

# THE HARD CHARGER

Once A Marine! Always A Marine!

"The Hard Charger" is the official newsletter of the Kentuckiana Detachment

## Elected Officers

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## Appointed Officers

### Adjutant:

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### VAVS Service Officer:

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### VSO Officer & (Devil Dog Contact)

CJ (temp)

### Ways & Means Committee Chairs:

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Newsletter Editor: JD Sparks

## Newsletter Info

**Circulation:** If you have not received your issue within the first week of each month. Notify me for an additional copy.

**Submissions:** All members are encouraged to participate. Send me your requests, comments, articles, calendar info etc. that you would like to see published. Send any submissions to: [jd@jdsparks.com](mailto:jd@jdsparks.com)

**Deadline:** In order to insure a timely delivery the cut off date is on the **25th** of each month.

**Special Thanks:** To Nancy and Allen Wallace for preparing and mailing the newsletter each month. Kudos.

Appointed Officer - **Editor:** JD Sparks 502.693.8022  
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**SAVE US MONEY:** Please, if you can receive via email it will save us money. **1/3 of our annual MCL budget is for mailing the newsletter!** PLEASE, save us money.

Webmaster: If you see something on the website contact Corey Heitz - [coryheitz@gmail.com](mailto:coryheitz@gmail.com)



For more information about our activities

Please visit us online:

[www.kentuckianamarines.org](http://www.kentuckianamarines.org)

### Regular Meetings

Are held on the **3rd Monday of each month** at 1900 hours Promptly!  
( Next meeting is on **January 17th**)

*NOTE: New Day, New Place!!*

Incorporated by an act of Congress in 1937, the Marine Corps League perpetuates the traditions and spirit of ALL Marines who proudly wear or who have worn the eagle, globe and anchor of the Corps.

Cut out and give to prospective member!

Marine Corps League  
Kentuckiana Detachment #729

Meet every **3rd Mon, 1900 hrs**  
At: **VFW Middletown**  
107 Evergreen Road (**new location**)

Once a Marine, Always a Marine

All membership questions call:  
Adjutant, Allen Broussard  
502.267.4776  
[Broussard.marines@insightbb.com](mailto:Broussard.marines@insightbb.com)



January 2011

\*\* National MCL Newsletter Winner 2008 & 2009 & 2010\*\*

Marine Corps League - Kentuckiana Detachment # 729

**Commandant's Corner - Louis Lindle**

The 2nd Quarterly Meeting FY 2011 of Department of Kentucky, Marine Corps League was held on 11 December 2010 at the Marine House, Elizabethtown, KY.

We 1st meet at Ryans in E-Town for lunch before meeting. We had a nice turnout for Kentuckiana Detachment of (7) seven members. This turned out to be more professional than in past and resulted in a somewhat shorter meeting.

The " Gold 500" ticket sales from mailing one ticket to each member was somewhat disappointing with 109 returning their stub out of over 300 members in our League. My thanks to all those who participated.

John Feldman was the lucky winner of \$1,000.00.

Our December Social was very successful with 126 reservations being made. I think this was our largest ever. The VFW workers prepared a very good meal that was enjoyed by all. My sincere appreciation to Our Hosts for helping to make the evening very enjoyable. Again I have to give a BIG THANK YOU to our Auxiliary for all the hard work they did toward making the Social a Joyful Experience for all attending.

A SPECIAL THANKS to Jack Pike for generating many smiles with his exceptional offer to take photos of all

who wished to have one taken at the Christmas Tree with US & MC flags flanking it. I think most took advantage of this very generous "free" offer. Jack had some very special equipment that will make these photos special.

David Hesse and myself have received our Identification Cards as Post Service Officers for Marine Corps League Det. 729 A letter of Request for Service Officer Certification for Kentuckiana Detachment #729 has been sent to National VAVS Officer. With receipt of this we can start the Detachment Service Officer helping members wishing this service.



Commandant

Louis Lindle  
(502) 239-5002

[louis.lindle@insightbb.com](mailto:louis.lindle@insightbb.com)

**Chaplain's Corner - "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" by Bill Gividen - gividen88@hotmail.com****WHAT HAPPENS IN HEAVEN WHEN WE PRAY?**

This is one of the nicest e-mails I have seen and is so true:

I dreamt that I went to Heaven and an angel was showing me around. We walked side-by-side inside a large workroom filled with angels. My angel guide stopped in front of the first section and said, "This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received.

I looked around in this area, and it was terribly busy with so many angels sorting out petitions written on voluminous paper sheets and scraps from people all over the world.

Then we moved on down a long corridor until we reached the second section.

The angel then said to me, "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings the people asked for are processed and delivered to the living persons who asked for them." I noticed again how busy it was there. There were many angels working hard at that station, since so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth.

Finally at the farthest end of the long corridor we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgment Section, my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed." How is it that there is no work going on here? ' I asked.

"So sad," the angel sighed. "After people receive the blessings that they asked for, very few send back acknowledgments"

"How does one acknowledge God's blessings?" I asked.

"Simple," the angel answered. Just say, "Thank you, Lord. "

"What blessings should they acknowledge?" I asked.

"If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep you are richer than 75% of this world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy."

"If you woke up this morning with more health than illness .. You are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this

day."

"If you have never experienced the fear in battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation ... You are ahead of 700 million people in the world."

"If you can attend a church without the fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death you are envied by, and more blessed than, three billion people in the world."

"If your parents are still alive and still married ...you are very rare."

"If you can hold your head up and smile, you are not the norm, you're unique to all those in doubt and despair.."

Ok, what now? How can I start?

If you can read this message, you just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you as very special and you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

Have a good day, count your blessings, and if you care to, pass this along to remind everyone else how blessed we all are.

ATTN: Acknowledge Dept.

"Thank you Lord, for giving me the ability to share this message and for giving me so many wonderful people with whom to share it."

