



# Bunker News



AN  
AWARD WINNING  
NEWSLETTER!

APRIL 2023

## OFFICERS

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DESOTO DETACHMENT 588, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Website: [MCL588.Org](http://MCL588.Org)

Happy "Spring", Happy Easter! It feels more like summer out there this week. I hope this newsletter finds you all in good spirits and good health.

April was a rough month around the bunker emotionally. We lost 2 very dear members whose presence will be greatly missed. One of those members has placed a great deal of stress on their family, as the extremely difficult decision to not inform her husband of her passing had to be made. Jane Ryan was a stellar and exemplary member of our detachment family whose contributions were too many to count. From field days to supporting during functions, playing the tab machine (and winning often), to making every new member feel like they were a longtime member of the detachment, Jane made every effort to step up, roll up her sleeves, work hard and laugh hysterically while doing so. So please, keep in mind the sensitivity of her family and the impossible decision they had to make by not informing Mike Ryan. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends.



Also missed is Virgil Mellott. Virgil served his country with honor as well as his detachment. His big smile and always cheery salutation were a Thursday afternoon staple around the Bunker. Always willing to donate, support by attending functions and bring in new membership, to his addiction to John D'Alusio's secret popcorn recipe, Virgil showed his love for the league every way he was physically able. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Mellott family during their time of grief.

Please check the calendar as we have lots of things going on this month and newly added bar bingo and trivia, in addition to our weekly burger days and bar poker.

Be well, stay healthy and be good to one another. Semper Fi,  
Jim Grote

Desoto Detachment #588, 5225 26th Street West, Bradenton, Florida 34207 (941) 301-4598

MEETINGS ARE THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1830 Website: [MCL588.Org](http://MCL588.Org)



# Marine Corps League

## Desoto Detachment 588

5225 26<sup>th</sup> Street West, Bradenton (941-301-4598)

### Event Calendar for APRIL 2023



Open to all Members, Veterans and Guests for all Special Events

4/1	1200	<b>BINGO @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/1	1500	<b>BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/2	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE "WHIP" @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/5	1200	<b>BURGER BOYZ BURGERS @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/8	1200	<b>BINGO @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/8	1500	<b>BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/9	XXXX	<b>BUNKER CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF EASTER</b>
4/10	1800	<b>E-BOARD MEETING @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/12	1200	<b>BURGER BOYZ BURGERS @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/15	1400	<b>CELEBRATION OF JANE RYAN'S LIFE @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/16	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE "WHIP" @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/17	1830	<b>GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/19	1200	<b>BURGER BOYZ BURGERS @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/22	1200	<b>BINGO @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/22	1500	<b>BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/23	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE "WHIP" @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/24	1730	<b>HONOR GUARD PRACTICE @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/26	1200	<b>BURGER BOYZ BURGERS @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/29	1200	<b>BINGO @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/29	1500	<b>BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER</b>
4/30	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE "WHIP" @ THE BUNKER</b>

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# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 2023



**Marine Bob Rathbun, LtCol Retired, is sworn in as the newest Member of Desoto Detachment #588. He is a Mustang Officer, went to boot at MCRD San Diego on February 8, 1968. He had two tours in Vietnam.**

**Tristin Young, son of Kolleen and Mike, is sworn in as an Associate member. He is keeping it in the family.**





# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 2023





# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 2023



**The Ball Committee has confirmed the 248th. Marine Corps Ball is Friday November 10th. at Tara Country Club.**





**We lost a very important Associate Member of the league in March. Jane Ryan passed away. She was always helping people, helping our detachment and just being a wonderful person. A celebration of her life will take place on April 15th at 1400 at the Bunker. Jane will be missed by all who knew her. I should write more, but it's hard to figure out what good things of the many good things about her to write.**



**Jane's favorite beverage.**



The Bunker lost another long time member recently. Virg Mellott unexpectedly passed on 3/23/23 at the age of 80.

Virg was a retired Air Force Lt. Col. fighter pilot. He flew the F4 Phantom in combat in the Vietnam war as part of a fighter wing.

After retiring from the Air Force, Virg worked in the medical industry supplying all types of prosthetics to surgeons. He would often accompany the physicians into the OR to instruct them in the installation of the medical devices, earning the sobriquet "Col. Doctor."

After retiring from the medical supply profession, Virg and his wife Kathie relocated from AZ to the west coast of FL to be closer to Kathie's mother and brother (Marine Rick LeMasters).

Virg joined the 588 in 2015 and was an active member of the Detachment up until his death. Besides his beloved wife Kathie, he leaves five children: Steve, Brett, Tammy, Danica, and Sherri, and numerous grandchildren.

Virg will be sorely missed by all those who knew him. Keep-'em flying, Virg!

