



# River Cities News

Volume 12, Issue 10

October 1, 2015

## Commandant's Corner

By Bob Reutter, Commandant

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### 240th Marine Corps Birthday Ball

It is time to make your reservations for this years birthday celebration.

[More information on pg 3](#)

### Detachment Officers

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- Jr. Vice Commandant  
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- Jr. Past Commandant  
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- Chaplain  
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- Sgt At Arms  
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- Newsletter Editors  
Paula Landers (812) 483-5114
- Web Sergeant  
Paula Landers (812) 483-5114

**Warning!** As of October 1st there are only 81 days until we distribute toys to needy children through Toys for Tots! I just returned from our annual TFT conference and it was a very tiring yet energizing three days. I had the opportunity to interface with not only the TFT staff but also about 700 other coordinators. We had a very inspirational visit from the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps who is himself a former TFT coordinator. I am hoping to get better media coverage this year and plan to visit each of the local TV stations with copies of the public service announcements that you may have seen before. If you have not seen "Guard Duty" and "Christmas Morning" I hope you will have the opportunity to see them in the coming weeks. As Marines it will make you even more proud to be one.

With the Department of Indiana Fall Conference on October 3rd and 4th we will have our campaign kick-off meeting on Saturday, October 10th in the warehouse at 4865 University Drive beginning at 0900. If you would like to be a part of our campaign this year I hope to see you there. With the help of our Detachment and other volunteers we can make this campaign as successful as the ones we have done in the past.

Sometime in early November I want to have a shopping day at Toys R Us. To make it easier on us (and the TRU staff) we will once again go in at 0600. I would like to invite all League members to join us to shop. I will provide more information as we get closer to that date.

In the very near future we will be building our MCL float to use in parades. The plan is to make a large scale representation of the Toys for Tots train logo. From that we will display the League and Auxiliary banners. The plan is to have a canopy to protect us from either sun or rain. We can use people with some artistic, carpentry, electrical and/or painting experience to help build the float. Again, more information to follow.

In League related things about 15 of us met at the Pie Pan restaurant to celebrate the 92nd birthday of one of our own – Keith Benedict. We had a nice breakfast and enjoyed good company and an EGA birthday cake! We have had the opportunity to do several color guards last month. As usual our members looked sharp. Thanks for all who participated.



## Marine Corps History

By Gary Burk

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

### Korea –

Ironically, the Marines’ greatest battle occurred during one of the nation’s most bitter defeats, the routing of the American and Allied forces in upper Korea by the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) of Red China.

For the United States, top-level arrogance and disregard of strategic intelligence very nearly led to the annihilation of the 1st Marine Division. China’s abrupt entry into the war placed the Old Breed Marines in desperate straits – seventy-eight miles away from their sea base, surrounded by seven PLA divisions, and burdened with thousands of wounded and frostbitten casualties at the onset of the coldest winter ever recorded along the Manchurian border. Many officials in Washington considered the Marines a lost cause; trapped, isolated and doomed.

At first it seemed so easy. MacArthur, having succeeded famously with his celebrated “left-hook” landing at Inchon, decided to use Marines again for a “right-hook” landing at Wonsan, on the east coast of North Korea.

Major General Oliver Smith’s 1st Marine Division, having prevailed at Inchon and Seoul, cheerfully reembarked on board their amphibious ships and sailed into the Korean Strait, bound for Wonsan. Then came the shock.

Naval intelligence reported that the North Koreans had used their ancient fishing craft to lay thousands of surplus Soviet mines in the harbor. The mines were primitive but effective. Clearing the channels took sixteen tedious days and included the loss of three Allied minesweepers.

When the Marines finally came ashore at Wonsan on October 26, 1950, they were mortified that not only had the South Korean forces preceded them, but the Marine Corsair pilots of MAG-12 had already established an expeditionary airfield and were razing them unmercifully.

Most ignominious of all: Bob Hope and his USO Show was already in Wonsan before the 1st Marine Division could execute their landing!

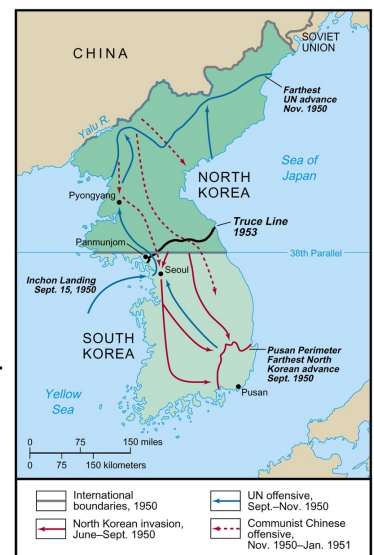
General Almond, still commanding X Corps, assigned Smith an enormous operating area, and urged him to press north toward the Chosin Reservoir, not far from the Manchurian border. These were the heady days for the United Nations Command. Suggestive phrases like “the race to the Yalu” and “home by Christmas” captured the fancy of correspondents and raised false optimism among some of the troops.

Smith suffered none of these delusions.

Chesty Puller’s 1st Marines drew the division’s initial combat missions in North Korea. One battalion outdueled a first-echelon NKPA regiment at Kojo, just south of Wonsan, in a nasty two day battle. Another of Puller’s battalions seized and held the vital crossroads town of Majon-ni against an aroused 15th NKPA Division. The battle for Majon-ni lasted two weeks.

While Chesty Puller kept the last NKPA fighting units at bay, General Smith sent the main body of the division north from the port of Hanganam to the western shoreline of the Chosin Reservoir, site of a valuable hydroelectric facility.

Chosin. That’s what the Japanese called the big reservoir, and the Marines used Japanese maps for this campaign. (It’s Korean name is Changjin, but “Chosin” rhymes with “Frozen” so the name remains uncorrected.



