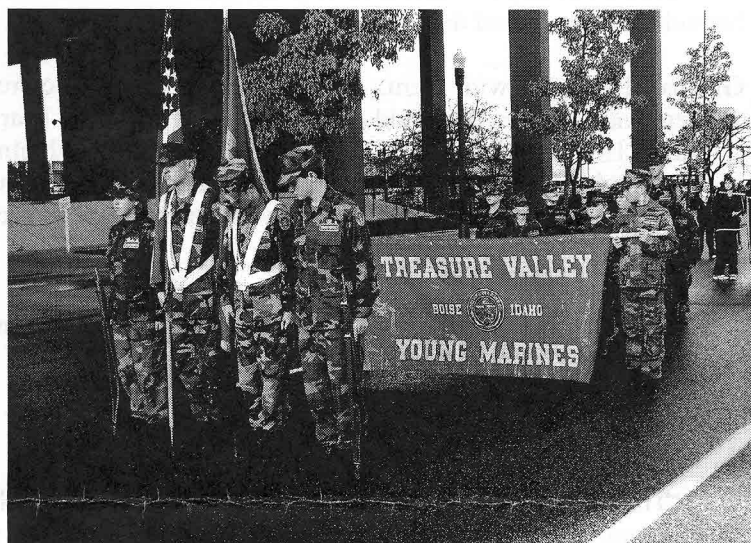




# Semper Fi Gazette

## After Action Report

*From Our Young Marines*



### Treasure Valley Detachment Marine Corps League

#### Leadership:

##### Commandant

Rich Erickson 208-562-0498  
3968 Rushmore Way  
Boise, ID 83709

##### Senior Vice Commandant:

Michael Grigsby 208-322-8309

##### 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

The event was sponsored by the 1st Washington Battalion, Young Marine Units of the Northwest Regiment participants included Lewis & Clark YM, Vancouver, WA., Tri-Cities YM, Pasco, WA., Cpl. James Moore YM, Roseburg, OR., and Big Sky YM, Great Falls MT. and Treasure Valley YM, Boise, ID.. The Battalion Encampment, and training exercises included field exercises, day trips, Drill and Color Guard competitions, was held in Southwest of Astoria in Warrenton, OR at the Oregon National Guard, Camp Rilea site. The units were given the use of billeting and training facilities. The Starship billeting and messing facility is a two (2) deck structure with open squad bays capable of handling twenty (20) people per squad bay with a total capacity of 160 people. Heads are located on each deck. The lower deck also has a fully equipped kitchen with cold storage. The lower deck also has a mess hall and a large classroom which also contain audio-visual equipment for training purposes. The YM were transported by vehicle caravan of parents and staff registered adult volunteers with 11 Young Marines from TVYM in attendance of the almost 100 YM that attended. This event offered the Young Marines of the Northwest Regiment an excellent opportunity to meet, train, and share experiences with other Young Marines. Training opportunities planned for the encampment included: • Compass and map reading, • Land navigation, • Marksmanship training and qualification, • Rappelling, • Obstacle course, • Beach reconnaissance

Treasure Valley Young Marines  
of the  
Treasure Valley Marine Corps League  
Camp Rilea Encampment  
July 31 - August 5, 2007  
by Pvt. Adam McKinney age 11

We left Winco (in Boise) at 0630 hours the whole ride there I was freaking out because I was riding With Mr. Strohmeyer (USMC MSgt Retired former Drill Instructor). I was afraid of being left in the middle of nowhere. But he was nice and I didn't get a one way trip. The ride wasn't very fun it was long. I also found out (Young Marine Cpl Joshua) Moore can turn an 8 hour trip into a 10 hour trip. When we got to Oregon we unpacked and went to the mess hall and learned about what we would do there. We had free time and did fun stuff like football. Then we had lights out at 2200. The first whole day we were there we woke up at 0600 got dressed and ate morning chow. Then we went to ride on a USCG boat. We learned a lot about the Coast Guard.

The next day it was about the same except we went and fired m-16s the one I fired had an m203 (grenade launcher) mounted on the bottom. They were a simulator but fun. Soccer mom (Sgt. Nash) showed me how to do it. Then we went to starship and ate and lights out. On Aug. 3 we went to an old fort that was built in the civil war. That was fun we took tours and we walked around and looked at stuff. There was lots of really cool stuff there. The next day we had a drill comp and we had fun. We had Color Guard. We had an inspection by retired USMC DI'S. Later that day we went to the beach. The ocean was so cold. We had fun on the beach. We buried (Young Marine) SSGT. (James) Durbin in the sand. We made sand castles and stuff, then we went back to the barracks and got hosed down.

