



# River Cities News



**River Cities Detachment 1090**  
Marine Corps League—Evansville, Indiana

Volume 19  
Issue 5  
May 2022

## Commandant's Corner

By Bob Reutter

I have the honor of having been re-elected as Commandant of the River Cities Detachment 1090. After three years of balancing his Detachment duties, his job as a security officer and his family, Jim was ready for a break. He did a very good job as Commandant and we owe him our genuine thanks and admiration for the job he did.

The slate of officers we have elected (and appointed) will take us through the next couple of years. As it should be, we have some young Marines that will be ready to take the reins soon. It will be the duty of all members of 1090 to give them the foundation to command our future with the MCL. In our Adjutant, Paymaster and Judge-Advocate, we have stability and experience. Our Jr. and Sr. Vice bring a mixture of experience and enthusiasm that is the lifeblood of any organization. I can truly say that "our future's so bright, we need to wear shades."

With the new members we have sworn in, we are looking for a larger place to hold our Detachment meetings. The American Legion Funkhouser Post 8 has been great and we have enjoyed their facility but we have the 'good problem' of needing more room. Many of our members bring their spouse or significant other to  
(Continued on page 5)

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When celebrating the life of a loved one, personalization is the key. Every life is unique and valuable, and in order to celebrate that life, the service should be tailored to bring out the aspects that make them one of a kind. We will brainstorm with you, offer ideas and suggestions, and listen to your loved one's life story to help you create a final tribute that is personal, healing, and meaningful so that you can honor your loved one's life personally and specifically.

**738 E. Diamond Avenue, Evansville, IN 47711**

**812.425.2896**

11/2024

## Matanikau Offensive

By Gary Burk

Between 01:00 and 06:00 on 1 November, U.S. Marine engineers constructed three footbridges across the Matanikau. At 06:30, nine Marine and U.S. Army artillery batteries (about 36 guns) and U.S. warships *San Francisco*, *Helena*, and *Sterett* opened fire on the west bank of the Matanikau, and U.S. aircraft, including 19 B-17 heavy bombers, dropped bombs in the same area. At the same time, the 1st Battalion (1/5) of the 5th Marine Regiment crossed the Matanikau at its mouth while the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (2/5) and the Whaling Group crossed the river further inland. Facing the Marines was the

Japanese 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry under Major Masao Tamura.

The 2/5 and the Whaling Group encountered very little resistance and reached and occupied several ridges south of Point Cruz by early afternoon. Along the coast near Point Cruz, however, the 7th Company from Tamura's battalion fiercely resisted the U.S. advance. In several hours of fighting, Company C, 1/5 suffered heavy casualties, including the loss of three officers, and was driven back toward the Matanikau by Tamura's (continued on page 8)



## Marine Spotlight On:

### Captain Kangaroo and Mr. Green Jeans

Most of our readers are old enough to remember Captain Kangaroo and Mr. Green Jeans from our childhood. Did you know that both the actors were Marines?



Bob Keeshan was born in New York in 1927. He enlisted in the Marine Reserves in 1945 and was still in when Japan surrendered.

He started his television career as Clarabell the Clown on NBC. He created the Captain Kangaroo concept and in 1955 the show premiered on CBS in 1955. Bob said his inspiration was 'the warm relationship between grandparents and children.' The show was an immediate success and he served as host for nearly 3 decades. He was an author and children's advocate being strongly against video game violence.

Keeshan died in 2004 at the age of 76. **Farewell, Captain.**

Hugh Brannum enlisted in the Corps in 1944 and joined a Marine band led by Bob Crosby. He left as a PFC at the end of WWII. While playing bass with the Fred Waring Band, Hugh met fellow Marine Bob Keeshan, who was instrumental in hiring Hugh for the role of Mr. Green Jeans. He got his show name from his distinctive green farmer's overalls and denim jacket.

On the show, Hugh played a variety of characters including **The Professor, Greeno the Clown, the New Old Folk Singer and Mr. Bainter the Painter.**

Hugh Brannum died in April of 1987 from cancer.

### **Commandant** (from page 1)

the meetings and have a meal prior to the start of the meeting. This has resulted in more attendance and more interaction with members and families. To ensure this trend continues, we want to find a larger facility with good food at decent prices. Any suggestions will be appreciated.

