



River Cities News

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

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Marine Corps History

Gary Burk

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

MARINES IN THE CIVIL WAR

The gunboats, augmented by the giant guns of the fort, blew several Union rowboats completely out of the water. Those men who scrambled ashore along the debris-strewn footing of the battered fort found their way up the parapets blocked by massive chunks of masonry and intense rifle fire from the garrison.

The Marines and sailors returned fire desperately. A vicious battle raged in the darkness for an hour, with the Confederates showering the attackers with grenades and bricks, and the Marines clambering up the rocks to stab their tormentors with bayonet lances. But Fort Sumter would not fall to cold steel.

McCawley and some of the others reembarked and pulled for the fleet anchorage. Behind them lay a full third raiding force—killed, captured or drowned.

The fighting heart of the Corps continued to beat, quietly and effectively in a thousand close-range naval engagements. At Drewry's Bluff on the James River below Richmond, Confederate Marines and Union Marines dueled each other with muskets while the forts and the federal ironclads swapped thundering broadsides. Hardest hit was USS *Galena*, whose gun decks quickly ran red with blood. Through all the death and destruction strode U.S. Marine Corporal John Mackie, who pulled the wounded to shelter and matched his Rebel counterparts round for point-blank

round until *Galena* could extricate herself from the fire-storm.

Mackie's actions may have escaped the attention of his deskbound Commandant but not his President. Abraham Lincoln personally awarded John Mackie the Medal of Honor, the first such award ever earned by a Marine.

More Marine citations followed. Eight Marines earned the Medal of Honor for extraordinary bravery under fire during the Battle of Mobile Bay with its close encounters with the mammoth Confederate ironclad *Tennessee*.

Other Marines were frittered away in valiant but disorganized operations which achieved little but casualties. The worst of these occurred during the Union assault on Fort Fisher, North Carolina, on January 15, 1865.

Major General Alfred Terry would land 8,500 seasoned infantrymen ashore just north of the bastion. In a diversion, Marine Captain Lucian Dawson's 400 Leathernecks, collected from Admiral David Porter's warships offshore, would provide covering rifle fire as some 1,600 sailors armed with pistols and cutlasses launched a "boarding party" surge against the huge fort.

Everything went wrong. The exuberant sailors did not wait for the Marines to take up firing positions, but charged forward through the loose sand with a great shout, followed by the irate Leathernecks. Confederate gunners and marksmen slaughtered them wholesale.

(to be continued)

Semper Fi

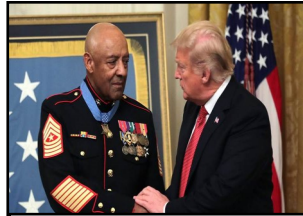
Jacob Zeilin recognized that *esprit* was worth whole battalions to the Marines. He equipped Marine NCOs with their own sturdy saber, restored the officers' Mameluke sword, and convinced the Secretary of the Navy to adopt a distinctive Marine Corps insignia portraying a spread eagle, the western hemispheric globe, and an anchor—tying the Marines' seagoing roots and wide-range deployments to national fealty. Five years later, the Corps established its motto with the Latin phrase *Semper fidelis*—"always faithful"—to further bond Marines to country and Corps. John Phillip Sousa, celebrated director of the Marine Band, gave wide popularity to the motto with his stirring march of the same name, the only march officially authorized for a designated armed service by Congress. "*Semper Fi*" has grown to be the irreverent, beloved all-purpose greeting and benediction of the U.S. Marines.

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	

Marines and the Medal of Honor

Bob Reutter



Pres. Trump congratulates the latest Marine to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

On October 17, 2018, President Trump placed the Medal of Honor around the neck of John L. Canley of Oxnard, California. Then Gunnery Sergeant Canley took control of Alpha Co. 1st Bn, 1st Marines when his commanding officer was wounded. His HOH citation tells of leading the company for a week, carrying wounded Marines to safety on multiple occasions, being wounded three times in the battle while leading the company in defeating a numerically superior enemy and ejecting them from a fortified position.

