



# Kentuckiana Detachment # 729

"The Hard Charger"

June 2015

**Once A Marine! Always A Marine!**

Official Publication of the Kentuckiana Detachment # 729

## Detachment Officers

### Elected Officers:

#### Commandant:

Bob Cross (502) 543-1889

[mclbcross33@gmail.com](mailto:mclbcross33@gmail.com)

#### Senior Vice Commandant:

C.J. Wychulis (502) 425-1368

[cwychulis@aol.com](mailto:cwychulis@aol.com)

#### Junior Vice Commandant:

Ron Snyder (502) 551-6342

[dockerss@yahoo.com](mailto:dockerss@yahoo.com)

#### Judge Advocate:

Bob LeBlond (502) 239-9946

[rleblond@aol.com](mailto:rleblond@aol.com)

#### Auxiliary President:

Peggy Landis (502) 819-0123

[peggylandis@att.net](mailto:peggylandis@att.net)

### Appointed Officers

#### Adjutant:

Allen D. Broussard (502) 267-4776

[twomarinefamily@gmail.com](mailto:twomarinefamily@gmail.com)

#### Paymaster:

James Thompson (502) 974-7183

[jtlouky@gmail.com](mailto:jtlouky@gmail.com)

#### Chaplain:

Richard Schmidt (502) 243-2359

[schmidtr1@bellsouth.net](mailto:schmidtr1@bellsouth.net)

#### Sergeant-At-Arms:

Don Schofield (502) 298 5713

[gunnytanker@gmail.com](mailto:gunnytanker@gmail.com)

#### Web Sergeant/Newsletter

Troy Bowden (502) 424-2213

[troybowden77@gmail.com](mailto:troybowden77@gmail.com)

## Commandants Comments

### Bob Cross

Marines:

It has been a very busy 3 years. We have made a lot of progress in the functions of the Detachment and you have put in many hours of service to our Community and the Veterans within it. I am proud to say that I was able to be your Commandant.

I want to send a special Thanks to all of you, as especially those that were willing to be on my Board. They are: CJ Wychulis, Ron Snyder, Harold Sneed, Bob LeBlond John Froehlich III, John Heffley, Bob Ross, Joe Dodson, Richard Schmidt, Alison Porter, Allen Broussard, James Thompson, Cletis Evans, Don Schofield, David Hesse, Don Oliver and Troy Bowden. All worked together to make my term, what I think was very successful.

Again, Thank you all and we will continue to grow the Detachment with the new Commandant John Froehlich III. Please work with him as you have worked with me these past 3 years.

Bob Cross  
Past Commandant

## Awards Dinner Night

Annual Awards/Installation Dinner

Need to RSVP to

Bob Cross

[mclbcross33@gmail.com](mailto:mclbcross33@gmail.com)

[502-543-1889](tel:502-543-1889)

**Before June 9, 2015**

cost will be \$14 per person

We will be installing our newly elected officers and presenting awards to those of you who have helped our Detachment with our many projects.

Please plan on attending. We have been able to have the same caterer we had for our Christmas Social at the comedy club.

This should be a very special event with lots of time for socializing. Please call Bob Cross and plan on attending.

Welcome New Member

Welcome New Life Member



**Bob Wolf**



**David Hesse**

**LET'S MAKE THEM WELCOME AT ALL FUTURE MEETINGS!**

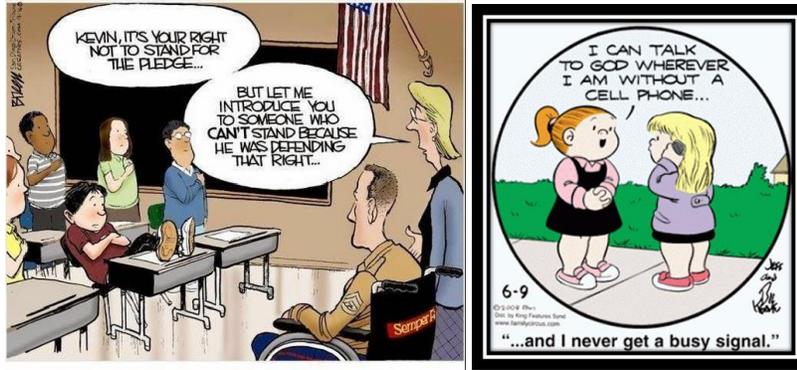
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**The Election**