Once again our spring Social Gathering was postponed. A combination of several members (yours truly among them) being positive for COVID and a forecast of cold, rainy weather, made it unsafe to hold the event. We will continue planning for the June 11th date with more info coming in the near future.

If you have not already done so, make sure you visit our spiffy new website. Webmaster Jones has done an excellent job creating an informative, attractive place for all things 1090. Prepare to be impressed.

[www.mclrivercities1090.com](http://www.mclrivercities1090.com).

One topic I would like to bring up at this time. There is a term that is used to describe members of one political party. The term is used to describe those who profess to be part of that party but, in reality are members in name only. I believe we

have a number of Marines who fit that profile. Marines in name only (**MINO**.) You know the type. Always wear EGA covers, clothing, have bumper stickers on their vehicles, Marine colors on their flagpoles. Love to talk about what is wrong with the Corps and the League. Only problem is, rather than contributing any useful ideas, attending any meetings, participating in Color Guards, funerals, Veteran's Day or Memorial Day observations, they are conspicuously absent. Of the 77 paid members of the River Cities Detachment 1090 we have about 20 who attend meetings. About half of those will stand up and be active in League activities.

One really good fund raiser is a firearms raffle. Selling 600 tickets at \$10 each (3/\$25) would net the detachment over \$4,000. So why not, you ask? We don't have enough active members to sell 600 tickets. We do an annual rib and butt cook as a fund raiser to help with the cost of our Marine Birthday Ball. We typically have only a dozen of our members who will sell (or even buy) ribs or butts.

It is time to shine a light on the MINO in our midst. (Continued on page 13)



## Battle of Khe Sanh

Researched by Bob Reutter

*Editor's note: This is part two in a series. Part three will be in the June issue.*

Things remained quiet in the Khe Sanh area through 1966. Even so, Westmoreland insisted for it not only to be occupied by the Marines but also for it to be reinforced. He was vociferously opposed by General Lewis W. Walt, the Marine commander of I Corps, who argued heatedly that the real target of the American effort should be the pacification and protection of the population, not chasing the PAVN/VC in the hinterlands.

Westmoreland won out, however, and the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment (1/3 Marines) was dispatched to occupy the camp and airstrip on 29 September. By late January 1967, the 1/3 returned to Japan and was relieved by Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Marines (1/9 Marines). A single company replaced an entire battalion.

**The Hill Fights** On 24 April 1967, a patrol from Bravo Company became engaged with a PAVN force of an unknown size

north of Hill 861. That action prematurely triggered a PAVN offensive aimed at taking Khe Sanh. The PAVN forces were in the process of gaining elevated terrain before launching the main assault. The 2nd and 3rd BN of the 3rd Marines under the command of Col. John Lanigan, reinforced KSCB and were given the task of pushing the PAVN off Hills 861, 881 North and 881 South. PAVN Forces were driven out of the area around Khe Sanh after suffering 940 casualties. The Marines suffered 155 killed and 425 wounded.

To prevent PAVN observation of the main base at the airfield and their possible use as firebases, the hills of the surrounding Khe Sanh Valley had to be continuously occupied and defended by separate Marine elements. In the wake of the hill fights, a lull in PAVN activity occurred around Khe Sanh.

(continued on page 10)



**Did you know that as a veteran you can shop at online exchanges? Your online shopping benefits include:**

- Tax-free shopping
- Military-exclusive pricing
- Members-only credit options
- Free shipping on orders over \$49 or more
- Free shipping on any amount when you use your MILITARY STAR™ Card.

To begin using your veteran's shopping privileges, go to one of the web sites below to get started. All require you register and verify your service status.

1. [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com)

2. [www.mynavyexchange.com](http://www.mynavyexchange.com)

3. [www.mymcx.com](http://www.mymcx.com).

Once you have registered and been verified (very short process) you can log into several different online shopping platforms for everything from uniforms to electronics to, well, just about anything.

Thanks to **Ray Ko** for reminding us about this additional benefit to being a veteran. Ooh-rah!



**Matanikau** (from page 3) troops. Assisted by another company from 1/5 and later by two companies from the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines (3/5), plus determined resistance by Marine Corporal Anthony Casamento, among others, the Americans were successful in stopping the retreat.

