



River Cities News

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

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June 2019

Command's Corner

Jim Johnson

I want to thank everyone who voted for me to become the Commandant of Marine Corps League Detachment #1090. I find myself in a rather unique and cautious situation. Bob Reutter has done such a great job as Commandant for the last three years that it's going to be very hard to follow him. It reminds me of the first time Johnny Carson was going on television, he followed Johnathan Winters and Joey Bishop. They both had the audience laughing and clapping, as Johnny walked on stage nervously amongst all the laughing. He simply said "What they said goes for me, too." and walked off stage. Well, I just can't walk off stage, so I am counting on everyone to help me make the next year go as smoothly and progressively as possible.

Now for a little about myself. I was a career Marine spending a little over 22 years in the Corps. My first day of boot Camp was 7 January 1960 and retired 22 February 1982. For all those who have the question as to what Boot Camp I attended. "San Diego" As to how I ended up in Evansville, Indiana, I was part of the Inspector/Instructor Staff when the reserve unit was still in Evansville.

I am really looking forward to being your Commandant in the coming year. With the help of Bob Reutter and Don Landers and the rest of the elected officers I hope to make this a really great year for Detachment #1090.

Semper Fi

Marine Corps League - Mission Statement

Members of the Marine Corps League join in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving traditions, promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service. Effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy. Voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains, and Marine Veterans, FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplains and their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.

USMC
Semper Fidelis

Detachment Officers

Commandant Jim Johnson	Paymaster Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014	Sgt At Arms Melissa West
Sr. Vice Commandant Jim Grayson	Adjutant Tim Jones (812) 454-8717	Newsletter Editor Paula Landers
Jr. Vice Commandant Jack Kincaide	Judge Advocate T C Shane	Web Sergeant Paula Landers
Jr. Past Commandant Bob Reutter	Chaplain Bob Reutter (270) 314-9484	

Marine Corps History

Gary Burk

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

MARINES IN THE CIVIL WAR

Tactically, the plan succeeded, Terry's soldiers invested Fort Fisher's northern palisades virtually unopposed while the sailors and Marines fell by the hundreds on the opposite side. The surviving Marines joined Terry's forces and fought with a vengeance the remainder of the day and night.

But the Navy, keenly embarrassed by this very visible failure, blamed the Marines, and the concept of amphibious assaults against opposed beaches incurred another black eye, another half-century setback.

The Civil War for the U.S. Marines thus began and ended on frustrating notes in the bookend disasters of First Manassas and Fort Fisher.

At no time during the war did Marine Corps strength exceed 4,000 men, truly a drop in the bucket compared with the hundreds of thousands who served in the Union Army or Navy.

The Marines suffered 138 killed in action – brave but inconsequential losses amid the great slaughter.

In truth, the only shining achievement for the Corps during this cataclysmic war was the enhancement of its tradition of strong NCO leadership. These men proved to be highly responsible, technically proficient, tough-as-nails fighters. And they carried the Corps its doldrums.

Fifteen of the seventeen enlisted Marines to receive the Medal of Honor during the Civil War wore the stripes of corporals or sergeants.

Jacob Zeilin, brevetted for gallantry during the amphibious raids along the California coast in the Mexican War, wounded at First Manassas, became Commandant in 1864. Zeilin would preserve the Corps and in fact become its first fully appointed general officer (Henderson had held a brevet rank), but the Marines would not flourish

in the decades that followed the Civil War.

Small detachments of Marines, led by junior officers and NCOs, continued to spearhead landing parties around the world: China in 1866; Formosa, Japan, and Nicaragua in 1867; Japan again and Uruguay in 1868; Mexico in 1870. "A ship without Marines is like a garment without buttons," said a grateful Admiral David Dickerson Porter.

In 1871, Commodore John Rogers's Far Eastern Squadron launched a battalion-sized landing party to seize a series of forts from pugnacious Salween River pirates in a land that the Marines would visit again for mortal combat – Korea.

Capitan McLane Tilton commanded the composite Marine force in this "Weekend War" with the Koreans.

Naval gunfire paved the way for the landing. Marines and sailors lugged field pieces through the mudflats, charged with abandon, scaled the walls, overwhelmed the garrison, and came away with huge Korean flags as souvenirs. Six enlisted Marines earned the Medal of Honor in the spirited, hand-to-hand struggle.

The Marines rode into the new century on the bow-wave of public enthusiasm for imperialism.

On the evening of February 15, 1898, the proud new armored cruiser *Maine*, moored in Havana harbor to "show the colors" during Spain's unpopular repression of its Cuban colony, erupted in a violent explosion and sank, killing 260 Americans, among them 28 Marines.

"Remember the Maine" became the national cry. Congress soon recognized Cuba's independence and authorized military action against Spain.

(to be continued)

From the Editor

Paula Landers



Barbara Kortz, Tom Kick (sorry Tom), Ray Ko, Bob Reutter, Jack Kincaide, TC Shane, Jim Grayson, Jim Johnson, Tim Jones

Our Detachment once again had the honor of participating in the Memorial Day Service at Locust Hill and Tupman Cemeteries. At Tupman Cemetery we work along side AmVets Post #84 to provide the color guard, taps, and 21 gun salute. This year our trumpeter, Art Midle, even provided the music in the absents of the singer. Great job Art.



Art Midle is also a member of the Retired Veterans Memorial Club, he does several services on Memorial Day.



As always AmVets Post #84 did a fantastic job organizing this service. The main address was given by Dr. Mark Browning.

