



***DEVIL DAWG MONTHLY***  
*One Marine Way, P.O. Box 1831, Riverview, FL 33568*  
**Detachment 1226**

Volume 35

February 2012

**League Officers:**

**Commandant:** *Dennis Antle*  
**Sr. Vice Commandant:** Debra Steele  
**Jr. Vice Commandant:** Bernie Kotrady  
**Adjutant:** Jack Skelding.  
**Paymaster:** Houston Tucker  
**Judge Advocate:** Walt Raysick  
**Chaplain:** Dave Blizzard  
**Sergeant-at-Arms:** George Mc Master  
**Past Commandant:** Jack Skelding  
**Web Sergeant:** Bernie Kotrady  
**Historian:** Stan Horman  
**Newsletter Editor:** Debra Steele

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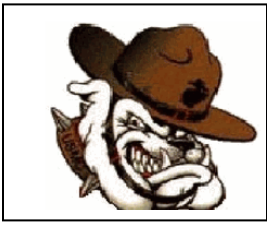
League Auxiliary

**President:** Pat Skelding  
**Sr. Vice:** Cheryl Bain  
**Jr. Vice:** Shanda Antle  
**Judge Advocate:** Kamela Ryan  
**Chaplain:** Barb Wolons  
**Guard:** Mary Ann Raysick

**Marine Corps League Detachment 1226**

One Marine Way P.O.Box 1831  
Riverview, Florida 33568

Mailing Label goes Here



# DEVIL DOG MONTHLY

## COMMANDANT'S CORNER:

Marines, I have a favor to ask of you. We would like to make our Detachment a strong unified band of brothers/sisters. I know that we will not be able to please everyone all of the time but I want us to be able to do what we can. The Officers in which you elected are here to serve you; but we are just members like yourselves. I would like feedback as to your feelings on how we can make this happen (example more picnics or gatherings (non business), change day of meeting, change hours, what you like or dislike about the Detachment). Any feedback whether good or bad will help. If you would like your comments to stay anonymous to the group, you can write it on a paper and place it in our mail box at the Legion or you can send an email to my personal email and I will keep your identity private but will share your feedback with the group in an effort to help our Detachment grow. It is hard to get excited about asking people to join when you are not happy yourselves. Let's get excited again so we will be proud to say who we are and what we do. Thank you in advance for your help in assisting YOUR DETACHMENT become the best.

Debra Steele  
Sr. Vice Commandant.

## AUXILIARY PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

By the time you get this Jack & I will have traveled to Tysons Corner, VA for the Mid Winter Staff meeting. At the end of February we have the SE Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC. If you ever get a chance to attend one make sure you do. They are very informative and we always have a great time.

March will be 1<sup>st</sup> nominations for officers for 2012-2013 so Ladies think of the office that you would like to run for. 2<sup>nd</sup> nomination will be held in April and election will be held. It may be a lot of work but it is very rewarding holding an office.

We are starting up sewing nights now that the holidays are over. If you have any ideas please let us

know. If you can help it will be appreciated. Our first one this year is February 24<sup>th</sup>. As you know the League is hosting the 2012 Fall Department Conference in Riverview. We want the League to know that the Auxiliary is there to help them in any way we can. This will be a great opportunity for members from both the League and Auxiliary to attend a Conference right in their area. For some of you it will be your first time attending. We want to do everything we can to make this a successful Conference.

We are having trouble finding workers for the Flea Market on Sundays. Please think about working one of the Sundays. Please let Jack Skelding know if you can step up for this. We are also looking for things to sell. You can drop off these items on any Sunday or give me a call and I will pick it up.

Don't forget that our meeting times have changed to 7:00 pm. Please note this on your calendar. Please check the calendar in the newsletter for upcoming events. As usual if you have any questions please call me at 813-672-1778.

Semper Fi  
*Pat Skelding*

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER:

Our great members such as you guys are the ones who help us achieve our membership goals. Please go forth and seek new members.

