



Bunker News



**A MULTIPLE
AWARD WINNING
NEWSLETTER!**

**FEBRUARY
2024**

DESOTO DETACHMENT 588, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Website: MCL588.Org

OFFICERS

Commandant

Joe Filice
863-245-3540

Sr. Vice Commandant

Dave Matthews
941-323-1509

Jr. Vice Commandant

Dave Hildebrand
610-804-9299

Judge Advocate

Everett Whipple
678-634-7497

Pay Master - Ron Kosey

941-812-3426

Adjutant

Bob Fields
941-504-3693

Sergeant at Arms

John Olexa 305-322-8832

Chaplain

Ron Schneider
941-749-5799

Historian

John D'Alusio
941-209-8873

Jr. Past Commandant

Jim Grote 941-807-2490

Submit Bunker News input to

Bob Fields, Editor at
Jarhead@Brighthouse.com
or

RMFields0117@Gmail.com
On 941-504-3693

Happy Valentine's Day

By the time you read this, Kansas Day will likely have come and gone. I hope that everyone (*mostly just Bob*) has recovered from the festivities.

I'm happy to report that the Bunker is back in hot water (in a good way) thanks to Kevin Windisch. Few probably know this but Kevin is a Master Plumber. He comes to us from some place up north beginning with a 'P'. I want to say Peoria but I might be wrong. There is much more that goes into keeping the Bunker operating than changing out the occasional beer keg. We have a facility to maintain, a business to run and the requirements of a Marine Corps League Detachment. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to all of those who provide their skills, talent or sweat behind the scenes. It does my heart good to see everything working and the Bunker crowded with people having a good time.

Speaking of hearts, February 14th is sneaking up on us like a recon sniper team. This is when a young Marine's thoughts turn to flowers, candy and romance. Ok, maybe not exactly romance. For the older among us, our thoughts may wander more toward Chicago gangsters and north side garages. In any case, don't forget your significant other, less significant others or any ex's in Texas.

Last month, the Board decided to return to all cash beginning April 1st. This was based on input from the bartenders as well as many others. Credit cards are convenient but involve a number of costs and complications. Returning to cash-only will reduce our expenses, simplify the accounting side and make the sales transactions much easier for the bartenders. Although prices are rising, reducing our expenses will help us hold the line on our prices. We did explore getting an ATM, but that comes with its own set of expenses and problems. So far, the response has been very positive. This is also not an irreversible decision. If it doesn't work, we can reconsider, but the goal is doing what is best for both our members and volunteers.

Our next general meeting will be on Monday, February 19th at 1830. It is open to all Marine and Associate members. Please consider attending. Unfortunately, I will not be there this month because Central Command insists on my attendance for our anniversary, but you will be in good hands with our Senior Vice Commandant, Grill Master and Green Egg Guru Dave Matthews.

Enjoy our few weeks of cooler weather and have a safe month.

Semper FI

Joe





Marine Corps League

Desoto Detachment 588

Event Calendar for February 2024

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



02/01	12:00 PM	STILL RECOVERING FROM KANSAS DAY PARTY @THE BUNKER.
02/02	6:00 PM	KARAOKE @ THE BUNKER!
02/03	3:00 PM	BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER WITH HOT DAWGS!
02/04	3:00 PM	TRIVIA WARS WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER!
02/06	12:00 PM	SPAGHETTI, MEAT BALLS, SALAD, GARLIC BREAD \$5.00 TILL IT RUNS OUT!
02/07	12:00 PM	PISTOL RAFFLE TICKETS GO ON SALE @ THE BUNKER!
02/07	12:00 PM	BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER! AND HOT DAWGS TOO.
02/09	6:00 PM	KARAOKE @ THE BUNKER!
02/10	3:00 PM	BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER WITH HOT DAWGS!
02/11	3:00 PM	TRIVIA WARS WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER!
02/12	6:15 PM	E-BOARD MEETING @ THE BUNKER!
02/14	12:00 PM	BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER! AND HOT DAWGS TOO.
02/16	6:00 PM	KARAOKE @ THE BUNKER!
02/17	3:00 PM	BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER WITH HOT DAWGS!
02/18	3:00 PM	TRIVIA BATTLES WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER! CLASH OF THE MINDS!
02/19	6:30 PM	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING @ THE BUNKER!
02/20	12:00 PM	TACO TUESDAY (SOFT OR HARD) 2 FOR \$5.00 TILL IT RUNS OUT!
02/21	12:00 PM	BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER! AND HOT DAWGS TOO.
02/23	6:00 PM	KARAOKE @ THE BUNKER!
02/24	3:00 PM	BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER WITH HOT DAWGS!
02/25	3:00 PM	TRIVIA BATTLES WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER! FOR THE MONTHLY TITLE!
02/28	12:00 PM	BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER! AND HOT DAWGS TOO.