Reviewing the situation at the end of the day, Edson, along with Colonel Gerald Thomas and Lieutenant Colonel Merrill Twining from Vandegriff's staff, decided to try to encircle the Japanese defenders around Point Cruz. They ordered 1/5 and 3/5 to continue to press the Japanese along the coast the next day while 2/5 wheeled north to envelop their adversaries west and south of Point Cruz. Tamura's battalion had taken heavy losses in the day's fighting, with Tamura's 7th and 5th Companies being left with only 10 and 15 uninjured soldiers respectively.

Fearing that the U.S. troops were on the verge of breaking through their defenses, Hyakutake's 17th Army headquar-

ters hurriedly sent whatever troops could be found on-hand to bolster the 4th Infantry's defensive efforts. The troops included the 2d Anti-Tank Gun Battalion with 12 guns and the 39th Field Road Construction Unit. These two units took position in pre-prepared fighting emplacements around the south and west of Point Cruz.

On the morning of 2 November, with the Whaling Group covering their flank, the men of 2/5 marched north and reached the coast west of Point Cruz, completing the encirclement of the Japanese defenders. The Japanese defenses were centered in a draw between a coastal trail and a beach just west of Point Cruz and included coral, earth, and log bunkers as well as caves and foxholes. U.S. artillery bombarded the Japanese positions throughout the day on 2 November, causing an



Marines drag the bodies of dead Japanese soldiers from their bunker in the Point Cruz area after the battle in early November.

unknown number of casualties to the Japanese defenders.

Later in the day, Company I of 2/5 conducted a frontal assault with fixed bayonets on the northern portion of the Japanese defenses, overrunning and killing the Japanese defenders. At the same time, two battalions from 2nd Marine Regiment, now committed to the offensive, advanced past the Point Cruz area.

At 06:30 on 3 November, some Japanese troops attempted to break out of the pocket but were beaten back by the Marines. Between 08:00 and noon, five Marine companies from 2/5 and 3/5, using small arms, mortars, demolition charges, and direct and indirect artillery fire, completed the destruction of the Japanese pocket near Point Cruz. Marine participant Richard A. Nash described the battle:

A jeep wheeled up towing a 37-mm anti-tank gun and Captain Andrews of D Company put a crew of men to setting the thing up to fire into the palm grove. Then I heard it—just before the gun began firing—a weird wailing and moaning, almost a religious chant ... coming from the trapped Japanese soldiers. Then the gun fired canister shot into them, again and again, and after a while the chanting

stopped and the firing stopped and for a moment it was all quiet. Some of us went among the palm trees to look, and there, row on row, were the torn and shattered bodies of perhaps 300 young Japanese soldiers. There were no survivors.

The Marines captured 12 37mm anti-tank guns, one 70 mm field artillery piece, and 34 machineguns and counted the dead bodies of 239 Japanese soldiers, including 28 officers.

At the same time, the 2nd Marines with the Whaling Group continued to push along the coast, reaching a point 3,500 yards (3,200 m) west of Point Cruz by nightfall. The only Japanese troops left in the area to oppose the Marines' advance were the remaining 500 soldiers of the 4th Infantry augmented by a few frail survivors from units involved in the earlier Tenaru and Edson's Ridge battles plus malnourished naval troops from the original Guadalcanal garrison. The Japanese feared that they would be unable to prevent the Americans from taking the village of Kokumbona, which would cut-off the retreat of the 2nd Infantry Division and seriously threaten the rear-area support and (Continued on page 24)

**Khe Sanh** (from page 6)

By the end of May, Marine forces were again drawn down from two battalions to one, the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines. Lt. General Robert E. Cushman Jr. relieved Walt as commander of III MAF in June.

On 14 August, Colonel David E. Lownds took over as commander of the 26th Marine Regiment. Sporadic actions were taken in the vicinity during the late summer and early fall, the most serious of which was the ambush of a supply convoy on Route 9. That proved to be the last overland attempt at re-supply for Khe Sanh until the following March.<sup>[42]</sup> In December and early January, numerous sightings of PAVN troops and activities were made in the Khe Sanh area, but the sector remained relatively quiet.

**Decisions** A decision then had to be made by the American high command to commit more of the limited manpower in I Corps to the defense of Khe Sanh or to abandon the base. Westmoreland regarded the choice as quite simple. In his memoirs, he listed the reasons for a continued effort: (Continued on page 18)



This is a feature I used to really enjoy in our newsletter. I want to bring it back but I need your help. If you have not already responded (or if you don't receive my emails) please send me your birthday so I can add you to this column. Email me at [rapid1@evansville.net](mailto:rapid1@evansville.net).

