



River Cities News

Volume 12, Issue 8

August 1, 2015

Commandant's Corner

By Bob Reutter, Commandant

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Jr. Vice Commandant	Luddie DeVaughn Jr. (812) 629-6481
Jr. Past Commandant	Tim Jones (812) 454-8717
Paymaster	Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014
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Newsletter Editors	Paula Landers (812) 483-5114
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The Marines of the River Cities Detachment 1090 have been busy since the last newsletter. We had a booth at the 2015 Shriner's Fest. Many of our members – Marines, Associates and Auxiliary members – helped to 'man' the booth during the setup, selling days and take down and cleanup. Like any big endeavor it takes a team to be successful. The members of the Detachment stepped up to make it work.

The number of spectators at the Fest surprised the organizers. They sold out of the buttons they ordered for 2015, sold out of old 2014 and then 2013 surplus buttons, then they sold wrist bands and finally tickets to handle the huge volume of people wanting to see the Blue Angels. The food we sold was very well received. Boneless pork chop sandwiches, pulled pork, German bologna, Polish sausage and hot dogs all sold in mass quantities. There were many times during the weekend that we had lines of 30-50 people wanting to purchase from us.

We had several Marines in our AOR pass away since the last newsletter. 'Funeral Joe' Filipczak kept us informed and we had Marines at each funeral home farewell and at the cemeteries when requested by the families. The question was raised as to why we don't do more of the cemetery services when Marines pass. It is usually the Retired Veterans Memorial Club who are asked to do these services. I would like to see us be there for every Marine who finds his/her final resting place in our service area. IF, and it is a very large IF, we could have a dedicated core of members who would commit to being available; we could have each funeral home in our area contact us instead of the RVMC to offer this service to Marine Veterans. The issue is manpower. We would need no less than 7 (with 10 being a better number) members to conduct this type of service. 5-7 Marines firing the rifle salute, one chaplain to read the Marine Prayer that Larry Scott wrote, 2 Marines to carry the National and Marine colors and 2 to fold the casket flag for presentation to the next of kin. Even with only 5 rifles - with the flag folders and chaplain firing - we would need 7 Marines at each service. Do we have enough dedicated Marines to offer this service?

The Southern Belles continued their dedication to service men and women overseas by filling boxes of 'care packages' with toiletries, food and personal items to be shipped to our troops overseas. The members of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary set up a table at local retailers to solicit donations of these items and then met at the TFT warehouse to box, seal and ship them to appreciative troops deployed overseas. A special 'thank you' goes to those members from me. The Belles are an important part of the League.

We meet for breakfast at the Pie Pan restaurant every Tuesday morning between 0730 and 0800. Would like to see everyone there.

I hope all of our members are actively seeking Marines to recruit to our Detachment. If every member would enlist just one new member each year we would have a vibrant unit. I have an unlimited supply of brochures to help with this process. If you need more contact me and I will get them to you.

Marine Corps History

By Gary Burk

The following is an excerpt from *"The Battle History of the U.S. Marines"*.

Major General Alexander Vandergriff's Guadalcanal story –

Aerial photographs revealed evidence that the Japanese were constructing a long runway in the Guadalcanal's jungles. Japanese bombers would jeopardize American positions hundreds of miles, from New Caledonia to New Guinea. The Japanese Navy operated seaplanes based at Tulagi, nineteen miles north of Guadalcanal. A new base would nail the coffin shut.

Vandergriff's pleas for six more months of work-up training fell on deaf ears. While there were five Army divisions in the region, only the 1st Marine Division possessed amphibious prowess.

If August 1, 1942, was impossible, D-Day could be slipped to August 7 but no later.

Vandergriff's initial "enemies" were not to be the Japanese but frustrating local issues of inadequate resources, scant time, and fuzzy command relations. There were by no means sufficient amphibious ships and landing craft on hand to do the job right. The few available transports had been loaded and sailed from the States without a tactical mission. They needed combat loading, the critical supplies positioned for early offload – and to hell with efficient use of space.

The Marines had to devise a landing plan and scheme of maneuver ashore; then they had to empty each ship and carefully re-embark their gear to support the tactical plans. This had to be done without prior training or practice. This did not go well. Each day it rained, and the Wellington piers became a nightmarish scene of disarray. The cutting edge of the Fleet Marine Force would go into combat equipped with World War 1 weapons and equipment – the same Springfield "03" rifles, tin hats, and crude gas masks that their fathers may have worn at Belleau Wood.