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



The Bunker for many years was successfully run as an all cash organization. With the increase in operating costs and the fact we pay an average of 3% on every credit/debit card used, along with a fee for all cash backs, it has been decided as of April 1, 2024 we will revert back to being a cash only business. At that time credit / debit cards will no longer be accepted. This may initially be inconvenient for some, however we would prefer to cut overhead than be forced to raise prices. I'm certain we all share the same goal which is to see our organization succeed.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING JANUARY 2024

There were no new member or associate member inductions at the January Meeting as this was the time to swear in the new Officers and Board Members for 2024. Past Commandant Gerry Vinopal did the honors of conducting the ceremony to swear the new Officers and Board Members to their respective positions.



Photo by:
Keri Campagna



GERRY VINOPAL PREPARING FOR THE MEETING.
PHOTO BY JARHEAD



PHOTO BY JARHEAD

Semper Fidelis



Photo by:
Maggie Richards



PHOTO BY JARHEAD

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TOYS FOR TOTS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER



PHOTO BY:
ANDREA MAUL

THERE WERE RAFFLE PRIZES AND A GREAT BUFFET DINNER. PROCEEDS FROM THE RAFFLES WENT TO SUPPORT THE DESOTO DETACHMENT.



Photo by:
Andrea Maul

**BLACK BAG EXPERTS,
ONE AND ALL.**



PHOTO BY:
ANDREA MAUL



PHOTO BY ANDREA MAUL



PHTO BY ANDREA MAUL



PHOTO BY
ANDREA MAUL



PHOTO BY:
ANDREA MAUL



PHOTO BY ANDREA MAUL

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PHOTO BY ANDREA MAUL



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Toys for Tots: On Friday, January 5th, Jim Kaskey and Toni Chase visited 6 nearby nursing homes to drop off some “toys” that seemed more suited to their age group. Here are a few photos of some of the veterans they met with.



Veteran Lucille Fox



Veteran Chuck Mowery



Veteran Bill Lewrenz



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Glenn Weik is going to be handling the gun raffles for Desoto Detachment 588. John D'Alusio has done a great job conducting the raffles for a long time, but his fingers are plum tuckered out from all the typing up the flyers for the raffles, so he is passing the trigger to Glenn.

Glenn's first raffle of this year will begin on 7 February 2024.

There will be only 100 tickets sold for \$10.00 each.

Tickets are on a "First Come – First Served" basis.

This raffle offering will be the
Smith & Wesson SD9 VE 9mm Semi-Automatic pistol.



Caliber	9MM
Capacity	10
Frame Size	COMPACT
Barrel Length	4
Safety	NONE
State Compliance	CO, CT, DE, HI, IL, MD, NJ, NY, OR, RI, VT, WA
Weight	23.2 oz
Color Finish	TWO TONE
Width	1.29 in
Length	7.2 in
Height	5.5 in

This is an easy conceal-carry piece, and with a capacity of ten rounds it is a very desirable pistol.

So be at the Bunker on Wednesday, February 7th, the tickets will go on sale at noon that day.

Remember, only 100 tickets will be available @ \$10.00 each. If all the tickets are sold on time, the drawing will be held at the February General Membership Meeting.

Buy a ticket, possibly win this pistol. Proceeds go to Desoto Detachment 588.



MEMBERSHIP NOTICE:

Section 7050. Life Members. Effective 1 September 2021 the Life Membership fee shall be as established by the National Board of Trustees and shall be posted on the National Website.

