



River Cities News

River Cities Detachment #1090
Marine Corps League, Inc.
Evansville, Indiana

Volume 15, Issue 7
July 2018

Commandant's Corner

Bob Reutter, Commandant

The MCL Department of Indiana held it's summer convention at the Holiday Inn in Richmond on the third weekend of June. Four members of our detachment made the 8 hour round trip to attend the convention. One of our members, TC Shane advanced from Pup to Devil Dog at the DD Growl held on Friday evening. TC was in good company as one new Pup and three other new Devil Dogs were initiated. TC is the Marine not in a red shirt. Unfortunately, due to where we were sitting we didn't get the 5th Dog in the picture.



One of the things discussed at the convention was a House of Representatives resolution to award the Congressional Gold Medal to all the combat veterans of the Korean War. The delegates to the State convention voted unanimously to support this resolution. One of our detachment members, John Mills is one of the Chosin Few and we would be very proud to see John and the other veterans of Evansville receive this richly deserved honor.

We also discussed some uniform related issues.

One of the hotly debated issues was the Devil Dog patch worn on our long and short sleeve white shirt. As you might be aware, wearing the patch is optional for members of the Devil Dogs. If worn, it replaces the American Flag. The by-law amendment proposed would remove that option and go back to only the flag. There would be a three year 'grace period' to replace the flag. The idea here is that in three years you would most likely be replacing the shirt(s) with new ones. After much discussion the vote of members attending the session was 24-13 opposed to removing the option of the Devil Dog Patch.

There were a couple of interesting statistics we learned at the convention. Less than 7% of all Americans have worn the uniform of any service of the United States. Less than 1/8 of 1% of all Americans are currently serving our Country.

During the Sunday morning memorial service they rang the bell for each member of the Marine Corps League of the State of Indiana who had passed away since the last Convention. The River Cities Detachment had 8 members on that roll:

Clarence Mitsdarfer, Paul Sowders, Richard Swonder, Tom Coomes, Bernard "Sparky" Perrette, Dallas Fickas, Frank Counts and Larry Scott. Semper Fi Marines.

"Semper Fidelis"
—"Always faithful,"
the motto of the Corps adopted in 1883.

Detachment Officers

Commandant
Bob Reutter (270) 314-9484

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Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014

Sgt At Arms
Jack Kincaide

Sr. Vice Commandant
Jim Grayson

Adjutant
Kyle Swain (812) 550-5560

Newsletter Editor
Paula Landers

Jr. Vice Commandant
Joe Filipczak

Judge Advocate
T C Shane

Web Sergeant
Paula Landers

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

Chaplain
Barbara Kortz (812)550-0552

Marine Corps History

Gary Burk

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

GULF WAR/DESERT STORM *(continued)*

The war began at 3 a.m. Baghdad time with a spectacular series of air strikes by USAF F-117 Stealth bombers and Navy Tomahawk cruise missiles. Marines flying F/A-18 Hornets out of Bahrain joined, taking out radar sites, power plants and railroad marshaling yards.

Consistent with Air Force policy in Korea and Vietnam, a Joint Forces Air Component Commander in a light blue uniform called all the shots in the air—at first.

Then, according to Major General Royal Moore, commanding the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, "We started weaning our own assets, and pretty soon, with General Schwarzkopf's acknowledgement, about fifteen days prior to the ground campaign, we were into battlefield preparation. At that time, if a target didn't do something for the 1 MEF and battlefield preparation, we weren't going."

Less than 1 percent of Moore's pilots were combat veterans, and the learning curve was immediate—no milk runs. "The Iraqis were real trigger pullers," said Moore. "They filled the sky with flak and SAMs. . . . When a missile, even unguided, goes over the top of your canopy, you get concerned."

Iraqis AAA dominated the lower altitudes where the Marines needed to operate for battlefield preps and close air support. Moore authorized fifty-plane "Gorilla Strikes" in the effort to take out AAA positions in Kuwait.

Desert Storm marked the combat debut of the Marine Corps F/A—18D, the two-seat, all weather, night attack version of the Hornet, destined to replace the ancient and honorable A6-E Intruder (the "F/A"—designator connotes the dual roles of fighter and attack bomber.)

The planes, equipped with forward-looking infrared targeting systems, would operate above the AAA envelope at 10,000 feet, the pilots wearing "Catseye" night-vision goggles and studying the ground below with ten-power binoculars.

Target priorities, according to Captain Rueben Padilla, were "artillery and rocket launchers, armor, troops and trench lines. "Finding some T-72 tank lurking in a revetment at night, the FastFAC (Forward Air Controller) would call in the "Wolfpack" of Harriers, marking their target with a 2.75-inch rocket tipped with white phosphorous warhead.

The abandoned Saudi frontier town of Khafji seemed an unlikely place for the first major ground encounter with the 1991 Gulf War.

