

Semper Fi News

For Marines and FMF Corpsman of the Greater Ogden Area

Volume 2 Issue 4

April 1, 2007



Detachment Officers

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Officer Nominations held in March Meeting

March 21, Officer nominations were made and the new officer candidates are as follows:

Commandant: Bobby Poe

Sr. Vice Commandant: Ben Setter

Jr. Vice Commandant: Ken Hipwell

Adjutant/Paymaster: Cindy Davidson

All officer's positions are open for nomination at the April meeting. You can still be nominated for the above positions or the following positions:

Judge Advocate

Sergeant-at-Arms

Chaplain

Our incumbent Judge Advocate, Vern Wade, was

not able to attend March's meeting, but later expressed an interest in continuing to be the Judge Advocate.

We will open nominations for officers during the April meeting. They will then be closed and elections begin.

Another New Member

We'd like to welcome Richard Wheelock to our detachment. Dick joined the Corps just after WWII and managed to catch the Korean conflict.

If we but get one new member a month it will be 12 new members per year. If we EACH bring in a new member, that would be an additional 30 members this year. Can we do it? Darn right we can!

April Meeting is the 18th at 1900 at the Clearfield American Legion Post, 345 South Depot Street.

Help Us Save \$\$\$\$\$

If you would like us to email a copy of this newsletter to you or you would prefer to pick it up off our website, please let us know. We can save \$.39 per copy, plus paper and ink costs if you get this newsletter that way. You can email us at newsletter@ogdenmarines.org or call us at (801) 733-7145 and leave a message. Thanks, Ben

Got News?

Any Information for this newsletter? Contact me at: Mail: Ben Setter, 3848 Prestwick Dr., Syracuse, UT 84075. Email: ben_setter@ogdenmarines.org. or you can fax it to me at (801)773-7145. By the way, I'm still looking for help.

“Grunts, just the way we are... and with apologies to anyone.”

Many of us will likely not get a chance to see the museum in person but this narrative gives you a good idea of the displays and the continued understated attitude by Marines.

The National Museum of the Marine Corps shows you the Marine Corps as it is, which is mostly enlisted men, anonymous grunts, and war as it is, dirty,

crazy and endless.

No victory parades up the Champs-Elysees or down Fifth Avenue through the tickertape, not full-dress

Surrenders, no girls kissing Marines at war's end, no wreaths, triumphal arches, reflecting pools or any of the World War II Memorial stuff on the (Continued Page 2)

Rocky Mountain Division Conference

The Rocky Division Conference will be hosted by the Albuquerque Detachment of the Department of New Mexico this year.

Information on the 2007 Rocky Mountain Division, MCL Conference is now available for download on the Rocky Mountain Division Web site. www.mcleaguerckymntdiv.org.

Please inform your Officers and detachments that it is available. If you are planning to attend, hotel reservations need to be made by 25 June, 2007. When you are calling for hotel reservations please state that you are with the Marine Corps League

Department of Utah Convention in June

The Lt. Serge B. Simmons detachment will not be hosting the 2007 Department of Utah Convention, after all. Through a series of mix-ups the site we had picked found they had already had a wedding planned for that date, a small room was offered, but, unfortunately it was too small. The Convention will be Saturday, June 2 in Salt Lake City. Everyone plan on attending and see how much larger we have grown in a years time..

Grunts (from page 1)

Mall, no generals holding binoculars with one hand and pointing over the battlefield with the other, not that many officers at all, really. And just about no ideology about freedom, America the beautiful or making the world safe for democracy.

A staff sergeant named Steven Sullivan, one of the builders of the exhibits, last week stood inside the big circular hall that holds fighter planes and displays, which include a helicopter disgorging troops in Korea and Marines hitting the beach at Tarawa. He summed up the ethos of the whole 118,000 square feet of the place: "No

Grandiosity, no heroic garbage."

One doesn't think of the marine Corps shrinking from advertising its glamour: the Iwo Jima flag-raising monument, those grandiose TV ads with knights, dragons and swords, and the bumper sticker braggadocio: "Marines — when It Absolutely, Positively Has to Be Destroyed Overnight." And there's the 210-foot spire that slants over the museum in unavoidable line-of-sight of travelers driving on Interstate 95 past the Marine base at Quantico.

The museum itself, however, is not about glamour; it's about the Marine mystique. And despite the glamour created by supremely adroit Marine public relations, the mystique is founded on — of all things — a willful and even perverse modesty.

Not the modesty of Spartans or kamikazes, or the French Foreign legion parading at a half-time funeral step with leather aprons and axes, but a pristine and hard-eyed dirt-farm stinginess, a nearly lost American poor-but-proud aesthetic that makes Marines enjoy their belief that they're always fighting with hand-me-down equipment and not enough troops. There are also the casualties that provoke the perverse Marine boast that the corps is the finest machine ever developed for the killing of young American men. A friend of mine once heard a Marine colonel say to an Army colonel: "The Army uses tanks to protect men. The Marines use men to protect tanks."

Hence, at the end of the museum's three most powerful displays — World War II, Korea and Vietnam — you see not jubilation in triumph but merely a list of Marine casualties, dead, wounded and missing. And carved into the stone of the entrance hall are the words of Sgt. Maj. Dan Daly, twice

a Medal of Honor recipient:

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

If you cannot savor this sort of irony and understand that it is irony, the Marine mystique will elude you. But like a beautiful woman, the Marine Corps is secretly delighted to think that you don't and can't understand it. Beyond that, it doesn't really care what you think.

A museum video screen shows a reporter in Vietnam talking to a Marine who just put himself under enemy fire, risked his life, to retrieve a dead man. "What possessed you to go out and get that body?" "He's a Marine." "What do you mean?" "I mean he's a Marine ... and I WILL take care of him."

Semper Fi, as we Marines say to each for the rest of our lives. It's short for Semper Fidelis, the Marine motto: Always Faithful. Fighting their way back from the Chosin reservoir in Korea — exhausted, under fire, sick, wounded and frostbitten — Marines walked so that their trucks could carry the dead, as if they believed that men die but Marines live forever, a bleak immortality akin to the Greeks' underworld; self-sacrifice but with none of the transcendence of martyrdom.

The point here is the admirable or at least intractable modesty — an arrogance of modesty — that creates the Marine mystique as marines know it and the museum shows it.

The mystique drives the Marine Corps and preserves its rituals, most important among them being in boot camp, which has not changed much in living memory, an initiation rite that begins with chaos and terror fomented by the rabid indignation of drill instructors at your trespass. It ends, months later, with a graduating

Grunts *(continued from page 2)*

Gliding across the drill field with the oblivious elegance of a ship sailing along a horizon.

The museum conveys the terror of the first days in boot camp by understatement. It plays the drill instructors' shouts (Louder! Louder! Look at the weapon! Shut your mouth!) at room-conversation volume and lets you amplify them in your mind.

You wander through the museum's dark and noisy labyrinths — the popping of helicopter blades, the artillery and machine-gun fire, bomb bursts, MOVE OUT! MOVE OUT!, landing craft engines grinding toward the beach of Iwo Jima,

Bugs Bunny singing "Any bonds today?" in a WWII cartoon, and phrases floating through the air from a thousand recorded recollections: now the Marines would get their chance ... like cattle in a slaughterhouse... we shall land... stench of rot...

You see medals and weapons collections and mannequins (Molded and placed by Staff Sgt. Sullivan) of Marines killing and being killed, and all the idiosyncratic relics, the old dog tags, a letter opener made from shrapnel, ammo boxes, a canteen with a bullet hole in it, a pinup girl, a straight razor, all with banality of someone else's souvenirs.

There's no glory when you walk off a CH-46 helicopter to find yourself marooned on Hill 881 south, which was a very hot landing zone for months near Khe Sanh, Vietnam, live bodies flying in on helicopters and dead ones flying out while mortar shells exploded, rats prowled behind the sandbags, and the Marines fired back at the mortars with 105 mm howitzers like the one you see here with tires flattened by incom-

ing shrapnel.

The mystique goes deep. It provokes the fists thrown at or by sailors and soldiers in waterfront bars. It may instill the knack to be found in the lowest private for talking smack to the media, "telling sea stories," as Marines themselves say, and making civilians believe them. The Marine Corps is a cult, a tribe, a religious order.

The mystique even prompts the occasional American male to lie about having been in the Marine Corps (as in the new novel by Jim Lehrer, a former Marine lieutenant, called "The Phony Marine") If you were a Marine, those men make your flesh crawl with pity. You say: My God, if I could be a Marine, they could have been Marines; don't they know that? Perhaps they couldn't have. But so what? You were a Marine and they weren't, and that is all the difference.

Listen up, people! That is all the difference. And that difference is what the museum is all about. The National Museum of the Marine Corps, 18900 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Triangle, VA., is open daily except Christmas, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, go to <http://www.usmcmuseum.org/> or call 800-397-7585.

EDITORS NOTE: *I received this from a friend at my former detachment in California. I asked him for permission to print it and he told me it was public domain. I thought you'd appreciate it. Ben*

Officers Duties

This is the final installment of the list of Officers Duties by Detachment Officers. We continue with the Offices of the Paymaster Chaplain and Sergeant-at-Arms.

PAYMASTER:

Authority – The Paymaster is a required position. Eligibility requirements vary depending on the manner of determining the person who serves. Should the Detachment desire, as shown in its Bylaws, that this position be filled by election, the person must be a Regular Member. An appointed Paymaster may be either a Regular or an Associate member (National Bylaws, ARTICLE SIX, Section 600(b) and Departments, ARTICLE FOUR, Sections 405 and 407; Detachments, ARTICLE FIVE Sections 510 and 512). The decision between election and appointments is up to the Detachment but has a direct impact on the decision making body. Elected Paymasters are members of the Board of Trustees (a.k.a. Corporate Board of Directors) while appointed paymasters are not. (National Bylaws for Departments, ARTICLE FOUR, Section 415; Detachments, ARTICLE FIVE, Section 525. In either case, the Paymaster *(as are all Officers designated to handle funds for the Detachment) is under a blanket bond obtained by National headquarters (National Bylaws Section 815 m). The duties of the Paymasters are not specified in the national Bylaws for the Departments and Detachments. As a general guide, the National commands that the National Paymaster follow certain procedures (National Bylaws, ARTICLE THREE, Sections 310(b) through (15)). Among these are the common definitions of the responsibilities of a Paymaster, as the Detachment or Corporation's Chief Financial Officer. The Paymaster serves as treasurer (Subsection 5), records the business (6) and receives and deposits all monies in federally insured accounts maintained in the name of the corporate unit only (7), assists in an *(continued page 4)*

Officer Duties *(continued from page 3)*

An annual audit (9-10) and surrenders all records and other property to the duly elected or appointed successor (13).

Procedures

Working With The Adjutant – Detachment Paymasters should work closely with the Detachment Adjutant in keeping the Detachment membership roster.

While the Adjutant is charged with the responsibility of keeping the membership roster, the Paymaster will have information on dues payments and whose dues are current or delinquent. Cooperation between these two Offices will allow for the determination of eligibility for holding office, voting rights, delegate status at conventions, delinquent notices, etc. At the end of each Quarter, the National Adjutant/Paymaster provides every Detachment with an audit of its membership as shown on the rolls at National Headquarters. The information contained on these audits is used to determine voting strength at Department and National conventions, membership retention, and verification of dues status and address changes. Again, this information should be the subject of scrutiny and coordination between the Paymaster and the Adjutant. Errors are to be brought to the attention of the National Headquarters by submitting the correction on a Dues Transmittal by the Paymaster.

Records – How the Paymaster maintains the financial records of the De-

tachment is a matter of choice.

Whether they are recorded on formal debit and credit accounting forms, on the check log, or in a computer program is strictly up to that Officer. However these records are kept, they must be clear enough to allow for an in depth audit by Detachment Officers, a cursory review by the Commandant, and, heaven forbid, a field audit by the Internal Revenue Service. Care should be taken to list authorization for each expenditure. Checks to cover members' dues to National Headquarters and to the Department are documented by the transmittal forms. Other checks should have a receipt in the "paid bills" file to indicate the method of authorization. Whenever the expenditure is for an item by motion, an indication of this with a notation of the date of the motion should suffice. Researchers need only review the subject minutes to find the authority.

Audits of Paymaster Records – At least once a year, the Commandant should, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, appoint an Audit committee to audit the books of the Paymaster. The Committee should consist of at least three regular members of the Detachment. Their task would be to make sure all of the Detachment funds are accounted for and that the proper procedures were followed for the disbursement of any funds.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

The Sergeant-at-Arms (SA) is responsible for the setting up and maintaining Order at Business meetings. He/she

also participates in the presentation and honoring of Colors at meetings and ceremonies.

At meetings, the SA should make sure that the physical facilities for the meeting are set up properly. Prior to the meeting, the SA should meet the guests or visitors, introduce them to other members of the Detachment and provide applications to potential members. He/she needs to determine that those present for meetings are authorized according to the Bylaws, Ritual, or decision of the Presiding Officer. During the meetings, the SA is to assure order during the meeting, taking action when required to restore order, and to follow any directions given by the Presiding Officer.

Summary – The Sergeant-at-Arms plays a key role in the orderly conduct of meetings, beginning with the physical set up, assuring that items required for the meeting are on hand, and assisting with maintaining order during the meeting. The SA also can help set the "tone" of the meeting by making sure guests and new members are properly introduced and made to feel comfortable before, during, and after the meeting. The SA also assists with the membership by providing applications to prospects (and "selling" them on the Detachment and the league), and providing sign-in sheets (to include name, address, phone number, etc., so that guests and prospects can be contacted in the future.

CHAPLAIN *(Continued page 5)*

A Message from CMC to Veteran Marines

Dear Fellow Marine,

Our nation is at war – our Corps is at war – fighting a determined enemy bent on terror and domination. Your fellow Marines need your help. Our operational tempo has increased at the same time that the President has authorized the Marine Corps to grow, and it is for this reason that your Corps again needs you – not to return to active duty but to assume an active role in recruiting the next generation of Marines. This kind of help can best

be provided by those who have worn the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor, and that's why this letter is in your hands.

This important task requires the support of all Marines. You are uniquely qualified and strategically positioned to help influence the "influencers" who mentor today's youth. I ask that you, as a Marine, make a personal call to someone within your community, a teacher, a principal, a pastor, a coach – and help

help them to better understand the nature of our Corps.

Many of our countryman do not understand that Once a Marine, Always a Marine, is a phrase that has stood the test of time and is a testimony to the enduring strength of our Corps. The title of Marine is a Privilege earned in boot camp, steeled by service to the Nation, and carried with dignity throughout life. (Continued on Page 6)

Officer Duties *(Continued from page 4)*

The Chaplain plays an important role in the Detachment by tending to the needs of the members and members families, particularly during periods of distress, illness, and/or death. It is every member's responsibility to keep the Chaplain informed of situations and issues of need within the Detachment. In addition, the Chaplain is called upon to offer invocations and prayer for meetings, initiations, installations, and for ceremonies. The Chaplain may be called upon to participate in funeral services, and make visitation to members/families that are sick, or who have lost a loved one. In addition, the Chaplain may be required to assist in funeral arrangements (to include contacts for the Marine Corps Honor Guard) and/or publicize needs of the sick (to include blood donations, etc.)

The Chaplain's job, as a primary representative of the 'detachment, is to provide comfort and special service to members and families in time of need. This support should
(Continued page 6)

Short Rounds

This space will be reserved for short bits of information you might want to share with the rest of us. If you have something to share. Send me a note. We want to hear from you. Ben

Having just completed Jump School, a young Marine boarded the jump plane and hooked up his Static Line, On the command, "GO" he exited the plane and his chute emerged tangled up. He cut it free then pulled the ripcord on his reserve chute and found to his horror that his reserve chute was also tangled up. He prayed as he looked down to the ground below. To his amazement, an infantry Marine was coming up from the ground toward him with equal velocity. "HEY! YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT PARACHUTES?" he shouted to him as they passed by. The reply: "NO! YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT COLEMAN STOVES?"

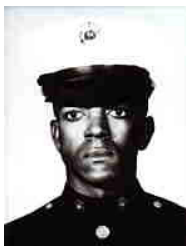
Beginning with next months issue, we will feature news from the PFC James Jay Williams Marine Corps League Auxiliary Unit #445. For those of you that don't already know, they also have a spot on our web-

site. All you need to do is click on the MCLA 445 link at the top of our main web page.

The Lt. Serge B. Simmons Detachment has been accepted this again year by the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation as the Local Community Organization (LCO) to conduct 2007 Toys for Tots Campaign for Northern Utah. We will again be doing great things for the needy children of Northern Utah. Please be prepared to help when asked.

For Conspicuous Gallantry

Each month we will publish a citation for a Marine or Navy Corpsman Medal of Honor recipient.



Pfc. James Anderson Jr.

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a rifleman, Second Platoon, Company F, Second Battalion, Third Marines, Third Marine Division in Vietnam on 28 February 1967.

Company F. was advancing in dense jungle northwest of Cam Lo in an effort to extract a heavily besieged reconnaissance patrol. Private First Class Anderson's platoon was the lead element and had advanced only about 200 meters when they were brought under extremely intense enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire. The platoon reacted swiftly, getting on line as best they could in the thick terrain, and began returning fire. Private First Class Anderson found himself tightly bunched together with the other members of the platoon only 20 meters from the enemy positions. As the fire fight continued several of the men were wounded by the deadly enemy assault. Suddenly, an enemy grenade landed in the midst of the Marines and rolled along side Private First

Class Anderson's head. Unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his

own personal safety, he reached out, grasped the grenade, pulled it to his chest and curled around it as if went off. Although several Marines received shrapnel from the grenade, his body absorbed the major fore of the explosion. In this singularly heroic act, Private First Class Anderson saved his comrades from serious injury and possible death. His personal heroism, extraordinary valor, and inspirational supreme self-sacrifice reflected great credit upon himself and the Marine Corps and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service, He gallantly gave his life for his country.

Lyndon B. Johnson
President of the United States

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Once A Marine, Always a Marine!

We're on the Internet at: <http://www.ogdenmarines.org>

Officer Duties (Continued from page 5)
go beyond members and family, it should include the entire Marine Corps community (current or former) within the /Detachments' geographic area. This may necessitate reviewing obituaries, or having hospitals make contact when a Marine is admitted. He/she should be supported by other Officers and Detachment members during these times of distress; it's part of the old adage "Marine's take care of their own."

Summary – A major focus of the Chaplain should be on contingency planning for events that may arise. It is better to be prepared for an eventuality than have to scramble at the last –minute when the event is about to occur. The Chaplain plays a key role in meetings, ceremonies, and other events, reminding each of us about our reliance on Devine Providence. And the Chaplain is the "Point Man" for providing assistance and support, aid and comfort, to Marines and Marine families in need. He/she requires the support of every member in effectively carrying out their responsibilities, especially in times of distress

OTHER STAFF and PROJECT OFFICERS

We have covered the basic Officer Corps of a Detachment. These are the Officers minimally required to serve the Detachment and meet the requirements of national/Department/ Detachment Bylaws, and the minimum obligations for meetings and programs.

The following are functions that are necessary to the Detachment, or will become important as the Detachment grows:

HISTORIAN
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
PUBLIC RELATIONS/
INFORMATION OFFICER
VAVS/VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER
AMERICAN/EDUCATION OFFICER
TOYS FOR TOTS LIAISON

This concludes the duties of Officers. It takes a lot of help to run a detachment.

CMC Message (from page 4)

We live by our core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment – both as active Marines and as quality citizens after our time in the Corps is over.

We are calling a new generation of Marines to service. They will carry the battle tested colors of our Corps just as you once carried them – with honor and with pride. We still Make Marines, Win Battles, and Create Quality Citizens! I ask for your continued commitment to ensure that this tradition endures and our proud legacy prevails.

Semper Fi, Marine!

James T. Conway
General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps