



# Marine Corps League

## Detachment 1226

Volume 6

July 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  
**Past Commandant:** John Bain  
**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 would like to thank all that came to the Field of Honor on July 11<sup>th</sup>. It was not our show but we did provide a five man firing detail and a bugler to help in the remembrance. Other than the Marine Corps League and the Legion Riders the turn out was very sparse. I find this disturbing as the purpose of these ceremonies, held every three months, is to honor and pay respect to all of the men and women of all branches of service who have died in the War on Terrorism for that three month period.

I would like to thank all that came with me to the Board of County Commissioners meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup>. We were there to protest against a reduction in the manpower level of the county Veterans Affairs Office. Unknown to us the two staff positions were saved by a federal grant on the day before. But we did let the commissioners know that we were there and we were concerned.

We are now about six weeks out from the Poker Run. I hope that everyone is trying to recruit sponsors for this event. We do have a committee but they are not able to handle it all by themselves. It looks as this year we will have the largest group of riders yet. I know of at least three groups that have said they plan to be there.

This is the last month for 2009 Marine of the Year nominations to be turned in. If they are not received by the September meeting they will not be considered. Any member may recommend any other member for the award but it must be in writing so that the selection committee can make their choice.

I ask that all members keep recruiting new members. We all meet Marines everyday. It only takes a few minutes of your time to introduce yourself and to tell them about the League. There are a lot of Marines and FMF Corpsmen out there who do not know about us. There is no reason that you do not have an application in your pocket at all times. There are three in each Semper Fi that you receive. I hope that you are using them and not throwing them in the trash.

This is your detachment not mine. We can only be as good as you want us to be.

I will not be attending the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting as I will be in Rochester Minnesota attend the Marine Corps League National Convention. See you when I when back

Semper Fi

Jack Skelding  
Commandant

**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.**

**[Debthecandlegal@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Debthecandlegal@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:**

Mary is out of town. We will hear from her next month. Have fun Mary.

**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 Goal is 100% based on roster report dated 3/31/09.

\*June's past due was as follows:  
Nathan Kidd

\*July-August Membership Expirations:

Robert Collins	July
Terry Graham	July
Arthur Kemp	July
Larry Butler	Aug
Herb Donica	Aug
Lewis Palumbo	Aug

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP BY AGE CATEGORY**

61 & OVER	\$150.00
51 TO 60	\$300.00
41 TO 59	\$400.00

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

S/F  
Willie

**New Members :**

Let's welcome Marine Ronald Cox.

**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. We have a new sponsor: Ruskin VFW for \$250.

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

Hot Dogs Fundraiser at Brandon Sam's Club has been a great success for the detachment. Willie's states "it has been a joyous experience for his children, Wilena and Justin." Their involvement has allowed them to understand the many sacrifices that our servicemen have made for our Country. They are also gaining a foundation for developing a simple business plan and making it a success through continuous commitment. Any member of the detachment can participate in this fun fundraiser. Come and join the FUN!!!!!!!!!!

Rose Fund--We are currently formulating a plan to expand to key strategic areas of Tampa. We will need 24-30 Marines for this expanded FUNDRAISER. The Tampa Marine Detachment may join us in this effort which will be **GREAT**. Our first Rose Fundraiser will be Sept. 5, 2009 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*

They now have a location to meet (Riverview Moose Lodge) and just need some volunteers to step up to help with the program. Please contact Mike Sherman for details.

Visit our Website at [www.mclriverview.org](http://www.mclriverview.org)

**MILITARY NEWS**

History Channel Set to Lock 'N Load  
Week of July 20, 2009

Famed Gunnery Sgt. R. Lee Erney and his production crew recently filmed sequences of his new History Channel show "Lock 'N Load" at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. The show focuses on modern weapons, and will feature the arsenal Emery fired at the ATC including the Bradley and Stryker Mobile Gun System. The first episode will air July 31, at 9 p.m. Eastern Time. It has yet to be determined when the segments filmed at APG will be broadcast on the show. Please check your local television listings for future air times and dates of the "Lock 'N Load" show, or visit the [History Channel](http://HistoryChannel) website for more information.

Find more of the latest [Entertainment News](http://EntertainmentNews) on Military.com.

**Marines Offered Early Out for Education**

Week of July 20, 2009

Some Marines have the opportunity for an early release from active duty to further their education. However, the early release can only be within 90 days of their original End of Active Service (EAS) date, and the Marine must start full-time courses lasting three months or more during that time frame. Certain criteria also apply. If they qualify, Marines must submit a package through their command at least four

weeks prior to the new requested EAS date. The Marine must then decide if he or she wants to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill or the Montgomery GI Bill. For more information, contact your local Marine Corps Education Office

**MARINE TIDBITS:**

In 1871, after a number of American seamen had been massacred in Korea, a U.S. naval squadron (consisting of five ships with embarked Marines) was sent to Korea to negotiate for the protection of American seamen and, if possible, to open up Korea to America trade. When ships of the squadron were fired upon by Korean military forces, a landing force was sent up the Sallee River to attack the three Korean forts on Kangwha Island.