**John Frohlich elected as Commandant Elect (middle)  
CJ Wychulis re-elected as Senior vice Commandant Elect (To the right of John)  
Jerry McCandless elected as Junior vice Commandant Elect (To the left of John)  
Bob LeBlond re-elected as Judge Advocate (Not pictured)**



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPLAIN



### Memorial Day Reflection

When I turn on the news each day I am overwhelmed at times with the magnitude of tragedies that are reported. As I listen to all the crazy things going on it seems that the world as we knew it is coming to an end. I feel at times helpless to do anything about it. What was once considered wrong is now right and what was right is now wrong.

On this Memorial Day week I reflect on the sacrifices of so many veterans who have given their lives to keep America free and to uphold our constitution.

On Armed Forces Day May 16, my Marine buddy Jerry McCandless and I had the opportunity to go on the Honor Flight to Washington DC. Words cannot describe the love and devotion that we experienced ALL DAY long from Americans of all ages and ethnicities. We met Europeans who wanted to take our picture because as one woman explained, "If it were not for the Americans, we would be speaking German."

We visited Arlington, WWII, Korean, Vietnam and the Marine Corps Memorials and each had so many powerful messages and memories. But it was the people who came out to support us that made it such a special day.

It is easy to get discouraged as we go about our daily lives but I am reminded that we all have the potential to encourage and support each other in so many ways. I can truly say I felt so blessed to live in America.

**Mark 10:45** *"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many".*

Richard Schmidt  
Chaplain MCL

[schmidtr1@bellsouth.net](mailto:schmidtr1@bellsouth.net)

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**AUXILIARY NEWS**  
**Peggy Landis-PRESIDENT**

[peggylandis@att.net](mailto:peggylandis@att.net)

**HELLO LADIES:**

Now that the flowers are planted, enjoy the view.

We are still looking for a Marine Family or wounded warrior to help, if you know of someone please let me know, my phone number is 819-0123

We are having an Awards Dinner and we will be furnishing the cakes as usual, so time to get back to baking those delicious cakes we all have missed. The location of the meeting is BWC, the date is June 15.

### BIRTHDAYS FOR JUNE

Pat Lovitt 15th

Sincerely:  
Peggy Landis

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## Pistol Team

### Body Sensations in a Self Defense Encounter

In previous articles we've discussed the things that we want to be prepared for, and we've discussed what our actions should be in a situation where we must defend ourselves from physical attack. We also want to know how it will actually feel, and what we can expect from our bodies when we have the proper mindset to resist. No, I'm not talking about the anticipation of fear or surprise, or keeping our emotions under control. I'm not talking about the heightened sense of alertness, which comes from being aware of our surroundings when we are moving on foot in public. I'm talking about the involuntary things that our bodies will do, like it or not, *when we first become aware of an attack happening!*

I'm talking about the physiological effect of combat, and its personal equivalent, being assaulted in a civilian setting. Many of you reading this have been in combat, and you can probably remember your physical feelings in very vivid detail, even though many years may have passed since the event.

I want to tell you about sensory changes to expect, and we will summarize what experts know about these sensations. Your hearing and vision may both be changed, especially during an exchange of gunshots. There is a story told about two rookie police officers in a firefight; it was their first time to use guns in the line of duty. They were greatly relieved after the armed perpetrators surrendered after several shots were exchanged. But both officers reported to their superiors that their handguns malfunctioned due to apparently bad ammunition. When firing, they reported hearing only a weak "pop-pop" sound as they pulled the trigger. Of course, there was nothing wrong. The adrenaline rush caused by the life-or-death shooting event had blocked out the normal hearing of both men! They were so focused on performing their duties properly, that their minds and bodies were not distracted by the loud discharge of their guns.

