"		15.00
Metal Ribbon Holder, 12 ribbon	4.50	Belt, white, for dress blues		15.00
Tie Clasp	9.00	Patch, Devil Dog, 3" round for cover		4.00
Star Clusters for Ribbons, 2 stars, bronze	1.50	Rocker, Colorguard, for Devil Dog Vest		3.00
Star Clusters for Ribbons, 3 stars, bronze	1.50	Cap Strip, Dogrobber		3.50
Patch, Life Member	8.25	Neck Ribbon, PDD, gold with eyelet		5.00
Tie, black	6.00	Neck Ribbon, DD, black with eyelet		5.00
Pin, MCL	1.00			
Pin, MCL Life	1.00			
Pin, MCL Associate	1.00			

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.

Age 36 up to and including age 50 - \$400.

Age 51 up to and including age 64 - \$300.

Age 65 and over - \$200.

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



Marine Corps League Department of Indiana News

The following dates have been selected by the Conference/Convention Committee and approved by the members through Motions at the 2020 Fall Conference:

June 4/6, 2021 Department of Indiana Summer Convention

October 16/17, 2021 Department of Indiana Fall Conference

All events will be held at the Embassy Suites by Hilton in Plainfield, IN. Specific information on each event will be sent appropriately beforehand, including hotel and event registration, agenda's and other pertinent information.

Questions can be directed to Conference/Convention Chair Glenn Newton at sgtglenn@psci.net or Department Paymaster Dave Englert at englertd@psci.net.

DAVID L. JONES

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Telephone (812) 402-1600 P.O. Box 1065
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JONES•WALLACE
ELEVATING LAW



01/2022

IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

National changed the due date, so that everyone is paying dues at the same time.

Dues for 2020 - 2021
By July 31st - \$25
August 1st or after - \$35

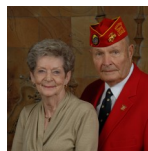
Initial Membership Dues are \$35

Mail your annual membership fees to:

River Cities Det. #1090
Attn: Membership
PO Box 6581
Evansville IN 47719-0581

In fond memory of my life's love

Dorothy Lee
"Dottie" (McCord) Mills



1930-2020

08/2021



River Cities Detachment Officers

Commandant **Jim Johnson**

(812) 431-2451

Sr. Vice Commdt. **Gary Burk**

Jr. Vice Commdt. **Melissa West**

Jr. Past Commdt. **Bob Reutter**

(270) 314-9484

Adjutant **Tim Jones**

(812)454-8717

Paymaster **John Bryant**

(775) 287-1876

Judge Advocate **T.C. Shane**

Chaplain **Bob Reutter**

Sgt. at Arms **Tom Kremer**

Newsletter Editor **Bob Reutter**

Web Sergeant **Tim Jones**

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

The editor has the right to reject an ad that is not appropriate such as loan companies, adult entertainment, etc.

Newsletter Booster Club

<u>Booster Member</u>	<u>Expires</u>
MCLA Southern Belles.....	Oct-2021
Joe & Kathy Filipczak.....	Dec-2021
David Jones.....	Jan—2022
Casey Canfield.....	Feb-2022
Tom & Alice Kick.....	May-2021
Gary Burk.....	May-2021
Tom Kremer.....	July-2021
Ned E & Rose Wellmeier.....	July-2021
Dannie & Debbie Russell.....	July-2021
Roy & Carolyn McWilliams.	Aug-2021
Bob & Linda Reutter.....	Aug-2021
Dorothy Odom.....	Sep-2021
Chris Boyd.....	Oct-2021
John Bryant	Nov-2021

Your name could go here

A big thank you to all those that donate to the Newsletter Booster Club. **We still need Booster Members! A donation of \$5.00 or more per individual** 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





In Recognition of Family Members



**who have served, or are now serving in
the United States Marine Corps.**

Now serving

Nephew—Dakota Meade

Served in the past

Edward Mangold—(Dakota's Great Grandfather)

