



Marine Corps League

Detachment 1226

Volume 15

April 2010

League Officers:

Commandant:	Dennis Antle
Sr. Vice Commandant:	Willie Little, Jr.
Jr. Vice Commandant:	Debra Steele
Adjutant:	Jack Skelding
Paymaster:	Rob Becker
Judge Advocate:	Terry Graham
Chaplain:	Dave Blizzard
Sergeant-at-Arms:	George Mc Master
Past Commandant:	Jack Skelding
Web Sergeant:	Jacob Bain
Newsletter Editor:	Debra Steele
Historian:	Stan Horman

League Auxiliary

President:	Mary Zolna
Sr. Vice President:	Nancy Horman
Jr. Vice President:	Jackie Wyatt
Judge Advocate:	Mary Ann Raysick
Secretary:	Pat Skelding
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:

As I write my last notes for the Commandant Corner, I would like to say that it has been an honor to have been your Commandant for the past two years. I think that we have accomplished a lot and I would like to once again thank all the members of the Detachment for all of the hard work that you have put in during my tour. There are too many of you to recognize individually and I am afraid that if I tried that I would miss someone.

I want to wish the incoming Commandant Dennis Antle and his staff the best of luck and I would hope that you will give him the same support that you have given me.

I want to congratulate Mary Zolna on her re-election as the Auxiliary President and thank her and her members for all of the effort they have put forth in support of the Detachment. Thanks ladies for a job well done.

I will continue to be active in the Detachment and I hope to see you all at the monthly meetings.

Semper Fi Marines
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

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

The Auxiliary held an election and the newly elected Officers for the coming year are located on the first page of your Newsletter.

Congratulations to the new officers and I would like to thank each of you for electing me to a 2nd term. I look forward to this year and have some ideas on how we can further our efforts to show our presence & support in the community as well as continuing our support to the Detachment and other Veterans.

Remember to recruit new members whenever possible. We have grown this past year and more new members are always welcomed.

There will be a joint Installation of Officers of the Detachment & Auxiliary on May 2, 2010 at the American Legion at 2:00 p.m. with a light luncheon afterwards. I'm still waiting to hear from members who are willing to bring a dish for the luncheon - so far we have a fruit bowl, 2 macaroni salads & potato salad. The Auxiliary will provide the cake as we have done in the past. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Installation in May.

Mary Zolna
Auxiliary Unit 1226, President



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

MEMBERSHIP CORNER:

100% Membership Retention Goal based on roster dated 03/31/2009
Past Due June '09-March '10

Nathan Kidd	June
Robert Collins	July
Luis Rosario	Sept
Edison Adams	Oct
Juan De La Cruz	Oct
Jerome Kirkland	Oct
John Monck	Oct
David Paff	Oct
David Im	Dec
Keith Bro	Jan
Mike Sherman	Jan
Robert Lehman	Mar

Apr.-May Membership Expiration:

John T. Doody	Apr
Rob Cox	May
Larry Ludwick	May
George McMaster	May

Let's welcome Marine Jack Gulle and Associates
British Marines Ian McDonald and Raymond Hunt.

A Special Welcome Back to our fellow Marine
Bob Elliott

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 life membership, please contact Willie Little, Jr.
813/972-7711.

Ill Members

Michael Sherman – leg surgery.
Larry Ludwick's wife.

Deaths

Michael Sherman's grandfather.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

* Working Party for the Field of Honor upgrade. Sat, May 22 at 1000, meet at the Field of Honor, Veterans Memorial Park and Museum. We will replace the remaining tattered flags, spread the rest of the mulch and prepare the grounds for the Memorial Day activities on May 30. It should not take more than 1 hour to complete. Thanks all and Semper Fi!!!! Walt Raysick

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

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

* Rose Fund: Thank you to the 14 marines that gave their time with the latest fundraising weekend which was a success. We raised over \$1800. If you would like to be involved in future activities, please contact Bob Gramphrie.

CAR WASH

Car washes will now resume on the last Saturday of every month at the Legion from 1000 to 1400 hours.

YARD SALE:

Need donations to keep this going and volunteers to help work the yard sale on Sundays. Contact Jack or Ken for further details. This has been a moneymaker for the league.



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

As Michael's grandfather has recently past and he had to deal with family matters. There is no update on the status of the Young Marines. However, we are still looking for volunteers.

All materials the Young Marines are instructed from, as well as Adult Volunteer Registration forms, can be found on the Young Marines National website, <http://www.youngmarines.org> or I can send you a copy. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Semper Fidelis,
Michael W. Sherman Jr.
Corporal, United States Marine Corps
Commanding Officer (acting)
Hillsborough Young Marines
Cell: (813) 541-3452
E-mail: hcyoungmarines@tampabay.rr.com

Visit our Website at www.mclriverview.org

Advertising:

How would you like to be one of the first to advertise your business or local events? What a great way to advertise your product and/or services to the members!!! Need attendees for a local event or cause? Place your information today.