The last day we were going home I rode home with the Glenns. I felt safe with them. By that I mean I wasn't scarred about getting left somewhere in Oregon. The whole encampment was very fun if I could do it again I'd say yes in a heart-beat. Favorite staff member I met was soccer mom, aka Sgt. Nash. He was funny and everyone could get along with him. We called him soccer mom because he drives a mini van. He was helpful. He was encouraging also he pushed us to our limits and I did stuff I didn't think I could do but I could. Friend I met was a kid named Ivie we were sitting next to each other on the bus one day we started to talk and just hung out a lot.

### **Business Meeting for September 2007**

The regular Business Meeting of the Treasure Valley Detachment Marine Corps League for October will be held at the Pavilion on Gowen Field at 1900 hours. October. 18th. All members are encouraged to attend. The next regular business meeting will be Nov. 15th, 2007. Your opinions, ideas, and voice is important to the detachment. So please make a note on your calendar to attend the meetings.

### **Veterans Affairs Volunteer Services**

Gordon Williams reported on the hours that our volunteers served for the last quarter of 600 hours. All kudoes to our volunteers and thank you for your service to our hospitalized veterans.

### **Happy Hour and Koffee Klatch**

Koffee Klatch starts at 0900, although you can show up as early as you want, but you should wait until they open. Koffee Klatch is held at Quinn's on Vista Ave. every Saturday morning, except the third Saturday of the month.

That day is our Happy Hour Breakfast with the ladies and guests.. Happy Hour is at 1000 hours and this month it will be on October 20th.

### **Marine Corps Birthday Ball**

The Ball this year will be at the Grove Hotel Grand Ballroom, on the 3rd. of November. Social hour begins at 1700 and the Ceremony begins at 1800. The price of the tickets are \$40 and are available from SSgt. Dennison at Gowen Field. (208) 422-6248.

### **Happy Birthday to Our Ladies:**

Mary Ann Allen, Carol Nance, and Anita Partridge.

### **A Name Change**

The airport in Coeur d'Alene changed its name on the 22 September to the Pappy Boyington Field. In memory to the Marine Corps WW2 flying ace Gregory Boyington. Pappy was born in Coeur d'Alene in December of 1912. In the beginning of his flying career he flew for the Flying Tigers in China, then he Commanded the VMF-214.

The Black Sheep Squadron. Toward the end of the war he became a POW. For his U.S. Marine Corps service he was a recipient of the Navy Cross and the Medal of Honor.

## Veterans Olympics

Turn out of the members was good and the detachment was finished by 0800 hours. Kudos to everyone that participated.

## Young Marine Boot Camp Graduation

On the 2nd. of October the Treasure Valley Young Marines will have their Graduation Ceremony at Reserve Center on Gowen Field at 1900 hours. Gem State Young Marines had their Graduation Ceremony at the National Guard Armory in Nampa.

The TVDMCL gave \$110.00 to the Treasure Valley Young Marines for Kimberly Rutledge's uniforms. Her father is currently deployed in Iraq.

# 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

### Minutes for June 21, 2007.

Monthly meeting of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary, September 20, 2007

Meeting was called to order. There were five members present. There were no minutes from the May meeting. The treasurer's report was read and approved. Chaplin reported that Melba Butler and Velma Williams were both under the weather. Communications: a letter from National, it was passed around to read. New business: Theresa brought to our attention that we need to do a budget for 2008, it was tabled. She suggested that we have a tea to help increase our membership. Pauline

asked that a list be brought back from each of us as to what we might use our funds. Pauline made a motion that we buy a brick for the Veterans Cemetery Indigent fund, it passed. Barbara made a motion that we buy a membership to the Idaho Military Historical Society, it passed. Closing prayer was read and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectably submitted,

