



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



Treasure Valley Detachment, No 878

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Semper Paratus Gazette



*"To care for him
Who shall have
borne the battle
and for his widow
and his orphan."*

Abraham Lincoln



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**To be connected with VA
suicide Prevention and Mental
Health Professionals. Call the
toll-free National Suicide
Prevention hotline and indicate
you are a veteran.**

1-800-273-8255

Quin (Five Western Divisions) Conference Oceanside, California





Chaplin's Corner

GREETINGS TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS! AS WE MOVE INTO FEBRUARY 2010 REMEMBER SPRING IS COMING AND FOR MOST OF US IT CAN'T BE TOO SOON! THIS MONTH (JAN.) HAS BROUGHT SOME SAD NEWS WITH IT. WE HAVE LOST ANOTHER LONG TIME MEMBER AND FRIEND, DELL RUPERT. THERE WAS A MEMORIAL SERVICE CONDUCTED AT THE January 21st BUSINESS MEETING FOR BOTH GARY GRAFTON (JULY 2009) AND DELL. ALSO ...THIS HAS JUST COME IN TO ME. **JEROME J.C. BEAU**, 91 YRS OF AGE HAS DIED FEB 2nd. YOUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS FOR OUR FALLEN BROTHERS WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AS THEY TAKE THEIR POSITION OF HONOR AND DIGNITY ON OUR LORDS ROLL.

ALSO DAVID KLEINFELDT'S WIFE, MARY JO, HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER AND WILL BE UNDERGOING THERAPY FOR A WHILE. GARY SCHUMAKER WENT IN FOR SURGERY AT ST AL'S AND HAD SOME COMPLICATIONS AND IS BACK IN ST AL'S RECOVERY FROM HIS SECOND ORDEAL. PRAYER IS A POWERFUL WEAPON AND I ASK THAT YOU KEEP MARY JO AND OUR BROTHER GARY SCHUMAKER IN YOUR PRAYERS.

ON A BRIGHTER NOTE; WE WILL BE HAVING DETACHMENT ELECTIONS COMING SOON. EVEN THOUGH I HAVE ENJOYED THIS POSITION AS YOUR CHAPLAIN FOR THE PAST YEAR I MUST RELINQUISH IT AT THE NEXT ELECTION AND REQUEST THAT ONE OF OUR MEMBERS PLEASE STEP FORWARD AND ASSUME THE POSITION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED CONTACT ME, RICH ERICKSON, ARNIE STRAWN OR RALPH ELSTON. SEMPER FI AND GOD BLESS!

NOTE: Funeral services for Jerome J.C. Beau will be conducted at Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel, on Feb 20th at 1:00pm. Internment will follow with full military honors at Morris Hill Cemetery.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR 2011 MCL CONVENTION

TO ALL OF OUR DETACHMENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE STEPPED UP AND VOLUNTEERED TO CHAIR MOST OF THE POSITIONS AND FUNCTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING 2011 NATIONAL CONVENTION A GREAT DEAL OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO YOU FROM MYSELF AND THE DIRECTOR, JOHN WALKER. WITHOUT YOU THIS EVENT CANNOT HAPPEN. THANK YOU AND KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK YOU ARE DOING.

I ALSO CALL ON THOSE WHO ARE NOT INVOLVED YET TO GIVE THE DIFFERENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN A HAND AS YOU CAN. EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS, NO MATTER HOW SMALL OR INSIGNIFICANT YOU THINK YOUR SERVICES MAY BE, YOUR HELP AND PARTICIPATION WILL BE APPRECIATED. I WOULD ALSO ASK THAT ANYONE WHO HAS IDEAS FOR RAISING FUNDS FOR THE DETACHMENT PLEASE ATTEND THE MEETING ON FEB. 18th AND DISCUSS THEM WITH US. DONATIONS, PROJECTS, RAFFLES OR ANYTHING TO HELP BUILD THE MONETARY FUND FOR OUR DETACHMENT, YOUR IDEAS ARE IMPORTANT.

*SEMPER FI AND BEST WISHES
BOBBY J LEE; ASSISTANT DIR
2011 NATIONAL CONVENTION*



Pictures from *Marine West Expo*, held at Camp Pendleton, California. Our National Convention Board members were fortunate to review some of the weapons displayed for our Armed Forces. Other displays shown next page looks to be an 81mm, or 120 mortar round with a variable time fuse





81mm or 120mm mortar round ???



MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS

Our meeting turnout was very good. We had over 19 present at the monthly meeting and growing. Keep up the spirit MARINES. We also had another new member joining our Detachment...Chris Christopher shown below, being sworn in by our Commandant Rich Erickson.



For those who may not remember...Our meetings are conducted every "Third Thursday" of the month at the Pavilion on Gowen Field. February 18th at 1900...for those who forgot, 7:00 pm. ⇒



Here's a few of our old timers with fifteen years of Service with the Marine Corps League. L-R, Cmdt, Rich Erickson, SrVice Cmdt, Arnie Strawn, Ken Ohls, Enoch Hanson, Roy Jost & Ralph Elston, Adj/Paymaster. Semper Fi, MARINES

ANNOUNCEMENT

If anyone is interested in a program called Honor Flight, please let me know. Honor Flight for anyone who does not know is a program that lets WWII Veterans go back to Washington D.C. and see the WWII Monument at no cost. Idaho is one of the few states that has not yet set up a program to work with this.

John Walker
Jr Vice Commandant

FOLLOWUP FROM DETACHMENT THURSDAY'S MEETING ;

The meeting of 21 January was the second drawing of the "Progressive Pot Lottery" for the TVDMCL with Marine Gary Schumaker' name being drawn. Sadly he was not present to accept his winning. His loss this month has grown to \$14.00 but with this progressive nature of the drawing the pot is sure to continue growing. Again... to win you have to be present and make your buy-in for \$1 dollar. See you all at the next meeting. (Feb 18th, 1900)

PLEASE NOTIFY THE TVD NEWSLETTER OF ANY CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS TO YOUR NAME, ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS. CALL 208-898-0974 DON GRIFFITH



Koffee Klatch

Last week's coffee/breakfast at Quinn's restaurant was a great turnout of Detachment members and guest. We had somewhere around 40 plus members and their guest as evidence of the pictures below;



I won't attempt to identify all the folks....You can do that yourself. It was a great gathering of Marines from WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Iraqi/Afghanistan veterans. Talk about history. Who needs to read a book. Just come in and listen to the stories. Some are wild....Some are full of BS and some was just plain politics, Marine Corps style.



Come join us every Saturday morning at Quinn's restaurant at 1005 S. Vista Ave. Boise. Around 0830-1000. Or whenever the last Marine leaves.



February Birthdays

Ester Griffith
Mary MacConnell
Virginia Smith

From all the members of Treasure Valley Detachment we wish you ladies a very, very "Happy Birthday"



Military News & Health Care

God Bless Our Troops

TRICARE Program for Gray Area Reservists On Its Way

FALLS CHURCH, Va. - A new program will offer "gray area" Reservists the opportunity to purchase TRICARE health care coverage. While qualified members of the Selected Reserve may purchase premium-based coverage under TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS), retired National Guard and Reserve personnel did not have TRICARE health coverage options until they reached age 60. Under a provision of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2010, that's all changed. The new provision will allow certain members of the Retired Reserve who are not yet age 60 ("gray-area" retirees), to purchase TRICARE Standard (and Extra) coverage. TRICARE Extra simply means beneficiaries have lower out of pocket costs if they use a network provider. "We're working hard to coordinate all the details of eligibility, coverage and costs, and expedite implementation of this important program," said Rear Adm. Christine Hunter, deputy director of the TRICARE Management Activity. For more information about TRICARE benefits go to www.tricare.mil



Military News & Health Care

Continued.....

VA Planning To Open New Clinic In

Idaho. The Mountain Home (ID) News (1/12, 4K) reported, "Following the completion of a recent market survey, the Veterans Administration plans to open a new outreach clinic in Mountain Home by March. According to Boise Veterans Administration Medical Center spokesman Josh Callihan, the state bureau continues to discuss whether to build a facility or lease space for the military veterans clinic within a three-mile radius of the Elmore County Medical Center." The Home News adds that "plans to open" a clinic in Mountain Home "are part of the VA's continuing push to open regional clinics across southern Idaho."

