



Marine Corps League
Pikes Peak Detachment
 P.O. Box 10536
 Colorado Springs, CO 80932-1536
www.mclpikespeak.org



Commandant
Russ Miller
rcmlr@msn.com
 719-235-1058

Hello Marines, Navy FMF Corpsmen, Associate Members, and families. We had good attendance (43) at our monthly meeting in June. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, I encourage you to come out and join us again. We are half way through 2015 and we as a detachment have already done so much. You all have been involved in more than 20



June Meeting

events, 19 funerals, visited with some of our ill members, and helped two struggling Marine families by way of our Marines Helping Marines Fund. Thank you all for your continued camaraderie, and support of our detachment's many programs and members. Please make note of the location change for the July meeting



Department of Colorado MCL Marine of the Year
Garry "Gunny" Gibson

as mentioned in Sr. Vice, Terry Crum's article. Also see his details regarding the Monument 4th of July Parade. Our detachment was well represented at this

year's Department of Colorado Convention and Rocky Mountain Division Conference. Congratulations are due to some of our members for recognition that they received for their contributions to the Department of CO and RMD. Our detachment received a Certificate of Appreciation from Department Commandant Allen Brink and a Department Meritorious Unit Commendation in recognition of our detachment's bereavement team and their attendance and care for the many families of Marines that have answered the final roll call. Kaz Mueller received a Distinguished Citizen Bronze for his service as the Department of CO Chaplain, Roger Baty received a Distinguished Citizen Silver for his continued work on our detachment



Department of Colorado MCL Associate of the Year
Marianne Smith

newsletter that has been an inspiration for other detachments to emulate. Marianne Smith was the 2015 Department of Colorado Associate of the Year for her approximately 45 years of service to the Marine Corps League Auxiliary and to the Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment. Lastly, Garry "Gunny" Gibson received two Distinguished Citizen Silvers and was the 2015 Department of Colorado Marine of the Year for his many accomplishments both at the detachment and department level which are far too numerous to list in one newsletter. Garry was also re-elected for a second term as Department Jr. Vice Commandant. The planning for our July 25th, Pig Roast Picnic is going very smoothly. We are moving forward with preparations and ask that you all please go to <http://pikespeakmcl.rsvpify.com> and let us know if we can expect you or not. The Picnic is free and all past/present MCL members and their immediate family

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members, as well as Active Duty Marines assigned to posts in Colorado Springs and Young Marines and their parents and siblings are welcome to attend. Thank you to all who have been so diligent in contacting Paymaster Denise Wickersheim regarding your annual dues. If you are unsure of your membership renewal date, please contact Denise or myself. Or you could just do what I'm doing and become a life member and save yourself the trouble of renewing each year. PDD Gibson, aka. "The Gunny", has more good news in his article about the future of our MODD Pound. Be sure to check it out. WOOF! WOOF!

Semper Fi, Russ



Pikes Peak Detachment Attendees at Department of Colorado MCL Convention

what I know: We need wheel walkers, DI rope handlers, color guard (if you got the blues), we need happy, cheerful faces to wave at the crowd. If you would like to join us for breakfast we will meet at the Coffee Cup Café (251 Front Street, Monument) at 0700. We will form up in available vehicles afterwards for movement to the parade staging area NLT 0830. The Parade begins at 1000. If you choose to participate, please bring water and stay hydrated. Looking at the weather forecast on my iPhone tells me showers are possible in Monument on Saturday, I suggest keeping an eye on the weather in the near future. Sunscreen is definitely and always a good idea. On June 30th I expect to receive an email from the Kiwanis Club with the specifics on the parade. This information will be made available to all very shortly after I get it. Please keep an eye out for the update. Other than that I hope this is a great summer for you and yours. **Take care and Semper Fi**

Terry Crum



El Paso County Commissioner's Memorial Day Proclamation Signing



Senior Vice Commandant
Terry Crum
terry-crum@hotmail.com
 719-432-7340

Greetings Marines, Navy FMF Corpsman, and Associate Members; I hope everyone is enjoying Colorado in the summer. I would like to thank all that attended the last MCL detachment meeting and use this time to remind all that the next meeting on July 18th will not be at TREA but at the Country Buffet restaurant (Citadel Crossing, 801 N Academy Blvd, Colorado Springs 80909); same meeting just a different location and food will be plentiful. Who knows maybe folks will complain a bit less about the food, LOL. We will be taking part in the Monument Hill Kiwanis 4th of July Parade in Monument Colorado on the 4th. The parade theme this year is "A New Birth of Freedom." This honors the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War and the death of Abraham Lincoln. The theme was chosen to remind us all of the sacrifices that have been made to forge this nation and our responsibility to nourish our freedoms so that they may endure. We will do our part by showing our Marine Corps pride; I know that is what we always do! I am a bit embarrassed because my knowledge of the facts is less than complete. This is



