



Treasure Valley Detachment
Marine Corps League

Detachment No. 878



October, 2006

Volume 14 Number 3

Editor: Ken Johnson, if you have questions or anything to add, please call me at 208-440-0881, email: kenj7@clearwire.net

Last Chance for the Ball

Treasure Valley Detachment Marine Corps League Leadership:

Commandant

Ken Ohls 208-344-4329
362 Rimview Dr.
Boise, ID 83716

Senior Vice Commandant:

Rich Erickson 208-562-0498

Junior Vice Commandant:

Arnie Strawn 208-454-8295

Judge Advocate:

Bob Smith 208-939-2582

Adjutant/Paymaster

Ralph Elston 208-853-7344

Chaplain

Bill Johnson 208-384-1844

Regular Business Meeting of the Treasure Valley Detachment Marine Corps League for October, will be held at 19:00 hours October 19th, and will be held at the Indoor Pavilion at Gowen Field. The next meeting will be November 16th. Your opinions and voice is important to the detachment. So please try to attend the meetings every month.

Happy Hour & Koffee Klatch Mike's Restaurant closed his doors and we had our last Koffee Klatch on the weekend of Saturday September 30th. We'll give you word as we get notice.

This Years Standdown went off as planned on September 9th, the detachment stood security over the participants gear with the help from Marines from C Co. 4th Tank Battalion. Although the turnout was quite low, the community saw the need and it was filled. I want to give kudos to the Marines from C Co. 4th Tank Battalion, Gem State Young Marines, Rich Brown (a former Marine from the VA), Maj. Pat

Coonrod, Capt. Ron Storer, Larry and Kathy Foster, Mike Grigsby, Enoch Hansen, Roy Jost, Fred Kee, and Pat Teague.

Phil Hawkins of the Idaho State Veterans home wishes to thanks everyone for their help with the 19th Annual Veterans Olympics held at the VA Medical Center grounds in Boise, Idaho on the 16th of September. Kudos go out to Treasure Valley Young Marines, Ralph Elston, Rich Erickson, Mike Grigsby, Roy Jost, Ken Ohls, and Frank Partridge for their help in serving coffee, hot cocoa, and donuts to the volunteers who showed early for the Olympics. As well raised and lowered the flags along the Avenue of Flags at the VA.

Detachment Picnic was a successful affair, with a lot of vary good food. The only problem was that no one brought a gas grill, no worry there was enough food to go around for everyone, all the salads were fantastic with homemade pickled veggies and Pauline Evans' cheesecake which was great, as well, Ralph and Barbara Elston's zucchini brownies.

It is my privilege to announce that Capt. Ron Storer was promoted to Major on October 2 at the Reserve Center on Gowen Field at 16:00 hours. Maj. Storer had his wetting down party afterwards at Quinn's.

Barbara Elston was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for recruiting five new members, from the Marine Corps League Auxiliary, National Head Quarters. She received it on the 21st of September at the Business meeting.

The 11th. Month, the 11th. Day, and the 11th hour of the day in 1918 marked the end of WW1. This day today celebrates and honors the men and women that put their lives on the line for the defense of the freedoms we all hold dear. In November we will have a Veterans Day Parade, which the Treasure Valley Detachment Marine Corps League will participate in as we have every year. The Idaho State Veterans Home in Boise, as well, as the other two State Veteran Homes, have a

Veterans Day Program on the 11th of November at 1100 hours. that we also participate in each year. Come out and enjoy your detachment and give a little of your time to the service of the vets at the vet home. The Veterans Day Parade is on Saturday the 4th of November and starts at 1000 hours and the detachment needs to muster on Jefferson St. between 11th and 12th streets, right next to the Boise Cascade Building like we did last year, and at 0900 in the morning.

The Boise Veterans Day Parade Committee is still looking for volunteers to raise the American flags before parade and to take them down after the parade. Contact Pat Coonrod if you want to help his phone number is 208-378-9436.

The U. S. Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held at The Grove Hotel this year, downtown Boise, on Saturday November 4th.

