



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



Commandant
Garry D. Gibson
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 719-495-9640(H)

Greetings everyone; I want to thank everyone for attending our 15 February monthly meeting; we had 44 members & guests in attendance. On Tuesday



February Meeting

18 February, our Sr. Vice Commandant Russ Miller, Chaplain Pat Carty and I stopped by the Garden of the Gods Nursing Home to see how Sam Sparks was doing! Sam was surprised and all smiles when we presented him with a Community Service Award Certificate. Sam earned this well-deserved award for



Sam Sparks Receives His Award

his support of our Bereavement Committee during 2013; he attended 33 out of 34 funerals which was more than any other member in the Detachment - well done Sam! On 22 February 2014 our Sr. Vice Commandant Russ Miller and I traveled 265 miles (round trip) to attend the Department of Colorado Quarterly Staff meeting held at the VFW Post 2121 in Greeley, CO. Past Sr. Vice Commandant & Chaplain Kaz Mueller also joined us on this trip. Kaz went there to renew old friendships with Department Officers he had worked with while serving as Department Chaplain. Kaz is also interested in being appointed Department Chaplain at the upcoming Convention. I would like to commend the ladies of VFW Post 2121 who did an outstanding job in providing a very healthy

& free lunch to everyone who attended that meeting.



Kaz, Garry, and Russ at Department Staff Meeting

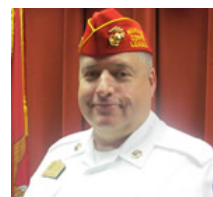
The Upcoming 2014 Department of Colorado Convention will be held in Denver at the Embassy Suites Hotel from 1-4 May. We currently have (7) members of the Detachment registered and will attend the Convention. The next event is the Rocky Mountain Division/Utah Convention; it will be held on 6 & 7 June in Tooele, Utah, which is approx. 635 miles (each way) from Colorado Springs. All Detachment Commandants & Sr. Vice Commandants are asked to attend (I may not be able to attend if the current drought & fire conditions don't improve out here in Black Forest). As a reminder, don't forget to WEAR your GREEN SHIRTS, HATS, etc. to our 15 March meeting - we will head downtown for the St Patrick's Day Parade right after the meeting is over. Till I see you all at our 15 March meeting.....Think Positive.....Laugh.....Have fun...Help someone less fortunate than you...and continue to March!!!



Semper Fi...The Gunny



St Patrick's Day Parade 2009



Senior Vice Commandant
Russ Miller
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 719-235-1058(C)

Hello Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Associate Members, and guests.
Semper Fi, Russ

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March 2014 Newsletter

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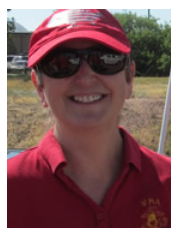
February Meeting

Gibson presented Sam with a Community Service Award for his outstanding participation on the Bereavement Team during the year 2013. We left Sam a little "Pogey Bait" from Dunkin Donuts - hopefully his nurses didn't confiscate it after we left. If in-between MCL meetings any of you hear of someone in need please call me.

**Semper Fi,
 Pat Carty, Chaplain**



February Meeting



**Junior Vice Commandant
 Terry Boston**
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 719-393-3141(H)



**Judge Advocate
 Junior Past Commandant
 Joe V. Martinez Jr.**
joehotrod56@yahoo.com
 719-201-7389(C)



Chaplain's Corner
 Pat Carty, Chaplain
 (719) 337-7179
jpcarty1@comcast.net



Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and Associates; So far 2014 has, thankfully, been a relatively quiet year for the Bereavement Team compared to 2013. There have been three Marine funerals to date: Charles E. McMillan on 11 Jan., William J. Martin on 13 Feb. and David R. Haddan on 20 Feb. Thanks to all on the Bereavement Team who have taken the time to attend these funerals. It was good to see Mike Monaghan at the Feb. meeting. He was looking good after suffering a heart attack a few weeks ago. Hopefully he will continue to get even stronger. Ken Sanguinetti had an operation recently to remove a kidney that had a cancerous lump on it. Thankfully the cancer had not spread and Ken says his doctor thinks he will be fine. Sam Sparks is in Garden of the Gods Nursing and Rehabilitation, 104 Lois Lane, room 16, phone (719) 203-1528. Sam is undergoing treatment and Physical Therapy for various health problems and sadly is currently suffering from the stomach flu on top of it all. Sam welcomes visitors and on 18 February Commandant Gibson, Sr. Vice Commandant Russ Miller and Chaplain Pat Carty visited Sam. Gunny



**Paymaster
 Veronica Hoard**
vhoard@comcast.net
 (719) 332-8465(C)

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

New Member Dues - \$36.00
 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

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

**Semper Fi, Veronica
 Adjutant**



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

Minutes of the 15 February 2014 Meeting of the Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment (Note: Draft until accepted at 15 March 2014 meeting).