The amphibious landing took place on 10 June 1871. The amphibious landing site allowed the Marines and sailors to land unopposed. As soon as firm ground was attained, the infantry battalion was formed, and the Marines deployed as skirmishers. The advance towards the three forts began immediately. The first fort (Ch'o ji jin, renamed the "Marine Redoubt" by the Marines) was quietly occupied and all guns destroyed. The landing force then encamped for the night in the vicinity of the fort and made preparations for the next days advance. The next morning the Marines, now accompanied by one of the captured howitzers, attacked toward the next fort. The fort, named Tokchin was three miles from the assembly area. The fort (subsequently renamed Fort Monocacy) was attacked and was found to be entirely deserted. It too was quickly dismantled by the Marines and sailors. Later that afternoon the landing force moved over a terrain of "steep hills, with deep ravines between, . . . [and] with great fatigue," toward the main fort Kwangsonchin, called the Citadel but later renamed Fort McKee. The Admiral in charge of the landing force wrote, "Behind the crest of a hill which they occupied our men were formed for the assault upon the Citadel, now distant about 150 yards . . . When all was ready, the order to charge was given, and our men rushed forward down the slope and up the opposite hill. The enemy maintained their

fire with the utmost rapidity until our men got quite up the hill, then, having no time to load, they mounted the parapet and cast stones upon our men below, fighting with the greatest fury." In the final assault, 243 Koreans and three Americans were killed. Five batteries in all had fallen, and 481 pieces of artillery--ranging from 32-pounders to superannuated gingalls--were destroyed. The following morning, the 12th of June, the Marines and sailors were ordered to withdraw. The fleet remained at Boisé, while notes were fruitlessly exchanged between Minister Low and Korean officials, until 3 July when the Squadron sailed for Cheefoo, China. Of the squadron's 105 Marines who formed the shock troops for the expedition, six were awarded Medals of Honor for their heroism.

The assault of Marines and sailors on Kangwha Island on the Sallee River in 1871 successfully preceded by some 79 years the landing of the 1st Marine Division in Inchon, Korea, just 12 miles to the north.

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**"A MARINE FEARS NOT LOSING HIS LIFE, BUT LOSING HIS HONOR. HE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PRESERVE HIS LIFE, BUT HE CAN ALWAYS PRESERVE HIS HONOR. THAT MUCH IS WITHIN HIS POWER . . . TO FEAR DISGRACE BUT NOT DEATH, TO FEAR NOT DUTY BUT DERELICTION FROM DUTY---- THIS IS COURAGE. THE TRULY COURAGEOUS DO NOT LIVE IN ANXIETY FROM MORNING TO NIGHT. THEY ARE CALM BECAUSE THEY KNOW WHO THEY ARE."**

**John Silber author of The Ethics of the Sword.  
From a speech 21 February 1989 in Boston, Mass.**

### **INITIATIVES FROM LAST MEETING:**

#### **Discussion:-**

Standing report of committees.

### **Thanks/Awards:**

- Awarded a local student with a \$500 scholarship for college.

### **HERO OF THE MONTH**



Marine Corps Capt. Kenneth Reusser and his wingman were flying a mission in the Pacific region during World War II when they came upon a Japanese surveillance plane.

The cold air had frozen the fighters' guns, so Reusser tipped his F4U-4 Corsair toward the aircraft, allowing his wingman to rake his propeller across the plane's tail. The move downed the enemy plane and would have been a heroic highlight of any military career. But it was just a start for Reusser.

Known as one of the most decorated Marine Corps aviators ever, he died June 20 of natural causes at age 89 in Oregon.

Reusser was awarded **59 medals during his career, including two Navy Crosses, four Purple Hearts and two Legions of Merit.** He retired from the service a colonel, The Associated Press and Oregon media reported.

**He was shot down five times during 259 combat missions** in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam — at least once in each conflict.



# August 2009

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 League Mtg 1930 MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1930	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Hot Dog/Cap Fundrais er at Sam's Club in Brandon 1100 to 1530
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 1100 to 1400 Veterans Resource Fair in Tarpon Springs
30	31	Look Ahead: September 19, 2009 at 0900 hrs 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Poker Run for the Haley House November 7, 2009 Marine Corps Ball November 11, 2009 V.A. Hospital Veterans Day Parade November 14, 2009 Marine Corps Birthday Celebration				