Acting secretary, Donna Schumaker

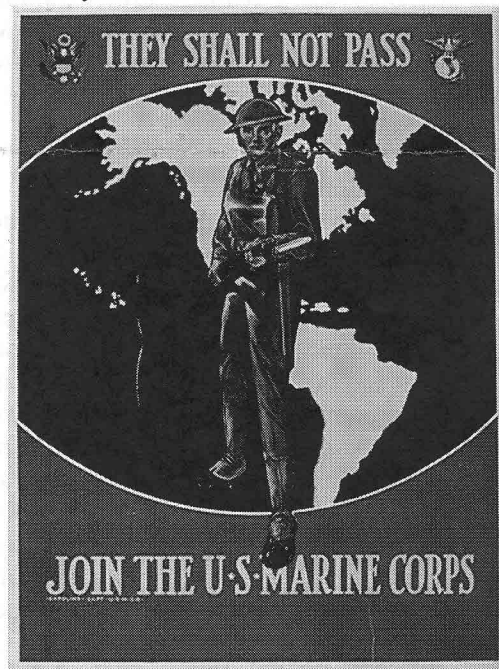
**The mailing Address for the Auxiliary is:**

Ralph or Barbara Elston  
7845 W. Powell St.  
Boise, ID 83714

**Note from the editor:** I must have the minutes by the last Friday of the month or they may not be in the newsletter, editor.

# Event Horizon

- Parking Lot Party, October 7th. 1000 hours
- Columbus Day, October 8th.
- Happy Hour, October 20th. 1000 hours
- Regular Business Meeting, October 18th., 1900 hour
- Marine Corps Birthday Ball, November 3rd. 1700 hours
- Election Day, November 6th.
- Marine Corps 232nd. Birthday, November 10th
- Veterans Day November 11th.





# History of Marine Divisions

History of 1st Marine Division  
Part 3 of 3  
The Old Breed  
1st Marine Division  
(Revised March 2006)  
1st MarDiv Staff Secretary

From 1st Marine Expeditionary  
Force website



<http://www.i-mef.usmc.mil/DIV/generalinformation.asp>

Today 1st Marine Division is a multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. The Division is employed as the ground combat element (GCE) of I MEF or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed. The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent land operations in any operational environment.

Today, the 1st Marine Division continues to support the Global War On Terrorism by providing fully trained units and personnel in support of on-going Operation IRAQI FREEDOM/Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, MEU(SOC), and UDP requirements. The state of the art MOUT facility provides a realistic urban training environment for thousands of 1st Marine Division Marines. The state of the art MOUT facility provides a realistic urban training environment for thousands of 1st Marine Division Marines.

Headquarters Battalion provides command and administration for 1st Marine Division. Within the battalion are a headquarters and service company, military police company, a communications company, and a truck company. The division headquarters is located in the 11 Area, while Headquarters Battalion and its companies are located in the 33 Area. The 1st, 5th and 7th Marines each consist of one headquarters company and four infantry battalions, with one battalion deployed outside the continental United States at all times. The infantry battalions are the basic tactical units that the regiment uses to accomplish its mission of locating, closing with and destroying the enemy by fire and close combat. The 1st and 5th Regiments are located in the 53 and 62 Areas, respectively. The 7th Marines is located in Twentynine Palms, Calif.

The 11th Marines consists of a headquarters battery and four artillery battalions. The 11th Marines is the primary source of fire support for 1st Marine Division in amphibious assault and subsequent operations ashore. It provides direct and general fire support to frontline units as required by the infantry commanders. The 11th Marines' organic weapon is the 155 mm howitzer (M198 towed howitzers). The Las Pulgas (43) Area is home to 11th Marines, 1/11 and 2/11. Las Flores (41) Area is home to 5/11 and 3/11 is located at Twentynine Palms.

1st Tank Battalion was activated on 1 November 1941 and is located at Twentynine Palms, Calif. Its mission is to provide combat power to 1st Marine Division in the form of amphibious and/or Maritime Preposition Forces; conduct operations ashore utilizing maneuver, armor protected firepower, and shock action in order to close with and destroy the enemy. As a separate battalion, 1st Tank Battalion is responsible for providing armored assets as well as anti-armor systems and staff expertise in their employment. The 1st Tank Battalion is equipped with the M1A1 Abrams Battle Tank.

The 1st Combat Engineer Battalion performs many specific functions while fulfilling its mission of providing both tactical and logistical engineer support to 1st Marine Division. The battalion shares San Mateo (62) Area with 5th Marines.

The mission of 3d Assault Amphibian Battalion is to transport the surface assault elements of the landing force from amphibious shipping to inland objectives during the amphibious assault and to provide support to mechanized operations ashore. The amphibious assault vehicles are primarily used to transport personnel in tactical operations. The battalion is located in Camp Del Mar (21) Area.