The National Board of Trustees has the fiduciary responsibility for the operation and budget requirements of the Marine Corps League. The last time fees were adjusted was 19 years ago. The National Board of Trustees voted and approved the following:

Effective 1 July 2023, the Life Membership Fees will increase as per the following chart:

\$1000.00 – 35 years of age and lower
\$ 800.00 – 36-50 years of age
\$ 600.00 – 51-64 years of age
\$ 400.00 – 65-84 years of age
\$ 100.00 – 85 years of age and higher

The above Fees are only available if the member's annual dues have been paid and the member is in good standing.

ATTENTION MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

If you are not a life member or life associate member, then your annual membership dues were due no later than the General Membership Meeting, which was on August 21st at 1830. The dues amount is \$35.00.

Please remember that if your dues are not paid up, you will not be able to use the Bunker. So stop by the Bunker ASAP and pay your dues for the upcoming year. If you can't stop in, please mail your check to the Bunker with "Dues" in the memo line. The address is at the bottom of every page of this newsletter.

Semper Fi!



VETERANS SERVICES

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**

DD 214s

Marines who have been discharged, separated, or retired on or before 31 December 1998:

National Personnel Records Center

1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO

63138

(314) 801-0800; Fax: (314) 801-9195

<https://nrd.gov/resource/detail/8432677/>

[The+U.S.+National+Archives+%26+Records+Administration;](https://www.archives.gov/st-louis)

www.archives.gov/st-louis

Marines discharged/retired/separated on or after 1 January 1999:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMRP)-10

2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030

(800) 268-3710; smb.manpower.mmrp-10@usmc.mil

Letter to the editor:

First and foremost, I would like to congratulate our new executive board and wish them the best of luck in 2024.

Since November when we learned who the new officers would be, the consensus from our members has been extremely positive, which makes the following so distressing. With the exception of the nine officers installed, the presiding officer and the three bartenders in attendance, I would like to thank the nine people who showed their appreciation by attending. I am aware illness kept three people from attending as well as a special anniversary for two more. These five members attend all meetings and I'm certain would have been on hand. It is more than likely there were others who had extenuating circumstances for not attending as well. With that said, I must say this poor showing was and is very disturbing and shows a lack of respect. For those I may have offended, offering my apologies would be as thin as the attendance.

Joe Intoppa

Come to the bunker and support your Marine Corps League Detachment. If you haven't noticed, the Bunker has been busier lately. Many of our members who haven't been in for quite awhile are coming back.

BUNKER MEALS

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6TH

SPAGHETTI MEAT BALLS, SALAD, GARLIC BREAD: \$5.00

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 20TH

TACO TUESDAY SOFT OR HARD: 2 FOR \$5.00

TUESDAY MARCH 5TH

GOLUMPKI (STUFFED CABBAGE) W/HARD ROLLS: \$6.00

TUESDAY MARCH 19TH

CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS W/MASHED POTATOES: \$6.00

Prepared by Chef Jim Kaskey.

You can't get a better deal anywhere.

Served until it runs out.

COLD WAR RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Attn: AHRC-PDP-A, Dept. 480

1600 Spearhead Division Ave.

Fort Knox, KY 40122-5408

Fax: (888) 276-9472 or (502) 613-9510

<https://www.hrc.army.mil>

Search "Cold War Certificate"



**DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

SAVE THE DATE

**June 6--9
2024
DOF MCL
CONVENTION**



Hilton Melbourne Rialto

**Mark your calendars,
make your plans to attend the
Department of Florida MCL
2024 Convention**

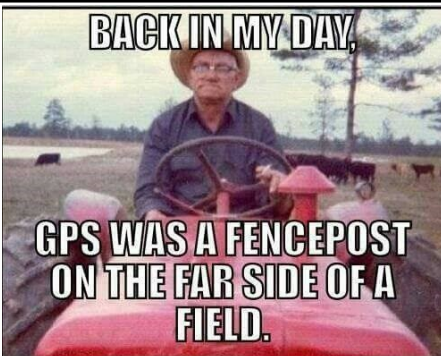
**Convention Packet scheduled to
be distributed
FEBRUARY 2024**



"You're making the wrong assumption that a Marine by himself is outnumbered."

