

NEWSLETTER

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT #878 APRIL 2013 BOISE, IDAHO

Detachment Commandant—David Swickard

 $\frac{OUR\ OFFICERS}{\frac{AND\ STAFF}{2013\ \&\ 2015}}$

COMMANDANT
DAVID SWICKARD

SR. VICE CMDT.
ART KILTON

JR. VICE CMDT.
JACK CUNNINGHAM

JUDGE ADVOCATE
MICHAEL O'HARA

IMMED. PAST CMDT.
GARY RANDEL

ADJUTANT/
PAYMASTER:
KEN ELLIOT

SGT AT ARMS/WEB MASTER WALT MODLER

CHAPLAIN RON BLAKELEY

NEWSLETTER EDITOR GAIL HUGHES



We are getting closer to the time of year, when the Detachment goes dark (does not have any formal meetings). Our last Detachment meeting this spring is in June. We will not meet again, after that, until September. With this in mind, it is imperative that we ensure that we have individuals signed up to work the Coffee Wagon.



The dates that we have set up with the Idaho Dept of Transportation are:

May 18 & 19 June 22 & 23 July 21 & 22

We have folks signed up for 18 May, but <u>we still need coverage</u> for the 19th of May and all of the other weekends. There will be sign up sheets at Quinns on Saturdays and at the two remaining meetings (May & June). Please take the opportunity to **serve YOUR Detachment** by taking a shift on the Coffee Wagon.

On another note, Ms. Gail Hughes has agreed to put together our newsletter, but is seeking help. We need someone to step up and assist her with various minor details and possibly train to take the task over in the future. If you have an interest in reading and perusing Marine Corp related information, you can be of assistance to Gail. The ability to read and send email is all that is needed. If you are interested, please contact one of the Detachment officers and let us know.

Sr. Vice Commandant Art Kilton

We are well on our way into summer. Waiting for the cool mornings to warm up a

bit. I may be back for the next business meeting, but I'm still traveling. I've made some wonderful new friends here in Brazil. If you visit here, use deet right after you get off the airplane. They have a "no-see-um" critter called a borrochudo. It must like American blood because they have attacked me en masse. Only my arms however. A word of warning -- don't scratch. Easy to say, hard to do. My son Osny gets bitten, but they don't leave a mark. My marks have lasted more than a week.

Our new officers take hold this month. I'll be back soon to offer my support. In the meantime, get behind the officers and help make our outfit first class. This year we should have some fun with our new coffee wagon. Take a tour at the rest stop and find out how entertaining it can be. Once there, you'll enjoy the time.

For information or to submit articles to be published/reviewed for this Newsletter please contact Gail Hughes at:
treasurevalleymcl@gmail.com

LEAD PAGE CONTINUED

Newsletter Editor—Gail Hughes

Greetings! A special thanks goes out to Bobby Lee for the hard work and dedication as the past newsletter Editor as well as to the officers who have served in the last year. As your new newsletter editor, I have some big shoes to fill! My decision to take on this role is really a 'Thank you' to each of you. A payback or pay it forward, if you will. My effort of service may seem quite small in comparison to

your experiences, but one nonetheless I'm honored to do so. As an introduction, I became involved with the TVMCL thru my Father, Rawleigh Hursh, who passed away August, 2011. I will never forget the outright show of support from the Detachment at my Father's funeral. That very special group, sitting to the side of the church, wearing scarlet somehow managed to quietly and serenely to lift me up at one of life's lowest moments simply by **being present**. Dad would have been so damn proud and grateful. Thank you again for that show of support and that cherished memory. I implore you to never underestimate the strength, power and support your presence provides others. To that end, I hope to pay forward some of that goodwill back to the Detachment and I urge you to take up a 'pay it forward cause as well. I'll be at the next meeting on May 16 at Fuddruckers in Meridian, so come on up and introduce yourself. My name is Gail Hughes. I'm an associate member of the TVMCL and the daughter and niece of two proud Marines.