If you have read this far, and are thankful for all that you have been blessed with, you are truly blessed. I thank God for everything, especially all my family and friends.

--

"In God We Trust"

Your Chaplain, Bill Gividen





## January Schedule

The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.

~ Thomas Jefferson

### Upcoming Events - Marines Proudly Serving Our Community

#### 1st Tuesday of month:

**Board of Trustees Meeting** will be at 1900 hours. **Jan 4** Held at the TBA. These meetings are open to all members. Only the Board Members can vote. For further information contact the Commandant at (502) 267-7635. (Special Date)

**Pistol Team Practice** Will not continue until next season and results will be announced. Please contact Bob Ebert for more information. 502-267-6413. rwei37@bellsouth.net

**Roving Mess:** Roving Mess for December will be held at Cheddars, 10403 Westport Rd. on Tues. **Jan. 11** at 11:00 AM. Contact Bob LeBlond if you plan to attend, 239-9946 or [rleblond@aol.com](mailto:rleblond@aol.com). See you there!

**Quarterly: TBA**  
**Order of the Devil Dogs**

Meet at the Middletown Hall on (not sure of the date) at 1900 hours. Call CJ for info!

**Color Guard, Rifle Honors Detail and Field Music** will **NOT Practice** at the Fern Creek Fire Department anymore. Any member wishing to be a part of either group should contact Bob Ebert at (502) 267-6413.

**3rd MONDAY of the month: Regular Meeting no business for DECEMBER SOCIAL.** The Detachment meeting will start at **1900 hours** (Promptly), **Jan 17**. This will be held at the Middletown VFW Post 1170. All members are encouraged to attend. For information contact Commandant CJ Wychulis at 502-425-1368.

**Same night as Det Meeting: 3rd Monday!**  
**Ladies Auxiliary** in the MIDDLETOWN VFW post.

#### ADDITIONAL Marine Orgs:

**The Louisville Chapter Of The Montford Point Marine Association:**

Meets on the 1st Friday (**Jan 7**) of the month if their is no holiday that Friday. At Lampton Baptist Church, located at 850 S. Fourth Street. Please enter the Building from the parking lot behind the church, Time is from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. All are welcome.

Questions: Charles Stallard  
502-231-0132  
stallardc@bellsouth.net

**Kentucky Marine Corps Coordinating Council**  
<http://www.kentuckymarines.org/>  
[KentuckyMarines@aol.com](mailto:KentuckyMarines@aol.com)  
Contact: Ed Armento

Next JECVO Meeting is **Jan 5th** at VFW Post 4075, Frankfort, KY

### Local Events for January

**Jan 3**  
JD Sparks swearing in  
Oldham County

**Jan 13**  
Kentucky Derby Festival  
Poster unveiling

**Jan 14-16**  
Landscape Expo

**Jan 17**  
Oldham County No School

**Jan 21**  
St X vs Trinity

**Jan 26 - 30**  
Sport Boat & RV Show

**Jan 28**  
Fat Friday

### FUTURE MCL & Community ITEMS

The JECVO Legislative Dinner will be February 9th, 6p.m. at VFW Post 4075.

### NEWS BRIEFS

**Marine Corps Identity Cause**  
<http://www.marineparents.com/announcements/Identity-Cause.asp>

**Support our new member's efforts to send packages to troops:**

**What the Troops Need**  
[www.whatthetroopsneed.org/](http://www.whatthetroopsneed.org/)

**UNIFORM CHANGE** on November 1st is too Red Blazer, Black Pants, White Shirt, Black Tie w/Clasp, Black Sox, Black Belt & Cover & Pocket Crest

Do you know of an event you want in the calendar?  
Email the editor:  
[jd@jdsparks.com](mailto:jd@jdsparks.com)

# WE HAVE MOVED!

NEW TIME — NEW PLACE — NEW OPPORTUNITY!

We are excited to announce our new HOME:  
**VFW Post 1170 in Middletown, KY**

Along with this comes a new DAY! Our meetings will be on the  
**3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH!**

December is HOLIDAY SPECIAL MEETING/SOCIAL

Please support our new home. We are guests there and this is NOT our facility. But we ask that you consider joining the VFW if possible and support their mission by attending their activities:

VFW Post 1170 - 502-245-8773 (call for questions)

- Fish Fry, Every Friday 6-8. Music till 11PM.
- Enjoy dining Canteen 7 Days a week.
- Happy Hour 4-7 PM
- Tuesday night meals 6:30pm
- Joker Poker Games, drawing every Sunday 6PM
- Karaoke Every Saturday Night, 7PM.
- And more...

## VA to Consolidate Lejeune Water Claims at Louisville Office - Barbara Barrett, McClatchy Newspaper

Responding to heightened publicity and an uneven smattering of decisions on claims, the Department of Veterans Affairs will begin training a specialized cadre of workers this week to handle disability claims related to historic water contamination at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The agency will consolidate claims at one office in Louisville, Ky. Eight employees there will focus on culling, researching and adjudicating disability claims related to the contaminated water.

The move is more than bureaucratic; it could prove significant to Marine veterans across the country who are suffering from cancers and other diseases that they think are related to the poisonous chemicals that flowed through Lejeune's water from the mid-1950s to the mid-1980s.

"Great. Great!" Marine veteran Peter Devereaux of North Andover, Mass., said when he heard about the VA's decision. "It seems they're stepping up and trying to take control."

Devereaux, 48, suffers from a terminal form of male breast cancer. It took him two years to finally earn service-connected disability benefits in August, and all along the way, he said, he had to explain the Lejeune water problems to VA officials.

"It felt like I had to beg," he said. "You try to be a man. You know, I served my country. The last thing you want to say 20 years later is, 'I need benefits.'"

McClatchy Newspapers reported in June that the VA's decisions on Lejeune-related claims appeared uneven and that they varied for Marines across the country. That led to questions from Congress about whether the VA was doing enough to track cases related to the contamination. Devereaux was among those who testified on the issue.