There is no surprise in hearing that a Marine has been the recipient of the Medal of Honor. Marines have been receiving the MOH since its inception. Two Marines (Dan Daly and Smedley Butler) received it twice. Daly in the Boxer Rebellion in China in 1900-1901 and in Haiti in 1915. Butler received his first in Mexico in 1914 and his second in Haiti in 1915. You do not 'win' the Medal of



Jason Dunham – posthumously awarded on 10 November 2006

Honor, you earn it. Thus far, there have been 300 Marines to have earned the MOH. Marines of almost every rank have earned it. There was even a drummer (John A. Murphy) who was awarded the MOH for bravery during the Boxer Rebellion. 58 privates, 48 PFC and 14 L/Cpl have earned it. 4 Colonels, 5 Lt. Colonels and one Major General have been awarded the MOH. Rank doesn't determine who is likely to be recognized. 121 enlisted men, 107 non-coms and 72 officers have as well.

During the American Civil War there were 17

Marine Medal of Honor recipients. In the so called 'Banana Wars' and in the Philippines there were 22. The Spanish American War and the war with Mexico produced 24. WWI saw 8 Marines recognized, WWII saw 81 and Korea had 41.

Vietnam saw 57 Marines earn our nation's highest decoration for bravery. Thus far the desert wars have produced 1 in Iraq and 2 in Afghanistan.



William K. Carpenter
Afghanistan 2010

As you can see, the only common thread is that they are all Marines. When reading the citations some phrases occur with regularity. Selfless sacrifice, undaunted courage, devotion to duty, disregarding enemy fire and protecting fellow Marines are stated in almost every citation you read. Like Jason Dunham in 2006, more than half the recipients of the Medal of Honor since World War Two have been posthumously awarded.



Dakota Meyer – Afghanistan
Battle of Ganjgal. 9/8/2009

As long as there are Marines and as long as our country needs them to fight, that list will continue to grow.

Semper Fi, Marines.

Ooh-rah!



From the Editor

Paula Landers

At our meeting on April 24th, we had the pleasure of installing new detachment officers.

Commandant - Jim Johnson
 Sr. Vice - Jim Grayson
 Jr. Vice - Jack Kincaide
 Paymaster - Don Landers Sr.
 Adjutant - Tim Jones
 Judge Advocate - TC Shane
 Chaplain - Bob Reutter
 Sgt. At Arms - Melissa West



We want to congratulate all our officers, and look forward to a very successful year.

On the 13th and 14th of April our detachment hosted the Dept. of Indiana Spring Conference. I heard a lot of positive feedback concerning the venue and our hospitality room. As with all things there were a few bumps in the road but overall I feel it was a success.

The MCLA Southern Belles Unit 441 hosted the hospitality with donations from the Detachment,

and Detachment and Auxiliary members. Dani Cook and Alice Kick did a fabulous job keeping everything organized and well supplied.

I have taken on the duty of managing the food booth for the detachment. This is definitely going to be a learning experience for me but one I truly look forward to.

It was voted at our April meeting to not do the Shrinefest anymore because we have barely broke even the past 3 years. Another change is setting up at Harbor Freight. With the new management we will not be doing this either.

On a more positive note, we are now on the Fall Festival Food Booth waiting list. It concerns some because we don't have the ability to cook food items in the booth. If we get called up before the food booth is totally self contained, we can come up with items to sell that don't need to be cooked on site. Examples, Walking Tacos, Frito Pie, Soft Pretzels with cheese dip, Hot Wings, etc, anything that can be heated in the microwave and kept warm in the cookers we have. There are plenty of things we can sell, we just need to be creative and competitive.



Frito Pie is 3 simple ingredients.

1. Fritos (of course)
2. Chili
3. Shredded Cheese

No need to get fancy but you could offer sour cream packets, and top with jalapenos.

We will be setting up the food booth on Saturday, June 15th at the Westside Rural King. The food booth is now a joint effort between the auxiliary and the detachment. I will have more information next month on this event.

One final note, my main goal is to make the food booth totally self contained. Making it easier to set up at fairs and festivals, without having so much extra equipment to load and unload.

Humor in Marine Uniform

Bob Reutter

A recently retired Marine sergeant decided to help his wife with the laundry. After he stood in there for several minutes his wife called in and asked what the problem was.

