



The Gipper

Marine Corps League
President Ronald Reagan Detachment 597
Semper Fidelis



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JUNE 2018

**OUR MCL 597 ANNUAL PICNIC WILL BE ON
SATURDAY JULY 21 at 10 am
PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND RSVP TO
VALERIA GALVAN
IT'S FREE FOR ALL MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES AND THEIR
FAMILIES!**

Hello Members and Associates

By the time this article reaches you, summer would have already started. With that in mind, our Annual MCL Family Picnic will be held on Saturday July 21, 2018 at the Veterans Plaza at Lemon Park, Simi Valley. We will be meeting at the park at 10:00 am to set up, if you would like to help with setting up please join us. This year in appreciation for all that you all have done for the league, there is no charge for the picnic!

Come one come all! The only thing that I ask is that you would please a Main Dish, Side/Salad or Dessert according to your last name, see below. There will also be a Salsa/Chili contest the 1st Place Winner will receive 2 Tickets to our Marine Corps Ball, 2nd Place Winner will receive 1 Ticket, and 3rd Place Winner will receive a consolation prize.

Here is the List according to the first letter of your last name.

- A - H Main Dish
- I - P Side/Salad
- Q - Z Dessert

Please E-Mail me at valeriahgalvan@gmail.com for any questions or letting me know if you will be attending and how many will be coming.

See you at our next meeting and hope to see you at our July Picnic!



COMMANDANT Richard Jennings

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Marines, Corpsmen and Associate Members:

Now that the Golf Tournament is behind us, what do we look forward to in the future?

October 21st is the date of the Thousand Oaks Street Fair. We've been participating at the fair for a few years now, and well received by the folks who attend this event. "Doc" Honaker works very hard in getting us the right place on Moorpark Road, and along with his helpers, he has "Big Red" up and running before any of the others have their displays showing. What he needs and what I would like to see is a lot more volunteers for the Detachment to come out and help work the crowd. I appreciate that we have a small group of dedicated members who work the booths year after year, but what I would like to see are some new faces at this event. I'd be a hypocrite if I say I've been to all of them in the past, because, I like many others would say to myself, "Why do I have to go? Someone else will show up and help." That's a fact but I did show up once and had a great time, not only with my fellow Detachment members, but talking with the general public, telling them all about the MCL. Come out and try it, you'll have a ball.

November 17 is the next event and one that we all look forward to. This year's Ball will be returning to the Grand Vista Hotel after a few years of being away. I'm sure that "Doc" will be speaking about this in greater detail during the General Meetings and here in the Gipper, but I just want to remind everyone that this is the date that we celebrate "Our Great Corps" birthday.

In January, we will be having another fundraiser, in conjunction with the Simi Valley Elks. We will be having a Grand Bingo Night at the Elks Lodge, and all we need to do is get about 50 players to come out and enjoy themselves. The details still need to be worked out for this evening. The "powers to be" at the Lodge have told me this can produce a lot of money for the Detachment. I will be announcing the details when they are finalized.

Why am I writing about this when it's really not the Commandants place to remind people of fundraisers and celebrations? I want everyone to know that "fundraisers" are our bread and butter to raise money, so we can fulfill our Mission Statement - "Veterans helping Veterans." Without money coming in, we won't have the resources to fulfill much of anything.

Lastly, don't forget our Annual Picnic on the 21st of July. Val Galvan, our Associates Director, is working her tail off to make this a great event. We will be at the Veterans Park off Lemon Ave. Come out and enjoy a great day with plenty of food, drink and camaraderie.

AND IT'S FREE, as a special thank you to all our detachment members from the Board.

Now these are a few of the things that will be going on this year and next. I assure you that we will be out and about our community, spreading the good word of the MCL and Detachment 597.



In the next Gipper newsletter, I will go into detail about creating a Veterans Center here in Simi Valley.

Also, if you have questions for me, or you have a problem with what I'm doing or you the way the Detachment is heading, or you actually like what we are doing, please send an email to Rich Farra (richfarra@gmail.com) and let us all know. It doesn't have to do with me. If you like the way the Board is operating, or don't, let them know. Everything is confidential, and no one will know where it comes from. I assure you the Board is working diligently in trying to make this Detachment even better than it has been before.

Semper Fi,

Dick Jennings
Commandant



SR. VICE COMMANDANT

Harry Hodges

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805-583-8951, Mobile



Marines and Associate members,

- 1) Don't forget to check your ships store for your Silk Screen and Embroidered Polo Shirts. We also have the red MCL garrison covers (piss cutters) in Men's and Women's sizes,
- 2) We also have MCL T-shirts for 10:00 in sizes XL, 2XL, and 3XL
- 3) Also check out our collection of MCL patches, pins, decals and challenge coins.

Thank You
Harry Hodges
Senior Vice & Ships Store Rep



JR. VICE COMMANDANT

Ken 'Doc' Honaker

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Greetings Marines and Associates,

We had a booth at the Rotary Cajun Festival 5/26 & 27 at the Rancho Santa Susana Community Park in Simi Valley. With the assistance of some early raisers on 26 May, we set up Big Red well ahead of the 10 AM opening to people attending the event. Rotary was gracious enough to offer a booth space at no charge as they have in the past. As in years past there were ample opportunities to partake of a variety of foods, Cajun as well as others. The two music stages gave a sampling of music ranging from good old rock-n-roll to Cajun/Zydeco. We spoke with several people who were Marines or had family members in the Corps, both past and present. Several of the same 597 members were again present for the tear down on 27 May. Thank you all who spent time in the booth to spread the word of the Marine Corps League and especially the 597.

After setting up Big Red on 5/26 and leaving in the capable hands of our dedicated 597 members, I headed over to Cal Lutheran University to meet Chaplain Bradley Cantley for the first annual Cal Lu Vet Picnic 5/26. The Veterans picnic was set up and promoted by Jenn Zimmerman, the Cal Lu Veterans coordinator. While there wasn't a huge number of attendees, we did chat with many of the other Vet booth supporters.

The next event for Big Red will be the 597 annual fundraiser golf tournament at Moorpark Country Club. Big Red will be quite noticeable on what I believe is the Toys-For-Tots hole.

After the golf tournament, not a 597 Big Red event, the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura will be hosting the Moving Wall 21 June - 25 at the Ventura County Government Center at 800 S. Victoria Ave, Ventura. Whether you visit to find a name of a remembered buddy or relative, or sign up to help setup or take down, there is ample opportunity to be involved. There were flyers on the tables at the last MCL meeting for contact information.

The 26th annual Ventura County Stand Down is to be held July 27, 28 & 29 at the National Guard Armory in Ventura. The Stand Down supports veterans of all eras and military services many of whom are homeless. Services from medical and dental exams, legal assistance and representatives from AA to VA are to be found. Volunteers of all skills and interest are needed. Time commitment from several hours to daily participation will be appreciated. I will be taking collected clean used clothing to the armory on Wednesday July 25, so let me know if you have items to contribute. If I don't have them prior to that date I cannot accommodate.

We are registered to participate with Big Red in the annual Thousand Oaks Street Fair 21 October in Thousand Oaks. More later.

The celebration of the 243rd United States Marine Corps birthday for the Detachment 597 Birthday Ball will be on 17 November 2018 at the Grand Vista Hotel, Simi Valley. More details to come. We will need a pistol to

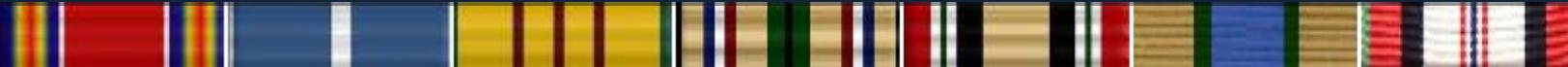


be raffled along with the M-1 and the usual basket of stuff if someone has one to donate or knows a willing donor.