Tickets are still available through 1st.Sgt Heyob at the Reserve Center on Gowen Field. His phone number is 208-422-6255. The 1st Sgt. has forty tickets left and when they are gone they're gone. The tickets are \$35 dollars each and you can get them from 1st Sgt. Heyob by mail, if you order by mail you need to select your meal; entrée #1 beef rib eye, entrée #2 salmon fillet, entrée #3 roast chicken, or entrée #4 vegetarian plate. The full listing of the meals were in last month's newsletter or you can call 1st. Sgt Heyob. You can also pick them up at the reserve center at Gowen Field.

1st.Sgt. Heyob is looking for a few good men, but old or at least the oldest Marine for the Birthday Ball, so if your interested please give him a call and give him your rank, date of birth, date of enlistment, campaigns, and length of service. His phone number is 208-422-6255.

Toys for Tots had a very successful year last year and took a couple of national awards, 2005 National Toys for Tots Coordinator of the Year, and the 2005 National Campaign of the Year. This year Toys for Tots will kick off again after Thanksgiving Day in November and 1st. Sgt. Heyob has asked for volunteers to help collect and sort the toys at the reserve center this year. If you're interested, give him a call at 208-422-6255.

Gordon Williams reported that the Marine Corps League earned 1376 volunteer hours that was worked through the VA's Voluntary Services this last year. Kudos to Tony Austin, George Barrett, Frank Hernandez, Patrick McFadden, Gary Peek, Della Terrel, Ronald Van Iorns. Lewis Weeks, and Gordon and Velma Williams. Semper Fi to all of you.

Happy Birthday to the Ladies: Mary Ann Allen, Nancy Austen, Carol Nance, and Anita Partridge.

AUXILIARY NEWS

TREASURE VALLEY MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY #408

TVDMCL Auxiliary Leadership

President: Theresa Nakashima

208-672- 8642

Senior VP: Sherry Meade

208-377-3806

Junior VP Melba Butler

208-343-4093

Judge Advocate: Donna Schumaker

208-286-0680

Note: I must have the minute by the last Friday of the month or they may not be in the newsletter, Ed.

The mailing address for the Auxiliary is:

Ralph or Barbara Elston

7845 W. Powell St.

Boise, ID 83714

Treasure Valley Marine Corp Auxiliary Meeting

No Auxiliary minutes for September



EVENT HORIZON

- Parking Lot Party, October 1st.
- Business Meeting October 19th.
- U. S. Marine Corps Birthday Ball Nov. 4th.
- Veterans Day Parade Nov. 4th.
- Marine Corps Birthday at ISVH Nov. 10th.
- Veterans Day Program ISVH Nov. 11th.

Governor James E. Risch joins the National Museum of the Marine Corps Governors Council

The Governors Council is a fifty-state initiative to locate every member of the United States Marine Corps, past and present,

and their families, so that all Marines can be directly involved with the National Museum of the Marine Corps. It will also ensure that every Marine has the opportunity to be included on the Museum's Roll of Honor and participate in Museum activities. Co-chaired by Governor Matt Blunt (Mo.), Governor Theodore Kulongoski (Ore.) and former Governor Mark Warner (Va.), each member of the Governors Council nominates a liaison upon joining to spearhead the search in their states.

The National Museum of the Marine Corps is under construction on a 135-acre site adjacent to the U.S. Marine Corps Base at Quantico, Va., and will serve as the centerpiece of the Marine Corps Heritage Center. Construction of the building is more than 75 percent complete, with several major artifacts, including aircrafts, tanks, landing vehicles, and artillery pieces already installed. The Museum's dedication is set for November 10, 2006, with a public opening to follow on November 13. For more information on the National Museum of the Marine Corps, visit www.usmcmuseum.org or if you are a Marine interested in becoming involved, please contact Idaho Liaison Ron Tapia at 251-3364 or email rtapia@myexcel.com.