A million people - civilian workers, Marines and their family members - are thought to have been exposed to the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, and more than 160,000 have registered with the Marine Corps to learn more about the case.

From the mid-1950s to the mid-1980s, water wells at Lejeune were poisoned with trichloroethylene (TCE), tetrachloroethylene (PCE), benzene, vinyl chloride and other volatile organic chemicals. The wells were shuttered in the mid-'80s, but many Marine veterans and their families had no idea of the contamination until Congress required the military to notify them beginning in 2008.

Bradley Flohr, the VA's assistant director for policy in compensation and pension service, said in an interview that the agency was acting

now because it had grown concerned that disability decisions hadn't been consistent across regional offices.

"Perhaps we're not getting as consistent decisions as we would like to have," Flohr said. "We've committed to do training for staff dedicated to do these claims."

The department found about 195 adjudicated disability claims that listed Camp Lejeune's contaminated water as a cause. Of those, just 32 have been approved.

In September, Thomas J. Pamperin, now the VA's deputy undersecretary for disability assistance, testified to the House of Representatives that the VA hadn't found conclusive evidence to link the water to a host of cancers and other diseases. Instead, the VA reviewed claims on a case-by-case basis, which resulted in scattershot decisions.

Now the agency has decided to have one office review all incoming Lejeune claims. So far, about 100 new ones await adjudication, Pamperin said in an interview.

Flohr plans to travel to Louisville this week to educate workers about the exposure, the types of chemicals that were in the water and the associated diseases. He said Louisville was chosen as the central site because it was a high-performing regional office.

"We know for certain benzene is most often associated with leukemias, acute myelocytic leukemia, and others," Flohr said. "Kidney cancer as well, with TCE and PCE, and liver cancer is associated with vinyl chloride."

The VA's move to consolidate Lejeune-related claims comes even as federal scientists in Atlanta continue a years-long project to understand the contamination's health effects better. Results of water-modeling and other studies from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry are expected in 2013, Flohr said.

The VA already had tried this year to update regional offices about the water contamination - but not always with the most up-to-date information. The agency sent a memo last spring to regional offices, but it referenced a controversial 2009 report from the National Research Council that left out significant contaminants and that epidemiologists have disputed.

Flohr said the letter was updated this past summer to include other contaminants, such as benzene and vinyl chloride.

This fall, the director of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry sent a letter to the Department of the Navy and the Marines warning them that the National Research Council report had flaws, including leaving out certain contaminants, low-balling potential impacts of exposure to the chemicals and not fully appreciating how more scientific study would

better explain the health effects of the contamination.

"Let me be perfectly clear; there was undoubtedly a hazard associated with drinking the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune," wrote Christopher Portier, the director of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the National Center for Environmental Health. The VA also received a copy of the letter, Flohr said.

In response to congressional inquiries, the agency has begun tagging claims that list Lejeune's water as a cause; traditionally claims have been tracked by disability, not cause.

### APPLYING FOR DISABILITY BENEFITS:

To apply for service-connected disability, a veteran must fill out VA Form 21-526, Veteran's Application for Compensation and/or Pension. More information is online at <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>.

In order to have a service connection for a disability, a veteran must show that exposure to the contaminated water "as likely as not" caused the disability. That comes through what's called a "nexus letter," which is written by a physician and shows the connection. The veteran also could request a medical opinion from a VA doctor.

To learn more about the Marines' registry on historic water contamination at Camp Lejeune, go to <https://clnr.hqi.usmc.mil/clwater/index.html> or call 877-261-9782.

### ON THE WEB

Department of Veterans Affairs information on Camp Lejeune water contamination: <http://www4.va.gov/healtheligibility/Library/pubs/CampLejeuneWaterContamination/CampLejeuneWaterContamination.pdf>

Department of Veterans Affairs benefits: <http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA>

The Few, The Proud, The Forgotten: Camp Lejeune Toxic Water: <http://www.tftptf.com/>

Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water: <https://clnr.hqi.usmc.mil/clwater/>

About Camp Lejeune: <http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/about/>

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## American Spartans - Marines Face Uncertain Future - New York Post

November 10, 2010 Pg. 29 By Arthur Herman

They stormed the shores of Tripoli in 1804 and the beaches at Tarawa in 1943 and Iwo Jima in '45. They fought America's foes house by house in Hue in 1968 and in Fallujah in 2004.

They died at Belleau Wood, halting Germany's last great offensive in World War I. Every day, they fight to stem the tide of Taliban resurgence in Afghanistan.

But in the halls of the Pentagon, they may be fighting their most desperate battle yet.

They're the United States Marines. Two hundred thirty-five years ago today, the Continental Congress authorized the creation of the corps, which quickly evolved into America's most reliable fighting force and the toughest unit in the US military.

Generations of young men, and now young women, have passed through the Marines' unique 13-week boot camp at the Parris Island and San Diego recruit depots, where they're prepared body and soul for a love of country as well as of combat — and a love for the traditions of the Marine Corps.

That's why they are easy for a historian to love. It's why the 1st Marine Division takes pride in being called the "Old Breed" — where "old" means upholding the sometimes unfashionable values of honor, duty, courage and sacrifice.

That's why some of us would feel a whole lot safer if President Obama had done his 13 weeks at Parris Island. Because right now, this administration is casting a shadow over the Marines and their future.

When Navy Secretary James Forrestal watched Marines plant the flag on Mount Surabachi on Iwo Jima — the most iconic image of World War II in the Pacific — he told Marine Gen. Holland Smith, "That means a Marine Corps for the next 500 years."

His prediction is looking premature.

Back in August, Defense Secretary Robert Gates ordered a massive review of the corps' future role, due out in December. In Pentagon speak, "review" usually means "get ready for cuts," and this is no exception.

Gates has been quoted as saying that the Marines have "gotten too big" since the Iraq and Afghanistan wars grew their numbers from 175,000 to 202,000, and "too heavy, too removed from their expeditionary, amphibious roots" as during World War II. Too many Marines "have never stepped aboard a ship."