While we are mentioning birthdays, 17 June is the 120th birthday of the US Navy Hospital Corps. Happy Birthday to my fellow corpsmen wherever and whenever they serve or have served.

Semper Fi
 "Doc" Honaker
 Jr. Vice Commandant





JR. PASTCOMMANDANT

Jerry R. German

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Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum

Presidential Libraries Background

Presidents of the United States, beginning with George Washington, have established presidential repositories and libraries of their original papers and historical presidential materials. Traditionally, presidential materials were considered the property of the individual presidents.

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Presidential Library System Background

The NARA Presidential Library System began in 1939, when legislation was passed accepting the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library as a presidential archival repository. Even though Herbert Hoover preceded Franklin D. Roosevelt as president, his library was added to the NARA Presidential Library System after Roosevelt's. Following the example of the Roosevelt Library, the libraries of all succeeding presidents have been constructed using private funds from non-federal sources and maintained using federal funds. Usually, a private, nonprofit, presidential foundation is established to coordinate these efforts and may maintain an endowment to help offset library operation costs.

The NARA Presidential Library System is overseen by the Office of Presidential Libraries, a division of the NARA, located in Washington, DC and College Park, MD. NARA is an [independent agency of the United States government](#) charged with preserving and documenting government and historical records and with increasing public access to those documents, which comprise the National Archives.

Within the NARA system, presidential libraries have been established for thirteen former U.S. presidents: Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard M. Nixon, Gerald R. Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald W. Reagan, George H. W. Bush, William J. Clinton and George W. Bush.

There are other presidential libraries, including the [James K. Polk](#), [William McKinley](#), [Rutherford Hayes](#), [Calvin Coolidge](#), [Abraham Lincoln](#) and [Woodrow Wilson](#) libraries, but they are run by private foundations or historical societies. The [Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum](#) is owned and operated by the state of [Illinois](#).

[Note: There is the Gerald R. Ford Library in Ann Arbor, MI and the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, MI. Even though they are in separate cities, they are counted as one facility within the NARA system. The presidential papers are in Ann Arbor.]

Presidential Libraries Acts of 1955 and 1986

In accordance with the Presidential Libraries Acts of 1955 and 1986, once an official presidential library is constructed, NARA assumes responsibility for its operation and maintenance.



Presidential Records Act of 1978

In accordance with the Presidential Records Act of 1978, Congress abolished the tradition of presidential ownership of presidential materials. The Presidential Records Act of 1978 distinguishes between presidential records which are the property of the federal government, and presidential papers (personal records) which are the property of the individual president. Under the Presidential Records Act of 1978, all presidential records created after January 20, 1981, are property of the United States.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library is the first to operate under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act of 1978.

Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute

Ronald Reagan established his Foundation in 1985 to raise funds for the building of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. In 2016, the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation legally changed its name to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute (the Foundation).

The Foundation raised approximately \$65Million in private funds to build the Library/Museum and supervised planning and construction.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum

In establishing his Presidential Library and Museum, President Reagan sought to make his materials available for use by researchers and other presidential libraries, to offer programs designed to give the public a better understanding of individual presidents, institutions of the presidency, and the American government as a whole and to continue his legacy of individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride.

Site Selection

An early site selection goal was to find a location near a major metropolitan area where air and surface transportation would enhance access. Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA was an early site considered but the Reagans decided that Southern California was the preferred location. In 1988, the Foundation accepted an offer of 100 acres of land in Simi Valley, CA donated by the development firm of Blakeley-Swartz which became the home of the President Ronald Reagan Library and Museum. The facility is located on a spectacular hill top with sweeping views of mountains, valleys and the Pacific Ocean.

Subsequent acquisitions of surrounding land have increased the property size to approximately 400 acres.

Dedication Day

On Dedication Day, November 4, 1991, eleven years to the day after Ronald Reagan was elected President of the United States, in accordance with the Presidential Libraries Acts of 1955 and 1885, the Foundation turned over the Library/Museum to NARA for its operation and maintenance, and the Library/ Museum was opened to the public. The event was attended by dignitaries and honored guests from around the world, including five presidents and six first ladies of the United States.

Architectural Design

The Spanish mission-style structure, with its red tile roof, central courtyard and fountain, was designed by The Stubbins Associates architectural firm of Boston, MA and constructed by the Los Angeles firm of Peck/Jones Construction.



Historical Archives and Materials

Its archives contain more than 60 million personal and government documents from the Reagan governorship and presidency. In addition, there are approximately 1.6 million still photos, 77,000 feet of motion picture film, 20,000 video tapes and 62,413 personal gifts and artifacts from the life and times of Ronald W. Reagan, all categorized and preserved. An extensive computer system provides easy access to, and use of, these historical materials.

[Note: President Barack Obama has chosen to forego the traditional route and his Presidential Library and Museum to be located in Presidential Center in Jackson Park Chicago, IL will not be part of NARA. The Obama Foundation and the University of Chicago will own and operate the library and museum but will pay NARA to digitize unclassified records and release them to the public as they become available. Obama will be the first President since Calvin Coolidge to not have a federally funded facility.]

Semper Fi,
Jerry R. German
Junior Past Commandant



JUDGE ADVOCATE

John Miller

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Judge Advocate message for June 2018

The United States Marine Corps is an organization deeply seeded in history. The Marine Corps League is also deeply rooted in history and the traditions and customs of the organization and the nation. June is a special month for those customs and traditions. The most important date in June for most Americans is June 14th, which is Flag Day. We honor the flag on that date and by Presidential proclamation it should be flown at every home and building in the nation.

Flag Day was established on June 14, 1777 by the Second Continental Congress. Many other groups honor the flag. Our sister fraternity, The Benevolent and Protective Order of The Elks, in 1907, established June 14th as their official flag day and every member of the Elks must bear allegiance to the flag to become a member of the organization. In Baltimore, The Star-Spangled Banner House celebrates June 14 as Flag Day and Defenders Day, to honor those Americans who fought and died in the War of 1812, including those that fought at Fort McHenry during the original Star-Spangled Banner.



California declared its independence from Mexico on June 14th, 1846 when 33 Mexican and American settlers raised the Bear Flag and arrested the Mexican Governor-General. The California Flag is white with a red stripe at the bottom, a single red star, a grizzly bear and the words California Republic. The last original Bear Flag is currently at The Gene Autry Museum of Western History in Los Angeles. The state flag is also rooted in history and tradition, with the color white representing purity in purpose, the red star for sovereignty, the red stripe for courage and the grizzly bear for strength. The red star was imitated after the lone star of the state of Texas, and their fight for independence. The grizzly bear was once abundant in California, but no longer inhabits the state.

So, this Flag Day remember our country and our state, both represent the finest qualities of the American Spirit of courage, honor and sacrifice.

The 50 Star United States Flag 1959



Official California State Flag 1953



The Storm Flag 1848



The Bear Flag 1846



Semper Fidelis

John E Miller
Judge Advocate



ADJUTANT

John Coley

w4simi@yahoo.com



From the Desk of the Adjutant – May 2018

Marines, Corpsman and Associate Members

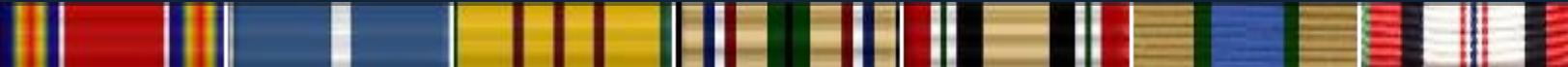
On the 19th of April, our beloved Commandant, Dick Jennings spoke to the Rotary Simi Sunrise about our upcoming Golf Tournament and his “Dream” of a Veterans Building in Simi Valley for the veterans in Ventura County. Both were very well received, and help was offered by the members.

