



DEVIL DAWG MONTHLY

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

Detachment 1226

Volume 38

May 2012

League Officers:

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

(Editor can be reached at address above and/or
Mclriverview@yahoo.com or (813) 545-7526

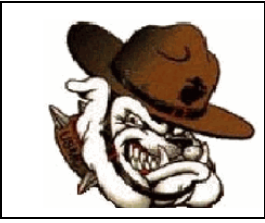
League Auxiliary

President: Kamela Ryan
Sr. Vice: Cheryl Bain
Jr. Vice: Shanda Antle
Judge Advocate: Judie White
Chaplain: Barbara Wolons
Guard: MJ Cobb
Historian: Susanne Pugh
Sec/Treas: Pat Skelding
Color Bearer: 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:

Fellow Marines, First and foremost I would like to say thank you for your confidence in me to serve as YOUR Commandant. There are a lot of ideas (not all mine, some from members through our surveys, etc) for ways to make our Detachment grow and retain its members. I am excited about the feedback (good and bad). This helps us know what YOU as members are looking for out of YOUR Detachment. If you have an idea, let's hear it. I look forward to the remainder of the year and I am proud to be a part of this Detachment. I would also like to congratulate your other incoming Officers which are listed on the first page of your Newsletter.

Debra Steele
Commandant

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

We had a very nice installation of officers thanks to our department officers and our national commandant. Our very own Pat Skelding as Department President, installed our auxiliary officers. We are excited having our first historian. Susanne Pugh is doing a wonderful job compiling pictures and articles for a scrap book. Services at the Veteran's park Sunday May 27th were impressive along with a Marine parachutist. We are enjoying working a monthly breakfast with the League at the VFW in Riverview. Our next breakfast is on Father's day. June 17th. Hope to see a lot of you then.

Semper Fi
Kamela Ryan

MEMBERSHIP CORNER:

Welcome New Associate Member: Larry Westcott.

Please remember this Detachment is what we make of it and only we can make it grow. Is there someone you know that qualifies to become a member of the Detachment? See a vehicle in a parking lot that has a USMC sticker on it? Why not ask them to join today?

Past due:

Antle, Danny – Nov 2011
Antle, Jennifer – Nov 2011
Becker, Dale - Jan 2012
Correll, Carl – Oct 2011
Freeman, James Sr. – Dec 2011
Hall, Jeffery – Dec 2011
Larrow, Thomas – Oct 2011
Martin, David - Sep 2010
Scheller, Bruce - Dec 2011
Sherman, Michael - Jan 2012
Toledo, William – Dec 2011

Also a heads up of those that became due in May and June of 2012.

Due in May

Hunt, Raymond - UK
Ludwick, Larry
McDonald, Ian - UK

Due in June

Antle, Dennis
Hasrley, Clestine
Luccio, Douglas
Mitchell, Dianne
O'Neal, Andrea
Ray, David
Strom, Frank
Zaleski, Edward

LIFE MEMBERSHIP BY AGE CATEGORY

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

Should you have any questions regarding the membership please contact Houston Tucker or Sal Difonizio through our Detachment email mclriverview@yahoo.com.

Those delinquent for 2010 and 2011 have been removed from this list. If you know your dues are not up to date, please contact us. If financial issues are the reason, please reach out to us.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Do you have ideas or comments you would like to see in your Newsletter? Do you volunteer for other events for your community other than those associated with the Detachment? If so we want to hear about it and receive photos. This is your Newsletter and we want your ideas and suggestions as to what you would like to see.



Sal DiFonzo, Bernie Kotrady and Thomas Riechard at the Car Show to promote our Rose Fund and Membership Drive.



Walt Ryan – Standing Tall at Memorial Service



Sal DiFonzo and Armando Arroyo at Serenity Meadows.



Come join us on the 3rd Sunday of every month at the VFW 8108 building for breakfast cooked and served by your Detachment. For just \$6 per person you and your family can enjoy all you can eat breakfast. Thank you to those that came and helped cook, serve or purchased breakfast.



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. We are considering discontinuing this program.



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 at WLittleJr2@aol.com. We have been very successful with our Rose Fund Events. Thank you to all who have participated and continue to participate. Keep an eye out on the calendar for upcoming events.



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



** Hot Dogs: We are selling Hotdogs on Bingo Night at the Legion. Please come and volunteer to help or purchase some delicious hotdogs. Come see what the special of the night is!!! Always a surprise!!!

