



Marine Corp League

Detachment 1226

Volume 23

December 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: Walt Raysick
Chaplain: Dave Blizzard
Sergeant-at-Arms: George Mc Master
Past Commandant: Jack Skelding
Web Sergeant: Jacob Bain
Newsletter Editor: Debra Steele
Historian: Stan Horman

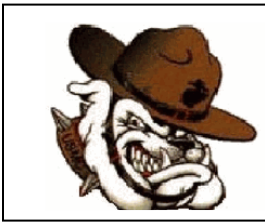
League Auxiliary

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

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:

The Commandant hopes everyone had a Merry Christmas and wishes all a Happy New Year!

Semper-Fi Marines
Your Commandant
Dennis Antle

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

Wishing everyone a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR!!

Our next meeting will be January 4th, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at VFW 8108 on Riverview Dr., Riverview.

Mary Zolna
President

Debra.steele.0602@gmail.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

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:

Antle, Danny - November
Antle, Jennifer - November
Bell, Jeanne - September
Coston, Diano - September
Cox, Ronald - May
Grant, John - July
Horman, Thomas – October
Larrow, Thomas - October
Martin, David - September
Ramos, George - September

Sepeda, Jason - October
Serra, Guillermo – September

December 2010 Membership Expirations:
Hall, Jeffrey
Scheller, Bruce
Sherman, Ashley
Sirvent, Eric
Toledo, William

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.

New Members:

Melvin Stilwell sponsored by Joyce Stilwell.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP BY AGE CATEGORY

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

Congratulations to Houston Tucker, Bernie Kotrady, Sid Atwater and Gene Chrismer for becoming new life members.

Should you have any questions regarding the membership please contact Rob Becker (813) 480-4281 or the league.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

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

*Poker Run Update: The check was presented to the Haley House for \$5500. Thank you for all those that helped make this event possible.

*Rose Fund: For information regarding the Rose Fund please contact Sr. Vice Commandant Willie Little.

*Honor Guard: If you are interested in participating in the Honor Guard please contact Walt Raysick.

Marine Corps League, Det 1226 Riverview, FL, Rifle Salute at the dedication of the RAdm Leroy Collins, Jr Veteran Museum on Dec 8, 2010.



Sr. Vice Commandant Willie Little Jr.
 Judge Advocate Walt Raysick
 Bernie Kotrady

For those of you who stepped up to my challenge by bringing an unwrapped toy and/or supplies to be mailed to our troops overseas I want to say a big THANK YOU!!

Leave it to the Marines to get these jobs done!!!

Thanks again.

Debra Steele
 Jr. Vice Commandant

YARD SALE:

Need donations to keep this going. Contact Jack or Dennis for further details.

CAR WASH

Come out and join us on the last Saturday of every month from 1000 to 1400 hours. Come give us your support whether it is washing cars or having your car washed. There will not be a car wash in December.

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	\$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 via email (Debra.Steele.0602@gmail.com).

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.



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

A youth program emphasizing honesty, courage, respect, industry, loyalty, dependability, and a sense of devotion to God, country, community and family. We are looking for volunteers to get this program off the ground. If you are interested please contact me.

Michael Sherman, Jr.
 Cpl USMC
 Commanding Office (acting)
 Hillsborough Young Marines
hcyoungmarines@tampabay.rr.com

MILITARY NEWS

VA Urges Veterans to Sign Up for Direct Deposits Treasury Publishes Final Regulation to Phase Out Paper Checks by 2013

WASHINGTON - The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013. Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) urge Veterans to sign up for electronic payment of their benefits. "Receiving VA benefits electronically will increase the security, convenience and reliability of these vital payments," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "VA encourages Veterans who are now receiving their benefits in paper checks to set up direct deposits before the deadline." On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the Direct Express card, it is issued by Comerica Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA's compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically.

Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the changes. To learn more about the federal government's switch to direct deposit -- or to change VA benefits to direct deposit -- visit www.GoDirect.org. Information about the federal government's "Go Direct" campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795.

Along with payments for VA benefit, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management.

For more information about VA benefits and programs, go to www.va.gov or call toll free 1-800-827-1000.

VA Processes First Claims for New Agent Orange Presumptives New Program Speeds Approval for Vietnam Veterans

WASHINGTON (Dec. 17, 2010) – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has decided more than 28,000 claims in the first six weeks of processing disability compensation applications from Vietnam Veterans with diseases related to exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange.

