



Pikes Peak Detachment

P.O. Box 10536 Colorado Springs, CO 80932-1536

www.mclpikespeak.org





## Commandant Garry D. Gibson Gunny1@mindspring.com 719-495-9640(H)

Greetings Everyone; I would like to thank everyone who attended our May 17th monthly meeting; we had

32 members and guests in attendance. I could have attended the meeting with a cold/cough, but I decided it was best if I stayed home and not share this bug with



**May Meeting** 

everyone in attendance, which gave our Sr. Vice, Russ Miller, the opportunity to run the meeting. This experience will help prepare him for his future role as our Detachment Commandant for 2015.



May Meeting

Many of our Detachment Officers attended this year's 2-4 May Department of Colorado Convention - Russ Miller, Terry Boston, Joe V. Martinez Jr., Kaz Mueller and I attended. We departed for the Denver Marriott Hotel early Friday morning the 2nd & we returned early Sunday morning, the 4th. Our Detachment did quite well at this year's Department Elections. I was elected as the new Jr. Vice Commandant and Kaz Mueller was appointed Department Chaplain. At the MODD Growl (Military Order of the Devil Dogs), I was elected to the position of Senior Vice Pack Leader, Colorado Pack 128. Past Sr. Vice Commandant, Steve Schwartz, also attended this Growl - he advanced from Pup (black ribbon) to Devil Dog (red ribbon). The highest level you can attain within the MODD is Pedigree (yellow ribbon) - to reach this level you must attend a MODD Growl at a National MCL Convention. Kaz Mueller and I will be

advancing to Pedigree at this year's 2014 National Convention which is being held in Charleston WV from 3-9 August 2014. The MODD is also known as the "Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League." Our detachment did quite well during Awards presented at the Department Convention: Roger Baty



**Department of Colorado Convention** 

received the Distinguished Citizen "Silver" Award for his (10) plus years of support to our detachment and the Department of Colorado. I was also recognized again as this year's "Department Recruiter of the



Territory Days - Hank, Garry, Joe, and Dick

Year." Territory Days was held from 24-26 May 2014; during this (3) day event in Old Colorado City we took in a little over \$3,500 dollars (please read my Quarter Master article for the rest of the story.) In closing, I



**Memorial Day Wreath Presentation** 

would like to thank Michael "Mike" Monaghan for assuming the duties as our new Pay Master - Veronica Hoard was recently promoted and with this promotion

## Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment June 2014 Newsletter

Editor/Webmaster: Roger L. Baty, 719-534-9683, Email: batyfamily@comcast.net



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came added responsibilities and extended hours. I want to wish her the best of luck, and thank her for her service to this detachment. Till our 21 June monthly meeting ... Think Positive... Laugh... Have fun... and Help someone less fortunate then you... and Continue to March!!!

Semper Fi, Garry Gibson



Cañon City Blossom Parade Prior to Teaming up with the Royal Gorge Detachment



## Senior Vice Commandant Russ Miller rcmllr@msn.com 719-235-1058(C)

Hello Marines, FMF Corpsmen, associate members, and guests. I want to commend everyone for a

job-well-done over the Memorial Day Weekend. Please see Gunny's Quartermaster's report for how we did at



**Department of Colorado Convention** 

our booth during Territory Days. We had a lot of fun watching all the folks stroll past our tent. Our Color Guard ended up not being needed for Territory Days this year. They instead decided to use the NORAD USNORTHCOM Combined Services Color Guard for the Memorial Day observance at Bancroft Park. I still want to recognize our Marines; however, that stepped up and were willing; Osa Tuck, Terry Crum, Bear Barrera, and Kaz Mueller. Thanks for your willingness

to serve. We had a good showing at the Memorial Day Ceremony at Memorial Park (see pictures). It was great to see Pat Thompson, Paul Darrow, Richard Inhoffer, Bear Barrera, Melvin Postlewait, Steve Peterson, Chaplain Pat Carty, Judge Advocate Joe V. Martinez Jr., and a special thank you to Pat Mesa for helping me with the presentation of the wreath at our Marine Corps Memorial. There was a miscommunication regarding the start time, but we adapted, we improvised, we overcame by golly. And



**Memorial Day at Marine Corps Memorial** 

we had a good time milling around and meeting a young Marine Sergeant who was recently discharged from the Corps after returning from his last deployment to Afghanistan. Later the same day Melvin Postlewait, Pat Carty, and Joe V. Martinez Jr. attended the



May Meeting

Memorial Day ceremony and presented our wreath and Detachment Colors in Fountain, in the rain, no less. Good job Marines! We are fully registered for the July 4th parade in Monument. We are still waiting for the registration paperwork for the Salute to American Veterans Bike Rally in Cripple Creek (15-17 August 2014) to be made available. The paperwork for the Fountain Fall Festival on Labor Day weekend 30 Aug-01 Sep 2014 is ready for immediate submission and we are registered for the Veterans Day Parade on 10 Oct 2014; please mark your calendars accordingly. And a reminder, the Wounded Warrior Games have been moved to September, so more information will be coming out as it becomes available.

Semper Fi, Russ

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**May Meeting** 

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



Judge Advocate
Junior Past Commandant
Joe V. Martinez Jr.
<a href="mailto:joehotrod56@yahoo.com">joehotrod56@yahoo.com</a>
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Sam Sparks Receiving Community Service Award Semper Fi Rest in Peace Sam Sparks



Chaplain's Corner Pat Carty, Chaplain (719) 337-7179

<u>ipcarty1@comcast.net</u> Greetings Marines, FMF Corpsmen,

Associates, and Friends. On 24 May 2014 MCL member Sam Sparks passed away at 0642. It was only a

week before that we had talked about Sam at the monthly meeting. Sam was a strong supporter of the Marine Corps League, attending almost all monthly meetings when he was able, and was present at most Marine funerals. A China Marine at the end of WWII, he was very proud of his service to our Country and

the Marine Corps. After WWII Sam became a Commissioned Officer in the US Army. He was a past Post Commander of VFW Post 4051. Sam became an architect and designed and worked on many of the plans and construction of buildings in Colorado Springs. The Masonic Temple on Panorama Drive is among one of his accomplishments. Along with his wife MaryAnn, Sam loved skiing, and loved to tell how she was the best female skier he had ever known. His memorial service will be held at the VFW Post 4051 on 11 June 2014 at 1300. I encourage all members of the MCL to attend Sam's service.



**Department of Colorado Officer Installation** 

During the latter part of May Joe V. Martinez Jr., an airport employee, escorted Mr. Eric Delp to a taxi cab, at the airport, via wheelchair. On the way to the cab Joe learned that Mr. Delp was here to see his son Keith Delp who had been admitted to Penrose St. Francis with serious emergency health problems, while on his way back to his home in Louisville, KY. Mr. Delp said Keith had been a combat Marine in Iraq. Joe called me and we made arrangements to visit Keith in the hospital. On our way to his room we ran into Denise Wickersheim who was there to see her mother.



**May Meeting** 

We all went up to see Keith, and his father Eric was there. Eric told us that Keith's doctor gave him a 50/50 chance or less of surviving. Denise said some encouraging words to Keith, who was comatose at the time, and he seemed to respond in a positive way. The next day I went back to the hospital to see Keith and his family, and Keith had done a 180. Mr. Delp handed

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me a \$300.00 cash contribution to be given to the Marine Corps League in appreciation of the Marine

# WARROR

### Coming in September 2014 Stand by to Support the Marines!!!

Corps and his son's service. I turned the money over to Commandant Garry Gibson and he has deposited that money into the "Marines Helping Marines" account. Keith has since been released and is now home in Louisville, KY. I spoke with Eric Delp on 31 May and he says Keith is making what his parents hope will be a full recovery and again expressed appreciation to the Marine Corps. You never know how you might have a positive effect on someone's life.

Semper Fi, Pat Carty, Chaplain



Monument 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2009 (From John Kowall)



## Paymaster Mike Monaghan monaghan1965@hotmail.com 719-492-2631

Please send your membership dues (annual renewal) to the Pikes Peak Detachment address.

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, Mike



Adjutant
Terry Boston
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719-393-3141(H)

Minutes of the 17 May 2014 Meeting of the Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment (Note: Draft until accepted at the 21 June 2014

meeting).

- Senior Vice Commandant Russ Miller opened the 16 May 2014 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 with the exception of Commandant and Quartermaster Garry Gibson who was ill.
- Guests / Application for Membership:
  - David Gayou thanked the Detachment for its recent support in providing for vehicle assistance. David spoke to the detachment about his time in the Corps.



David Gayou Speaks to the Detachment

Marco Alicea introduced himself as a former ammunition supply Marine.



Marco Alicea Speaks to the Detachment

 Minutes: Senior Vice Miller made a motion to accept the April meeting minutes. Member Osa Tuck seconded the motion and the motion carried.

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New Correspondence: Member Bob Berndt received a letter from the Eastern Colorado Health Care system thanking the Pueblo veterans and staff for a recent donation to the Christmas Fund.



May Meeting

- Report of Officers:
  - Pay Master Sr. Vice Miller introduced our new Pay Master Mike Monaghan who has replaced Veronica Hoard. Mike provided the financial report. See him if you have questions or want a copy.
  - Chaplain Chaplain Carty provided the Detachment with the following news:
    - Member Sam Sparks moved to Aspen Living Center and is in good spirits. We hope to see him in two-to-four weeks. (Note: it was a week later that we received word that Sam had passed away)
    - Member Roland Durden had eye surgery and hopes to be back next month.
    - If you have any other news of sick or distressed members, let Chaplain Carty know.
  - Commandant and Quartermaster Sr. Vice Miller provided the following information:
    - Garry Gibson, Russ Miller, Terry Boston, Joe V. Martinez Jr. & Kaz Mueller attended the Department Convention in Denver from Friday 2 May to Sunday 4 May.
  - We are proud to announce that Web Sergeant, Roger Baty was awarded the Distinguished Citizen Silver Award for his outstanding newsletter and long-term service to the Detachment. His newsletter is serving as the model to emulate for Department and other Detachments!
  - Commandant Gibson also received the Distinguished Citizen Silver Award and "Recruiter of the Year" for supporting Department recruiting efforts with 135 new members recruited.
- Department Elections saw Commandant Gibson elected as Department Jr. Vice Commandant and Sr. Vice Pack Leader / Sr. Vice Pound Keeper of the Military order of the Devil Dog. Our own Kaz Mueller was appointed Department Chaplain.

- Cash Sales at Walmart was a success with \$280.00 in sales and \$58.00 in donations to the Marines Helping Marines Fund. Thanks to all who participated!
- Senior Vice Sr. Vice Russ Miller provided the latest logistics information for Territory Days, 28-30 May 14. All paperwork is done. Two Marines with Dress Blues are needed for the Color Guard. Contact Russ on Color Guard duty and Commandant Gibson to schedule a time for supporting Cash Sales.
- A volunteer is needed on Memorial Day at Memorial Park to lay the wreath. Contact Russ if you want to participate. Plan to be at the Park for the ceremony by 1100.
- Paperwork for the 4th of July and Veterans Day parades is in process.



**May Meeting** 

- Junior Vice Jr. Vice Boston provided other highlights from the Dept. Convention including results of the vote on Dept. By-Laws, Commandant Gibson's cash sales and recruiting class, Joe Yoder's cross country horseback ride, the inspirational speaker at the Banquet, and announcing that Sr. Vice Miller won the Airsoft shooting competition. Way to go, Russ!
- The Judge Advocate, Adjutant, Sergeant at Arms and Web Sgt had nothing additional to report.
- Unfinished Business: None.
- New Business: The Rocky Mountain Division / Utah Convention is 6-8 Jun 14 in Tooele, UT, and the Dept. Staff Meeting is 26 Jul 14 in Grand Junction. Contact Sr. Vice Russ Miller if you are interested in attending.
- Standing Committees:
  - Scholarship Committee: Former Commandant and Scholarship Committee Lead, Jim Woods stated we received no applications! Don't let this opportunity go by next year!
  - Web Sergeant Roger Baty announced the Marine Corps Ball will be held at the Marriott and for the same price as last year. We need

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six volunteers for cake escorts (four primary and two alternates). Roger will continue to update us as he works with USNORTHCOM Marines.

- Good of the League:
  - Member Bob Berndt told the Detachment the Denver Veterans Administration hospital and the Colorado Springs Clinic are scheduled to open on time. Member Paul Darrow added the Grand Opening for the Clinic will be in Aug 14. He will check to determine if Detachment support is needed for the opening ceremony.
  - Bob Berndt also discussed his annual motorcycle ride for Multiple Sclerosis and asked the Detachment for a \$300.00 donation. Roger Baty made a motion to do so, multiple seconds were heard, and the motion carried by unanimous vote!
  - Sr. Vice Miller announced from 0900 1800 the Young Marines would be at Rocky Mountain Cycle Plaza at Chelton & Platte and would be raffling a \$150.00 helmet for \$5.00 tickets. We hope the Young Marines make much off the effort!
- With no additional business at hand, the 50 / 50 drawing was held. Judge Advocate Joe V. Martinez Jr. won and donated the winnings to the League. Way to go, Joe!
- With all business being completed Sr. Vice Miller closed the meeting at 0937. The next meeting will take place on 21 Jun 14.

Respectively submitted by Terry P. Boston, Adjutant Marine Corps League, Pikes Peak Detachment



Sergeant-at-Arms
Kazimir "Kaz" Mueller
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#### **Next Meeting**

**21 June 2014 0900 at TREA** - Breakfast at 0800 Come early (0730), drink coffee and tell stories

### **Upcoming Events**

Fundraiser at Walmart – 13-14 June Monument 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – 4 July American Veterans Motorcycle Rally in Cripple Creek – 15-17 August Fountain Fall Festival Parade – 1 September High Country Toys 4 Tots Motorcycle Ride – 5 October

Detachment Bowlathon – 12 October Veterans Day Parade – 8 November Marine Corps Ball – 8 November

#### **Announcements**



Toys for Tots Russ Miller rcmllr@msn.com 719-235-1058(C)

You probably all recall change of command ceremonies, or as one of my CO's referred to as a change

of blame ceremony. Well there will be no such thing here, but the good news is I have gotten my approval as the new Toys for Tots coordinator, so I look forward to a great program this year and I thank you all in advance for your continued support. Please take time to give John Kowall a hearty thank you for his years of service to this most worthy cause.

Semper Fi, Russ

#### Quarter Master Garry Gibson

gunny1@mindspring.com

Hi everyone; Our 1st Cash Sales for May was held on Friday, 16 May at the Walmart located at Woodman

Rd and Powers Blvd. where we did \$280.00 dollars in sales and collected \$58.00 dollars in donations. It wasn't our best day but every cent we collect helps support our many programs. I want to thank Joe G. Martinez, Pat Carty and Steve Peterson for their help & support at this event. Our next event was Territory Days - this (3) day event was held in Old Colorado City from Saturday 24 May, thru Monday, 26 May 2014. How did we do compared to Territory Days 2013? Last



**Territory Days** 

year, 2013 we did \$3,405.00 dollars in sales and this year we did a little better with \$ 3,554.00 dollars in sales, an increase of \$149.00 over last year. Donations

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during Territory Days in 2013 we took in \$236.00; this year we took in \$139.00 dollars; a difference of \$97.00 dollars. Every cent we collect in donations goes into our Pikes Peak Detachment Helping Marine Project Fund. I want to thank the following members for their support during Territory Days: Joe G. Martinez, Steve Peterson, Russ Miller, Richard Inhoffer, Michael "Mike" Monaghan, Hank Hankins and Barry Farris. In closing, I would like to mention that approximately 50% of all monies we take in at these events is considered profit remaining 50% goes towards purchasing merchandise, the cost of our space and in some cases, we have to pay city taxes. Till I see you at our next cash sale event at Walmart on 13 & 14 June 2014... Think Positive...Laugh...Have fun...and Help someone less fortunate then you... and...Continue to March.

Semper Fi....The Gunny



May Meeting
This Month in History

Dates of Marine Corps Historical Significance

**2 June 1918**: At dawn on this date, the crack German 28th Division attacked along the axis of the Paris-Metz road hitting the American 2d Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened with deadly rifle fire and helped hand the German troops a setback which set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood which would soon follow, although at great cost.

**8 June 1995**: A Marine tactical recovery team from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit stationed on board the USS Kearsarge rescued a downed U.S. pilot, Captain Scott O'Grady, USAF, from Bosnian-Serb territory in Bosnia.

10 June 1898: The First Marine Battalion, commanded by LtCol Robert W. Huntington, landed on the eastern side of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The next day, Lt Herbert L. Draper hoisted the American flag on a flag pole at Camp McCalla where it flew during the next eleven days. LtCol Huntington later sent the flag with an accompanying letter to Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood noting that "when bullets were flying, ...the sight of the flag upon the midnight sky has thrilled our hearts."

**12 June 1961**: President John F. Kennedy signed a Presidential Proclamation calling for the American flag to be flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, "at all times during the day and

night." Discussions between the Attorney General's office and Marine Corps officials earlier in 1961 on improving the visibility and appearance of the monument led to the proposal to fly the Flag continuously, which by law could only be done by Congressional legislation or by Presidential proclamation.

**15 June 1944**: Preceded by naval gunfire and carrier air strikes, the V Amphibious Corps assaulted the west coast of Saipan, Marianas Islands. By nightfall, the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions, moving against heavy opposition, had established a beachhead 10,000 yards wide and 1,500 yards deep.

**20 June 1993**: The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit returned to Mogadishu, Somalia, to stand ready to assist United Nations forces in maintaining peace in the war-torn country. Earlier that month, the 24th MEU had been ordered to cut short Exercise Eager Mace 93-2 in Kuwait to respond to possible contingency operations in Somalia.

25 June 1950: Shortly before dawn, eight divisions of the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded the Republic of Korea. Within three days, the South Korean capital city of Seoul had been captured. On 30 June, President Harry S. Truman ordered a naval blockade of the Korean coast and authorized the sending of U.S. ground troops to Korea. Two days later, General Douglas MacArthur, the Commander in Chief Far East, formally requested that a Marine regimental combat team be deployed to the Far East.

25 June 1966: In Vietnam, Operation Jay began about 30 kilometers northwest of Hue, and lasted nine days. The 2d Battalion, 4th Marines landed north of the North Vietnamese 812th Main Force Battalion, and the 2d Battalion, 1st Marines landed south of the enemy's position. Caught in between the two Marine units, the enemy suffered over 80 dead in nine days of fighting.

26 June 1918: BGen James G. Harbord, the Commanding General of the 4th Marine Brigade, notified American Expeditionary Force Headquarters that Belleau Wood was "now U.S. Marine Corps entirely." After 20 days of combat, and at a cost of over 4,000 casualties, the 4th Brigade of Marines had proven its fighting heart. The grateful Commander of the French Sixth Army would soon decree that in all official correspondence, Belleau Wood would henceforth bear the name, "Bois de la Brigade de Marine."



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