That's fine, except Gates has also mused about whether big amphibious operations like Iwo Jima or Inchon are even feasible any more in the age of longrange anti-ship missiles — and whether the money spent on ships, helicopters, landing vehicles and planes for close air support of Marines attacking from the sea might be better spent elsewhere.

Today's Pentagon is focused on saving money, no matter what. If the Marines are best suited for one kind of warfare, and that warfare is becoming obsolete, that begs the obvious question: Why have Marines at all?

Yet here, Gates' view of history is distorted. The Marines have never been just a fighting force that existed to land and die on beaches. They literally wrote the book on counterinsurgency back in 1940, the "Small Wars Manual," based on their 180-year ex-



perience fighting in remote jungle and rough terrain environments from Latin America to the Philippines and North Africa.

The Marines pioneered the strategy of not just fighting an enemy but understanding his mind-set and culture, as well — a huge advantage in counterinsurgency operations — which is why Marines have led the way in the surges both in Iraq and in Afghanistan.

Five times past administrations have tried to take down the Marines, and five times they've failed. President Harry Truman was the last to publicly talk about dismantling the corps to save money. Then as (one hopes) now, Marines were too tightly woven into the fabric of American life to let that happen.

And the Marines soon proved how wrong Truman had been in the Korean War, during the landings at Inchon and at Chosin Reservoir, where the Old Breed fought off 8-to-1 odds against the Red Chinese army in 40-degree-below-zero weather, and won 17 Medals of Honor.

Still, the Marines have an even more powerful enemy in the Obama White House. Gay activists pushing to end "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" see them as the last bastion of resistance to a social ethos that puts personal rights over teamwork and self-sacrifice, and tolerance over group cohesion.

Yet that warrior ethos has been why presidents have been able to say "Send in the Marines!" in response to sudden crises around the world for more than 200 years.

Some argue that, today, this role can best be done by such special forces as the Navy SEALs. But Marines are trained not just to fight but to die — if necessary, to the last man. They are our American Spartans — and like the Greek Spartans of old, their tradition of courage and self-sacrifice is the ultimate guardian of our freedom.

We tamper with the Marine Corps at our peril. The corps' new commandant general, James Amos, needs to defend it against those who would do so, for budgetary or ideological or other short-sighted reasons.

It's not just the corps that's at stake, but our nation.

*Arthur Herman, author of "Gandhi and Churchill," is an American Enterprise Institute visiting scholar.*

## They Tell Me its Christmas

by Gary Jacobson © December 2010

They tell me its Christmas  
But here I am, surrounded by perplexing enigmas  
Like, would ya believe, by golly  
That in this land of pain and folly  
No warrior in my foxhole's really jolly...  
And in Nam's motley jungle there's nary  
a twig of holly.

I'm dumbfounded by irreverently unholy dogmas  
Silent nights filled with life or death dilemmas  
We;re poor little boys silently praying  
for our mammas  
Finding no pleasure in killing fields preposterous  
Where people try to kill me in the Nam blasphemous  
No, nowhere to be found here is Father Christmas.

There's just us soldier boys on the big campout  
Fighting in our life's greatest bout no doubt  
Where all values in life painfully taught  
By parents, teachers, society carefully wrought  
Torn by the cruel war turned upside

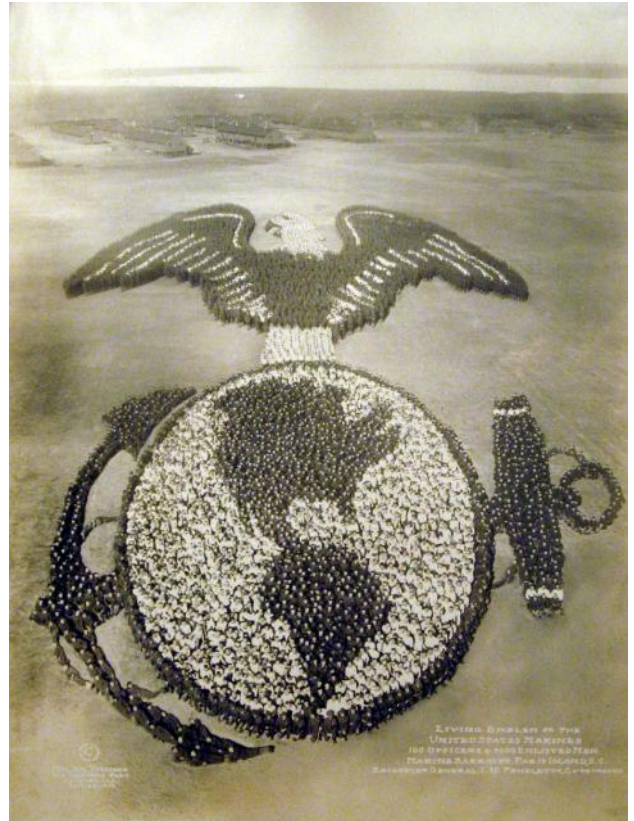
down  
As by violent explosion asunder blown.

There are no jingle bells in the Nam's arsenal of hells  
Ringing slowly, solemnly,  
Like funeral knells  
by some Cong home boy elves  
Walking their mortars  
into our perimeter  
To joyfully bring the  
chance all life to surrender  
But what ya gonna do, in  
dinky dau sweet-and-sour dew?

There's nothing to do but  
knuckle down  
Buckle down  
And do it, do it, do it...  
To survive, to stay alive.  
Hoping someday soon  
your loving family to  
grace  
Back in *the world* to embrace...

Try to resume your life  
Tumultuous mid war's  
toil and strife  
Life and death teetering

on the line sublime  
Pride, joy gusto, fear mingle in disappointment of discontent  
Knowing you're forever changed  
By war your life evermore rearranged.