**Happy Birthday to:**

**John Mills** ..... 5/3

**Tom Kick** .....5/3

**Jim Voelker** ..... 5/10

**Stan Rickard** ..... 5/14

**Trevor Simon** ..... 5/26



## **2022 Southwest Indiana Patriot Guard**

### **“Ride to Remember”**

**Saturday, May 21, 2022**

The event begins at Maple Grove Cemetery in Boonville, Indiana at 0830.

The event concludes at approximately 1600 at Alexander Memorial Park on Mesker Pk. Drive

During the day, ceremonies of remembrance are conducted at the gravesites of ten young people from our area who gave their lives for our country.

Join members of the Patriot Guard with motorcycles, automobiles or trucks and spend an emotional and fulfilling day honoring some of our area’s heroes. For more information visit our website at [www.mclrivercities1090.com](http://www.mclrivercities1090.com)



**Evansville  
Vet Center**

*1100 N. Burkhardt Rd  
Evansville, IN 47715*



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**812-473-5993**

## River Cities Detachment—Ship's Store

***Editor's Note:*** All the items listed for sale in the River Cities Detachment 1090 Ship's Store (unless otherwise noted) are as is. The clothing has been donated by members who have grown (up or down) into a different size or by family members of Marines who have gone on. All items are on a first come, first served basis. If you want an item shipped to you, we will add the actual cost of postage to your item. All items may be picked up with no shipping or handling.

### Uniforms and Clothing

Dress Blue Trousers 34 waist	\$ 45.00
Dress Blue Trousers 38 waist	\$ 45.00
Dress Blue Trousers 40 waist	\$ 45.00
White L/S shirt with MCL patch & flag Size 18 1/2 X 34/35	\$ 15.00
White L/S shirt with MCL patch and Devil Dog patch Size 4X	\$ 25.00
Commandant Cover strip	\$ 8.00
Sgt at Arms Cover strip	\$ 8.00
MCL arm patch	\$ 4.00
 Sunburst collar emblem (pair)	\$ 12.00
Life Member Cover Strip	\$ 9.00
Life Cover Strip	\$ 4.00
Past Commandant Cover Strip	\$ 9.00
Jr Vice Cover Strip	\$ 9.00
Chaplain Cover Strip	\$ 5.00
MCL Cover Emblem	\$ 5.00
 MC Tie Bar	\$ 9.00
Black Tie	\$ 6.00
Ribbon Bar holders	
2,3,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18	\$ ***
*** (Check with Tim Jones for cost)	
Marine Corps Belt Buckle for black leather belt.	\$ 18.00

### Military Order of Devil Dogs

Devil Dog Arm Patch	\$ 4.00
Devil Dog Cover Patch	\$ 4.00
Devil Dog Pup Collar (black)	\$ 5.00
Devil Dog DD Collar (Red)	\$ 5.00
Devil Dog PDD Collar (Gold)	\$ 5.00

### MCL Associates

MCL Associate Collar Emblem (pair)	\$12.00
Associate Cover Emblem	\$ 6.00

### New Linens

White table cloth 102x60"	\$ 10.00 ea.
White table cloth 90" round	\$ 10.00 ea.
Red Satin Table Runner 14x108"	\$ 5.00 ea.
Gold Satin Table Runner 14x108"	\$ 5.00 ea.
New 22" square Red Napkins	\$ 10.00 doz.
New 22" square Gold Napkins	\$ 10.00 doz.

### Miscellaneous Items (new)



Detachment Challenge Coin \$10.00 ea.



Min. K-bar letter opener  
Overall 7 1/2 " \$15.00 ea.



12 ounce stemless wine glasses set of 4 \$ 20.00



USMC Shot Glass \$10.00 ea.



Curved Glass Picture Frame \$ 15.00 ea.

**All items listed on the Detachment 1090 Ship's Store site are subject to prior sale. Limited Quantities on all items.**

**Ship's Store** (continued)

Crossed flag \$10.00 ea.  
tie pin/lapel/hat pin

**Miscellaneous Clothing**

George (brand) red polo w/1090 logo sz.52 \$10.00

L.L.Bean Polo with collar and 1090 logo \$10.00ea

Black size L/T

Black size L

Red size L

L.L.Bean Polo no collar with 1090 Logo \$10.00

Dark Red size L

Red size L

Navy Blue size L

**Commandant** (from page 5)

Remember the words of a recent Commandant who stated "there are no former Marines, Reserve Marines, Woman Marines. There are only Marines."

It doesn't matter when you served, where you served, what your MOS was or where you attended boot camp. What matters is that you are a Marine and that you are willing to show your true colors by being an active part of the Marine Corps League and the River Cities Detachment. Support can be shown in many different ways. Support your League and your Detachment. Don't be a **MINO!**

Semper Fi.

Bob Reutter

**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)

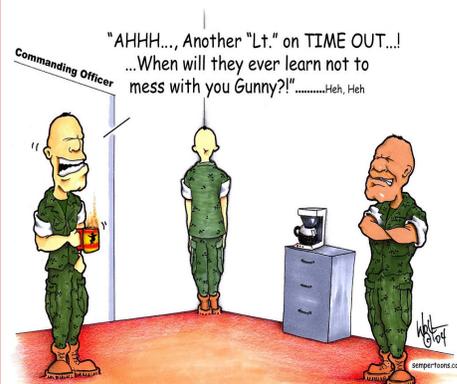
Up to and including age 35 - \$500.

Age 36 up to and including age 50 - \$400.

Age 51 up to and including age 64 - \$300.

Age 65 and over - \$200.

The cost of replacing a Life Membership





Marines aided in suppressing a three day prison riot at Alcatraz. Marines were under the command of W.O. Charles L. Buckner, a veteran of Bougainville and Guam and did not suffer a single casualty. 1946

Marines from Marine Forces Reserve helped evacuate more than 2,500 civilians from the New Orleans area after one of the most devastating storms in more than 200 years hit the region. 1995

Cpl John F Mackie is the first Marine to earn Medal of Honor for his service on the USS Galena during actions against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff near Richmond VA. 1862

22nd and 29th Marines continue an attack against Half Moon Hill, a day that the 6th Marine Division would call the bitterest of the entire Okinawa campaign. 2 days later the famed Japanese "Shuri Line" was broken. 1945

1st Lt. Alfred A. Cunningham became the first Marine Officer to be assigned to 'duty in connection with aviation.' This made the beginning of Marine Aviation. 1912

V-22 Osprey, the world's first production tilt-rotor aircraft made its debut at Bell's Arlington, TX facility. More than 1000 gathered to hear Commandant Gen Alfred Grey praise the versatility of the aircraft. 1988

5th Marine Brigade departed the nation of Bangladesh after 2 weeks of disaster relief following Cyclone Marian which resulted in over 136,000 fatalities. Marines delivered relief supplies. 1991

M

Sunday	Monday	Tue
1 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's—Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	2	3
8 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's—Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	9 Stained Glass Sun Catchers Class led by Roy McWilliams. 1800 in Community Room on Gable Ave. The Villas at Theatre Commons	10
15 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's—Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	16	17
22 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's—Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	23 Detachment Meeting Funkhouser Post on New Harmony Road 1900 begins—come early to eat dinner from menu.	24
29 Breakfast at Libby's and Mom's—Everyone invited! Assemble after 0600 order at 0700	30 	31

# May 2022



Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	4	5 	6	7 
	11 	12	13 War was declared on Mexico. 1846  Marines participated in the battle of Cua River in Nicaragua. 1928	14 Marines from the USS Arizona landed at Constantinople to secure the American Consulate. 1919
	18	19 	20 Marines landed 'on the shores of Tripoli.' 1803  Major John A. Lejeune embarked his battalion for duty in Panama. 1906	21 <b>16th Annual Patriot Guard "Ride to Remember"</b>  <b>See information on page 11 of this newsletter.</b>
	25	26 Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Bn, 26th Marines and 3rd Bn, 5th Marines began sweeps in the 'Dodge City'/Go Noe areas of Da Nang, Vietnam. 610 enemy and 34 Marines died during the operation. 1969	27 	28 The 5th Marine Regiment began the final assault against Shuri Castle on the island of Okinawa. 1945
<p>If you have anything you would like to submit for the June Newsletter , the deadline for submission is May 22nd.</p>				

# Support Our Sponsors -----




In memory of Detachment Members  
**2021**

**Keith Benedict**  
**Joe Shimek**  
**Jim Grayson**  
**Gene Grigsby**  
**Daniel Fuller**  
**Brenda Bergwitz**  
**Paula Landers**  
**Richard VanGordon**

04/2022

Compliments of  
**John & Judy Bryant**  
Life Member  
River Cities Detachment #1090

01/2023

Compliments of  
**Bob & Linda Reutter**  
Life Members  
River Cities Detachment #1090

06/2022

This space is seen by over 200 veterans every month. Your message should be here!

**For All Who Served  
With The 17th Rifle  
Company.....**



**Semper  
Fi**



06/2023

In fond memory of my  
life's love  
**Dorothy Lee "Dottie"  
(McCord) Mills**  
1930-2020



08/2022

**---They Help Make This Newsletter Possible**

**“Oorah”**

**Stan Rickard**

**Life Member**

**River Cities Detachment #1090** 05/2023



Compliments of  
**Casey Canfield**

**Life Member**

**River Cities Detachment #1090**

01/2023

**Semper Fi!**

**Mike Mitchell**

*Life Member*

*River Cities Detachment #1090*



06/2023

Compliments of  
**Joe & Kathy Filipczak**

*Life Member*

*River Cities Detachment #1090*

12/2022

In Memory Of  
**Marine Tommy Collins**



**Semper Fi**

*And All Deceased Detachment Members*

09/2022

Compliments of  
**Gary Burk, Life Member**

Optimist Club of  
Evansville Downtown

*Friend of Youth Since 1921*

07/2022

**Khe Sanh** (from page 10)  
Khe Sanh could serve as a patrol base for blocking enemy infiltration from Laos along Route 9; as a base for SOG operations to harass the enemy in Laos; as an airstrip for reconnaissance planes surveying the Ho Chi Minh Trail; as the western anchor for defenses south of the DMZ; and as an eventual jump-off point for ground operations to cut the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

Not all leading Marine officers, however, had the same opinion. Cushman, the new III MAF commander, supported Westmoreland perhaps because he wanted to mend Army/Marine relations after the departure of Walt. Other concerns raised included the assertion that the real danger to I Corps was from a direct threat to Quảng Trị City and other urban areas, a defense would be pointless as a threat to infiltration since PAVN troops could easily bypass Khe Sanh, the base was too isolated, and the Marines "had neither the helicopter resources, the troops, nor the logistical bases for such operations." Additionally, Shore argued that the "weather was another critical factor because the poor visibility and low

overcasts attendant to the monsoon season made such operations hazardous."

Brigadier General Lowell English (assistant commander 3rd Marine Division) complained that the defense of the isolated outpost was ludicrous: "When you're at Khe Sanh, you're not really anywhere. You could lose it and you really haven't lost a damn thing."

As far as Westmoreland was concerned, however, all that he needed to know was that the PAVN had massed large numbers of troops for a set-piece battle. Making the prospect even more enticing was that the base was in an unpopulated area in which American firepower could be fully employed without civilian casualties. The opportunity to engage and destroy a formerly elusive enemy that was moving toward a fixed position promised a victory of unprecedented proportions.

*(End of part two. Part three will be in the June newsletter.)*



## Installation of Officers for 2022-2023



At our April meeting of the River Cities Detachment 1090, we held the second round of nominations, voted for our officers and performed the installation ceremony. The normal process was shortened due to the cancellation of our March meeting because of bad weather. Taking their oaths of office are (from the left,) T.C.Shane, Jr (Judge-Advocate,) John Bryant (Paymaster,) Bob Reutter (Commandant,) Melissa West (Senior Vice,) Gary Burk (Junior Vice,) Chris Boyd (Chaplain) and Tim Jones (Adjutant.)

The picture to the right shows former Commandant and now Junior Past Commandant Jim Johnson (right,) installing officer and another former Commandant, Tom Kremer (center) and acting Sgt. at Arms Ray Ko (left.) Kremer will continue his post as Sgt. at Arms for 2022-23



Following the installation ceremony, new Commandant Reutter entertained ideas about future fund raising prospects. With the new members we have enlisted in the past 6 months, coupled with the seasoned veterans we have in the detachment, the pro-