William Joseph Maurer (my first cousin and brother to Michael)

Michael Maurer (my first cousin and brother to William)

Marion Thomas McWilliams (my brother)

Curtis McWilliams (Marion's Son)

Roy McWilliams (me)

Semper Fi, Marines

(09/2021)

Chaplain's Corner

(from page 9)

honored a Marine— Richard Lloyd Lappan—who had served two tours in Vietnam. Serving as a helicopter mechanic and door gunner, Marine Lappan was defending the DaNang Air Force base during the Tet Offensive. A satchel charge was thrown into the foxhole he was in. One of his platoon mates threw himself on the satchel and gave his life to save that of his brothers. After the action, Richard recommended the man for the Congressional Medal of Honor. His family did not know if the MOH was awarded to the man. The family was very appreciative of us coming to do the graveside service. Linda Reutter



was there to record the service in pictures. The March weather cooperated with sunny skies and temps in the high '60s.



(left) Tim Jones (back to camera) and Bob Reutter salute the Marine.



(right) Tim reads our Marine Prayer as the widow, son and daughter look on. You can see Richard's photo on an easel behind Tim.



(left) After passing the folded flag to Bob, Tim salutes the flag.

(right) With family and friends watching, Bob presents the folded flag to Richard's widow "*in recognition of Marine Lappan's service to his Country and his Corps.*"





Firing Detail (from left:) Don Cole, Barb Cole, Tim Jones, Bob Reutter, John Mills, T.C. Shane, Jr., Ray Ko and Richard Schuler. Also present but not shown, Tom Kick.



Not shown,

Under a beautiful, cloudless sky the members of the firing detail come to Present Arms as Art Midle (far right) prepares to blow "Taps" in tribute to Marine Lappan.



At the conclusion of the service, the detail scans the ground in preparation for policing our brass. We had a bag with 21 expended rounds to present to the family. Families are typically very happy to receive the brass for distribution to family members as reminders of their loved one's service.

We would love to include any Detachment members on these details. In addition to the grave-side services, we often do a



Oh Heavenly Father, we are here today to bid farewell to our fellow Marine,

Marine Richard Lloyd Lappan

Only those who have earned the honor and privilege of wearing the Eagle, Globe and Anchor of the United States Marine Corps can truly understand the mutual ties of respect and affection that bonds Marines together.

Oh Lord, you and our beloved Corps have instilled in our hearts the fact that "once a Marine, always a Marine." Therefore in the time honored Tradition of our Corps, we Marines stand before you to bid farewell to this Marine Brother.



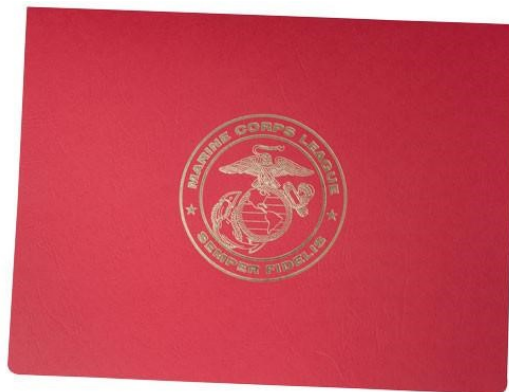
Prayer written by Marine Larry Scott

With our condolences
River Cities Detachment 1090
Marine Corps League
P O Box 6581
Evansville, IN 47719-4548

*Farewell Brother,
Semper Fi Marine.*

Amen

The prayer folder we present to the family has a copy of the obit from the newspaper printed on gold parchment paper and the prayer (above) on the same paper. The prayer was written several years ago by one of our own—Marine Larry Scott.



This is the prayer folder that is presented to the next of kin. It is a very heavy red stock with the Marine Corps League logo embossed in gold.

River Cities Detachment 1090
Marine Corps League Inc.
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