Junior Vice Commandant
Terry Boston
bostoncolorado@peakinet.net
 719-393-3141



Judge Advocate
Kazimir "Kaz" Mueller
Kazmueller@gmail.com
 719-471-3102



Chaplain's Corner
Russ Miller
rcmlr@msn.com
 719-235-1058
 Greetings Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Associates, and Friends; Fair Winds and Following Seas" to our

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detachment's Past Commandant Angelo "Joe" Serrone who succumbed to his third bout with cancer at the young age of 61 and answered the Final Roll Call on 29 May 2015. Thank you to all who attended his



In Memory of Commandant Joe Serrone

service at Ft. Logan. Please keep his seven children in your prayers as they continue to adjust to a world without the leadership of an incredible father and mentor. If you are aware of any of our members, member's families, Marines, or FMF Corpsmen residing in our community that are sick or in distress, please contact me day or night 719-235-1058 so that we might lift them up in our thoughts and prayers and see how we might otherwise comfort them and be of assistance in their time of need.

Semper Fi, Russ Miller, Chaplain



Paymaster
Denise Wickersheim
Md1970@q.com
 719-590-9109

Please send your membership dues (annual renewal) to the Pikes Peak Detachment address (located at the top of the Newsletter).

New Member and Renewal Dues - \$36.00
Think about becoming a Life Member!!!

Life Membership Costs:

- Age 35 - below - \$500.00
- 36 - 50 - \$400.00
- 51 - 64 - \$300.00
- 65 & over - \$200.00

Semper Fi, Denise

Adjutant

Terry Boston

bostoncolorado@peakinet.net

719-393-3141



Minutes of the 20 June 2015 Meeting of the Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment (Note: Draft until accepted at the 18 July 2015 meeting).

- Commandant, Russ Miller opened the 20 Jun 2015 meeting of the Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment for Official business at 0900 with Salute to Colors and opening prayer. All officers were present.
- Guests / Application for Membership:
 - Matthew Clevenger has spent time at 29 Palms and recently at Peterson AFB. Having been found qualified, he was unanimously voted-in as a Detachment member.



Matthew Clevenger Speaks to the Members

- Matt Lochner rejoined us and was warmly welcomed



Matt Lochner Speaks to the Members

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- Member Pat Carty introduced his son, Robert, visiting from North Carolina.
- David Guevara introduced his brother who was visiting.
- Minutes: Member Bob Berndt made a motion to accept the May minutes. Member Steve Swartz seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- New Correspondence:
 - Bernice Barrett, new TREA Secretary, extended an invitation to the Detachment to participate in club activities that are open to non-TREA personnel. The TREA annual picnic is scheduled for 18 Jul 15, 1100 – 1800, and is \$8.00 for non-members. This promises to be a great family event. See the flyer she provided for more information.

- Territory Days were a success especially considering the weather; keeping pace with what we brought in last year (> \$3000.00) and \$85.23 for the Marines Helping Marines Fund!



Territory Days – Memorial Day Weekend

- The Detachment received a Certificate of Appreciation and a Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) from Department for the Bereavement Committee's service. This is the third MUC award for the Detachment.
- The MCL National Convention will be held 9-14 August, in Scottsdale, AZ. Members Steve Swartz, Gunny Gibson, and Kaz Mueller plan to attend as delegates for the Detachment.
- Senior Vice:
 - The 4th of July Parade in Monument will start at 1000. The theme is New Birth of Freedom. General consensus was a pre-parade breakfast at the Coffee Cup Cafe.
 - It's not too early to think about elections. Think about volunteering for office!



Bernice Barrett Speaks to the Members about TREA activities and the upcoming TREA Picnic

- Commandant Miller read a Thank You note from the Atencio family to the Bereavement Committee, for attending the services for Marine Felix J. Atencio, 77, of Colorado Springs.
- Pay Master: NSTR, but Pay Master Denise Wickersheim has financial reports for members who want them.
- Sick and in Distress: Acting Chaplain Miller announced the following:
 - Member Chuck Brown took a tumble a week and a half ago. He is home recuperating and would appreciate calls and visits.
 - Member Phil Parker's wife Ann is ill. Keep Phil and Ann in your thoughts and prayers.
 - Members Iris Rudesill, Orlando Rodriguez, and Joe G. Martinez are well and back with us!
- Report of Officers:
- Commandant:
 - The Detachment voted unanimously on Commandant Miller's motion to hold the 18 Jul15 meeting at the Country Buffet, 801 North Academy due to the TREA picnic that day.



