



River Cities News

Marine Corps League
River Cities Detachment #1090
Evansville, Indiana

Volume 14, Issue 8

August 2017

Commandant's Corner

By Bob Reutter, Commandant

July was a very busy time for the Marines of our Detachment. We bid farewell to 8 Marines with funeral home visits and helped with the graveside services for some of them. We lost three Detachment members, Marines Frank Counts, Bernard "Sparky" Perrette and Thomas Coomes. As difficult as it is to stand in front of a group of mourners and talk about being a Marine and why we are there to say farewell to a brother Marine even though we were not personally acquainted with him, it is infinitely more difficult when it was someone we have laughed with, worked with and shared time with in the Marine Corps League.

That camaraderie is what makes the League so special. No group of men can be closer than Marines who share stories, experiences and all the things that make us different from not only other branches of the service but from other people. The fact that most of us are much closer to that final farewell than we are to our time at Parris Island or San Diego brings that home with urgency. Each Color Guard, League event, breakfast or Devil Dog growl gives us a chance to carry on those traditions and memories. That all Marines have similar experiences and can understand better than 'outsiders' makes it even more special.

All the things above are the reasons recruiting Marines into the Marine Corps League is so important. I am constantly amazed at the families of deceased Marines who don't want any 'military presence' at the funeral. That tells me

the Marine never felt close enough to his family to share what being Marine meant to him. When we do the 'farewell' service at the funeral home I see the recognition on the faces of widows, children and siblings of the departed as they realize just how much being Marine might have meant to their loved one. I have never had a family express discomfort or regret at allowing us to be there.

One of our Life members asked that in lieu of flowers donations be made to our local Toys for Tots campaign. It was a sign of how respected he was that a dozen of his friends, relatives and co-workers respected his wishes with donations. Like so many Marines he made an impact on those around him.

It is very easy to spot Marines in public. We tend to show our colors in many ways from license plates to decals to what we wear. Make it your personal challenge to contact each and every Marine you see to tell him/her about our League. You never know when that contact might save the life of fellow Marine who feels alone in a sea of people. Being able to unburden their soul to a brother/sister Marine might be the lifeline that gives them the ability to go on. Even if they don't feel they have the time to join, you have now planted the seed that will grow then the need arises.

Remember, the rib and butt sale in this newsletter is one of our biggest fund raisers. If everyone will sell ribs and butts to your relatives and friends we can be very successful.

Semper Fi and have a great August.

Detachment Officers

Commandant
Bob Reutter (270) 314-9484

Paymaster
Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014

Sgt At Arms
Jack Kincaide

Sr. Vice Commandant
Jim Grayson

Adjutant
Art Midle (812) 760-4349

Newsletter Editor
Paula Landers (812) 483-5114

Jr. Vice Commandant
Joe Filipczak

Judge Advocate
Don Counts (812) 422-1792

Web Sergeant
Paula Landers (812) 483-5114

Jr. Past Commandant
Tim Jones (812) 454-8717

Chaplain
Barbara Kortz

2017 Marine Corps Birthday Ball Questionnaire

Please complete and mail to: River Cities Detachment #1090, Attn: Commandant Robert Reutter, 11317 Bayview Court, Evansville, IN 47712-8882

The 242nd Marine Corps Birthday Ball is now less than 4 months away. Planning is beginning for the Ball to be held near the birthday of the Corps. So with that in mind I would like to have you answer the following questions to help the committee decide how the Ball will look in 2017. If you did not attend the Ball last year please give us feedback on what might entice you to attend **this** year. You can add your name to the bottom or you can submit it anonymously. If you don't plan to attend this year please indicate that as well.

Thank you in advance for your input. Please circle your responses.