On the 24th of April our detachment had the honor of being pallbearers for the remains of Gunny F. Lee Ermev at the request of Member Anthony Hernandez, Managing Director of Reardon Funeral Home in Simi Valley. Pallbearers were John Miller, Brent Kast, Associate Dave Opfer, Louis “Jack” Parfitt, Harry Hodges, Ken “Doc” Honacker, Larry Fisher and Rudy Cordero.

May is going to be an exciting month with all the upcoming events and then culminating with Memorial Day Weekend. On May 7th the detachment was presented a proclamation by the Mayor and the City Council of Simi Valley in recognition of National Military Recognition Month, accepted by our Commandant Dick Jennings. Santa Clarita Young Marines had their annual Fundraiser on the 12th of May at the Santa Clarita Elks Lodge, and that was a successful endeavor. The color guard has, and will be, very busy with Memorial Day approaching. So far four events are requested, and the feeling is many more will be coming.

Remember the Golf Tournament on the 18th of June. We still need players! Buy your raffle tickets for the pistol and the Ball Drop. All proceeds above costs will help the veterans of Ventura County. Drawing and Ball Drop will occur following the tournament. Do not have to be present to win.

Semper Fidelis,
John Coley
Adjutant



THE DOG ROBBER HOWLS

Pound 325, Ventura County Devil Dogs
California Pack 2012 Pound of the Year

DD Ben Pfister
Pound Keeper

benpdet597@gmail.com

818-912-9863



Woof Woof Devil Dogs and Detachment Members,

By the time you read this The Department of California will have had its State Convention in Clovis. At this Grand Growl of The MODD a couple Pups will be advancing to the degree of Devil Dog, and I'll have a picture or two for you to see.

The July Growl for Pound 325 will be held at the VFW Post 2323 in Granada Hills on the 10th of July. If you're interested in becoming a member, the Detachment Commandant must recommend you and you must have been an active MCL member for at least a year. Unfortunately, associate members aren't permitted to join.

Woof Woof





CHAPLAIN Bradley Cantley

bradleycantley@gmail.com

Cell: 805-813-3571



The Chaplain's Corner

We are all members of the same great family ... On social occasions the formality of strictly military occasions should be relaxed, and a spirit of friendliness and goodwill should prevail.

—MajGen John A. Lejeune

Good words to live by as we will be heading into July and our annual picnic. I do look forward to seeing you all there at the picnic and spending time with our families. It will nice to just hang out and not have to worry about anything for a few hours. Plus, the camaraderie we will be able to share and the stories of our past time in the Corps. If someone needs a ride to and from the picnic, please let me know in advance and I would be happy to accommodate.

James 1:2-4

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,

3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

God bless to you all, and may the good Lord keep you healthy and safe.

Semper Fidelis

Chaplain Brad



COLOR GUARD COMMANDER

Ruy Peña

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Color Guard Report

I am so very grateful to all our 597 Color Guard members! The Detachment's Color Guard was extremely busy with 7 Color Guard Detail events during Memorial Day, and 3 during that weekend. On Memorial Day, we were at Eternal Valley-Newhall, Pioneer Cemetery-Simi Valley, City of Topanga Canyon, The Reserve Senior Living-Thousand Oaks, Cal Cup Field Hockey International, VFW Post 2323, and St. Mary's Cemetery-Ventura. Our event engagements continue to increase, as the 4th of July approaches. Our Color Guard presentations have been making a very positive impact within our community and surrounding areas.

We can't do what we do without our members who volunteer their time and service to our Color Guard details. I am very grateful for all the dedication our members put forth. I encourage our members to participate in these events, we will help you march again and have fun doing it.

Below are some pictures that were taken at some of our CG events.





Above Photo
Det. 597 providing Color Guard for Simi Valley at Pioneer Cemetery. Color Guard Commander & Bugler John Calderon (Associate) with Harry Hodges, Jack Parfitt, Thomas Hernandez, Hank Noorda, Civil Air Patrol Camarillo, and Boy Scouts Troop # 642.



Above Photo: Commandant Dick Jennings, John Coley with Demetrius Narsten 3 days fresh from Boot Camp. This fine young man is a graduate of Royal High School Class of 2006.



Above Photo
Commandant Dick Jennings & Demetrius Narsten laying a wreath for the Fallen.



Above Photo
DAR Chapter Rancho Simi Regent Jennifer Larisey & 1st Vice Regent Debbie Fiebach Sands (MCL Associate) laying a wreath for the Fallen.

Below are photos from the memorial service on 5-19-18 for LAPD Officer Oscar Joel Bryant. Oscar was killed in the line of duty on 5-13-18 when he was shot and killed during a Mother's Day robbery. Oscar was also a US Marine Corps Veteran. The Marine Corps League was represented by Larry Fischer, Harry Hodges, Bob Martinez and Ramon Arevalo.





YOU KNOW THE DRILL!

Darrell Lee

Training Officer

Opportunities to serve

Every meeting Ruy Peña asks for volunteers for the Color Guard (to carry rifles or colors for ceremonies and parades) and Honor Guards (Firing Details, Flag Folding, etc.). Every meeting we hear from the various committees (Golf Tournament, Birthday Ball, Family Day Picnic, etc.) and they're pretty much always open to getting new folks involved in the behind the scenes planning, preparation, and execution of these events.

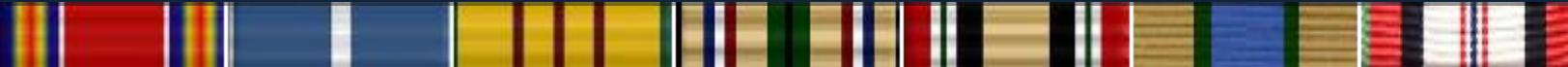
Every month there is a Board of Trustees meeting where anyone can attend and put in their two cents, and possibly find another avenue of service in supporting the League.

Most significantly, we are having our Annual Election of Officers, where we are always hearing a call for new blood, but where few new faces seem to be found. Honestly, we do want new people in these vital positions! If you are not sure you can do the job, take the current holder of that office aside for a few minutes or so to get a better idea if you can handle it. I bet you can...

And if running for elected office isn't your thing, the appointed offices are still an option worth considering. While only a few are mentioned in our bylaws, we have created many informal, but important, offices like Training Officer (yours truly), Newsletter Editor, etc. If you want to be considered for one of these posts, let someone know; the current office holder and the incoming Commandant-Elect would be the most logical people, as well as others who have been around for a while. Many of us have previously held these positions.

Semper Fidelis,

Darrell Lee



MCL GOLF TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN

Dick Jennings

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From the Chairman of the Golf Tournament

By the time you read this the MCL Annual Golf Tournament will be in the past. I am sure the folks who came out and either played or worked it, had a great time.

I want to thank the many men and women who volunteered to help make the Golf Tournament another success, in particular, the Young Marines who without their help we couldn't have gotten this done, and to the volunteers who were not even members of the Detachment. I want to especially thank the Moorpark Country Club for making this event something to remember.

