



# River Cities News

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

Volume 17, Issue 6

June 2020

## Commandant's Corner

Jim Johnson

I hope this finds everyone happy and healthy. This COVID-19 has really changed everybody's life around. I get angry sometimes but then I realize that everybody is in the same situation as myself. A great statesman once said " We have nothing to fear but fear itself". Well, I don't fear COVID-19 but I do respect what it can do, so I am very cautious and I hope you are all doing the same.

I was really hoping and looking forward to seeing everyone at our regular scheduled meeting in May, however it wasn't to be. Our next scheduled meeting will be June 24th and that has a very slim chance of happening. However, if we get the go ahead, we will e-mail everyone and let you know. With the average age of our members and some with underlying health conditions, we want to be as cautious as possible. That said our next meeting will probably be in July at Funkhouser American Legion Post. Look for an e-

mail to keep you informed. An e-mail will only be sent if we are having a meeting.

The Marine Corps League National Convention is still being planned and has not been cancelled. The Indiana State Marine Corps League is still being planned and to take place in Plainfield, IN, the 5th thru 7th of June. I was planning on attending but I'm not sure it would be a smart idea with COVID-19. The Department of Indiana is selling tickets for a drawing of a Beretta .45 pistol at the price of \$10.00 per ticket. They are only selling 350 tickets, so your chances aren't to bad. If interested contact Jim Snowberger at 765-412-441 or 3992 N 975 W Delphi, IN, 46923.

For any and all your family and our members, who are struggling, they are in our prayers. We'll all get thru this COVID-19 pandemic, and come out stronger for it.....this. too, shall pass!

## Agent Orange - Guam

Bob Reutter

### If you served on Guam

New research could help Vietnam-era veterans who served in Guam and who have diseases linked to Agent Orange file for disability with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Two veterans advocacy groups published a policy paper Monday saying that veterans who served on Guam between 1962 and 1975 likely were exposed to herbicides disposed of on the Pacific island or used for vegetation control. The groups -- the National Veterans Legal Services

Program and the Jerome Frank Legal Services Organization at Yale Law School -- say their link meets the VA's legal criteria for awarding affected veterans Agent Orange-related benefits.

"We conclude that existing evidence establishes that it is, at the very least, 'as likely as not' that veterans who served in Guam from 1962 to 1975 were exposed to Agent Orange and other dioxin-containing herbicides," wrote NVLSP Executive Director Bart Stichman and several law students and attorneys.

Continued on pg 3

#### Detachment Officers

Commandant Jim Johnson	Paymaster Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014	Sgt At Arms Melissa West
Sr. Vice Commandant John Bryant	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	

## Lore of the Corps

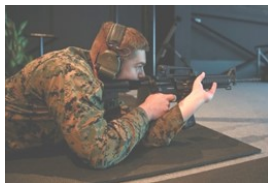
Bob Reutter

### What the hell is this shooting grip?



Some recent images from boot camp and a Marine shooting a simulator in Australia depict an obscure shooting grip not **officially** taught by any Marine Corps program of instruction.

The images show a recruit at Parris Island SC and a Marine in Darwin, Australia shooting in the standing and prone positions respectively, but holding the rifle in a manner not commonly done by Marines undergoing marksmanship training across the school houses.



Marine Corps Times reached out to Marine Corps Combat Development Command to ask whether the Corps had adopted a new shooting grip or stance in its program of instruction at recruit depots or the Fleet.

"The grip you saw is not part of any of our doctrine (Marksmanship Order) and not part of any of our POIs (Combat Marksmanship Coaches courses,) MCCDC said. "Most likely the Marines are either trying a different position on their own or something they may have learned from civilian competitive shooting."

A former Marine Corps Shooting Team member said the grip was used by many in the standing position for competition. Everyone is built differently and each shooting position is unique for everyone. If it gives him a stable platform, it is worth it. It does appear to keep the arm tucked in nicely in the standing position.

### Troops should expect a big pay raise next year.

Despite all the uncertainty surrounding next year's defense budget and federal corona virus spending, service members should expect to get a hefty pay raise in 2021, according to the top Republican on the House Armed Services Committee.

"People are our number one priority. And that's a way to show our people we value them," said Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas. "So I would expect the (White House's) requested pay raise to be included next year."

Service members would see a 3 percent pay raise starting next January under the federal budget plan unveiled by the White House in February.

In past budget cycles, defense leaders have pulled back on the federal pay calculation (designed to

roughly match increases in private sector salaries) in an effort to shift available funds to other modernization and readiness priorities.