TVMCL Calendar of Events

Contact Dave Swickard to volunteer

- ⇒ May 18 Annual Armed Forces Day Parking Lot Party & Car Show at Vet's Home: TVMCL Volunteers needed.
- ⇒ May 18 & 19: Coffee Wagon at Black's Creek: TVMCL Volunteers needed
- ⇒ May 21 Local May Elections. Get out & Vote (Yes, this election is as important as all the rest. Get involved).
- ⇒ May27 @ 10:00 am 1:00 pm: **Memorial Day at State Veteran's Cemetery**: TVMCL Volunteers
- ⇒ June 6-8 **State Convention** in Wallace, ID
- ⇒ June 20 @ 6:00 PM– Monthly **TVMCL meeting** at Fuddruckers in Meridian.
- ⇒ Join us! Coffee Klatch at 9 AM every Saturday at Quinn's Restaurant & Lounge

Need other items? If Walt and Maggie don't have them in stock it's not a problem. They will help

you find them on the national ships store.

Contact Walt or Maggie Modler wmodler@q.com 208.941.1390



Attention Members

Your SHIP'S STORE has specials

Like Marine Rings well below internet prices! No S&H







\$40

These items are a limited stock once gone will not be restocked. Priced below what you will find in a store.

Purchases through your Ships Store also help support the detachment. There are many more items available by viewing the web site tvdmcl.org / Ships Store or by seeing Maggie at the meetings.



You cannot exaggerate about the Marines. They are convinced to the point of arrogance that they are the most ferocious fighters on earth— and the amusing thing about it, is that they are.

Father Kevin Keaney 1st Marine Division Chaplin Korean War

TVMCL Volunteer Gigs

Your Platoon Leader called and said "Get off the couch and get involved."

May 18 & 19: TVMCL Coffee Wagon

This is the Saturday following our stated meeting on Thursday, 16 May. It is the first weekend that we have the newly refurbished Coffee Wagon out at the Blacks Creek Rest Stop. Volunteers needed now.

The dates that we have set up with the Idaho Dept of Transportation are:

- May 18 & 19 (May 18th filled. May 19th: needs 4 volunteers)
- June 22 & 23 (Need volunteers for both dates)
- July 21 & 22 (Need volunteers for both dates)

Challenge: Call a buddy and schedule a volunteer timeslot twice this year for the coffee wagon.

May 18 - Annual Armed Forces Day Parking Lot Party & Car Show

The MCL is now confirmed for the Cookout at the Vet's Home on Saturday, May 18 for the **Annual Armed Forces Day Parking Lot Party & Car Show**. Cook up some burgers, hot dogs and grilled onions.



Details:

- Be in place at 10AM to get the cooking equipment started and getting ready to begin cooking around 11AM.
- Onions will be pre-sliced so there is no further prep work required.
- Anticipating that we should be completed around 1300L (1PM).
- Volunteers needed to cook up some burgers, hot dogs and grilled onions.

Commandant Dave Swickard highly encourages all members that are available to come out and help us with this worthwhile endeavor. We have a lot of **fun** and get to meet a lot of **nice folks**. The **old cars** are fun to look at as well. Give back and volunteer; this is the time to become involved and **show your appreciation** to our local Vet's and reap the benefits of doing so.

NOTICE TO THOSE MAILING TO DEPLOYED UNITS

<u>All DEPLOYABLE UNITS</u> and personnel mailing items to deployed personnel are advised... Due to monetary shortages, USPS will no longer manually sort mail that is missing the +4 numbers added to the five digit zip code. In short, mail addressed to a deployed member without the last four numbers added to the five digit zip code WILL BE RETURNED TO SENDER. Norfolk VA is already seeing this happen. USPS WILL NOT look up the service member's correct address for the +4 zip.



PROGRESSIVE RAFFLE NEWS

By Walt Modler, SGT AT Arms

Editors note, reminder of the new Raffle Rules: With Aprils meeting the raffles will change as follows: the 50/50 will be the same, except that the normal portion that would go to the detachment will be put into the Progressive pot; the Progressive raffle will still be held the same, in that

you <u>MUST</u> be present to win, however with the 50/50 monies in the pot, it will grow exponentially and I can see it growing to over a hundred dollars or more before some lucky member wins it. To win you have to be present and make your buy-in of \$1.

At the meeting of 18 April the newest progressive raffle, the name drawn was Marine Jim Proctor's. Sadly he was not present to accept his winnings. His loss was \$19.00 but with the progressive nature of the drawing, the pot is sure to continue growing. Especially with the change in drawing procedures the amount at next month's meeting will start at \$48 and could grow another \$10 to \$20. Again to win you have to be present and make your buy-in of \$1 dollar. See you at the next meeting on Fuddruckers in Meridian on **16 May**.

"It's all Fun and Games (until someone wins the Raffle!)"