- 1. If the Ball is held on Saturday, November 11th, 2017 I plan to attend. **Yes No**
- 2. I attended the 2016 Ball. **Yes No**
- 3. If you did not attend the 2016 Ball please skip to question 5.
- 4. Please rate the 2016 Birthday Ball from good (5) to bad (1) by circling your choice of rating on the following:

	Good		So/So		Bad
a. The Venue (Evansville Country Club) overall.	5	4	3	2	1
b. The layout of the Ballroom	5	4	3	2	1
c. The taste of the food	5	4	3	2	1
d. The amount of food	5	4	3	2	1
e. Cost of the tickets	5	4	3	2	1
f. The music	5	4	3	2	1
g. The day/date of the Ball (Thursday, November 10th)	5	4	3	2	1
h. The time of the Ball	5	4	3	2	1
i. The decorations (pictures, uniforms, etc.)	5	4	3	2	1
j. Door Prizes/Raffles	5	4	3	2	1
k. Keynote speaker (MsGySgt Cobb)	5	4	3	2	1

- 5. I would like to see the Ball held at _____
- 6. I would like the entertainment to be _____
- 7. The price of dinner and dancing (to a DJ or live band) out in public would be between \$35 and \$50 per person.
I feel the Ball is comparable to that. **Yes No**
- 8. I prefer a buffet to a plated meal and would pay \$5 - \$10 more per person to have a 3 meat buffet. **Yes No**
- 9. I have the following suggestions for the Ball Committee:

Your Name (Optional): _____

Marine Corps History

By Gary Burk

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

The Marines had good friends in high places as well.

In addition to the Navy carrier pilots (the Marine Squadrons departed with the Task Force 58 on the third day) and a brutally effective squadron of Army P-51 Mustangs, the riflemen were faithfully served by their Marine "Grasshopper" observation crews in their fragile Piper Cubs.



"Out of the frying pan, into the fire," seemed an appropriate motto for the Grasshoppers, many of them launched at sea by means of the crudely experimental Brodie catapults on a lowly LST. "Like a peanut fired from a slingshot," remarked one unamused commander after watching two of his planes go spinning into the sea from the bizarre rig.

But once ashore, the Grasshoppers flew a thousand combat missions, calling in a rain of death and destruction on any Japanese gun crew that exposed itself.

General Kuribayashi had exhorted each of his troops to kill at least ten Americans in exchange for their own lives. While few achieved this distinction, the ratio of 1.25 Marine casualties (killed, wounded, missing) for every Japanese killed was the highest in the war. It was the first and only time a Marine landing force suffered greater casualties than they inflicted on the defending garrison.

Fortunately, casualty handling at Iwo was the best of the war.

A wounded Marine had a good chance of survival if he could just endure those awful first few minutes until his intrepid corpsman could crawl up to him, bind his wounds, give him a shot or two of morphine, and dispatch him to the rear with some strong-backed, nimble-footed litter bearers.

Field surgeons like Irish Mike Kelecher would be waiting at nearby battalion aid stations, backed

by a series of field hospitals of amazing sophistication.

Iwo was the first battle where *whole blood*, not plasma, was widely used—fresh blood donated stateside one day, flown into the theater the next, delivered ashore the third, and injected into the waiting arm of some desperately wounded Leatherneck that night.

Fully equipped hospital ships loitered offshore to receive serious cases—although the worst aspect for the evacuee was enduring the rocking, rolling ride in an LVT or DUKW while strapped in a stretcher!

And 2,500 badly wounded Marines benefited from perhaps the most felicitous treatment of all—direct evacuation from Iwo to Guam by transport aircraft, each passage lovingly administered by a Navy flight nurse, truly an angle of mercy, tenderly grasping one grimy hand after another, whispering, "Hold on, son, just hold on. . ."

One "veteran" flight nurse, just twenty-three years old herself, wept as she saw shattered eighteen-year-olds cling to her as though she were their mother. . .

Yet the savage fighting on Iwo Jima worked counter to all these blessed amenities. An abnormally high ratio of men died of their wounds, reflecting the point-blank exchanges of gunfire as well as the proliferation of high explosions, blast effect, shock, and burns.

To be continued

August –

1 – 11: Dog Days of Summer

4: International Beer Day

11: Presidential Joke Day

Have you heard the one . . .

31: Burger Day

13th Annual Bar-B-Que Fundraiser

We will be taking orders until Wednesday, August 23, 2016. All orders and money must be turned in prior to our Detachment Meeting that evening. Orders may be picked up between 2 pm and 4 pm on Saturday, September 2, 2017 at J.D. Byrider, 2116 N. First Avenue, Evansville, IN

If you would like to take orders, please send an e-mail to MCLRIVERCITIES@GMAIL.COM requesting an order form. You may also go to the detachment web site www.mclrivercities.org to download an order form or to place your order.