Past due:

Amos, Gregory - Jan 2011  
Antle, Danny - Nov 2011  
Antle, Jennifer - Nov 2011  
Bain, Jacob - Jan 2011  
Becker, Dale - Jan 2012  
Bennett, Kristine - Feb 2011  
Bro, Keith - Jan 2012  
Campbell, Burtis - Jan 2012  
Correll, Carl - Oct 2011  
Freeman, James Sr. - Dec 2011  
Hall, Jeffery - Dec 2011  
Larrow, Thomas - Oct 2011

Martin, David - Sep 2010  
 Miller, Everette G – Jan 2011  
 Regretta, Leonard Jr – Jan 2011  
 Scheller, Bruce - Dec 2011  
 Sherman, Michael - Jan 2012  
 Toledo, William – Dec 2011  
 Young, Steven – Feb 2011

**If anyone keeps in contact with the above past due members, please call them and ask them to renew their membership and if they do not want to renew their membership, please ask them why so that we can determine the reason for non-renewal of memberships.**

Those from 2010 will fall off of the next Newsletter and we will only reflect those that are within the year.

#### **LIFE MEMBERSHIP BY AGE CATEGORY**

61 AND OVER \$150.00  
 51 TO 60 \$300.00  
 36 TO 50 \$400.00

Welcome New Members: none

Should you have any questions regarding the membership please contact Houston Tucker through our Detachment email [mclriverview@yahoo.com](mailto:mclriverview@yahoo.com).

#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

There are plenty of activities to get involved in. Please do not feel that you have to be in all of them but please try to participate when you can. We want to take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do.



WE ARE IN NEED of donations to keep this going. We also need volunteers to help with this each Sunday. You can drop off any items during the sales on Sunday. Contact Jack or Dennis for further details.



Come out and join us on the last Saturday of every month from 1000 to 1400 hours. We look forward to your support whether it is washing cars with us or just bringing your car for a wash. Let's get washing!!!!!!



\*\*Rose Fund: For information regarding the Rose Fund please contact Willie Little. We have been very successful with our Rose Fund Events. Thank you to all who have participated.



\*\*Honor Guard: If you are interested in participating in the Honor Guard please contact Walt Raysick. Dates for upcoming events are located in the Minutes section of this Newsletter and/or the monthly calendar.



\*\*Contact Willie Little for visits to the VA Hospital to show our support for our fellow soldiers.



\*\* Hot Dogs: Our new venture is selling Hot Dogs on Bingo Night at the Legion. Please come and volunteer to help or purchase some delicious hotdogs. This has proven to be a successful money maker for the Detachment. If you do not have time to help cook and serve, please at least stop by to purchase some food and chat with friends.



We need your ideas. If there is other information you would like to see posted or certain topics you would like us to discuss, please let me know. **Please email your ideas to [mclriverview@yahoo.com](mailto:mclriverview@yahoo.com)**

### Advertising:

*What a great way to advertise your product and/or services to our members!! Need attendees for a local event or cause? Please your information today.*

The Riverview Detachment of the Marine Corps League has decided to add the ability for advertisements and announcements in the Newsletter. This monthly Newsletter is distributed to approximately 100 members in our community and surrounding areas.

Size:	Monthly Cost:	Yearly Cost:
Business Card	\$5	\$50
Quarter Page	\$8	\$80
Half Page	\$10	\$100
Full Page	\$15	\$150

\*Yearly is discounted two months.

If you are interested in placing an ad and/or event or you would like more information regarding same, please do not hesitate to contact Debra Steele via email ([Debra.Steele.0602@gmail.com](mailto:Debra.Steele.0602@gmail.com)).

Advertisers: Please remember those who support us and give them our support as well!!!



**HALEY  
HOUSE FUND, Inc.**

**Dave Braun**  
Finance / Administration  
Charter Board Member

Mobile: (813) 310-8513      Post Office Box 701  
Email: [Prowler143@aol.com](mailto:Prowler143@aol.com)      Brandon, FL 33509-0701  
[davebraun@haleyhousefund.org](mailto:davebraun@haleyhousefund.org) • [www.haleyhousefund.org](http://www.haleyhousefund.org)

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*Support our Troops & Families*

**Jack Skelding**  
**District 7 Vice Commandant**  
**Department of Florida**  
**Ph 813-672-1778 Cell 813-830-1138**  
**E:mail [jkskelding@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jkskelding@tampabay.rr.com)**



As you are aware this organization works hard to get Marines overseas care packages and letters. Please visit their website below for more information. We salute you Dianne.

[www.supportourmarinesinc.org](http://www.supportourmarinesinc.org)



### YOUNG MARINES OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

We are still working on the finalization for a place to hold the meetings for the Young Marines. We are continually working with East Bay and we are now reaching out to Riverview. Ed Zaleski will be the Commanding Officer. Once we have our meeting place secure we will turn in our final packet.