June Meeting

- Junior Vice / Adjutant – JV Boston provided the following regarding the Department Convention of 12-13 Jun 15 (see her if you are interested in reviewing the materials from the Convention):
 - She thanked the delegates who attended.
 - Two Department Bylaws change proposals were submitted, discussed and motions to accept were carried by unanimous vote:
 - The rule for filling vacancies for all elected positions was clarified.

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- o A Section 1515 was added cautioning due diligence and care in the use of organizational credit / debit cards
- o Proposed National Bylaws changes are identified on the National Web Site (see Grievance issue, Chapter 9 & uniforms).
- o Marine Paula Sarlls encouraged all to join her at a ceremony supporting the Marine Memorial in Golden, CO, 25&26 Aug 2017. See <http://usmarinecorpsmemorial.com/> for more information. She also reminded everyone about the annual Marine Corps Memorial 5K Run/Walk to be held in the Fall.

Paymaster. Utah will beta test the concept and report back results at a later time.

- Judge Advocate – NSTR.
- Pay Master – NSTR.



June Meeting



Department of Colorado MCL Officer Oath At the Convention

- o Union Colony Detachment (Greely, CO) will host the next Department Quarterly meeting in Oct 15.
- o Pikes Peak Detachment (Colorado Springs, CO) will host the 2016 Department Convention, 1st Week in May (start thinking about securing ads for the Convention Book).
- o While Marine Vietnam Veteran Dwayne (JoJo) Jojola's ride has been delayed to late Mar 2016, he will ride from Colorado to Washington, D.C., on horseback to bring awareness of Veteran suicide due to PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). Many sponsors and logistical assistance will be needed to complete this journey. Jojola's horse "Cowboy" is up in age so he is looking for the donation of a suitable mount, tack and other equipment as well as funding. See <http://thisridesforthem.com/> for donation info.
- o Rocky Mountain Division Vice Commandant Davis presented the Fire Team Concept to maintain control of and add new Marines to the MCL in remote rural areas of our Division, until the unit has enough members to become a detachment. The concept includes a host detachment and a fire team of 4 Marines (and corpsman). While this could aid in obtaining new members, it could become an additional administrative burden for the host detachment

- Chaplain – Since our meeting last month our bereavement team has attended 7 of 9 funerals. Of the two not attended, one was in Durango during the Department Convention and the other was a family only grave-side service. Sadly, one of those services was for our Detachment Past Commandant, Angelo Joseph Serrone.
- Quartermaster - We have new covers, pins, patches, and stickers that will be on sale in front of Walmart on the NW corner of Powers and Woodmen this Saturday between 0900 and 1300. Bring a lawn chair and volunteer to man the booth!
- Sgt-at-Arms – Due to Ron Asmussen doing a great deal of traveling over the summer he has resigned his position as Sgt-at-Arms. Garry Gibson is filling in for now. We are looking for a Sgt-at-Arms.
- Web Sergeant – NSTR.
- Military Order of Devil Dogs (MODD): The Detachment has 18 Devil Dogs/Pups/Pedigrees. The charter for our pound is expected in Aug 15. MODD members met after the Detachment meeting.



June Meeting

- Standing Committees: Scholarship Committee – Member Jim Woods stated the committee handed out two scholarships last month. He also anticipates potential changes to scholarship rules. More to follow, later.

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TOYS FOR TOTS
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- Special Committees: Picnic Committee – With an estimated 145-155 people expected to attend, a Fountain Creek Park pavilion has been secured. While the committee is working to obtain donations, member Garry Gibson made a motion to provide \$1000.00 to cover catering for the event. Judge Advocate Kaz Mueller seconded the motion and it carried. This will make admission free to attendees. A suggestion to have a speaker at the event will be pursued.
- Unfinished Business: None.
- New Business: None.