Bar-B-Que Fundraiser Order Form	
<p>NAME: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>Ribs: # ordered _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____</p> <p>Butts: # ordered _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total \$ _____</p>	<p>Make Checks to: River Cities Det 1090</p> <p><i>Mail to:</i> <i>Don Landers, Sr.</i> <i>807 Frank Avenue</i> <i>Evansville, IN 47712</i></p>

MCLA Southern Belles Unit 441

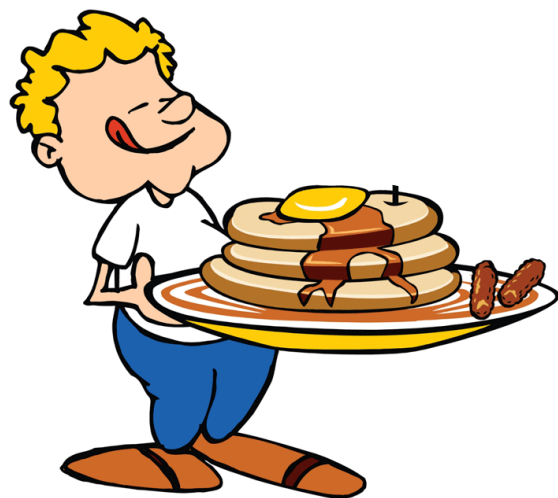
By Paula Landers, Treasurer

The Marine Corps League Auxiliary will be hosting another Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at AmVets Post #84, 2912 Broadway Avenue in Evansville IN on Saturday, September 9th 2017 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. All of the profits from this year's pancake breakfast will go to our Little Angels Project Fund. We use these funds to support projects on the local, state, and national level that benefit children.

All Breakfasts include Coffee, Juice, and Milk

Small Plate \$5.00 - 2 pancakes, 1 sausage

Large Plate \$7.00 - 3 pancakes, 2 sausages



Marines in the Public Eye

By Bob Reutter

Those of you who know me know that I am a computer 'geek.' Being retired (from the financially compensated world) allows me the time to sit at my computer and look up 'stuff.' According to a couple of sources there have been approximately 48 million people serving in the US military since 1775. Of these about 1 million have been Marines. That means that only about 2% of the military – since our country started – have been Marines. Why then, is there so much written, spoken and shown about Marines? The answer to that is complex yet obvious.

Marines have a history of being at the front of any conflict they are involved in. Marines run toward the sound of gunfire. Our training tells us that we are part of a 'family' that will always be there for each other. One of the most recited and representative of this is the story of the Chosin Reservoir campaign during the Korean War. A very few Marines fought to hold ground allowing an entire Division to withdraw from a trap meant to annihilate the division. Although well known and talked about the Chosin Reservoir is far from unique. Marines have been making headlines (much to the chagrin of the Army and Navy) by their aggressive and successful tactics since their inception in 1775. Tripoli, Chapultepec, Belleau Woods, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Viet Nam, Iraq, Afghanistan and into the future Marines have done and will do what is necessary to succeed.

In researching this story I found a question that had been asked "How many Marine Corps generals have become US Presidents? The answer was "Exactly none. Which may prove that the US voters are much brighter than we give them credit for." A better answer, and more closely related to truth would have been "None. Marine Corps generals spend too much time helping keep our country free so others can run for President." Politicians tend to be afraid of Marines since Marines are more interested in what is right than what is politically profitable. Since World War One politicians have tried on several

occasions to disband the Corps. So far it has always failed. To quote General Victor Krulak "America doesn't need a Marine Corps, America wants a Marine Corps." It is interesting to note that our current President put Marines in two of the positions most important to the safety of our nation – Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Homeland Security.

As long as a Marine in Dress Blues causes people to take notice, as long as active duty Marines continue to run to the sound of gunfire and as long as Marines now in civilian clothes continue to be successful in the business world Marines will remain "in the public eye."



Veteran Services

By Mark Burrier

[My Healthvet](#)
www.myhealth.va.gov

My Health, My Care: 24/7 Online Access to VA

Welcome Home OEF/OIF Veterans

Moving from military to civilian life can be challenging. The My HealthVet **Separation from Active Duty Center** offers information to help the new Veteran adjust to changes. Included is a section which provides specific information for the caregiver, and tips on how family and friends can provide support to returning Service Members. My HealthVet and the Separation from Active Duty Center encourage health living by teaching Veterans to adopt healthier behaviors that can last a lifetime.

