



Marine Corps League

Detachment 1226

Volume 7

August 2009

League Officers:

Commandant: Jack Skelding
Sr. Vice Commandant: Dennis Antle
Jr. Vice Commandant: Ken Zolna
Adjutant: Willie Little Jr.
Paymaster: Willie Little Jr.
Judge Advocate: Sid Atwater
Chaplain: Dave Blizzard
Sergeant-at-Arms: George Mc Master
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Web Sergeant: Jacob Bain
Newsletter Editor: Debra Steele
Historian: Stan Horman

League Auxiliary

President: Mary Zolna
Sr. Vice: Peggy Grant
Jr. Vice: Sheilah Blizzard
Judge Advocate: Marce Strom
Secretary: Nancy Horman
Guard: Cheryl Ferretti

Marine Corps League Detachment 1226

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

Mailing Label goes Here



DEVIL DAWG MONTHLY

COMMANDANT'S CORNER:

Marines,

I was not at the last meeting as I was attending the national convention in Rochester MN. While I was there I had the pleasure of running into a Marine I had not seen since we were 1st Lt's on Mt Fuji, Japan in 1978. He is still on active duty and was the guest speaker at the convention. I am talking about LtGen Ronald Coleman. He is going to retire in October with a total of 41 years of service.

The biggest change coming out of the convention was the bylaw change on the ceremonial uniform. The kaki shirt is no longer authorized for wear by the Marine Corps League. The reason for this change is that a few detachments could not follow the regulations regarding the wear of the kaki shirt therefore all must suffer. It was also voted that the 2011 national convention will be held in Boise Idaho.

We are quickly approaching the date of our poker run (Sept. 19th). It appears that Debra and her committee have things coming together. There will be a need for volunteers to help out that Saturday so please leave that date open. There is still need for everyone to be recruiting sponsors so please keep beating the bushes.

We are going to do a Rose Fund drive on Saturday September 5th. Please contact Bob Gramprrie or Willie Little if you will be able to help. We need Marines to stand a four watch. I am going to do one and I hope that some of you will be able to .

The yard sale's will be starting soon. If you have items to donate please contact me or Ken Zolna so that we can set a time for you to deliver them to the

container behind the Legion . Also I will be asking for volunteers to help with the yard sale's on Sunday mornings from 0700 until 1200.

Toys for Tots will be on us soon. Keep that in mind as we will need help there also.

Recruit, Recruit, Recruit. We need new members to keep this detachment growing. If you know of a Marine or qualified Navy Corpsman get him to join.

Remember that this is your detachment not mine. We can only be as good as you the members want us to be.

Semper Fi

Jack Skelding
Commandant



The Florida delegation at the national convention



Commandant Jack Skelding with LtGen Ronald Coleman

Email: If you received this by regular mail and have an email address, please contact me via email so we may add you to the list.

Debthecandlelegal@tampabay.rr.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

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

Getting ready for a trip to Gettysburg, PA and finalizing details for Ken's 10th Marine Detachment Reunion of the USS Lake Champlain, I neglected to submit an addition to last month's Newsletter, for which I apologize. We had a great time visiting the Battlefield, the Army War College & Barracks in Carlisle, as well as many other places of interest & having wonderful meals and most importantly enjoyed the company of all who attended. If you haven't been to Gettysburg & have the opportunity to do so, go as it is an amazing town to visit.

I don't have much to report this month except to remind those who have not sent in their renewal dues to please do so before the end of August when they need to be sent to National.

At September's meeting please turn in any reports from previous months as well as August's reports. You can obtain the reports by logging on to the NationalMarineCorpsLeagueAuxiliary.com website – all the blank report forms are listed on the right hand side. Make sure your name is on each report sheet.

We're looking for new members so talk about the Auxiliary whenever you get the chance – carry a membership form (can be found on the above website) and let's grow this year.!