## Toys For Tots, Another Year Behind Us - Submitted by Bob Cross

I want to take this opportunity to tell everyone that participated in the TOYS FOR TOTS Drive this year, that we had an extremely successful campaign. I have not yet finished compiling all the numbers, but so far it looks to be one of the best years yet.

I want to send a BIG THANK YOU to everyone that participated in the process. Without your support there would be no program. There would have been several thousand children that would have gone without Christmas. THANK YOU ALL!

Also for those who helped I would like to remind you that I would need to know your total hours put in. If you would e mail me your total hours at [mclbcross33@gmail.com](mailto:mclbcross33@gmail.com) and I will pick up your time sheets at the next meeting or you may mail them to me at 258 Foley Rd, Shepherdsville, KY 40165. I will need these hours for my After Action Report to the Foundation. If you do not have e-mail and I have not already contacted to get the total hours, please call me at 502-543-1889 and let me know how many hours you put in.

I will be getting the After Action Report completed between now and the January meeting and will have a full accounting of the campaign. I will also have it ready for J.D. to publish in the February newsletter.

Again THANK YOU all for your hard work and dedication to the Toys for Tots program.



## U.S. Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation

The Marine Corps' Scholarship Foundation has asked us to send this message out to all our Divisions, Departments and Detachments. Please forward it to all your Detachment Commandants and ask that they share it with their membership.

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation has provided more than 25,000 scholarships and \$60,000,000 to children whose parents are active duty, reserve, retired, veteran Marines and Navy Corpsmen. Applications are being accepted now for the 2011 school year. Marine families can apply on-line now at: <http://www.mcsf.org/page.aspx?pid=326>

The U.S. Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, its Board of Directors, and the children who benefit from this wonderful program are

very thankful to those Marines - past and present - who have built this organization to become the nation's largest provider of scholarships to military families.

Additional information is available by going to our website at: <http://www.MCLeague.com> and clicking on MCL Programs then on Scholarships.

## Yellow Footprints

Boot camp platoon graduation book listings from private collectors have been flowing into Yellow footprints for entry into the boot camp database. Anytime a book is found in a private collection we ask permission to list those books in the boot camp database, so others know where they can locate their graduation books.

Most, if not all collectors collect these books for the same reason YFP has it's own archive of books, and that reason is to find and return these books to those Marines who have lost them.

In most cases these books are given free of charge, as it is with YFP. It is however up to each collector whether they charge for their books or not. Books are listed in a newly created platoon notes section for each platoon. Where a contact email address is then provided.

This week we've added another 62 platoon's where collectors have these books for San Diego, with an additional 94 books to be listed for Parris Island in the coming week.

If you have a spare book you'd like listed please contact me at: [gmler@yellowfootprints.com](mailto:gmler@yellowfootprints.com)

Each of these books has the history of another Marine, PLEASE help get these books back to the Marines they belong too.

Carry On Marines!! Semper Fi The Yellow footprints team

### DONATION UPDATE:

We have received 1,000 packets of coffee from John Conti Coffee that is used in coffee makers at several Volunteer Stations at the Veterans Hospital. Bob LaBlond has taken some to them already. We will talk with them on how to handle future deliveries.

One problem is that they are not the kind of package used in the machine we purchased. I will try to discuss this with John Conti Co. soon.

Semper Fidelis Commandant Lindle  
(Please support them) <http://johnconti.com/>



## Warning to Veterans

Forwarded by Kevin Secor, VSO Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. An organization called **Veterans Affairs Services (VAS)** is providing benefit and general information on VA and gathering personal information on veterans. **This organization is not affiliated with VA in any way.**

<http://www.vaservices.org/us/index.html>  
VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. Our Legal Counsel has requested that we coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services.

In addition, GC requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, please pass any additional information to Mr. Daugherty at the address below.

Michael G. Daugherty  
Staff Attorney  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of General Counsel (022G2)  
810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420

## The Frantic Phone Call By ATCS Roger Schmidt USCG, Ret.

About 1962 or so, I was an AL2 standing the mid-watch in the radio shack at CGAS San Diego. The Mid-watch radioman, me on this night, also stood watch in the ops center. About 0500 or so, the phone rings and the conversation went as follows:

**Me:** Coast Guard Air Station, how may I help you...

**She (frantic):** I want to report an accident

**Me:** (pulling out the boating accident report form) Please go ahead with the details

**She:** Right in front of my house a '57 Chevy hit a delivery truck and they are blocking the right hand lane of traffic. I don't think anyone is injured.

**Me:** Ma'am you should report a traffic accident to the sheriff. Hold on and I'll get you the number. (Remember this is before 911 systems)

**She: (Indignant)...**It says in the front of my phone book, in case of accident to call the Coast Guard.

**Me:** No ma'am, it says in case of Marine or Air Emergency to call the Coast Guard. You are reporting a traffic accident.

**She:** But a *Marine* was driving the Chevy.

About this time the SDO wandered into the Ops Center for his morning coffee. I handed him the phone and said something to the effect, CDR you better handle this one - its way above my pay grade.

## THE WARRIOR'S CODE OF HONOR - Author wishes to remain anonymous

<http://www.militarycodeofhonor.com/>

As a combat veteran wounded in one of America's wars, I offer to speak for those who cannot.

Were the mouths of my fallen front-line friends not stopped with dust, they would testify that life revolves around honor.

In war, it is understood that you give your word of honor to do your duty -- that is -- stand and fight instead of running away and deserting your friends.

When you keep your word despite desperately desiring to flee the screaming hell all around, you earn honor.

Earning honor under fire changes who you are.

The blast furnace of battle burns away impurities encrusting your soul.

The white-hot forge of combat hammers you into a hardened, purified warrior willing to die rather than break your word to friends -- your honor.

Combat is scary but exciting.

You never feel so alive as when being shot at without result.

You never feel so triumphant as when shooting back -- *with* result.

You never feel love so pure as that burned into your heart by friends willing to die to keep their word to you. And they do.