John D'Alusio



*Virg Mellott with family members in the Bunker February 2023. I know this photo was in last months newsletter, but I felt it is appropriate again. Soar high Virg! - Editor*



- Gordon Cooper— Mercury 7 astronaut
- Barry Corbin<sup>[54]</sup> — actor (*WarGames*)
- Jon Corzine<sup>[55]</sup> — Governor of New Jersey, former U.S. Senator (D-NJ)
- Bill Cowan<sup>[56]</sup> — hostage rescue expert, Fox News television commentator
- Josh Culbreath<sup>[19]</sup> — 1956 Summer Olympics 400m hurdles bronze medalist, college track coach with 10 national championships, actor on the *Cosby Show*
- Walter Cunningham<sup>[57]</sup> — Apollo 7 astronaut

## D

- Brian Dennehy<sup>[2][58]</sup>— actor (*First Blood*)
- James Devereux<sup>[59]</sup> — U.S. Congressman from Maryland
- Richard Diebenkorn<sup>[60]</sup> — artist
- Bradford Dillman<sup>[61]</sup>— actor (*Compulsion*)
- David Dinkins<sup>[32]</sup> — Mayor of New York City
- Art Donovan<sup>[62]</sup> — football Hall of Famer
- Buster Drayton<sup>[63]</sup> — world champion boxer
- Andre Dubus<sup>[64]</sup>— author
- David Douglas Duncan<sup>[65]</sup> — photographer
- Dale Dye<sup>[2][66][67]</sup> — Hollywood military advisor

## E

- William A. Eddy<sup>[68]</sup> — World War I Navy Cross, university professor and president, World War II Marine Corps intelligence officer, U.S. minister to Saudi Arabia (1943–1946)
- David Eigenberg<sup>[2]</sup> — actor (*Sex and the City*)
- R. Lee Ermey<sup>[69]</sup>— actor (*Full Metal Jacket*), host of *Mail Call* and *Lock N' Load with R. Lee Ermey*
- Don Everly<sup>[32]</sup> — musician, member of Rock & Roll Hall of Fame
- Phil Everly<sup>[32]</sup> — musician, member of Rock & Roll Hall of Fame



R. Lee Ermey

## F

- Hussein Mohamed Farrah<sup>[70]</sup> — son and successor of Somali warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid
- Mike Farrell<sup>[2]</sup> — actor (*M\*A\*S\*H*)
- Freddie Fender<sup>[71]</sup> — Tejano music recording artist
- Bob Ferguson<sup>[72]</sup> — song writer, record producer, and historian
- Jesse Ferguson<sup>[73]</sup> — American heavyweight boxer
- Nathaniel Fick<sup>[74]</sup> — author (*One Bullet Away*)
- Morris Fisher<sup>[75]</sup>— five time Olympic Gold Medalist for shooting
- Bill Fitch<sup>[76]</sup> — basketball coach

Marines that became famous? Here are the “C’s through F’s”. Submitted by Dave Hildibrand



# Cop who helped take down Nashville shooter served as Marine grunt

By Irene Loewenson

Mar 30, 11:50 AM



Michael Collazo, 31, helped take down an active shooter at a elementary school Monday. (Metro Nashville Police Department)

One of the police officers who confronted and shot an assailant who killed six at an elementary school in Nashville is a Marine infantry veteran.

Body-camera footage released by the Metro Nashville Police Department shows Officer Michael Collazo running through The Covenant School on Monday toward active shooter Audrey Hale, 28, and helping Officer Rex Englebert take the shooter down.

Collazo served in the Marine Corps from 2010 to 2016 and departed as a sergeant, according to his service record, which was first reported by Task and Purpose.

As an infantry rifleman, Collazo earned the Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medal, National Defense Service Medal and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. His last duty assignment was at K Company, 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marines, a Reserve infantry unit located in Smyrna, Tennessee, according to his service record sent to Marine Corps Times by Marine spokeswoman Yvonne Carlock on Wednesday.

Marine veteran Blake Morton said he has known Collazo since middle school and had him as a junior Marine serving under him in I Company, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marines, a Reserve unit.

“The discipline that he had was just unmatched compared to his peers,” Morton said.

And as a friend, Morton said, Collazo would go above and beyond.

“If you needed something and you’re broke down on the road, you know you could call him and he could pull you out or whatever,” Morton said. “He has no hate in his heart. Always just been a good dude.”

A six-minute video containing footage from both body cameras worn by Collazo and Englebert shows the men rush into the school and check classrooms on the first floor on Monday.

Then they run up the stairs to the second floor, where they confront Hale. Englebert is shown firing multiple shots at Hale, who falls to the ground. Collazo fires additional rounds at Hale.

“Stop moving. Stop moving,” Collazo shouts at Hale in the body camera footage.