"I don't know what setting to put the washing machine on," he said. She responded "it depends. What does it say on your shirt?"

He replied "Well DUH! It says **USMC!**"

A group of Marines were walking along a ridge line when their sergeant slipped and tumbled down into a ravine. The irate sergeant scrambled back up the hill to a chorus of laughter from the ranks. "OK, everyone who laughed drop and give me 20." Several of the men immediately dropped and did their push-ups. As soon as they finished the sergeant looked at the oth-

ers and barked "the rest of you drop and give me 40 for lying."

How many Marine enlisted men does it take to change a light bulb? None – enlisted men are used to being kept in the dark.

Being a Marine First Lieutenant is a lot like standing in a cemetery. You have a lot of people under you but nobody is listening.

A Marine First Lieutenant asked a salty lance corporal why he was falling back during a fire-fight. "Didn't you hear me say we were outnumbered 4 to 1?"

"Yes sir, I did. I got my 4."

Evansville Wartime Museum

Paula Landers

Their tag line is "**People of Evansville, Home Front Supporters and Battle Front Warriors**"

The mission of the Wartime museum is to collect, preserve, and make accessible the objects produced and personal accounts of our local home front and veteran heroes of World War II.

I personally have not had a chance to visit the museum yet but think it is an awesome idea to help educate future generations about the efforts and sacrifices made by the men and women from the tri-state area.

Evansville produced more per capita than any other city in the United States for the war effort. Not only did we build LSTs, we refurbished Sherman tanks, produced the P-47, built munitions, sewed uniforms and supplied components for weaponry, combat vehicles, and long-range bombers.

"Then there's the stories of Evansville's legendary Red Cross Canteen, eloquently told by the many letters and cards mailed back by troops grateful for warm hospitality, a delicious hot meal and an experience that was the next best thing to home. Also, Mom Hudson's story, the kindly seamstress who sewed patches and mended

uniforms and comforted troops passing through one of our USOs". (Quoted from the museum flier)

The museum has 4 galleries that tell the stories of these workers and warriors. Giving great insight into our rich history.

Hours

Saturday: 10:00pm – 4:00pm
 Sunday: 12:00pm – 4:00pm
 Monday – Friday: Closed

Admission

Adult single visit **\$5.00**
Child 5 to 18 single visit **\$4.00**
Child under 5 **Free**
Seniors 65 or over single visit **\$4.00**
Active Military single visit **\$4.00**

Annual Memberships Available for individuals and families with unlimited admissions for one year.

Tours for Groups & Schools Bring your group, class or grade level to EWM for a docent-led tour of our galleries.

Special Events Hold your birthday party, meeting, or special event at EWM. We've hosted car clubs, historical groups, military dinners and even a wedding. The best way to contact them is by using their contact page <https://www.evansvillewartimemuseum.org/contact/>

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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 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
John and Judy Bryant
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River Cities Detachment #1090*

05/2019

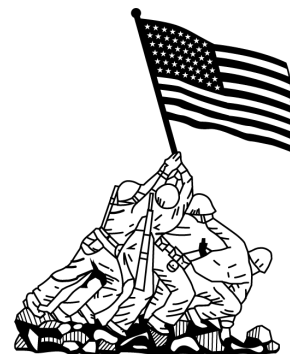
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07/2019

*Compliments of
Joe and Kathy Filipczak
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12/2019

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



Semper Fi

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03/2020

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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

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River Cities Detachment #1090

06/2021

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Southern Belles Unit 441

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Fraternal Order
of Police
 STATE LODGE OF INDIANA

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 Fi

May 2019

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for June 2019 are due NO LATER THAN May 22, 2019 <u>There will be No Exceptions to this deadline</u>			1	2 MCLA Southern Belles VA Clinic 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.	3	4
5	6	7 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	8	9	10	11
12 Happy Mother's Day!	13 MODD No Growl	14 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	22 MCL River Cities Det. #1090 VFW 1114	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day MCLA Southern Belles Unit #441 AmVets #84 6:30 p.m.	28 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	29	30	31	