



Marine Corp League

Detachment 1226

Volume 2

February 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: Bob Gramprrie
Chaplain: Dave Blizzard
Sergeant-at-Arms: George Mc Master
Past Commandant: John Bain
Web Sergeant: Jacob Bain
Newsletter Editor: Debra Steele

League Auxiliary

President: Pat Skelding
Sr. Vice: Mary Zolna
Jr. Vice: Shanda Antle
Judge Advocate: Kamela Ryan
Secretary: Peggy Grant

Marine Corps League Detachment 1226

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

Mailing Label goes Here

COMMANDANT'S CORNER:

At our next meeting March 3rd we will be nominating the officers that we want to be in charge of our Detachment for the next year. Elected officers are the Commandant, Sr. Vice Cmdt., Jr. Vice Cmdt., and Judge Advocate. The Paymaster, Chaplain and Sgt. at Arms are appointed positions and do not need to be nominated or voted on. If you have someone in mind that you would like to see elected you need to be at the meeting to make your nomination. The elections will take place in April and you will have one last chance to nominate someone at that meeting just prior to the election.

Two months ago we voted to stand up a Young Marines Unit. We still have not had anyone come forward willing to help Cpl. Sherman with this project. It is not something that he can do alone. He needs some additional help. Most of the training of these young boys will take place on Saturdays. With 100 members in this Detachment I am disappointed that one or two do not have a few hours a month that they can spare to help out. If you can please get involved. You can contact me for additional information.

Our Sunday yard sales will continue until Memorial Day. Then they will shut down until Labor Day. If you have anything of value that you wish to donate you can bring it on Sunday from 0700-1200. If you would like to help out and work a Sunday please let me know.

We have started doing a car wash on the last Saturday of each month from 1000 until 1400. We can also use some help there. If you cannot spend the whole time we are grateful for whatever time you can give us. If you are unable to help we would welcome the opportunity to wash your car. It only takes a few minutes, we work for donations and the money is for a good cause.

We are looking forward to our 3rd Annual Poker Run in September. Debra Steele has volunteered to take

charge. We are ready start planning for this event now. If you want to be involved please let Debra or myself know ASAP.

Please continue to recruit new members. If you do not have an application with you and need one to carry see me at our next meeting and I will give you some. There are also three in each copy of the Semper Fi Magazine that you get. Remember that a copy of the Applicants DD-214 is needed to be seen. Active duty Marines need only to show their ID card. We pay the 1st years dues for active duty Marines that join.

Remember Marines this is your Detachment not mine. I only serve because you asked me to. We can only be as good as you want us to be. Your attendance at our meetings is very important and your help with all of our going projects is needed.

Semper Fi Marines
Jack Skelding
Commandant

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

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

*Poker Run Update: Soon we will be sending letters and/or contacting those who sponsored the run last year asking for their continued support. The Run will be held the last Saturday in September. Mark your calendars now

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:

Our next meeting will be Tuesday March 3rd at 7:30 pm at the VFW in Riverview. At this meeting we will be nominating ladies for our slate of officers that will be running for office for the year 2009-2010. Please step up and run for office. I see our membership building this year and we need to have a strong base behind them.

Also we will be holding a fundraiser dinner on March 28th at 4 pm at the American Legion. We haven't decided what we are making but we will be deciding that at our next meeting.

The Department Spring Conference will be held in Orlando on March 19th through March 22nd. It's very informative and we have a great time. Ladies let me know if you will be attending.

I hope to see all of our membership at our meetings. We do so many good things for others. Imagine how much we can do with all attending our monthly meetings.

I would like to see the League get their spouses involved in the auxiliary. If you need an application or have any questions feel free to call me at 672-1778.

Pat Skelding

New Members:

Clyde Trathowen

Ill Members

Tony Donofrio

Dennis Antle

Debra Steele's son Keith

YARD SALE:

Need donations to keep this going. Contact Jack or Ken for further details. This has been a moneymaker for the league. (\$60 in February).

CAR WASH

Come out and join us on the last Saturday of every month. Our efforts netted over \$200 in February.

SPRING CONFERENCE:

If you are interested in attending the Spring Conference in March, please be sure to register by March 14, 2009. If you need further information, please contact Andrew Smith, SouthLake Detachment #1120 at 352-874-3064.

STRAWBERRY Festival:

All Military Active and Retired will have free admission into the Strawberry Festival on March 4, 2009 with valid Military I.D.

NAME THE NEWSLETTER:

Since our newsletter is just getting back on track, please help in finding a name for our Newsletter. We will vote on a name at the March Meeting. Names, which will be voted on:

Marine Messenger
Dawg Gone News
The 1226 Express
1226 Gung Ho

Devil Dog Daily
1226 Logbook
MCL Gazette 1226

If you have any others, please let me know so they can be added to the ballot for voting.

There were also suggestions to honor local heroes by naming the newsletter after them.

1st Lieutenant Boldomero Lopez, USMC Medal of Honor Notes (1226). Lt. Lopez was a native of Tampa, Florida.

PFC Guy Louis Gabaldon USMC Navy Cross Notes (1226). He died just up the road in Old Town, Florida.

Or instead we could have a special part of our monthly newsletter dedicated to a local hero with a short bio. Let me know your thoughts.



**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. The Young Marines program receives funding from Congress and the United States Marine Corps primarily because of their drug interdiction focus on drug education and prevention. (Source: www.mcleague.com)

MILITARY NEWS

TRICARE Fee Bill Needs Support

The Military Retirees' Health Care Protection Act (H.R. 816) which would bar the Defense Department from unilaterally increasing military TRICARE enrollment fees, co-payments, and other fees, was reintroduced last week in the House. Under their legislation, only Congress would have that authority to make increases in TRICARE related fees. Congress has rejected repeated Pentagon proposals to double or triple TRICARE fees for retirees under age 65 and increase pharmacy copays for all beneficiaries who purchase medications through TRICARE's retail or mail-order pharmacy systems. The [Military Officers Association of America \(MOAA\)](#) and The Military Coalition strongly endorse H.R. 816 and urge you to contact your U.S. representative to sign on as a cosponsor of this important legislation. [Take Action: Tell your public officials if you think this bill should become a law.](#)

Exchanges Sponsor \$25K Giveaway

Army & Air Force Exchange Service shoppers could win a 2009 Pontiac Solstice or its cash equivalent of approximately \$24,800 in the AAFES/Unilever sweepstakes, sponsored by AXE Hair Care. The sweepstakes is open to all authorized exchange shoppers through March 26, 2009. Entry forms are

available at BXs and PXs worldwide, including locations throughout Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. The AAFES drawing for the Pontiac Solstice, or equivalent dollar amount, will take place on or about Apr. 30, 2009.

MARINE TIDBITS:

"February and March 1944 found thousands of Marines engaged in a desperate fight. The place. . . Iwo Jima. It was a small volcanic "home" island of Japan. Colonel Robert Debs Heinl described D Day, the 19th of February like this. "Anyone who has been there can shut his eyes and see the place again. It never looked more aesthetically ugly than on D-day morning, or more completely Japanese. Its silhouette was like a sea monster, with the little dead volcano for the head, and the beach area for the neck, and all the rest of it, with its scrubby brown cliffs for the body. It had the minute, fussy compactness of those miniature Japanese gardens. Its stones and rocks were like those contorted, wind-scoured, water-worn boulders which the Japanese love to collect as landscape decorations."

The Marines landed and we all know the story of what happened on that contorted, wind-scoured "eight square miles of hell." Here's a story, however, most of the Marines don't know about. It goes like this. . .

"What?" the Lieutenant answered. **"YOU DON'T SHOOT SOMEONE YOU'VE JUST SLEPT WITH."**

The Marine Lieutenant was describing to his men why he didn't shoot the Japanese soldier, with whom he had shared the same shell hole for the night. Both the Marine and the Japanese soldier had slept through the Iwo Jima night, unbeknownst to each other, due to the darkness and intensive fire occurring around them. They both woke up at the same time when dawn was breaking. **"WOW,"** the Lieutenant continued, **"HE TOOK ONE LOOK AT ME, I DID THE SAME TOWARD HIM, AND WE BOTH RAN IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS."**

Semper Fi. . . Sid

INITIATIVES FROM LAST MEETING:

Voted On:

* Hillsborough Veterans Council needs new flags for the Field of Honor - Approved \$50 donation.

Discussion:-

* Upcoming Poker Run the last Saturday in September – looking for volunteers. Please contact Jack or Debra.

* Looking for a volunteer to organize the Marine Corp Birthday Celebration. Please contact Jack.

* Looking for volunteers to help with the Young Marines. Please see Jack or Cpl Sherman.

Thanks:

* Thanks was given to all those that helped with the Poker Run last year.

* Thanks to all that helped with Toys for Tots.

* Thanks to Michael Sherman for coming through for a fellow Marine by purchasing new dress blues for a deceased Marine's burial.

. Visit our Website at
www.mclriverview.org



March 2009

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Yard Sale 0700-1200	2	3 League Mtg 1930 MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1930	4 Strawberry Festival: Free entry for active or retired military	5 Southeast Conf 5 th thru 8 th - TN	6 Southeast Conf 5 th thru 8 th - TN	7 Southeast Conf 5 th thru 8 th - TN
8 Yard Sale 0700-1200 Southeast Conf 5 th thru 8 th - TN	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Yard Sale 0700-1200	16	17	18	19 Spring Conf 19 th thru 22 nd	20 Spring Conf 19 th thru 22 nd	21 Spring Conf 19 th thru 22 nd
22 Yard Sale 0700-1200 Spring Conf 19 th thru 22 nd	23	24	25	26	27	28 CarWash 1000 to 1400
29 Yard Sale 0700-1200	30 Veterans Council Mtg 1830 hrs. at Veterans Park	31	April events: April 11, 2009 Field of Honor at Veterans Memorial Park off Highway 301 at 1000 hours			