What is My HealthVet?

My HealthVet is VA's award-winning online Personal Health Record. It offers Veterans anywhere, anytime Internet access to VA health care. Launched nationwide in 2003, My HealthVet is the gateway to web-based tools that empower Veterans to become better partners in their health care. With My HealthVet, found at www.myhealth.va.gov, America's Veterans and their caregivers access trusted, secure, and informed health and benefits information, at their convenience.

Key Features to Trusted Health

Information at www.myhealth.va.gov:

Medline Plus and Healthwise

Healthy Living Centers

Separation from Active Duty Center

Physical Activity Center

Information Services Related Conditions

Mental Health Learning Tools

Diseases + Condition Centers

Self-Entered Personal Health Journals

Military Health History

Family Health History

VA Benefits & Services

How to find the My HealthVet

Separation from Active Duty Center

Log on to > www.myhealth.va.gov

Click on> **RESEARCH HEALTH**

Click on> **HEALTHY LIVING CENTERS**

Click on> **SEPARATION FROM ACTIVE DUTY CENTER**

Find out more about:

Caregiver Assistance Information

Get Ready- VA Benefits

Support and Encouragement

Mental Health

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)- interactive learning exercises for Managing Your Stress, Managing Your Triggers, and Success at Work

Screening Tools and Information

Alcohol Use

Depression

Substance Abuse

Healthy Living Centers

Separation from Activity Duty

Health Eating

Healthy Sleep Center

Health History

Personal Health History

Family Health History

Military Health History

To get the most out of your My HealthVet Personal Health Record, visit your local VA facility to get an upgraded account, known as In-Person Authentication (IPA). You can see names of VA prescriptions, not just the numbers; get Wellness Reminders; and be the first to access all new My HealthVet features that will enhance your Personal Health Record. Ask about IPA at your local VA facility.

Links on the Homepage:

In Case of Emergency

VA Prescription Refills

Medical Libraries

Physicians & Providers

Vitals

Military Health Records

VA Honors



Marine Quotes

In place of the Humor in (Marine) Uniform this month I found some quotes by or about Marines. It is interesting to note that many of them are from either Army or Navy commanders.

**"There is no better friend...
and no worse enemy than a United States Marine."**

**"I have just returned from visiting the Marines at the front,
and there is not a finer fighting organization in the world."**

- General Douglas MacArthur, US Army, outskirts of Seoul, 21 September 1950.

"Come on, you sons of bitches-do you want to live forever?"

- Gunnery Sergeant Daniel Daly, USMC, near Lucy-`le-Bocage as he led the 5th Marines' attack into Belleau Wood, 6 June 1918.

"Among the men who fought on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue."

- Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, US Navy, 16 March 1945.

"Retreat Hell! We're just attacking in another direction."

- Attributed to Major General Oliver P. Smith, USMC, Korea, December 1950.

"Don't you forget that you're First Marines! Not all the communists in Hell can overrun you!"

-Col. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, USMC rallying his First Marine Regiment near the Chosin Reservoir, Korea, December 1950.

"The safest place in Korea was right behind a platoon of Marines.

Lord, how they could fight!"

-MGen. Frank E. Lowe, US Army; Korea, 26 January 1952.

"A ship without Marines is like a coat without buttons".

- Admiral David G. Farragut.

"Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they've made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem."

- President Ronald Reagan.

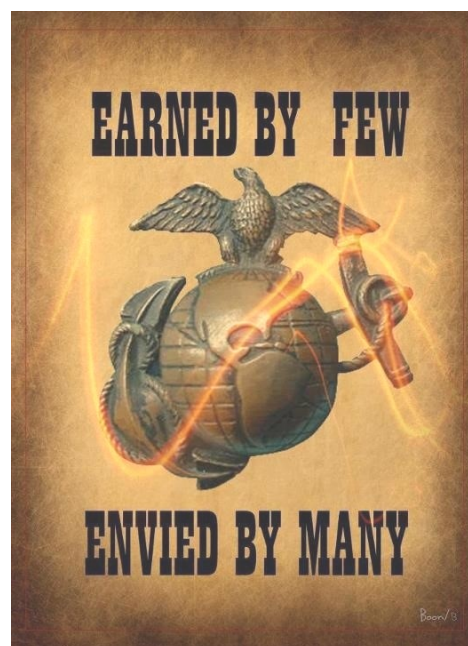
**"Marines I see as two breeds, Rottweilers or Dobermans,
because Marines come in two varieties, big and mean,
or skinny and mean. They're aggressive on the attack and
tenacious on defense. They've got really short hair and they
always go for the throat."**

-RAdm. "Jay" R. Stark, US Navy; 10 November 1995.