- **Commandant Garry Gibson** opened the 15 February 2014 meeting of the Marine Corps

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League Pikes Peak Detachment for Official business at 0900 with Salute to Colors, and opening prayer. All officers were present.

- **Guests / Application for Membership:** Commandant Gibson announced that Jason Hilton is eligible for membership, as is Stephen M. Schleiker. Stephen is a Widefield High School graduate, spent time at Beaufort, SC; and Cherry Point, and time on the USS Coral Sea and USS Roosevelt. Topping that off, he is a veteran of Desert Storm and Desert Shield and is running for El Paso County Assessor! Sean Hutton who was introduced last month was also in attendance. The Detachment voted unanimously to welcome Jason Hilton, Stephen Schleiker, and Sean Hutton as members of the Detachment!



Stephen Schleiker Talks About His Corps Time

- **Minutes:** Commandant Gibson made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes. Member Barry Farris seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **New Correspondence:** None.



John Kowall Talks Toys for Tots Coordinator

- **Report of Officers:**
 1. Pay Master - Pay Master Veronica Hoard provided the financial report. See her if you have questions or want a copy. She is changing the format of the report to provide more information.
 2. Commandant and Quartermaster – Commandant Gibson made several announcements:

- a. National is raising annual dues by \$2.00. Currently \$23.00 of the \$36.00 goes to National; with the rest to the Detachment. Web Master Roger Baty made a motion that annual dues remain at \$36.00 with the Detachment absorbing the difference. Member Hank Hankins seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- b. Wounded Warrior Games are scheduled for 28 September to 4 October 14 this year vice May.
- c. The annual Semper Fi Golf Tournament has been cancelled.
- d. Commandant Gibson and Senior Vice Miller will be in Greeley next week for the quarterly Department meeting.
- e. Regarding Cash Sales, there may be a shortage of merchandise, but levels should be satisfactory for the Detachment through summer. The Quartermaster will hold-off on buying a new tent top until sales warrant the purchase. He will arrange to set up at Walmart which has traditionally been good for sales and recruiting.



Commandant Gibson Presents Awards to Members

3. Senior Vice - All is set for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on 15 March 14 which will be the same day as the March meeting. Don't arrive prior to 1100, as cyclists will be on the course. See the Senior Vice if you can be part of the Color Guard or carry the banner, and wear green! Stand by for more details.



St. Patrick's Day 2005

4. The Junior Vice, Judge Advocate, Adjutant and Web Sergeant had nothing significant to report.

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5. Chaplain – Chaplain Carty provided the Detachment with much news:

- a. Good news is Member Mike Monaghan is doing well and is back with us!
- b. However, we were saddened to hear that Member Sam Sparks is still in the Garden of the Gods nursing home and will be there for some time. Sam is welcoming visitors and would love to see you. Stop by and see him if you can.
- c. The Bereavement Committee attended a funeral for William Martin. Chaplain Carty thanked Member Melvin Postlewait for stepping-up to present the flag to the family. Outstanding Job!
- d. Former Commandant Jim Woods took the opportunity to remind the Detachment that 19 February is the anniversary of the Iwo Jima landing and requested a moment of Silence for the fallen.

- **Unfinished Business:** Commandant Gibson presented awards to those who were not available last month. Significant achievements were the Distinguished Citizen Award to Member Melvin Postlewait for his portrayal as Santa Claus in numerous parades and the Distinguished Service Award to Sergeant at Arms Toby Bolender for his work as Junior Vice, last year.



- **Standing Committees:**
 - a. Scholarship Committee – Former Commandant Jim Woods reiterated that we are well on our way to the Scholarship application deadline! Get your eligible student's application in no later than 30 April.
 - b. Toys-for-Tots – Coordinator John Kowall announced the Detachment is still looking for a new Coordinator. Contact him if interested.
 - **Good of the League** – Several items were discussed:
 - a. Colorado State Tax Exemptions for disabled veterans. See or call Stephen Schleiker 520-6527(W) for specifics.
 - b. Manuel Pedraza provided info on DOD Announcement of the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration Program. Access the following link for specifics:
<http://www.defense.gov/releases/release.aspx?releaseid=14201>
 - c. Manuel Pedraza discussed Educating Children of Color Scholarship Program which includes military dependents, too. More information can be provided if anyone is interested.
 - With no additional business at hand, the 50 / 50 drawing was held. Member Bridgid Rudolph won and donated the winnings to the Scholarship Fund. Thank you, Brigid!

- With all business being completed Commandant Gibson closed the meeting at 0935. The next meeting will take place on 15 March 14.

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



Sergeant-at-Arms
Toby Bolender
bolender.august07@gmail.com
 719-520-1031(H)

Next Meeting

15 March 2014 0900 at TREA - Breakfast at 0800
 Come early (0730), drink coffee and tell stories

Upcoming Events

St. Patrick's Day Parade – 15 March
 Department of Colorado Convention – 1-4 May
 Territory Days – 24-26 May

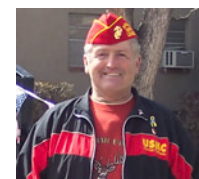
Announcements



Toys for Tots
jkowall@msn.com 719-495-0083(H)
 719-440-4867(C)
<http://colorado-springs-co.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.asp>

Search for a new TFT coordinator is still on! Each year when TFT coordinators sign up early to be coordinators for the next year your site is added to the list of supplemental toy deliveries thru the foundation. The value of these toys is around \$10,000 dollars. So, I thought I would mention this if there is someone out there who is thinking they might want to sign up for this **GREAT** endeavor. And of course you get expert hands on experience from me for what is in the TFT SOP and what's required of you. Better than what you get at the TFT conference but you will be required to go there as well. It costs you nothing to go of course as it is paid for by the TFT program. Call me and I'll answer your questions.

Semper Fi, John



Quarter Master
Garry Gibson
gunny1@mindspring.com

Hi everyone; sales were brisk at our February 15th monthly meeting; we did well over \$400.00 dollars in gross sales. In preparation for the upcoming season & to increase our inventory I ordered and received over \$2,600 dollars in merchandise. There is a limited number of vendors nationwide that sell these items and

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once the good weather starts nationwide, everyone across the country will start ordering. Many of these vendors will run out of these fast selling items before the season really starts. Our 1st event for 2014 is Territory Days which is scheduled for Saturday 24 May – Monday 26 May 2014. Between now and then I will be meeting with representatives from several Walmart Stores to see if we can schedule cash Sales events at their facilities; I will keep you posted. Till then...Think Positive...Laugh...Have fun...Help someone less fortunate than yourself...and Continue to March.

Semper Fi....The Gunny

This Month in History

Dates of Marine Corps Historical Significance

<https://www.mcu.usmc.mil/historydivision/SitePages/Home.aspx>

2 March 1867: Jacob Zeilin, Colonel Commandant of the Marine Corps from 30 June 1864, was this date promoted to the rank of Brigadier General Commandant, the first time Congress authorized this rank for the Marine Corps. The statute, however, was repealed in June 1874 so that the rank of Commandant would again revert to colonel upon Zeilin's retirement.

8 March 1965: The 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade landed at DaNang, Republic of Vietnam as the first U.S. ground combat troops to be committed to that conflict. The 3,500 men arrived both across the beach with Battalion Landing Team 3/9, and at DaNang Airfield with Battalion Landing Team 1/3.

11 March 1778: Marines participated in action when the Continental Navy frigate Boston, enroute to France, sighted, engaged, and captured the British merchant ship Martha. As the drum of the Boston beat to arms, John Adams seized a musket and joined the Marines on deck until the frigate's captain, Samuel Tucker, sent him below for safety.

13 March 1943: The first group of 71 Women Marine officer candidates arrived at the U.S. Midshipmen School (Women's Reserve) at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts. The Navy's willingness to share training facilities enabled the Marine Corps to begin training Marine Corps Women's Reserve officers just one month after the creation of the MCWR was announced.

17 March 1967: The first woman Marine to report to Vietnam for duty, Master Sergeant Barbara J. Dulinsky, began her 18-hour flight to Bien Hoa, 30 miles north of Saigon. MSgt Dulinsky and the other officer and enlisted Women Marines that followed were assigned to the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) based in Saigon. Most worked with the Marine Corps Personnel Section providing administrative support to Marines assigned as far north as the DMZ, but two



Lieutenant Colonels, Ruth Reinholz and Ruth O'Holleran, served as historians with the Military History Branch, Secretary Joint Staff, MACV.

25 March 1945: After 35 days of bitter fighting, the amphibious assault on the rocky fortress of Iwo Jima finally appeared over. On the night of 25 March, however, a 300-man Japanese force launched a vicious final counterattack in the vicinity of Airfield Number 2. Army pilots, Seabees and Marines of the 5th Pioneer Battalion and 28th Marines fought the fanatical Japanese force till morning but suffered heavy casualties--more than 100 killed and another 200 American wounded. Nearly all of the Japanese force was killed in the battle.

27 March 1953: The 5th Marines, supported by the 2d Battalion, 7th Marines, in the first full day of fighting after the Chinese assault the previous evening of Outpost Vegas on Korea's western front, counterattacked to regain enemy-held positions. Companies E and F of 2/7, down to only three platoons between them, managed to regain partial control of Outpost Vegas that day.

31 March 1801: On this date, LtCol Commandant William W. Burrows rode with President Thomas Jefferson to look for "a proper place to fix the Marine Barracks on." President Jefferson was a personal friend of the Commandant, and deeply interested in the welfare of the Corps and accompanied Burrows on horseback on the morning of 31 March. They chose a square in Southeast Washington, at 8th and I streets, because it lay near the Navy Yard and was within easy marching distance of the Capitol.



St. Patrick's Day 2012



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