~ General Peter Pace

Several Marine Corps Officers who are members of the Military Officers Association Sarasota visited the Bunker for Burger Day. Several made comments that they didn't realize there was a Marine Corps focused establishment in the area. That just means we all need to beat the drum a bit louder and make Marines we meet in the area aware of 588. We all run into people in the grocery store wearing Marine Corps Apparel, or parking a car with a USMC sticker on it. Take a moment, introduce yourself and invite them to check out our detachment.



Tree Lakes Mobile Home Park in Palmetto is holding a Park-Wide sale **February 24th from 8 AM to 1 PM**. Tree Lakes is located at 2215 73rd Street East in Palmetto. Tree Lakes Mobile Home Park was a big supporter of our Toys for Tots Campaign this year. There will be just a little bit of everything for sale there.

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Desoto Detachment Members participated in a Birthday Celebration for a WWII Army Veteran who turned 100 years old. The celebration was at the Bradenton Mission BBQ. The 100 year old was not the oldest veteran present, there was also a veteran who was 105 years old. Our members left to right: Joe Intoppa, Jimmy Grote, Glenn Weik, Joe Filice and Walt Ridgeway. Present but not in the photo were: John D'Alusio, Dave Hildebrand, and Bob Fields. If you have never been to Mission BBQ, you should go just before noon, they stop all activity in the restaurant promptly at noon so that all staff and patrons can participate in the Pledge of Allegiance. They have frequently supported the Bunker with food donations.



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Marines and The Battle of Seattle, 1856

By John D'Alusio – Historian, DeSoto Detachment 588

The Battle of Seattle was a 26 January, 1856 attack by Native Americans upon Seattle, a settlement in what was then known as the Washington Territory.

The clash of arms was an unqualified victory for the US military. Backed by shipborne artillery fire and supported by Marines from the United States Navy sloop-of-war Decatur, the battle lasted one day. Two settlers died. Native American casualties were believed to be 28 dead and 80 wounded. But why did the clash take place?

In the months leading up to the unrest, several local settlers were murdered, it was assumed by local Indians. Weeks later, with a large number of Indians congregating in the area of Seattle and rumor that there would be a large attack, the USS Decatur, with its' attachment of Marines, was dispatched to the area. The Decatur was a Sloop-of-War built in 1838-1839, assigned to the Pacific Squadron since 1854. She weighed 566 tons, had a length of 117' with a beam of 32', draft of 15'8" and a maximum speed of 10 knots in stiff wind. Her overall crew complement numbered approximately 150. Her armament consisted of 16 cannon: fourteen 32-pounders, and two 12-pounders. The ship was commanded by Guert Gansevoort.

Leading up to the engagement, the Marines, sailors and officers of the Decatur put a great deal of energy into preparing for the battle. Defensive revetments were constructed and the divisions of sailors and Marines, all skilled in battle, occupied shore posts at night, when it was anticipated the Indians would attack, and returned to the ship during the day for meals and sleep.

The settlement, approximately three-quarters of a mile wide, was defended by 119 men of the Navy and Marines: ninety-six sailors, eighteen marines (the Captain of the Decatur's personal guard), and five officers, leaving a small contingent of about 20 to guard the ship and man several of the cannon. The land defense force was augmented by about two dozen of the settlers acting as militia.

The night of 25 January was heavily overcast and misty. While uncomfortable for the crew and Marines on watch, the weather was calm and advantageous for detecting the furtive approach of the enemy.

At 2000, two Indians closely wrapped in their blankets, sauntered slowly by a main defensive position, apparently from the friendly Indian encampment in town. When a few paces away they were challenged by a militia member named T.S. Phelps to give their names and business. They replied, "We were at Lake Tillicum, and were [out] to visit friends..." They were ordered to keep within bounds, otherwise they were liable to be shot.

Within an hour an imitation of an owl's hooting was heard directly in front of the Marines and sailors, which immediately afterwards received responsive hoots from both right and left making known the enemy's proximity. A supposedly loyal Indian scout was sent beyond the settlement into the wilderness to collect information. Returning approximately two hours later, he reported that there were no warrior Indians present in the woods and that an attack that night was impossible.

Headquarters had been established at a home in the settlement, and while there, the Indian scout earlier sent into the woods displayed a marked change from his usual manner, giving an impression to one

observer that he was now beyond being trusted. Later, when the Indian scout went out to his own encampment he was followed. He set out quickly toward his camp, muttering and gesticulating wildly, and, when a dozen paces or more away, suddenly stopped, and, stamping violently on the ground, turned and swiftly vanished in the direction taken by the two Indians three hours before. Pondering over these matters, the night quietly passed away, and while the vigilant sentinels were mindful of the foe to their front, they little dreamed of the treachery that was being enacted in their rear.

At midnight, beginning 26 January, Indian leaders, along with the formerly loyal scout met to decide upon a plan of battle. The council decided upon an indiscriminate slaughter of all the people found in Seattle, including those belonging to the ship. They believed that if they struck suddenly in the rear of the settlement with great force, they would win an overwhelming victory against the defenders. The original plan was to begin the attack at 0200. But it was argued that was when they would be expected by the defenders. Better to hit them at mid-morning when the bulk of the sailors and Marines were back on board the ship for meals and sleep.

At 0700, the ship's company and Marines were in the process of moving back on board the Decatur to have their morning meal when they were suddenly summoned on deck and ordered to take their posts back at the settlement as quickly as possible.

"They are undoubtedly here at last," an officer told the Captain, "but probably will not show themselves till later." It turns out that an Indian, who was friends with a Dr. Williamson in the settlement, evaded the warriors and warned the good doctor that an attack was about to commence. He immediately related that to the Lieutenant who was in charge of a division of sailors who remained on shore.

The Captain being forewarned, ordered the men back to their posts on the double, but told them to try and grab some sleep in order to be rested and ready when the Indians appeared.

The Captain then stated, "First, however, I will go to the south end and have the howitzer lodge a shell in Tom Pepper's house on the outskirts to see if they are there." At the same time there was a crash of muskets from the entire rear of the town, while a tempest of bullets swept through the village in unison with the deafening yells of an attacking force of Indians.

Leaving the third division of sailors (numbering 20 men) and the 18 Marines to hold the Indians in check, attentions were turned to the south, where large numbers were engaged, and neither party could approach the other without incurring certain casualties.

The roaring of an occasional gun from the ship, belching forth its shrieking shell, and its explosion in the woods, the sharp report of the howitzer, the incessant rattle of small-arms, and an uninterrupted whistling of bullets, mingled with the furious yells of the Indians, was a scene long remembered by those who were there.

The firing had reached a crescendo on the part of the Indians assembled on the hillsides and in the valley near a swamp. Desperate by blunders committed earlier, such as beginning the assault prematurely, the Indians now seemed bent upon remedying their errors by raining bullets upon the band of sailors and Marines holding them at bay.

1500 arrived, and with no sleep or food for almost a whole day, came exhaustion for the defenders. But the guns of the USS Decatur continued to fire solid shot, shells (which exploded after impact), grape

shot, and canister shot into the trees sheltering the attackers. This caused a great deal of casualties in the ranks of the attacking Indians.

Marine sharpshooter fire along with the Decatur's guns kept the Indians at a distance. Sporadic exchanges of fire continued until 1145, when the Indians apparently paused to eat. The settlers took advantage of the lull to evacuate over 50 women and children to the Decatur and another ship. When settlers attempted to retrieve arms and valuables from their abandoned homes, the Indians resumed firing. The engagement continued until 2200, when the last rifle was fired. The Battle of Seattle was over. The Indians had been defeated and turned back.

The number of Indians assembled before Seattle is not known but it is estimated that there were 200 to 500 warriors who participated in the attack. After the battle concluded, the settlers suffered no more attacks in Seattle. The ship's company of the Decatur prevented the settlers of Seattle from being overrun and slaughtered by the Indians. The sharpshooting Marines proved to be the backbone of the defense.



Artist's rendition of the USS Decatur pounding through the Straits of Magellan in December 1854



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.
- **FINALLY, THE BUNKER IS OPEN TILL 2100 ON FRIDAY NIGHTS AGAIN!**

Support your Detachment.