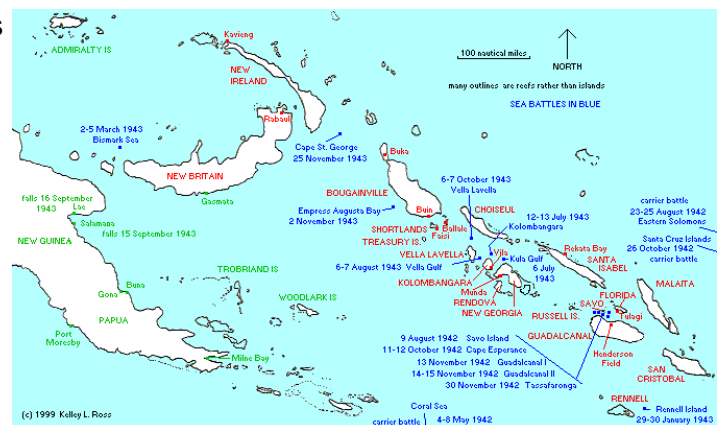
Vandergriff figured to divide his landing force on D-Day. The 1st Marines and most of the 5th Marines would seize Guadalcanal's airfield. The raiders, parachutists, the 2nd Marines, and the remainder of the 5th Marines would capture Tulagi and the nearby islets of Gavutu and Tanambo-go.

Eight months to the day after Pearl Harbor, the United States Navy and Marines had launched a major amphibious offensive against the startled Japanese garrisons in the southern Solomons.

The 1st Marine Division that was meant to spearhead a strategic offensive at Guadalcanal now had to assume the tactical defensive and hold the airfield, their last link to the outside, to the last man.

Vandergriff recognized a few positive aspects of his predicament. At least he had managed to get ashore the big 90mm antiaircraft guns of the defense battalion. The advance force of aviators beseeched Vandergriff to let them name the field, "before some rear-echelon staff pogue gets the notion." The general agreed. In a simple flag-raising ceremony, the captured and dearly guarded airstrip became "Henderson Field," in honor of Major Lofton Henderson, USMC, killed while leading his dive-bombers against the Japanese carriers at Midway.

Less than two weeks after D-Day, Henderson Field had its first flying occupants; two squadrons of MAG-23 flew ashore to stay.



Stars in the Corps

By Bob Reutter, Commandant



Our Marine this month is probably best known for his television work although he has had a long career in movies with over two dozen credits on his resume. Born in April 1930 to a prosperous San Francisco family Bradford Dillman was shipped to a boarding school in Connecticut when his parents divorced. Noticing his state of mind (being 3000 miles from his home and family) the headmaster of the school pushed him into theatrical productions. His father in California – a very successful stock broker – tried hard to convince him to give up acting telling him that a poverty-ridden future awaited him but it was too late.

He enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve program in 1948. When he graduated from Yale University he applied through the NROTC unit enlisting in the Marine Corps as an Officer Candidate. His older brother, Dean, had served a tour in the Corps and was discharged as a PFC. Bradford was accepted and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve in September 1951. In early 1952 as a platoon leader of a rifle company he was preparing to ship out to Korea as part of the 23rd Replacement Draft. A few days before his unit was scheduled to leave he was called into base headquarters where he was told “do you realize that of the 55,000 Marines currently on this post you are the only one with any experience as an actor? We are pulling you off the boat. You will be assigned to teach combat veterans how to teach what they’ve learned in an illuminating and interesting manner.”

He was reassigned as an instructor, ordered to teach in the Instructor’s Orientation Course. He was sent to Camp Del Mar across from Camp Pendleton. The courses were created by two other officer/teachers who then gave the material to Dillman to present. He taught classes of 50 Marine instructors communication techniques and podium tricks using numerous off-color jokes to keep it interesting. He was discharged in 1953 as a first lieutenant. He went on to many Broadway productions, big screen movies and television appearances with over 139 acting credits to his resume. He has also written three books (two about pro football) and lives in Santa Barbara, California with his second wife.

Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Unit 441

By Dani Cook, President

Thank you to everyone who helped with collecting donated items at Big Lots and getting the care packages ready to ship. A **BIG THANK YOU** to Bob Reutter for all of his help. He rocked it getting things boxed up. We are now getting things lined out for our next fundraiser. Are next endeavor will be a “50’s SOCK HOP DANCE” at Amvets #84 on September 12th from 8pm to 12am. We will also be pre-selling tickets for \$7.00 a plate for a BBQ Pulled Pork Dinner that will be served starting at 6:30 that evening. Please see an Auxiliary Member to buy your tickets. I foresee a great evening for everyone.

One final note, the final Golf Committee meeting will be July 30th at the VFW 6pm. Please bring all donated items to this meeting.

Semper Fi

50's Sock Hop Dance



River Cities Detachment #1090, Marine of the Year Nominations

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The Marine of the Year award shall be presented to a regular member of the Detachment who has rendered service(s) and performed deed(s) above and beyond the duties and obligations required of a member of the River Cities Detachment. Nominations for the Marine of the Year shall be considered and selected by the current members of the Detachment Marine of the Year Society. The Marine of the Year Society shall be comprised of all recipients of the Detachment Marine of the Year Award in good standing with the Marine Corps League. The Society is charged with receiving and reviewing nominations for the Detachment Marine of the Year. The President of the Society will name their selection at the Marine Corps Ball in November. Each recipient of the Marine of the Year Award shall serve as President of the Society for the following year. The Society shall have no less than five members present to deliberate the selection.