During the night of January 29, 1991, the 5th Iraqi Mechanized Division swept across the border and seized the town in a surprise, spoiling attack, abruptly disputing claims by Air Force strategists that the Air War had immobilized Saddam Hussein's ground forces.

Arab screening forces retreated south before this sudden onslaught. A handful of Marines stayed. Two recon teams from the 3d Marines hid on the roof of a four-story building. The senior NCO, Corporal Charles Ingraham, calmly reported the invasion by radio to his regiment, offering to direct air and artillery strikes against the Iraqis swarming through the streets.

(to be continued)

Dates to Remember:

4 July 1801: President Thomas Jefferson reviewed the Marines, led by the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

6 July 1990: One of the oldest and most versatile attack aircraft in Marine Corps history, the A-4 Skyhawk, retired from the Corps.

7 July 1941: The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1st MAW) was activated at Quantico, Virginia.

11 July 1798: President John Adams approved "An Act for Establishing and Organizing a Marine Corps."

18 July 1918: The 4th Brigade of Marines began an attack near Soissons, France.

24 July 1944: The V Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Harry Schmidt, landed on Tinian.

28 July 1918: Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2d Division, U.S. Army in France.

Marines in the News

Bob Reutter

This is the third and final installment of the Battle of Belleau Wood. It is part of the history of the Corps but as importantly, it is part of the mystique of the Corps. From Dan Daly's often quoted "Come on you SOB's, do you want to live forever?" to the nickname "Teufelhunden" – Devil Dogs – it is part of who Marine are.

Aftermath: United States forces suffered 9,777 casualties, included 1,811 killed. Many are buried in the nearby Aisne-Marne American Cemetery. There is no clear information on the number of German soldiers killed, although 1,600 were taken prisoner.

After the battle, the French renamed the wood "Bois de la Brigade de Marine" ("Wood of the Marine Brigade") in honor of the Marines' tenacity. The French government also later awarded the 4th Brigade the *Croix de guerre*. An official German report classified the Marines as "vigorous, self-confident, and remarkable marksmen ..." General Pershing—commander of the AEF—even said, "The deadliest weapon in the world is a United States Marine and his rifle." Pershing also said "the Battle of Belleau Wood was for the U.S. the biggest battle since Appomattox and the most considerable engagement American troops had ever had with a foreign enemy."

Legend and lore has it that the Germans used the term "Teufelshunde" ("devil dogs") for the Marines. However, this has not been confirmed, as the term was not commonly known in contemporary German. The closest common German term would be "Höllenhunde" which means "hellhound".

Regardless of the term's origin, ten years after the battle, Lieutenant Colonel Ernst Otto, from the Historical Section of the German Army, wrote of the Marine Corps; "Their fiery advance and great tenacity were well recognized by their opponents."

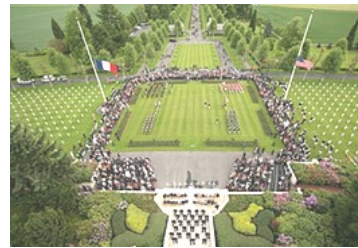
Legacy: Marines actively serving in the Fifth and Sixth Marine regiments are authorized to wear the French *Fourragère* on the left shoulder of their uniform to recognize the legacy and valor of their regimental predecessors.

In June 1923, the Marine Band performed a new march called "Belleau Wood" for the first time during the annual Belleau Wood Anniversary celebration. Composed by then Second Leader Taylor Branson, who would later lead the Marine Band from 1927 to 1940, it was dedicated to Army Major General James. G. Harbord, who commanded the Marines

during the battle.

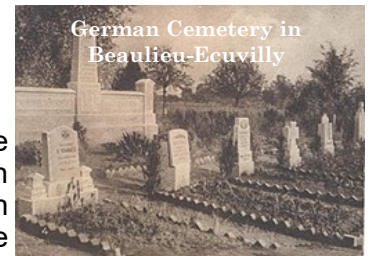
In July 1923, Belleau Wood was dedicated as an American battle monument. Major General Harbord was made an honorary Marine and attended the event. In his address, he summed up the future of the site:

"Now and then, a veteran, for the brief span that we still survive, will come here to live again the brave days of that distant June. Here will be raised the altars of patriotism; here will be renewed the vows of sacrifice and consecration to country. Hither will come our countrymen in hours of depression, and even of failure, and take new courage from this shrine of great deeds."



White crosses and Stars of David mark 2,289 graves, 250 for unknown service members, and the names of 1,060 missing men adorn the wall of a memorial chapel. Visitors

also stop at the nearby German cemetery where 8,625 men are buried; 4,321 of them—3,847 unknown—rest in a common grave. The German cemetery was established in March 1922, consolidating a number of temporary sites, and includes men killed between the Aisne and the Marne in 1918, along with 70 men who died in 1914 in the First Battle of the Marne.