**David L. Jones**

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Facsimile (812) 402-7977

**JONES•WALLACE**  
ELEVATING LAW



01/2023

***In Recognition of Seven  
Family Members who  
have or are now serving  
in the United States  
Marine Corps.***

**Compliments of  
Carolyn and Roy  
McWilliams**



**Semper Fi, Marines**

04/2022

***River Cities Detachment 1090 Officers***

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
<u>Commandant</u>	Bob Reutter	<a href="mailto:rapid1@evansville.net">rapid1@evansville.net</a>	270-314-9484
<u>Sr. Vice</u>	Melissa West	<a href="mailto:melissa_gill21@yahoo.com">melissa_gill21@yahoo.com</a>	812-589-8992
<u>Jr. Vice</u>	Gary Burk	<a href="mailto:gaburk05@gmail.com">gaburk05@gmail.com</a>	812-499-3045
<u>Jr. Past Comdt.</u>	James Johnson	<a href="mailto:devildogjd2@aol.com">devildogjd2@aol.com</a>	812-431-2451
<u>Adjutant</u>	Tim Jones	<a href="mailto:tsjones@wowway.com">tsjones@wowway.com</a>	812-454-8717
<u>Paymaster</u>	John Bryant	<a href="mailto:akajb1@gmail.com">akajb1@gmail.com</a>	775-287-1876
<u>Judge Advocate</u>	T.C. Shane Jr.	<a href="mailto:tcshane2@gmail.com">tcshane2@gmail.com</a>	812-568-0912
<u>Chaplain</u>	Chris Boyd	<a href="mailto:cboyd67@gmail.com">cboyd67@gmail.com</a>	812-549-7323
<u>Sgt. at Arms</u>	Tom Kremer	<a href="mailto:conniekremer@hotmail.com">conniekremer@hotmail.com</a>	812-479-3388
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	Bob Reutter	<a href="mailto:rapid1@evansville.net">rapid1@evansville.net</a>	270-314-9484
<u>Web Sgt.</u>	Tim Jones	<a href="mailto:tsjones@wowway.com">tsjones@wowway.com</a>	812-454-8717

Should you need to contact any of the officers listed above understand that these are personal telephone numbers and if your number is not known to them, you may need to leave a voice mail in order to get a response.

**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  
 Full page .....\$100.00 for 6 months  
 The editor has the right to reject an ad that is not appropriate  
 such as loan companies, adult entertainment, etc.

**Booster Member Expires**

- Tom & Alice Kick.....May-2022
- Gary Burk.....May-2022
- Ned E & Rose Wellmeier.....July-2022
- Dannie & Debbie Russell.....July-2022
- Jim and Christie Johnson.....Aug 2022
- Roy & Carolyn McWilliams.....Aug-2022
- Bob & Linda Reutter.....Aug-2022
- Dorothy Odom.....Sep-2022
- Chris Boyd.....Oct-2022
- Judy & John Bryant .....Nov-2022
- Joe & Kathy Filipczak.....Dec-2022
- David Jones.....Jan-2023
- Casey Canfield.....Feb-2023
- Gary & Cynthia Cullison .....Aug 2023

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.



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**P.O. Box 6581**

**Evansville, IN 47719-0581**

spects look very bright for the Detachment. The chairman of our food booth committee has already set up a placement for a weekend at a local retail establishment. There was also a discussion about a gun raffle combining a pistol with a Strikeman dry fire training system. More details about this will be in future newsletters. Our annual Rib and Butt sale will be Labor Day weekend.



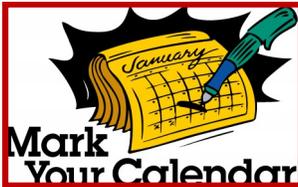
As the other officers of the Detachment look on, incoming commandant Reutter receives his final instructions from the installing officer.



Former Commandant Jim Johnson (right) is presented with a plaque to recognize his three years of leadership of our detachment. The plaque reads:

Thank you Jim for keeping our Detachment on the right path for three difficult years.