Debra Steele  
Sr. Vice Commandant



## MILITARY NEWS

### *Group takes veterans to revisit Iwo Jima*

By Pat Kinney - Waterloo/Cedar Falls (Iowa) Courier  
via AP Posted : Sunday Feb 19, 2012 15:18:03 EST

WATERLOO, Iowa — David Greene is planning a spring vacation to a Pacific island.

The last time he was there, 67 years ago this month, people were shooting at him. Greene, a Marine Corps veteran of the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II, has been invited by a Denver foundation to return next month to that volcanic island where 7,000 of his comrades and more than 20,000 Japanese died between Feb. 19 and March 26, 1945.

A 19-year-old radio operator during the battle, he is one of 10 veterans making the trip, courtesy of the Greatest Generations Foundation, an organization sponsoring veteran trips to World War II battlefields. Greene and his fellow veterans will accompany military history students from Ohio State University, and also stop at Guam, Saipan and Tinian, the locations of other World War II Pacific battles.

“When I found out I was invited to go, and they said there was 10 college students going along, I said ‘This is great. I’d just as soon talk to these kids,’” Greene said.

Greene retired from the construction industry in Waterloo and has been to Japan several times. In 2008 he returned a Japanese imperial battle flag of one of his fallen former foes to that soldier’s family. Last fall, he organized a reunion of his surviving Marine platoon mates and local Iwo Jima survivors. But he has never been back to Iwo Jima, site of one of the war’s bloodiest battles. For Greene, going with young people is just as important as if he were making the trip alone or with other veterans.

“It’s not as much emotional, but the fact that I can walk along that island with somebody that’s 20 years old that’s interested in what went on back then, and then help them understand what we went through — to me, that’s so important,” Greene said.

Young people now have a greater curiosity and appreciation for past conflicts because of present ones, Greene said. “I’ve given a couple of talks at West High School. With our nation so involved in Iraq and Afghanistan, these kids are in much closer touch with what the military is, and that people do die, and things like that.”

“Our unit went ashore with 3,111 men. Thirty-six days later, we left with 1,411. Over half of them were gone,” killed or wounded, Greene said. The Marines were subjected to withering artillery fire as they started to move off the beach. He was in reserve but moved up to the front as others Marines were killed or wounded.

“You relied on your buddy. You kept him alive and he kept you alive,” Greene said. “I had dirt flying on me and stuff; I was buried one time by a shell near me.” He’s looking forward to taking his college-age traveling companions atop Mount Suribachi, where five Marines and one U.S. Navy corpsman hoisted a U.S. flag in the most iconic photo of the war, and to walking along the beach.

He spent most of that time on the beach on his belly.

### *Leaders: Talk of budget cuts distracting troops*

By [Karen Jowers](#) - Staff writer

Posted : Friday Feb 17, 2012 16:04:08 EST

Looming budget cuts are a big distraction to troops in the field, senior enlisted advisors told lawmakers in a hearing this week.

“We have young airmen that are focused on their retirement,” said Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Roy. “I don’t need young airmen focused on retirement.”

“I need young airmen to focus on upgrade training and young airmen to focus on mission. I don’t need them to be worried about their retirement and compensation,” Roy said, testifying before the House Appropriations subcommittee on military construction, veterans affairs and related agencies.

Roy said it’s the No. 1 issue he’s heard from airmen, and from a lot of families. “It is a distraction.”

The main concern among soldiers is uncertainty about whether they will be paid when the government can’t come to an agreement on the budget, Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond Chandler said, especially since it came down to the wire last year.

“The last thing any of us wants is for soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines concerned about whether or not they going to get paid,” Chandler said. “That’s just something we don’t need to have these young men and women being stressed out about.”

With the drawdown, he said, “there are tremendous concerns about the impact of leaving the service in this time with the state of the economy,” he said. A major priority of his and other Army officials is to refine the Transition Assistance Program to make sure soldiers have a “dignified transition” out of the service and are well prepared for the civilian job market, he said.

Sailors are concerned about retirement as well as the future of the force, said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick West. The Navy has had to make some tough decisions regarding sailors’ careers, he said.

As for discussion of budget cuts of late, “Some folks will tell you that personnel don’t join the Navy for retirement. Maybe they didn’t initially, but once they get in and see the contributions they make to the nation, they start thinking about some of that,” West told lawmakers.

“So anything you can do to help out in that arena would help us out.”