I want to thank our Board of Directors who worked day in and day out to make sure this was a great tournament: Ben and Sue Pfister (Sue being Treasurer), John Coley, Fausto and Val Galvan, John Mitchell (who at 89 has more get up and go than men half his age), Darrell Lee, Jack Parfitt, Jerry German, and Bari Lynn Rennick a new comer from the outside. Bari is event co-coordinator for 99.1 The Ranch Radio Station where we would hold our monthly meetings.

Many thanks to our sponsors: Griffin Fine Living for sponsoring our golf shirts; Rusnak BMW and Simi Valley Chevrolet for the car and truck at two of our Hole in One prizes; CSMC Mortgage and their Tiki Bar, CPK; the Golden Nugget Pub; Miller-Coors Brewing Company; and the Lucky Fools Pub in Moorpark supplying us with lunch. We are very grateful to our sponsors and all the donors that contributed to this event.

This tournament isn't something that just happens overnight. It takes many dedicated people to run down sponsors, talk to everyone, send out hundreds of letters asking for donations, putting up flyers, banners, yard signs and the like. Their dedication makes sure our Detachment's Tournament is successful. A handful of people can do amazing things and just think how much greater this event would be, if we had some more help.

To everyone who had anything to do with this tournament, I want to THANK YOU ALL for a job well done.



HISTORIAN

John Miller

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(805) 581-5462



Private James Sumner
United States Army



James Sumner was born in London, England in 1840 and immigrated to the United States and settled in Chicago, Illinois.

He joined the US Cavalry after the Civil War and was attached to Company G, 1st US Cavalry in the Arizona Territory. His unit was commanded by Captain Reuben F. Bernard. On October 6, 1869 a band of hostile Apache Indians, under the leadership of Cochise, attacked and killed four US soldiers that were escorting a mail stagecoach near Tucson, Arizona. Later the same band attacked six cowboys, killing one and stealing over 120 head of cattle and horses. A detachment of US Cavalrymen was assigned to track down and kill the hostiles. The unit tracked Cochise and his band to the Chiricahua Mountains and engaged them in a fierce battle that resulted in the death of twelve Indians.

Reinforcements from Company G, 1st Cavalry and Company G, 8th Cavalry continued the pursuit of the Apache from the middle of October 1869 until the 20th, when the unit came upon the tribes camping grounds. The Apache had the high ground above a bluff and fired into the ranks of the soldiers. Captain Bernard ordered Private Sumner and 31 other Troopers to dismount and attack the Indians. The resulting battle left two Troopers dead and another wounded before the commanding officer ordered a retreat from the engagement. The captain recommended all thirty-two men, who attempted to scale the bluffs, for the Medal of Honor. Eighteen of those recommended received the Medal of Honor. This included Private Sumner. The recommendation was acted upon and Private Sumner received the Medal of Honor with the



official notation; "FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION." Later through regular military regulations and customs the citation was revised with more formal dialog that read:

The President of the United States, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Private James Sumner, United States Army, for gallantry in action on 20 October 1869, while serving with Company G, 1st US Cavalry, in action at Chiricahua Mountain, Arizona, Territory.

After his enlistment in the army was over, very little is known of Private Sumner. It is known that he resettled in Ventura, California and died on July 5, 1917 of kidney failure. He was buried in the Ventura City Cemetery without any fanfare or military honors. The cemetery fell into disrepair and was converted to a city park in the early 1960's. All grave markers were removed and over 3,000 bodies were never disinterred. In 1990, numerous citizens donated enough money to place a permanent marker at the grave site, it reads simply, James Sumner... Medal of Honor... Indian Wars 1840-1917, with the Medal of Honor emblem on top of the marker. Several attempts have been made by numerous citizens to have Private Sumner's remains exhumed and reburied at the National Cemetery in Bakersfield. The local Lawmakers have resisted these attempts and the matter is still unresolved. May his name and memory be eternal!

Other important dates in June for us to reflect upon:

- 1 June 1942 First Black Marines enlist in World War II, with over 19,000 serving
- 2 June 1918 Battle for Belleau Wood begins
- 6 June 1917 5th Marines sail for France
- 12 June 1961 JFK orders flag at Marine Corps War Memorial to fly 24/7.
- 16 June 1965 1st Battalion, 9th Marines land in Da Nang as first combat reinforced battalion
- 25 June 1950 Korean War begins with invasion of South Korea by Communists from North Korea
- 25 June 1971 Last Marine ground units out of Viet Nam
- 30 June 1934 Congress places USMC under the US Navy jurisdiction



Belleau Wood

By
Mel Krone



Sometime during our training we have all become familiar with “Chesty” Puller, November 10, 1775, and the Raising of the American Flag on Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945. Many of us here are “Devil Dogs”, some have yet to join. But how many of us know the details of the battle of Belleau Wood?

Recently ALMAR 019/18 was issued:

The subject was the 100th Anniversary of Belleau Wood. The Commandant wrote:

1. This November marks 100 years since the end of “The Great War.” When Germany signed the armistice agreement in France on 11 November 1918, nations throughout the world celebrated as four years of brutal fighting and unimaginable loss and destruction came to an end. A major turning point in World War I occurred on a 200-acre wooded stretch of French countryside called Belleau Wood. For 20 days in June 1918, American and Allied forces fought valiantly there. Thousands made the ultimate sacrifice taking a final stand for freedom on that hallowed ground.
2. For our Corps, Belleau Wood has become a symbol of Marine courage and tenacity. Many consider this battle the birth of the modern day Marine Corps. Today, we pause to honor the Marines who fought at Belleau Wood a century ago. We pay highest tribute to the sacrifices they made and the remarkable warrior spirit they embodied. Few battles bond Marines so tightly to our Corps’s history. It is a great privilege to carry on the legacy Marines forged at Belleau Wood. May we never forget the price of freedom and the warriors who have paid that price in full
3. Semper Fidelis, Robert B. Neller, General, U.S. Marine Corps, Commandant of the Marine Corps.//

Before World War I, the Marine Corps was a relatively small force that specialized in protecting U.S. interests abroad or performing security duties on military bases. Army General Pershing was skeptical of their ability to serve as a major ground force going up against the German army. The Marine history was based on the Halls of Montezuma and the Shores of Tripoli. It was their tenacity that stood out above all else.

The Marines were itching to get into the fight, eager to prove they were more than just a constabulary force with fancy uniforms. “This was a defining moment for the Marine Corps.”



Today not one World War I Marine veteran remains; they have all passed into history. Their stories that have been retold over the decades regarding the Marines at Belleau Wood are legendary and have always encapsulated the resolve of Marines in combat.

Belleau Wood is synonymous with Iwo Jima, Tarawa, the Chosin Reservoir, the Battle of Hue City, and Fallujah, among many other battles in leatherneck history.

Belleau Wood is considered the most important because it was the first demonstration of this tenacity in combat. This was a Marine Corps that had yet to be tested, one that could have followed the lead of European forces in the face of destruction and literally retreated.

Belle Wood was where a young Lemuel Shepherd and a youthful Second Lieutenant Clifton B. Cates, first saw action.

Captain Lloyd Williams (posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross) was also there and when he was ordered to retreat by a French officer in the face of incoming fire, uttered the now legendary phrase: "Retreat? Hell, we just got here!"

The Germans are quoted as saying: "The Marines do not understand this 'live and let live' attitude exuded by the French, they simply wanted to 'kill Germans.'" A very frustrated French officer said at the time, "They were irrepressible! They climbed like cats into the highest trees 'to kill the Germans and began to fire on the enemy sentries or on the German platoons running between the first and second line of trenches."

