



# River Cities News

Volume 12, Issue 6

June 1, 2015

## Commandant's Corner

By Bob Reutter, Commanant

### Inside this issue:

Commandant's Corner	1
Marine Corps History	2
Stars in the Corps	3
MCLA, Southern Belles 441	3
2015 Golf Scramble	4
2015 ShrinerFest	5
Newsletter Boosters	6
Life Membership	6
Sponsors	7
Event Calendar	8

### Detachment Officers

Commandant Bob Reutter (812) 985-5759
Sr. Vice Commandant Kelly Williams (812) 598-0656
Jr. Vice Commandant Luddie DeVaughn Jr. (812) 629-6481
Jr. Past Commandant Tim Jones (812) 454-8717
Paymaster Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014
Adjutant Art Midle (812) 760-4349
Judge Advocate Don Counts (812) 422-1792
Chaplain Joe Filipczak (812) 476-3762
Sgt At Arms A. J. Hardin (812) 464-5186
Newsletter Editors Paula Landers (812) 483-5114
Web Sergeant Paula Landers (812) 483-5114

It has been a busy time since our April League meeting. I would like to personally thank Luddie DeVaughn, Butch Effinger, Don Counts and Art Midle for joining me on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> for the Patriot Guard's "Ride to Remember." On Saturday we visited the grave sites of 8 casualties of the last several conflicts. It was wet and cold most of the day but our Marines made a good showing all day. On Sunday we recognized two more fallen before the Patriot Guard left to visit 6 more sites, mostly in the area of the Jasper League Detachment. Art traveled with the Guard all day on Sunday to provide the bugle for those events.

Several of our Marines attended a Boy Scout flag retirement ceremony at St. Ben's church on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Like Saturday the week before there was a lot of rain for the ceremony. On Monday, Memorial Day we had excellent showings by Marines from our detachment at both Locust Hill and Tupman Cemeteries. In addition to color guards at both locations, we provided a rifle salute to honor the fallen at Tupman. Fortunately the rain held off and we were able to enjoy the day. When we weren't the only military unit at an event we were by far the largest contingent at each. In addition (although I might be just a little prejudiced) we were the sharpest looking group at every event. To cap a busy month, we were honored to provide burial services for a WWII Marine on Wednesday morning, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

We have been offered a fund raising opportunity by the manager of the local Harbor Freight Tool store in Evansville. We will be setting up a grill and shelter at HFT on Thursday thru Sunday (6/4 – 6/7) during lunch to sell hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks to the customers and employees during HFT's sidewalk sale. If we feel it is worthwhile we will have exclusive opportunity to set up there 4-5 times a year to raise funds. If you are available please volunteer to work during one or more of these times. We will likely be there from about 10:30 until 2:30 each day (including setup and clean up.)

Just something for you to think about, we are only 4 months from Toys for Tots. Semper Fi and have a great month.



## ONCE A MARINE ALWAYS A MARINE

## Marine Corps History

By Gary Burk

### CIVIL WAR YEARS

The Marine Corps involvement in the Civil War was not impressive. Their first encounter started before war was declared between the North and South.

John Brown seized the U. S. arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia and was stirring up an insurrection of the slaves. This information was sent to Lt. Col. Robert E. Lee on Sunday evening 16 October 1859. Lee and Army Lt. J. E. B. Stuart left on the five o'clock train. Lt. Israel Green was already there with eighty-six Marines from the Washington Marine Barracks. There was no army in the area, so the 86 Marines, led by Green, attacked on the brick arsenal firehouse and captured Brown and his men.

The day before the Civil War, 1 January 1861, the Marine Corps strength was 1,892 officers and men. Half the officers and two-thirds of the lieutenants, including Green, resigned to take commissions in the Confederacy.

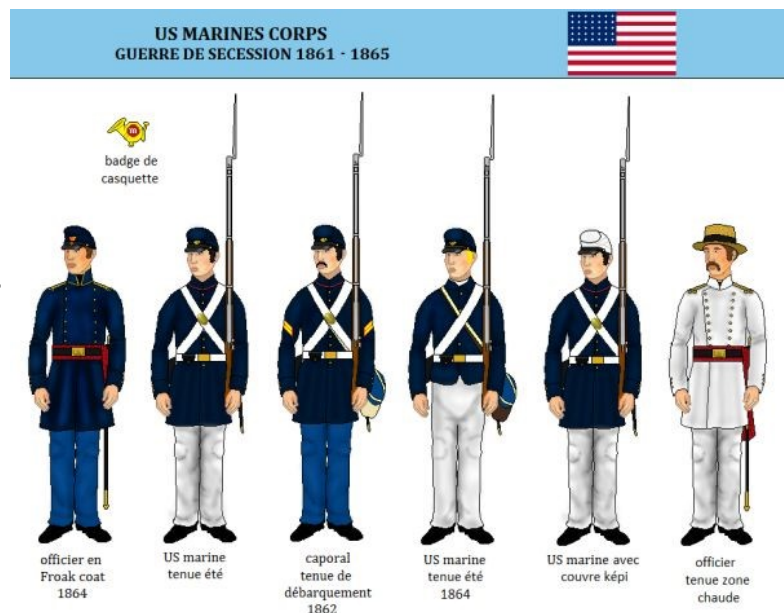
The Federal army that marched south from Washington to Bull Run, had a battalion of Marines, 13 officers and 336 men, led by Major John Reynolds. The Marines defended Griffin's West Point battery at Henry House Hill, but then the whole Union line began to crumble. Reynolds and his men marched back to the barracks, less the forty-four who were casualties.

The Marines landed repeatedly on the Atlantic coast line and in the Gulf at New Orleans and Mobile Bay. They performed admirably. Wilmington, North Carolina was defended by Fort Fisher and was the last Atlantic port still accessible to the Confederate blockade runners. On Christmas Day, the Union tried and failed to capture Fort Fisher. On 15 January 1865, Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter pounded the fort with six hundred guns from his fleet. Four hundred Marines landed on the seaward side of the fort to hold a beachhead, and sixteen hundred sailors passed through them to attack the fort with cutlass and pistols. At the same time eighty-five hundred Army troops landed farther up the beach to attack the long breastworks that made up the fort's land face. The Navy landing party was bogged down, but the Army got through a mine field and took the fort. The war was over three months later with Marine war casualties at 148 and another 312 dead from other causes. During the war, the Corps had tripled to 4,167 officers and men.

After the war, the Marine Corps examined itself and its mission. The Army and Navy did not regard Marines as useful, so if the Corps was going to survive it would have to prove its worth.

Before the end of the century, the Marines landed in fifteen countries to protect American citizens and property. The most significant was in 1871 landing in Korea, where a brigade of bluejackets followed a battalion of Marines assaulting and capturing the Han River forts guarding the approach to Seoul, and the 1885 landing in Panama to protect the trans-isthmus railroad.

In July, we will begin examining the historical events of the Marine Corps by month.



## Stars in the Corps

By Bob Reutter, Commandant

Our next Marine movie star was more than rough around the edges, he was a true wild one from the time he was a boy. He was kicked out of just about every school he attended. He was not just physical, he was downright violent. During frequent house parties he would often line up glasses on the bar and start a shooting contest. His gun collection was his most prized possession and he slept with a sharpened axe within each. Police were frequently called to bar fights he was in.

He enlisted in the Corps on 12 August 1942 and shipped off to Parris Island. He shot Sharpshooter in boot camp missing expert by one point. He was sent to Quartermaster School at New River after convincing his DI that he could type (he could not) and then to Service Company, Marine Barracks at Camp Elliot, San Diego where he was promoted to corporal. Several scrapes later now Private, he underwent demolitions training with the 20<sup>th</sup> Marine Engineer Battalion but his offensive behavior finally exhausted his superiors. He was assigned to mess duty for over a month. In January 1944 he shipped out with D Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion as a Scout-Sniper. He was part of a recon unit that went into Kwajalein the night before the invasion there.

After surviving that (and R&R in Maui) he was part of the first day's assault on Yellow Beach Two at Saipan on 15 June 1944. Later that day his company was caught in an ambush and 15 minutes later the 247 men of "I" Company, Third Battalion, 24<sup>th</sup> Marines were reduced to 6. It was then his turn. In his own words "There are two prominent parts of your body in view to the enemy when you flatten out – your head and your ass. If you present the former you get killed, if you raise the other you got shot in the ass. I got shot in the ass." He was eventually placed on a stretcher and had just taken a drink of water when a Jap ammo dump 150 yards away was hit and exploded. He was blown off his stretcher and landed right on his injury which he found out later was 9 inches by 3 inches and 3 inches deep. He was finally put on a passing LCM and made it to the hospital ship *Solace* where he realized he was safe. He also realized that his brother Marines were not and the tears began to flow. He suffered nightmares the rest of his life. He also spent the next 13 months in naval hospitals for his wound and a severed sciatic nerve. He was informed that he had missed being paralyzed by a hair's width.

He received a medical discharge from the Corps with a small disability pension on 24 July 1945. After working several menial jobs he was 'discovered' in a small theatre company (he was working as a janitor/handy many) and ended up in Hollywood. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery, near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier next to heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis. His headstone is inscribed "Lee Marvin, PFC, U.S. Marine Corps, WWII Feb. 19, 1924 – Aug. 29, 1987. This month's Marine from the movies is Major Riesman from the Dirty Dozen. Now you know.

---

## Marine Corps League Auxiliary, Unit 441

By Dani Cook, President

I would like to thank all of the ladies who have put their trust in me to be your Auxiliary President this year. I will do my best to be a credit to you all. We had a great time and a fabulous turn out for our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Bowling Fundraiser. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all who attended and helped to make it a success. We had our Big Lots Troop Care Package drive on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at Big Lots on Diamond Avenue. We got a few names of ladies wanting information about our organization. Thank you ladies for volunteering your time. The date of putting the packages together will be discussed in our June meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm. **Upcoming events are as follows:** VA Serving refreshments is coming up on June 4<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 11a.m. We do this the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month. Then the Fulton Ave. Boys and Girls Club picnic on June 20<sup>th</sup> from 11a.m. to 2 p.m. at Larry and Casey Scott's house. The kids always have a great time fishing, swimming and paddle boating. We invite all detachment members to come out and have fun with the kids and to visit awhile with Larry and Casey. I hope this year is a wonderful and productive year for our Unit.

---

# 7th Annual River Cities Detachment Golf Scramble



*Hosted by:*  
River Cities Detachment #1090  
Marine Corps League

**Date: Saturday, August 1, 2015**  
**Team Check-in: 6:30 AM**  
**Register by July 19, 2015**

## **CAMBRIDGE GOLF CLUB**

**1034 BEACON HILL**

6:30 a.m. - Team Check-in  
7:30 a.m. - Shotgun Start  
12:30 p.m. - Burger & Braut 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 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:**

- \$65 per person/\$260 per team includes cart, lunch, and 2 beverage tickets
- Open to the first 15 groups of 4.

**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.

Place Team - \$300.00  
Second Place Team - \$200.00  
Third Place Team - \$100.00

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

**For more information or to register call:**  
**Dani Cook (812) 401-1939 Tom Kremer (812) 479-3388**

*Complete this form or register on-line at [www.mclrivercities.org/golf](http://www.mclrivercities.org/golf)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Player 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3 \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail your registration with fees to:**

River Cities Detachment  
P O Box 6581  
Evansville, IN 47719-0581

**Entry Fees: \$260 per team of 4**

**Make checks payable to : River Cities Det. #1090**

## 2015 ShrinersFest

By Art Midle, Chairman

ShrinersFest is fast approaching and we will be needing some help in the booth for the weekend. The times are 10:00 -2:00, 2:00 - 6:00, 6:00 - 10:00 Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday with no 6:00-10:00 shift. We will need about 5 per shift, and if you are not able to spend 4 hrs. then do what you can and let me know. This is a joint effort and your spouse can help also. To schedule the time you would like to work call or text 812-760-4349 or email me at [amidle3081@wild4music.com](mailto:amidle3081@wild4music.com).

THERE WILL NOT BE ANY VISITING IN THE BOOTH WHILE YOU ARE ON DUTY. VISIT OUTSIDE THE BOOTH. Semper Fi



# June 24 - 28

Downtown Evansville

Turn summer up!

Join us on the riverfront for a festival of fun for the entire family!

For a complete schedule of events go to <http://www.hadishrinersfest.org/schedule.html>



**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**  
**JUNE 27-28, 2015**



*Featuring two national jet performance teams!*

**United States Navy Blue Angels, Canadian Forces Snowbirds, Air Force F-16 Viper Demo Team, USAF Heritage Flight, military & civilian performers, and vintage warbirds!**

The **largest air show in the state Indiana** takes off this June for a three hour air display demonstrating the skill, teamwork, and precision of North America's finest aviators.

*Get to the riverfront early to claim your seats for the best show above earth!*

**AIR SHOW STARTS AT 12:40 PM**



## Newsletter Booster Club

<i><b>Booster Member</b></i>	<i><b>Expires</b></i>
Bill Bitter	June - 15
Luddie DeVaughn Jr	Oct - 15
Casey Canfield	Oct - 15
Paul & Yolanda Sowders	Nov - 15
Gary Burk	Dec - 15
David Jones	Dec - 15
Southern Belles Unit 441	Feb - 16
John & Dottie Mills	Feb - 16
Tom & Alice Kick	May - 16
Joe and Kathy Filipczak	May - 16
Frank Bockting	June - 16

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

**NEWSLETTER BOOSTER MEMBER**

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

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

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

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

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

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

*We have space available in our ad pages.*

*Advertisements are available at the following rates.*

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

## Information on Life Membership

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

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

### *Current Life Membership Price Information*

*As of January 2014*

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

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

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

**DAVID L. JONES**

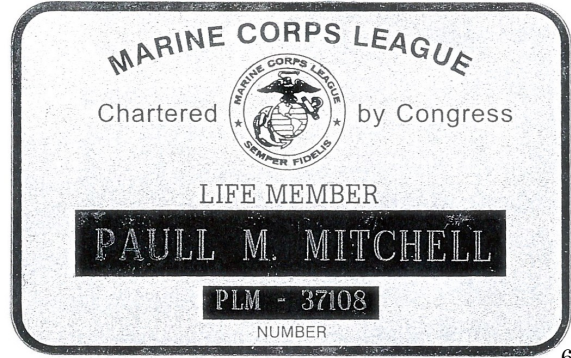
djones@joneswallace.com      420 Main St., Suite 1600  
Telephone: (812) 402-1600      P.O. 1065  
Facsimile: (812) 402-7977      Evansville, IN 47706-1065

**JONES • WALLACE**

ATTORNEYS



03/2016



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**

06/2015

*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**

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

**ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE**



Non Profit  
 US Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit #1151  
 Evansville, IN

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.mclrivercities.org  
 mclrivercities@gmail.com

WELCOME ON BOARD

New Members

T. C. Shane, Jr.

Renewals

John Williams  
 Steve Hanmore  
 Richard Swonder  
 Frank Bockting

New Associate Members

-0-

Associate Renewals

-0-

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

# Semper Fi

## June 2015



Mary Beth Midle 6/5  
 Stacy Ahola 6/8  
 Tony Montgomery 6/17  
 Bill Blaine 6/19  
 Arthur Midle 6/26

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.

**GOLF COMMITTEE**

Mark you calendars for the following dates:  
 June 11 6 p.m. VFW 1114  
 June 24 6 p.m. VFW 1114  
 July 16 6 p.m. VFW 1114  
 July 30 6 p.m. VFW 1114  
 (Bring all donations)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <b>Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.</b>	2	3	4 <b>MCLA</b> VA Project 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. <b>MCL Det.</b> Harbor Freight 10:30 to 2:30	5 <b>MCL Det.</b> Harbor Freight 10:30 to 2:30 See pg 1 for details	6 <b>MCL Det.</b> Harbor Freight 10:30 to 2:30 See pg 1 for details
7 <b>MCL Det.</b> Harbor Freight 10:30 to 2:30 See pg 1 for details	8 <b>Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.</b>	9	10	11 Golf Commit- tee Meeting 6 p.m. VFW 1114	12	13
14	15 <b>Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.</b>	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 MCLA Unit 441 Southern Belles 6 p.m. AmVets Post 84 <b>No Devil Dog Growl Scheduled</b>	23	24 <b>MCL Det. 1090 7:00 p.m. VFW 1114</b>	25 ShrineFest 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Evansville Riverfront	26 ShrineFest 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Evansville River- front	27 ShrineFest 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Evansville River- front
28 ShrineFest 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Evansville Riverfront	29 <b>Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.</b>	30	<p><i>Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for July 2015 are due <b>NO LATER THAN</b> June 22, 2015</i></p> <p><i><b>Shrinefest 6/25 - 6/28</b> Contact Art Midle at (812) 760-4349 or amidle3081@wild4music.com to volunteer your services. See pg 5 for details</i></p>			