"With new technology and ongoing improvements, we are quickly removing roadblocks to processing benefits," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "We are also conducting significant outreach to Vietnam Veterans to encourage them to submit their completed application for this long-awaited benefit."

VA published a final regulation on Aug. 31 that makes Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam and who have been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, ischemic heart disease, or a B-cell (or hairy-cell) leukemia eligible for health care and disability compensation benefits. With the expiration of the required 60-day congressional review on Oct. 30, VA is now able to process these claims.

Vietnam Veterans covered under the new policy are encouraged to file their claims through a new VA Web portal at www.fasttrack.va.gov. Vietnam Veterans are the first users of this convenient automated claims processing system.

If treated for these diseases outside of VA's health system, it is important for Veterans to gather medical evidence from their non-VA physicians. VA has made it easy for physicians to supply the clinical findings needed to approve the claim through the new Web portal. These medical forms are also available at www.vba.va.gov/disabilityexams.

The portal guides Veterans through Web-based menus to capture information and medical evidence required for faster claims decisions. While the new system currently is limited to these three disabilities, usage will expand soon to include claims for other conditions.

VA has begun collecting data that recaps its progress in processing claims for new Agent Orange benefits at www.vba.va.gov/VBA/agentorange/reportcard/index.html.

MARINE TIDBITS:



Banner of the few, the proud

Marines have carried several different flags since the American Revolution, but today's scarlet standard has been flown during Marine Corps missions and ceremonies since January 1939.

The Eagle, Globe and Anchor emblem is rendered in gray and gold over the scarlet background. The motto ribbon flows from the eagle's beak, bearing "Semper Fidelis," and the flowing scroll below bears "United States Marine Corps."

Scarlet and gold were established as the official colors of the Corps as early as 1925, and the Eagle, Globe and Anchor emblem has appeared as part of Marine Corps iconography since 1868. In addition to being flown at ceremonies and installations, the Marine Corps flag hangs in the offices of the President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Initiatives from meeting minutes

Special Event: Prior to the start of the meeting the Detachment Commandant made a presentation of a \$5500.00 check to the Haley House Fund.

Roll Call of Officers: Cmdt_X__ Sr. Vice__X__ Jr. Vice_X__ JA__A__ Adjutant__X__ Paymaster__E__ Chaplain__X__ Sgt-at-Arms_X__

Members Present__23__ Guests____

Applications for Membership: One. Melvin Stilwell, Associate Member. Approved

Correspondence:

Letter and certificate of Appreciation from the American Legion for being a hole sponsor at their golf tournament.

Marion Detachment Newsletter

Sgt. Grit Magazine

Members Sick or in Distress: Stan Hormon

Report of Standing Committees:

Marine Corps Birthday: Walt Raysick announced that a good time was had by all who attended.

Poker Run: Debra Steele told the membership that the poker run went well and that she still has some shirts size Med. and Lg. for sale at \$6.00 each.

Toys for Tots: John Bain reported that letter carriers day went well and that the toy and cash collected at the 1st hockey game was good. He also reminded the members present that help will be need at the next hockey game on Dec. 15th and the BUCS game on the 19th. He also advised that anyone who has the time to spare that help is needed at the warehouse daily from 0900 to 2100.

Rose Fund: The Commandant announced that Ken Zolna has decided to transfer to the detachment in Tampa so we need a new Rose Fund chairperson. Sr. Vice Willie Little volunteered to be that chairperson.

Honor Guard: Walt Raysick informed that the Honor Guard has commitments for the renaming of the vets park on Dec. 8th the circus at the Showman's Club on Jan. 8th and the Field of Honor on Jan. 8th. He also said he will be asking for a working party in late December to help prepare the Field of Honor for the Jan. 8th ceremony.

Report of Special Committees: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the League:

Joyce Stillwell proposed that the detachment take the lead in a project to replace the flags along the parade route in Ruskin. After much discussion it was tabled until next months meeting in order for more information to be obtained regarding the project.

The Commandant asked the membership for recommendations for fund raisers to increase the balance of our funds on hand. The balance has dropped to its lowest amount in several years.

John Bain made a motion to donate \$300.00 to the 4th AABN for their Christmas Party. The motion was seconded and passed.

John Bain made a motion to donate the required amount to purchase 15 pints of Jack Daniels to be placed in the stockings of the Wounded Warriors at the Haley Hospital. Motion received a second and passed.

Announcements:

The Commandant has raffle tickets for the Department scholarship fund.

Visit our Website at
www.mclriverview.org

This story comes to us from one of our Brothers in Arms. This was circulated from our Detachment email but I thought it warranted more. I hope it means as much to you as it did me.

Debra Steele
Jr. Vice Commandant



Dear Marine Corps League,

My name is Gunnery Sergeant Allan Anderson and I am a Marine currently stationed in Camp Pendleton, California. I recently returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan. I would like to take a moment to share a story with you in Riverview, Florida.

Almost exactly one year ago, I found myself in a remote place in the mountains of Farah Province in a volatile section of Afghanistan. While preparing my men for a rigorous tour of duty and a long cold Afghan winter, I noticed some care packages sitting atop a dusty and empty desk. Many care packages are sent to the troops overseas and all of them are greatly appreciated. The one I saw from the Marine Corps League in Riverview, FL was different. It contained many pieces of an American Flag that once proudly flew in Florida. I picked up one of the pieces of the flag and read the short story that was typed on the bag in which the flag was contained. I was really touched

by the effort that was put into sending all those to us in Afghanistan. With that said, I wanted to do my part and let you know that I appreciated your effort. I decided to put one of the pieces into my pocket and carry it with me. I will tell you this....I carried that flag with me every single day during my combat tour. I considered it a little piece of home and took pride carrying it with me. I told myself that when I safely returned I would write to the Marine Corps League and tell you about my experience. I enclosed a couple of pictures myself along with my fellows Marines in Afghanistan. I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude for all your efforts in supporting the troops. It truly does not go unnoticed. I would also say that it really does mean a lot to all the men and women currently serving to know that they are still receiving support from home, especially during the holiday season. Please continue your support. It is greatly appreciated!



Again, thank you for sending me a little piece of Florida! It helped me get through a rough time in a rough place and it truly meant a lot. Semper Fidelis!

GySgt Allan Anderson
Military Police Company
1st Marine Division
Afghanistan, November 2009-June 2010



HERO OF THE MONTH:



Truman to Biddle: 'I'd rather have this than be president.'

ANDERSON, Ind. — Melvin E. “Bud” Biddle, the soft-spoken Anderson native who went on to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for his role in World War II’s infamous Battle of the Bulge, died Thursday at Saint John’s Medical Center. He was 87.

Gov. Mitch Daniels, upon hearing the news, issued a statement saying, “We call them the Greatest Generation for a reason, and in Melvin Biddle we have just lost one of the greatest of the great. Every Hoosier is proud that our state produced such a man.”

CITATION:

He displayed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy near Soy, Belgium, on 23 and 24 December 1944. Serving as lead scout during an attack to relieve the enemy-encircled town of Hotton, he aggressively penetrated a densely wooded area, advanced 400 yards until he came within range of intense enemy rifle fire, and within 20 yards of enemy positions killed 3 snipers with unerring marksmanship. Courageously continuing his advance an additional 200 yards, he discovered a hostile machinegun position and dispatched its 2 occupants. He then located the approximate position of a well-concealed enemy machinegun nest, and crawling

forward threw hand grenades which killed two Germans and fatally wounded a third. After signaling his company to advance, he entered a determined line of enemy defense, coolly and deliberately shifted his position, and shot 3 more enemy soldiers. Undaunted by enemy fire, he crawled within 20 yards of a machinegun nest, tossed his last hand grenade into the position, and after the explosion charged the emplacement firing his rifle. When night fell, he scouted enemy positions alone for several hours and returned with valuable information which enabled our attacking infantry and armor to knock out 2 enemy tanks. At daybreak he again led the advance and, when flanking elements were pinned down by enemy fire, without hesitation made his way toward a hostile machinegun position and from a distance of 50 yards killed the crew and 2 supporting riflemen. The remainder of the enemy, finding themselves without automatic weapon support, fled panic stricken. Pfc. Biddle’s intrepid courage and superb daring during his 20-hour action enabled his battalion to break the enemy grasp on Hotton with a minimum of casualties.

Story obtained from the American Legion Burn Pit
Written December 20th, 2010 by MOTHAX



January 2011

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
2	3 Legion Riders Mtg at Post 148 1830 hours	4 League Mtg 1930 MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1930	5	6	7	8
9 Yard Sale	10 Legion Mtg	11	12	13	14	15
16 Yard Sale	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Yard Sale	24	25	26	27	28	29 Carwash 1000 to 1400 hours
30 Yard Sale	Look Ahead: 3/3/11 through 3/6/11: Southeast Division Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida					