



River Cities News

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

Volume 16, Issue 11

November 2019

Commandant's Corner

Jim Johnson

Determination: Every day promises new challenges to shake your resolve, factors beyond your control and obstacles in your way. Only one thing matters in the face of adversity: *The determination to never quit.*

By the time you get this news letter it will only be a few days until the Marine Corps Birthday Ball. If you haven't bought your tickets do so at your earliest convenience.

Our River Cities Det# 1090 is in a real crisis. That crisis is membership. Each and every one of us needs to recruit new members. Our numbers are slowly diminishing to the point that at our meetings only a few more than the elected officials attend. I think that we all should make a commitment to recruit

one new member within the next six(6) months. I don't think that is asking too much. I personally am going to try for as many as possible. If you attended the October meeting you were given the opportunity to take some application forms to pass out. If you did not attend contact me and I will get you some. When you receive this the October meeting will be over and our next meeting will be in January 2020. I'm hoping that we will have new members to swear in.

Happy 244th Birthday Marines!!!!

Fortitude: Embracing the mentality to always strive for better than yesterday will leave you physically spent and mentality drained. But at the brink of exhaustion will you discover fortitude.

The Lore of the Corps

Bob Reutter



US Marines of the 28th Regiment, 5th Division, raise the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi on Feb. 23, 1945.

The Joe Rosenthal image is one of the most iconic pictures in the history of photographs. It has become a symbol of the Corps' dedication to the country and perseverance against all enemies in every place and time.

But in October the Corps announced another correction to the Marines identified in the photo. Originally the Marine on the far side of the pole, who had a bit of his helmet showing was identified as Pfc. Rene A. Gagnon. After a two-year investigation by the Corps with the assistance of the FBI and previously private photos shared by three Marine historians, this Marine has been identified as Cpl. Harold P. Keller.

A Corps spokesman said "Pfc. Gagnon played a significant role in the flag raising and his role will never be diminished. He was directly responsible for getting the larger second flag to the top and returning the first flag for safe keeping." Gagnon and Keller sur-

vived the war, both dying in 1979.

This is the second time a member in the picture has been reidentified. In 2016 the Corps identified Pfc. Harold Schultz was one of the Marines in the picture, not Navy Corpsman John Bradley. Identifying who was in the photo is important, the Marine Corps said, but every Marine who participated in the battle was a hero. "Regardless of who was in the photo, each and every Marine who set foot on Iwo Jima, or supported the effort from the sea and air around the island is, and always will be, a part of our Corps' cherished history" the Corps' spokesman said. "The Marine Corps honors the 'uncommon valor' that is the hallmark of all Marines who fought in the historic battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. We also honor the sacrifice of every Sailor, Soldier and Coast Guardsman who served there and the courage of their former adversaries.

Semper Fi

Detachment Officers

Commandant
Jim Johnson

Sr. Vice Commandant
John Bryant

Jr. Vice Commandant
Jack Kincaide

Jr. Past Commandant
Bob Reutter

Paymaster
Don Landers Sr. (812) 483-3014

Adjutant
Tim Jones (812) 454-8717

Judge Advocate
T C Shane

Chaplain
Bob Reutter (270) 314-9484

Sgt At Arms
Melissa West

Newsletter Editor
Paula Landers

Web Sergeant
Paula Landers

Marine Corps History

Gary Burk

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

STRANGLING RABAUL (1943)

The *rikusental* defending Bairoko had time to construct sturdy pillboxes of coconut logs and coral. The Raiders, light infantry in the truest sense, lacked artillery or bunker-busting weapons. At one point Lieutenant Colonel Sameul Griffith, a Guadalcanal veteran commanding the 1st Raider Battalion, notified Liversedge, “I have committed the works.” It wasn’t good enough. The Japanese stonewalled the Raiders’ advance less than 300 yards from Bairoko.

Liversedge made the of his command; many were litter cases that would require man-handling back through the jungle for days to an evacuation point.

Munda Field eventually fell to three Army divisions and the 9th Defense Battalion after five weeks of steady fighting. The whole campaign—including the costly Bairoko “raid”—left a bad taste. Admiral Halsey helped restore morale by his commonsense decision to bypass heavily defended Kolombangara and strick Vella Lavella. There an Army regimental combat team and the Marine 4th Defense Battalion landed on August 15. As at Rendova, Marine antiaircraft gunners quickly dug in their 90mm guns around the beachhead. This time there were no lapses in the radar surveillance. The Marines withstood a dizzying succession of 121 Japanese air raids, knocking forty-two enemy planes out of the sky.

Seizing Vella Lavella abruptly rendered the Japanese fortress on Kolombangara irrelevant. In another masterpiece of nighttime deception, the Imperial Navy evacuated 12,400 troops from the island, their third amphibious extraction of the year (including Guadalcanal and Kiska).

