



PINEYWOODS POOPSHEET October 2007

Happenings Behind the Pine Curtain

“Stay Connected, Stay Involved, and Make a Difference
Through Your Marine Corps League”

Pineywoods Detachment 1189
Marine Corps League

Volume 1, Issue 4 October
October 2007

From the Commandant

Detachment Marines and Sailors:

It is difficult for me to grasp how quickly the first half of my term has slipped away since you honored me as your Commandant. Unfortunately, as many of you know, my failing health has left me unable to attend to many of the goals and details that I set for myself this year. We have, however, thanks to the efforts of a very few dedicated members managed to accomplish a few good things.

We have had one successful fundraiser, and hopefully we will have a successful participation in the Pineywoods Fair next month.

I am looking forward to an especially successful Marine Corps Ball this year. State Representative Jim McReynolds has agreed to be our guest speaker. I have secured the services of an excellent caterer, Pete Low, for the dinner. Pete told me that his father was a career soldier and that he would only charge us his costs for a complete three-meat meal. Other details will soon be finalized if I can stay awake for the rest of the week.

Throughout my career in the Corps, I gained a reputation for being an excellent administrator. Timely, accurate reports and records. I even wrote the text for a school manual and a Marine Corps Order. So it really bugs me that our Detachment records are so disorganized. Now that I am retired from my regular job, I hope to have more time to get this strait. I ask that all Detachment Officers, past and present, please collect all Marine Corps League forms, records, documents, logs, and correspondence and deliver them to me at the next regular meeting. I will take personal charge of them and organize everything into one file until we can establish a more permanent location for them.

I will continue to do all I can to fulfill my obligations for the rest of the year, but please bear with me for a while. I am still spending way to much time talking to doctors. Perhaps next year, we will have a new, young, hard-charger take the helm, and I can get back to being a stronger administrator. Hey, just thinking of the “Good of the League”.

Semper Fidelis,

Roger L. Crone, Commandant



2007-2008 Officers

Commandant—
Roger Crone
Sr. Vice-Commandant—
Dan Singletary
Jr. Vice-Commandant—
Dennis Bradford
Paymaster—
Harley Holloway
Adjutant—
Will Lane
Judge Advocate—
Phil Devlin
Chaplain—
Billy Duke
Sgt.-at-Arms—
Benny Benavides

October Meeting:

6th

Proposed Change in Meeting Day and Venue

A proposal was introduced at the September meeting that, if passed, will change the day of the monthly meeting from the first Saturday to the third Thursday of each month. In addition, because of changes, which were implemented at the VFW hall beginning in mid-September, the room used by both the VFW and the Marine Corps League for their meetings will become a dedicated gaming room.

The reason for the day change is that many of our members who do not participate cite the fact that they have familial and other obligations on most weekends that prevent them from attending the meetings. We support many programs, in principle, but are limited in what we can do because of the low turnout. Although the newsletter helps inform our membership, it is not a substitute for attendance.

Also, the new use of the space, necessitated by efforts to reverse the financial crunch experienced by the VFW with the loss of Bingo revenue, prompted the suggestion that we move our meetings to the Disabled American Veterans hall on the corner of East Austin and Appleby-Sand Road. The move will require that we pay for the hall, the cost of which is a modest \$20 per month to cover the utilities.

There will be another reading of the proposals before they are voted upon. Members are urged to attend the October meeting to voice their preference.

Rifle Raffle

Just in time for hunting season, Pineywoods Detachment is able to offer the second raffle of the year. Through the efforts of Dan Singletary, and with the cooperation and generosity of the folks at Lazyman Tools & J.J.'s Pawn on East Main in Nacogdoches, we are offering a Savage model 10FXP 7mm-08 hunting rifle with "Accu-Trigger"™, Simmons 3-9x40 scope, and hard case.

Tickets are the usual one dollar apiece/six for \$5, and may be picked up at the meeting, or by calling Dennis at 936-559-5571. The lucky winner of the package must be eighteen years of age and pass the required background check before picking up the weapon at the store.



The Rank Structure

A General = Leaps tall buildings with a single bound, is more powerful than a locomotive, is faster than a speeding bullet, walks on water and gives policy to God.

A Colonel = Leaps short buildings with a single bound, is more powerful than a switch engine, is just as fast as a speeding bullet, walks on water if the sea is calm and talks to God.

A Lieutenant Colonel = Leaps short buildings with a running start and a favorable wind, is almost as powerful as a switch engine, is faster than a speeding BB, walks on water in an indoor swimming pool and talks to God if a special request is approved.

A Major = Barely clears Quonset huts, loses tugs-of-war with locomotives, can fire a speeding bullet, swims well and is occasionally addressed by God.