- Hankins was the lucky winner! He donated the winnings to the Bowlathon.
- With all business being completed Commandant Miller closed the meeting at 1013. The next meeting will take place on 18 Jul 15.
**Respectfully submitted, Terry Boston, Adjutant
 Pikes Peak Detachment, Marine Corps League**



June Meeting – Bob Berndt and Pat Carty

- Good of the League:
 - Associate Member Marianne Smith announced this year's Bowl-a-Thon will take place, subject to confirmation, on 11 Oct 15 at Brunswick Zone. 24 participants is the goal, so sign up for a fun time!
 - Commandant Miller announced the awards that were presented during the Department Convention and presented personal awards to members who have distinguished themselves through many years of service to the Detachment and the Marine Corps League. A hearty "Well Done" to all:
 - Kaz Mueller – Distinguished Citizen Bronze
 - Roger Baty – Distinguished Citizen Silver
 - Garry Gibson – Distinguished Citizen Silver
 - Marianne Smith – Department of CO Associate Member of the Year
 - Garry Gibson – Department of CO Marine of the Year
 - Member Bob Berndt announced the results of his final ride for Multiple Sclerosis; he is very close to his goal of raising \$2000.00 and there is still time to support him! We salute his effort and accomplishment.
- With no additional business at hand, the 50 / 50 drawing was held. Member Charles "Hank"



**Sergeant-at-Arms
 (Temp)**

Garry D. Gibson
gunny1@mindspring.com
 719-495-9640

Next Meeting

18 July 2015 0900 at Country Buffet – Come early (0730), drink coffee, eat breakfast and tell stories

Upcoming Events

- Monument 4th of July Parade – 4 July
- Salute to Veterans Rally Cripple Creek – 14-16 Aug
- Labor Day Parade Fountain – 7 Sep
- Bowlathon – 11 Oct



Toys for Tots

Russ Miller
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 719-235-1058

We are always on the lookout for a suitable building (approximately 7000-10000 square feet) to warehouse and operate our campaign. If you are aware of any large facilities that are vacant and might work for our needs please contact me so I can start negotiating with the appropriate parties.

Semper Fi, Russ



Quarter Master

Russ Miller
rcmlr@msn.com
 719-235-1058

We have 4 new t-shirts that are available to order for \$15 each. Please email or call if you would like to order one or all of them. I am taking orders for Red Vests, (\$25) call or email me with your size. Nametags, \$8 for gold w/ red engraved EGA and text, or \$10 for red w/ white text and raised

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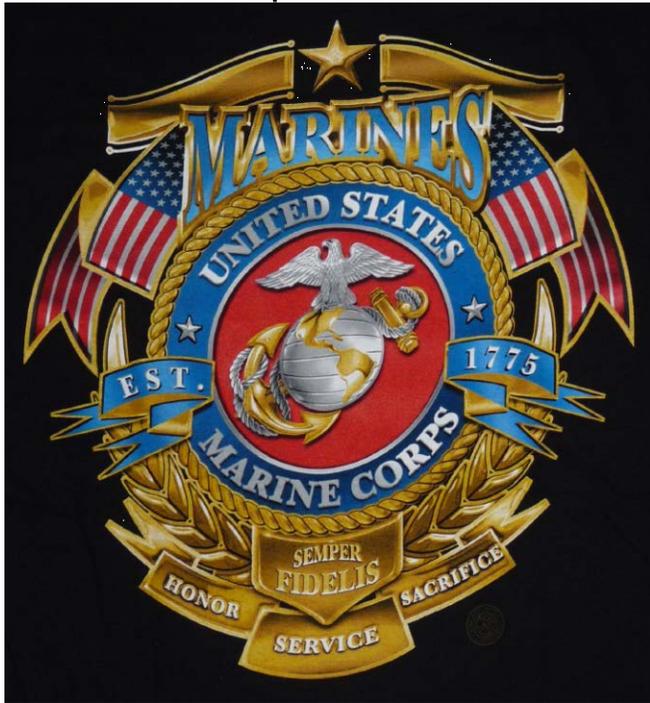


anodized EGA. After looking at the events calendar for this year and dates where outside cash sales events conflict with our monthly meetings, we will continue to have cash sales at our monthly meetings only in the odd months, Jan., Mar., May., etc.... However, due to the need to move our July meeting to make way for The Enlisted Association's annual picnic, Ship Store may be CLOSED at the July meeting. I have not gotten a firm answer as to whether or not Country Buffet will allow us to set up in the dining room.