The biggest sadness of your life is to see friends falling.

The biggest surprise of your life is to survive the war.

Although still alive on the outside, you are dead inside -- shot thru the heart with nonsensical guilt for living while friends died.

The biggest lie of your life torments you that you could have done something more, different, to save them.

Their faces are the tombstones in your weeping eyes, their souls shine the true camaraderie you search for the rest of your life but never find.

You live a different world now. You always will.

Your world is about waking up night after night silently screaming, back in battle.

Your world is about your best friend bleeding to death in your arms, howling in pain for you to kill him.

Your world is about shooting so many enemies the gun turns red and jams, letting the enemy grab you.

Your world is about struggling hand-to-hand for one more breath of life.

You never speak of your world.

Those who have seen combat do not talk about it.

Those who talk about it have not seen combat.

You come home but a grim ghost of he who so lightheartedly went off to war.

But home no longer exists.

That world shattered like a mirror the first time you were shot at.

The hurricane winds of war have hurled you far away to a different world -- the Warrior's World -- where your whole life is about keeping your word or die trying.

But people in the civilian world have *no idea* that life is about keeping your word -- they think life is about babies and business.

The distance between the two worlds is as far as Mars from Earth.

This is why, when you come home, you feel like an outsider -- a visitor from another planet. You are.

People you knew before the war try to make contact.

It is useless.

Words fall like bricks between you.

Serving with warriors who died proving their word has made prewar friends seem too untested to be trusted -- thus they are now mere acquaintances.

And they often *stay* that way because, like most battle-hardened Warriors, you prefer not to risk fully trusting anyone whose life is not devoted to keeping their word, their honor.

The hard truth is that doing your duty under fire makes you alone, a stranger in your own home town.

The only time you are not alone is when with another combat veteran.

Only *he* understands that keeping your word, your honor, whilst standing face to face with death gives meaning and purpose to life.

Only *he* understands that spending a mere 24 hours in the broad, sunlit uplands of battle-proven honor is more deeply satisfying to a man than spending a whole lifetime in safe, comfortably numb civilian life with DNA compelling him to anguish endlessly over whether he is a brave man or a coward.

Only *he* understands that your terrifying -- but *thrilling* -- dance with death has made your old world of babies, backyards and ballgames seem deadly dull.

Only *he* understands that your way of being due to combat damaged emotions is not the un-usual, but the usual, and you are OK.

Although you walk thru life alone, you are not lonely.

You have a constant companion from combat -- Death.

It stands close behind, a little to the left.

Death whispers in your ear: "Nothing matters outside my touch, and I have not touched you...*YET!*"

Death never leaves you -- it is your best friend, your most trusted advisor, your wisest teacher.

Death teaches you that every day above ground is a fine day.

Death teaches you to feel fortunate on good days, and bad days...well, they do not exist.

Death teaches you that merely seeing one more sunrise is enough to fill your cup of life to the brim -- pressed down and running over!

Death teaches you that you can postpone its touch by earning serenity.

Serenity is earned by a lot of prayer and acceptance.

Acceptance is taking one step out of denial and accepting/allowing your repressed, painful combat memories to be re-lived/suffered thru/shared with other combat vets -- and thus defused.

Each time you accomplish this act of courage/desperation:

the pain gets less;

more tormenting combat demons hiding in the darkness of your gut are thrown out into the sunlight of awareness, where they disappear in a puff of smoke;

the less bedeviling combat demons, the more serenity earned;

serenity is, regretfully, rather an indistinct quality, but it manifests as a sense of honor, a sense of calm, and gratitude to your creator -- which lengthens life span.

Down thru the dusty centuries it has always been thus.

It always will be, for what is seared into a man's soul who stands face to face with death never changes.

Signed, a Purple Heart Medal recipient who wishes to remain an unknown.

## JECVO News

**Medicare End of Life Planning:** A new health regulation will pay doctors for providing Medicare recipients with voluntary end-of-life planning, a provision that Democrats dropped from the health-care reform bill after prominent Republicans turned the issue into a political hot potato. Voluntary advance care planning, also known as end-of-life planning, is included in a new Medicare regulation issued on 3 DEC that covers annual checkups called "wellness visits. The regulation allows Medicare to pay for voluntary end-of-life planning or counseling as part of the annual checkup, to help Medicare beneficiaries deal with the difficult decisions families face when a loved one is approaching death, such as when to withdraw or forgo life-sustaining care. The new regulation goes into effect on 1 JAN 2011.

An early version of the health-care reform bill allowed Medicare to pay for voluntary end-of-life planning every five years. Congressional Democrats later dropped that provision after Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin likened the counseling to death panels and Republican House leader John Boehner said that the measure could start us down a treacherous path toward government-encouraged euthanasia for people who were critically ill. In contrast to the political controversy, medical research has consistently shown the value of end-of-life planning. —Advance care planning improves end-of-life care and patient and family satisfaction and reduces stress, anxiety and depression in surviving relatives, according to the conclusions of a study published this year in the British Medical Journal and quoted by the Obama administration in the preamble to the Medicare regulation.

Those who oppose including end-of-life planning in Medicare coverage often argue that patients will lose their ability to control the type of care they receive at the end of their lives or could have treatment withdrawn prematurely, but those views are inconsistent with medical research. According to Dr. Stacy M. Fischer, an assistant professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, whose research findings were also cited by the Obama administration, —end-of-life discussions between doctor and patient help ensure that one gets the care one wants and protect patient autonomy. Recent data suggest that, although only approximately 30% of adults have completed an advance directive (AD), 93% would like to discuss ADs with their physician.' Fischer wrote after Democrats dropped end-of-life planning from the health-care reform bill, "The reality is that these conversations are time consuming, incompatible with 20-minute appointments, and not billable."