Other Volunteer Opportunities

May 24 – 27 Field of Hero's - Memorial Day Weekend 2013. Location: Century High School in Pocatello Idaho. Details: http://www.idahofieldofheroes.org/

July 4 – This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Korean Conflict. The Idaho Korean Association is recruiting 150 dancers for the 4th of July Parade. Per their message: "Greetings to you from Idaho Korean Association. We hope that this email finds you healthy and happy. We would like to inform you of our 2013 cultural events. One of the events this year is on the Fourth of July. We are going to participate at a parade in Downtown Boise. We are inviting you and your family to this parade dancing Gangnam Style. This is the song and dance known to most of the world now, especially its horse dance part. Click the links and learn the dance.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHeZXaSOgkw https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rX372ZwXOEM https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjQKCLvtLN0

We are recruiting 150 people to parade. The participants need to learn the dance through YouTube and we will rehearse in June. They will receive a T-shirt with the Korea logo on the day of the parade. We will all wear this T-shirt and parade dance to this song. After the parade we will have BBQ at the Julia Davis park. Only 150 people will participate in the dance, so please register through email at idahokorean@gmail.com soon & let us know how many people will participate from your family or community. Pass the word around! This will be great fun!

HELP WANTED / PAID GIGS

May 13, 2013 Closing Date:

Submitted by Bill Heyob (208-577-2300) Office of Veterans Advocacy, Idaho Division of Veterans Services: Nursing Services Director - SHN/ISVH. Open for Recruitment: May 6, 2013 - May 13, 2013, Announcement # 07598091554. Salary Range: \$30.00 - \$34.42 -Plus Competitive Benefits!

May 15, 2013 Closing Date:

Opportunity in Boise: Contact Roy Ledesma, Commander, U.S. Navy (Retired), Director (208) 995-9952 The Wyakin Academy for Wounded Warriors is seeking to hire a Director for Professional Development, Networking, and Career Transition. This position is one of three department level directors within the Wyakin Academy for Wounded Warriors, responsible for preparing severely wounded, injured, and/or ill veterans for successful transition from an academic setting into professionally rewarding careers. See attached for more information on duties, required skills/qualifications, education, experience, and salary. Please submit resume to P.O. Box 9924, Boise, ID 83707 by 15 May 2013.

May 23, 2013 Interviews:

Forwarded by Walt Modler: Urgent Need! Opposing Forces Roles for National Guard Training. Interviews on May 23 "What Marine wouldn't want the opportunity to harass National Guardsman and get paid too. Wahoo what fun..."

Details are on the TVDMCL website at: http://tvdmcl.org/new-news/



Attention Members

Your SHIPS STORE has specials

Like **Polo Shirt** – Green

\$25.00 M, L, XL, 2XL

Unit ID & Logo Front above pocket / Blank – Back



The bended knee is not a tradition of our Corps.

General Alexander A. Vandergrift, USMC to the Senate Naval Affairs Committee, 5 May 1946

Humor is the Best Medicine

Politics is the gentle art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich, by promising to protect each from the other. ~ Oscar Ameringer

Submitted by Bobby Lee:

So You Think You Know Everything?

- * The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as a substitute for Blood plasma.
- * No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven (7) times. Oh go ahead ... I'll wait...
- * Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes or shark attacks. (So, watch your Ass)
- * You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.
- * Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty (50) years of age or older.
- * The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.
- * The King of Hearts is the only king WITHOUT A MOUSTACHE
- * American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one (1) olive from each salad served in first-class.
- Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.
 (Since Venus is normally associated with women, what does this tell you?)
 (That woman are going in the 'right' direction...?)
- * Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.
- * Most dust particles in your house are made from DEAD SKIN!
- * The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer. So did the first 'Marlboro Man'
- * Walt Disney was afraid OF MICE!
- * PEARLS DISSOLVE IN VINEGAR!
- * The three most valuable brand names on earth: Marlboro, Coca Cola, and Budweiser, in that order.
- * It is possible to lead a cow upstairs... but, not downstairs.
- * A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.
- * Dentists have recommended that a toothbrush be kept at least six (6) feet away from a toilet to avoid airborne particles resulting from the flush. (I keep my toothbrush in the living room now!)
- * And the best for last..... Turtles can breathe through their butts. (I know some people like that, don't YOU?)

So	Remember, knowledge is everything, so pass it on and go move your
toothbrush!	And stop folding that damn paper!

