

Leatherneck News

Southern Indiana Leatherneck Detachment #931

Upcoming Events

- 8 January 2009 – Marine Family Support Group meets at the Jasper American Legion 7 PM
- 10 January 2009—Toys For Tots Working Party, TFT Warehouse, 9 AM
- 15 January 2009—Regular Meeting of the Detachment. Jasper American Legion, 7 PM.
- 19 January 2009—Dubois County Veteran’s Council Meeting, 7PM, St. Anthony Legion

Flavius Rhodes

On December 11th, 2008, the Detachment paid final respects to one of its own, Flavius “Pete” Rhodes.

Pete, a charter and life member of the Detachment, served the Corps during WWII, participating in the island hopping campaign of the Pacific. Many Detachment members knew Pete because of his participation in the Pike County Independence Day parades in Otwell.

The ceremony for the deceased was conducted at the Otwell Methodist Church at the conclusion of services.

Of historical significance to the Detachment, a Marine Corps League Firing Detail consisting of Detachment members only was formed for the first time. The detail was manned by Pat Moriarty, John Wagner, Tim Rue, Ed Herzog, Steve Lindauer, Kyle Obermeier, and Allen Fritz and was commanded by Commandant Dave Englert.

Thanks to the assistance of American Legion Post 147, Jasper, M-1 Rifles and ammunition was drawn and a short rehearsal was conducted. Despite the differences in age and recent weapons experience among the members of the detail, “snap and pop” took little time to achieve. Wearing the formal red blazers which were acquired with a grant from the Dubois County Community Foundation, the detail looked and sounded like they had been performing together for years.

The crisp “Aim, Fire!” command was answered by an equally crisp volley of rifle shot three times. As the detail came to present arms, the Marines of K Company, Terre Haute performed taps and the folding and presentation of the flag.

The goal of the detail was to provide a professional and fitting show of respect to our fellow Marine. Mission accomplished.

January Initiation

Starting off the New Year with a bang, the Detachment will hold it’s initiation ceremony during the January 15th meeting. Regular and Associate members who have not participated in the ceremony are highly encouraged to attend this special event. Friends and family of initiates are welcome to attend the ceremony.

The ceremony is a solemn event during which members are welcomed to the flock and provided instruction on the purpose and organization of the Marine Corps League. Overall, the process has many of the same characteristics as a “swearing in” ceremony.

Uniform for the event is Dress Blue Trousers/ White Shirt for regular members, if available, or black trousers/red polo. Associate members are asked to dress casual.

Officer Appointments

In order to fill vacancies in required Officer billets, the Commandant of the Detachment, Dave Englert made the following appointments to office during the December meeting.

Junior Vice Commandant Chad Mehringer accepted the billet as Detachment Judge Advocate and was relieved as Junior Vice Commandant.. The primary responsibility of the Judge Advocate is to maintain cognizance over League Bylaws and to advise the Commandant in matters covered by the bylaws.

Marine Ed Herzog was appointed as the new Junior Vice Commandant and accepted. The primary responsibility of the Junior Vice is membership.

In accordance with Marine Corps League National By-laws these appointments will remain in effect until the next installation of elected officers.

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Commandant's Corner

It's time to hit the ground running! Or at least get ready for our 5 K Run. Sponsor lists, instructions and sponsor letters will be passed out during the January meeting. It's important to contact sponsors as early as possible this year to allow time for them to budget.

The January meeting will also be initiation night as we invite those who haven't been initiated to join us for the night. As some of you know, the decision was made more than a year ago to conduct a special initiation rather than attempt to squeeze it into meeting time each time a new member joined. Bring your cameras!

We're also ready to make donations of the book "Doc" to our local high schools. I'll provide a list of schools and ask for volunteers to assist at the next meeting.

The cover story this month is about an historic event. The Detachments first Firing Detail. It is indeed a great achievement to have been able to provide this detail for one of our own, but it important that we note the contributions of our supporters who made it possible. First, the American Legion which provided the weapons. Next, the DCCF, which blessed us with a generous grant with which to purchase the ceremonial uniforms. Finally, we must recognize our employers who allow us to take the time away from work to practice and perform. I ask each of you to help me identify those outside of our detachment who deserve recognition. Drop me an email with a name, point of contact, etc. We would not be able to accomplish our mission without the aid of others.