TRICARE is Safe & Sound Under Health Reform

January 15, 2010 *The White House...by Matt Flavin*

In recent days, a particularly disturbing myth about health insurance reform has resurfaced. Opponents of reform have dredged up the baseless charge that reform somehow will affect or increase the cost of the TRICARE benefits on which America's troops and veterans depend.

The President believes our nation's greatest strategic asset is our men and women in uniform. Our servicemen and women and their families have always sacrificed selflessly in defense of our ideals. That is why one of the President's top priorities since coming into office has been to [give our veterans](#) "the care they were promised and the benefits that they have earned." That began with the largest single-year increase in VA funding in three decades, and with initiating the Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record that will follow a member of the Armed Forces through their transition into VA care and stay with them for life.

And it's why there is absolutely nothing in health reform that will affect TRICARE benefits. In addition, there are reports out there that new taxes will be imposed on TRICARE. That is not true either. There are no new taxes. No cuts in benefits. If you hear a politician telling voters that health reform will hurt TRICARE, don't believe him.

Continued Military News & Health Care

Military Times

Thousands of PTSD vets may get benefits boost

By [Kelly Kennedy](#)

Military officials have agreed to pay potentially millions of dollars to service members who were medically retired for post-traumatic stress disorder with disability ratings of less than 50 percent.

According to federal law, the military is required to give anyone whose PTSD is bad enough to warrant discharge a rating of at least 50 percent - a level that qualifies them for lifetime medical treatment for the veteran and his family, as well as monthly tax-free retirement payments if the rating is combat-related.

However, in a class action lawsuit filed in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, pro bono attorneys for National Veterans Legal Services Program argued that at least 4,300 veterans diagnosed with PTSD by the military received ratings of less than 50 percent between Dec. 17, 2002, and Oct. 14, 2008.

The seven original plaintiffs in the suit each received ratings of 10 percent for PTSD.

The military's position "was that they were not bound by the 50-percent law," said Bart Stichman, co-director of National Veterans Legal Services Program.

In October 2008, the Defense Department sent out a memo ordering adjudicators to automatically give a rating of 50 percent for PTSD for service members going through the medical retirement process.

The agreement between the plaintiffs and government states that anyone rated at less than 50 percent for PTSD between Dec. 17, 2002, and Oct. 14, 2008, will automatically receive a rating of 50 percent for six months. That means back pay for anyone whose PTSD is combat-related.

Vets Should Be Prepared For Claims

Processing To Take Longer In 2011. The Army Times (2/3, Maze, 104K) reports, "The 2011 Veterans Affairs Department budget unveiled Monday by the White House includes what VA officials called an 'unprecedented' 27 percent funding increase for the Veterans Benefits Administration, some of which will be used to hire 4,000 permanent employees to process benefits claims." However, in an "admission that comes as no surprise to few who have been watching VA struggle with a backlog of benefits claims,

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Continued Military News & Health Care.....

Michael Walcoff, VA's acting undersecretary for benefits, said veterans should be prepared for the average claims processing time to be longer in fiscal 2011 than it is today." But the Times did note that in a "statement, VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said there are long-term plans to harness technology to speed claims, such as establishing a paperless processing system and changing procedures to reduce steps as part of promised transformation

Costly Agent Orange-Heart Disease Link Looms

By Tom Philpott

December 31, 2009

The cost of war -- on veterans' health and taxpayer's wallets will loom a little larger in the new year when the Department of Veterans Affairs issues a final rule to claim adjudicators to presume three more diseases of Vietnam veterans, including heart disease, were caused by exposure to Agent Orange. The rule, expected to be published soon, will make almost any veteran who set foot in Vietnam, and is diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, B cell leukemia or ischemic heart disease (known also as coronary artery disease), eligible for disability compensation and VA medical care. The exception would be if credible evidence surfaces of a non-service cause for the ailment. It said thousands of widows whose husbands died of Agent Orange disabilities also will be eligible for retroactive benefits and VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation. Check with your local Department of Veterans Affairs for more details. Or go online at www.va.gov

