



# Marine Corps League

## Detachment 1226

Volume 13

February 2010

### 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

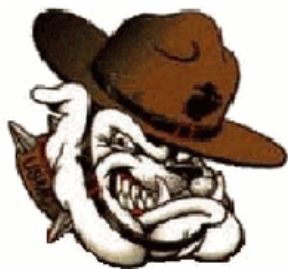
### League Auxiliary

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

### 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:

At our next meeting March 2, 2010 we will be nominating for office those who we want to see lead this Detachment for the next year. The positions that need to be voted on are the Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate. We will hold 2nd nominations and the election at the April 6th meeting. It is important that you show up for these two meetings to support your candidate.

As I am coming to the end of my second term I want to thank all who have supported the Detachment and myself. I think that we have grown in size and commitment these past two years. We have had two successful Bike Runs and Toys for Tots drives, I have seen our Color/Honor Guard grow to into something we can all be proud of. The Yard Sales, Car Washes, Hot Dog Sales and Rose Fund Drives have helped put money in our treasure so that we were able to support several projects. The Haley House and the Scholarships that we have given out are two that come to mind. There have also been several other donations made to worthwhile causes. We are now in the process of trying to stand up a Young Marine Unit in the Detachment. When this happens there will be a need for members to volunteer to help as instructors and troop handlers.

There are lots of things for you our members to get involved in. We don't expect for any one person to do everything but we do need you to step up and help with those projects that you have the time and ability to help with. As I have said before this is your Detachment it does not belong to me. We can only be as good as you our members want us to be. So lets

all pitch in and make this the best damn Detachment in the Marine Corps League.

One last thing, we all know Marines and Navy Corpsmen who are eligible to join the League. If each one of us recruits one new member we would double our size. Lets make that a goal. RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT.

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.

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

## 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.

**AUXILIARY PRESIDENT COMMENTS:**

Our Valentine's Day themed basket raffle was a huge success!! At \$600+, I do believe this is the most money we've ever made on any of our fund-raisers. Good job to one & all. We've another fund-raiser coming up in March. We will be having an "after" St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner at the American Legion on March 20, 2010. More info at the March 2nd meeting.

The SE District Conference will take place in Mobile, AL from March 4-7, 2010 & I will be attending along with Ken. Jack & Pat Skelding will be going as well. It should be a good time as well as informative.

It is very important that you attend the March 2nd meeting, as nominations will be accepted at that time. Remember, this is your Unit and if you wish to be heard you need to be in attendance. Unfortunately, due to the "negative & argumentative attitude" of certain members some of the current officers are not wishing to run for re-election and this is a real shame. Unless we overcome and get back to working together for the good of the Auxiliary in an adult manner then I cannot see how the Unit will grow or be able to do what should be done. Even associate members are reluctant to attend meetings. And remember another very important item, only regular members may hold an elected office & cast a vote and if there is not enough regular membership participation it will make for a very difficult situation come elections. So plan on being at the meetings. Elections will be held at the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Next meeting will be March 2, 2010 at the VFW Post 8108 in Riverview at 7:30pm. Hope to see you all then.

Mary Zolna  
Auxiliary Unit 1226, President

**MEMBERSHIP CORNER:**

100% Membership Retention Goal based on roster dated 02/31/2009

Past due June-January 2010

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
Bruce Scheller	Dec
Jacob Bain	Jan
Dale Becker	Jan
Keith Bro	Jan
Gene Chrismer	Jan
Mike Sherman	Jan

Feb-Mar. Membership Expirations

Roger Dunn	Mar
Robert Lehmann	Mar
Larry McAuley	Mar

**New Members:**

Let's welcome Marines Robert Longabardi & Patrick Sarsfield and Associate Kris Bennett.

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP BY AGE CATEGORY**

61	and	over	\$150.00
51	to	60	\$300.00
36	to	50	\$400.00

Welcome our new life associate J. R. Covington.

Should you have any questions regarding life membership, please contact Willie Little, Jr. 813/973-7711.

**Ill Members**

Cpl Mike Sherman's Father and Grandfather. Roger's wife is now out of the hospital. Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers.