## News from the League

### *Rules Liberalized for Veterans with Undiagnosed Illnesses*

#### Application Window Extended for Five Years

WASHINGTON – Veterans of the Persian Gulf War with undiagnosed illnesses have an additional five years to qualify for benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“Not all the wounds of war are fully understood,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “When there is uncertainty about the connection between a medical problem and military service, Veterans are entitled to the benefit of the doubt.”

A recent change in VA regulations affects Veterans of the conflict in Southwest Asia. Many have attributed a range of undiagnosed or poorly understood medical problems to their military services. Chemical weapons, environmental hazards and vaccinations are among the possible causes.

At issue is the eligibility of Veterans to claim VA disability compensation based upon those undiagnosed illnesses, and the ability of survivors to qualify for VA’s Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

Under long-standing VA rules, any undiagnosed illnesses used to establish eligibility for VA benefits must become apparent by Dec. 31, 2011. The new change pushes the date back to Dec. 31, 2016.

Veterans or survivors who believe they qualify for these benefits should contact VA at 1-800-827-1000.

Further information about undiagnosed illnesses is available online at [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar) and [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/oefoif/index.asp](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/oefoif/index.asp)



## MARINE TIDBITS:

**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.

### Initiatives from Monthly Meeting

**Applications for Membership:** None

**Members Sick or in Distress:** None

### **Report of Standing Committees:**

Toys for Tots: No report.

Rose Fund: Willie Little reported that the next Rose Fund drive will be April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Publix on SR 60 in Valrico and the Sam's Club in Valrico. He is also working on another event for April

Poker Run: No report.

Birthday: No report.

Honor Guard: Walt Raysick commented on the dedication and professionalism displayed by the honor guard at a service for a Korean War Marine

Veterans funeral. He asked all members who participated to stand up and be recognized.

Young Marines: Debra Steele reported that with the change of leadership and policy at the Eastbay High School they are no longer viable for a meeting place. She is now looking for a new location.

Picnic: September 14<sup>th</sup> at Fred's house.

Hot Dog Sales: Walt Raysick reported that after four weeks of selling hotdogs and other items at the Legion Bingo on Wednesday nights that \$150.00 in profit was realized. He asked for members to show up and help on Wednesday from 1730 until 1900 to help out

#### Report of Special Committees:

Conference Planning: Peter White reported that he is in high gear with selling conference booklet ads and that Bernie Kotrady is compiling the booklet. He asked for volunteers to help selling ads. Not many present responded favorably.

Group Ball Game: Houston Tucker advised that the schedule is not out yet and that tickets are not on sale at this time.

**Unfinished Business**: The motion to rename the Detachment that was made in November was untabled. At that time Houston Tucker withdrew his motion.

John Bain made comment on how hard it is to pick one Marine from the many who have died from Hillsborough County to name the Detachment after.

Hank Wolons made a motion to keep the Riverview #1226 name. Bob Gramprrie seconded. Motion Passed.

#### **New Business:**

Hank Wolons advised the members present of an opportunity to do a breakfast on one Sunday a month at VFW Post 8108. He mentioned that the Auxiliary

is on board with the idea and that we could make it a joint venture. After a short discussion the membership agreed that we should do it. Eleven members signed the sheet volunteering to work the events.

**Good of the League:** None

The adjutant announced that first nominations for officers will be held at the next meeting and that anyone interested in running for office needs to let their desires be known

**Visit our Website at [www.mclriverview.org](http://www.mclriverview.org) for more information on meetings and other activities and items of interests.**



## MEMBER OF THE MONTH:



John A. Bain, USMC, 1967 - 1973

When I was a small boy, we would visit my Dad's sisters in Texas. One of my aunts was married to an Army veteran of the Pacific. He and my Dad would talk about the war and I always remembered him telling how the Marines landed first and the Army would go in when the beach was secured or the island taken. He could not get over the bravery of the Marines going into those islands.

Later growing up in south Tampa, I always went to the air show but did not go to see the planes, the Marine reserve center always had Amtracs there and that is where I headed. While there, my brothers and I got to know a Marine SSgt. Chuck from the unit that was dating (and later married) a friend of our mother. In high school, we would go to the unit when he had the duty and he would help work on our cars and we would shoot 22s on the indoor range they had. Chuck was a typical Marine, tough and sucker for kids.