Another officer yells at Hale, “Get your hands away from the gun.”

“Suspect down. Suspect down,” Collazo says before taking the rifle from Hale’s hands.

Hale killed six during a shooting rampage through the school. Police identified the victims as Evelyn Dieckhaus, Hallie Scruggs and William Kinney, all 9 years old; Cynthia Peak, 61; Katherine Koonce, 60; and Mike Hill, 61.

“Yesterday, while we saw the worst of humanity, we also saw the best of humanity, in the police officers who ran into danger directly toward a killer with no regard for their own life, thinking only about those kids and those teachers and those administrators,” Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee said in a video posted to his Twitter account Tuesday.

“Gratitude doesn’t begin to cover it,” Lee said.

(Reprinted from the Marine Corps Times—on line)



Marine Mike McClain saw the devastation from tornadoes in Mississippi and said we gotta do something for those people. Mike organized an effort for collecting supplies that can be used up there, and Desoto Detachment members came through with many donations.

Mike and Joe Intoppa departed for Mississippi hauling the loaded trailer with the donated supplies. The dogs and cats weren’t forgotten either as there was pet food donated also.

This is what “Semper Fidelis” is all about.

Stay Safe Mike & Joe.

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Hello Robert, Dick Keshian from Boston (not a member) here.

I do have an item for sale. If anyone has an HP printer that takes HP 201A or 201X printer cartridges, I have three high yield color cartridges yellow, cyan and magenta. I mis-ordered from Amazon. 3 pack sells on Amazon for 329.89 plus tax. Sell for \$100 and I'll cover shipping. Dick Keshian. [djkeshian@gmail.com](mailto:djkeshian@gmail.com).

Thanks

Dick Keshian

USMCR Ret.

**Recently, Jim and Nancy Walker and John and Mariann D'Alusio went on a 12 day cruise to the western Caribbean on Celebrity Constellation out of Tampa. Here is the group in the Rendezvous Lounge on board ship. Jim and Nancy had a wonderful cruise. Regrettably, John and Mariann contracted a norovirus, which was running rampant on the ship, and had a much less salutary trip than the Walkers.**



**From Jim Walker: John sent a picture of us at Rendezvous Lounge (not Peek a boo) on the Celebrity Constellation. We were chatting at the Bunker months back and discovered we were booked on the same cruise.**



## Free Entrance to National Parks

Explore the outdoors. You can use your [Veteran ID Card \(VIC\)](#) to gain free access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including [national parks](#), wildlife refuges, and forests. Gold Star Families and Veterans can [enjoy a variety of activities like camping, hiking, biking, and much more.](#)

### Bunker Announcements :

- **NO CHILDREN are allowed to sit at the bar.** (For legal purposes, this means anyone under the age of 18, though the label may also apply to a few unnamed grunts). Minors must sit at tables or high tops only.
- **Guests are permitted 3 visits to The Bunker.** Upon the 3rd visit, they will be required to submit a membership application before returning.
- Non-members will be assessed an additional **\$.50 surcharge** on drinks.
- When playing the dice, **3 of a kind gets a free drink** of the kind already purchased, **4 of a kind gets 2 free drinks** of the kind already purchased. Five of a kind receives the monetary amount based on the roll sequence.
- When you are going to use free drink chips to pay for your drinks, **let the bartender know before they tally your “cash out” on the computer.** If you produce the chips after they produce the “cash out” total, it causes issues. Be considerate of your volunteer bartenders and **TIP THEM WELL.**
- If you can, **pay your bar tab with cash.** We do accept credit cards, however the Bunker is charged a fee. You are welcome to use your credit card, but if you have the cash please use it.

# Support your Detachment.





Right after Sunday, March 26th “Trivia with the Whip”, Mike Young rolled five Aces and won \$1,000.00. *Of course he needs to realize that the local IRS agent will be hot on his trail.*

**CONGRATULATIONS !**

*Joe Intoppa thinks Mike is more worried about Kolleen than the IRS.*

Gee Wally, I sure wish I had a Model 1911 .45 caliber pistol.

Me too, and I know how to get one!

Gee Wally, where and how can I get it?

Jeez, you Goofball Beaver, all you gotta do is be at the Bunker at noon April 20th and buy a raffle ticket.



**Pistol Raffle starts April 20th @ noon at the Bunker. Tickets ten dollars each..**

# Next Gun Raffle Starts 20 April at 1200

By John D'Alusio



The word “classic,” when applied to pistols, often brings to mind the iconic John Moses Browning designed 1911, a pistol that nearly all firearms enthusiasts would love to have in their collection. Well, you now have your chance with the next gun raffle firearm.