On 18 November 1955, a black marble monolith with a bronze relief of a fighting Marine was dedicated at a road clearing near the site of the battle. Simply entitled **The Marine Memorial**, it was sculpted by Felix de Weldon, the artist who had also sculpted the Marine Corps War Memorial in Washington, D.C. The memorial honors the 4th Marine Brigade for their bravery here in June 1918, and is the only memorial in Europe dedicated solely to the United States Marines. Below the statue is a commemorative plaque with a large Eagle, Globe, and Anchor. The plaque includes a brief history of the battle, with text in both English and French. Officiating at the monument's dedication ceremony was



Marines in the News *continued from pg 3*

then Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., who had fought and was twice wounded at Belleau Wood, and later awarded the Army Distinguished Service Cross and the Navy Cross for his gallantry in action, 37 years earlier.

In New York City, a 0.197 acre triangle at the intersection of 108 Street and 51st Avenue in Queens is dedicated to Marine Private William F. Moore, 47th Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment.

Two U.S. Navy vessels have been named for the battle. The first USS *Belleau Wood* (CVL-24) was a light aircraft carrier active during World War II in the Pacific Theater, from 1943 to 1945. From 1953 to 1960, she was loaned to the French Navy under the name *Bois Belleau* and served in the First Indochina and Algerian Wars. The second USS *Belleau Wood* (LHA-3) was active from 1977 to 2005.

A shortened version of Lloyd Williams' famous quote is the basis for the motto the 2nd Battalion, 5th Ma-

rines, his unit during the battle. Williams himself has been honored with a building on the campus of his alma mater Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University named in remembrance of him.

In April 2018, French President Emmanuel Macron gifted the United States a sessile oak sapling from Belleau Wood as part of his state visit.



Marine Family Picnic

Paula Landers

The Marine Corps Family Picnic is for all Marines, veterans and active duty, it is being held on Sunday, July 29, 2018 at the FOP Camp 5417 N. Happe Rd in Evansville, just off Diamond Avenue. Festivities will start at 1200.

The Detachment will be providing the meat and we are asking each family to bring a covered dish or dessert to share and their own drinks.

We will not be having the waterslide, as we recently found out it is against the rule. There will be a bouncy house with basketball hoop inside and with a slide attached as well as a 30 foot obstacle course for the kids to enjoy.



This picnic is for **ALL Marines and their families in the tri-county area**. If you know a Marine invite them to joins us. All we ask is that they make reservations and also bring a covered dish or dessert.

Please make your reservations asap, so that we have enough supplies on hand.

Reservations can now be made online at:

mclrivercities.org/picnic2018

Share this link with every Marine that you know.

10th Annual River Cities Detachment Golf Scramble



Hosted by:
River Cities Detachment #1090
Marine Corps League
Date: Thursday, August 9, 2018
Team Check- in: 6:30 AM
Register by August 1, 2018



CAMBRIDGE GOLF COURSE

**1034 BEACON HILL
EVANSVILLE, IN 47725**

6:30 a.m. - Team Check-in
7:30 a.m. - Shotgun Start
12:30 p.m. - Lunch Buffet

Incorporated by an act of Congress in 1937, the Marine Corps League perpetuates the traditions and spirit of ALL Marines who proudly wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor of the Marine Corps.

The Marine Corp League is a not-for-profit organization within the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service Code 501(c) (4), which allows for contributions to the Marine Corps League, and subsidiary units, to be tax deductible by the donor.

Entry fees:

- \$75 per person/\$300 per team includes cart, lunch, and 2 beverage tickets

Awards: There will be overall team awards given to the top three teams. Individual awards will also be given for closest to the pin, longest putt made, and longest drive. There will also be a Hole-in-One prize for a new car, sponsored by Kenny Kent Chevrolet.

- First Place Team - \$400.00
- Second Place Team - \$300.00
- Third Place Team - \$200.00

(All cash prizes are based on obtaining at least 18 hole sponsors. We reserve the right to lower the amount of the cash prizes

**For more information or to register call:
Kyle Swain (812) 550-5560**

Complete this form or register on-line at www.mclrivercities.org/golf

Name

Company/Organization

Address

E-Mail

Player 1

Player 2

Player 3

Player 4

Phone _____
Entry Fees: \$300 per team/\$75 per person
Make checks payable to : River Cities Det. #1090

Mail your registration with fees to:
River Cities Detachment
P O Box 6581
Evansville, IN 47719-0581

Newsletter Booster Club

<i>Booster Member</i>	<i>Expires</i>
Joe & Kathy Filipzcek	July - 18
Bill Bitter	Aug - 18
Mr. and Mrs. John Bryant	Aug - 18
Pat Dillback	Sept - 18
Bob and Linda Reutter	Oct - 18
Joe & Kathy Filipzack	Dec - 18
Larry & Casey Scott	Dec - 18
David Jones	Dec - 18
Casey Canfield	Feb - 19
Gary Burk	April - 19
Dot Odom	July - 19
Mike Sides	July - 19
Richard Schuler	July - 19
Roy & Carolyn McWilliams	Aug - 19

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: _____

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

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

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.