Summer is almost over, so enjoy what's left of the dog-days of August, keep your fingers crossed what's stirring in the Atlantic stays far away from Florida and see you September 1st at 7:30pm for our next meeting.

Thanks
Mary Zolna, President

CAR WASH

Car washes have been suspended until the water restrictions are lifted.

YARD SALE:

Need donations to keep this going. Contact Jack or Ken for further details. This has been a moneymaker for the league

MEMBERSHIP CORNER:

* 2009-2010 Membership Retention is 100% based on roster dated 3/31/09.

* June & July's past due were as follows:

Nathan Kidd	June
Robert Collins	July
Terry Graham	July

* August-September Membership Expirations:

Jeanne Bell	Aug
Kenneth Adams	Sept

Luis Rosario Sept
Guillermo Serra Sept

LIFE MEMBERSHIP BY AGE CATEGORY

61 & OVER	\$150.00
51 to 60	\$300.00
36 to 50	\$400.00

Please contact Willie Little, Jr. regarding **life membership** at 813/972-7711.

Congratulation to Larry Butler for his life membership!!!!!!

S/F
Willie

New Members:

Let's welcome Marine Ora Littleton and Navy Corpsman Walter Raysick

Ill Members

Debra Steele's son Keith

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

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

*Poker Run Update: Registration will be at the Harley Davidson in Brandon starting at 0900 on September 19, 2009. PLEASE RECRUIT AS MANY SPONSORS AND/OR RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS AS POSSIBLE. This is for an extremely good cause. The sponsor ships and donated raffle items continue to come in but we could always use more. I also need volunteers to work at each location. Please contact Debra if you are interested 813-545-7526.

*If you are interested in becoming a member of the Honor Guard, please contact Ken Zolna.

Rose Fund--

We are set for our **ROSE FUND** fundraiser on Sat. Sept. 5th at three Publix locations. We need

three more volunteers. All volunteers are asked to arrive at our **regular meeting** on Sept. 1st at 1900, so that I can go over some general guidelines regarding our solicitation effort.

This will be followed by a date on or about Nov. 7, 2009. Contact Bob Gramprrie(741-2844) or Willie Little(972-7711)



YOUNG MARINES OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE - - *We need to step up for this cause*

We are slowly but surely making progress. I received our third application at this month's meeting, but I still need more support. As soon as I finish reviewing the applications I have, I can send for our temporary charter. Once the charter is issued, we can begin to recruit and hammer out a training schedule and prepare for our first "boot camp."

If you would like to volunteer to help with the unit, you can get an application online at www.youngmarines.org by clicking the "Volunteer" link and clicking "View our Registered Adult Application here." If you are unable to get it online, please contact me and I will send you a paper copy.

I look forward to getting this unit up and running, and I hope more Marines will step up and assist us in this journey.

Semper Fidelis,

Michael W. Sherman Jr.
Commanding Officer - Hillsborough Young Marines
Blackberry: 813-541-3452
E-mail: shermanmw@verizon.net

Visit our Website at www.mclriverview.org

MILITARY NEWS

GI Bill Benefit Alert for Military Spouses:

This Saturday, August 1st, the Post 9/11 GI Bill will be available to your spouse. The new GI Bill offers a number of new valuable benefits, but figuring out what your spouse qualifies for can be difficult and confusing.

We've created a GI Bill Calculator to help you find out how much the Post 9/11 payment rate will be and how it compares to the Montgomery GI Bill. Visit <http://www.military.com/gi-bill-calculator> to figure out your spouses GI Bill payment rate today.

**Find out what your spouse qualifies for:
[Visit the Military.com GI Bill Calculator Now](#)**

Marine Fitness Test Changes

Effective immediately, Marines will now run the Combat Fitness Test for score. Gen. James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps, recently approved a scoring system for the CFT and a new schedule of CFT's and Physical Fitness Tests -- one CFT and one PFT a year. CFT standards, guidance and other information are available on the [Marine Corps Training and Education Command](#) (TECOM) website. The CFT will factor into a Marine's composite score and be reflected on the fitness report. The composite score conversion table, developed by Manpower and Reserve Affairs (M&R), can be found on the [TECOM website](#).