Visit our Website at www.mclriverview.org for more information on meetings and other activities and items of interests. Check out our new look!!!!!!!!!!



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



Let's hear it for the Honor Guard on Memorial Day George McMaster, Hank Woolens, Rick Berrious, Bernie Kotrady, Rob Becker, Jack Skelding and Dave Blizzard on the Bugle in the back.

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

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
Email: Prowler143@aol.com
davebraun@haleyhousefund.org

Post Office Box 701
Brandon, FL 33509-0701

www.haleyhousefund.org

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



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



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



YOUNG MARINES OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

We are so close to getting everything in order. Ed Zaleski is working with National to get the insurance information to the school in an effort to secure the meeting place at Riverview High School. We have met with the past Paymaster of another unit and she has agreed to be involved with our unit to help it get off the ground. We are still looking for more adult volunteers for this program. Please let me know if you are interested. Contact MCLRiverview@yahoo.com.



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



MILITARY NEWS

Commandant works to overcome back surgery



By Gina Cavallaro - Staff writer
Posted: Sunday May 27, 2012 10:39:09 EDT

Ten weeks after undergoing surgery for a painful back ailment, Commandant Gen. Jim Amos is almost entirely back in the saddle, keeping a full schedule that includes a modified physical training regimen, he told Marine Corps Times in May.

Though he is restricted from running, Amos gets his heart rate up by swimming and working out on the elliptical machine, he said. He's also building his core strength with a series of abdominal exercises. The commandant has kept a steady travel schedule, conducting briefings with staff noncommissioned officers and officers on conduct and leadership at East Coast installations in mid-April.

A round of briefings on the West Coast took place the week of May 21, and the following week he was slated to address staff NCOs and officers in and around Washington, D.C. Amos, 65, complained in February about sciatic nerve pain. His surgery took place Feb. 28 at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. He was discharged March 4.

SOCOM chief sells plan for spec ops expansion

By Kimberly Dozier - The Associated Press
Posted: Friday May 25, 2012 18:26:46 EDT

TAMPA, Fla. — The commander in charge of the raid to kill Osama bin Laden is defending his proposal that would give him more authority to send special operations forces overseas to address problems like terrorists or sudden Arab Spring-style unrest.

At a rare news conference during a weeklong meeting of international special operations forces, Adm. Bill McRaven said the plan would also trim some of the limits on where and how special operations troops work. But those troops would still answer to U.S. commanders overseas, not him, and missions would be coordinated with and approved by the U.S. ambassador, he said. "I really do need to clear this up because there is some speculation out there, some sensationalization," McRaven said Thursday. He said his plan was "absolutely not about U.S. Special Operations Command running global special operations."

McRaven has been shuttling to sell his plan between the Pentagon and Capitol Hill, working to dispel suggestions of a power grab by the high-profile commander of the SEAL raid that killed bin Laden.

“I worry about speed making it too easy to employ force,” a former Joint Chiefs chairman, retired Marine Gen. Peter Pace, said last month in Washington. “I worry about speed making it too easy to take the easy answer — let’s go whack them with special operations — as opposed to perhaps a more laborious answer for perhaps a better long-term solution.”

McRaven got a boost from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, who appeared earlier in the week with McRaven, a tacit message that she backs his proposal.

“We need special operations forces who are as comfortable drinking tea with tribal leaders as raiding a terrorist compound,” Clinton said. “We also need diplomats and development experts who understand modern warfare and are up to the job of being your partners.”

McRaven’s plan, [first reported by The Associated Press in January](#), is to send special operations forces to work with local forces — something they are already doing, but in smaller numbers as they’ve been tied up in Iraq and Afghanistan. The continuous interaction means the U.S. and local officers forge ties, build the local force’s skills and jointly track local threats that might include terrorists or drug traffickers.

“The only way you can neutralize terrorist action is ... integrating our intelligence and working together,” said Colombian Brig. Gen. Juan Pablo Rodriguez Barragan. He noted successful joint U.S.-Colombian operations against the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, rebel group. Barragan was one of the officers from 97 countries who had come to learn new strategies and techniques, and see an array of U.S. special operations technology.

The week long gathering offered a snapshot of how McRaven hopes to make elite military-to-military relationships the glue binding the global counterterrorism fight. McRaven’s proposed changes include allowing him to suggest sending his forces to an area where he perceives a growing threat, rather than waiting to be asked — a process supported by his predecessor, now-retired Adm. Eric Olson.

