

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT # 878 & TREASURE VALLEY POUND # 270**

MAY 21, 2018

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## COMING EVENTS

**Next Regular Monthly Meeting:** 7:00 PM, Thursday June 21, 2018 American Legion Hall, 22 West Broadway, Ave., Meridian, Idaho

**Next Quarterly Devil Dog Growl/Pack Growl:** Wednesday August 8, 1830 at the FRA Building, Lloyd Thies Hall. 1102 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. South, Nampa, ID.

**Monthly Breakfast with Spouses:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, 8:30 AM at Quinn's 1005 S Vista Ave., Boise, ID

**Weekly Coffee:** 8:30 AM Saturdays at Quinn's, 1005 S Vista Ave., Boise, ID

**PURPOSE & INTENT:** To keep detachment members informed of past and future detachment actions and activities. To present a concise summary of the detachment's monthly business meeting.

Meeting opened at 1903. All officers were present with the exception of the senior vice-commandant who was excused.

- 14-members, 2 associate members, and 4-guests present.

A new member and transfer from Pittsburgh, CA, Mike Schubert, introduced himself to the detachment. Mike is a retired police officer and former 0341, mortarman, who served in the late '80s and early '90s. After recruit training at MCRD San Diego, Mike was assigned to 3/2 at Camp Lejeune, NC. Welcome aboard Mike!

Minutes of the most recent meeting and the paymaster report were accepted and approved without comment.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

- A letter from the Veterans Day Parade Committee, requested the detachment help sponsor the 2018 parade with a monetary donation. The members present voted a \$200.00 donation. The parade committee offers sponsorship levels from \$200 to \$5,000. If you are interested in becoming a personal parade sponsor you may do so by accessing the Committee's Internet website [www.boiseveteransdayparade.org](http://www.boiseveteransdayparade.org)
- A letter was received from the Toys for Tots organization thanking the detachment for its \$330.00 December 2017 donation.
- A letter from the Idaho Department of Veterans Affairs, invited the detachment to setup an information table at this year's Military Veterans Appreciation Fair, formerly the Welcome Home Event, on June 16<sup>th</sup> on the VA Hospital grounds. The Junior-Vice Commandant and other detachment members will setup an information and recruiting table at the event. If you want to help man the table, contact the Junior Vice-Commandant at 208-659-5269.
- A letter received from the Marine Corps League National Headquarters reminded league members to pay their membership dues and elaborated on the revised dues paying procedure. Essentially, Treasure Valley Detachment members who are not Marine Corps League Life Members must pay both their league and detachment annual dues by June 1st. The June 1<sup>st</sup>, detachment due date provides the detachment sufficient time to send the payments to the national organization in a timely manner. The letter with the detachment commandant's comment is included with this mailing.
- A letter from the Idaho Department Headquarters advised all detachments that the department will purchase a half-page add in this year's national convention booklet.

## OFFICER REPORTS:

- Commandant:
  - Announced Marine Nakashima's appointment as detachment chaplain, following Marine Blakeley's request to relinquish the assignment. Ron was our chaplain for many years; WELL DONE RON!
    - EDITOR'S NOTE: Skip is a rather "Old Dog" detachment member who has recently taken on several new responsibilities. THANKS SKIP, FOR SETTING A GREAT EXAMPLE!
  - Reminded that the detachment maintains a living memorial for deceased chapter members on the VA Hospital grounds. The memorial is located near one of the hospital's rear entrance doors overlooking what once was a parade ground. Deceased detachment members' names are engraved on the monument provided their dues are not in arrears at the time of their death.
  - Mentioned that the Marine Corps League is working to reinvigorate its involvement in the Marine for Life Program, and that Marine Nakashima is the detachment's lead for the program.
- Junior Vice-Commandant
  - Announced that he has set a personal goal to contact two Marines each week to encourage them to become Marine Corps League and detachment members. He discussed the importance of following up with all prospective members. Making two contacts a week sounds easy enough for the uninitiated, but in reality, it is a challenging commitment. Anything that each of us can do to attract new members is important. You are encouraged to set your own contact goal and, as the junior vice-commandant has previously suggested, an easy way to initiate a conversation with a Marine is to wear clothing that announces that you are a Marine.
  - Issued a thanks to Marine Keplinger, for his recruiting effort at last Saturday's Purple Heart Recognition event in Star, Idaho. Dick wore his League uniform and attracted three prospects that he is following-up with. Keplinger stated that wearing his League uniform attracted the attention of the three prospects.
- Judge Advocate announced that he reviewed the proposed detachment bylaw changes and did not find any conflicts with either the department or the national bylaws.
- Adjutant/Paymaster announced that the detachment will contribute \$200.00 to World War I Memorial that is a project of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The memorial will be located in the Boise, Veterans Memorial Park, and dedicated on Veterans Day, November 11, 2018.
- Chaplain reported that detachment member Mike Riccardelli is on oxygen continuously as he battles a leg swelling issue of undiagnosed cause, and that Ken Johnson's health is improving and that he is now able to drive and participate in detachment activities again in the future.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Scholarship Committee Chair Maggie Modler. The detachment is awarding two scholarships this year; one to Young Marine Eliana Nava, and the second to Britney Blakely, granddaughter of Ron Blakeley.
- Parade Committee: The commandant mentioned that he needed someone to become the parade committee chairman now that Arnie Strawn is no longer with us. New member Mike Schubert volunteered to assume the responsibility beginning with the Caldwell Fourth of July Parade. THANKS MIKE FOR STEPPING FORWARD AND FILLING THIS IMPORTANT POSITION.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Bylaw changes: Following an introduction by the bylaw committee chair, the adjutant read a synopsis version of the recommended changes. A complete copy of those changes is available at the detachment's website, tvdmcl.org, for your close examination. There will be a second reading at the June detachment meeting followed by each member's opportunity to comment on the changes. Presumably, a vote will then be called on each

change. Changes will be adopted if they receive a two-thirds majority yes vote by the members present at the meeting. Proxy and absentee voting is not permitted.

- Marine Nakashima, who has taken charge of the work to develop ways the detachment might perpetuate Medal of Honor recipient Art Jackson's legacy waits your ideas input. He encourages rough art work sketches to support your recommendations. You may call Skip at 208-867-0246 for more information.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- The members present voted in favor of paying the required \$5.00 registration fee for each of the detachment's delegates to this year's National MCL Convention in Buffalo, NY. Two members plan to attend. If you plan to attend please advise the detachment adjutant, Dave Swickard at 208-229-3043.
- The commandant formed an assessment committee to assess the feasibility of the detachment supporting Marine Gordy Souza's wheelchairs and motorized scooters for veterans' project, and associate member Susan Frickey's idea of preparing health and comfort packages for homeless veterans in support of the Veterans Home, Veterans Outreach program. Committee members are: Dick Keplinger, Rondi Miller, and Steve Neff. THANKS TO EACH OF THEM FOR STEPPING FORWARD TO MAKE THE ASSESSMENT.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MEMORIAL DAY 2018 CEREMONY, MONDAY MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> at the Veterans Cemetery. Buses will begin to leave the parking lot near the Horseshoe Bend Road and Hill Road intersection at 0830 for the 1000 event. If you plan to attend this event, then please know that you may not drive your personal vehicle to the top of the hill where the ceremony is held. Guests must either walk to the location or ride the provided busses.

FLAG DAY June 14, 2018. The detachment will place flags at the Veterans Cemetery beginning 1000 on June 13<sup>th</sup> and take them down beginning 1000 on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

WHEELCHAIR ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE. For members who have difficulty walking, the detachment now has a wheelchair, courtesy of Walt Modler, to transport members from the parking lot across Broadway Ave. to the Meridian America Legion Hall, and back to their vehicles at the meeting's conclusion. Let the commandant or any other officer know if you would like to use that service.

The meeting closed at 2033.

Gary Randel, Editor

Available for viewing at the detachment website page: <http://tvdmccl.org/newsletters/>

TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

P.O. Box 45874

Boise, Id 83711-5874

Walt Modler, Commandant	208-941-1390	Jack Cunningham, Judge Advocate	208-740-7409	Frank Guy, Sgt-at-Arms	208-989-1044
Robert Balfour, Sr Vice Commandant	208-323-2337	David Swickard, Adjutant/Paymaster	208-229-3043		
Jay Gunter, Junior Vice Commandant	208-659-5269	Skip Nakashima, Chaplain	208-867-0246	Newsletter Ed. Gary Randel	208-938-5171

JUNIOR PAST NATIONAL COMMANDANT RICHARD D. GORE, SR. Having one due date, everyone's dues should be paid on time

MARINES: As my tour as your Junior Past National Commandant starts, I want everyone to understand that in this position it is still incumbent upon me to be your voice on the Board of Trustees and speak out on your behalf. If you feel you wish for me to talk on your behalf, contact me at rgore@MCLeague.org, and I will present your ideas or complaints to the proper authority and seek out answers for you or your detachments. One of the major issues that has to be addressed is the payment of dues. Membership dues for the entire Marine Corps League are due at the end of August. No exceptions. By having just one due date, everyone should be able to pay on time and not wonder what their joining date was. In the past, the excuse for not paying dues was, "I forgot when I joined." Now there is no reason to worry about it because everyone is due to pay dues at the same time every year, right after National Convention.

It is my intention to work with the National Leadership and Board of Trustees, if my assistance is requested, to further the rebuilding of the Marine Corps League into the premiere veterans' organization that we should be. I have learned in my time with the League that talk does not always equate 'to the necessary actions it takes to guarantee success, and we should not fall into that trap. We need to set our own goals and reach for the stars that sometimes seem beyond our grasp.

SemperFi, Richard D. Gore, Sr. Junior Past National Commandant

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From the desk of the TVD Commandant: Members of TVD, National has set the renewal of members dues as 31 August of each year. Here is the rub if we are to meet that date we must receive all dues and complete all 10 dues Renewal Transmittal Forms and snail mail them to National. To accomplish this task the BOT has set the date of dues due to detachment P.O. Box by 1 June of each year.

Please help the detachment Adjutant/Paymaster accomplish this monumental task in a timely manner by mailing in your checks, calling on the phone (208-229-3043 - to pay by credit card) or dropping off the cash at the Quins coffee Klatch on any Saturday. David and or I are usually there.

Mail checks to: Treasure Valley Detachment #878 Walt Modler Attn: Adjutant / Paymaster