



Treasure Valley Detachment  
Marine Corps League

Detachment No. 878

# Semper Fi Gazette

August, 2006

Volume 14 Number 1

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

## A New Season Starts

### Detachment 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 for March**, will be held at 19:00 hours September 21<sup>st</sup>, and will be held at Indoor Pavilion at Gowen Field. The next meeting will be October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Happy Hour** (10:00 AM) for all Marines, their wives and guests Come early and get a good seat, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month. This month will be August 19<sup>th</sup>, at Mikes. The rest of the Saturday's of every month is devoted to the Koffee Klatch at 08:30 for all Marines and their guests. Koffee Klatch is held at Mikes Restaurant: Hillcrest Shopping Center on the corner of Overland and Orchard.

**This Years Standdown** will be September 9<sup>th</sup>, from 08:00 to 15:00 at East Jr. High School. We will be standing security over the participant's stuff. We could use your help anytime during the day that you can come out to give.

**The Detachment Picnic** will be held September 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 12:00 to 16:00 hopefully at the Phillippi Park, in Boise. We will get more information to you in the September newsletter.

### U.S. MARINE CORPS 2318T BIRTHDAY BALL

SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 4, 2006

#### SALAD:

Baby Lettuce, Grape Tomatoes, Cucumbers and Carrot Spirals  
Served with Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing

#### ENTRÉE #1:

Cracked Pepper Rubbed Beef Ribeye  
Served with Blue Cheese Mashed Potatoes  
Seasonal Vegetable

#### ENTRÉE #2:

Pan Seared Salmon Fillet  
With Orange Braised Fennel Butter  
Chefs Selection Starch  
Seasonal Vegetable

#### ENTRÉE #3:

Roast Chicken Breast with Thyme Jus  
Dried Fruit Stuffing  
Seasonal Vegetable

#### ENTRÉE #4:

Chef's Selection Vegetarian Plate  
Rolls and Butter

Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted Teas, Iced Tea

The Grove Hotel  
Downtown Boise

\$35.00 Inclusive per Person

Make check payable to Marine Corps Ball Committee.  
Send to 4087 Harvard St. Bldg. #800 Boise, Id 83705-6507.  
Tickets go on sale in the month of August. Hurry to get a good seat.



**On the 16<sup>th</sup> of September** will be the Veterans Olympics at the VA Hospital Grounds. The Marine Corps League will again have the hospitality booth and pass out coffee, hot chocolate, and donuts. Ralph Elston and Phil Hawkins of the Idaho State Veterans Home will pickup the donuts. We give the goodies to the volunteers who help out at Veterans Olympic when they check in the morning. So if you want to help, be at the VA Hospital grounds in front by the flagpole, by 06:00. We will serve the volunteers until 08:00. Also on the 16<sup>th</sup>, we will raise the flags along the "Avenue of Flags" at the VA. If you want to help it would be appreciated; the Young Marines normally show up to help with the flags.

**Happy Birthday to the Ladies:** Kathy Bonham, Kathy Erickson, and Jeannette L' Abbe.

## 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

#### Treasure Valley Marine Corp Auxiliary Meeting

No Auxiliary minutes for June.

## EVENT HORIZON

- Standdown, September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Veterans Olympics, September 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Business Meeting, September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Detachment Picnic, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Parking Lot Party, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Lt. Gen. J. T. Conway New Commandant

Lt. Gen. James Conway, is the Corps' 34th commandant. The full Senate confirmed Lt. Gen. James Conway to be the 34<sup>th</sup> commandant of the Marine Corps August 2. Conway, who will also receive a fourth star, will succeed Commandant Gen.

Mike Hagee as early as this November. Lt. General Conway, 58, and a 36-year veteran of the Corps, has been serving as the director of operations, J-3, Joint Staff, Washington, D.C.

Lieutenant General Conway was commissioned in 1970 as an infantry officer and served initially with the 3d Battalion, 1st



Marines, Camp Pendleton, as a rifle platoon commander and as the Battalion's 106mm recoilless-rifle platoon commander. Subsequently, he served as a company commander in the Infantry Training Regiment; as Executive Officer of the Marine Detachment aboard the USS Kitty Hawk (CVA-63); at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego as a series and company commander in the Recruit Training Regiment, as the aide to the Commanding General, and as Director, Sea School. After career level school in 1977, he reported to 3d Battalion, 2d Marines, 2d Marine Division where he commanded two companies and served in the Regiment's S-3. Posted to The Basic School he commanded two companies of officer students and taught tactics. Following intermediate level school, his next tour was as operations officer for the 31st MAU, where he spent 13 months at sea in WESTPAC and in contingency operations off Beirut, Lebanon. Returning to CONUS in July 1984, he was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, and later served two years as Senior Aide to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. Upon completion of top level school, he was reassigned to the 2d Marine Division serving as Division G-3 Operations Officer before assuming command of 3d Battalion, 2d Marines in January 1990. Under his command Battalion Landing Team 3/2 deployed to Southwest Asia for eight months for Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. Selected for colonel, he was assigned as the Ground Colonels' Monitor, HQMC. He assumed command of The Basic School on April 30, 1993 and in that role was selected for Brigadier General in December 1995. Re-assigned to the Joint Staff, he served as the Deputy Director of Operations J-3 for Combating Terrorism. He then served as the President, Marine Corps University at Quantico, VA. After being selected for promotion to Major General, he assumed command of the 1st Marine Division.

