



Marine Corp League

DEVIL DAWG MONTHLY

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

Detachment 1226

Volume 32

October 2011

League Officers:

Commandant: *Dennis Antle*
Sr. Vice Commandant: Debra Steele
Jr. Vice Commandant: Bernie Kotrady
Adjutant: Jack Skelding.
Paymaster: Rob Becker
Judge Advocate: Walt Raysick
Chaplain: Dave Blizzard
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Web Sergeant: Bernie Kotrady
Historian: Stan Horman
Newsletter Editor: Debra Steele

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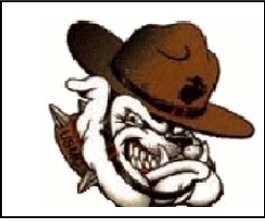
League Auxiliary

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Chaplain: Barb Wolons
Guard: Mary Ann Raysick

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:

Good Day Marines!! I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting on November 1st.

Our Poker Run is coming up OCTOBER 29, 2011. Even if you are not a rider you can still participate and help make this event a huge success. Please come out from 1500 hrs to 1700 hrs for live entertainment, food, raffle drawings and 50/50. Help support our Poker Run!!

Debra Steele
Sr. Vice Commandant for
Dennis Antle
Commandant

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

Another month has gone by and we are as busy as ever. Everyone seemed to have a great time at our annual picnic. A thank you goes out to John and Cheryl Bain for all their hard work. The weather was perfect.

Our Flea Market has started again and we are looking for helpers. Please take the time and work one Sunday. Please let Jack Skelding know if you can step up for this. We may not make a fortune but it's more than we had the day before. We are also looking for things to sell. You can drop off these items on any Sunday or give me a call and I will pick it up.

The League and the Legion Riders are working hard on their Poker Run. It will be held on October 29th and registration starts at 8 am at the Legion. If you have signed up to work make sure that you know what your job is and where you have to be.

November looks to be another busy month. Toys for Tots kickoff is Friday November 4th at 10 am in Tampa at the Reserve Center. November 12th is the Veterans Day Parade in Ruskin and starts at 11 am. Both the League and Auxiliary participate in this every year. That same day is the League's Marine

Corps Birthday Celebration and starts at 6 pm at the Legion. Dinner will be served. If you haven't made your reservations please contact Walt Raysick at 813-653-4924. We always have a great time so why not join us. We will be presenting Kamela Ryan with the Auxiliary Member of the Year.

We are still holding "sewing bees". We are still looking for your help and ideas on what to make so please let us know your thoughts. Don't forget that our meeting times have changed to 7:00 pm. Please note this on your calendar. I know that I tell the League every month that we are always looking for new members but our Unit needs more members so I am asking the League to get their wives to join us. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the VFW on Riverview Drive in Riverview.

Please check the calendar in the newsletter for upcoming events. As usual if you have any questions please call me at 813-672-1778.

Semper Fi
Pat Skelding

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:
Bain, Jacob - January
Bell, Jeanne - September
Bennett, Kristine - February
Cox, Ronald - May
Grant, John - July
Martin, David - September
Miller, Everette G - January
Ramos, George - September
Regretta, Leonard Jr - January
Sepeda, Jason - October
Sirvent, Eric - December
Young, Steven - February

October 2011 Membership Expirations:
Correll, Carl
Larrow, Thomas

Welcome New Members: Lee Hemerich, Rafael Morffi and Kevin Price

LIFE MEMBERSHIP BY AGE CATEGORY

61 AND OVER \$150.00

51 TO 60 \$300.00

36 TO 50 \$400.00

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.

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

Detachment Recruitment Bonus.

A Detachment member signing up two (2) new members between now & the November membership meeting will gain free admission to our Annual Birthday event. If you sign-up three (3) three new members & receive a Detachment red shirt



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. Please email your ideas to mclriverview@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

There are plenty of activities to get involved in. Please do not feel that you have to be in all of them but please try to participate when you can. We want to take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do.



WE ARE IN NEED of donations to keep this going. We also need volunteers to help with this each Sunday. You can drop of any items during the sales on Sunday. Contact Jack or Dennis for further details.



Come out and join us on the last Saturday of every month from 1000 to 1400 hours. We look forward to your support whether it is washing cars with us or just bringing your car for a wash. Let's get washing!!!!!! ***Please note there will be no car wash for this month due to our Poker Run.***

*Contact Willie Little for visits to the VA Hospital to show our support for our fellow soldiers. **There are several Marines who are currently at the VA hospital. If you are free to go by and visit any of them I know it would be greatly appreciated. Marines share a strong bond whether we know each other personally or not. Let's show this Marine that we have not forgotten that bond.**

*Poker Run: We are looking for sponsors and donated items for our raffle. I challenge each member to get one sponsor or a donated item. This is for a good cause. Let's not let them down! This will be held on October 29, 2011. Keep an eye out for updates!

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

*Honor Guard: If you are interested in participating in the Honor Guard please contact Walt Raysick. Dates for upcoming events are located in the Minutes section of this Newsletter and/or the monthly calendar.



Our Honor Guard making you proud at the Hispanic Heritage Celebration at HCC



Walt and Kamela Ryan and Jack Skelding at the Barney's event where we conducted a Rose Fund and passed out flyers on our Poker Run.

Visit our Website at www.mclriverview.org for more information on meetings and other activities and items of interests.



Walt and Kamela Ryan working hard at the Field of Honor Working Party



Thank you to the working party at the Field of Honor!



On Sale for \$15 for the set of patches (only 3 sets available) for the back of a vest or jacket. The rockers measure 2" x 11" and the big patch measures 7 1/4" x 8". If interested contact Debra Steele at (813) 545-7526.

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	\$5	\$50
Quarter Page	\$8	\$80
Half Page	\$10	\$100
Full Page	\$15	\$150

*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).

Advertisers: Please remember those who support us and give them our support as well!!!



As you are aware this organization works hard to get Marines overseas care packages and letters. Please visit their website below for more information. We salute you Dianne.

www.supportourmarinesinc.org



YOUNG MARINES OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

We have had several meetings with the potential volunteers for this program and are finalizing the meeting spot (insurance docs). A special Thank You to those that are volunteering their time to this program.

Debra Steele
Sr. Vice Commandant



HALEY HOUSE FUND, Inc.
Dave Braun
 Finance / Administration
 Charter Board Member

Mobile: (813) 310-8513 Post Office Box 701
 Email: Prowler143@aol.com Brandon, FL 33509-0701
 davebraun@haleyhousefund.org • www.haleyhousefund.org

Support our Troops & Families

Jack Skelding
District 7 Vice Commandant
Department of Florida
Ph 813-672-1778 Cell 813-830-1138
E:mail jskelding@tampabay.rr.com



MILITARY NEWS

Congress open to raising health-care fees for military retirees ASSOCIATED PRESS October 22, 2011 7:20PM

WASHINGTON — The government’s promise of lifetime health care for the military’s men and women is suddenly a little less sacrosanct as Congress looks to slash trillion-dollar-plus deficits.

Republicans and Democrats alike are signaling a willingness — unheard of at the height of two post-Sept. 11 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan — to make military retirees pay more for coverage. It’s a reflection of Washington’s newfound embrace of fiscal austerity and the Pentagon’s push to cut health care costs that have skyrocketed from \$19 billion in 2001 to \$53 billion.

The numbers are daunting for a military focused on building and arming an all-volunteer force for war. The Pentagon is providing health care coverage for 3.3 million active duty personnel and their dependents and 5.5 million retirees, eligible dependents and surviving spouses. Retirees outnumber the active duty, 2.3 million to 1.4 million.

Combined with the billions in retirement pay, it’s no surprise that Defense Secretary Leon Panetta recently said personnel costs have put the Pentagon “on an unsustainable course.”

Yet the resistance to health care changes is fierce.

Powerful veterans groups and retired generals are mobilizing to fight any changes, arguing that Americans who were willing to die for their country should be treated differently than the average worker. The American Legion has sent a letter to every member of the House and Senate pleading with them to spare health care benefits. The Veterans of Foreign Wars has urged its 2 million members, their families

and friends to contact lawmakers and deliver the same message.

The two groups were unnerved when both parties’ leaders on the Senate Armed Services Committee — Carl Levin, D-Mich., and John McCain, R-Ariz. — recommended that the special deficit-cutting supercommittee look at raising enrollment fees and imposing restrictions on the military’s health care program, known as TRICARE. Current military members would be grandfathered in.

McCain and Levin also favored creating a commission to look at military retirement benefits and make recommendations for changes.

“Any changes to TRICARE that put the burden back on the beneficiaries is not supported by the American Legion,” said Peter Gaytan, the group’s executive director. He wondered about future benefits for his 19-year-old nephew who heads to Afghanistan in December.

The willingness in Congress to consider cost-cutting changes to the military’s entitlement programs is shared by other senators, from members of the Armed Services panel to budget-conscious lawmakers in both the Republican and Democratic ranks such as Sens. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., and Mark Warner, D-Va.

“I think we have to look at whether savings can be achieved, but we have to keep our promise to people who were recruited based on those benefits, and we also ought to look at whether there’s ways to improve the benefit structure,” Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, said in an interview last week.

That prospect has Joe Davis, a spokesman for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, fearful of the next step.

“All our worries are starting to come to fruition,” Davis said.

The debt accord reached this past summer between President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans set in motion some \$450 billion worth of cuts in projected defense spending over 10 years. It’s

a reality check for the Defense Department, whose budget has nearly doubled to some \$700 billion in the 10 years since the Sept. 11 terror attack.

That amount doesn't include the trillion-plus spent on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 12-member, bipartisan supercommittee has a mandate to come up with at least \$1.2 trillion in cuts by Nov. 23. If it fails to produce a plan or Congress rejects its proposal, automatic, across-the-board cuts of \$1.2 trillion kick in, half of it from defense spending.

Panetta said \$600 billion more in cuts over the next decade atop the \$450 billion in cuts passed this summer would represent a "doomsday" for the nation's military. Republicans and Democrats have echoed his apocalyptic warning. In their separate letters to the supercommittee, Levin and McCain said they reject any deeper cuts in overall defense spending beyond the 10-year, \$450 billion cuts.

Determined to avoid spending reductions that would hit troop numbers, aircraft, ships and weapons, Levin, McCain and other lawmakers are urging budget-cutters to scrutinize the military entitlement programs.

"I think they may be facing reality and want to soften the blow some," said former Rep. Ike Skelton, D-Mo., who served as House Armed Services chairman. "They're both very responsible when it comes to the troops."

Levin and McCain support establishing an annual enrollment fee for TRICARE for Life, the health care program that now has no fee for participation. Obama had proposed an initial annual fee of \$200.

Levin said future increases in fees should be tied to the same index used to determine hikes in the TRICARE Prime program, which has the lowest out-of-pocket expenses.

McCain also urged the supercommittee to consider restricting working-age military retirees and their dependents from enrolling in TRICARE Prime. The

retirees could still enroll in other TRICARE programs. McCain pointed out that the Congressional Budget Office has estimated that such a move would save \$111 billion over 10 years.

Active-duty personnel still would be enrolled in the program automatically.

In the House, lawmakers are less inclined to make any changes in health care benefits. Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-Calif., chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, agreed to a slight increase in TRICARE Prime fees for working-age military retirees. The fees had been unchanged for 11 years at \$230 a year for an individual and \$460 for a family.

Asked about the recommendations from Levin and McCain to the supercommittee, McKeon's office said the House has already made changes and suggested additional savings come from civilian rather military health care and retirement programs. The House vote to raise the annual TRICARE Prime fees by \$2.50 for individuals and \$5 for families.

Female Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard veterans and their families are invited to "Empowering Women Veterans: A Day of Recognition to Engage your Body, Mind and Spirit" at the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) on Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 9AM-3PM.

The event is free to female veterans and her family and includes MOSI admission for first 300 with reduced admission thereafter, gift cards, vouchers for IMAX, VA benefits, pampering services, health screenings, employment opportunities, children's activities, education and an opportunity to participate in research. MOSI is located at 4801 E. Fowler Ave. Tampa, FL 33617.

For more information call
(813) 974-9160 or (813) 974-9160.

News from the League

Congress Has Full Plate When They Come Back to Washington– When Congress comes back to town in early September they will have less than four weeks to finish their work on the various federal department budgets for FY2012 before the current fiscal year ends on September 30. Of course, no one thinks they'll get it all done in time. No doubt there will be a major effort to pass the DoD budget, but beyond that it's anyone's guess as to what they'll accomplish. However, they have much more to do than pass the FY2012 budgets.

The “super committee” that has been in the news since the agreement to raise the debt ceiling will be doing its work and the other members of Congress will be doing all they can to protect their pet projects.

The “super committee” has until Thanksgiving to come up with recommendations and if they can't reach an agreement, or if Congress rejects their proposal, \$1.2 trillion in automatic, across-the-board will take place with DoD taking almost half the cuts and Medicare payments to providers taking the rest. This would be the worst of both worlds and would severely jeopardize military health care.

Speaking of payments to Medicare providers, Congress also needs to deal with on-going issue of the cut in Medicare payments to doctors that will take place on January 1st unless they come up with another “fix” before then. That is something we are watching very closely because if the cut goes into place as scheduled it could severely hurt the ability of new military retirees to get the health care they need. Tricare payments to doctors are mandated to be the same as Medicare payments and there is real concern that doctors would stop taking new Medicare/Tricare patients if the cuts go into effect.

You can be sure TREA is monitoring this very carefully and will be fighting full force to stop any attempts to balance the federal budget on the backs of military retirees.

Also in the world of federal spending, it was just announced yesterday that the Obama Administration has ordered all federal agencies to submit FY 2013 budget requests that are at least 10 percent below their current appropriation level. This totally apart from whatever agreement may or may not be reached by the “super committee” or the across-the-board cuts. The FY 2013 year begins on October 1, 2012.

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta and Overhauling Military Retirement System–Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta said again this week that overhauling military retirement benefits is “the kind of thing you have to consider.” Panetta spoke at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. He did add that it would have to be done in a way that doesn't break faith with the military and that current benefits would have to be grandfathered in.

TREA Quoted in Army Times– The Pentagon has sent legislation to Congress that would make it easier to involuntarily mobilize National Guard and Reserve troops for other-than-major contingencies with specific names, such as Operation Iraqi Freedom. The legislation would give the service secretaries the right to mobilize the troops, an authority currently limited to the President. It would also permit involuntary mobilization for any reason.

An article about the proposal in the August 22 issue of the Army Times stated that Army Reserve soldiers are already conducting medical and engineering missions in Columbia, Cambodia, El Salvador, Kenya and Uganda but are limited to their 29 allocated annual training days. According to the article, the Chief of the Army Reserve, Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, stated that “If I can use the reserves for a longer period for unnamed [operations], then maybe I'd like to develop an engagement strategy to do more engineering support, to do more medical support for these countries.”

According to the Army Times, “The move would institutionalize the role reserves forces have assumed during the past decade, shifting from a rarely-used Cold War backup force with a routine, and potentially unique role in the broader military mission.”

TREA's Legislative Director, Larry Madison, was interviewed by the author of the article and is quoted as saying, "... the current policy of mobilizing reservists one out of every six years is already a commitment that not all employers and family members support. If reservists feel their military service is further damaging their civilian careers, recruiting and retention will suffer... ."

While the quote is basically accurate, we want to add that he also made the point to the Army Times that while he is not opposed to the proposal, he believes there are some tough questions that are not being asked. Madison, who is also co-chairman of the Guard-Reserve Committee of The Military Coalition, learned at a question and answer session with DoD officials a few weeks ago that DoD has done no study to see if members of the Guard and Reserve are available to be pulled away from their civilian jobs once every five years for an entire year. We believe before such a major change is put into law a serious study should be made to see if the proposal is realistic.

Oldest Survivor of the Bataan Death March Dies-

Major Albert N. Brown, USA (Ret.), the oldest survivor of the Bataan Death March, died Aug. 14 in Nashville, Ill. At age 105 he was believed to be among the oldest surviving Americans to have fought in World War II.

Major Brown, a dentist in Iowa before the war, was deployed to the Philippines as a member of the dental corps in late 1941; he spent the majority of World War II as a Japanese prisoner of war. Doctors told him after the war that the wounds he suffered as a POW were so severe that he would not live past age 50.

Beginning on April 9, 1942, Brown was among the 76,000 Americans and Filipinos forced to march about 70 miles over six days to a concentration camp. Temperatures reached 100 degrees during the march, with no food or water. Those who lagged behind or stumbled were often executed on the spot. Brown said he was bayoneted for not keeping pace. He watched as one American fell to his hands and knees and was beheaded by a Japanese soldier with a

samurai sword. He said he saw three Americans dig their own graves before they were shot while in the holes and buried. Asked how he survived, Dr. Brown said: "When you saw somebody's head being chopped off, it stirred up the juices and kept you going." More than one out of every seven people on that march died.

Released in September 1945, Dr. Brown spent two years recuperating in a hospital in Denver. His back and neck did not heal properly, and he left dentistry because his wounds prevented him from working properly. For a time, he owned and rented property in Los Angeles.

Dr. Brown is survived by two children, 12 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 19 great-great-grandchildren.

After the war, an Allied commission declared that the Bataan Death March was a war crime. The Japanese commander who oversaw forces in the Philippines was convicted in a trial and executed by firing squad.

Gulf War Claims Deadline

For Gulf War Veterans with certain ailments like: Chronic fatigue syndrome; Fibromyalgia; Functional gastrointestinal disorders; and other undiagnosed illnesses the current deadline for when the condition must have "appeared" is on or before December 31, 2011. If you have any conditions that are "undiagnosed" and you did a tour in the Middle East, this could apply to you.

The VA is working to extend the deadline to December 31, 2018. If this occurs, it will be great news for veterans and military members who develop symptoms after the 2011 cut-off. However, since there is no guarantee that the deadline will be extended veterans suffering from undiagnosed conditions are encouraged to talk with their Veteran Service Officer about filing a disability claim for these conditions.

Check out the Military Advantage Blog to get more information.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/gulf-war-claims-deadline?ESRC=vr.nl>

New Home Depot program for Disabled Vets and Active duty

This is a wonderful opportunity for Service Members that meet the criteria. Please share with your Detachments, Members and their Families.

The Home Depot Foundation is running a special program to commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11. From 11 Sep 11 through Veteran's Day (11 Nov 11),

Home Depot is offering to conduct work projects on military member's personal homes.

Home Depot will provide the materials, labor and contractors. Projects will include repairs and installations. If there are any questions, please make contact through the website below.

The priority is as follows:

- Wounded warriors returning from combat & disabled veterans
- Members returning from deployment
- Members with special needs (either themselves or Family members)
- All others

<http://homedepotfoundation.org/>

MARINE TIDBITS:

OCTOBER

1 October 1997: The first African-American female colonel in the Marine Corps was promoted to that rank during a ceremony at MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina. Colonel Gilda A. Jackson, a native of Columbus, Ohio, made Marine Corps history when she achieved the rank of colonel. She was serving as

Special Projects Officer, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing at the time of her promotion.

5 October 1775: Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the 2d Continental Congress used the word "Marines" on one of the earliest known occasions, when it directed General George Washington to secure two vessels on "Continental risque and pay", and to give orders for the "proper encouragement to the Marines and seamen" to serve on the two armed ships.

6 October 1945: Major General Keller E. Rockey, Commanding General, III Amphibious Corps, accepted the surrender of 50,000 Japanese troops in North China on behalf of the Chinese Nationalist government.

8 October 1899: A force of 375 Marines under command of future Commandant George F. Elliott, attacked and captured the insurgent town of Novaleta, Luzon, Philippine Islands, and linked up with U.S. Army troops. There were 11 Marine casualties.

9 October 1917: The 8th Marines was activated at Quantico, Virginia. Although the regiment would not see combat in Europe during World War I, the officers and enlisted men of the 8th Marines participated in operations against dissidents in Haiti for over five years during the 1920s. During World War II, the regiment was assigned to the 2d Marine Division and participated in combat operations on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, and Okinawa, and earned three Presidential Unit Citations.

11 October 1951: A Marine battalion was flown by transport helicopters to a frontline combat position for the first time, when HMR-161 lifted the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, and its equipment, during Operation Bumblebee, northeast of Yanggu, Korea.

19 October 1968: Operation Maui Peak, a combined regimental-sized operation which began on 6 October, ended 11 miles northwest of An Hoa, Vietnam. More than 300 enemy were killed in the 13-day operation.

23 October 1983: At 0622 an explosive-laden truck slammed into the BLT headquarters building in Beirut, Lebanon, where more than 300 men were billeted. The massive explosion collapsed the building in seconds, and took the lives of 241 Americans--including 220 Marines. This was the highest loss of life in a single day for Marines since D-Day on Iwo Jima in 1945.