Other participates were:

Master of Ceremonies: Holly Guetling

Invocation & Benediction: Helen Allega

General Logan's General Order #11: Charles Guetling

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address: Tony Brummet

Roll Call of Deceased Veterans: Randy Ashby

June 7th - 9th is going to be the Dept. of Indiana 2019 Convention. The Department is trying something new this year with having a Conference/Convention Committee planning the event instead of a detachment hosting the event. The plan is to start having all of these meetings in a central location, to help cut down on travel time

for the members, especially the ones far south and far north.



The Detachment/Auxiliary Food Booth will be set up at Rural King West on Saturday, June 15th. I want to thank the ones that volunteered to work the booth. We have the

minimum required to operate the booth (I hope). Anyone that wants to stop by and gives us a hand is more than welcome to do so. I'm sure we could use a few extra volunteers. We will be there from 0900 to 1600, so stop by and grab some lunch.

There are several events taking place this month that are of interest to local veterans, I have included them on the calendar.



One of special interest is the Honoring Women Veterans Conference, also on the 15th of June at the University of Evansville from 0800 to 1600. This is a great way to honor the women who have served our country in all branches of the military. Two of our members Barbara Kortz and Melissa West are very active in the Tri-state Women Veterans group. Please share this link with any women veterans you may know www.facebook.com/honoringwomenvets, for more information and registration.

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The Lore of the Corps

Bob Reutter

This is the first in what I hope to be an ongoing series talking about Marines. What makes them tick, what drives us to become Marines, what goes into the making of Marines and some of the battles and people that have become part of the mystique that goes with the title of United States Marine.

Throughout the ages there have been many titles and slogans associated with Marines. “The Marines build men,” “The Few – The Proud,” “We Don’t Promise You a Rose Garden” and “First to Fight” are just a few. On 8 May of this year, we saw first-hand about one of the young men who are waiting to join our number.



Brendan Baily is an 18 year-old high school student in Colorado. When one of his classmates walked into a classroom, withdrew a firearm from a guitar case and opened fire in the classroom, Brendan was one of 4 students who, rather than cowering under a desk, chose to rush the gunman and wrestle him to the ground, relieving him of his weapon. Brendan has already been sworn in and will be heading off to boot camp upon completion of his high school education. Typical of most Marines, when interviewed by the press, Brendan said he didn’t want to be remembered for *his* heroic actions as another of his classmates also rushed the shooter and was killed in the process.

One day Brendan’s name might be up there with names like Chew-Een Lee, first Chinese-American Marine officer. He led an infantry platoon at the Chosin Reservoir and was awarded the Navy Cross for heroism. Vernice Armour – first female black combat pilot in the United States military. John L. Estrada – first Marine of Hispanic descent promoted to Sgt. Major of the Marine Corps. John F. Mackie – first Marine to be awarded the Medal of Honor. Victor H. Krulak – designed the drop front landing craft, wrote the manual on amphibious assaults, developed the manual on vertical assaults using helicopters and was the father of the 31st Commandant, Charles C. Krulak.

In the first five months of 2019 we lost three other notable Marines. The Navajo Code Talkers were recruited because their language was oral, not written. Together the original 29 Code Talkers worked with the Marines to develop a code language that was used on the battlefield. It was based on the Navajo words for certain animals to be substituted for Japanese war machines. For example a battleship was a whale, a tank was a tortoise, a commanding general was a war chief and a fighter plane was a humming bird. The code was used extensively during the Marine’s island-hopping campaigns in the Pacific and was never broken by the Japanese. It was such a secret that the surviving Code Talkers were forbidden to talk about their experiences until the program was declassified in 1968.



New Mexico State Senator John Pinto, one of the last remaining Navajo Code Talkers, died on May 24th. Following his service to the Marines during WWII, he became a NM State Senator, a post he served in for 40 years.



Fleming Begaye, Sr. passed away in May at the age of 97. Marine Begaye was one of the last of the Navajo Code Talkers who served in the Pacific during WWII. Begaye joined Alfred K. Newman who died in January of 2019.



Alfred K. Newman

The loss of these three Code Talkers leave fewer than 6 remaining of the 400 who served with distinction during World War II.

Semper Fi, Marines



The first Navajo Code Talkers

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proudly support our veterans*

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

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

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

04/2020

*Compliments of
Joe and Kathy Filipczak*

Life Member

River Cities Detachment #1090

12/2019

*Compliments of
Gary Burk, Life Member*
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*Compliments of
Carolyn McWilliams*

In honor and memory of the
17th Rifle Company
2700 West Illinois Street
Evansville, IN

For all the men who served
diligently, and with dedication.



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



Semper Fi

03/2020

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.



2019
Jasper Marshal
Bill Bitter

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

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of Police
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MICHAEL SIDES
 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT TRUSTEE

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07/2019

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Once a Marine, Always a Marine



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IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Dues for 2019 - 2020
 Before August 1st - \$25
 After August 1st - \$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

«AddressBlock»

Semper Ji

June 2019

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for July 2019 are due NO LATER THAN June 22, 2019 <u>There will be No Exceptions to this deadline</u>						1
2	3	4 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	5	6 MCLA Southern Belles VA Clinic 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.	7 MCL Dept. of Indiana 2019 Convention	8 Fundraiser For Pointman Bud's Harley Morgan Ave.
9 MCL Dept. of Indiana 2019 Convention	10 MODD No Growl	11 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	12	13	14	15 Women Veterans Conference Det. Food Booth Rural King West 0900 - 1600
16	17 Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Lecture Sponsored by Pointman Crossroad Church	18 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	19	20 40th Anniversary of the Vet Center Burkhardt Rd.	21	22
23 30	24 MCLA Southern Belles Unit #441 AmVets #84 6:30 p.m.	25 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	26 MCL River Cities Det. #1090 VFW 1114 1900	27	28	29