But Congress in recent years has rebuffed those types of moves. In a conference call with reporters on Thursday, Thornberry — who led the committee from 2015 to 2019 — said ensuring military pay keeps pace with civilian wage levels is key to keeping the fighting force strong. "We want to continue to attract and retain the very best people we can," he said. "Nobody does it for the money, but it is at least a factor in families deciding whether they want to join or stay in the military."

### We must continue to train despite COVID-19 pandemic, top Marine says:

The top Marine said Sunday that Marines "must continue to train" to prepare for the next crisis despite an ongoing viral pandemic that has canceled exercises and delayed planned U.S. military rotations across the globe. The Marine Corps has come under criticism for keeping barbershops open, pushing field exercises and continuing with recruit training as COVID-19 continues to disrupt military operations and planning.

"We train so that we can be ready to go," Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. David Berger, said in a video posted Sunday. "We never get the chance to pick the next crisis, where it happens, when it happens."

An outbreak at the Parris Island recruit depot has temporarily halted training and the arrival of new recruits. Service level exercises across the Corps have in some places been suspended — a large-scale air and ground integration training evolution in Arizona was cut short. The 1st Marine Division says its Marines will no longer train aboard the Twentynine Palms, California, training center for the time being.

Marine Corps recruiting efforts have now gone virtual following an outcry from Marine recruiters that the Marines were jeopardizing the health and safety of service members.

**Author's note: The articles above have been researched from the Marine Corps Times.**



House Armed Services Committee ranking member Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, speaks with Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Beaudreault

## A Note From the Chaplain

Bob Reutter

Since we have been unable to hold a meeting for a while, I thought I would let you know what I have heard from some of our members.

- Don Landers had knee surgery last week. I spoke with Paula two days post-surgery and Don was doing well. He had already had his first rehab treatment. As you know, he was scheduled a while ago but it was postponed due to Covid.
- Tim Jones is 8 months post kidney replacement and doing well. He is no longer required to journey to Indy weekly for follow ups.
- Gary Burk had his reverse shoulder replacement, has completed his rehab time at Good Samaritan Home and is now home. He is progressing nicely and is able to use his microwave over the stove for the first time in ages.
- John and Dottie Mills are getting along well. Dottie is handling her dialysis like a trooper. John celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Tom and Alice Kick are also getting by. Tom's birthday was also on May 3<sup>rd</sup> (he wasn't 90) and for a man who has survived 6

heart attacks, he is doing remarkably well. I was at his house two weeks ago to harvest some firewood and we visited for some time.

- I have spoken to Joe Filipczak recently and he and Kathy are settling in to their new place in Tennessee. Joe got to be part of a new MCL Detachment near him. Of course, that was before Covid. He is looking forward to getting to meetings down there again. He wished everyone at River Cities the best.
- I spoke to my former 'financial specialist' at Toys for Tots last week. As of then, no one had applied for a campaign in Evansville. If there is no Marine TFT in Evansville, we may need to do something about our tables and things at the warehouse. **IF** (a big if) our landlord will allow us to remain, we will need to pay for a liability rider to our insurance to protect the landlord. I will talk to them after May 31<sup>st</sup>, if no one applies to TFT.

If anyone has any knowledge of Detachment members, family members or other Marines we know, please contact me at [rapid1@evansville.net](mailto:rapid1@evansville.net) and I will include the info with our next newsletter.

Semper Fi, Bob

## Agent Orange - Guam continued from pg 1

Tens of thousands of U.S. service members were assigned to Guam during the Vietnam War, where three quarters of all U.S. B-52 bombers used in the air campaign were based. Former service members reported spraying defoliants on vegetation to reduce fire hazards and burying hazardous waste, including Agent Orange, in landfills and low-lying areas near the ocean. For veterans who served outside Vietnam to receive VA disability compensation or health services for the 14 health conditions determined to be linked to herbicide exposure by the department, they must prove they have an Agent Orange-related illness, connect it to their military service and provide support for a causal link.

Some veterans who served on Guam have been awarded disability claims for Agent Orange-related illnesses, but NVLSP and Yale believe all who served on Guam during the Vietnam era who have a presumptive condition should automatically qualify for VA benefits.

"Individual veterans should not be penalized for an incomplete evidentiary record when [the Department of Defense] has failed to maintain this record, or to resolve and refute extensive claims of Agent Orange and other toxic herbicide exposure," they wrote. For more information about this go to : <https://news.yahoo.com/report-claims-vietnam-era-veterans-204928375.html>



# Humor in (Marine) Uniform

Bob Reutter

Author's note: Due to the continued stay-at-home restrictions, I have again wandered away from Marine jokes and cartoons. I felt some Covid19 'humor' would be appropriate.