“This is not at all about forcing or sneaking special operations forces into a geographic combatant command but instead accelerating a process of initiation ... where special operations forces might be needed,” Olson said in comments last month in Washington. He also noted that current rules can bar McRaven from speaking to his special operations commanders in the field without the permission of the regional U.S. military commander.

Other proposed changes involve loosening some bureaucratic restrictions like the one that only allows U.S. special operations forces to work with defense forces in a given country, while foreign elite units often work for a country’s Interior Ministry, McRaven said.

McRaven said he also wants Congress to allow multiyear special operations assistance missions in places like Yemen, instead of approving them a year at a time, and also give his troops more authority to buy uniforms and supplies for troops overseas without going through the State Department aid system, which can add months to the process.

“Any use of this would require Secretary of State approval,” McRaven said. “We’re not recommending anything that goes around the State Department

News from the League

Frequently Asked Questions About the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP)

1) Question: Who can use the VRAP? Answer: To use the program a Veteran must:

- Be at least 35 but no more than 60 years old
- Be unemployed (as determined by Department of Labor (DOL))
- Have an other than dishonorable discharge
- Not be eligible for any other VA education benefit program (e.g., the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Assistance)

- Not be in receipt of VA compensation due to un-employability

- Not be enrolled in a federal or state job training program

2) Question: What can I use the VRAP for?

Answer: Participants must be enrolled in a VA approved program of education offered by a Community College or Technical School. The program must lead to an Associate Degree, Non-College Degree, or a Certification and train you in a high demand occupation as determined by DOL.

3) Question: How much does the VRAP pay?

Answer: You may receive up to 12 months of payments at the full-time Montgomery GI Bill–Active Duty rate (currently \$1,473 per month).

4) Question: Will the payments under this program be sent directly to the school like payments under the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

Answer: No. The benefit will be paid directly to you and you are responsible for paying your expenses including tuition, fees, and books.

5) Question: When, where, and how can I apply?

Answer: The program begins July 1, 2012. Watch the GI Bill website and follow our GI Bill Facebook page for more details on when, where, and how to apply.

6) Question: What will happen when I finish my program?

Answer: The DOL will provide employment assistance to every Veteran who participates, upon completion of their program.

7) Question: What do I do if I need a job now?

Answer: There are extensive employment resources available for Veterans provided by the Federal Government. Visit <http://www.fedshirevets.gov/> and the

Department of Labor's <http://www.dol.gov/vets> to learn more.

The Virtual Wall (on line)

Any Vietnam Vets reading this article please review.

First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear. Then click on their names. It should show you picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals. Someone spent a lot of time and effort to create it. I hope that everyone who receives this appreciates what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country.

The link below is a virtual Vietnam Wall of KIAs during that war with the names, bio's and other information on our lost heroes.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

MARINE TIDBITS:

2 May 1946: Marines from Treasure Island Marine Barracks, under the command of Warrant Officer Charles L. Buckner, aided in suppressing the three-day prison riot at Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. WO Buckner, a veteran of the Bougainville and Guam campaigns, ably led his force of Marines without suffering a single casualty.

5 May 1983: In Beirut, Lebanon, a UH-1N helicopter carrying the commander of the American peace-keeping force, Colonel James Mead, was hit by machine gun fire. The six Marines aboard escaped injury. Colonel Mead and his crew had taken off in the helicopter to investigate artillery and rocket duels between rival Syrian-backed Druze Moslem militiamen and Christian Phalangists that endangered French members of the multinational force.

8 May 1995: In the wake of the most devastating storm to hit the New Orleans area in more than 200 years, a group of Marines and sailors from Marine Forces Reserve demonstrated the quick response synonymous with the Navy/Marine Corps team. Within 24 hours of being called, Marines assisted in the evacuation of

2,500 civilians, and Navy corpsmen treated scores of flood victims.

10 May 1945: The 22d Marines, 6th Marine Division, executed a pre-dawn attack south across the Asa River Estuary and seized a bridgehead from which to continue the attack toward Naha, the capital of Okinawa.

15 May 1862: Corporal John Mackie, the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor, was commended for service in the USS GALENA during action against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff which blocked the James River approaches to Richmond.

16 May 1945: The 22d and 29th Marines continued the attack against Half Moon Hill, a day characterized by the 6th Marine Division as the "bitterest" of the Okinawa campaign. By the 18th, the famed "Shuri line" had been breached.