He left for his third tour in Nam and our good times ended. As a sidebar, Chuck received a battle field commission, and then they sent him to Quantico where he punched out Capt. Robb, aid to President Johnson, later his son-in-law, later a U.S. Senator and an all around puke. They busted Chuck back to SSgt. and gave him his choice of duty stations, he chose I&I in Tampa and retired from here and later retired from the Hillsborough Co. Sheriff's Department.

The Amtracs used to go out in the bay and make landings on Honeymoon Island. The traffic would stop on the Gandy Bridge to watch them.

I always wanted to be an Amtracker, you went in the water and on land and nothing could stop them.

After High School, I worked drawing house plans in Clearwater, after a few months I joined the Marine Reserve unit in Tampa. I knew that if I joined the Corps outright they would decide what my MOS would be. I went to Parris Island in Aug. of 1967, I had not known anyone who had been there and did not know what to expect. I decided real fast that I was going to be anonymous and my goal was for the Drill Instructors to ask me on graduation day "who are you?". I went to ITR and we were at the most Godforsaken place, an old WWII compound in the woods near the rifle range. No heat, bare concrete block walls - not even screens or wood between the rafters and the eaves. After that, I went to Amtrac school at Camp DelMar and finished my six months active as an assistant instructor.

I went back to my job drawing house plans and partying with my friends whom I now had nothing in common with. The most notable thing that occurred was the Reserve Unit putting down the riots in Tampa when MLK was killed. The Mayor was desperate, they were shooting at the firemen and police and the National Guard. They had the whole College Hill section of Tampa cordoned off. The Col. told the Mayor that it was against the law for the Marines to get involved unless ordered by the President, but he would do what he could. When we reported for our drill weekend they told us to get our 782 gear on, draw our M14s, and get four 30 Cals and board 6X6 we were going to the field. We never went to the field; there was no field to go to. We rolled up the canvas on the 6X6s, put the 30 Cals on top of C-Ration cases and proceeded to head to the College Hill area going up Nebraska. They pulled the barricades away and let us pass. We took a serpentine route through the area and ended up on West Hillsborough Ave. in the country. We disembarked and did a patrol down a dirt road with an ambush by the I&I staff. They had us fall out under some trees and wanted to know how many wanted beer. Any time the Marine Corps is buying the beer there is more to the story than they are telling you. We drank beer, ate c-rats, slept and returned through the same

route in the morning. When we went through on Saturday morning we caused a hell of a stir, people were pointing and running to get others. Saturday night there were no burnings, looting, or shooting. By Sunday afternoon, all the bad guys had melted back into the shadows.

After that, I had had enough of civilian life and went on active duty and volunteered for Nam where I was lucky enough to be assigned to the best unit in the Marine Corps: 1st Platoon, "A" Co. 5th Amtracs, 9 MAB attached to the BLT 2/4 then 2/26 then 1/26. We were the only members of 5th Amtracs which had not existed since WWII and has not again since us. It was great because we were bastard step children of whoever was on float so we had to take care of ourselves, food (stealing at the bridge ramp in DaNang or trading on ship), clothing (getting from the barrels at the Marine air terminal) transportation (stealing the Army jeep), weapons (stealing the 50's and 60's off two army tanks).

Yes, life was good; we still get together every two years for a reunion, this year it is in Tampa so you will meet some of my Brothers. Don't worry they are not all like Dan. It ended when I was med-a-vacted to Japan and then CONUS, after rehab in Jax NAS Hosp. I went to Court House Bay at Le June with 2nd Amtracs, extended two years, spent a couple of years at the Marine Barracks NAS Moffett Field and ended my time in the Corps at 3rd Amtracs Keneohe Hawaii.

I loved my time in the Corps and only have two regrets, the first is not leaving the hospital at China Beach and going back to my unit instead of being med-a-vacted. The second is not taking the offer to attend OCS when I was at Moffett Field. I would not have gotten married and I would have stayed in the Corps until they kicked me out in my wheel chair. I was not a happy garrison Marine, I did not like the field days and liberty cards even though I did not live in the barracks and had to live off base due to lack of on base housing. However, I did not mind the forced marches every Friday in Hawaii. I knew they were important in Nam. When I was an AmGrunt we always had forced marches. Finally when my

enlistment was up and married about a year I figured that if you can't kill anyone then why stay in.

Dennis (and I believe Jack) and I attended the same Marine Corps Ball in Hawaii in 1971 and none of us knew each other at that time. Thank God the Corps is small.

Stay strong my Brothers and Sisters and Semper Fi

## HERO OF THE MONTH

### **KANSAS HERO - Sgt. Grant F. Timmerman, USMC WWII Medal of Honor (1919-1944)**



BY DUANE A. VACHON, PH.D. Born in February 1919, Grant Frederick Timmerman hailed from Americus Kansas, a small Kansas town in Lyons County Kansas. Timmerman attended Emporia High where he graduated in 1936. While in High School he played saxophone. He also learned how to write and speak French and Russian, a talent that must have been fairly rare in Americus, a town of less than 1000 people in the middle of Kansas.

After graduating, Timmerman took a pre-engineering course at the Kansas State Teacher's College. He moved to California in 1937 and obtained employment as an electric welder at San Mateo.

He soon became bored with his job as a welder and on October 28, 1937 he travelled to San Francisco and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. After completing recruit training at San Diego he was assigned to Puget Sound Navy Yard in Bremerton, Washington. After a very short time there Timmerman received orders to report to Mare Island Naval Shipyard to board the USS Henderson for transport to China.

The USS Henderson arrived at Wusong, China on May 5, 1938. Timmerman was assigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> Marines, Motor Transport Company as a truck driver and motorcycle dispatch rider.

On one occasion while in Shanghai with a Marine buddy, he observed a Caucasian woman being harassed by a crowd of Chinese. He and the other Marine did the "Marine" thing and went to the rescue of the woman. As fate would have it, she turned out to

be the wife of a U.S. Navy Commander. He and his buddy received letters of commendation and appreciation from the commander.

Timmerman was promoted to private first class in July 1940. At the completion of his 18 month tour of duty, he requested an extension which was granted. He didn't return to the States until April 1941. He was assigned to the Naval Prison at Mare Island where he remained until his enlistment of four years was completed. He left the Marine Corps on October 27, 1941.

He returned to his pre-Marine Corps occupation of electric welding, getting a job with Bethlehem Steel at the shipyard in San Francisco. It was a short five weeks later when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. In February 1942 he reenlisted in the Marine Corps and was assigned his old rank of PFC.

Since he had only been out of the Marine Corps for four months, the 23-year-old [China Marine](#) did not have to repeat basic training, but was immediately sent to the Transport Company at the Marine Corps Base at San Diego. Five weeks later he went to San Francisco as a clerk in the office of the Commanding General of the [Department of the Pacific](#), where he stayed two months. Next he was assigned to the [2nd Tank Battalion](#) of the [2nd Marine Division](#), he was promoted to corporal in July, and advanced to sergeant in October. In November Timmerman found himself once more on his way overseas. His battalion went to [Wellington, New Zealand](#).

On November 20<sup>th</sup> 1943 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division hit the beaches at Tarawa. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Timmerman made his landing with the tanks.

In early December the Division went to Hawaii for R&R and further training. In May 1944 the Division left Hawaii for another mission. It would be the last one for Timmerman.

He landed on Saipan on June 15, 1944 and on June 28, he sustained a slight shrapnel wound in the right forearm. A few days later — on July 8, Timmerman's tank, of which he was tank commander, was

advancing a few yards ahead of the [infantry](#) when the attack was held up by a series of Japanese [pillboxes](#) and trenches. Timmerman had been firing the tank's antiaircraft gun during the vigorous attack but when progress was halted, he prepared to fire the 75 mm gun. Exposing himself to the enemy, he stood up in the open turret of his tank to warn the infantry to hit the deck because of the muzzle blast of the 75 mm. A Japanese grenade came hurtling through the air aimed in the direction of the open turret. Timmerman fearlessly covered the opening with his own body to prevent the grenade from killing his crew and the grenade exploded on his chest, killing him instantly. Although two members of the crew received slight wounds from the grenade, none were killed, all the larger fragments being taken by Timmerman. For that his country bestowed its highest honor upon him - the Medal of Honor.

The Medal and also a [Bronze Star](#) earned earlier in the Saipan campaign, were presented to his parents on July 8, 1945, the first anniversary of his death, in their home by Col Norman E. True of the Marine Barracks in Great Lakes, Illinois. This quiet informal presentation was made at the request of the Marine's mother.

Please help support the local businesses that help sponsor our Poker Run this year.