## Deaths

None

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

\* 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 Terry Graham.

\* If you are interested in helping with the Rose Fund contact Bob Gramprrie (741-2844) or Willie Little (972-7711) for more information. We are set for our worthwhile fundraiser on Mar 20th at one Publix and Mar 27th at two Publix locations. We still need volunteers, so please contact Willie Little or Bob Gramphrie at our next meeting MARCH 2nd. This fundraiser will benefit our annual Scholarships both Florida state level and locally.



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

This is your chance to help shape the youth of America and teach them the same values and principals we swore to uphold as Marines. They are the leaders of tomorrow. I want to give them the tools to succeed, but I cannot do it alone. 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](mailto:hcyoungmarines@tampabay.rr.com)

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

### Marines Clarify Tattoo Policy

Week of February 15, 2010

The Marine Corps recently released additional rules to its tattoo policy. In addition to the already prohibited head and neck, Marines cannot get tattoos or brands on their hands, fingers, wrists or inside their mouths. Both commissioned and warrant officers are now limited to four tattoos or brands visible when wearing the standard physical training uniform. Apparently invisible tattoos that use ultraviolet ink only visible under a black light are also banned. Marines who currently have any of the now-prohibited tattoos will not face any punishment, but

they must document the tattoos with photos in their service record books no later than June 1, 2010.

**U.S. Marine Walks Away From Shot to Helmet in Afghanistan** FEBRUARY 15, 2010 Wall Street Journal By MICHAEL M. PHILLIPS

On the one hand, he was shot in the head. On the other, the bullet bounced off him. In one of those rare battlefield miracles, an insurgent sniper hit Lance Cpl. Koenig dead on in the front of his helmet, and he walked away from it with a smile on his face.



Bryan Denton for the Wall Street Journal

Lance Cpl. Andrew Koenig shows the spot on his helmet where a Taliban bullet struck, almost centered, between the eyes. "I don't think I could be any luckier than this," Lance Cpl. Koenig said two hours after the shooting. Lance Cpl. Koenig's brush with death came during a day of intense fighting for the Marines of Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Regiment. The company had landed by helicopter in the predawn dark on Saturday, launching a major coalition offensive to take Marjah from the Taliban. The Marines set up an outpost in a former drug lab and roadside-bomb factory and soon found themselves under near-constant attack. Lance Cpl. Koenig, a lanky 21-year-old with jug-handle ears and a burr of sandy hair, is a designated marksman. His job is to hit the elusive Taliban fighters hiding in the tightly packed neighborhood near the base. The insurgent sniper hit him first. The Casper, Wyo., native was kneeling on the roof of the one-story outpost, looking for targets. He was reaching back to his left for his rifle when the sniper's round slammed into his helmet. The impact knocked him onto his back. "I'm hit," he yelled to his buddy, Lance Cpl.

Scott Gabrian, a 21-year-old from St. Louis. Lance Cpl. Gabrian belly-crawled along the rooftop to his friend's side. He patted Lance Cpl. Koenig's body, looking for wounds. Then he noticed that the plate that usually secures night-vision goggles to the front of Lance Cpl. Koenig's helmet was missing. In its place was a thumb-deep dent in the hard Kevlar shell. Lance Cpl. Gabrian slid his hands under his friend's helmet, looking for an entry wound. "You're not bleeding," he assured Lance Cpl. Koenig. "You're going to be OK." Lance Cpl. Koenig climbed down the metal ladder and walked to the company aid station to see the Navy corpsman. The only injury: A small, numb red welt on his forehead, just above his right eye. He had spent 15 minutes with Doc, as the Marines call the medics, when an insurgent's rocket-propelled grenade exploded on the rooftop, next to Lance Cpl. Gabrian. The shock wave left him with a concussion and hearing loss. He joined Lance Cpl. Koenig at the aid station, where the two friends embraced, their eyes welling.

**MARINE TIDBITS:**

"IT'S NOT HARD TO BE AN OFFICER, BUT IT'S DAMN HARD TO BE A GOOD OFFICER." Dan Daley, Gunnery Sergeant, USMC

Semper Fi Sid

## **INITIATIVES FROM LAST MEETING:**

Before the meeting was officially called to order the Commandant asked that we allow Pam & Mike from K9 for Vets to show us a couple of animals they have trained and explain what their organization is all about.

### **Members Present:**

37; 1 MCL member from South Carolina present

### **Correspondence/Thank you:**

Our FIRST Thank You letter from one of the Eagle Scouts we helped was received.  
Scholarship letter from East Bay HS was received.  
We also received a Thank You letter from the Bancas.

### **Report of Standing Committees:**

#### Toys for Tots:

Herb reported that the our detachment donated 396 hours of time to the program and it is appreciated.

#### Summer Picnic:

Will be a Fred's house (exact date to be announced).  
John Bain is organizing this event.

#### Marine Corps Birthday :

Mike Sherman volunteered to head up committee

#### Annual Poker/Bike Run:

Looking for volunteers.

#### Color Guard:

Terry Graham

### **Old Business**

- Freedom Excursion Trip for GySgt. .  
.March 27th at Ruskin VFW
- Update that Ocasio has plead Not Guilty to charges of stolen valor and will appear in court in March.

- Motion made that 40% of all money collected should go into MCL 1226 coffers (for building fund). This Motion was tabled to research old minutes to see what 1226 originally voted previously.

### **New Business**

- John Bain selling raffle tickets for scholarship.
- Discussion about arrangements for Marine who was killed in AFG.
- Motion made to add \$51 dollars to the amount collected in passing of the hat to K9s for Vets. Motion seconded.. unanimous vote.

### **Good of the League**

Nothing brought up at the meeting.

### **Announcements**

- Car Wash (see calendar)
- Korean War Remembrance. Six members will attend at Largo Saturday Feb 13.
- Next month will be nominations for officers with April as month to vote.
- Spring Conference, Lake Buena Vista (see calendar for dates) \$99 per night \$40 per person for banquet.
- Field of Honor has new Flags. . .thanks for all who helped.
- The hat was passed for K9s for Vets

**HEROES OF THE MONTH** - *These men deserve our Thanks and I decided to make them our Heroes of the Month. Gentlemen we salute you!!!!*

Six members of the Riverview Detachment of the Marine Corps League were recognized for their service during the Korean War era at a ceremony held at the Military Museum in Largo, Fl on 13 February 2010. Those honored were each presented with a certificate of appreciation and a plaque commemorating their commitment and service. The honored veterans were Walt Ryan, George McMaster, Charlie Cox, Stan Horman, Peter White and Ken Ferrin. Following the ceremony a lunch was provided by the Morris Dixon Detachment from Clearwater.



Charlie Cox receiving his certificate.



Peter White on his way up to receive his certificate.



L-R Riverview Detachment Sr. Vice Commandant Denis Antle, Walt Ryan, George McMaster, Charlie Cox, Stan Horman, Peter White and Detachment Commandant Jack Skelding. Missing from the photo is Ken Ferrin..



George McMaster on his way to receive his certificate.



First row end seat Stan Horman and second row last seat Walt Ryan.

**THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!**



# March 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 League Mtg 1930 MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1930	3	4 Southeast Division Conf. Mobil, AL	5 Southeast Division Conf. Mobil, AL	6 Southeast Division Conf. Mobil, AL
7 Yard Sale Southeast Division Conf. Mobil, AL	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Yard Sale	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Yard Sale	22	23	24	25 Dept. Spring Conf Hilton Garden Buena Vista, FL	26 Dept. Spring Conf Hilton Garden Buena Vista, FL	27 Carwash /Legion Dept. Spring Conf Hilton Garden Buena Vista, FL
28 Yard Sale Dept. Spring Conf Hilton Garden Buena Vista, FL						
		<b>Look Ahead:</b> June 17 <sup>th</sup> thru 20 <sup>th</sup> – The Department Convention August 8 <sup>th</sup> thru 14 <sup>th</sup> – National Convention in Greensboro, NC. September – Poker Run – To be Announced				