Bill To Address Lejeune Contamination

By Barbara Barrett, Washington Correspondent

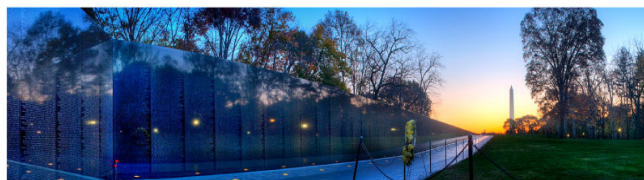
Posted February 2, 2010

WASHINGTON..... It was 12 years after watching his young daughter slip away that former Msgt Ensminger caught a clue that the Marines might have been at fault for her death. Legislation introduced in the House of Representatives this week aims to bring him closer. The Legislation, introduced by U.S.Rep Brad Miller a Raleigh Democrat, requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to care for Marines and their family members who might have suffered ailments stemming from their exposure to the drinking water.

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Continued from Lejeune Contamination

From about 1957 to 1987, Marines and their families living at Camp Lejeune, NC drank and bathed in the well water contaminated with *trichloroethylene* (TCE), *tetrachloroethylene* (PCE), benzen and vinyl chloride. Miller's bill would require the VA and the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry, (ATSDR) to establish the time period in which water at Camp Lejeune was contaminated with volatile organic compounds. Both also would be required to establish which illnesses are associated with the poisons.



From va.gov

Momentum is growing for the campaign to build an Education Center at the Vietnam Memorial Wall. In September 2009, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund launched a National Call for Photos, to gather pictures of the more than 58,000 men and women whose names are on The Wall. There is also a new Web site dedicated to the Education Center, where you will find everything you need to start a local Call for Photos campaign. Click here to visit www.buildthecenter.org. For many, the Vietnam War is text book history. Some 40 percent of the four million people who visit The Wall today are too young to remember that war. To them, the thousands of names cut in the smooth black granite are faceless; they have no context, no connection. By telling the stories behind every name, the Education Center will help visitors understand the courage, sacrifice and devotion of those who fell, those who returned, and those who waited. While learning about the Vietnam War, visitors will also discover how the Memorial shaped the ways Americans mourn, and the vital part The Wall played in helping to heal the bitter divisions that tore at the nation's heart and soul.



"Except for ending Slavery, Fascism, Nazism and Communism, War has Never Solved anything"



"The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation"

Did You Know? The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation governs the new Marine Corps Museum and they have the mission outlined below;

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's Governors Council, has a mission 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 and Heritage Center. The Governors Council has successfully continued to raise national awareness of the national Museum since its opening in 2006. There are several exciting 2010 initiatives being planned, including the 65th Anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Iwo Jima and the opening of three new galleries at the museum. We'd like to ensure Marines throughout Idaho are kept abreast of the latest happens at their National Museum and Heritage Center and they can't do it without the assistance of the Marine Corps League.

Continued.....James R. Durbin

YM SgtMaj of the Northwest Regiment, First Idaho Battalion Young Marine of the Year, Treasure Valley Young Marine of the Year (2nd Award), Senior Young Marine currently in the Treasure Valley Young Marines. YM Durbin is set to travel and attend the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima, "Reunion of Honor." YM Durbin stated he is making future plans to enroll in OCS and possibly joining the Navy Seal Program.

"Congratulations from the Marines of Treasure Valley Detachment, No 878, Marine Corps League."



"Youth Drug Demand Reduction." (DDR) Class

The Youth Drug Demand Reduction education program is a requirement to all the Yms. This day, (Jan 20th) the class was given by Officer Jermaine Galloway on the dangers of drugs and underage drinking.



A little excitement to finish up the day with lights flashing and sirens blaring...Don't know if the neighborhood residence were awoken by all the noise, but the kids enjoyed it.



Young Marine Master Gunnery Sergeant, James R. Durbin is awarded *Division 6 Young Marine of the Year*, By Mike Wilson, Commander, 6th Division, Young Marines of the Marine Corps League. YM Durbin is in line to represent not only Idaho, but the Northwest Regiment in his running for the title of "National Young Marine of the Year". YM Durbin, is 17 years of age. He has seven years in the YM Marine Corps League. He is currently filling the billet of SgtMaj. His Current Billets are; Division 6 Young Marine of the Year ⇒⇒

THE MYSTICS

THE FABULOUS CHANCELLORS

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