Name	Address	City	Phone #
American Legion Riders #148	Hwy 301	Riverview	
MCL Detachment #1226	Hwy 301	Riverview	
Swamp Gators Pound #258	34304 Lodge Dr.	Zephyrhills	813-545-7526
American Legion Post #148	Hwy 301	Riverview	
Alloy Boltz, Inc.	21 7th Ave. N.E.	Ruskin	813-546-3185
American Legion #389	1714 Alhambra Dr.	Ruskin	
American Legion Auxiliary #148	7240 U.S. Hwy 301 S	Riverview	813-677-6529
Barney's Yamaha	9820 Adamo Dr.	Tampa	
Beef O' Brady/Sun City	723 Cypress Village Blvd.	Ruskin	813-633-2333
Donica Mediation Solutions	106 S. Tampania Ave. Ste.250	Tampa	813-878-9790
Finish Line	5402 U.S. Hwy 92	Plant City	
Fox & Hounds Pub	229 E. Brandon Blvd.	Brandon	
Memorial Cemetary	Hwy 60	Brandon	
Pinch-A-Penny	6347 US Hwy 301S	Riverview	813-672-7723
Raccoon's Restaurant & Pub	3240 Lithia PineCrest Rd.	Valrico	
Rehability Consulting Serv.	748 Kingston Ct.	Apollo Beach	813-298-2617
Riverview Moose Lodge	9000 Honeywell Rd.	Gibsonton	813-677-7921
Riverview Tire & Auto Service	7839 U.S. Hwy 301 S.	Riverview	813-677-4318
St. Jude's Circle	705 E. Brandon Blvd.	Brandon	
VFW 6287	U.S. Hwy 41	Ruskin	
VFW 8108 Men's Auxiliary		Gibsonton	
Uncle Mike's Smokehouse Grill	9847 E. Adamo Der.	Tampa	813-644-6888
Alley	10221 Big Bend Rd.	Riverview	813-672-8353
America's Car Wash	728 Cypress Village	SunCity Ctr	
Beanies	2002 U.S Hwy 41	Ruskin	813-649-1700
Beef O' Brady/Summerfield	13326 Lincoln Rd.	Riverview	813-672-4411
Biker's Bay	9520 E. MLK Blvd.	Tampa	813-740-2453
Brandon Auto Tire	2514 Hwy 60 E.	Valrico	813-685-6344
Coyote's Western Wear	7815 Commerce St.	Riverview	
Harriet's Flowers			800-449-3337

Lightening			
McDonalds Corporation Tampa			
O'Briens of Brandon	701 W. Lunsden Rd.	Brandon	813-661-9668
Ozzie's			
Recipe Box Family Diner	147 E. Bloomingdale Ave		813-655-2686
Tampa Bay Bucs	One Buc Place	Tampa	
Tampa Bay Rays	One Tropicana Dr.	St. Pete	727-825-3137
Tire Kingdom	1527 Brandon Blvd.	Brandon	
Ybor Grill	105 E. Shell Point Rd.	Ruskin	813-641-7300

I would also like to thank everyone that helped make this event possible. We had some individual sponsorships as well by the JAB Bain Boys, Walt and Mary Ann Raysick and Patricia Veld. Thank you again to all.





# March 2012

**Marine Corps League Detachment 1226**  
 One Marine Way P.O.Box 1831  
 Riverview, Florida 33568

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 SEDiv Conference Myrtle Beach, SC	2 SEDiv Conference Myrtle Beach, SC  Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs.	3 SEDiv Conference Myrtle Beach, SC
4 Flea Market 0700 to 1200  SEDiv Conference Myrtle Beach, SC	5 Legion Riders Mtg @ Legion 1830 hrs	6 League Mtg @ Legion @ 1900/ MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1900 hrs	7	8 SAL Mtg 1900	9 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs.	10
11 Flea Market 0700 to 1200  Legion Breakfast @ 0900 to 1100 hrs	12 Legion Mtg E- board 1730 hrs and general 1900 hrs	13	14 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs and MCL Hot Dog Sales	15	16 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs	17 St. Patty's Day Dinner 1730 to 1930 hrs
18 Flea Market 0700 to 1200  Legion Breakfast @ 0900 to 1100 hrs	19	20	21 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs and MCL Hot Dog sales	22	23 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs	24
25 Flea Market 0700 to 1200  Legion Breakfast @ 0900 to 1100 hr	26	27	29 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs and MCL Hot Dog sales	29	30	31 MCL Car Wash
		Look Ahead: April 19 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> – Spring Conference Orlando, FL August 12 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> – National Convention Mobile, AL				