Let me give you just a short summary of the battle.

Many consider the Battle of Belleau Wood the defining event in the history of the U.S. Marine Corps, the Corps' first large-scale engagement. This battle is also a basis of Marine mythology, popularly known as the fight in which the Marines—outnumbered and poorly supported by the French forces to which they were attached—almost single-handedly prevented the capture of Paris by a German army intent on destroying the French capital.

In June of 1918, the Germans launched their Spring Offensive, which came very close to breaking the lines that protected major allied cities like Paris. The German Seventh Army was driving southward from the Chemin des Dames toward Paris on 31 May 1918.

At 1700 on June 6, 1918, the 4th Marine Brigade—comprising the 5th and 6th Marine Regiments and the 6th Machine Gun Battalion— attacked into the densely wooded former hunting preserve near the French village of Belleau to push back elements of the German 237th Division. But the commander of the French 21st Corps who had ordered the attack had totally underestimated the hold the Germans had on the woods and consequently failed to support the Marines with sufficient heavy artillery.

The fighting was relentless, much of it was at close quarters and involved bayonets, knives, and even fists. Marine Corps marksmen earned legendary status by picking off German machine gunners while the infantry continued to advance despite heavy losses and French urges to retreat. The Americans launched six attacks before the Germans were finally expelled. The attacks produced a fury of heroism and sacrifice that remain fixed as the high point of valor in the history of the American Expeditionary Forces and the Marine Corps in World War I.



By the end of the first day the Marines had suffered 1,087 dead or wounded, more casualties than the Corps had taken thus far in its 143-year history (the highest in U.S. Marine Corps history until the Battle of Tarawa in 1943). The Marines kept fighting, however, and by June 26 they had secured Belleau Wood.

In less than a month, the Germans had lost a very strong and strategically important position. The Marines had proved conclusively they could engage and defeat soldiers from one of the world's best armies.

As is often the case with epic and heroic battles, Belleau Wood spawned many legends. For example, the Marines' semi-official nickname "Devil Dogs" supposedly came from the term Teufel Hunden, given them by the Germans they faced in France.

The only thing that drove those Marines through those woods in the face of such resistance was their individual guts and their training.

The battle was over.

In recognition of their service and sacrifice, the French renamed Belleau Wood the "Bois de la Brigade de Marine"—Wood of the Marine Brigade—and in recognition of the "brilliant courage, vigor, spirit, and tenacity of the Marines", the French government awarded Marine units at Belleau Wood the French Croix de guerre With Two Palms And One Gilt star, allowing the members to wear a Croix de guerre Fourragère.

It is difficult to overstate the significance of Belleau Wood. Over one thousand Americans lost their lives during the battle. The Marine Corps Rifleman achieved legendary status and came to be known as the "most dangerous weapon in the world."

The battle of Belleau Wood solidified the notion that America not only could get involved, but was damn good at it and should remain a major factor from that point forward.

By every tactical measure of the time the Marines should have been annihilated; but they weren't. They overcame tremendous odds they persevered, and they won. "It really is fair to compare the Marines to the ancient "Spartans at Thermopylae," - A very small group of dedicated warriors stopped a superior force."

And the battle was significant for another reason. It established the Marines as a major force capable of sustained ground operations.

Belleau Wood became "synonymous with self-sacrifice and a reference point by which to judge all events," not only in the lives of the surviving Marines, but in all our lives.



William Trammell

**Vice President Los Angeles Chapter #8
Montford Point Marines Association**

wmtrammell@twc.com

Marines,

Our Los Angeles Chapter #8 has a robust schedule of events coming up over the coming months that I want to share with you.

The first is the upcoming 53rd Annual National Convention of the Montford Point Marine Association held in Jacksonville, NC during the week of 25-29 July 2018. If you plan to attend, please visit our Web site at www.montfordpointmarines.org/convention/ to register. While reservations at the Hilton Gardens Inn Jacksonville are sold out, please try the Hampton Inn and Suites Jacksonville at 844-219-8504. I would suggest that convention registration should be made as soon as possible.

Again, we are proud to announce that the final preparations have been made for the 53rd National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc. Convention. The convention will consist of meetings and planning for the coming year. We will revisit the City of Jacksonville, North Carolina for the Memorial Gifting Ceremony to take place at 8 a.m. on Wednesday July 25, 2018 at the Montford Point Marine Memorial site in the Lejeune Memorial Gardens on Hwy 24, Jacksonville, North Carolina. The gifting ceremony will allow the National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc. to formally transfer responsibility of the Memorial to the Secretary of the Navy.

In addition, The Congressional Gold Medal presentation will take place during the President’s Reception at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at the Hilton Gardens Inn, located at 1016 Jacksonville Parkway, Jacksonville, North Carolina. The Congressional Gold Medal will be awarded to several of the Original Montford Point Marines, those who actually went through Boot Camp during the period from 1942 through 1949 when the Montford Point Camp was closed. Please plan to join us as we acknowledge the contributions of these heroes and honor their dedicated service.

As the Vice President of Los Angeles Chapter #8, I am looking forward to attending and participating in the convention.

Second, below is the schedule of the Western Region Events and Special Projects list for 2018.

Lastly, is a flyer announcing our annual Chapter #8 MPMA Scholarship BBQ which will be held on August 5, 2018.

Semper Fi,

William M. Trammell
Vice President Los Angeles Chapter #8
Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.
(805) 512-2215



National Montford Point Marine Association Inc. (NMPMA)

Western Region

Los Angeles, San Diego, Okinawa, Oceanside Chapters

www.montfordpointmarines.org

Events & Special Projects For 2018

June 14, 2018	MCL The Wall City Hall @ 2 PM Fontana Ca.
June 16, 2018	NMPMA SD Chapter Business Meeting @10 AM
June 16, 2018	Juneteenth Celebration Downtown @ 10 AM Oceanside CA
June 16, 2018	NMPMA NEC Teleconference Call @11:00 AM
June 16, 2018	Flag Day Celebration @12 PM Orange Ca.
June 22, 2018	MCRD COC CG @10 AM as VIP Guest, San Diego Ca.
June 23, 2018	Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Breakfast @10 AM Torrance CA
June 23, 2018	NMPMA LA Chapter Board/Business Meeting at 11:00 A.M.
June 30, 2018	24 th Annual Independence Parade @ 10 AM Oceanside CA.
July 07, 2018	NMPMA OC Chapter Business Meeting @11 AM
July 19, 2018	MCLB Barstow Change of Command @ 8AM
July 21, 2018	NMPMA SD Chapter Business Meeting @ 10 AM
July 25-29, 2018	MPMA 53 rd NMPMA Convention Jacksonville NC.
July 28, 2018	NMPMA LA Chapter Board/Business Meeting at 11:00 A.M.
August 04, 2018	NMPMA OC Chapter Business Meeting @11 AM
August 5, 2018	MPMA LA BBQ Scholarship Fund Raiser @11AM
August 18, 2018	NMPMA SD Chapter Business Meeting @10 AM
August 18, 2018	NMPMA NEC Teleconference Call @11:00 AM
August 25, 2018	NMPMA LA Chapter Board/Business Meeting at 11:00 A.M.
August 30, 2018	30 th Women Marine Association Convention Washington DC
September 01, 2018	NMPMA OC Chapter Business Meeting @11 AM
September 15, 2018	NMPMA SD Chapter Business Meeting @10 AM
September 15, 2018	NMPMA NEC Teleconference Call @11:00 AM
September 22, 2018	N MPMA LA Chapter Board/Business meeting at 11:00 A. M.
October 15, 2018	NMPMA NEC Teleconference Call @11:00 AM
October 27, 2018	NMPMA LA Chapter Board/Business Meeting at 11:00 A. M.
November 03, 2018	NMPMA OC Chapter Business Meeting @11 AM
November 03, 2018	San Jose MC Birthday Ball @5 PM
November 2018	Fontana H. S. Marine Corps MCJROTC Birthday Ball @ 6 PM
November 10, 2018	Marine Corps Birthday Ball Las Vegas NV. @5:00 PM MCL
November 11, 2018	Veteran Day Celebration @ 11 A.M. Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills
November 11, 2018	City of Palms Springs Day Veteran Day Parade @ 3:30 P. M
November 17, 2018	MPMA LA Chapter Birthday Ball Luncheon in Carson Ca @ 11-4 PM
November 2018	MCB Barstow Marine Corps Birthday Ball @6 PM.
November 17, 2018	NMPMA SD Chapter Business Meeting @10 AM
November 17, 2018	NMPMA NEC Teleconference Call @11:00 AM
November 24, 2018	NMPMA LA Chapter Board/Business Meeting at 11:00 AM
December 2018	"Toys for Tots" Meeting/Drive
December 2018	Presentation Congressional Gold Medal OMP Mr. Murphy J. Jackson Jr.
December 15, 2018	Greenwood Mortuary @ 8 AM SD Ca
December 15, 2018	NMPMA NEC Teleconference Call @11:00 AM
December 25, 2018	Christmas (Thursday)