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

MCL River Cities Fundraiser

Own a piece of Marine Corps history. This card has a small vial of actual volcanic ash from the Island of Iwo Jima. Scott Hanson, whose father was in an Army unit occupying Iwo after the island had been deemed 'secure', visited Iwo recently as part of the Japanese program to allow family of Americans who participated in the battle to visit the island, brought us back some actual volcanic 'sand' from the island. For a small donation of \$10 (including postage) our detachment will send you the pictured 5 ½ by 8 ½ inch card with a small piece of Iwo Jima.



Sands of Iwo Jima

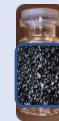
The island of Iwo Jima (Japanese for Sulfur Island) was strategically located for airfields to receive US Army Air Corps b-29s damaged in air strikes against Japan. The Japanese had built two airstrips on the island and used them to harass Allied aircraft. For these reasons Iwo Jima as selected as a target.

Battle of Iwo Jima Facts and Figures

Number of Japanese troops on Iwo	21,000
Number of Japanese survivors of invasion	1,083

11 miles of tunnels were dug to depths of 75 feet which protected the defenders from Allied naval and Air Corps bombardment.

Number of American Marines in attack	69,893
Number of American's killed	6,800
Number of Americans wounded	62,000



Actual volcanic ash

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I would like to order _____ "Sands of Iwo Jima" cards. I have enclosed a donation to the River Cities Detachment 1090 of \$10 for each card ordered. Makes checks payable to River Cities Detachment 1090. Mail requests to River Cities Detachment, PO Box 6581, Evansville, IN 47719-0581

MCLA Southern Belles Unit 441

AMERICAN VETERAN
12 TILE



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American Veteran Bracelet

Quantity Total
\$5 X _____ = _____

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Southern Belles Unit 441, c/o Paula Landers
807 Frank Avenue, Evansville, IN 47712-4548

American Veteran (12 tile) Bracelet

All branches of the military are honored on this versatile wooden bracelets for men and women. These would make great gifts for any occasion and the price is only \$5.00 each. You may contact any MCLA member or use the order form below to make your purchase. Thank you for your support.

Support our Sponsors
They help make this Newsletter possible



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

2018
 Larry Scott



04/2021

***Compliments of
Casey Canfield***

*Life Member
River Cities Detachment #1090*

07/2019

***Compliments of
Bob and Linda Reutter***

*Life Members
River Cities Detachment #1090*

06/2021



PLACE YOUR AD HERE

**Compliments of the
Marine Corps League Auxiliary**



Southern Belles Unit 441

12/2018



**Fraternal Order
of Police**
 STATE LODGE OF INDIANA

MICHAEL SIDES
 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT TRUSTEE

E-mail: msides@fop.net

07/2019

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IAFF Local 357 and FOP Lodge 73 proudly support our veterans

IAFF Local 357 and FOP Lodge 73 -- Serving those who have served our nation

Your Local Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officer are proud to support the River Cities Detachment

Semper Fidelis from the members of IAFF Local 357 and FOP Lodge 73

01/2019

*Compliments of
Joe and Kathy Filipczak*

Life Member

River Cities Detachment #1090

07/2018

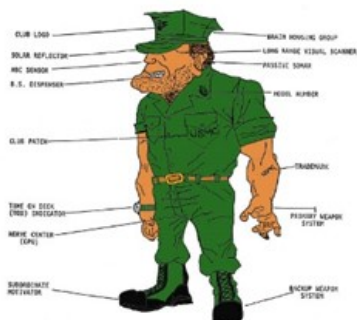
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Gary Burk, Life Member*

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MARINE



*In Memory of
Marine Tommy Collins
And Deceased
Detachment Members*



08/2018

River Cities Detachment 1090
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Once a Marine, Always a Marine



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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

July 29 - Marine Family Picnic

***Please make your reservations
 asap, so that we have enough
 supplies on hand.***

Reservations can be made online at:

mclrivercities.org/picnic2018

Share this link with every Marine that
 you know.

Semper Fi

July 2018

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	4	5 MCLA Southern Belles VA Clinic 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.	6	7
8	9 MODD Growl Bob's House 1830	10 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 TBD Libby's And Mom's closed today	18	19	20	21
22	23 MCLA Southern Belles Unit #441 AmVets 84 6:30 p.m.	24 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	25 MCL River Cities Det. #1090 VFW 1114 1900	26	27	28
29 <i>Marine Family Picnic</i>	30	31 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for August 2018 are due NO LATER THAN July 22, 2018			