From the Publisher & Editor-in-Chief



COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

A wave of 4thMarDiv Marines hit the beach on D-day at Iwo Jima as another boatload of battle-tested leathernecks disembark an invasion craft.

Remembering Iwo Jima

This month marks the 79th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. This 36-day struggle in 1945 remains one of the Corps' "touchstone battles." According to the National WWII Museum, in New Orleans, La., approximately 70,000 U.S. Marines and 18,000 Japanese soldiers took part in the battle. In the days of concentrated fighting on the small island, nearly 7,000 U.S. Marines were killed. Another 20,000 were wounded. Marines captured 216 Japanese soldiers; the rest were killed in action. The legacy of Iwo Jima stays with us to this day in sculpture, photographs, film and print. We mark this month's anniversary with three new articles: "Bloodbath at the Blockhouse: Marines Meet Massive Resistance on Iwo's Yellow Beach 2," by Steven McCloud, "Trapped: Marine Tankers come to the Rescue on Iwo Jima" by Colonel Robert D. Heintz Jr. Award-winning author Jonathan Bernstein, and "Crafting Fiction out of Real-Life War Tales" by Ray Elliott—a look at how firsthand anecdotes can be used to write historical fiction.

We recognize another "combat anniversary" this month with *Leatherneck* staff writer and Heintz award winner Kyle Watts' story "Enemy in the Wire: The Fight for Survival

on LZ Russell." Also known as Firebase Russell, this fire support base and landing zone were first established by Marines in 1968 northwest of "The Rockpile" in Quảng Trị Province, Vietnam. The official history notes that on Feb. 25, 1969, People's Army of Vietnam sappers attacked Russell, killing 27 Marines from the 2nd Bn, 4th Marines and 3rd Bn, 12th Marines plus two corpsmen. The Marines of 2/4 and 3/12 defended tenaciously, and the Marines would hold the firebase and LZ for seven months until ordered to dismantle it and evacuate in September 1969.

A final highlight this month is a feature on the Young Marines youth program. Author Abra Hogarth details the mission of the decades-old organization and presents the stories of several Young Marines who went on to join the Corps and continue to use the leadership lessons learned in the program to contribute to our service and the nation.

Semper Fidelis.

Colonel Christopher Woodbridge,
USMC (Ret)

Reprinted from the February 2024 issue of
Leatherneck Magazine.

LEATHERNECK
MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES

MARINE CORPS
Gazette

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.

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.

**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.



Common Heart Attack Warning Signs



National Weather Service News

Est. Feb 1870

Thursday, February 5, 2015

no. 150205

February 5th is National Weatherperson's Day

National Weatherperson's Day, commemorates the birth of John Jeffries in 1744.



Jeffries, one of America's first weather observers, began taking daily weather observations in Boston in 1774 and he took the first balloon observation in 1784.

This is a day to recognize the men and women who collectively provide Americans with the best weather, water, and climate forecasts and warning services of any nation. This includes our diverse group of partners. This includes our dedicated Cooperative Observers...commercial

weather companies and members of the media.

The primary mission of the NWS is to provide the American public with the best possible warning service to save lives.

Recent severe weather statistics show that we continue to improve our capability to warn the public of impending hazardous weather.

Today we say "thank you" to all our dedicated volunteers and valued partners.

Borderland Weather Forecast

El Paso	65
Las Cruces	63
Deming	65
Lordsburg	67
T or C	63
Alamo	62
Silver City	65
Cloudcroft	50



Marine Corps Rule # 963

Weapons will be totally cleaned and oiled prior to turning them in at the armory.

(or you put a twenty dollar bill in the barrel and hand it in dirty)

The Desoto Detachment Honor Guard practice has been moved to the last WEDNESDAY of each month at 1730.

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.

Reunions

• **East Coast Drill Instructors Association**, April 11-14, MCRD Parris Island, S.C. Contact SgtMaj Kenneth D. Miller, USMC (Ret), (828) 499-0224, usmcpidi@charter.net.

• **Embassy Guard Association**, May 16-19, San Antonio, Texas. Contact Bob Lighty, (717) 433-1105, bob.lighty@embassymarine.org.

• **Marine Corps Weather Service**, June 16-21, Billings, Mont. Contact Kathy Donham, (252) 342-8459, kathy.donham@hotmail.com, or Dave Englert, (812) 630-2099, englertd@psci.net.

• **Mike Co 3/7 (1965-1970)**, July 31-Aug. 4, Minneapolis, Minn. Contact David Ray, (612) 860-8932, davidrayray49@gmail.com.

• **1st Bn, 5th Marines, 1985-1992**, Sept. 5-8, Macomb, Ill. Contact Scott Hainline, (309) 351-2050, ptimfi@yahoo.com.

• **USMC A-4 Skyhawkers**, Nov. 11-13, Pensacola Beach, Fla. All drivers, maintainers and aficionados welcome. Contact Mark Williams, (702) 778-5010, rogerwilcol4@gmail.com.



The "Whips" platoon being inspected before they boarded Noah's Ark for Sea Duty.



How to avoid shark attacks:

- Never Leave Kansas
- Roll in manure before diving. Sharks hate anything breaded
- Always dive with a buddy. On sharks approach, point to buddy
- Dive with a briefcase. Shark may mistake you for an attorney and leave you alone out of professional courtesy

Members and Associate Members, male or female, consider joining our Honor Guard.

We can teach you everything you need to know.

Be decisive.

Right or wrong, make a decision.

The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision.

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

**Members and Associate Members, male or female, consider
joining our Honor Guard.**

We can teach you everything you need to know.

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.*



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. 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, 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

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 Bonnie Grote,
Rex Williams, Paul Turner,
and Frank Hartman 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 Schneider
941-749-5799**



Military Stories

We are collecting stories by and about military personnel.

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

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.

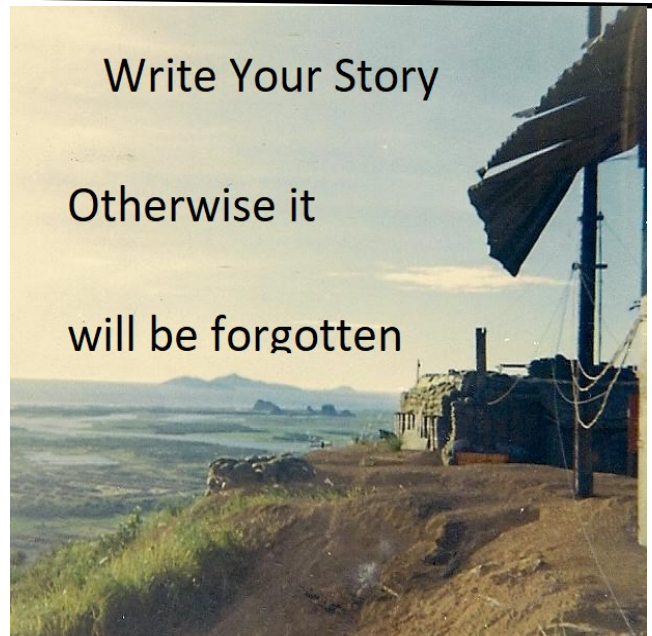
Pictures are worth a thousand words. You can write the story for a relative, friend, or ancestor. You can add to your story. We look forward to publishing your story on the blog.

Thank you for your stories.

Write Your Story

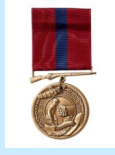
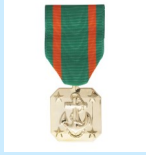
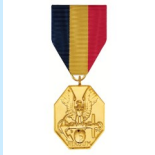
Otherwise it

will be forgotten



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. The website will host
announcements, photos, archived newsletters, etc. So go right
now and put MCL588.Org into your browser.

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

BUNKER MEALS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

SPAGHETTI, MEAT BALLS, SALAD, GARLIC BREAD \$5.00

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

TACO THURSDAY, SOFT OR HARD: 2 FOR \$5.00

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION

**715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134
 (866) 622-1775, ext. 100, Fax: (703) 640-0162
mca@mca-marines.org**

- **Leatherneck Magazine**
 (888) 237-7683; Fax: (703) 640-0823
leatherneck@mca-marines.org
- **Marine Corps Gazette**
 (800) 336-0291, ext. 144; Fax: (703) 630-9147
gazette@mca-marines.org





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 JOE INTOPPA 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 RMFields0117@gmail.com by the 25th of the month.
- ⇒ The Bunker is now open on Sundays 1100-1800 & Friday's until 2100.
- ⇒ HONOR GUARD PRACTICE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1700. 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 FEBRUARY

1 February 1967: Operation Prairie II was begun in Quang Tri province by elements of the 3d Marine Division. During the 46-day search-and-destroy operation which terminated 18 March, 93 Marines and 693 of the enemy were killed.

2 February 1944: The 4th Marine Division, as part of the first assault on islands controlled by the Japanese before the start of World War II, captured Namur and eight other islands in the Kwajalein Atoll.

6 February 1968: Two reduced Marine battalions, the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines with two companies, and 2d Battalion, 5th Marines with three, recaptured Hue's hospital, jail, and provincial headquarters. It would take three more weeks of intense house to house fighting, and nearly a thousand Marines killed and wounded, before the imperial city was secured.

11 February 1922: BGen John H. Russell was appointed U.S. High Commissioner and personal representative of the President to the government of Haiti. This nine-year assignment placed this future Commandant in supreme command of both the occupying American force and the Haitian Gendarmerie.

15 February 1998: One hundred years ago this date, 28 Marines and 232 seamen lost their lives when the battleship MAINE was mysteriously sunk by an explosion in the harbor of Havana, Cuba. Though no definitive evidence linked the Spanish with the sinking, the cry went up, "Remember the Maine!", and by late April the U.S. and Spain were at war.

17 February 1967: The first full day of Operation DECKHOUSE VI, which lasted until 3 March, was conducted near Quang Ngai city. The Special Landing Force (BLT Y4 and HMM-363) accounted for 280 enemy killed.

23 February 1945: Four days after the initial landings on Iwo Jima, 1stLt Harold G. Schrier led 40 men from Company E, 2d Battalion, 28th Marines, up Mt. Suribachi to secure the crest and raise the small American flag that battalion commander LtCol Chandler Johnson had given Schrier. Within an hour, the patrol reached the rim of the crater. After a short fire-fight with Japanese defenders emerging from several caves, the small American flag was attached to an iron pipe and raised over the island.

24 February 1991: The I Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces began a ground assault on Iraqi defenses in the final chapter of Operation Desert Storm. The 1st and 2d Marine Divisions stormed into the teeth of Iraqi defenses while heavily armored allied forces attacked the Iraqi defenses in Iraq from behind. In 100 hours, U.S. and allied forces defeated the Iraqi Army.

28 February 1991: Operation Desert Storm ended when the cease- fire declared by President George Bush went into effect. I Marine Expeditionary Force has a strength of more than 92,000 making Operation Desert Storm the largest Marine Corps operation in history .A total of 24 Marines were killed in action during the Gulf War.



**LANCE CORPORAL
RICHARD A. ANDERSON**

Born: APRIL 18, 1948

Died: AUGUST 24, 1969

Hometown: HOUSTON, TEXAS



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

**LANCE CORPORAL
RICHARD A. ANDERSON
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an Assistant Fire Team Leader with Company E, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, in connection with combat operations against an armed enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. While conducting a patrol during the early morning hours of 24 August 1969, Lance Corporal Anderson's reconnaissance team came under a heavy volume of automatic weapons and machine gun fire from a numerically superior and well-concealed enemy force. Although painfully wounded in both legs and knocked to the ground during the initial moments of the fierce fire fight, Lance Corporal Anderson assumed a prone position and continued to deliver intense suppressive fire in an attempt to repulse the attackers. Moments later he was wounded a second time by an enemy soldier who had approached to within eight feet of the team's position. Undaunted, he continued to pour a relentless stream of fire at the assaulting unit, even while a companion was treating his legs wounds. Observing an enemy hand grenade land between himself and the other Marine, Lance Corporal Anderson immediately rolled over and covered the lethal weapon with his body, absorbing the full effects of the detonation. By his indomitable courage, inspiring initiative, and selfless devotion to duty, Lance Corporal Anderson was instrumental in saving several Marines from serious injury or possible death. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the Department of the Navy. He gallantly gave his life in the service of his country.

/S/ Richard M. Nixon