Learn how to ace the [Marine Corps Physical Fitness Test](#), prepare for Recruit Training and take on RECON and MARSOC Fitness Training at Military.com's Fitness Center.

MARINE TIDBITS:

"TAKE CARE TO BE RIGHT, AND THEN THEY ARE POWERLESS." A truism from the Grand Old Man of the Marine Corps, Brevet Brigadier General Archibald Henderson. Circa 1820. Submitted by Semper Fi Sid.

INITIATIVES FROM LAST MEETING:

Discussion:-

Standing report of committees.

Thanks/Awards: None

HERO OF THE MONTH



Most Marines know one of our Corps' heroes is the legendary Smedley Darlington "Old Gimlet Eye" Butler, Major General, USMC (Ret). General Butler was one of only two Marines to have been awarded two Medals of Honor. Maj. Gen Butler got the nickname "Old Gimlet Eye" in Honduras in 1903. It was attributed to the constant feverish, bloodshot eyes (as if he had been drinking "Gimlets" (gin and lime juice)) which normally enhanced his habitually penetrating and bellicose stare.

He got his other nickname "Old Duckboard" during World War I. Colonel S.D. Butler, much to his disappointment, was not assigned to a combat command on the Western Front as America entered the war. He made several attempts at going "to the sound of the guns" in France (he was serving at the time in Haiti as the Commanding Officer of the Haitian Gendarmerie). He wrote letter after letter to his personal friend Major General Wendell Cushing Neville, who was at the time Assistant to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune. While Butler's superiors considered him brave and brilliant, they also described him as "unreliable." He was, however, promoted to the rank of Brigadier General at the age of 37 and subsequently sent to France in October of 1918 and placed in command of Camp Pontanezen at Brest, France. Camp Pontanezen was a major debarkation depot funneling troops (mostly US Army) of the American Expeditionary Force to the battlefield. The camp was plagued by horribly unsanitary (filled with human feces, urine and

discarded garbage) calf deep mud, mess halls serving dirty unwashed food, overcrowding of tents and overall disorganized conditions. It was a breeding ground for the Spanish Flu that was then sweeping US soldiers and Marines entering the continent to fight the Hun. The conditions were so bad US Secretary of War Newton Baker sent novelist Mary Roberts Rinehart to report on the camp. She later described how Butler began by solving the mud and sanitation problem. "The ground under the tents was nothing but mud, so he had raided the wharf at Brest of the duckboards (railroad ties) no longer needed for the trenches (as a result of the allies now on the offensive and not engaged in trenchwar). BGen Smedley D. Butler carried the first one (a heavily creosoted railroad tie) himself up the four-mile hill to the camp, and thus provided something in the way of protection for the men to sleep on." In honor of this feat General John J. Pershing, Commanding General of the American Expeditionary Force authorized a "duckboard shoulder patch" for the unit. This earned Butler his other nickname, "Old Duckboard." For his exemplary service Butler was awarded not only the Distinguished Service Medal of both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy, but also the French Order of the Black Star.

Submitted by Semper Fi Sid.



September 2009

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 League Mtg 1930 MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1930 Rose Fund Vol 1900	2	3	4	5 Rose Fund Fundraiser
6 Yard Sale	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Yard Sale	14	15	16	17	18 National POW/MIA Day Observed	19 0900 hrs/Poker Run/ Haley House/ Brandon Harley
20 Yard Sale	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Yard Sale	28 1800 Veterans Council Mtg / Veterans Park	29	30			
		Look Ahead: November 7, 2009 Marine Corps Ball November 11, 2009 V.A. Hospital Veterans Day Parade November 14, 2009 Marine Corps Birthday Celebration				