The allies were grinding inexorably north and west. New Georgia was under new management. The 9th Defense Battalion’s big guns now defended Munda Point airfield, allowing Pappy

Boyington’s Black Sheep Corsairs to roar aloft in fighter sweeps against Rabaul, now 440 miles away.

Mountainous, wildly jungled Bougainville, northernmost island of the Solomons, was the next objective. The presence of five Japanese airfields on the island underscored the enemy’s strategic appreciation for Bougainville. Ashore, Lieutenant General Haruyoshi Hyakutake, the wholesale loser of Guadalcanal, commanded 35,000 troops.

Attacking Bougainville would represent a giant step forward, but one fraught with risk for Bull Halsey. He lacked the combat power to seize the defend the entire island. At best Halsey hoped to use his Marines to catch Hyakutake by surprise, seize a foothold along the southern coast, then defend the enclave desperately while the Sea-Bees carved a pair of landing fields out of range to Rabaul to 210 miles, making it impossible to hit the Japanese nerve center with dive-bombers and torpedo bombers as well as Corsairs.

Halsey assigned the Bougainville mission to the 1 Marine Amphibious Corps, commanded by General Vandergrift, the victor of Guadalcanal. Vandergrift would use Major General Allen Turnage’s highly trained 3d Marine Division and fully supported by fifty-two squadrons of Allied land-based aircraft (including fourteen USMC squadrons).

But Vandergrift knew his landing would incur violent and immediate Japanese counterattacks from every point on the compass. Nor would the landing be easy as that on Guadalcanal. The isolated landing site, Cape Torokina on Empress Augusta Bay, midway up Bougainville’s southern coast, was subject to treacherous surf. Achieving even the modest mission of landing, building airfields, and holding on for dear life would require of Vandergrift uncommon luck, guile, and fortitude. Vandergrift opted to lead with guile.

(to be continued)

Newsletter Booster Club

<i>Booster Member</i>	<i>Expires</i>
Joe & Kathy Filipczak	Dec - 2019
David Jones	Dec - 2019
Casey Canfield	Feb - 2020
Bob & Linda Reutter	Feb -2020
Tom & Alice Kick	Mar - 2020
Gary Burk	April - 2020
Richard Schuler	July - 2020
Roy & Carolyn McWilliams	Aug - 2020
Dorothy Odom	Sept- 2020
John & Judy Bryant	Sept - 2020
MCLA, Southern Belles Unit 441	Oct- 2020

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.

NEWSLETTER BOOSTER MEMBER

NAME: _____

DONATION: _____

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

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

The editor has the right to reject an ad that is not appropriate such as loan companies, adult entertainment, etc.

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



*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
Joe and Kathy Filipczak*

Life Member

River Cities Detachment #1090

12/2019

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

Friend of Youth Since 1921

07/2020

*Compliments of
Carolyn McWilliams*

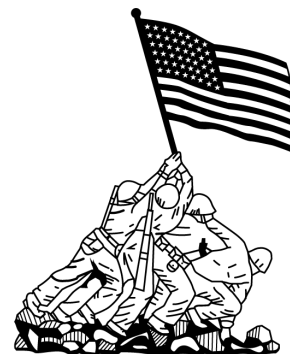
In honor and memory of the
17th Rifle Company
2700 West Illinois Street
Evansville, IN

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



12/2019

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



Semper Fi

09/2020

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
 Pat Dillback
 (Associate Member)

04/2021

***Compliments of
Casey Canfield***

*Life Member
River Cities Detachment #1090*

01/2020

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

*Life Members
River Cities Detachment #1090*

06/2021

DAVID L. JONES

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



08/2020

**Compliments of the
Marine Corps League Auxiliary**



Southern Belles Unit 441

12/2019

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

*Life Member
River Cities Detachment #1090*

02/2020

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 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

Marine Corps Birthday Ball
Saturday, November 9, 2019

Double Tree Hotel
 601 Walnut Street
 Evansville, IN 47708

Tickets will be \$50

Online tickets sales
 mclrivercities.org/ball2019

This page will be taken down soon

«AddressBlock»

Semper Fi

November 2019

Inside this issue:

Commandant's Corner	1
Lore of the Corps	1
Marine Corps History	2
Newsletter Boosters	3
Life Membership	3
Sponsors	4-5
Event Calendar	6

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Newsletter Articles, Ads, and Pictures for December are due NO LATER THAN November 22, 2019 There are No Exceptions to this deadline.					1	2
3	4	5 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	6	7 MCLA Southern Belles VA Clinic 8 a.m.-11 a.m.	8	9 Marine Corps Birthday Ball Double Tree 1800 to 0000 <i>No Tickets Sold At The Door</i>
10 	11 	12 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	20	21	22	23
24	25 MCLA Southern Belles Unit #441 AmVets #84 6:30 p.m.	26 Det. 1090 Breakfast Libby's and Mom's Cafe 0800	27 MCL River Cities Det. #1090 NO MEETING	28 	29	30