- (1) Nominations for this award will be accepted from any member in good standing of the Detachment.
- (2) Each nomination shall have a brief sketch of the person being nominated as well as a written summery stating why this nominee should be the Marine of the Year. The nominee must also be a member in good standing. The President of the Society shall announce the recipient of the Marine of the Year Award at the Marine Corps Ball in November.
- (3) Nominations will be addressed to River Cities Detachment #1090, ATTN: Marine of the Year Society, P. O. Box 6581, Evansville, IN 47719-0581 and mailed postmarked or hand delivered no later than October 1, 2014. **Nominations received after that date will not be considered.** All letters should be in a sealed envelope and will remain sealed until the Society meets to make the selection. The society will convene on a date determined by the President of the Society in the month of October.

CRITERIA:

There are no minimum criteria to be eligible for this award, but consideration will be given to members who have demonstrated contributions in the following areas:

Commitment: This is defined as a member's participation in Detachment affairs, such as attendance at monthly meetings, working on committees and projects, taking a leadership role in detachment affairs and functions, supporting the various MCL programs sponsored by the Detachment. Also considered is the commitment to perpetuate membership through recruiting and retention efforts.

Service: This is defined as a member's participation in the community, which provides help and relief to underprivileged and reflect positively the Marine Corps League and on the nominee's character. Also, contributing to patriotic programs, which espouse good citizenship and strong moral values. (i.e.—volunteer work in the community, as well as service to church and similar activities.)

Marine of the Year Nomination Form

Nominee: _____

Person Nominating: _____

Commitment: (Indicate here MCL activities in which the nominee has contributed)

Service in the Community: (Community Activities— Organizations supported)

Personal Statement of Recommendation: (You may attach a letter if you wish.)

Signature of person making the nomination: _____

Mail to: River Cities Detachment #1090
Attn: Marine of the Year Society
P. O. Box 6851
Evansville, IN 47719-0851

NOMINATIONS MUST POSTMARKED OR HAND DELIVERED

Newsletter Booster Club

<i>Booster Member</i>	<i>Expires</i>
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
Tom & Alice Kick	May - 16
Joe and Kathy Filipczak	May - 16
Frank Bockting	June - 16
Bob Moore	July - 16
A. J. Hardin	July - 16
Irene Blessing	July - 16
Art & Mary Beth Midle	July - 16
Bill Bitter	July - 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

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

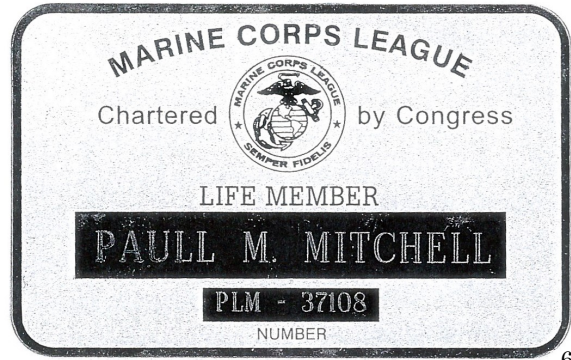
DAVID L. JONES

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

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6/2016

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

05/2016

Compliments of the
Marine Corps League Auxiliary



Southern Belles Unit 441

12/2016

Compliments of
Luddie DeVaughn Jr.
Member
River Cities Detachment #1090

10/2015

Compliments of
John and Dottie Mills
Life Member
River Cities Detachment #1090

10/2015

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

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 Marine Corps League Inc.
 P. O. Box 6581
 Evansville, IN 47719-0581

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WELCOME ON BOARD

New Members

-0-

Renewals

-0-

New Associate Members

-0-

Associate Renewals

-0-

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

Semper Ji

August 2015



- Daniel Fuller 8/7
- Kelly Williams 8/8
- Benny Benjamin 8/16
- Charles Smith Jr. 8/17
- Gary Burk 8/23
- Andrew Clark 8/28
- Charles Martin 8/28
- Linda Reutter 8/28
- Larry McKinney 8/30
- David Fehrenbacher 8/31

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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for September 2015 are due NO LATER THAN August 22, 2015</i>						1 MCLeague Golf Scramble Cambridge Golf Course 6:30 a.m.
2	3	4 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	5	6 MCLA VA Project 8 a.m.	7	8
9	10	11 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	19	20	21	22
23	24 MCLA Southern Belles Unit 441 6 p.m. AmVets Post 84	25 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	26 MCL Det. 1090 7:00 p.m. VFW 1114	27	28	29
30	31	Important Notice It is time to submit your nomination for River Cities Detachment's "Marine of the Year". <u>Any</u> member in good standing may submit a nomination. For more information turn to page 4.				