The Division has two light armored reconnaissance battalions. The mission of a LAR battalion is to conduct reconnaissance, security and economy of force operations, and within its capabilities, limited offensive or delaying operations that exploit the unit's mobility and firepower. 1st LAR Battalion was activated 31 May 1985 and is located at Las Flores (41) Area. 3d LAR Battalion was activated on 11 September 1986 and is located at Twentynine Palms.

The Division reactivated the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion on 8 June 2000 but the battalion was originally activated on 1 March 1937. It now calls the Margarita(33) Area home. Before 1944 Marine Recon was primarily scout/sniper units. In April 1944 a two company amphibious reconnaissance battalion was formed with the mission of conducting beach reconnaissance and hydrographic survey. Today the Battalion performs a wide variety of tactical and special operations in support of the Division.

Habbaniyah acts as a corridor in a crucial area, known as Jazeria, located between the once terrorist safe heaven cities of Fallujah and Ramadi. Nowadays, people go about their lives freely while searching for jobs, attending schools, plowing fields and shopping in crowded markets without fear of being shot in the crossfire of combat.

## Marine Corps News

### 3rd Marine Division celebrates 65th anniversary

Sept. 28, 2007; Submitted on: 09/28/2007 04:02:18 AM ; Story ID#: 20079284218

By Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac, MCB Camp Butler

The Marine Corps formed the Division in September 1942 in San Diego. Since that time, Marines and sailors from the "Fighting Third" have participated in many major U.S. military campaigns. During the ceremony, leaders with the division spoke about the unit's prominent history, such as battles in Bougainville, Guam and Iwo Jima. Okinawa first became home to the Division in 1956. Nine years later, the Division moved to Da Nang Air Base, Vietnam, and later received the Meritorious Unit Commendation for its combat operations there.

In 1969, the unit moved to Camp Courtney, where it has remained since. Since returning, 3rd MarDiv has continually participated in international training exercises and deploys its units to operations worldwide. Currently, the Division plays a large role in the Global War on Terrorism with battalions rotating in and out of Iraq, while Embedded Training Teams strengthen Afghanistan's developing security forces. Additionally, the Division supports humanitarian operations throughout the Pacific.

Closing the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Robert Neller, commanding general of the 3rd MarDiv, spoke about where the Division is headed. "Our future priorities are to continue to conduct humanitarian and high intensity operations," said Neller. "With our deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan and other theaters in the Pacific, I would match the operational tempo of this unit against any in the Marine Corps. "For Marines who want to get into the fight, the 3rd MarDiv is the place to be. By conducting ourselves in this manner, I believe there is no question that today's Marines are living up to those who have gone before them."

45th Medical Company hands over reins of Al Qaim medevac to Charlie 214th

Sept. 28, 2007; Submitted on: 09/28/2007 02:22:16 AM ; Story ID#: 200792822216

By Sgt. Anthony Guas, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (FWD)

AL QAIM, Iraq (Sept. 28, 2007) -- "People think that our job is just to go and fix somebody, but every life that you save is a father, a brother, son or daughter. It's somebody that just wants to go home," said Army Staff Sgt. Omar Ruiz, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge flight medic with 45th Medical Company. The detachment of Soldiers of 45th Med in Al Qaim have spent a year ensuring that they do everything humanly possible to help wounded service members get back home. Now, it is their turn to go home as they hand the medical evacuation mission over to the Soldiers of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 214th Aviation Regiment (MedEvac).

The Soldiers of 45th Med, who will return to Germany, will hand over a very important mission in Al Qaim. They are responsible for providing immediate MedEvac response for the local area 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To provide constant service, 45th Med and now the 214th, have a crew who is always ready. Throughout the year, 45th Med has rotated different teams of Soldiers in and out of Al Qaim every three months. Despite the rotations of teams, 45th Med has been able to continuously provide the same support.

One factor that 45th Med attributes to their success was their relationship with the service members on the ground in Al Qaim. A good relationship and communication between units helped keep service members alive, but 45th Med took it a step further while serving in Al Qaim.

Looking back on their deployment, the Soldiers of 45th Med believe that their presence was felt. The Soldiers of Charlie 214th feel that 45th Med has done a good job and hope to follow in their footsteps and continue their successful support.

## TVDMCL Website

We have our own website now. It is  
<http://www.tvdmcl.org>

*Leadership is the sum of those qualities of intellect, human understanding, and moral character that enables a person to inspire and control a group of people successfully.*  
(Gen. John A. Lejeune, Commandant, USMC)

**God Bless The United States of America and in God we Trust**