OUR REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING IS AT FUDDRUCKERS' EVERY 3rd THURSDAY OF THE MONTH FOR May 2013 IT WILL BE THE 16th



3421 N. Eagle Rd. Meridian, Idaho 208-887-2194 Dinner & Social Hour 1800 Business Meeting Starts Promptly at 1900 –2030

Remember to BE THERE!

THIS MONTH
NEW OFFICERS FOR
2013-2015
ARE AT THE HELM.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Featured Article: Semper Fi Fund

Reprinted from the MOOPH Newsletter April 2013 Page 6 (with permission).

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING VETERANS SEMPER FI FUND

The injured Marine **Semper Fi Fund** (SFF) is a 501c) (3) nonprofit set up to provide immediate financial support for injured and critically ill members of the US Armed Forces and their families. SFF directs urgently needed resources to post 9-11 service members within 24-72 hours of request. The Fund was started by Karen Guenther, a registered nurse and spouse of an active duty Marine, and group of dedicated military spouses who organized welcome home activities at Camp Pendleton Naval Hospital in 2004 for the first wave of wounded sailors and Marines from Operation Iraqi Freedom. Realizing that a growing number of military families were facing similar situations, Karen assembled a dynamic team that established SFF as a nation-wide non-profit so that wounded and critically ill service members and their families would never be alone or forgotten.



SFF provides relief for financial needs that arise during hospitalization and recovery as well as assistance for those with perpetuating needs. Its program pro-vides support in a variety of ways including Service Member and Family Support, Specialized & Adaptive Equipment, Adaptive Housing, Adaptive Transportation, Education and Career Transition Assistance, PTSD and TBI Support, Team Semper Fi, and American's Fund (a self –funded pro-gram administered by SFF that currently assists those service members with catastrophic injuries in intensive care units at our

nation's military hospitals, regardless of military branch). SFF's streamlined structure keeps overhead very low—less than 6% - because it realizes every dollar saved can be put to better use else-where. It is one of two veteran charities to receive an "SA+" rating from the *American Institute of Philanthropy. Charity Navigator* gave SFF their highest rating of "Four Stars."

Beyond the staggering costs of hospitalization and treatment, related expenses typically pile up quickly. Family members may lose income when taking time off work to visit and care for injured loved ones. Childcare, plane fare, and other travel expenses often stretch a family's budget to the breaking point.

SFF works closely with the Marine Corps, Navy, and hospitals nationwide to identify and assess the needs of specific families. Many of those SFF works with must have their homes modified or even have to move into a new home designed to accommodate a serious disability; adaptive transportation is needed. The list goes on and on and so do the bills. That's where SFF comes in.

Since SFF was established in 2004, it has issued more than 53,000 grants totaling more than \$70 million to over 8,800 servicemen and their families. Although some support comes from the business community, SFF depends largely on individual tax deductible contributions. You can send your contributions to: *Semper Fi Fund*, PO Box 555193, Camp Pendleton CA 92055-5193. For more information about the *Fund*, go to www.semperfifund.org.

Karen Guenther, President, Founder and CEO of the Semper Fi Fund was named the Marine Corp Spouse of The Year and Military Spouse of the Year for her outstanding achievements in the care and support of wounded veterans and their families.





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THE TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE IS DEDICATED TO SERVING THE MARINES,
OUR NAVY CORPSMEN, AND ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHERE POSSIBLE. WE ENDEVOR TO CONTINUE
THE ESPRIT DE CORPS WE HAVE SO DEARLY LEARNED TO ENJOY AND PROMOTE LOVE OF THE CORPS AND
COUNTRY ALONG WITH FAITHFULNESS TO THE CORE VALUES WE HAVE LEARNED AS MARINES!

Department Convention-AGENDA-JUNE 6 THRU 8

Department of Idaho 14th Annual State Convention

Hosted by:

Silver Valley Detachment #1060 – Kellogg, Idaho

Wallace Inn 100 Front Street; Wallace, Idaho 83873 Convention June 6, 7, & 8, 2013

Questions: Contact Phil Daugherty Phone# 208-762-0233

Agenda

Thursday, June 6 1600-2000 Registration and Check-in

1600-2000 Hospitality Suites

Friday, June 7 0800-1130 Commandant Council, Registration and Check-in

1130-1300 Lunches

1300-1630 Registration, Opening Session and Business Meeting

1630-2000 Hospitality Suites

Saturday, June 8 0900-1200 Conclusion of Business meeting

1200-1300 Lunches

1300-1400 Memorial Services

1430-1630 Devil Dog Growl

1700-1800 No Host Social Hour

1800-2200 Banquet: Dinner & Awards Ceremony

Please note: All times are flexible and may exchange to meet needs of the convention

