

DEVIL DOG DISPATCH

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT & AUXILIARY

JULY - AUGUST 2002

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 11

EVENTS

Next Regular Monthly Meeting

7:00 PM, Thursday **September 19** at the Gowen Field Indoor Pavilion

Auxiliary Monthly Meeting

7:00 PM Thursday **September 19** at the Idaho Military Museum at Gowen Field

Breakfast with Spouses

10:00 AM the 3d Thursday each month at Mike's Restaurant, Hillcrest Shopping Center, Boise

Weekly Coffee: 9:00 AM Saturdays, (other than the third Saturday) at Mike's Restaurant

4TH Of July Parade

This year's parade begins at 6:30 PM on the 4th. **Muster time for those marching in the parade with the detachment is at 6:00 PM on Grove Street between 9th and 12th Streets.**

Attire/uniform: Detachment ball cap and red T-shirt recommended. Call if you have a question on the uniform.

Let's have a good turn out. Many if not most of us deplore the nation's lack of patriotism and apathy when it's time to support traditional American holidays so, the parade is a great opportunity to "walk the walk."

Summer Schedule

Remember that during the summer there are no detachment meetings in July and August. However, as shown in the events box, other events continue.

Notes from the June Meeting:

There was a discussion about the MCL "Postal Matches" discussed in last month's newsletter. I have appointed C. J Dunn as team captain for our shooting team should this initiative actually develop into something. If you are interested in shooting as a team member please call C. J. at xxx-xxxx.

Mike Meade reported that the Scholarship Committee met and completed initial coordination on a draft scholarship criterion with the Young Marines Commander, John Dean. The draft will be presented to the detachment in the fall for its consideration.

Mike Meade complained that the detachment Board of Directors arbitrarily eliminated certain activities that the membership had previously voted to support. Mike's complaint points to a fundamental

challenge the detachment struggles with: lack of membership support for detachment activities.

The activities specifically mentioned were: sponsorship of a fishing trip for residents of the Veterans Home, Veterans Day at local schools, the Youth Physical Fitness Program, and certain involvement in the Boise Alliance for Youth. Actually, these activities were not eliminated so much as they fell by the wayside because interest in them had atrophied.

Here is my plan of action to address Mike's concerns and to resolve the, "Who's on first." activity problem permanently.

First, the membership present at the June 21, 2002 meeting voted to review all detachment activities during our September 2002 meeting and decide by vote which activities we will support. It was also resolved that we will repeat this process annually in September. This annual review process should be codified in the detachment's bylaws; therefore, I'll

prepare a draft bylaw revision on this issue for the detachment's consideration.

Further, I will review all available minutes of past meetings in order to uncover the record of activities the detachment voted to either support or eliminate over time so that when we meet and vote in September, we can vent this issue thoroughly.

This should address the concern but it won't solve the problem of activity atrophy through lack of membership participation. Therefore, as part of this clean up effort I will also draft a bylaw change that details how activities shall be accomplished. I think that every activity should be supported with a written purpose statement, and a list of supporting tasks and

milestones. Also, that an activity chairman and necessary members be appointed annually in writing by the detachment commandant.

If you have ideas that you would like to have considered for how to resolve this matter then submit them to me in writing no later than August 15, 2002.

**TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
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