22 May 1912: First Lieutenant Alfred A. Cunningham, the first Marine officer to be assigned to "duty in connection with aviation" by Major General Commandant William P. Biddle, reported for aviation training at the Naval Aviation Camp at Annapolis, Maryland, and Marine aviation had its official beginning.

23 May 1988: The V-22 Osprey, the world's first production tilt-rotor aircraft, made its debut during rollout ceremonies at Bell Helicopter Textron's Arlington, Texas, facility. More than 1,000 representatives from the military, industry, and media, gathered to hear various speakers, including Gen Alfred Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps, praise the versatile rotor craft designed to meet the needs of 21st Century battlefields.

26 May 1969: Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines and 3d Battalion, 5th Marines began sweeps in the Dodge City/Go Noi areas southwest of Da Nang. It terminated at the end of June with 610 enemy killed in action at a cost of 34 Marines killed.

29 May 1991: Elements of a joint task force that included the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade

departed the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Bangladesh after nearly two weeks of disaster relief operations following a devastating cyclone. The joint task force delivered tons of relief supplies using helicopters, C-130s, and landing craft in Operation Sea Angel.



Congrats to the 2012 Officers

Back row: Houston Tucker, George McMaster, Dave Blizzard, and Jack Skelding.

Front row: Walt Raysick, Debra Steele, Bernie Kotrady and Sal DiFonzio.



Congrats to your incoming Auxiliary Officers
Susanne Pugh, Cheryl Bain, Pat Skelding, Kamela Ryan, Judie White, Mary Jane Cobb and Shanda Antle.
Missing from the picture is Barbara Wolons and Mary Ann Raysick.

No submission for Member of the Month!

Initiatives from Monthly Meeting

Applications for Membership: Larry Westcott - Associate! Welcome aboard.

Members Sick or in Distress: Stan and Nancy Horman and Ken Zolna. We have also recently heard that Bob Gramprrie is not well at this time. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Report of Standing Committees:

Toys for Tots: Herb Donica reported that Ed Zaleski is developing a strategic plan for this year's toy drive and that there will be an all hands meeting soon.

Rose Fund: Willie Little reported that there were two rose fund drives in April and there are none currently scheduled.

Poker Run: Tommy Reichard said the selected date is October 27th. That he is in consultation with the Legion Riders and that planning meeting will start next month.

Birthday: Walt Raysick advised that this year's meal will be around \$15.00

Honor Guard: Walt Raysick said that the honor guard is committed to three events on Memorial Day weekend. May 26th, May 27th and May 28th.

Young Marines: Debra Steele said she met with the former paymaster of the Bradenton Young Marines and she is willing to help get the Riverview Unit organized.

Picnic: No Report.

Hot Dog Sales: Walt Raysick advised anyone that wanted to help the hours are 1700 to 1930 on Wednesdays. And that they are making 52% profit above expenses.

Report of Special Committees:

Conference Planning: Peter White said that we have about 151 days left before the conference and he provided a schedule of events leading the conference.

Group Ball Game: Houston passed out the tickets for the May 6th game and he is looking at setting up another date on September 9th.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None.

Good of the League: Commandant Steele recognized the members in attendance and requested that they contact fellow members who do not attend and encourage them to do so.

Announcements: The Adjutant announced that there will be a carwash on May 19th and a breakfast on May 20th.

June 2012

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Flea Market 0700 to 1200	4	5 League Mtg @ Legion @ 1900/ MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1900 hrs	6 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs and MCL Hot Dog Sales	7 SAL Mtg 1900	8 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs	9
10 Flea Market 0700 to 1200	11 Legion Riders Mtg @ Legion 1830 hrs	12	13 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs and MCL Hot Dog Sales	14 MCL Dept Conference in Orlando.	15 MCL Dept Conference in Orlando.	16 MCL Dept Conference in Orlando
17 MCL Dept Conference in Orlando MCL Breakfast @ VFW 8108 from 0900 to 1200 hrs	18 Legion Mtg E-board 1730 hrs and general 1900 hrs	19	20 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs and MCL Hot Dog sales	21	22 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs	23
24 Flea Market 0700 to 1200	25	26	27	28	29	30
		Look Ahead: August 12 th – 18 th – National Convention Mobile, AL October 18 th to 21 st –Conference, Riverview, FL (hosted by our Detachment) For more information please email us at mclriverview.org .				