THE KOREAN WAR, 1950-1953

# 2015 Marine Corps Birthday Ball

Celebrating the 240th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps

HOSTED BY

**RIVER CITIES DETACHMENT #1090**

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015**

**GUEST OF HONOR - Sgt Maj John Wyatt**

**Marine Corps Recruiting Center Louisville, Kentucky**

Evansville Country Club  
3810 Stringtown Road  
Evansville, IN 47710

Social Gathering: 6:45 pm to 7:15 pm  
Ceremony and Dinner: 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm  
Entertainment: 9:00 pm to Midnight

**\$30 PER PERSON**

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY NOVEMBER 1, 2015**

*No tickets will be sold at the door*

**PURCHASE TICKETS ON-LINE AT [WWW.MCLRIVERCITIES.ORG/BALL](http://WWW.MCLRIVERCITIES.ORG/BALL)  
OR COMPLETE THE FORM AND MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO THE ADDRESS BELOW.**



Our Guest of Honor at the 240th Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be SERGEANT MAJOR JOHN K.WYATT of the 4th Marine Corps District Marine Corps Recruiting Command in Louisville, KY. Sergeant Major Wyatt was born in Louisville, KY on February 19, 1975 and enlisted in the Marine Corps on February 15, 1995 where he completed recruit training at MCRD Parris Island.



## 240th Marine Corps Birthday Ball

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

\$30.00 Each       \$30.00

Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable to:** River Cities Detachment #1090

**Mail with Payment to :** Attn: 240th Birthday Ball  
P O Box 6581  
Evansville, IN 47719-0581

**Please indicate your entrée choices**

**Chicken Piccata #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Roast Beef Tenderloin #** \_\_\_\_\_

## Newsletter Booster Club

<i><b>Booster Member</b></i>	<i><b>Expires</b></i>
Luddie DeVaughn Jr	Oct - 15
Casey Canfield	Oct - 15
Paul & Yolanda Sowders	Nov - 15
Gary Burk	Dec - 15
David Jones	Dec - 15
Southern Belles Unit 441	Feb - 16
John & Dottie Mills	Feb - 16
Tom & Alice Kick	May - 16
Joe and Kathy Filipczak	May - 16
Frank Bockting	June - 16
Bob Moore	July - 16
A. J. Hardin	July - 16
Irene Blessing	July - 16
Art & Mary Beth Midle	July - 16
Bill Bitter	July - 16
Larry & Casey Scott	Oct - 16

A big thank you to all those that donate to the Newsletter Booster Club. We still need Booster Members, **a donation of \$5.00 per individual or more** 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**

Visit our web site for the forms to submit an advertisement.

[www.mclrivercities.org/news](http://www.mclrivercities.org/news)

Anyone can use these forms to put an ad in the newsletter. The editor has the right to reject an ad that is not appropriate such as loan companies, adult entertainment, etc.

**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

## 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**

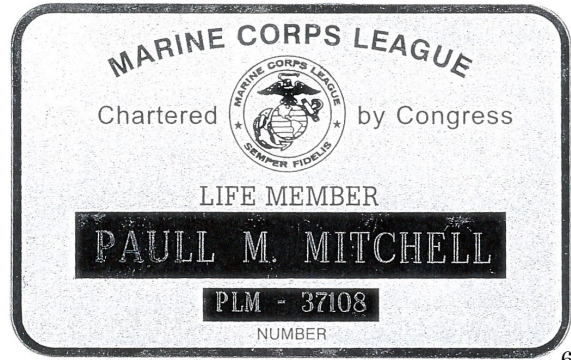
**DAVID L. JONES**

[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



03/2016



6/2016

***Compliments of***  
***Joe and Kathy Filipczak***  
***Life Member***  
***River Cities Detachment #1090***

05/2016

**Compliments of the**  
**Marine Corps League Auxiliary**



**Southern Belles Unit 441**

12/2015

***Compliments of***  
***Luddie DeV Vaughn Jr.***  
***Member***  
***River Cities Detachment #1090***

10/2015

***Compliments of***  
***John and Dottie Mills***  
***Life Member***  
***River Cities Detachment #1090***

10/2015

***PLACE YOUR AD HERE***

River Cities Detachment 1090  
 Marine Corps League Inc.  
 P. O. Box 6581  
 Evansville, IN 47719-0581

**ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE**



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*240th Marine Corps  
 Birthday Ball*

It is time to make your  
 reservations for this years  
 birthday celebration.

More information on pg 3

«AddressBlock»



WELCOME ON BOARD

New Members

Jackie Kincade

Renewals

-0-

New Associate Members

-0-

Associate Renewals

-0-

**Note: Annual  
 Membership Dues New  
 and Renewal \$35.00**

**Semper Ji**

**October 2015**



Joseph Filipeczak 10/17  
 Kenneth Curtis 10/18  
 Dannie Russell 10/22  
 Robert Reutter 10/24  
 T.C. Shane 10/29

Note: If we did not list your  
 birthday, it was an oversight  
 or we don't have it on our roster.  
 Please contact us so we  
 can correct the error next year.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Newsletter Articles, Ads, and            Pictures for November 2015            are due <b>NO LATER THAN</b>            October 22, 2015</i>				1 MCLA VA Project Cancelled for October	2	3 MCL & MCLA Department of Indiana Fall Conference
4 MCL & MCLA Department of Indiana Fall Conference	5	6 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	7	8	9	10 Toys for Tots Campaign Kick Off 0900 at the TFT Warehouse
11	12	13 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	21	22	23	24
25	26 MCLA Southern Belles Unit 441 6 p.m. AmVets Post 84	27 Det. 1090 Breakfast Pie Pan 8:00 a.m.	28 MCL Det. 1090 7:00 p.m. VFW 1114	29	30	31