

# Leatherneck News

## Southern Indiana Leatherneck Detachment #931

### Upcoming Events

- 3-4 November—Marine Rose Program.
- 9 November—9 AM Ball Decorating.
- 9 November—6 PM Ball Rehearsal.
- 10 November—2 PM, Veterans Day program, Huntingburg VFW
- 10 November— 6 PM Marine Corps Ball, Jasper Inn
- 15 November—Regular Meeting, Jasper American Legion, 7 PM
- 17 November—Toys for Tots drop boxes out.

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## Detachment and Family Support Group Enjoys Silent Drill Platoon

Over fifty members of the Marine Family Support Group and the Detachment met on the morning of 7 October and climbs aboard a tour bus bound for Scottsburg. This tour was made possible largely through the efforts of Joe Bruggenschmidt and Pat Moriarty. Traveling through the twists and turns through French Lick and beyond provided a scenic tour. As is natural when Marines get together, there was some good old fashioned horseplay. (We swear there was a squirrel in the road!)

Despite the heat, no complaints were heard as the group took their reserved seats in the gymnasium. The group, as well as other veterans, received recognition during the opening ceremonies.

The United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon is a 24-man rifle platoon that performs a unique precision drill exhibition. This highly disciplined platoon exemplifies the professional-



7 October 2007—The Silent Drill Platoon wowed the crowd with over 21 routines such as the squad countermarch.

ism associated with the United States Marine Corps.

The Silent Drill Platoon first performed in the Sunset Parades of 1948 and received such an overwhelming response that it soon became a regular part of the parades at Marine Barracks, Washington, DC.

The Marines execute a series of calculated drill movements and precise han-

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## Marine Corporal Receives Medals—56 Years Late

On Monday, October 8th, a great injustice was corrected. During a fitting ceremony, Corporal Joe Bruggenschmidt, a Korean War Marine, was presented The Purple Heart – for injuries sustained in September, 1951 while engaged in combat operations in the Republic of Korea, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Presidential Unit Commendation, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal (regular) w/1 Star, the Republic

of Korea War Service Medal, the United Nations Korean Service Medal, and the Presidential Unit Citation – The Republic of Korea. This ceremony was made possible through the combined efforts of Detachment members and Congressman Hill's staff.

Enlisting in the United States Marine Corps January 4, 1951, Joe served in Company F, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division. De-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Commandant's Corner

With the Ball just around the corner, excitement is high. The Ball Committee has been working furiously to make this ball the best possible. A special thanks to the Committee consisting of Pat Moriarty, Dennis Englert, Betty Dee, Linda Lueken, Cathy Fromme, Jerry Reller, John Wagner, Cindy Hembree, and Tina Moriarty for giving up so much of their time and energy. I would also like to congratulate our newly elected Paymaster, Tina Moriarty, and Junior Vice Chad Mehringer. They both have important jobs in the detachment.

Over the last several months I've had the opportunity to work on a few projects which really show that the detachment is ac-

complishing its primary mission. The first, with the help of Pat O'Keefe was the submission for the National Americanism Award. After completing the three page questionnaire documenting our accomplishments, we backed it up with photos, narratives, and newspaper articles. The second, a DVD presentation showing the Detachment functions over the last 18 months was an emotional journey through our triumphs and tragedies. There are numerous pictures which will bring a smile to your face and a few that may bring a tear. The music background is broad enough to satisfy pretty much any musical taste. Because of copyright restrictions, the DVD will only be available for donations.

Finally, as we close out this year, I would be remiss not to mention some of our greatest triumphs. For the first time in Dubois County history, a Marine was selected for the Deceased Veteran Award. A Marine also was selected for the Living Veteran Award in the same year! Perhaps, with some luck and literary skills, a Marine may garner the 2008 awards. Happy Birthday Marines!



## It's Toys for Tots Time!

Toys for Tots Chairman Pat Moriarty and Assistant Chairman Allen Fritz have been busy getting ready for this year's campaign. Having attended this year's National Convention, Pat has the newest information available, as well as new guidelines. This year will require a bit more vigilance to ensure that toys recalled for lead don't make it through the distribution point.

This year's storage unit is located at Kunkel Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning, 2528 Cathy Lane in Jasper. The TFT entrance is on the northeast side of the building and is well marked. As in past years, a schedule will be set for volunteers to work at

the storage unit.

This year's campaign will start with the setting of drop boxes on November 17th at designated locations and will continue until December 15th, when all boxes and toys are returned to the storage unit. It is important that those who have volunteered to handle drop boxes stop by frequently to check on them. The vast majority of the toys are needed for distribution well ahead of Christmas. Requests for information and questions about Toys for Tots should be directed to either Pat or Allen.

## Marine Corporal Receives Medals—56 Years Late (Contd)

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ployed to the Republic of Korea as an ammunition carrier for a machine gun squad. In September 1951, on Hill 812, as a Corporal, he and three other Marines were hit by Chinese Mortar, with Joe sustaining wounds to his arm, hand, and face. While recovering from his injuries, Joe was assigned as the Company radioman, a position he held until his release from active duty.

Returning to the states, Joe remained in the Marine Corps Reserve from 1952 until 1960. Joe fulfilled his dream of becoming a forester after graduating from Purdue University with a degree in forestry. Continuing to serve his fellow citizens, Joe entered politics, serving a total of 16 years in the Indiana House of Representatives and the Indiana Senate.

Joe is an active member in the Southern Indiana Leatherneck Detachment of the Marine Corps League.

He can be found at nearly every event, volunteering numerous hours in fund raising and social functions. Joe's favorite time of year is during the Toys for Tots Campaign, when he spends an enormous amount of time traveling to find contributors and children in need. He participates fully in the monumental task of organizing and packaging toys for distribution. His presence and participation is an example to others. In recognition of his continued service, Joe was nominated for and will be presented the 2007 Dubois County Living Veteran Award. This year's ceremony will be held at the Huntingburg VFW Post on 10 November at 2:00 PM. This will be the first time that a Marine has been presented this award and it is especially fitting that the presentation occurs on the birthday of the Marine Corps.

## Silent Drill Platoon(Cont'd)

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ding of their hand-polished, 10 and one-half pound, M-1 Garand rifles with fixed bayonets. The routine concludes with a unique rifle inspection sequence demonstrating elaborate rifle spins and tosses.

These Marines are individually selected from the Schools of Infantry located in Camp Pendleton, CA and Camp Lejuene, NC from interviews conducted by Barracks personnel. Once selected, Marines



7 October 2007—After the thrilling performance of the Platoon, members took a short tour of the Scott County Veterans Memorial.



7 October 2007—“Bristling with Bayonets!” The Platoon forms a defensive circle which is featured on posters.

are assigned to Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C. to serve a 2-year ceremonial tour. Beyond their ceremonial duties, the Marines collaterally train in the field as infantrymen. Throughout the year, these Marines hone their infantry skills at the Marine Corps Combat Development Command in Quantico, VA and other bases.

Having thoroughly enjoyed the performance, members climbed aboard the bus and headed to the steakhouse for an evening meal. Before heading for home, one more stop was made to the Scott County Veterans Memorial, a wonderful tribute to that county's veterans.

## Detachment Receives Awards at Fall Conference

Good fortune fell upon the Detachment again during the Department of Indiana Fall Conference. During the 13-14 October Conference, On behalf of the Detachment, Senior Vice Commandant Pat Moriarty received the National Junior Vice Commandant's Award and an Honorable Mention in the Americanism category for company sized detachment.

The National Junior Vice Commandant's Award is given to those detachments maintaining 100% membership throughout the year. The award, in the form of a pendant, will be placed upon our unit colors during this year's Marine Corps League Ball. This award was presented to less than 5 detachments in the Department of Indiana.

The Americanism Award is the most distinguished award the winning Detachment can obtain that shows their hard work and Esprit de Corps. It exemplifies the dedication and contribution to the strength and integrity of our beloved Marine Corps League and is dedicated to all the members of the winning Detachment. The Southern Indiana Leatherneck Detachment was the only Detachment in the Department to receive this award.

## Detachment DVD Available

Because of the generous donation of photographs from members and the accomplishments of the Detachment over the last year, a digital photo album of the Detachment's functions from May 2006 through October 2007 has been created. The DVD Video consists of over 800 frames set to music. Photos of each event are preceded with a detail sheet giving the What, Where, and When of each event. Running roughly 28 minutes, the video details, without words, the stunning accomplishments of the Detachment and the Marine Family Support Group.

The DVD will be available at the Marine Corps Ball with a suggested donation of \$20 to cover minimal production costs, with remaining funds donated to the Marine Corps Ball Fund. This fund has been established to fund shortfalls from this year's Ball and to provide startup funds for next year's Ball. If you would like a copy of the DVD, but are not coming to the Ball, please email a request to marines@psci.net or snail mail a request to Southern Indiana Leatherneck Det. 931, PO Box 184, Jasper, IN 47547-0184.

Apply  
Postage  
Here

*Southern Indiana Leatherneck  
Detachment #931*

Southern Indiana Leathernecks  
Marine Corps League  
P.O. Box 184  
Jasper, Indiana 47547-0184  
Phone: 812-357-2792  
Email: marines@psci.net

**Once a Marine, Always a Marine**

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## The Marine Corps Ball—A Primer (Part III—The Meal and afterwards)

The ceremony has concluded and you find yourself surrounded by glasses and silverware. What to do? An easy rule of thumb for silverware is to start on the outside and work your way in with each course. Silverware at the top of your plate is for dessert. But all of those pesky glasses! Each table will have a bottle of red and a bottle of white. Typically the glass nearest the edge of the table is for water, with the next glass used to dinner wine. A third glass, not always present is used for toasting. When you first sit at your table, you'll see all the silverware, glasses, rolls, a souvenir glass, and a program. Once the ceremony concludes, salads will be placed before you. Next comes the main course of Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu (or a special dietary requirements meal). Red wine compliments the Prime Rib, while white wine is preferable for the Cordon Bleu. Don't worry about wine etiquette though; drink whichever wine you prefer! After the main course, it's time to sit back and enjoy a piece or two of birthday cake. If you're wearing size 32 "maypops", you're probably getting

pretty uncomfortable by now! Coffee will be served upon request. During the dinner, background music will be played, but low enough to allow normal conversation at the table. After an appropriate time, the signal for "let's party!" will be given. Here are some things to look for during the night:

1. "Carrier Qualls" - This practice was created by "airedales" for their own amusement. Quite simply, it consists of a long row of tables and two or more drunken Marines, sometimes assisted by our Navy brethren. The larger the collection of items on the table, the higher the qualification of the pilot as he or she "lands". Caution: should not be attempted by "grunts".
2. "The Dead Bug" - Not unique to the Marine Ball, but still funny if drunk. Leaves interesting patterns on the back of Blues.
3. "The Spastic Dancer" - Not to be confused with the Dead Bug. Simply a dance routine which leaves you wondering if medical assistance is required! Happy Birthday Marines.

### 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**  
Chad Mehringer  
**Paymaster**  
Tina Moriarty 812-695-5061  
**Adjutant**  
Dennis Englert 812-482-2987  
**Judge Advocate**  
Jeramey Osborne 812-295-6005  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
Steve Lindauer 812-634-9685  
**Sgt. at Arms**  
Allen Fritz 812-683-2192  
**Historian**  
Pat O'Keefe 812 630-2567  
**Quartermaster**  
Tim Rue 757-880-3138