Evening news is where they begin with 'Good evening', and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

\*\*\*\*\*

**It's like being 16 again  
Gas is cheap and I'm  
Grounded.**

Diet Day #1 - I removed all the fattening food from my house. It was delicious.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Eventually, everyone will  
be quarantined to their  
houses with no sports to  
watch.. and in 9 months  
from now a boom of  
babies will be born.. and  
we will call them the  
coronials**

I've been thinking about Osama Bin Laden. He was stuck in his house with three wives for five years. I'm beginning to wonder if he called in those Navy Seals himself?

\*\*\*\*\*

The drop in gas prices during the "stay at home" order is like a bald man winning a hairbrush!

\*\*\*\*\*

Bank teller arrested for attempting to carry money home... claims he was going to work from home.

SUNDAY  
MONDAY  
TUESDAY  
WEDNESDAY  
THURSDAY  
FRIDAY  
SATURDAY

\*\*\*\*\*

Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything down and cleaned thoroughly. Today I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom.

\*\*\*\*\*

After Monday and Tuesday, even the calendar says WTF.

\*\*\*\*\*



Commercials in 2030 will be like: Were you or someone you know overly exposed to hand sanitizer, Lysol or bleach during the 2020 coronavirus pandemic? If so, you may be eligible for compensation...

\*\*\*\*\*

It's not that I'm afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens.

\*\*\*\*\*

So many coronavirus jokes out there, it's a pundemic.

\*\*\*\*\*

Nail salons, hair salons, waxing center and tanning places are closed. It's about to get ugly out there.





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

**SEMPER FI!**

**Mike Mitchell**

*Life Member*  
*River Cities Detachment #1090*



06/2021

*Compliments of*  
*Joe and Kathy Filipczak*

*Life Member*  
*River Cities Detachment #1090*

12/2020

*Compliments of*  
*Gary Burk, Life Member*  
**OPTIMIST CLUB OF EVANSVILLE**  
**DOWNTOWN**

*Friend of Youth Since 1921*

07/2020

Place Your Ad Here

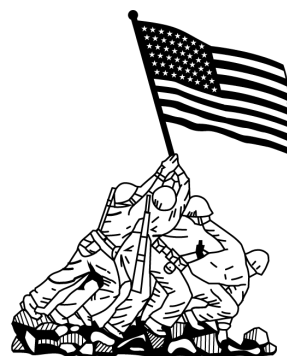
*In Memory of*  
*Marine Tommy Collins*  
*And Deceased*  
*Detachment Members*

Our prayers for our nephew who was recently deployed. May God bless all of our service members, protect them, and give them strength to carry on, Amen!

Roy & Carolyn McWilliams



05/2021



**Semper Fi**

09/2021

***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  
 Pat Dillback  
 (Associate Member)

04/2021

***Compliments of  
Casey Canfield***

*Life Member  
River Cities Detachment #1090*

01/2021

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

*Life Members  
River Cities Detachment #1090*

06/2021

**DAVID L. JONES**  
[djones@joneswallace.com](mailto:djones@joneswallace.com) 420 Main Street, Suite 1600  
 Telephone (812) 402-1600 P.O. Box 1065  
 Facsimile (812) 402-7977 Evansville, IN 47706-1065

**JONES • WALLACE**  
 ELEVATING LAW

**Compliments of the  
Marine Corps League Auxiliary**



**Southern Belles Unit 441**

10/2020



08/2020

***Compliments of  
John and Judy Bryant***

*Life Member  
River Cities Detachment #1090*

05/2021

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

**IMPORTANT**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Dues for 2020 - 2021  
 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

**UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ALL  
 MCL AND MCLA ACTIVITIES  
 ARE SUSPENDED**

**Please check your email,  
 detachment web site, and  
 messages for the latest  
 updates on meetings and  
 social activities.**

«AddressBlock»

# Semper Fi

## June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	15	16	17	18	19 Happy National Flip Flop Day!	20 First Day of Summer
21	22 Southern Belles #441 TBD	23	24 River Cities Det. #1090 TBD	25	26	27
28	29	30	Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for July 2020 are due NO LATER THAN June 22, 2020 There are No Exceptions to this deadline.			

**Inside this issue:**

Commandant's Corner	1
Agent Orange - Guam	1
Lore of the Corps	2
A Note From the Chaplain	3
Humor in (Marine) Uniform	4
Newsletter Boosters	5
Life Membership	5
Sponsors	6-7
Event Calendar	8