The iconic 1911 is a single action, recoil-operated, semi-automatic, centerfire with a 5.02" barrel. It is chambered to fire the .45 ACP cartridge from a single stack seven-round detachable box magazine. The 1911A1 weighs 39 ounces unloaded and is made of steel. This was the official sidearm of the US Military for 75 years.

This iteration is a Turkish built 1911A1 US Army pistol. Its chrome-moly-steel frame and slide are finished with a deep Parkerization that has a hint of olive-drab coloration. More importantly, it bears all of the changes made to John Browning's original design in the early 1920s of the A1 version. This includes a shortened trigger, an arched mainspring housing, scallops on both sides of the frame just behind the trigger, an elongated grip safety and a shortened hammer spur. Additionally, in this modern version, the ejection port has been lowered a bit, compared to the genuine article, for improved reliability.

One thing that doesn't match the original, however, is the single-action trigger squeeze. This trigger brakes on average at 4 lbs., 10 ozs., of pressure—nearly two pounds lighter than on the original Colt 1911.

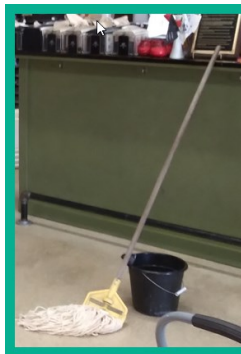
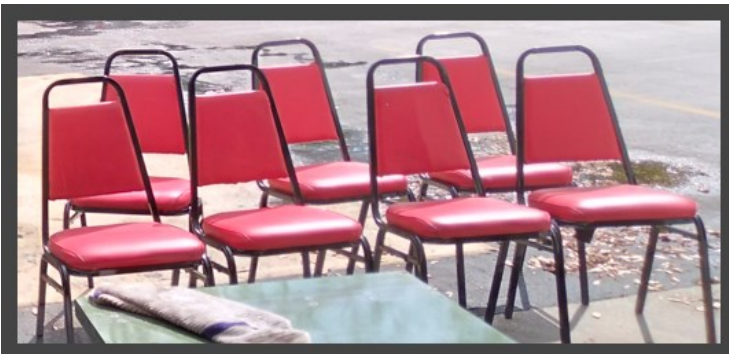
The disassembly procedure for this pistol is identical to that of military-issue M1911A1s. In other words, it's more complicated than the standard field stripping of striker fired polymer pistols with which most everyone is familiar nowadays. Check out a YouTube video if you are not sure of the process.

As usual, only 100 raffle tickets at \$10 per ticket will go on sale on Thursday, 20 April at noon. Once the 100 tickets have sold out, the raffle will be closed, and the winner drawn. The last raffle involving an AR-15 sold out in a day and a half. This raffle featuring the 1911A1 is sure to generate as much excitement. If you have any interest in this historic pistol, be sure to get to The Bunker early on 20 April.

Good luck to all those who enter the raffle!



# FIELD DAY @ THE BUNKER



A great "Thank You" to all who participated in our Field day, keeping the Bunker in good order.

Jane Ryan has been an integral part of every Field Day we have had, May she rest in peace.

# The Marines and the Spanish American War of 1898

By John D'Alusio – Historian, MCL Detachment 588

The US Navy sent the armored cruiser USS Maine to Havana Harbor, Cuba in February 1898 in order to help quell a nascent insurgency on the island. However, during the night of 15 February, the Maine suddenly exploded, killing 232 sailors and 28 Marines.

The reaction in the US was immediate and vitriolic. “Remember the Maine” echoed throughout the country as lurid stories about Spanish sabotage spread throughout the land. Factually, there is no evidence the explosion that destroyed the Maine was caused by Spanish saboteurs. However, emotion ruled the day and soon President McKinley sought a declaration of war from Congress, who readily complied.

USMC Commandant Major General Charles Heywood immediately ordered a battalion of Marines to be formed. Five days later, the unit, armed with new Winchester-Lee straight pull bolt action .236 caliber rifles using smokeless powder, was en route to Key West by sea. An artillery battery armed with four 3” naval rifles was also assembled.

As the Marines were concentrating on Cuba, on the other side of the globe in Manila, Philippines Commodore George Dewey in command of the US Asiatic Squadron attacked the Spanish Fleet on 1 May. Dewey routed the Spanish. A Marine detachment was sent ashore after the victory to secure Cavite Naval Station and raise the US flag over the facility. Cavite would remain a major US Naval facility for almost a century.

Back in the Caribbean, Lt. Col. Robert Huntington’s Marine Battalion was sent to capture and secure Guantanamo Bay as an advanced base to support a major assault on the city of Santiago, where the Spanish Flying Squadron lay at anchor.

The Marine Battalion hit the beach against only sporadic opposition. They quickly seized Gitmo, and then ran into stiff fire as they approached Cuzco Well, which was the main source of fresh water for the semi-arid Santiago.