Despite opponents' claims that discussing ADs with one's physician would hasten death, Fischer said there is no evidence that these discussions or completing an AD lead to harm. On the contrary, the harm may be in denying end-of-life planning to people who need it, according to Dr. Donald M. Berwick, administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, who issued the new regulation. —Using unwanted procedures in terminal illness is a form of assault. In economic terms, it is waste. Several techniques, including advance directives and involvement of patients and families in decision-making, have been shown to

### GIFT IDEAS

Rebecca here to help make your **gift giving** a little easier! I run a full-time Mary Kay business from my home and am eager to help you. I have gifts that **start at \$5+**. I **wrap and deliver**. And I am willing to **donate** a % of the sales back to the league. I am here to help you with EVERY holiday! Please know that I love what I do and will **value your business**. Just call or email. Rebecca Graver 502-387-6627 [Mrsgraver@yahoo.com](mailto:Mrsgraver@yahoo.com)

reduce inappropriate care at the end of life, leading to both lower cost and more humane care. [Source: About.com | Senior Living Sharon O'Brien article 28 Dec 2010 ++]

**Mobilized Reserve 28 DEC 2010:** The Department of Defense announced the current number of reservists on active duty as of 28 DEC 2010. The net collective result is 1,988 fewer reservists mobilized than last reported in the 15 DEC 2010 RAO Bulletin. At any given time, services may activate some units and individuals while deactivating others, making it possible for these figures to either increase or decrease. The total number currently on active duty from the Army National Guard and Army Reserve is 72,143; Navy Reserve, 5,790; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, 8,320; Marine Corps Reserve, 5,060; and the Coast Guard Reserve, 779. This brings the total National Guard and Reserve personnel who have been activated to 92,082 including both units and individual augmentees. A cumulative roster of all National Guard and Reserve personnel who are currently activated may be found at <http://www.defense.gov/news/d20101228ngr.pdf> . [Source: DoD News Release No. 1185-10 dtd 29 Dec 2010 ++]

## Marines Helping Marines

— Chuck Kimberl - 502-417-6450

Does **premium remodeling** and new construction, both residential and commercial. I have done projects with values over two million dollars. I have great references, insurance, etc.

— John Heffley - 502-955-5620

**Plumbing** has been in business over 20 years, fully licensed and insured. All types of residential/commercial repair and replacement. 10% off labor to all members of MCL. Water Heater specialist. Contact John at our website at [www.worldsgreatestplumber.com](http://www.worldsgreatestplumber.com)

— Dannt Plyler

Will do all types of framing of pictures and other items. Home: 502-384-6226. Cell 502-759-5156 [danny.plyler@insightbb.com](mailto:danny.plyler@insightbb.com)

— Sparky Sparks (JD's Father) - 502-727-3056

Does **Computer Repair and training**. He will fix most standard computer issues and can even train you on the computer if you are a novice.

— Richard Epley a Life member of our detachment purchased the old VFW Home on Poplar Level Road and is in the business of **renting it for all occasions**. **Hall Rental**, EPLEY ENTERPRISES, 4809 POPLAR LEVEL ROAD, (PREVIOUS VFW HOME), CALL 502-345-9750, for rental information.

— Michael House (member) **A-1 Vac Services & Supply Co.** 1523 Bardstown Rd. 451-4515

YOUR FREE AD HERE

Just email me your info

Want to post something in this section? Just email JD your brief description and contact info.

This section is for personal news, offering of services, requests for people to attend events... anything that is reasonable and legal. Semper Fi

**Member Information**

**Dec 2010**

Detachment Statistics:

Membership Report:

Total Number of Members	363	% of Goal Achieved	93 % (24 of 362 are delinquent)
PLM Members	197	Total Paid Members	339
Associate PLM Members	2	Total Unpaid Members	24
Regular Members	153	Annual New Member Goal	36
Regular Associate Members	12	New Member for FY 2010	13
Honorary Members	0	% of Annual Goal Achieved	36 %
Annual Renewal Goal	100 %		

How to contact  
MCL National:  
Marine Corps  
League - National  
Headquarters  
Post Office Box  
3070 Merrifield, VA  
22116  
(800) 625-1775

**Memberships Expire Due to 1 Year inactive:**

Corey Magee (Moved to TN - did not wish to renew) Gilbert Stubbs (Sponsor Mary Broussard)

**Memberships Expiring**

**New Life Members: Armie Belanger Deloris Corey**

**Memberships Expiring in:** (Data reflects renewals received as of 27 Dec 2010) - layout: date, year, number of members

**Delinquent members are as follows by month:**

March 10 1 mbr. Apr 10 2 mbrs. June 10 .2 mbrs Aug 10 1 Mbr. Sept 10 2 mbrs. Oct 10 4 mbrs. Nov 10 12 mbrs.

**Dec 2010**

**Jan 2011**

**Feb 2011**

Angell, Brian  
Diebold, Walter  
Edinger, Art  
Hall, Mark  
Hardin, Gerald  
Hupp, Harry  
Moore, Myrl  
Powell, Charles  
Richardson, Oscar  
Weemer, Ryan  
Wells, John  
Wilkerson Doug  
Zapata, Richard

Alvey, Ray  
Hall, Eugene  
Jones, Zachary

Dante, Jason  
Evans, Cletis  
Hall, Douglas W.  
Hays, Jude  
Koenig, Jr. Richard  
Miller, Jason  
Newsome, Robert  
O'Leary, Patrick  
Saksefski, Leslie  
Schraer, William  
Schwendau, Martin  
Shulman, Clifford  
Smith, Sr., Charles Don

**Feb 11, cont:**  
Taylor, Jr.,  
Robert G.  
Wilder, Bill  
Willey, Brian  
Woods, Bruce.

Last Name	First Name	Birth-Day
Angell	Brian	13
Auslander	Robert	11
Bezoenik	Neal	17
Bloom	Joseph	15
Bradford	Donald	10
Broussard	Mary	5
Bryan	Fred	16
Dodson	Scott	1
Eisert	Gordon	27
Gittings	Stephen	13
Hagan	Lynn	10
Hazelwood	William	7
Herbert	Frank	10
Kelley	James	2
LaDouceur,	Hank	31
Lapp	John	27
Marshall	Charles	5
McDew	Charles	10
Medley	Joseph	10
Peyton	John	24
Pyle	Marion	25
Ross	Bob	8
Sims	Russell	12
Taylor	Richard	23
Wells	John	16
Wilson	Thomas	10
Zapata	Richard	16
Zeller, Sr.	Donald	26

**SAVE US  
MONEY... Get  
your newsletter  
via email!**

**NO SEX SINCE 1955**

A crusty old Marine Sergeant Major found himself at a gala event hosted by a local liberal arts college. There was no shortage of extremely young idealistic ladies in attendance, one of whom approached the Sergeant Major for conversation.