Semper Fi....Russ



June Meeting



T – Shirt Available to Order



T-Shirt Available to Order



Scholarship Fund

Jim Woods
jimw12152@aol.com
 719-390-6538

The Scholarship Committee (Jim Woods (Chair), Roger Baty, Peggy Baldwin) has selected two individuals to receive a \$500.00 Scholarship. We are waiting on final paperwork and proof of enrollment in an education institution. From the issues we identified this year, we will conduct a review of the Scholarship Administrative Procedures and bring recommended changes to the detachment at a monthly meeting for discussion, acceptance, or rejection. The Committee will keep all informed at the monthly meetings on our progress. Thanks to everyone's support this year!

Semper Fi, Jim Woods



Garry D. Gibson
Pedigree Devil Dog (PDD)
 Senior Vice Pack Leader
 Senior Vice Pound Keeper
gunny1@mindspring.com
 719-495-9640

WOOF! WOOF! All you Mangy mutts and you want ta bee's; The yearly MODD Grand Growl has come & gone; it was held at the Double Tree Hotel in Thornton, CO on 12 June 2015. The

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Grand Grawl is held each year in conjunction with the yearly Department Convention. I want to congratulate MODD member Bob Hill; after 10 years in grade as a Pup, Bob was sworn in and advanced to Devil Dog. Name our Pound: Our MODD members had a "Name our Pound" contest where our MODD members submitted and voted on what to name our Pound. It ended up in a tie between two names: one was "Pikes Peak Hound Pounders" submitted by Pat Carty and the other name was submitted by little ole me. PDD Kaz Mueller broke the tie by voting on my submission "**Karnivorous Kanines of Pikes Peak**" - the name by which our Pound will be known. **WOOF! WOOF!** Pound number: we are currently trying to get our old "150" number back. Getting our Charter: We hope to get our Pound up & running in August. Till then...bark with a smile...stay happy (let your tongue hang out & wag your tail) and help other's less fortunate than yourself by sharing your bones (\$\$\$).

Semper Fi...&...WOOF! WOOF!...The Gunny



June Meeting

This Month in History

Dates of Marine Corps Historical Significance

4 July 1801: President Thomas Jefferson reviewed the Marines, led by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, LtCol William W. Burrows and the Marine Band, on the White House grounds. The smartly uniformed Marines performed drills and fired various salutes in observance of the new nation's 25th anniversary.

6 July 1990: One of the oldest and most versatile attack aircraft in Marine Corps history, the A-4 Skyhawk, retired from the Corps' active aviation structure after over 30 years of service. The last two Skyhawks from MAG-32 flew their initial flight from Cherry Point to NAS Patuxent River on this date.

7 July 1941: The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1st MAW) was activated at Quantico, Virginia. Within a year of activation, the Wing would participate in the Marine Corps offensive at Guadalcanal. That bitter campaign would be the first in a series of legendary battles in which the Wing would add luster to its reputation. The

1st MAW would earn five Presidential Unit Citations for gallantry in campaigns spanning World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

11 July 1798: President John Adams approved "An Act for Establishing and Organizing a Marine Corps", and it became law. The following day, the President appointed William Ward Burrows the Major Commandant of the new Corps. In August, Major Burrows opened his headquarters in Philadelphia, at that time still the capital of the new nation.



Reflection – March Meeting 2007 – Muddy Waters, Jim Wildman and Commandant Joe Serrone

14 July 1993: The USS Iwo Jima was decommissioned after over 30 years of service in a ceremony at Norfolk Naval Base, Virginia. The ship was named for the World War II battle during which three Marine divisions ousted 20,000 entrenched Japanese troops. The Iwo Jima was commissioned 26 August 1961, it was the first ship specifically designed as an amphibious assault ship from the keel up.

18 July 1918: The 4th Brigade of Marines began an attack near Soissons, France, as part of a three-division counterattack against the Germans. In the first two days of battle, brigade sustained 1,972 casualties.

24 July 1944: The V Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Harry Schmidt, landed on Tinian, in the Mariana Islands. The following morning, the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions began a shoulder-to-shoulder southward sweep of the island. Organized enemy resistance faded within a week, and on 1 August, MajGen Schmidt declared the island secure.

26 July 1947: The National Security Act of 1947 became effective, reaffirming the status of the Marine Corps as a separate military service within the Department of the Navy. The Act provided for Fleet Marine Forces, and confirmed the Corps' mission of seizing and defending advanced bases, as well as land operation incident to naval campaigns.

28 July 1918: Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2d Division, U.S. Army in France, and remained in that capacity until August 1919 when the unit was demobilized. He was the first Marine officer to hold an Army divisional command, and following the Armistice, he led his division in the march into Germany.

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