"For over 221 years our Corps has done two things for this great Nation.

We make Marines, and we win battles."

-Gen. Charles C. Krulak, USMC (CMC); 5 May 1997



Support our Sponsors
They help make this Newsletter possible

*In honor and memory of the
17th Rifle Company,
2700 W. Illinois Street
Evansville, Indiana
For all who served diligently, and
with dedication.*



*Semper Fi
Roy McWilliams*

10/2017

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

12/2017

*Compliments of
Bob and Linda Reutter
Life Members—River Cities Detachment #1090
Dedicated to missing members*



*Frank Counts
'Sparky' Perrette
Tom Coomes*

06/2021

*Compliments of
Casey Canfield
Life Member
River Cities Detachment #1090*

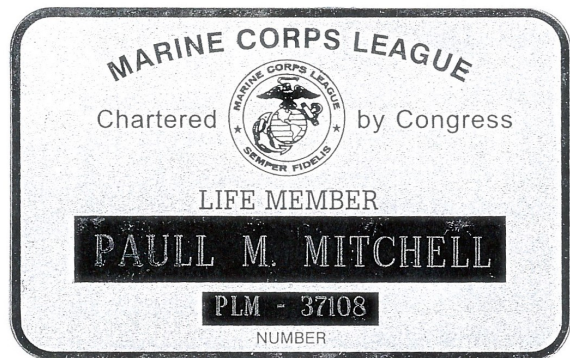
7/2018

**Compliments of the
Marine Corps League Auxiliary**



Southern Belles Unit 441

12/2017



10/2017

*Compliments of
Gary Burk, Life Member
OPTIMIST CLUB OF EVANSVILLE
DOWNTOWN
Friend of Youth Since 1921*

05/2018

River Cities Detachment 1090
 Marine Corps League Inc.
 P. O. Box 6581
 Evansville, IN 47719-0581

www.mclrivercities.org
 mclrivercities@gmail.com

Once a Marine, Always a Marine



Non Profit
 US Postage
 PAID
 Permit #1151
 Evansville, IN

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WELCOME ON BOARD

Ned Ernest Wellmeier

«AddressBlock»

Important Notice

Tuesday Morning Breakfast will be at Denny's on Hwy 41N & Lynch Road during the month of August. We will return to the Pie Pan on Sept 5th when they re-open.

Semper Ji

August 2017

Inside this issue:

Commandant's Corner	1
Birthday Ball Questionnaire	2
Marine Corps History	3
MCL Ribs/Butts Fundraiser	4
MCLA Pancake Breakfast	4
Marines in the Public Eye	5
Veterans' Services	6
Marine Quotes	7
Newsletter Boosters	8
Life Membership	8
Sponsors	9
Event Calendar	10

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Det. 1090 Breakfast Denny's Hwy 41 & Lynch 0800	2	3 MCLA Southern Belles VA Clinic 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.	4	5 9th Annual Golf Outing Cambridge Golf Course
6	7	8 Det. 1090 Breakfast Denny's Hwy 41 & Lynch 0800	9	10	11	12
13	14 MODD Growl 1830 Little Italy North Park	15 Det. 1090 Breakfast Denny's Hwy 41 & Lynch 0800	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Det. 1090 Breakfast Denny's Hwy 41 & Lynch 0800	23 MCL River Cities Det. #1090 1900 VFW 1114	24	25	26 Last Day to Order Ribs/Butts See pg 3
27	28 MCLA Southern Belles Unit 441 6:30 p.m. AmVets #84	29 Det. 1090 Breakfast Denny's Hwy 41 & Lynch 0800	30	31	Sept 1	Sept 2 Pick-up Ribs/Butts at JB Byrider 2 p.m.- 4 p.m. See pg 3

Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures For September 2017 are due
 NO LATER THAN August 22, 2017