Banquet and Awards Ceremonies Banquet Dress: Semi Formal Men and Marines – Coat and Tie Ladies – Dress/Pant Suit

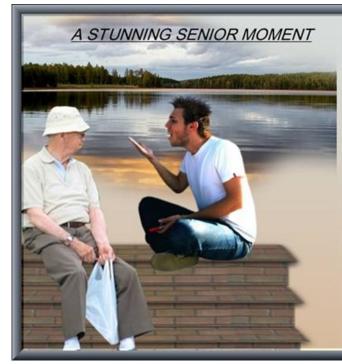
ATTENTION LADIES:

The Silver Valley Detachment has a lot of things planned for the ladies that will attend the State Convention (6-8 Jun 13) in Wallace, ID. On **Friday, 7 Jun**, the following itinerary is available: After breakfast you can hop aboard the trolley that will take you first to a mine tour where you will see how they mined in the old days. From there the trolley will take you on to Kellogg for a stop at the Bunker Hill Staff House museum which you should find quite interesting.

After the museum stop it will be on to lunch at the gondola base. For those wanting to ride the gondola to the top of Silver Mtn, you may stay and do so - the trolley will take those interested in touring the Old Mission (Idaho's oldest standing building) and then will return to the base of the gondola to pick up those who chose to take the gondola ride. The trolley will then return you to the Wallace Inn.

Saturday, June 8th, will be an open day for you to browse the local stores and historic Wallace as you choose.

RANDOM MUSINGS



A self-important college freshman walking along the beach took it upon himself to explain to a senior citizen resting on the steps why it was impossible for the older generation to understand his generation. "You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one" the student said loud enough for others to hear. "The young people of today grew up with television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon. We have nuclear energy, ships and cell phones, computers with light speed....and many more."

After a brief silence, the senior citizen responded as follows.
"You're right son. We didn't have those things

"You're right son. We didn't have those things when we were young....so we invented them. Now, you arrogant little sh*t what are you doing for the next generation? The applause was amazing!



Attention Members

Your SHIPS STORE has specials

Like **\$10.00** adjustable

Ball Caps – Red - (summer or winter) – TVD, EGA, MCL

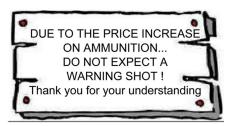






Marine specialty hats just a few in stock!

Purchases through your Ships Store also help support the detachment.



"That food is so good it would make a rabbit slap a hound."

Oliver Hursh (This Newsletter Editor's Uncle.)

-- Have a favorite saying or a family member who's wit needs to be in print?

Send it in to treasurevalleymcl@gmail.com—

WIT WANTED



ANNOUNCEMENTS / NEWS

April 22, 2013 - From Josh Callihan, Public Affairs Officer for The Boise VA Medical Center: Boise VA Medical Center is currently undergoing staff turnaround in the Enrollment Office. Please be aware patients may tentatively experience longer wait times for return calls and/or accessing the Enrollment Office in person.

We are working to resolve the staffing issues and should be back to full operating capacity in very near future. Because of the wide knowledge base Enrollment Specialists have, training new Enrollment Specialists can be time intensive. We apologize for any inconvenience this may be causing veterans wishing to access the Boise VA Enrollment Office.

April 23, 2013 – In a letter from Boise VA Medical Center Director, David Wood addresses the new Tricare provider. His letter states, "This letter is being sent to inform veterans that VA Medical Center facilities within the VA Northwest Health Network, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 20, have entered into agreements with the new Tricare provider, United Health Military and Veterans Services (UHMVS) in order to provide services through the Tricare program at VA Medical Centers. We also want to assure you that veteran's and Tricare users will essentially see no difference in the delivery of health care to veterans at VA Medical Center facilities within VISN 20 as a result of the new Tricare provider coming onboard.

April 25, 2013 – From Lou Roane, Commandant, Dept. of Idaho: Notice is reprinted below: U.S. Marine Corps POC: Capt. Maureen Dooley
Marine Week Public Affairs Officer
Maureen.dooley@usmc.mil
703-692-1454

MARINE WEEK SEATTLE 2013 CANCELLED

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 25, 2013) – The U.S. Marine Corps announced today the cancellation of Marine Week Seattle. Marine Week is the Corps' annual week-long community outreach event, scheduled to be held in Seattle, Wash., from Aug. 5-11.