In November of 2002 LtGen Conway was promoted to his current rank and assumed command of the I Marine Expeditionary Force. He commanded I MEF during two combat tours in Iraq. His personal decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with gold stars in lieu of second and third awards, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon. Lieutenant General Conway graduated with honors from The Basic School, the U.S. Army Infantry Officers' Advanced Course, the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and the Air War College.

#### Commandants of the Marine Corps

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

##### 1. Samuel Nicholas

State of Birth: PA

Dates: B. 1744 D. 27 Aug 1790

Period Served: 28 Nov 1775 - 1781

Initial Rank as CMC: Captain

Final Rank: Major

The resolution of the Continental Congress on 10 November 1775 provided for a colonel to command two battalions of Marines authorized, but the highest rank received by any Marine during the Revolution was that of major. Samuel Nicholas was appointed "Captain of Marines" on 28 November 1775, and promoted to major on 25 June 1776. Because of his senior status among other Marine officers of



the Revolution, he is numbered as the first Commandant. The year 1781 saw Major Nicholas' return to private life. By the summer of 1781 there were only three Marine captains and three lieutenants on active duty, and overall organization had ceased to exist.

2. William Ward Burrows

State of Birth: SC

Dates: B. 16 Jan 1758 D. 6 Mar 1804

Period Served: 12 Jul 1798 - 6 Mar 1804

Initial Rank as CMC: Major

Final Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

When Burrows was appointed under authority of the Act of 11 July 1798 (1 Stat. 72) he was not known technically as "Major Commandant." It was not until 1 May 1800, when Burrows was promoted to "Lieutenant Colonel Commandant" under the Act of 22 April 1800 (2 Stat. 29), that there was an alliance of rank and position for the head of the Marine Corps.

3. Franklin Wharton

State of Birth: PA

Dates: B. 1767 D. 1 Sep 1818

Period Served: 7 Mar 1804 - 1 Sep 1818

Initial Rank as CMC: Lieutenant Colonel

Final Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

Between Wharton's death and Gale's appointment, Brevet Major Samuel Miller, the Adjutant and Inspector and Brevet Major Archibald Henderson served as Acting Commandant, 2-15 September 1818 and 16 September 1818 - 2 March 1819, respectively.

4. Anthony Gale

State of Birth: Ireland

Dates: B. 17 Sep 1782 D. 1843

Period Served: 3 Mar 1819 - 16 Oct 1820

Initial Rank as CMC: Lieutenant Colonel

Final Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

5. Archibald Henderson

State of Birth: VA

Dates: B. 21 Jan 1783 D. 6 Jan 1859

Period Served: 17 Oct 1820 - 6 Jan 1859

Initial Rank as CMC: Lieutenant Colonel

Final Rank: Colonel

By authority of the Act of 30 June 1834 (4 Stat. 32) the rank of Commandant was raised to colonel. On 4 March 1843, Henderson was commissioned brigadier general by brevet for his services during the Florida Indian Wars. Subsequently, he was commonly referred to as Brevet Brigadier General Henderson. This was a personal rank in the nature of a decoration for gallantry. It had nothing to do with the office of the Commandant - less, in fact, than the personal rank held by Heywood. In this connection, it should be noted that, in official correspondence, Henderson usually signed himself "Col. Commdt".

6. John Harris

State of Birth: PA

Dates: B. 20 May 1790 D. 2 May 1864

Period Served: 7 Jan 1859 - 12 May 1864

Initial Rank as CMC: Colonel

Final Rank: Colonel

Between the death of Harris and the appointment of Zeilin, Major Augustus S. Nicholson, the Adjutant and Inspector, served as Acting Commandant from 13 May - 9 June 1864.

7. Jacob Zeilin

State of Birth: PA

Dates: B. 16 Jul 1806 D. 18 Nov 1880

Period Served: 10 Jun 1864 - 31 Oct 1876

Initial Rank as CMC: Colonel

Final Rank: Brigadier General

The Act of March 1867 (14 Stat. 174) provided that "the commandant of the Marine corps shall have the rank and pay of a brigadier general of the army." This law was repealed by the Act of 6 June 1874 (18 Stat. 216) when the office of Commandant was returned to the rank of colonel when and if a vacancy occurred. Thus, Zeilin retained his rank of brigadier general but his successor was slated to be a colonel.