On 14 July, two Maine companies supplemented by 65 Cuban guerrillas advanced to secure Cuzco Well. The naval artillery support was inaccurate, and Spanish shells began dropping amongst the Marines. Marine Sgt. John Quick jumped into the open waving a flag at the naval squadron in order to have them adjust their fire. Soon the 500 Spanish defenders were on the receiving end of accurate Naval cannon fire.

The Marines wound up suffering a half dozen killed and 16 wounded, but they defeated the dug-in defenders.

The Spanish surrendered and The Treaty of Paris was signed on 10 December, 1898. In the Philippines, the US Army was dug in around Manila. They then took the city. Instead of installing rebel leader Emilio Aguinaldo as leader of the country, the US Army told him to leave. On 4 February, 1899, Aguinaldo returned with a large force of followers and a nasty little war began. In March, Commodore Dewey called for another battalion of Marines to reinforce the Cavite Naval Base. Eventually, two more Marine Battalions were added, joining the larger US Army operation to put down Aguinaldo’s rebellion.

The Philippine insurgency turned out to be the Marines’ baptism in jungle warfare. A third Marine Battalion soon arrived augmented by a reinforced company, as the Marines (and Army) grappled with fighting against a ruthless, phantomlike enemy to whom the jungle was home.

Commodore Dewey later remarked that if he had a regiment of Marines with him after his defeat of the Spanish squadron in Manila, the Aguinaldo insurgency could have been stopped before it even started.

The Marines had rarely ever had more than 3,000 men on average. The Spanish American War, and the resulting Philippine insurgency illustrated that The Corps was a disciplined and tenacious fighting force, setting the stage for the larger role The Corps would play in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.



# TIME TO PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

Dues were due on September 1st. Please pay them promptly in order to continue your membership and to be able to enjoy the benefits of the Bunker. Maybe it is time to think about a Life Membership.

If you have service connected disabilities and hold a VA Card indicating that, you can go to the Myakka State Park Rangers Office, off of State Road 72, and be issued a pass card good for free entry to all Florida State Parks.



## MISSION AND PURPOSE

The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and to preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines and FMF Navy Personnel who wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.

Dedicated to supporting our local veterans and enriching our community, DeSoto Detachment #588 is the local arm of the Marine Corps League, serving the greater Bradenton/Sarasota area. Annual initiatives include Honor Guard and honors services for fallen service members, Toys for Tots drive, charity golf tournament, USMC Ball, scholarships and support for Young Marines, and other community initiatives that support or honor US Marines and their families.



**COULD THEY BE BROTHERS FROM DIFFERENT MOTHERS.**

**Marine Corps Rule # 1**

**When caught in the open and faced with ambush and danger, Marines will assault towards the enemy.**

*Just as the young Marine Veteran Police Officer did in the Nashville shooting.*

**The Desoto Detachment Honor Guard practice has been moved to the last Monday of each month at 1800.**

**YOU can become a member of the Honor Guard, both Members and Associate Members are welcome.**

**No experience necessary.**

**For more Information, contact Matt Richardson at the Bunker.**





Goodwill was one of the first organizations to respond to the multitude of challenges faced by veterans, their families, and the families of those who serve on active duty.

Goodwill Manasota’s Veterans Services Program focuses on providing comprehensive case management and vocational services that assist with employment and barriers to employment, while helping veterans navigate the wide array of available programs.

We are proud to have a wide variety of community partners and alliances with other local organizations committed to serving those who have served for us.



**Call TODAY for this  
FREE service!  
941.355.2721 x.451**

**American Heart Association**  
life is why™

**Common Heart Attack Warning Signs**

- 1 Pain or discomfort in chest
- 2 Lightheadedness, nausea, or vomiting
- 3 Jaw, neck or back pain
- 4 Discomfort or pain in arm or shoulder
- 5 Shortness of breath

**COVID –19 ISN’T WHIPPED YET, BUT WE ARE MAKING HEADWAY.** We still need to exercise basic precautions.

**Have you gotten your COVID-19 Vaccination and boosters yet?  
If not, why not?  
It’s a medical issue, not a political issue, so go get your vaccination.**

## How may I get copies or information from my official military records or for those of a family member or military person I am researching?

Write:

National Personnel Records Center  
 Military Personnel Records  
 9700 Page Ave.  
 St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

The fax request number is (314) 801-9195. The Center will respond in writing by U.S. Mail. Or visit the National Personnel Records Center online at:<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.

Or you may also call at: 314-801-0800.

## How do I find out what medals and awards for which I am eligible?

Write:

Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps  
 Military Awards Branch (Code MMMA)  
 2008 Elliot Road  
 Quantico, VA 22134-5030

**I'm so out of shape that if somebody yells, Run for your life!, I'll be like, You guys go on ahead. I'm going to meet Jesus.**

**Mother-in-law came for inner and said, "Why does the dog keep looking at me?" I said, "Because you're using his plate!"**

### LOCAL AGENCY THAT CAN HELP VETERANS IN NEED

**Supportive Service for Veteran Families (SSVF).** *Administered by Turning Points in Bradenton. Contact them at 941-747-1509. They are located at 701 17th Avenue West, Bradenton Florida 34205. Services available include: Outreach Services, Case Management Services, Assistance Obtaining VA benefits, Assistance obtaining other Public Benefits, Rental Assistance, Utility-Fee Payment Assistance, Child Care and other Qualifying Services, and Transportation.*



Her: "babe, I want a castle in the sky"  
Me: "say no more"



*Submitted by Art Dehardt*

## Did you know that honey has no expiration date?

- ♦ Did you know that one of the first coins in the world had a bee symbol on them?
- ♦ Did you know that there are live enzymes in honey?
- ♦ Did you know that in contact with metal spoon these enzymes die? The best way to eat honey is with wooden spoon, if you can't find one, use plastic.
- ♦ Did you know that honey contains a substance that helps your brain work better?
- ♦ Did you know that honey is one of the rare foods on earth that alone can sustain human life?
- ♦ Did you know that bees saved people in Africa from starvation? One spoon of honey is enough to sustain human life for 24-hours?
- ♦ Did you know that propolis that bees produce is one of the most powerful natural ANTIBIOTICS?
- ♦ Did you know that the bodies of the great emperors of the world were buried in golden coffins and then covered with honey to prevent putrefaction?
- ♦ Did you know that the term "HONEY MOON" comes from the fact that newlyweds consumed honey for fertility after the wedding?
- ♦ Did you know that a bee lives less than 40 days, visits at least 1000 flowers and produces less than a teaspoon of honey, but for her it is a lifetime.

Thank you, BEES!

SAVE THE BEES

*Submitted by Art Dehardt*





If you, or someone you know needs help, support is available 24/7. Service members and their families can call Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647, or chat at [militaryonesource.mil](https://militaryonesource.mil). Service members, veterans, and their loved ones can also call the Military and Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat at [veteranscrisisline.net](https://veteranscrisisline.net), or text to 838255.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available to anyone at **1-800-273-8255**.

**STOLEN VALOR.....**Don't imposters know it is very easy to verify valorous claims in these days of Google and other search engines? There are a lot of fakers out there claiming to be something that they are not.

It is very easy to ascertain heroic status, both in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Don't be a faker. If you earned it, wear it with pride,  
if you didn't earn it go crawl back in your hole with the other worms.

For more information about these worms,

Go to:

<http://www.stolenvalor.com/index.cfm>

Or

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Victoria\\_Cross\\_recipients\\_by\\_campaign](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Victoria_Cross_recipients_by_campaign)

**IT'S OUR DUTY TO EXPOSE IMPOSTERS,**  
**BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.**

If you need help with benefits claims, contact the  
Manatee County Veteran's Service Office at

**(941) 745-3795**

## VETERANS SERVICES

Here in Manatee County, we appreciate our Veterans for their service and sacrifice and are happy to assist. You will always be treated with respect, courtesy, and compassion while at our office. Again, thank you for your service and we hope to hear from you in the near future.

Our office is committed to providing you professional assistance and guidance throughout your entire VA claim process. There is absolutely **no fee or cost** for our services or for the submission of a claim for VA benefits.

**These have been paid in full  
by your service.**

**Please keep Mike Ryan,  
Tony Rosato, Bonnie Grote,  
Gordon Lamb, Frank  
Hartman and Elmer  
Stahnke in your thoughts  
and prayers. They are all  
experiencing significant  
health issues.**

**If you know of members  
who are sick or in distress,  
please call our Chaplain,**

**Ron  
941-749-**



**Schneider  
5799**

### Military Stories

We are collecting stories by and about military personnel. The stories will be posted on: [www.militarystories.us](http://www.militarystories.us)