Another police report revealed what happens to change our vision; this account came from a perpetrator. The criminal apparently advanced firing on a police officer, who then seemed to vanish into thin air. The police officer had simply knelt down to reload. The criminal had been impaired by tunnel vision, which happened in the stress of the situation. The "invisible" police officer then fired a wounding shot, and the "perp" lived to tell his story from custody.

We can expect that our hearing will be overcome by a temporary deafness. We can expect our vision to be sharply focused on our target, or the threat coming toward us, but everything around it will become a blur. This tunnel vision will be the most important condition to overcome. That's why we must condition ourselves to practice a one-step movement simultaneously with the drawing of our concealed carry weapon. Professional trainers call this movement, "getting off the X." The "X" stands for the crime scene, or the target, which you may have become! In the eyes of some criminal, you may be the intended victim or actually be in his gun sight. You are standing on the "X," which is the only area he can see. As soon as you hear a shot, or as soon as you decide it's time to deploy your handgun, then take one step sideways. This has the effect of moving you OUT of the tunnel vision of a perpetrator who is hyped-up on adrenaline. It has the effect of relieving your own tunnel vision, in that it forces you to look around a bit. Awareness is critical.

So, if you are a citizen who carries concealed, and you are responsible enough to train regularly, then add this little tactic to your routine. Step off the X, and get out of harm's way. It may help you to see the situation more clearly.

Semper Fi,

**Otis Fox**  
**(502)966-4636 home**  
**(502)682-6143 cell**  
**[otislois@twc.com](mailto:otislois@twc.com)**

## KENTUCKIANA DETACHMENT 729 MARINE CORPS LEAGUE SPECIAL ARTICLE

### Southeast members go to D.C.; recognized for military service

By Brent Adams | [badams@secc.org](mailto:badams@secc.org)

The bond between Jerry McCandless and Rich Schmidt was forged years ago by their similarities. Both served in the United States Marine Corps during wartime, and both have a strong faith in God.

McCandless, a Korean War veteran, and Schmidt, who served in Vietnam, have forged a friendship over the years through Southeast Christian Church, and through their participation in The Marine Corps League Kentuckiana Detachment #729, for which Schmidt is the organization's full-time chaplain.

On Saturday, May 16, the two men were among 84 veterans and guardians who were flown to Washington, D.C., by Honor Flight Bluegrass Chapter, to remember those who sacrificed their lives during times of war throughout American history.

While on the day trip to the nation's capital, McCandless and Schmidt participated in a flag line reception. They then visited the National World War II Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial, which depicts the raising of the American flag at Iwo Jima, and the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

All are places McCandless, who turned 80 years old May 20, has visited before, but each time evokes many memories and emotions.

"I love all of them, especially the Korean War memorial," McCandless said. "And going close to Memorial Day made it even more special. It was an awesome, humbling time of reflection."

Two years ago, McCandless was among a group of veterans invited to South Korea to commemorate the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement, which was signed by the United States, the People's Republic of China, North Korea and South Korea, ending the Korean War.

"There had been so many changes over there," McCandless said. "But it helped me to put so many things to rest in my mind. I don't exactly know how my role helped during the Korean War, but I know I was a part of something special. It makes me pretty emotional just thinking about it."

Schmidt, who was wounded in battle and spent a year in the hospital upon returning to the United States, said that for many veterans who visit the war memorials, the trips are cathartic.

"It's part of the healing process," Schmidt said. "There was a time, after I came home, that I didn't love America too much because America didn't love me too much. That has changed over time, and it seems like Americans appreciate veterans more."

McCandless and Schmidt both took different paths to a relationship with Jesus Christ. McCandless accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior prior to being sent to Korea, knowing that he would need Jesus to see him through the atrocities of war.

"He totally carried me through," McCandless said of his trust in God. "I knew that I needed Him each day, and I have had my trust in Him ever since."

However, McCandless said that his faith looks much different today than when he shipped off for Korea.

"At 18, it was an adventure," McCandless said. "At 80, there is an awareness that Christ has a purpose for my life and I need to be about that purpose."

It was a different story for Schmidt, 66, who said he always believed in God, but didn't turn his life over to Him until about 15 years ago.