8. Charles McCawley

State of Birth: PA

Dates: B. 29 Jan 1827 D. 13 Oct 1891

Period Served: 1 Nov 1876 - 29 Jan 1891

Initial Rank as CMC: Colonel

Final Rank: Colonel

9. Charles Heywood

State of Birth: ME

Dates: B. 3 Oct 1839 D. 26 Feb 1915

Period Served: 30 Jan 1891 - 2 Oct 1903

Initial Rank as CMC: Colonel

Final Rank: Major General

By the Act of 3 March 1899 (30 Stat. 413) the post of Commandant was again raised to that of brigadier general; Heywood was promoted as of that date. The Act of 1 July 1902 (32 Stat. 1368) accorded the Commandant the rank, pay, and allowances of a major general in the army. This act, however, specifically provided that should a vacancy occur in the office "on the expiration of the service of the present incumbent, by retirement or otherwise, the commandant of the Marine Corps shall thereafter have the rank, pay, and allowances of a brigadier-general." Thus, Heywood's final rank must be considered to have been personal in character.

**The Boise Veterans Day Parade Committee** is looking for Volunteers to put up flags before parade and to take them down after the parade. Contact Pat Coonrod for more information 208-378-9436.

*"Retreat Hell! We're just attacking in another direction."*

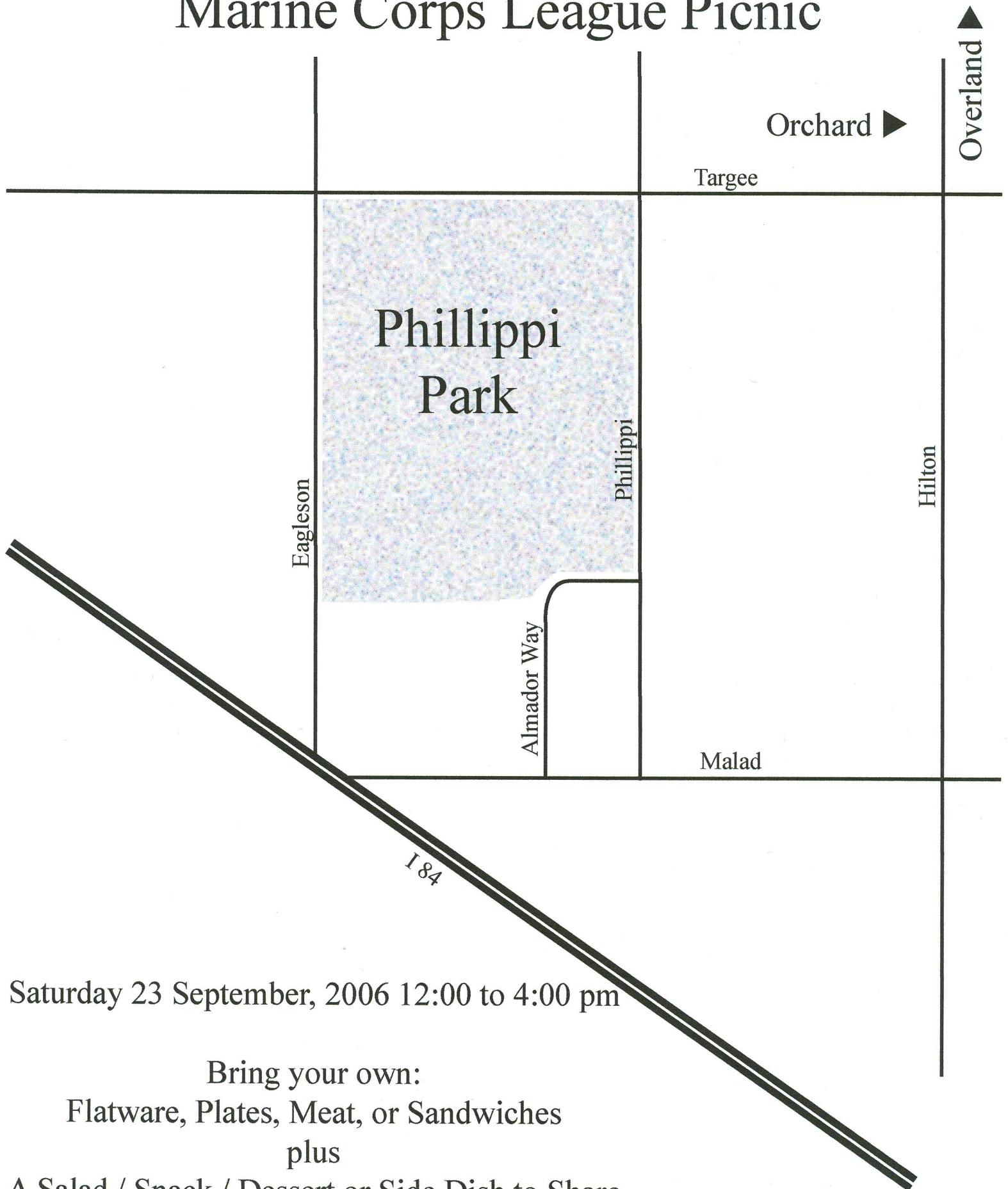
(Attributed to Major General Oliver P. Smith, USMC, Korea, December 1950.)

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



# Treasure Valley Detachment

## Marine Corps League Picnic



Saturday 23 September, 2006 12:00 to 4:00 pm

Bring your own:

Flatware, Plates, Meat, or Sandwiches  
plus

A Salad / Snack / Dessert or Side Dish to Share