28 October 1962: An 11,000-man 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade left Camp Pendleton by sea for the Caribbean during the Cuban Missile Crisis. One week earlier, the entire 189,000-man Marine Corps had been put on alert and elements of the 1st and 2d Marine Divisions were sent to Guantanamo Bay to reinforce the defenders of the U.S. Naval Base. Other 2d Division units and squadrons from five Marine Aircraft Groups were deployed at Key West, Florida, or in Caribbean waters during the Cuban crisis.

31 October 1919: A patrol of Marines and gendarmes, led by Sergeant Herman H. Hanneken, disguised themselves as Cacos and entered the headquarters of the Haitian Caco Leader, Charlemagne Peralte, killing the bandit chief, and dispersing his followers. Sergeant Hanneken and Corporal William R. Button were each awarded the Medal of Honor.

Initiatives from Monthly Meeting

Prior to the start of the meeting Professor Carrie Elk from USF spoke about a new program for treating PTSD patients. Lasted 20 minutes and was very informative. If you are interested in this study which reimburses you for your time and information please contact Professor Carrie Elk at USF. It has had some very promising results. For more information call (813) 974-9160 or (813) 974-9160.

Applications for Membership:

Located in Membership Corner

Members Sick or in Distress:

Stan Hormon

Tony Freeman, former member

Ginger Hardin- Deceased (Memorial Service is set for November 26, 2011 at the Legion – More information to follow).

Report of Standing Committees:

Toys for Tots: Herb Donica reported thing underway. Will need help at two hockey games and on letter carriers day. Further information will be forthcoming.

The Toys for Tots kickoff will be on November 19th at 10:00am as at the reserve center on Gandy Blvd. Boxes will be distributed to those needing them at that time.

The letter carriers day will be on Saturday December 3rd.

The two hockey game collections are tentatively scheduled for December 3rd and 15th.

The football game collection is scheduled for December 17th.

Volunteers will be need for these events.

Rose Fund: Willie Little reported that the event held September was successful thanks to Peter and Judy White, and Bob Gramprrie.

November 19th at Wal-Mart on Gibsonton

More to come after the first of the year.

Poker Run: Have received \$1000.00 in sponsorships to date. Pre-registrations are going well. All stops have still not been decided. Will need volunteers to work the event on October 29th. Please contact Debra is you are available. Thank you.

Birthday: Walt Raysick reported celebration will be November 12th at 1800. He has a sign up list. Tickets are \$10.00 a person.

Honor Guard: Walt Raysick reported that there are many events coming up in November. Anyone

interested in becoming a member of the Honor Guard should contact him. See calendar for event dates.

Young Marines: Debra Steele reported that she is finalizing the insurance for the meeting place.

Debbie Steele announced that the unit is almost up and running. Ed Zaleski will be the CO and Nicole Hernandez to be the XO.

Picnic: John Bain announce that the annual picnic will be at 1200 on September 24th at Fred's house

Report of Special Committees:

Conference Planning: Peter White updated the Detachment on the status of the proposal. Next step is Department Approval. Once that is received we will be able to move forward

Unfinished Business: Once again the distribution of the money from the rose fund was discussed and tabled until Willie Little brings back a report from questions he will be asking at the Fall Conference.

New Business: A motion was made and passed to donate \$250.00 to the Haley House 5th Annual Poker Run.

Good of the League: Armando Arroyo was present with a Distinguished Service Award for his work with the Honor Guard.

Announcements: Willie Little announced that there will be a cake cutting for the Marine patient at the Haley Hospital at 1030 on November 8, 2011. It will take place near the Spinal Cord Injury department.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH:**Jack Skelding**

I joined the Marine Corps at the ripe old age of 17 in October 1958. I had the privilege of spending my first Marine Corps Birthday, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Eve in the Corps on Parris Island. I left boot camp in January of 1959 and went to the Infantry Training Regiment at camp Geiger. My first duty assignment upon completion of ITR was to Echo Battery 2nd Bn. 12th Marines and they sent me to Monford Point to attend basic supply school. Shortly after my return from school the battery was alerted to deploy because of a problem in Panama. We set sail from Morehead City but never made Panama instead we went to Vieques and trained for a month. On the return from Vieques we made a port call in the Dominican Republic. That was quite an eye opener for a young man outside of the US for his first time.