Now, he looks back over the course of events in his life and he sees how God was working in his life, even when Schmidt wasn't dedicated to serving Him.

"I was shot three times during the same firefight, and I knew God saved me," Schmidt recalls. "I told that story to people when I returned home, yet I strayed off course for awhile."

Schmidt came to Southeast at the urging of a coworker, and he says the visit changed his life.

"I sat in the front row, and I felt like (now-retired Senior Minister) Bob Russell was looking at me the whole time he delivered his sermon," Schmidt said. "By the end of it, I was ready to be baptized. I've been on fire for the Lord ever since."



## MCL 729 HELPING OUT

### **From the Desk of the Adjutant**

At 1600 hours on Thursday, 21 May 2015, I received an e-mail from Commandant Cross that he was on the road and would not be able to respond to a request from an employee of the Roederer Correctional Facility, Ericka Watt, whose husband is a retired Gunnery Sergeant Alan Watt, who is the Roederer Liaison Officer of the Veterans Club at the facility. (This is the same club that we work with during our Toys for Tots campaign). Ericka indicated that one of her co-workers at the Correctional Facility was lamenting the fact that she could not afford to go to PISC on 29 May 2015 to see her son graduate from recruit training and earning the title "Marine". She also noted that another of her co-workers told her that she was willing to drive the mother to PISC if she could pay for the fuel and hotel accommodations for a couple of days.

As requested by the Commandant I called the Ericka Watt at her work and asked what she thought they needed to make the trip a reality. She threw out a figure of \$300 - \$400. After talking to her for a few minutes, I told her that I could not guarantee that we could come up with that amount but that I would ask our members to see if they would be of assistance. Never in a million years did I think we would have such an immediate response.

Within 5 minutes of publishing the request to the Detachment through our e-serve list, I was able to call Ericka back to tell her that we had already received commitments from the Detachment to provide the \$400.00. There were tears of joy on both ends of the conversation. Fast forward to 2000 hours that evening and that figure grew exponentially to over \$1000. The generosity of this Detachment really shined through. Small, medium, and large donations just sprang from the monitor of my computer. With each message, my eyes began to sweat! I received the following comment from one of our members that sort of sums up how everyone felt.

***"I watched my son march by during the pass and review when he graduated from OCS. There is no better feeling for a parent, especially a parent that is a Marine. I want that mother to experience that feeling. It is a feeling she will never forget!"***

We are pleased that this parent will have the opportunity to be in PISC on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May! As a plus, Gunnery Sergeant Alan Watt and his wife Ericka have indicated that they would like to be a part of this awesome organization. Applications for membership and Ladies Auxiliary are in the mail!

**All I can say is...Semper Fi Marines, you are the greatest! We really take care of our own.**



KENTUCKIANA DET. #729  
DEPARTMENT OF KENTUCKY  
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING  
MAY 2015

The meeting was called to order by Commandant Cross at 1904 hours. All officers were present or accounted for.

One new members was presented for membership: Robert Wolf

Minutes from the April meeting were published in the newsletter. There were no corrections.

Paymasters report was presented by the Paymaster. There were no corrections to the report and the report stands as published. Copies of the report are on file and available for members to view upon request.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

Commandant: Made Announcements of upcoming events:

- 19 May 2015 Funeral Service for member Harold Sneed
- 19 May 2015 VFW Post 1170 reception for Dr. Bruce Heilman
- 21 May 2015 Seneca High School JROTC awards ceremony
- 23 May 2015 Flags for Vets Memorial Day flag event at Waterfront Park
- 24 May 2015 Memorial Day service at Jeffersontown Veterans Park
- 6 June 2015 Honor Flight
- 9 June 2015 Roving Mess at South Park Country Club 915 South Park Rd, Fairdale KY

Commandant also briefed on the counter proposal he had just received from the BWC regarding the proposed partnership between the two organizations. He also advised that Stephanie Horne has agreed to handle our legal affairs in the matter.

Members were then asked for their input on this matter. The following requests will be submitted to Mrs. Horne for our counter proposal:

- Contingent on a building inspection.
- See if putting an end date when 100% ownership would be to the MCL
- A 10 year cap on the annual payment to BWC

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee Chairman C.J. Wychulis conducted the nomination and election of officers. The following members were elected to their respective office:

- Commandant – John Froehlich
- Sr. Vice – C.J. Wychulis
- Jr. Vice – Jerry McCandless
- Judge Advocate – Bob LeBlond

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

Pistol Team coach Otis Fox gave a report on the status of the pistol time. He explained the timeline of their shooting schedule and invited the membership to join them for their upcoming shoots.

J.R. Riggs reminded the membership that after the Jeffersontown Veterans Memorial the GI Joe American Legion Post is hosting a meal on 24 May 2015.

Commandant presented David Hesse with his Life Membership.

50/50

Charles Turner was our winner for the 50/50 drawing of \$23. He donated it back to the League. THANK YOU CHARLES.

The meeting was adjourned at 2030 hours, by Commandant Cross.

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**Renewals**

**MAY**

Hall, Lewis  
Smith Roger  
Trout, Steven

**JUNE**

Reddington, Bill  
Ruscher, Edward L.

**JULY**

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| John Wright   | Herbert Warren   |
| George Buck   | Lawrence Pinotti |
| Gordon Snyder | Danny Caughorn   |
| Frank Herbert | Virgil Rose      |
| Otis Fox      | Michael Rice     |

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**BIRTHDAYS FOR JUNE 2015**

|                   |    |                   |    |               |    |                |    |
|-------------------|----|-------------------|----|---------------|----|----------------|----|
| Gerald Schultz    | 1  | Cletis Evans      | 6  | James Young   | 6  | Timothy Hanson | 7  |
| Bart Leist        | 7  | Robert Taylor     | 7  | Troy Bowden   | 9  | Ray Stoess     | 10 |
| Joseph McCauley   | 10 | Tonnie Renfro     | 11 | Harry Hupp    | 11 | Richard Putman | 18 |
| Frank Waterhouse  | 19 | Alison Porter     | 19 | George Sotsky | 22 | Tom Ray        | 26 |
| Kenneth Flood Sr. | 26 | Clifford Schulman | 26 | Joe Doebler   | 26 | David Miller   | 28 |
| John Heffley      | 28 | Kenneth Arnold    | 28 | Warren Riddle | 30 |                |    |

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**-- UPCOMING EVENTS --**  
**Marines Proudly Serving Our Community**  
**April 2015**

**ROVING MESS:**                   **9 June at 1100 (Tuesday)**  
**South Park Country Club (915 South Park Rd. Fairdale)**  
**Louisville, KY**  
**Please RSVP to Bob LeBlond 502-239-9946 or Email [rleblond@aol.com](mailto:rleblond@aol.com)**

**BOARD MEETING:**           **None**

**GENERAL MEETING:**       **15 June 2015, 1800 hrs (Monday) (Dinner awards night)**  
**BWC**  
**3758 Pulliam Dr.**  
**Louisville, KY 40218**

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**Message from newly elected Commandant:**

I have had accomplishments in my life for which I am proud such as Husband and Father. Right up there beside them I am now honored to include League Commandant. Since joining the League about 6 years ago, I have attempted to be a contributor to the advance of the League. I am a firm believer in "active" membership.

We are currently in the midst of making a momentous decision, one which will have a lasting impact on our League. It is too early to determine the outcome but please know that everyone of us has the best interest of the League foremost in our minds even though we may differ on our positions. With patience and courtesy, we can reach our final decision, whatever it may be, without harming the morale and camaraderie of our League.

I am looking forward to working with each of you to accomplish our mission, another successful year of service to fellow Marines and our community. Semper Fi!

John Froehlich  
Commandant MCL 729 Elect

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
KENTUCKIANA DETACHMENT # 729  
P. O. Box 991367  
LOUISVILLE, KY 40269  
[www.kentuckianamarines.org](http://www.kentuckianamarines.org)



**Marines keep in mind that we are on Facebook now just search in google for Marine Corps League Detachment 729 and you'll find links to our website and Facebook.  
SEMPER FI!**