About the National Museum of the Marine Corps

The Museum will depict great events of American history from the Marine perspective & help the American people understand the steadfastness, strength and contributions of the U.S. Marine Corps since the American Revolution. Located in Quantico, VA the museum will be an immersive experience for visitors. Dedication is planned for November 10, 2006. Phase I will include exhibits documenting WWII, Korea and Viet Nam. Phase II will expand the Museum to include additional exhibits: IMAX theater, display armory, parade grounds, hiking trails, chapel & Semper Fidelis Memorial Park. Other galleries will be installed at a later date to include the Colonial period, Civil War era and WWI. The Museum site is near the U.S. Marine Corps Base Quantico and will serve as the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

Please fill out included flyer if you wish to be included on the honor roll, editor.

Commandants of the Marine Corps

(From the Marine Corps History & Museums Division, www.history.usmc.mil) (Part 2 of 4)

10. George Elliott

State of Birth: AL

Dates: B. 30 Nov 1846 D. 4 Nov 1931

Period Served: 3 Oct 1903 - 30 Nov 1910

Initial Rank as CMC: Brigadier General

Final Rank: Major General

The Act of 13 May 1908 (35 Stat. 166) provided for the post of "major-general commandant, in lieu of the present brigadier-general commandant." Accordingly, on May 1908, Elliott was promoted to major general.

11. William Biddle

State of Birth: PA

Dates: B. 17 Dec 1853 D. 25 Feb 1923

Period Served: 3 Feb 1911 - 24 Feb 1914

Initial Rank as CMC: Major General

Final Rank: Major General

From the time of Major General Elliott's retirement until his own appointment, Biddle served as Acting Commandant in his personal rank of colonel, 1 December 1910 - 2 February 1911. During Biddle's tenure, the term of Commandant was fixed for the first time at four years, "unless sooner relieved," by the Act of 19 December 1913 (38 Stat. 3).

12. George Barnett

State of Birth: WI

Dates: B. 9 Dec 1859 D. 27 Apr 1930

Period Served: 25 Feb 1914 - 30 Jun 1920

Initial Rank as CMC: Major General

Final Rank: Major General

13. John A. Lejeune

State of Birth: LA

Dates: B. 10 Jan 1867 D. 20 Nov 1942

Period Served: 1 Jul 1920 - 4 Mar 1929

Initial Rank as CMC: Major General

Final Rank: Major General

Lejeune was the first Commandant reappointed after the expiration of a fixed term.

14. Wendell Neville

State of Birth: VA

Dates: B. 12 May 1870 D. 8 Jul 1930

Period Served: 5 Mar 1929 - 8 Jul 1930

Initial Rank as CMC: Major General

Final Rank: Major General

15. Ben H. Fuller

State of Birth: MI

Dates: B. 27 Feb 1870 D. 8 Jun 1937

Period Served: 9 Jul 1930 - 28 Feb 1934

Initial Rank as CMC: Major General

Final Rank: Major General

16. John H. Russell

State of Birth: CA

Dates: B. 14 Nov 1872 D. 6 Mar 1947

Period Served: 1 Mar 1934 - 30 Nov 1936

Initial Rank as CMC: Major General

Final Rank: Major General

Flag completes Iwo Jima statue, tribute

Chris Treadway

Times staff writer

But Vince Ramos of Crockett guesses he has captured the essence of what someone gazing at Mount Suribachi on the Pacific island of Iwo Jima on Feb. 23, 1945, would have seen. The tall hill in Tormey, west of Interstate 80 and just north of the Cummings Skyway, is home to Ramos' replica of the celebrated flag raising. The statue is a tribute to his late brother, Fernando, a U.S. Marine who served on Iwo Jima, the site of one of World War II's bloodiest battles.

Ramos, a retired Marine who is a stickler for historical accuracy, knew that after the initial flag was raised on Mount Suribachi, U.S. Marines and a Navy Corpsman put up a second, larger flag in its place. That flag raising was captured in a photograph and became perhaps the most famous image of the war. History was re-created in a sense Wednesday when

Ramos, 75, replaced the smaller flag held by the life-sized figures he had sculpted with a 4-by-6-foot version.

The time since Ramos placed the statue on the hill in early August was marked by the death of Joe Rosenthal, the photographer who captured the Pulitzer Prize-winning image in 1945. "Even Rosenthal didn't know what he had until he went back to Guam and had (the photographs) processed," said Ramos, who has long studied the events on Iwo Jima. "After it came out, they couldn't print them fast enough."