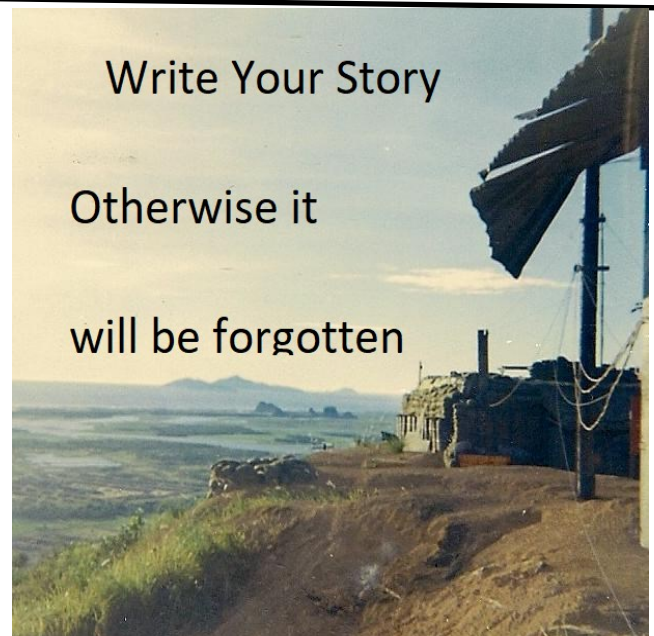
If you would like to have your story published email your story to Craig Hullinger at:

[craighullinger@gmail.com](mailto:craighullinger@gmail.com)

Your story can be long or short. The story can cover an interesting event or your entire life. You can write about yourself or a friend or relative that you would like to honor.

Pictures are worth a thousand words. You can write the story for a relative, friend, or ancestor. You can add to your story. We look forward to publishing your story on the blog.

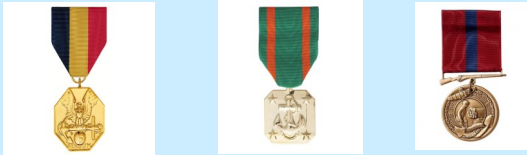
Thank you for your stories.





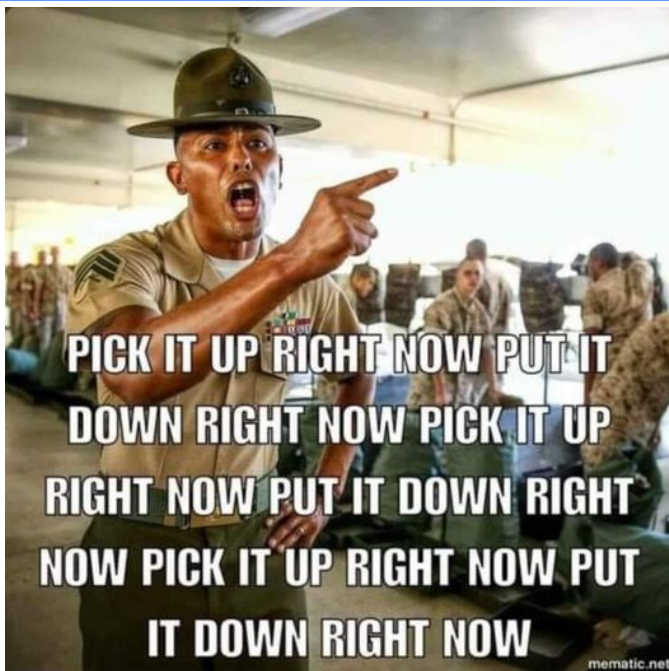
Where to write for your medals (no cost to you):

Navy Personnel Command  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100



**BAR POKER**  
**EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON**  
**3:00 -5:00 PM**  
**AT THE BUNKER**

Our Detachment has a new website that is now up and running. Please visit it at: [MCL588.org](http://MCL588.org), Our Adjutant has diligently put this together. The website will host announcements, photos, archived newsletters, etc. So go right now and put [MCL588.Org](http://MCL588.Org) into your browser.



Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1



# SCUTTLEBUTT

## The Word



- ⇒ When is the last time you invited a potential member to the Bunker or to a MCL Meeting? Invite that guy or gal down the street that has the USMC decal on their car.
- ⇒ See Gabby to become a celebrity poker dealer for Bar Poker. Little to no experience required.
- ⇒ Send your photos, articles or announcements to Editor Bob Fields for inclusion in the Bunker News. Send to Jarhead@BrightHouse.com by the 25th of the month.
- ⇒ The Bunker is now open on Sundays 1100-1800.
- ⇒ HONOR GUARD PRACTICE LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1800. COME JOIN IN, NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WELCOME.

*Remember to always tip your*  
**VOLUNTEER bartenders**  
*at the Bunker very generously.*

*They are unpaid and giving up their*  
*time to keep*  
*the Bunker Running.*

**Bar Manners:** It certainly isn't mandatory, but when a member wins a large pot on dice, the stamps or pull tab cards, it is generally an accepted practice to **tip the bartender very generously, and to buy the bar a round of drinks.**  
**People who win big money and just leave a drink chip or small tip are frowned upon by all and called names that I can't put in print.**



# MARINE CORPS HISTORY IN APRIL

**April 1945:** On Okinawa, Marines of the III Amphibious Corps continued to make good progress all along their front, clearing Zampa Misaki and seizing the Katchin Peninsula, thus effectively cutting the island in two. By this date (D+2), III AC elements had reached objectives thought originally to require 11 days to take.

**5 April 1947:** Five Marine guards were killed and eight wounded when attacked by Communist Chinese raiders near the Hsin Ho ammunition depot in Northern China. This last major clash between Marines of the 1st Marine Division and Communist forces occurred shortly after withdrawal and redeployment plans from China were issued for the 1st Division and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on 1 April.

**10 April 1959:** Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, Jr. was named as one of the original seven Project Mercury astronauts selected for space training. The seven astronauts, all volunteers, were selected by NASA from an initial group of 110 leading military test pilots. Three years later, on 20 February 1962, Col Glenn would become the first American to orbit the Earth.

**12-13 April 1918:** Marines of the 4th Brigade suffered their first gas attack on the night and early morning hours of 12-13 April when the Germans bombarded the 74th Company, 6th Marines near Verdun with mustard gas. Nine Marine officers and 305 enlisted Marines were gassed and evacuated, and 30 Marines died from the effects of the gas shells which hit in the middle of the reserve area cantonments in which they were sleeping.

**15 April 1962:** Marine Corps operational involvement in the Vietnam War began on Palm Sunday when HMM-362 with its Sikorsky UH-34s arrived at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon. The task unit was called "Shufly" and its first operational employment involved lifting Vietnamese troops into battle.

**18 April 1983:** One Marine Security Guard was killed and seven were wounded when a large car bomb exploded just outside the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. Lance Corporal Robert McMaugh was standing guard at Post 1, just inside the front entrance when the bomb exploded outside the door. The explosion killed 61 people including 17 Americans. LCpl McMaugh was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on 26 April.

**21 April 1951:** Marine carrier-based airplanes made their first aerial contact with enemy planes over the Korean front lines. Captain Philip C. DeLong shot down two YAK fighters and 1st Lieutenant Harold D. Daigh destroyed one more and damaged another in the heavily defended Pyongyang-Chinnanpo area. Both pilots were with VMF-312 flying from the USS Bataan.

**27 April 1805:** First Lieutenant Presley N. O'Bannon, who with seven other Marines was part of a force of Greeks and Arabs led by American Consul William Eaton, raised the United States flag for the first time over a conquered fortress of the Old World at Derne, a stronghold of the Tripolitan pirates. Two Marines were killed and one wounded in the assault on the walled city.

**28 April 1993:** The last A-6E Intruder departed from Marine Corps service. Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 332 transferred the last Marine A-6E to St. Augustine, Florida, and prepared for the squadron's transition to the F/A-18D and eventual movement from Cherry Point to Beaufort, South Carolina.



**LANCE CORPORAL  
THOMAS P. NOONAN JR.**

**Born: NOVEMBER 18, 1943**

**Died: FEBRUARY 5, 1969**

**Hometown: BROOKLYN, NEW YORK**



The **President of the United States** takes pride in presenting the **MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously** to

**LANCE CORPORAL  
THOMAS P. NOONAN JR  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**for service as set forth in the following CITATION:**

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Fire Team Leader with Company G, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines, Third Marine Division, in operations against the enemy in Quang Tri Province in the Republic of Vietnam. On February 5, 1969, Company G was directed to move from a position which they had been holding southeast of the Vandergrift Combat Base in A Shau Valley to an alternate location. As the Marines commenced a slow and difficult descent down the side of the hill, made extremely slippery by the heavy rains, the leading element came under a heavy fire from a North Vietnamese Army unit occupying well-concealed positions in the rocky terrain. Four men were wounded, and repeated attempts to recover them failed because of the intense hostile fire. Lance Corporal Noonan moved from his position of relative security and, maneuvering down the treacherous slope to a location near the injured men, took cover behind some rocks. Shouting words of encouragement to the wounded men to restore their confidence, he dashed across the hazardous terrain and commenced dragging the most seriously wounded man away from the fire-swept area. Although wounded and knocked to the ground by an enemy round, Lance Corporal Noonan recovered rapidly and resumed dragging the man toward the marginal security of a rock. He was however, mortally wounded before he could reach his destination. His heroic actions inspired his fellow Marines to such aggressiveness that they initiated a spirited assault which forced the enemy soldiers to withdraw. Lance Corporal Noonan's indomitable courage inspiring initiative and selfless devotion to duty upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

/S/ RICHARD M. NIXON

The name Thomas P. Noonan, Jr. is inscribed on the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#) ("The Wall") on Panel 33W Line 067.

Noonan has a playground named in his honor in Sunnyside, Queens, NY.

The Thomas P. Noonan Jr. VA Community Clinic in Sunnyside, NY is named in his honor.