In Early 1960 I was transferred to the Landing Force Training Unit at Little Creek Virginia as permanent personnel. I spent the next two years there working at training the reserves and midshipmen who passed through to learn about amphibious landing. I completed my first enlistment in October of 1962 and like most Marines I decided that this was not the life that I wanted. So I was discharged and went home.

I spent the next five years trying to adjust to civilian life. I tried my hand at becoming a machinist. I lived in two different states but I just felt like I did not fit in. So in September of 1967 while I was living in West Virginia I reenlisted in the Corps.

I was given the option of east coast, west coast or Vietnam. I opted to go to Vietnam and was sent to staging battalion at Camp Pendleton. When I arrived there because I had no uniforms I was put in casual company until they issued me a set of uniforms. Following that I went through about a four week training course took a bus to El Toro MCAS got on and airplane and after a short stay on Okinawa I was in Vietnam.

I spent my first month at Red Beach with Force Logistics Command sorting incoming supplies for transshipment to using units. After that first month I was sent to Force Logistics Support Group-Alpha at PhuBi where I worked mainly as a warehouseman. I was assigned to guard duty at the time of the 1968 Tet Offensive. One of my tasks was to ride as a guard on the trucks that transported the civilian workers between the base and the city of Hue. When we made that trip on the late afternoon of the start of the attack you could just feel the tension in the air. You knew that something was going to happen, and it did later that night.

While in Vietnam I made several road convoys and spent time at a base camp at Phu Loc about halfway between Danang and PhuBi in support of the 26th Marines. Although I had some close calls I did not participate in any heavy combat during my year in Vietnam.

When Sergeant Skelding returned to the states I was sent to Quantico where I spent the next nine months working with special services at the gym as the fiscal clerk in the custodian's office.

In 1970 after reenlisting for a second time I was sent to the First Marine Brigade in Hawaii and assigned to Marine Aircraft Group-24. During my three years there I worked in group supply and was promoted to Staff Sergeant.

My next duty station came in 1973 when I was transferred to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and was assigned to Base Food Service as the Supply Chief. It was during this tour that I applied for and

was selected as a Limited Duty Officer and promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in June 1974 if you can call that a promotion.

Along with the commission came a set of orders to Third Force Service Regiment on Okinawa. I became the Officer in Charge of the Maintenance Float a position that I kept for four years. In 1978 I was sent to Mount Fuji to join LSU-Foxtrot as the operations Officer. Following a brief stop on Okinawa to resupply and replace equipment and personnel the LSU deployed to Korea for three months of training. When the LSU returned to Okinawa and disbanded I was assigned at the OIC of LSE-33 and deployed to the Philippines in support of a Battalion of the Third Marines from Hawaii.. After this three month tour I was assigned as OIC of the Consolidated Issue Point at Camp Hansen. During this assignment I was promoted to Captain.

Next I was sent to Marine Barracks Guam in 1980 as the barracks supply officer. While there I was also given the added responsibility as the Company Commander for one of the four companies. I enjoyed my tour in Guam and have made some lifelong friends from that assignment. I did return and live there for six years after I retired.

When I left Guam in 1982 I went back to Okinawa as the Supply Officer for Headquarters Battalion, Third Marine Division. Following one year with the division I transferred to Third Force Service Support Group and became the XO of Combat Service Support Detachment 33 and deployed to Korea for an amphibious exercise. Upon return to Okinawa I was reassigned as the Supply Operations Officers for Brigade Service Support Group-3 in support of Operation Team Spirit 83. For my last year on Okinawa I was the Storage Officer for Third Force Service Support Group with responsibility for the operations of several warehouses.

Finally sent back to the states in 1984 I was assigned to the SASSY Management Unit at 1st Supply Battalion where I was the OIC of Deployed Units.

I retired in October of 1985 with 24 years of total service.

HERO OF THE MONTH

Jack Arden Davenport	
	
Medal of Honor recipient	
Born	September 7, 1931 Kansas City, Missouri
Died	September 21, 1951 (aged 20) KIA in Korea
Place of burial	Mount Moriah Cemetery, Hickman Mills, Missouri
Allegiance	United States of America
Service/branch	United States Marine Corps
Years of service	1950-1951
Rank	Corporal
Unit	3rd Battalion, 5th Marines
Battles/wars	Korean War
Awards	Medal of Honor Purple Heart
Other work	Golden Gloves boxer

Jack Davenport was born September 7, 1931 in Kansas City, Missouri, where he graduated from high school in 1949. While in high school, he was a newspaper carrier for the Kansas City Star and played American Legion baseball for three seasons. Upon completing high school, he studied for a year at the [University of Kansas](#), where he was a member of the freshman football team.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps on July 25, 1950, and completed his [recruit training](#) at [Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego](#), California, that September. He was then stationed with the Training and Replacement Command at [Camp Pendleton](#), California, until December 1950, when he embarked to join the [5th Marines](#) in [Korea](#).

In the early morning of September 21, 1951, Corporal Davenport sacrificed his life to save the life of a fellow Marine in Korea. He was standing watch together with another Marine when an enemy [hand grenade](#) landed in their foxhole. Without thought of his own safety, Davenport found the grenade in the dark and smothered its explosion with his own body in order to save the life of his fellow Marine.

His body was returned to the United States in January 1952 to be buried at Mount Moriah Cemetery, [Hickman Mills, Missouri](#). Davenport's father, Fred received the Medal of Honor on January 7, 1953 from U.S. Secretary of the Navy [Dan A. Kimball](#) in Washington, D.C.

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Squad Leader in Company G, [Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division \(Reinforced\)](#), in action against enemy aggressor forces in the [vicinity of Songnae-Dong](#), Korea, early on the morning of 21 September 1951. While expertly directing the defense of his position during a probing attack by hostile forces attempting to infiltrate the area, Corporal Davenport, acting quickly when an enemy [grenade](#) fell into the [foxhole](#) which he was occupying with another Marine, skillfully located the deadly projectile in the dark and, undeterred by the personal risk involved, heroically threw himself over the live missile, thereby saving his companion from serious injury or possible death. His cool and resourceful leadership were contributing factors in the successful repulse of the enemy attack and his superb courage and admirable spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of almost certain death enhance and sustain the highest traditions of the [United States Naval Service](#). Corporal Davenport gallantly gave his life for his country.



/S/ [HARRY S. TRUMAN](#).



November 2011

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 League Mtg @ Legion @ 1900/ MCLA Mtg @ VFW 1900	2	3	4 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs.	5 Marine Corps Ball @ Hyatt Down Town
6 Flea Market 0700 to 1200 Legion Breakfast @ 0900 to 1100 hrs	7 Legion Riders Mtg @ Legion 1830 hrs	8 Cake Cutting @ VA Hospital @ 1030 Legion Taco Tuesday 1600	9 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs	10 HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARINES!!!!!!!	11 Dedication of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial @ 0900 @ Vet's Park Veteran's Day!	12 Veteran's Day Parade in Ruskin MCL Birthday Celebration
13 Flea Market 0700 to 1200 Legion Breakfast @ 0900 to 1100 hrs	14 Legion Mtg E-board 1730 hrs and general 1900 hrs	15 Legion Taco Tuesday 1600 to 1900 hrs.	16 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs	17 SAL Mtg @ 1900 hrs	18 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs	19 Toys for Tots Kick off Rose Fund Event
20 Flea Market 0700 to 1200 Legion Breakfast @ 0900 to 1100 hrs	21	22 Legion Taco Tuesday 1600 to 1900 hrs.	23 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs	24 Legion Thanksgiving Dinner 1400 to 1600 hrs	25 Legion Fish Fry @ 1700 to 1900 hrs	26 Memorial Service @ Legion for Ginger Hardin MCL Car Wash
27 Flea Market 0700 to 1200 Legion Breakfast @ 0900 to 1100 hrs	28	29 Legion Taco Tuesday 1600 to 1900 hrs.	30 Legion Bingo @ 1830 hrs			
		Look Ahead: 12/3/11 Toys for Tots Letters Carrier Day and Hockey Game night; 12/7/11: Pearl Harbor Remembrance, the Pier at Little Harbor (Shell Point Rd) at 0900; 12/10/11: Wreaths Across America, American Legion Post 5, Tampa, FL (Kennedy Blvd and Dale Mabry) at 1200; 12/15/11 Toys for Tots Hockey Game collection night; and 12/17/11 Toys for Tots Football Game collection.				