Finally, I'd like to thank and congratulate Judge Advocate Chad Mehringer and Junior Vice Commandant Ed Herzog for filling their respective posts. Both positions are vital to the Detachment.

Marine Corps History—Who Said It?

"That two battalions of Marines be raised consisting of one colonel, two lieutenant colonels, two majors and officers as usual in other regiments, that they consist of an equal number of privates with other battalions; that particular care be taken that no person be appointed to office or enlisted into said battalions, but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve to advantage by sea."

(Resolution of the Continental Congress, 10 November 1775.)

"The Continental ship Providence, now lying at Boston, is bound on a short cruise, immediately; a few good men are wanted to make up her complement."

(Marine Captain William Jones, Providence Gazette, 20 March 1779.)

"A ship without Marines is like a garment without buttons."

(Admiral David D. Porter, USN, 1863.)

"The Marines have landed and have the situation well in hand."

(Attributed to many sources and popularized by the correspondent Richard Harding Davis during the late nineteenth-century.)

"To our Marines fell the most difficult and dangerous portion of the defense by reason of our proximity to the great city wall and the main city gate. . . The Marines acquitted themselves nobly."

(Mr. Edwin N. Conger, U.S. Minister, in commending the Marines for the defense of the legations at Peking, China, in 1900.)

"Your Marines having been under my command for nearly six months, I feel that I can give you a discriminating report as to their excellent standing with their brothers of the army and their general good conduct."

(General John J. Pershing, USA, in a letter to Major General

Commandant George Barnett, USMC, 10 November 1917.)

"Retreat Hell! We've just got here!"

(Attributed to several World War I Marine Corps officers, Belleau Wood, June 1918.)

"Once a Marine, always a Marine!"

(MSGT Paul Woyshner, a 40-year Marine, is credited with originating this expression during a taproom argument with a discharged Marine.)

"Come on, you sons of bitches-do you want to live forever?"

(Attributed to Gunnery Sergeant Daniel Daly, USMC, Belleau Wood, June 1918.)

"I have only two out of my company and 20 out of some other company. We need support, but it is almost suicide to try to get it here as we are swept by machine gun fire and a constant barrage is on us. I have no one on my left and only a few on my right. I will hold."

(First Lieutenant Clifton B. Cates, USMC, 96th Co., Soissons, 19 July 1918.)

"They (Women Marines) don't have a nickname, and they don't need one. They get their basic training in a Marine atmosphere, at a Marine Post. They inherit the traditions of the Marines. They are Marines."

(Lieutenant General Thomas Holcomb, USMC 1943.)

"Goddam it, you'll never get the Purple Heart hiding in a fox-hole! Follow me!"

Marine Corps History—Who Said It? (cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

(Captain Henry P. "Jim" Crowe, USMC, Guadalcanal, 13 January 1943.)

"Casualties many; Percentage of dead not known; Combat efficiency; we are winning."

(Colonel David M. Shoup, USMC, Tarawa, 21 November 1943.)

"The raising of that flag on Suribachi means a Marine Corps for the next 500 years."

(James Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy, 23 February 1945.)

"Among the men who fought on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor

was a common virtue."

(Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, USN, 16 March 1945.)

"The bended knee is not a tradition of our Corps."

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

"I have just returned from visiting the Marines at the front, and there is not a finer fighting organization in the world."

(General Douglas MacArthur, USA, outskirts of Seoul, 21 September 1950.)

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Toys for Toys — Another Completed Mission State Legislative Affairs (Indiana)

Concerns about the impact of a difficult economy were put to rest as the 2008 TFT Campaign came to a close. Although spending slightly outpaced contributions, TFT Chairman Pat Moriarty says it was a "pretty normal to maybe a bit above" year.

This year's campaign kicked off with the placement of collection boxes in several dozen locations on the 14th of November. Weekly work evenings were scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays with volunteers from the Detachment and the Marine Family Support group, sorting, organizing, and preparing thousands of toys for distribution. Numerous organizations through Dubois and adjacent counties were scheduled for pickup throughout the weeks and weekends.