THE MONTFORD POINT MARINES, L.A. CH#8

“THE FIRST BLACK MARINES”

**INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR
FAMOUS 3 MEAT BBQ.**

SUN, AUGUST 5TH 2018.

**The AMERICAN LEGION
COMMUNITY POST#46**

At 5309 Sepulveda Blvd.

Culver City, 90230

IS OUR GRACIOUS HOST!

Only Limited Tickets at the Door

BBQ Served from 12N 'til 4PM

Meal includes, Ribs, Chicken, Hot
Links, and 2 sides for ONLY \$17.

**THESE CHARITY PROCEEDS WILL AID OUR
MPMA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

FOR TICKETS

IE DOBY, 909.936.3353

LA DAVE, 310.594.0599

OC LEON, 714.745.9718



Military Animal Project In The News

MILITARY ANIMAL PROJECT "MAP"

<http://militaryanimalproject.com>

formerly PETS FOR VETS VENTURA COUNTY "PFV VCC"

BY

Mardu Lydick

Mardu@militaryanimalproject.com.

Members of the 597,

I want to share our MAP story with you and how we touch the lives and emotions of Vets through what we do. MAP is a dedicated organization focused on helping Veterans in need of emotional support using support animals. We simplify the complexity of the emotional healing process for Vets needing emotional support therapy by using emotional support animals.

MAP is organized and exists to help Veterans. We can only continue our work through the generosity of our donors and the volunteers who care for the welfare of Vets like you. Please see our website <http://militaryanimalproject.com> for more information.

OUR STORY

With over 46,000 veterans living in Ventura County and an estimated 6,500 active members at Naval Base Ventura County, Military Animal Project (MAP) has a unique opportunity to positively impact the lives of many of our nation's heroes. Whenever possible, MAP works with animal rescue organizations and local shelters, such as Ventura County Animal Services, the Agoura Animal Shelter, and the LA County Department of Animal Care & Control to rescue, train and pair dogs with veterans suffering from PTSD or traumatic brain injury who could benefit from an Emotional Support Animal or Psychiatric Service Dog.



We are also affiliated with the Therapeutic Veteran Equine Program the “Veteran Barn Door Project,” and we provide certified Therapy Dogs to help facilitate Veteran’s therapy sessions. With our dedicated volunteer team, MAP is changing the lives of animals and veterans - one match at a time, healing Vets with Professionally Trained Pets. MAP serves the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Ventura and Woodland Hills.

WHO, WHAT AND HOW

Military Animal Project is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Southern California, as such MAP relies on volunteers and donations to keep our services to our Vets alive and to try and meet the growing need for help.

We provide military veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder PTS(d), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Anxiety and Depression comfort, support, companionship, and a means to heal through:

- Professionally trained emotional support or psychiatric service dog. The level to be determined on the recommendation of their therapist/doctor.
- Certified therapy dogs to help facilitate the veterans’ therapy sessions.
- An equine therapy program, on a scheduled basis, by partnering with an existing professional program.
- Pet support services
- Emergency pet support services

EXPANDED OUR SCOPE AND SERVICES

Whenever possible, MAP works with animal rescue organizations and local shelters, such as Ventura County Animal Services, the Agoura Animal Shelter, and the LA County Department of Animal Care & Control to adopt our dogs. We then train and pair dogs with veterans suffering from PTS(d) or traumatic brain injury (TBI) who could benefit from a professionally trained animal. With a dedicated volunteer team, MAP is changing the lives of animals and veterans, one match at a time. Again, MAP serves the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Pt. Mugu, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Ventura and Woodland Hills.





THE MAP PROGRAM

Therapy Dogs

MAP will offer Veterans “Certified Therapy Dog Services” to support them in therapy sessions, hospital visits and supportive events. The dogs will be tested, certified, registered, and insured with *Alliance of Therapy Dogs* (<https://www.therapydogs.com>), an established 28-year-old national organization.

Currently, Bob Horrell's dog, Paws, is certified with ATD and has been used in therapy applications. We currently have 2 other dogs along with their owners at MAP that will go through the ATD program to become therapy dogs.

ESA/Service Dog

Upon receiving a Veteran’s application for an ESA/Service Dog, it is thoroughly reviewed by the Director of Operations and an approval is sought from the Veteran’s therapist to ensure he or she is ready to care for a dog. Next, the trainer meets with the Veteran to assess his/her needs and dog preferences. With the assessment in hand, the trainer searches shelters and pet rescues to find the right breed, size, temperament and behavior that would be best suited for the Veteran. This part of the process could take a lot of time, because we need to evaluate if the dog has a pre-existing behavioral, aggression or anxiety issues that may need to be corrected before the training can commence. After the right dog is selected for the Veteran, the dog spends time with one of our trainers who teaches the pet basic obedience and other valuable behaviors needed to live with his/her new owner. Our trainers use positive reinforcement techniques to teach the dogs good manners, as well as, Canine Good Citizenship. Training also includes behaviors needed to help with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder – PTS(d) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), desensitization to wheelchairs or crutches, and recognizing and reacting to panic or anxiety disorder behaviors, to name a few.

Each Emotional Support Dog completes an extensive training process which can last up to 4 months, before the veteran and dog meet for the first time. Each dog is healthy, up to date on all vaccinations, spayed / neutered and microchipped. All expenses and out of pocket costs and fees from the adoption process, e.g. veterinary care, licensing, microchipping, and spaying/neutering are paid for by MAP. MAP also provides the veteran with a Welcome Package, valued at nearly \$500, which comes with pet necessities such as a collar, leash, bed, crate, toys, treats, grooming items, and more.

The support doesn’t end after the match. MAP trainers provide after-placement support and help veterans find reduced cost veterinary care and equipment. Needless to say, if the veteran ever has any questions or concerns about their dog, MAP is always available to help.

Because all our dogs are trained at ESA level, should a veteran require a *Psychiatric Service Dog*, additional training begins after the ESA dog has been matched with the Veteran. At this point, the Veteran, ESA dog and trainer work together to bring the training up to Service Dog level. This training can take up to a year to complete.