The cancellation of Marine Week Seattle is a result of overall sequestration impacts and reflects the Department of Defense's efforts to reduce the amount of military spending.

"The fiscal challenge is not unique to the Marine Corps," said Lt. Gen. Steven A. Hummer, commander of Marine Forces Reserve. "The decrease in our budget will affect key areas of the service, to include our community outreach efforts. While we face challenging times ahead, we are committed to our service to the nation and will prioritize efforts as necessary to complete our essential missions."

Hummer added, "I want to personally thank Seattle's Mayor Mike McGinn and the City of Seattle for their unwavering support. We appreciate their willingness to host the event as well as their understanding of our difficult decision."

The Marine Corps prioritizes building relationships within the community and creating opportunities for the American public to interact with Marines and learn about the missions and goals of the service. While the Marine Corps seeks to strengthen its community outreach programs, the current fiscal climate necessitates cancellation of certain high-cost activities like Marine Week Seattle. The Marine Corps will continue to maintain relationships through local community outreach programs and hopes to return to Seattle in the future if a resolution is reached.

Marine Week Seattle was scheduled to be the fifth Marine Week event after Cleveland (2012), St. Louis (2011), Boston (2010) and Chicago (2009). For additional information contact the Marine Week Public Affairs Officer, Capt. Maureen Dooley at Maureen.dooley@usmc.mil.

MEMORIES / REUNIONS

Submitted by Gail Hughes: Article written by Jennifer Kingsley for the Star Gazette: **Two Marines who fought at Iwo Jima meet 68 years later in Elmira.** Full story and photos at: http://www.stargazette.com

ARTICLE PREVIEWS & LINKS

-Submitted by Bobby Lee: Cpl. Travis Green is a former TVMCL member. "Marine Cpl. Travis Greene is honing his wheelchair basketball skills as he prepares to compete in the fourth-annual Warrior Games". Story and video at the Idaho Statesman: http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/05/08/2568455/injured-boise-marine-prepares.html? http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/05/08/2568455/injured-boise-marine-prepares.html http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/05/08/2568455/injured-boise-marine-prepares.html http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/05/08/2568455/injured-b

-Submitted by David E. Brasuell: Interim Report on Benghazi dtd 23 April 13 Editors note: The formal, indepth report is 45 pages long and can be forwarded upon request by sending an email to treasurevalleymcl@gmail.com or call Gail Hughes at 371-8190. This is not document is not available via postal mail due to cost.

Have an article to share? Send it in to: treasurevalleymcl@gmail.com—

READ IT. SHARE IT.

Member News

Travel, meetings, education, awards, presentations, etc.



Osny Caetano da Silva, Jr and Art Kilton, Brazil, April 2013.

Editors note: After learning that Art and his wife recently took a trip to Brazil, I asked for a photo. I received this photo and the touching backstory:

My wife and I took in three foreign exchange students, two girls and a boy, over a period of time, back in the late 1970's. Osny is from Brazil. He and I have stayed in touch over the years. When the kids were with us, they called us mom and

dad. Osny still thinks of me as dad. He introduces me as "Pai Americano", his American dad. I certainly think of him as my son. He lives in Caçador, Santa Catarina, Brazil. He is a cattleman, and president of the local cattlemen's association. As an aside, when he came to me he was 15 years old and 5'6". When he went home he was 16 and 5'9". Today he stands 6'2". The rascal grew up while I wasn't looking.



Member Awards: Members of the Bylaws Committee all received Meritorious Individual Commendation Ribbon. Left to right Rich Erickson, Harold Kwan, Bobby Lee, Skip Nakashima, Frank Partridge, Bill Sawyer, Arnie Strawn, David Swickard, not pictured Walt Modler and Art Kilton Chairman, Gary Randel Commandant presenter. 18 April, 2013



Swearing-in left to right: Ron Blakeley Chaplin, Walt Modler Sgt-at-Arms, Ken Elliott Adjutant Paymaster, Mike O'Hara Judge Advocate, Jack Cunningham Jr. Vice Commandant, (not pictured Art Kilton Sr. Vice Commandant, David Swickard Commandant, oath given by Department Sr. Vice Commandant / Immediate Past Commandant Gary Randel. 18 April, 2013