A new feature of this year's campaign was the introduction of the American Red Cross taking over the job of qualifying individuals. Through the efforts of Tina Dearing and Red Cross Volunteers, alone, 980 toys were distributed to 490 children of 156 families in 8 counties.

This year, collection boxes saw a total of 2,076 toys dropped off, which were combined with purchased toys. Complete numbers for this year's campaign are still being tabulated, so a complete count was not available at time of print.

On next year's agenda is an effort to continue extending cross talk with NGO/PVO's such as the Red Cross to streamline the qualification process and to get the word out.

TFT Chairmen Pat Moriarty and Allen Fritz wish to thank all of those who volunteered their time and labor to bring another successful year to close and to brighten the Christmas season to those less fortunate.

As a reminder, each year extra toys are kept on hand throughout the year to aid in the event of home fires or natural disasters and for placement in hospitals, ambulances, fire trucks, police cars, schools and churches.

Several bills introduced this year would expand benefits offered to military veterans and their families.

Sen. Mike Delph, R-Carmel, authored two bills to improve benefits for those who served in the military.

One bill eventually exempts veterans from paying state income taxes.

Under Senate Bill 70, in 2009, the current \$5,000 exemption would increase to \$10,000, followed by \$15,000 in 2011, and \$25,000 in 2013. If passed, this would provide total exemption for veterans by 2015.

The second bill, S.B. 39, would offer free tuition for all Purple Heart recipients to attend state-sponsored schools.

"This [bill] is a nice gesture to those not treated as well in the past. those who took a bullet for our country," Delph said.

Purple Heart recipients who entered the military after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks already receive free tuition. S.B. 39 would expand the free tuition offer by making it available to all veterans, not just those who signed up for military service after that date.

Sen. Vi Simpson, D-Bloomington, has introduced a bill that would create a scratch-off lottery game. Under S.B. 119, proceeds of that game would go to support veterans and their families.

The game would run once a year around a patriotic holiday or during the election season. The tickets would be in addition to other lottery games, and all proceeds would go directly to veterans and their families.

"These [lottery tickets] would be reserved for those feeling patriotic and who want to support their country," said Simpson.

Apply

Postage

*Southern Indiana Leatherneck Detachment
#931*

Southern Indiana Leathernecks
Marine Corps League
P.O. Box 184

Once a Marine, Always a Marine

Please deliver to:

WWW.SILDMARINES.COM

Marine Corps History—Who Said It? (Cont'd)

"Retreat Hell! We're just attacking in another direction."

(Attributed to Major General Oliver P. Smith, USMC, Korea, December 1950.)

"You don't hurt 'em if you don't hit 'em."

(Lieutenant General Lewis B. Puller, USMC, Marine, 1962.)

"Being ready is not what matters. What matters is winning after you get there."

(Lieutenant General Victor H. Krulak, USMC, April 1965.)

"The Marine Corps is proud of the fact that it is a force of combined arms, and it jealously guards the integrity of its air-ground team."

(General Keith B. McCutcheon, USMC, Naval Review, 1971.)

"I still need Marines who can shoot and salute. But I need Marines who can fix jet engines and man sophisticated radar sets, as well."

(General Robert E. Cushman, Jr., USMC, 17 May 1974.)

"I can't say enough about the two Marine divisions. If I use words like brilliant, it would really be an under-description of the absolutely superb job they did in breaching the so-called impenetrable barrier. . . Absolutely superb operation, a textbook, and I think it'll be studied for many, many years to come as the way to do it."

(General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, USA, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 27 February 1991.)

Detachment Officers:

Commandant:

Dave Englert 812-357-2792

Senior Vice Commandant:

Patrick Moriarty 812-695-5061

Chaplain

John Wagner 812-683-4997

Jr. Vice Commandant

Ed Herzog 812-695-3115

Paymaster and Web Sergeant

Tina Moriarty 812-695-5061

Adjutant

Dennis Englert 812-482-2987

Judge Advocate

Chad Mehringer

Public Affairs Officer

Steve Lindauer 812-634-9685

Sgt. at Arms

Allen Fritz 812-683-2192

Historian

Dave Englert

Quartermaster

Tim Rue 757-880-3138