Therapy Equine Program

We are an affiliate of the Veteran Barn Door Project (<https://www.veteranbardoor.com>). This project was started by Steven DePalma, a 20-year Veteran who found the healing powers of Equine Therapy for his own PTS(d) and TBI. This equine program uses Natural Horsemanship to enable the Veteran to identify and address their internal issues of PTS(d)/TBI. This gives the East Coast based VBDP a West Coast presence by hosting/sponsoring the program twice a year at Bob & Linda Horrell's ranch in Acton, CA. These three-day clinics are free to veterans who are housed and fed at the ranch. The clinics are purposely kept small, 4 to 6



Veterans, to allow each veteran maximum time with the horses and clinicians. Many healing moments take place with the horses during the day followed by resultant conversations during the evening. This is when Veterans share their events of the day with clinicians, and how it affected the Veteran's issues. The Veteran's individual therapists are encouraged to attend and participate as well.

Bob & Linda Horrell have been hosting and sponsoring these clinics for the past two years and Paws, their therapy dog, is an important asset during these functions combining two of the services MAP offers. Bob also trained a dog "Mia" for Steven that accompanies him to all his clinics.

MAP will look to expand this program by selecting/approving a suitable ranch in Ventura County to host additional VBDP clinics.

Pet Support Services

Assisting the Military Veteran with various pet needs/support due to physical or financial hardships. *

Some of the services provided include:

- Emergency veterinary care
- Microchipping
- Vaccinations
- Pet relocation costs
- Temporary pet fostering/boarding

*All services are reviewed on a case by case basis.

If you would like to volunteer, please call or email Mardu Lydick at 805-551-1168 or Mardu@militaryanimalproject.com.

We are a non-profit and volunteer run 501(c)(3) organization that operates through the generosity of donors throughout our community!

Donations can be mailed to:
Military Animal Project
207 W. Los Angeles Ave, #123
Moorpark, CA 93021



Dr. Tony Saunders



CALL TO ACTION



Fellow Members

Another Marine informed me that Disneyland plans to use a prerecorded message during its flag ceremonies. GySgt Ernie Napper-USMC (retired) has been at Disneyland for many years as a Security Officer, but he's better known for his inspirational narrative when taking down the flag at the evening ceremony. He has single handedly given Veterans of all ages something to be really proud of. Now Disneyland, supposedly the "Happiest Place On Earth" is going to discontinue this ceremony in favor of a pre-taped message. Just another example of not having much pride in our flag. Remember, GySgt Napper is one of our own, a Detachment Member and he addressed our meeting early last year.

I have put together 3 points to help you write your letters:

1. We greatly appreciated the flag lowering ceremony where veterans were acknowledged and thanked for their service.
2. We are greatly disappointed that Disneyland has chosen to replace a live person with a recorded message of thanks.
3. We request that GySgt Nipper and/or other Disneyland Security Officers be allowed to continue the flag lowering ceremony and the live acknowledgement of veterans.

Please use your own words and thoughts, if you can, about what it means to you to be a Veteran.

Mail to: Disneyland Resort Guest Experience Services
PO Box 3232
Anaheim, CA 92803-3232

Semper Fi
Dr. Tony Saunders



MANAGING EDITOR

RICHARD FARRA

richfarra@gmail.com

818-470-3258 Mobile

The Deadline for Submitting Articles for July is July 10th!!!

I will be leaving for my vacation on the 13th of July, so, I need all articles for the Gipper no later than 6pm on the 10th of July. Anything from anybody submitting after that will NOT be included in the August release. Believe it or not, it takes about 20 plus hours to put this newsletter together every month, so please be on time. Thank you.

We should all be grateful for the dedication of all our members who actively participate in making this Detachment better every day, and to those who volunteer to help Vets outside of our Detachment.

Our Commandant has busted his butt to take this Detachment to the next level of public recognition, fundraising and community outreach. Ruy Peña and the members of the Color Guard detail have gained public notoriety through their participation in patriotic events. Matt Valenzuela is out there hunting for new members and speakers every month, as well as putting our Detachment in the lime light with the MCL Dept of California. Bradley Cantley is unbelievable in his ability to be involved with so many of our members who need our prayers and wishes, he is doing a fantastic job. Doc Honaker makes magic every year for our Detachment with his organization and leadership skills to put our annual birthday ball together. Valeria Galvan, Fausto's better half, is quiet, but works hard to bring us together as a big family every year with the annual picnic and BBQ. The list goes on, and my apologies to those who I did not mention.

Get involved and make a difference, if you haven't already.

Thank you

DEAR COMMANDANT

We need your ideas to make our detachment better. If you have ideas and/or gripes about our general meetings, events or whatsoever. Your Commandant wants to hear about them.

Like a shark, we must keep moving forward or we will die. We need your input to move forward and grow. For example, Dick Jennings suggested and executed on his idea for a Speakers' Bureau to share a Veteran's view of war to high school students. His idea is a positive community outreach idea and has had great reviews and demand for more presentations.

We want our members to share their thoughts, concerns and compliments to the Commandant. If there is something not done to one's expectations, please submit your ideas on how to resolve these issues and concerns. All correspondence will be kept confidential unless specified otherwise. Email me your ideas and thoughts to me, Richard Farra, Editor, at richfarra@gmail.com and I will forward them to the Commandant anonymously for his feedback and include them in the Gipper.



CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Matt E. Valenzuela

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310-768-2847 Office

310-308-7015 Mobile



MARINES, CORPSMEN AND ASSOCIATES,

Due to many people being away for the 4th of July holiday, the MCL Detachment 597 General Meeting has been moved to Thursday, 12 July 2018. I hope this does not inconvenience anyone.

As usual, it is Hamburger Night at the Elks Lodge on Kuehner in Simi Valley. If you are dining with us, we start ordering our supper at around 1800. The Meeting begins at 1900.

At the MCL Department of California 86th Annual Convention nominations were made and elections were held on Saturday, 16 June 2018.

The newly elected Board of Trustees and appointed Supporting Staff Officers for the Marine Corps League, Department of California are as follows:

ELECTED OFFICERS:

Commandant	Ray Valenzuela
Sr Vice Commandant	Matt E. Valenzuela
Jr Vice Commandant	Jim Loorya
Judge Advocate	Rod McKenzie

SUPPORTING STAFF OFFICERS:

Jr Past Commandant	Bob Villalobos
Adjutant	Jessica Montano
Paymaster	Gail Fernandez
Chaplain	Henry Rose, Jr.
Sgt at Arms	Mike Pelucca

ANCILLARY STAFF OFFICERS:

Budget	Todd Rehfuss
Captain of the Brush	Jessica Montano
Director of Veteran Services	Billy Wagsgter
Eagle Scout Liason	Steve Bosshard
Historian	Matt E. Valenzuela
Legislative Liason	Hank Pezzetti
PR/Information Officer	Mario Blandini
Web Sergeant	Mark Dennis
Young Marines Liason	Thomas Gates

REGIONAL COORDINATORS:

Region	
01	Ray Valenzuela
02	Jim Loorya
03	'Butch' Kille
04	Jess Fernandez
05	Max Hartley
06	Neal Schneider
07	Sam Castellon
08	Aaron Bazan
09	John Kagy
10	Juan Pascacio
11	Russ Lindquist
12	Vacant

NATIONAL OFFICES SOUTHWEST DIVISION:

National Vice Commandant	Richard Hoery
National Jr Past Commandant	Gene Rivers



Woof! Woof! Devil Dogs!!!

Congratulations to all Devil Pups that moved up to Devil Dogs at the 86th Annual Convention of the MCL Department of California.