Presented to  
**Jim Johnson**  
 Commandant River Cities Detachment 1090  
 2019-2022  
 For your outstanding leadership  
 and dedication



**Upcoming events for our members**

**May 11th—Stained Glass class at 1800 in the Community Room at The Villas in Theatre Commons.**

**May 21 - work day for food booth. 0900 at Jim Johnson’s house. 11111 Wheatonville Rd.**

**June 11—Detachment Social Gathering at RTCC. Watch your June Newsletter for further information. Family fun!**

**August 27—Rib and Butt cook to benefit the Detachment. Sales info to be coming soon.**

**November—Marine Birthday Ball to be held at the Evansville Country Club. Details coming.**

*The River Cities News is the place to get all the information about what is going on in the Detachment. We need you to be an active part in **your** MCL.*



**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

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

**Dues for 2022 - 2023**

**By July 31st - \$25**

**August 1<sup>st</sup> or after - \$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**

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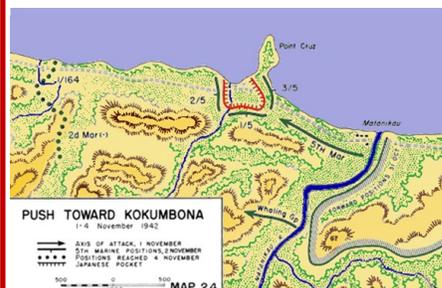
**Matanikau** (from page 9) headquarters units of Japanese forces on Guadalcanal. In despair, Nakaguma discussed taking the regimental colors and seeking death in a final charge at the U.S. forces, but was dissuaded from doing so by other officers on the 17th Army's staff.

A significant event now occurred which granted the Japanese forces a reprieve. Early on 3 November, Marine units near Koli Point, east of the Lunga Perimeter, engaged 300 fresh Japanese troops that had just been landed by a Tokyo Express mission of five destroyers. This, plus the knowledge that a large body of Japanese troops was in the process of relocating to Koli Point after the defeat in the Henderson Field battle, led the Americans to believe that the Japanese were about to conduct a major attack on the Lunga Perimeter from the Koli Point area.

To discuss these developments, the Marine leaders on Guadalcanal met on the morning of 4 November. Twining recommended that the Matanikau offensive continue. Edson, Thomas, and Vandegrift, however, urged the abandonment of the offensive and a shift of

forces to counter the Koli Point threat. Thus, that same day the 5th Marines and the Whaling group were recalled to Lunga Point. The 2nd Marine's 1st and 2nd Battalions, plus the 1st Battalion, 164th Infantry took up positions about 2,000 yards (1,829 m) west of Point Cruz with plans to hold in that location. With their route of retreat still open, the Sendai (2nd) Division survivors began to reach Kokumbona this same day. Around this time, Nakaguma was killed by an artillery shell.

After chasing away the Japanese forces at Koli Point, the U.S. renewed the western offensive towards Kokumbona on 10 November with three battalions under the overall command of U.S. Marine Colonel John M. Arthur. In the meantime, fresh Japanese



Map of the U.S. Matanikau offensive

troops from the 228th Infantry Regiment of the 38th Infantry Division landed by Tokyo Express over several nights beginning on 5 November and effectively resisted the American attack. After making small advances, at 13:45 on 11 November Vandegrift suddenly ordered all the American forces to return to the east bank of the Matanikau.

Vandegrift ordered the withdrawal because of the intelligence from coast watchers, aerial reconnaissance, and radio intercepts that a major Japanese reinforcement effort was imminent. Indeed, the Japanese were in the process of attempting to deliver the 10,000 remaining troops from the 38th Division to Guadalcanal in order to reattempt to capture Henderson Field. The resulting efforts by the Americans to stop this reinforcement attempt resulted in the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, the decisive naval battle of the Guadalcanal campaign, in which the Japanese reinforcement effort was turned back.

The Americans recrossed the Matanikau and attacked westward again beginning on 18 November, but made slow progress against determined resistance from Japanese forces. The U.S. attack was halted on

23 November at a line just west of Point Cruz. The Americans and Japanese would remain facing each other in these positions for the next six weeks, until the ending stages of the campaign when U.S. forces began their final, successful push to drive Japanese forces from the island. Although the Americans had come close to overrunning the Japanese rear areas in the early November offensive, it would not be until the final stages of the campaign that the U.S. finally captured Kokumbona.

### Marine Humor in Uniform

**Q.** How many Marines does it take to change a light bulb?

**A.** None. Marines are not afraid of the dark.

A 2nd LT. walks up to a Marine and asks "Do you have change for a dollar?" The Marine says "sure buddy." The Lt. says "that's no way to talk to an officer. Lets try it again. Marine, do you have change for a dollar?" "NO SIR" says the Marine and walks away.



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*Stained glass with lead frame*

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\_\_\_\_\_ Dress Blue @\$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Marine Corps League Inc.  
P. O. Box 6581  
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