Ramos, a retired former employee of C&H in Crockett and Bio-Rad Laboratories in Hercules, worked on his statue for about a year and a half at the ranch he leases in tiny Tormey. He fashioned the figures individually using concrete donated by Sugar City Building Materials.

Getting them into place was another matter, requiring permission from oil refiner ConocoPhillips, which owns the portion of the hill where the statue sits, and Caltrans, which owns the portion he needed to get access to the site. Tall grass covering the steep hill was another obstacle. Steve Archer, a partner in Richmond contracting firm W.R. Forde, donated his labor and heavy equipment to extend a fire trail to the top of the hill.

Ramos said his goal was to have everything in place before this month's reunion of his Marine outfit, Able Co., 1st Battalion. He accomplished his mission and plans to have binoculars ready so battalion members can see his creation on a stopover before heading to Sonoma. Ramos also is preparing a solar-powered light to illuminate the work at night. He said it "feels great" to see the statue atop the hill. "It's a dream I've had quite a while," Ramos said. "It was the people who came to look at it and really looked at it. That's what gives me the sense that I did something pretty good."

Contra Costa Times (Walnut Creek, CA)

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Background information on the origin of service numbers for Marine Corps Personnel and the method of filing officer and enlisted cases

(From the Marine Corps History & Museums Division, www.history.usmc.mil) (Part 1 of 4)

1. Effective 1 July 1905, each enlisted man's file case was assigned a number and the file case filed numerically. The first, or lowest number assigned was 20,000. The numbers from zero through 19,999 were reserved for Headquarters "general files" correspondence.

2. Previous to 1 July 1905, the enlisted men's cases were filed alphabetically and when there were two or more cases with the same name, the cases were filed by date of enlistment.

3. Circular Letter 432 of 15 February 1941 directed that beginning on 1 March 1941 the file case numbers became the identification, or serial, number for each enlisted man in the Marine Corps or Marine Corps Reserve. Enlisted men in the service on 28 February 1941 were assigned file (serial) numbers by the Commandant of the Marine Corps and their commanding officers informed. Each number was identical with the file case number then used to identify the man at Marine Corps Headquarters, and remained the same during the man's entire enlisted service. Each man enlisting in the Corps at the recruiting offices on and after 1 March 1941 was assigned a serial number by the recruiting officer immediately upon completion of the enlistment contract. The Commandant of the Marine Corps assigned blocks of numbers to recruiting districts for the purpose. A man enlisting at a Marine Corps activity other than recruiting, was assigned a serial number by Marine Corps Headquarters upon receipt of the enlistment paper, and the commanding officer of the man concerned was informed of that number. A re-enlisted man was reassigned the same serial number used to identify him during a previous enlistment.

4. In the early 1920's a number was assigned to each officer's file case from an alphabetical listing, thus an officer whose name began with "A" was assigned number "01", etc. The system of filing the cases alphabetically was continued. The number was preceded by an "0" to distinguish it from an enlisted number.

5. On 7 October 1943 the Commandant of the Marine Corps directed by Letter of Instruction 551, that the system of using officers' file case numbers for identification purposes and on correspondence concerning officers would be instituted, effective immediately. The number was shown immediately following the name of the office wherever it first appears in the correspondence.

6. Identification numbers were first designated service numbers. On 3 May 1950 Marine Corps Memorandum 45-50 was published directing the term "service number" will be used instead of the term "serial number".

7. On 10 November 1950 the method of filing enlisted cases numerically was converted to a double terminal digit filing system.

8. On 5 June 1953 the method of filing officer cases alphabetically, although identified by a service number, was converted to a triple terminal digit filing system.

9. On 1 January 1972, the social security number replaced the service (serial) number as the primary means of identifying service personnel.

Reference Branch, History Division 2006

The deadliest weapon in the world is a Marine and his rifle.
(Gen. John J. "Black Jack" Pershing, Commander-in-Chief, AEF, WW1)

GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND IN GOD WE TRUST