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

Size:	Monthly cost:	Yearly cost:
Business Card	\$8	\$80
Quarter page	\$10	\$100
Half page	\$20	\$200
Full page	\$30	\$300

**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 at 813-545-7526 or via email (on first page).

MILITARY NEWS

NUCLEAR: Military.com

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama on Tuesday vowed to constrain the use of the nation's Cold War-era nuclear arsenal, in a bold but politically risky move aimed at discouraging the technology from spreading.

Obama's plan, a sharp departure from his predecessor's policy, is a bid to downplay the threat posed by nations like Russia and China while emphasizing the threat posed by terrorists or states believed to encourage terrorism.

"To stop the spread of nuclear weapons, prevent nuclear terrorism, and pursue the day when these weapons do not exist, we will work aggressively to advance every element of our comprehensive agenda - to reduce arsenals, to secure vulnerable nuclear materials, and to strengthen" international agreement, Obama said in a statement.

This article first appeared in Aerospace Daily & Defense Report.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. -- The prognosis for the U.S. Marine Corps' troubled Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV) is not good, according to Gen. James Cartwright, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After his presentation to the Space and Missile Defense Conference here Aug. 19, Cartwright said the close-to-finished Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) is looking at EFV in the context of "amphibious writ large," and the high-speed combat vehicle "will have a significant challenge moving forward."

Cartwright went on to brand the EFV with the scarlet "E" for "exquisite" -- a pejorative term coined by Defense Secretary Robert Gates to refer to programs aimed at producing be-all, end-all systems.

"As we look at anti-access threats, is the exquisite nature of the vehicle appropriate? It's going to have a hard time," Cartwright said.

"Now I can't be a Marine anymore," he added.

According to other sources, the QDR may downplay the Marines' role as a forced-entry assault force versus security assistance and the Corps' currently dominant role on the ground.

Under development by General Dynamics since the early 1980s, the EFV is intended to combine payload and protection with 25-knot over water speed and long range.

It has been criticized for high cost, technical snags and delays, and for the potential vulnerability of its flat-bottom design to mines.

MARINE TIDBITS:

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE:

Once a Marine, Always a Marine: This truism was adopted as the official motto of the Marine Corps League. The origin of the statement is credited to a gung-ho Marine Corps Master Sergeant, Paul Woysner. During a barroom argument he shouted, "Once a Marine, always a Marine!" MSgt. Woysner was right. Once the title "U.S. Marine" has been earned, it is retained. There are no ex-Marines or former-Marines. There are (1) active duty Marines, (2) retired Marines, (3) reserve Marines, and (4) Marine veterans. Nonetheless, once one has earned the title, he remains a Marine for life.

Debra Steele

INITIATIVES FROM LAST MEETING:

Members Present: 41

Correspondence/Thank you:

Received various newsletter and booklets from other organizations.

Report of Standing Committees:

Toys for Tots:

No discussion.

Summer Picnic:

Will be at Fred's house (exact date to be announced).

John Bain is organizing this event.

Marine Corps Birthday :

No discussion.

Annual Poker/Bike Run:

Looking for volunteers.

Color Guard:

Participated in Color Guard for Marine in Ruskin who passed away. Will participate in Field of Honor.

Color Guard to participate in another funeral in Sun City on Friday @ 1100

Old Business

The scholarship committee (Willie, Pete, & Sid) reported they had conducted interviews at East Bay High School. One student was chosen based on established criteria (and need) while another student was just as qualified. A motion was made and seconded to give both students a \$500 scholarship..

New Business

Discussed whether we want to continue with the car washes? The answer was yes. Walt offered a power washer.

Discussed whether we want to sponsor a regional meeting? Perhaps as a fund raiser, however no decision was made.

Election of Officers for 2010-2011

Commandant, Dennis Antle. As there was no opposition was voted in.

Senior Vice Commandant. Willie Little had already been nominated and Ken Zolna's name was placed into nomination. Willie Little won head to head election.

Junior Vice Commandant, Debra Steele. As there was no opposition was voted in.

Judge Advocate, Terry Graham. As there was no opposition was voted in.

Good of the League

Various awards given to MCL 1226 members including: Ken Ferren, District Service Award, John Bain, Letter of Appreciation from 4th AAV BN., and a host of Meritorious Service Awards and Lifetime Members.



Ladies Auxillary at the Field of Honor on April 10, 2010. (President Mary Zolna and Barbara)

Announcements

Field of Honor (previously announced)

Yard Sale (Bernie volunteered)

Walt (Vets Council)

Dave Blizzard announced tickets could be had for the Marine Corps Barracks 8th & I Streets in Washington, D.C. by going to the website.



Honor Guard (George, Hank, Bernie, Ken, Terry and Joyce with widow) during Memorial Service in Sun City Center. Looking Sharp.

HERO OF THE MONTH -



Cpl. Matthew Bradford salutes as he's sworn in by Lt. Col. David Barnes.

After all he's been through, the only real regret Marine Cpl. Matthew Bradford says he has now is not being able to return to combat duty in Iraq. But Wednesday, Bradford, 23, made Marine Corps history, becoming the first blind double amputee to re-enlist. In keeping with service tradition, Bradford was honorably discharged and allowed to say a few words as a civilian before re-enlisting.

“Sign me up, sir!” he told Lt. Col. David Barnes, who administered the oath of enlistment, extending Bradford's military career by another four years. The outdoor re-enlistment ceremony was held a few hundred feet from the Center for the Intrepid, dedicated just 11 days after Bradford was seriously wounded in Iraq.

It was at the cutting-edge rehabilitation center, funded with \$50 million in private contributions, that he began his arduous and painful journey in June 2007 to learn to walk again with prosthetic limbs. He'll soon leave Fort Sam Houston to work with other wounded Marines at Camp Lejeune, N.C. At the Intrepid Center, he had memorized the number of steps it took to get wherever he was going in the third-floor physical therapy department. The center became his “comfort zone,” said his mother, Debbie Bradford.

“He's got to grow past it,” she said. “He knows he can always come back.”

So with a brief ceremony, delayed by about 20 minutes after the post was on lockdown for a visit by Vice President Joe Biden, Bradford's new phase of

duty began. He said he wants to stay in the Marines “for as long as I can.”

Bradford, who grew up in Winchester, Ky., and Dinwiddie, Va., had made up his mind that he was going to deploy as many times as the Marines wanted him to when he was hurt a few months into his first tour of Iraq.

A rifleman, he was on patrol in Al Anbar province and trying to help clear an area of roadside bombs when one of them exploded right under him the afternoon of Jan. 18, 2007.

Bradford lost his eyesight, and he had a fractured right hand and fragmentation wounds to the lower abdominal area. But what he said he hated the most was losing his legs. He required amputations below the knee on the right leg and above the knee on the left.

His physical therapist, Matt Parker, said Bradford put his complete trust in his rehabilitation team, at a time when the Intrepid Center was “extremely busy” with a first wave of severely wounded troops. One of the first tasks was to use exercises to strengthen his trunk area.

“Every day, he would show up faithfully at 1 o'clock, despite having a full belly after lunch,” Parker said. “He's done things most able-bodied people can't do.” During President George W. Bush's visit at the Intrepid Center in November 2007, Bradford caught the president's attention while climbing the center's 35-foot artificial rock wall.

“Good man, isn't he?” Bush said, according to news reports. Since then, Bradford has inspired others by riding his hand cycle, with directions called out to him, in the Marine Corps Marathon. Last year, he hiked 10 miles of desert terrain in the grueling Bataan Memorial Death March in White Sands, N.M. Bradford credited his years of playing football and basketball as a youth, and the never-give-up attitude of the Marine Corps, with preparing him for his recovery. He's learned to read Braille and works on a computer with the aid of special software. Friday, he

received a promotion to corporal, based on leadership.

The prayers and support of strangers and friendships he's made also have helped, his mother said.

“He just doesn't like the word ‘No,’” she said. “He's lost a lot, but he's gained a lot.”

She said she was proud to see her son take his oath of service in 2005, despite her worries about his safety.

Seeing him take the oath again Wednesday, after his long ordeal, was even more wrenching, she said.

Bradford said he wants to focus his energy on others, now that he's come so far in his own recovery.

He said he hopes to help wounded Marines cope with anger, depression and other demons that can fester if there's not someone around to provide strong peer mentoring.

“I'm paving the road for the rest of them who want to stay in but think they can't,” he said. “I'm ready to get back to work.”

He did note one tinge of sadness — regret about having to say goodbye.

“It's going to be hard to leave my friends,” he said.

Submitted by John Bain



May 2010

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Yard Sale Installation of Officers 1400 hr	3	4 League Mtg 1930 (Elections) MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1930 (Elections)	5	6	7	8
9 Yard Sale	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Yard Sale	17	18	19	20	21	22 Work Party for Field of Honor at 1000 at Veterans Park
23 Yard Sale	24	25	26	27	28	29 Car Wash
30 Yard Sale Memorial Day Celebration Veterans Park	31	Look Ahead: June 6 th 1130 hours Point to Point Ride starting at DeepSouth BBQ in Hernando Cty; June 17 th thru 20 th – The Department Convention; June 27 th – First Annual Rolling Thunder POW/MIA Golf Tournament; August 8 th thru 14 th – National Convention in Greensboro, NC.; September 19 th Growl at the Riverview Detachment				