To become a member of this fun and honor society, you must be active in the business and works of your Detachment. If you have been a member in Good Standing for at least one year, let your Commandant know of your wishes to become a Devil Pup. The Commandant then recommends you to the Pound Keeper if you qualify. You will be interviewed by two active Devil Dogs or Pedigreed Devil Dogs who will become your sponsors.

There were several additions to the Current Roster of the MODD California Pack for 2018-2019. See below:

Position	Name	Email Address	Phone Number
Pack Leader	PDD Aaron Bazan	abazam49@comcat.net	209 481 6923
Sr Vice Pack Leader	PDD Matt Valenzuela	mattval@aol.com	310 308 7015
Jr Vice Pack Leader	Pup Michael Rainwater	dvidawg6694	916 997 2309
Smart Dog	PDD Neal J Schmeider	captainusmc1968@yahoo.com	850 380 3478
Dog Robber	DD Todd Rehfuss	todd_rehfuss@hotmail.com	619 772 7686
Mad Dog	DD Jessica Montano	adjutant.ca.mcl@gmail.com	559 960 9939
Police Dog	DD Juan Pascacio	lcr.pascacio@gmail.com	323 404 3063
Dog Trainer	PDD Tom Shine	shine8758@frontiernet.net	916 681 9534
Watch Dog	PDD Fausto Galvan	fausto_galvan0471@Yahoo.com	818 259 2119
Barking dog	DD Ben Pfister	benpdef597@gmail.com	805 208 1095
Jr. Past Pack Leader	PDD Jess Fernandez	JessF57@aol.com	

Semper Fi,
Matt E. Valenzuela
Contributing Editor

SPEAKERS FOR THE JULY GENERAL MEETING

A few Marines recently went back to Vietnam on a Mission of Closure. They will be our Speakers at the July 12th meeting.

The two Marines speaking at the General Meeting are our own Member of the 597, Glen Griswold, and the other Marine is Bill Hutton, Past National Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and recently featured at Dodgers Opening Game.





PAYMASTER'S CORNER

ANDY DOBRZYNSKI

andydobrzynski@gmail.com

805-428-5902



Detachment Members,

Remember to keep your MCL membership current, if you have any questions regarding your membership status please see me at the next general meeting or contact me via email.

As a reminder you must show your membership card at the time of signing in before the general meeting.

Andy Dobrzynski
Paymaster

VERY HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS



- 11 - Mary 'Chris' Krone
- 11 - **William Noyes - Life Member**
- 11 - **David L. Revels - Life Member**
- 15 - **Taj O'Toole - Life Member**
- 20 - Thomas Hernandez
- 25 - **Godfrey Harris - Life Member**
- 26 - David 'Buggs' Ansell
- 26 - Carlos Navarro - Expired Membership (National Roster)
- 27 - Richard Farra
- 30 - Becky Theiler

NEW MEMBERS

Marine everywhere are home with the Corps. The Marine Corps League is the home again for Marine Veterans. So, if you see a Marine Vet, not hard to ID with all of the bumper stickers and EGA apparel, walk up to them and bring them home to the 597.



GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speakers for the June General meeting were Cheryl Morris from Reardon Simi Valley Funeral Home and Mardu Lydick, Co-founder of Military Animal Project, former known as Pets for Vets.

Cheryl Morris spoke on the importance of having a plan in place, regarding what your wishes would be upon your death. I have such a plan and whole heartedly agree it is something we should all have ready. If you have any questions regarding departure planning, she invites you to call her at 805-526-6677. Having a plan in place helps to take the stress and burden of your family to decide what you would have wanted. It's a good thing to do.



Mardu Lydick is the co-founder of Military Animals Project, former Pets for Vets. She explained that Pets for Vets was not structured and chartered as a non-profit to provide expanded scope of providing Emotional Service Animals used in emotional therapy. Under the new charter, MAP can raise money and provide ESAs to Vets as needed. You have probably already read MAP's story earlier in this newsletter. It's a wonderful cause with tremendous upside for our Vets, if you get a chance visit their website and find more info on them and maybe how you can help.





2018-2019 BOARD MEMBERS AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Rank or Title	Name	Phone	E-mail
Commandant	Richard A. Jennings	805-328-9817	MCL597Commandant@gmail.com
Sr. Vice Commandant	Harry Hodges	805-583-8951	Hodges1951@gmail.com
Jr. Vice Commandant	Ken "Doc" Honaker	805-416-4063	kdhonaker@gmail.com
Jr. Past Commandant	Jerry German	818-324-2338	jrgerman@sbcglobal.net
Judge Advocate	John Miller	805-581-5462	johnemillerusmc@gmail.com
Adjutant	John Coley	805-368-1086	w4simi@yahoo.com
Paymaster	Andy Dobrzynski	805-428-5902	andydobrzynski@gmail.com
Sergeant-at-Arms	Fausto Galvan	818-259-2119	Faustogalvan14@gmail.com
MODD Pound Keeper	Ben Pfister	805-208-1095	benpdet597@gmail.com
Corporal of the Guard	John Fuentes	805-485-4230	John.R.Fuentes@Nav.mil
Chaplain	Bradley Cantley	805-813-9667	bradleycantley@gmail.com
Color Guard Commander	Ruy Peña	818-912-9863	colorguard597@gmail.com
Color Guard Vice Commander	Fausto Galvan	818-259-2119	Faustogalvan14@gmail.com
Training Officer	Darrell Lee	818-304-3580	dardan226@hushmail.com
MC Birthday Ball Committee Chair	Ken "Doc" Honaker	805-416-4063	kdhonaker@gmail.com
Ship's Store Captain	Harry Hodges	805-583-8951	Hodges1951@gmail.com
Fundraising Chairman	Harry Hodges	805-328-9817	Hodges1951@gmail.com
2018 MCL Golf Tournament	Dick Jennings	805-328-9817	2018golftourney@gmail.com
Historian	John Miller	805-581-5462	johnemillerusmc@gmail.com
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Department of California Staff			
Dept of CA Sr Vice Commandant MODD CA Pack – Sr. Vice Pack Leader	Matt E. Valenzuela	310-308-7015	mattval@aol.com
VAVS MODD Dept. of CA Pack - Watch Dog	Fausto Galvan	818-259-2119	fausto_galvan471@yahoo.com



ATTENTION ON DECK

EMAIL ADDRESSES: If you did NOT receive this newsletter via email, it means your email isn't on the detachment roster. Please email Matt Valenzuela with your email address to: mattval@aol.com.

DD214 REPLACEMENT AND MILITARY MEDALS & AWARDS: Are you in need of a replacement DD214? Are you missing awards or medals and would like to get your records updated? Would you like to get the military records of a deceased next of kin? Please visit www.archives.gov/veterans/ to fill out the eVetRecs online system or download the SF180 form.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS: Members more than 6 months past due will no longer receive the newsletter and will be removed from the roster prior to publication. MCL National HQ requires a new application if a member is more than 12 months past due. To bring your dues up to date, contact the Paymaster. Renewal dues are \$40 per year, and due in September. New member dues are \$45. All new applicants for regular membership must be prepared to show proof of Honorable military service with a DD214.

MCL Det. #597 GENERAL MEETINGS

1st Thursday of each month

Simi Valley Elks Lodge #2492

1561 Kuehner Drive

Simi Valley, CA 93065

Meet and Greet 1800

Dinner 1800-1859

Meeting 1900

BOARD MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month from 1600-1800

US Bank Building

1445 East Los Angeles Avenue, Room 302

Simi Valley, CA 93065