A Captain = Makes high marks when trying to leap buildings, is run over by locomotives, can sometimes handle a gun without inflicting self-injury, can dog paddle and talks to animals.

A First Lieutenant = Runs into buildings, recognizes locomotives two out of three times, is not issued ammunition, can stay afloat if properly instructed and talks to water.

A Second Lieutenant = Falls over door sill when trying to enter buildings, says "Look at the choo-choo," wets himself with a water pistol, and mumbles to himself.

An NCO = Lifts buildings and walks under them, kicks locomotives off the tracks, catches speeding bullets in his teeth and chews them, freezes water with a single glance.... And is God.

[From Sgt. Grit's *American Courage* Newsletter, September 6, 2007]

Marine Quote: "I want you boys to hurry up and whip these Germans so we can get out to the Pacific to kick the st out of the purple-pissing Japanese, before the Godda**ed MARINES get all the credit!" LT GEN GEORGE PATTON, US ARMY 1945**

Chaplain's Corner by Billy Duke

Now this is the living Bible:



His name is Bill. He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college.

He is brilliant. Kind of profound and very, very bright. He became a Christian while attending college.

Across the street from the campus is a well-dressed, very conservative church. They want to develop a ministry to the students, but are not sure how to go about it.

One day, Bill decides to go there. He walks in with no shoes, jeans, his T-shirt, and wild hair. The service has already started, and so Bill starts down the aisle, looking for a seat.

The church is completely packed and he can't find a seat. By now, people are really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything.

Bill gets closer and closer and closer to the pulpit, and when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet.

By now, the people are really uptight, and the tension in the air is thick.

About this time, the minister realizes that from way at the back of the church, a deacon is slowly making his way toward Bill.

Now the deacon is in his eighties, has silver-gray hair, and a three-piece suit. A godly man, very elegant, very dignified, very courtly. He walks with a cane and, as he starts walking toward this boy, everyone is saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he's going to do.

How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor?

It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy.

The church is utterly silent, except for the clicking of the man's cane. All eyes are focused on him. You can't even hear anyone breathing. The minister can't even preach the sermon until the deacon does what he has to do.

And now they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty, he lowers himself and sits down next to Bill and worships with him so he won't be alone.

Everyone chokes up with emotion. When the minister gains control, he says, "What I am about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget."

[From: Betty Benavides]



Bill Kennedy Passes

It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of one of our members, Bill Kennedy. Bill battled cancer for several years, so was not as active as he wanted, but when we had special events more than likely, along with his wife, Sue, Bill would be there.

Bill is survived a large family including his wife Sue, former Nacogdoches County Judge. We extend best wishes and our sincere condolences to the family and Sue. They are in our thoughts.

CHANGING MILITARY RECORDS

If you feel there is an error or an injustice in your military personnel records you can apply to your service's Board for the Correction of Military Records whether you are active duty, separated, or retired. Any person with military records, or his or her heirs or legal representative, may apply to the appropriate service's Board. The Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard have separate boards. The Navy operates the Board for both Navy personnel and members of the United States Marine Corps.

Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552, is the law governing correction of military records. This statute authorizes the Secretary of the service concerned to correct any military record when "necessary to correct an error or injustice." The purpose of this statute was to relieve the Congress from consideration of private bills to correct errors or injustices in military records. The statute provides for the service secretaries to act through a board of appointed civilians in considering applications for correction of military records. Implementing regulations for each service are:

- AFI 36-2603, Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records, implements the statute within the Air Force;
- Army Regulation 15-185 implements the statute within the Army;
- The Code of Federal Regulations; Title 33, Part 52;2. implements the statute within the Coast Guard;
- The Navy and Marine Corps implements the statute through The Navy;
- Code of Federal Regulations; Title 32, Part 723.

(Continued on page 4)

Marine Corps Birthday Ball

The year's celebration of the 232nd anniversary of the birth of our beloved Corps hopes to be the best ever. Arrangements are made for the music, caterer, favors, decorations, speaker, and invitations.

Invitations will be sent to specific individuals and groups which are asked to RSVP to the MCL phone number or e-mail address. It will help also if members will do the same. Simply call or e-mail and let us know that you are coming and how many folks will be in your party. That way we will have an accurate number to give to the caterer.

This shall be the best Ball ever. Semper Fi!

Below: Combat Aircrew Wings are the only Navy/Marine Corps aviation insignia that must be earned in combat.



Veterans Service Officer

By Dan Singletary

PURPLE HEART HALL OF HONOR: The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is conducting a nationwide effort to register Purple Heart recipients in the museum's database. So far, 70,000 recipients have been registered since the Hall of Honor opened in New Windsor, NY in November, but organizers hope to enroll as many as 1.5 million, said Sergio Morales, a member of the museum's board of directors. Hall visitors can access the list of Purple Heart recipients on the museum's 15 computers that chronicle photos and stories about those who have earned the medal. The Defense Department does not keep an official database of Purple Heart recipients. Hall of Honor organizers hope their efforts will create as complete a list as possible of those who have earned the medal to ensure they are not forgotten, Morales said. To register with the Hall of Honor, recipients must prove they received the medal by submitting the appropriate official documentation, including a DD-214, DD-215, WD AGO-53-55, General Orders or a Letter of Transmittal. Hall officials also requested recipients send a written narrative of how they earned their medal, any newspaper articles written about them receiving the medal, and any photographs of them while in the service. Although it's not required, recipients can also tape an interview at the Hall of Honor chronicling their service and the events that led to their Purple Heart. An unedited copy of the DVD is given to the recipient, while an edited version is kept at the Hall and stored with that individual's record. Recipients can contact the Hall of Honor at (845) 561-1765 and 1-877-28HONOR, or on its website www.thepurpleheart.com.

[Source: NavyTimes Michael Hoffman article 27 Aug 07]

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Events You Should Know

Detachment Meetings

2007
3 November
1 December

2008
5 January
2 February
Nomination of Officers
1 March
Election of Officers
5 April
Installation of Officers
3 May
7 June
5 July

Pineywoods Fair

10-14 October 2007

At the Convention Center

October 10 3 pm-10:30 pm
October 11 4 pm-10:00 pm
October 12 4 pm-11:00 pm
October 13 11:30 am-11:00 pm
October 14 12 noon-5:00 pm

We may have a booth so mark your calendar and sign up for times. This will take maximum effort!

Marine Corps Ball

Thursday 8 November 2007
Registration at 6 pm
Jim McReynolds to speak!
Dust off your Blues

Veterans Day Parade

10 November @ 11 am
Form-up begins @ 8:30 am

Marine Corps League

38th Annual Texas State Convention

1st weekend in June 2008
(tentative)
Corpus Christi, TX

As more information becomes available about these and additional events it will appear in future issues of your newsletter. If you have events of interest to the Detachment, contact the editor.

**Pineywoods Detachment 1189
Marine Corps League**

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**"Once a Marine,
Always a Marine"
*Semper Fidelis***



Marine Corps History

5 October 1775: Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the 2d Continental Congress used the word "Marines" on one of the earliest known occasions, when it directed General George Washington to secure two vessels on "Continental risque and pay", and to give orders for the "proper encouragement to the Marines and seamen" to serve on the two armed ships.

9 October 1917: The 8th Marines was activated at Quantico, Virginia. Although the regiment would not see combat in Europe during World War I, the officers and enlisted men of the 8th Marines participated in operations against dissidents in Haiti for over five years during the 1920s. During World War II, the regiment was assigned to the 2d Marine Division and participated in combat operations on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, and Okinawa, and earned three Presidential Unit Citations.

11 October 1951: A Marine battalion was flown by transport helicopters to a frontline combat position for the first time, when HMR-161 lifted the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, and its equipment, during Operation Bumblebee, northeast of Yanggu, Korea.

(Entries courtesy: US Marine Corps History Web Pages)

(Continued from **Records** page 3)

You should exhaust other administrative remedies before appealing to your service's board. For example, you should first submit a performance report appeal to the appropriate appeal agency before appealing to your service's military records correction board.. An appeal requesting upgrade of discharge should normally be submitted to the service's Discharge Review Board under Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 1332.28, Discharge Review Board (DRB) Procedures and Standards. The board will return your application if you have not first sought relief through the appropriate administrative process. You should submit your request within 3 years after you discover, or reasonably could have discovered, the error or injustice. The boards review the merits of untimely applications. If found to be meritorious, the timeliness is waived in the interest of justice. You should not assume, however, that a waiver will be granted.

[Source: About.com: US Military Rod Powers article 25 Jun 07]

Life Membership Dues

National Marine Corps League Website

<u>Age Grp</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>As of 01/01/09</u>
0-35	\$400	\$500
36-40	\$350	\$400
41-50	\$350	\$400
51-60	\$250	\$300
61-over	\$125	\$150

To become a Life Member, you must already be a "Member in Good Standing". That means becoming a member and paying your initial dues first. Yes, according to the Bylaws, you could join the League, pay your dues and then pay your Life Membership Dues all in the same day.

Marble Mountain Air Facility Republic of Viet Nam 1969

Life Memberships

The following Detachment members are Life Members of the Marine Corps League.

- Bennie Benavides
- Dennis Bradford
- Strimple Coyle
- Roger Crone
- Phil Devlin
- Don Kirkley
- Dale Koonce
- Buck Lee
- James Lee
- Jack Sanderson
- Dan Singletary
- Joe Stewart

Semper Fi!