"Excuse me, Sergeant Major, but you seem to be a very serious man.. Is something bothering you?"

"Negative, ma'am. Just serious by nature.."

The young lady looked at his awards and decorations and said,

"It looks like you have seen a lot of action."

"Yes, ma'am, a lot of action."

The young lady, tiring of trying to start up a conversation, said, "You know, you should lighten up a little. Relax and enjoy yourself."

The Sergeant Major just stared at her in his serious manner.

Finally the young lady said, "You know, I hope you don't take this the wrong way, but when is the last time you had sex?"

"1955, ma'am."

"Well, there you are No wonder you're so serious. You really need to chill out! I mean, no sex since 1955! She took his hand and led him to a private room where she proceeded to "relax" him, several times.

Afterwards, panting for breath, she leaned against his bare chest and said, "Wow, you sure didn't forget much since 1955."

The Sergeant Major said in his serious voice, after glancing at his watch, "I hope not; it's only 2130 now."

## Welcome Aboard to our newest members!

**Memberships Expiring:** Data reflects renewals received as of 28 Dec 2010. If you have sent your dues in after that date, it will be run on the next transmittal. 24 delinquent members is a huge reversal from the last few months so if you are one of those who have not renewed from November or December, please send in your renewal. **Everyone can help get this number even lower by renewing as soon as you receive your invoice from national. Let's keep our membership growing by a better effort at retention over this fiscal year 2011.**

**Retention Information:** Currently we have 24 members in arrears, which is **seriously** slipping again, so if you are one of these delinquent members please consider sending your annual dues in as soon as possible.

**IF YOU ARE ONE OF THESE MEMBERS - PLEASE GET YOUR RENWAL IN.** Semper Fi Marines!

## New Member Profiles

### Scott M. Quinlan

**Recruited by Mike Maloney.** Scott graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy and flew F/A 18's with VMFA 314 during the Gulf War. He attended Amphibious Warfare School then assigned to VMFA 451 in Beaufort, SC. He also a Canadian Exchange Tour and served in Bosnia. He transferred to the Reserves serving with VMFA 112 in Fort Worth, TX. He was transferred to the Missouri AGN where he participated in the War on Terror. He is currently serving with the Kentucky (Air National Guard) after moving to Kentucky in 1998 where he is employed with UPS as an MD-11 Capt/Check Airman. He will be attending the meeting in January. Welcome aboard Scott.

## WELCOME ABOARD MARINES!!!

### Recruiting Report for FY 2010

Allen, Melvin	(1) House
Bale, Harvey	(1) Myers
Broussard, Al	(3) Sherlock, Price, Stewart
Crump, Tom	(2) Lueke, Plyer
Dearing, Jim	(1) Porter
Maloney, Mike	(1) Quinlan
Pike, Jack	(1) Hazelwood
Prather, Claude	(1) Bennett
Rose, Leo	(1) Bischof
Wilson, Tom	(1) Bergner

Total New Members this FY- (13) (36 % of our annual Goal!)



LET US ALSO REMEMBER THOSE OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO PASSED AWAY THIS FISCAL YEAR July 2010 – June 2011. THEY ARE SORELY MISSED AND WE SHALL ALWAYS REMEMBER THEM IN OUR HEARTS.

John "Jack" R. Rose - 19 Aug 2010  
 Fred Reed - 18 Aug 2010  
 Dorothy Bertrand (Wife of Earl Bertrand) - Aug 2010  
 Walter Lee Heibert - Dec 2010  
 James Thompson Hurley - Dec 2010  
 Otis R. Cave - Dec 2010



## In Memoriam 2010-11

Rest in Peace Marines. There is a place in heaven for you, you have served your time in Hell!

Once A Marine! Always A Marine!

Marine Corps League Kentuckiana Detachment #729

Marine Corps League  
Kentuckiana Detachment #729  
P. O. Box 35068  
Louisville, KY 40232

Phone: 502.267.4776  
Email: info@kentuckianamarines.org

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FMF Corpsman**  
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We're on the web:  
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**Next meeting  
January 17**

**Application for Membership**

Mail to: Marine Corps League,  
P. O. Box 35068  
Louisville, KY 40232

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Service or SSN# \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ + 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Enlistment/Commissioning \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Discharge / Separation / Retirement \_\_\_\_\_  
Rank at time of Discharge \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Application - ( ) New Member \$30 - ( ) Renewal \$30 - ( ) Associate \$30

Life Membership (Must have current year dues paid to apply for life)  
Age: > 61 = \$150, 51 ~ 60 = \$300, 36 ~ 50 = \$400, < 35 = \$500

I hereby apply for membership in the Kentuckiana Detachment #729 and have enclosed \$30 for one year's membership which includes a monthly newsletter and the quarterly Marine Corps League Magazine. I hereby certify that I have served as a U.S. Marine (or FMF Corpsman) for more than 90 days (exception for Associate Member); that the character of my service has been honorable and if discharged, I am in receipt of an honorable discharge/service verifiable upon request. (Ver.08)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsor - where applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's Signature)

CORE VALUES: Honor, Courage and Commitment. Once a Marine, Always a Marine!