



**TOYS FOR TOTS**  
**Marine Corps League**  
**Pikes Peak Detachment**  
P.O. Box 10536  
Colorado Springs, CO 80932-1536  
[www.mclpikespeak.org](http://www.mclpikespeak.org)



**Commandant**  
**Garry D. Gibson**  
[Gunny1@mindspring.com](mailto:Gunny1@mindspring.com)  
**719-495-9640(H)**

Greetings Everyone: I would like to thank everyone who attended our August 16<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting and I want to especially thank Russ Miller for leading the meeting as I was in Cripple Creek helping to raise



**Joe G. Martinez and Commandant Gibson visit the Wall in Cripple Creek**

funds. We did have 32 members & guests in attendance - we also had about a half dozen members in Cripple Creek attending this year's 27<sup>th</sup> POW/MIA Recognition Ride/22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Salute to American Veterans Rally Ceremonies while others were helping out with cash sales. Our very own Marine, Patricia "Pat" Thompson, was recognized during the POW part of the ceremonies. What a story Pat has to tell about her late husband, "Tommy" as he liked to be called. He was a China Marine who joined the Marine Corps in



**Pat Thompson at the POW MIA Ceremony in Cripple Creek**

1939. He was captured by the Japanese on Corregidor and shipped back to Japan on one of those so called "Hell Ships" to work in the coal mines. He spent a total of 3-1/2 years as a POW and retired from the Marine Corps as a (E-9) Master Gunnery Sergeant after 25 years of faithful service. I get all teared up just thinking

about what this Marine and many others like him must have gone through just to survive - Marine "Tommy" Thompson was truly a part of the "Greatest Generation." This year's 91st Annual National MCL Convention was held in Charleston, WV from 3-9 August 2014. On Thursday, 31 July, our Sgt at Arms and Devil Dog Kaz Mueller & I took off on a 2,885 mile round trip journey to attend and participate in this year's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the "Military Order of the Devil Dogs." Due to conflicting schedules, Kaz & I traveled in separate vehicles to and from the Convention site but we did share hotel room expenses near the convention site for (5) days/nights. Kaz & I endured several fun days of initiations. We are not allowed to discuss what took place during initiations; however, photos can say what we can't. We advanced from Devil Dog (red ribbon) to Pedigree (yellow ribbon) on Wednesday 6 August and were issued a special



**Kaz Mueller shows his Devil Dog Tag**

commemorative dog tag that commemorates this 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Only those in attendance at the Supreme Growl that day may wear this special dog tag - all remaining dog tags that were not issued that day were destroyed and there are no replacements for this dog tag should you lose it. Kaz & I did not stay for the whole convention - we both returned to the Colorado Springs on Friday August 8th. Next year's 2015 National MCL Convention is scheduled to be held in Scottsdale, AZ at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort from 8-15 August; Russ Miller, Kaz Mueller, Steve Schwartz and I have already made room reservations and will be attending this event. I would like to remind everyone that our Jr. Vice Commandant Terry Boston will be officiating at our September 20th monthly meeting (Russ Miller will be in Quantico, VA training to be our next Toys for Tots Coordinator). I will be up in Aurora at the Aurora Reservoir representing our Detachment

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at this year's "8th Annual United States Marine Corps Memorial 5K Fun RUN/WALK." This event is being hosted by The Colorado Columbine-WM History Chapter of the Women Marines Association. In closing, I would like to mention that this year's Veteran Stand Down is scheduled for Thursday 16 October with more info on this event forthcoming. Till I see you at one of the many upcoming events, Think Positive...Laugh...Have fun and Help someone less fortunate than yourself...and Continue to March.

**Semper Fi, Garry Gibson**



**August Meeting**



**Senior Vice Commandant**  
**Russ Miller**  
[rcmlr@msn.com](mailto:rcmlr@msn.com)  
719-235-1058(C)

Hello Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Associate Members, and guests. Well, August is in our rear-view mirror and I want to say thank you to Mark Davis, Steve Schwartz, and Pat Carty for doing an outstanding job presenting the colors with me at the "Thanks Troops" golf tournament on 1 Aug at the Valley Hi golf course. This month has just flown by, and by the time you read this we will have completed



**August Meeting**

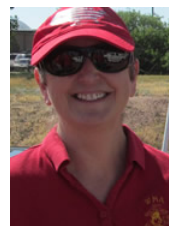
the Fountain Valley Fall Festival and Labor Day Parade and beginning our planning for the arrival of the

Marine Corps athletes for the Wounded Warrior Games. Make sure to jot down these upcoming activities that we are taking part in: Cruise Above the Clouds Car Show (cash sales) in Woodland Park (13-14Sept2014); Wounded Warrior Games (28Sept-4Oct2014); High Country Toy Run (5Oct2014); Bowlathon Fundraiser (12Oct2014); VA Stand-down (16Oct2014); Marine Corps Birthday Ball (8Nov2014); Veterans Day Parade (8Nov2014); and Gunny Gibson's favorite day of the year---- Election of officers (15Nov2014).

**Semper Fi, Russ**



**Cripple Creek Ceremony**



**Junior Vice Commandant**  
**Terry Boston**  
[bostoncolorado@peakinet.net](mailto:bostoncolorado@peakinet.net)  
719-393-3141(H)



**Judge Advocate**  
**Junior Past Commandant**  
**Joe V. Martinez Jr.**  
[joehtrod56@yahoo.com](mailto:joehtrod56@yahoo.com)  
719-201-7389(C)



**Chaplain's Corner**  
**Pat Carty, Chaplain**  
(719) 337-7179  
[jpcarty1@comcast.net](mailto:jpcarty1@comcast.net)  
Greetings Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Associates, and Friends. Good news on two fronts. Bob Hill is home, after a bout in the hospital and care center.

He is doing great and is looking forward to attending the next monthly MCL meeting and planning ahead for the Marine Corps Ball and luncheon. He appreciates all the visits, phone calls and good wishes from everyone while he was undergoing treatment. Orlando Rodriguez is on the mend as well. He took an exploratory trip home recently to check out what needs to be done in

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his home to accommodate his needs as he recovers at home. If all goes according to plan he should be discharged from Penrose Hospital on 05 September. Orlando also appreciates all those that visited with him in the hospital. Members of the Bereavement Team attended one funeral in August for Marine James Kenneth Breedon. A Vietnam veteran, he was with the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division and, fought in the Tet Offensive. Please call or email me with any news you may have of any Marines that are sick, in distress, or need help.

**Semper Fi,**  
**Pat Carty, Chaplain**



**Paymaster**  
**Mike Monaghan**  
[monaghan1965@hotmail.com](mailto: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:**

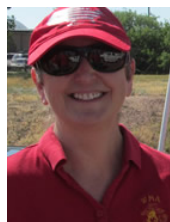
Age 35 - below - \$500.00

36 - 50 - \$400.00

51 - 64 - \$300.00

65 & over - \$200.00

**Semper Fi, Mike**



**Adjutant**  
**Terry Boston**  
[bostoncolorado@peakinet.net](mailto:bostoncolorado@peakinet.net)  
**719-393-3141(H)**

Minutes of the 16 August 2014 Meeting of the Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment (Note: Draft until accepted at the 20 September

2014 meeting).

- Senior Vice Commandant, Russ Miller opened the 16 August 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 Gibson who was conducting Cash Sales at the Salute to American Veterans Rally in Cripple Creek.
- Guests / Application for Membership:
  - Dave Davis was active duty from 1963-1972. Now he is semi-retired and has met the requirements to join us! Bob Berndt made a motion to make him a member and Roger Baty seconded the motion. The Detachment unanimously voted him a member.



**Dave Davis Speaks to the Members**

- Dominick Serna, LCpl, USMCR joined the Marines in 2012 and is with the 5th Battalion, 14th Marines. He has his Dress Blues and is a great candidate for the Color guard!
- John Rock comes from a long line of Marines! We hope to welcome him as a member soon.
- Marina McBride accompanied Dominick Serna and John Rock.



**LCpl Dominick Serna Speaks to the Members**

- Minutes: Senior Vice Commandant Miller made a motion to accept the July meeting minutes. Member Bob Berndt seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- New Correspondence: Tom Callahan sent a letter thanking the Detachment Color Guard for its support during the Thank the Troops VIP Dinner and Golf Tournament.



**August Meeting**

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- Report of Officers:
  - Pay Master – Pay Master Mike Monaghan has the financial report. See him if you have questions or want a copy. Members should provide him change of address information.
  - Chaplain – Chaplain Carty provided the Detachment with the following news about Detachment members:
    - Bob Hill returned home from the hospital and he hopes to make the next meeting. Welcome home Bob!
    - Orlando Rodriguez is in Penrose Memorial, but should be home in two to three weeks. Drop by and see him, if you get the chance.
    - Beth Waters will have a DVD of Bill “Muddy” Waters’ services at the next meeting for viewing.
    - The Detachment attended one funeral in the past month; our thanks to those who participated.
    - If you have any other news of sick or distressed members, let Chaplain Carty know.



**August Meeting**

- Commandant and Quartermaster – Senior Vice Commandant Miller passed information that the Distinguished Citizen Bronze award will be presented to Jim Weir for his support of the Detachment, on 5 October 2014 at the Toys-for-Tots Run.
- Senior Vice –
  - Sr. Vice Russ Miller needs Color Guard volunteers for the Labor Day Parade, 1 September at the Fountain Fall Festival.
  - Cash Sales will be conducted at the Cruise Above the Clouds car show on 13 September.
  - The re-dedication of the Liberty Bell replica will take place Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at 10:30AM at the Park at East 14th Avenue and Lincoln Street, Denver, CO (across from the Capitol Building).
  - The Wounded Warrior Games will be held 28 September through 4 October (final day in Colorado Springs).



**28 September – 4 October 2014**  
**Stand by to Support the Marines!!!**

- The High Country Toy Run is scheduled for 5 October at the Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Museum on Nevada Ave.

**27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HIGH COUNTRY TOY RUN**  
**ALL BIKES WELCOME!**  
PLEASE ARRIVE BY 11 AM  
Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Museum  
5867 North Nevada Ave. Colorado Springs

**Benefiting needy Kids in El Paso & Teller counties and the Children of Fort Carson Soldiers through “Santa’s Workshop” & the United States Marine Corps “Toys for Tots”**

**ADMISSION: 1 NEW TOY PER PERSON**

**Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**The Year’s Best Toy Run!**

- Tons of great prizes - raffle and auction
- Police escort courtesy of Colorado Springs PD
- Huge post run party at Cowboys NightClub
- \$7 Dinner - All proceeds benefit the children
- Meet the Miller and Coors Girls!

Logos: SCOOTER NEWS, LAW TIGERS, JAGS, COORS LIGHT, Lite, CITY OF CRIPPLE CREEK, CENTURY CASINO, COWBOYS NIGHT CLUB, FREE USMC ride pin for every participant, PRO PROMOTIONS

**FOR MORE INFO [www.pro-promotions.com](http://www.pro-promotions.com) (719) 487-8005**

- The Dept. of Colorado Staff meeting will be held here in Colorado Springs on 25 October.
- See the Schedule of Events for more information.
- Junior Vice / Adjutant, Judge Advocate, & Web Sgt had nothing additional to report.
- Sergeant at Arms announced that he and Commandant Gibson joined another 2500-3000 attendees at the MCL National Convention in Charleston WV! They also took part in activities for the 75th anniversary of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs.
- Unfinished Business: None.

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- New Business: Keep an eye out for the next Veterans Stand-down; this is a great opportunity to help fellow veterans.
- Standing Committees:
  - Associate Member Marianne Smith reminded the Detachment about the Bowlathon, scheduled for 12 Oct at Brunswick Zone – show time for participants is 1230. Calls will be made to members regarding participation and providing a donation.
  - Phil Parker donated \$500.00 to the Bowlathon in the name of his brother, a Marine, who recently passed.



**Marianne Smith Speaks about the Bowlathon**

- Good of the League:
  - Bob Berndt announced that the new Veterans Administration Clinic in Colorado Springs will open on Monday, 18 August.
- With no additional business at hand, the 50 / 50 drawing was held. Member Pat Mesa won and donated the winnings to the Bowlathon. Way to go, Pat!
- With all business being completed Senior Vice Commandant Miller; closed the meeting at 0929. The next meeting will take place on 20 September 2014.

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



**Sergeant-at-Arms**  
**Kazimir "Kaz" Mueller**  
[Kazmueller@gmail.com](mailto:Kazmueller@gmail.com)  
719-471-3102

**Next Meeting**

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

**Upcoming Events**

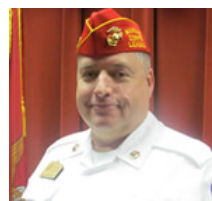
Fountain Fall Festival Parade – 1 September  
High Country Toys 4 Tots Motorcycle Ride – 5 October  
Detachment Bowlathon – 12 October  
Veterans Day Parade – 8 November  
Marine Corps Ball – 8 November



**August Meeting**

**Announcements**

**Toys for Tots**  
**Russ Miller**  
[rcmlr@msn.com](mailto:rcmlr@msn.com)  
719-235-1058(C)



I am really looking forward to my trip to Washington DC in a couple weeks for the annual Toys For Tots Training seminar although I doubt they will be able to teach me much more than I have learned from John Kowall. Thank you John for your guidance and continued mentoring and support. John Kowall, Joe G. Martinez, Steve Peterson and I had a very productive meeting this past week. We discussed our prospects of securing a new site for this year's collection/distribution warehouse; Lord willing it will include a loading dock. We have already begun receiving requests from area businesses asking to be toy drop off site for the coming campaign as well as requests for toys. I ask that you please consider going online to <http://colorado-springs-co.toysfortots.org>, click the "About Toys for Tots" drop-down menu and under the "give and receive" header click "volunteer for toys for tots". This is not my show this is a Pikes Peak Detachment wide effort. I just have the honor of going to jail if things really go south. Something that I am excited to report is in regards to a couple that is getting married this fall. They sent out a

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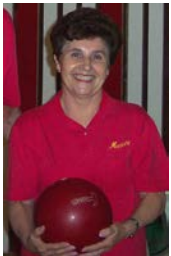


card in their wedding invitations asking their guests to bring toys for Toys for Tots instead of gifts for them. WOW! Now that is to be highly commended! Last but certainly not least. I want to give a mighty OOHRAH!! to Melvin Postlewait for having the courage to go against his true nature of maintaining Marine Corps grooming standards for the sake of the children, just so we can have a Santa Claus riding in the Toys for Tots train in the Labor day parade. I know I have the body to be a Santa, but even if I was willing to grow a beard, it hopefully will be many years before it's as white and wonderful as his. We know it hurts Melvin, but we all love you for it and appreciate your sacrifice.

**Semper Fi, Russ**

**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Bowlathon**

**Marianne Smith**  
**719-392-4456**



Attention members! Pledges and bowlers are needed for our yearly Bowlathon Fundraiser at the Brunswick Zone, 999 North Circle Drive. Bowlers should be at the lanes at 1230. Please let me know names

and how many would like to bowl. We are about at half of last year's goal. It would be nice if we could reach or even go over last year's goal. Pledge forms were sent to members whose phone numbers were not listed on the membership roster. Please respond when called upon and come to the September meeting with your donations. Checks should be made out to "Marine Corps League Bowlathon" or sent to my address: Marianne Smith, 546 Raemar Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80911. Please help us again make this Bowlathon a great success. If you have any questions please contact Marianne at 719-392-4456; Iris Rudesill at 719-685-5014; or Denise Wickersheim at 719-590-9109. Donation checks should be made out to the Marine Corps League Bowlathon. Donation receipts are available. Hope to see you at the meeting on Saturday Sept 20<sup>th</sup>; Thank You and Semper Fi.

**Marianne Smith and the Bowlathon Committee**

**Quarter Master**

**Garry Gibson**

[gunny1@mindspring.com](mailto:gunny1@mindspring.com)



Hi everyone; Early on Thursday 14 August 2014 Joe G. Martinez (the DI guy) and I departed for Cripple Creek towing our antique campers (a 1958 Air Stream & a 1959 Shasta Compact.) We were followed by Steve Peterson who drove in from Surprise, Arizona (he's a dual member) to help out during this 3 day event. Upon arriving in Cripple Creek, we moved into

our reserved spaces at the Heritage House RV Camp Grounds. The Good News is we were assigned a great spot at the corner of Bennett & 2nd St. in Cripple Creek which is the same space we were assigned last year.



**Garry, Steve, and Joe at Cripple Creek**

The Really Great News is we did quite well - during this 3 day event we took in a total of \$2,492 dollars. Here is the breakdown: on Friday we did \$596.00 in sales, on Saturday we did \$1,560.00 in sales and on Sunday we did \$336.00 in sales. This is \$399.00 more than we did last year. We also took in \$76.00 in donations - this money went into our PPD Helping Marines Project Fund. Successful fund raising doesn't come easy, you must have support. I would like to give a special thanks to Joe G. and Steve Peterson for their help & support during this 3 day event. These guys spent countless hours on their feet helping sell merchandise & dogging me. I came well prepared for that - I had my Kevlar undershorts on. I also want to thank Russ Miller for coming up to help out after he had officiated the monthly meeting in my absence. Upcoming Events: On



**August Meeting**

Monday (1 September/Labor Day) while most of you will be in Fountain at the parade site preparing for the parade, we'll be setting up our Cash Sales tent, equipment and our inventory nearby in Metcalf Park. On Saturday 13 September, you'll find us above the clouds in Woodland Park for this year's "23rd Annual Cruise above the Clouds" car show & Cash Sales event. Let's hope for good weather up there - we had

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to cancel this event last year due to inclement weather. Our last outside event for 2014 will be the "27th Annual High Country Toy Run". This event will be held on Sunday, 5 October at the Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Museum, located on Nevada Ave. More information on this event is forthcoming. There will be no cash sales at our September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting as I will be up in Aurora, CO participating in a 5K Memorial Run/Walk; however, we will have Cash Sales inventory set up at our October, November and December monthly meetings. Till I see you at one of the many upcoming events...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***

**2 September 1945:** The Japanese officially surrendered to the Allies on board the battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay. With General Holland Smith transferred home in July 1945, the senior Marine Corps representative at the historic ceremony was LtGen Roy S. Geiger, who had succeeded Smith as Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

**5 September 1956:** Eleven Marines from the 9th Marines, 3d Marine Division, stationed near Naha, Okinawa, drowned while swimming, from an undercurrent caused by Typhoon Emma. The violent storm, with 140 mph winds, struck the Philippine Islands, Okinawa, Korea, and Japan, causing some 55 deaths and millions of dollars in property damage.

**6 September 1983:** Two Marines were killed and two were wounded when rockets hit their compound in Beirut, Lebanon. Heavy fighting continued for the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit peacekeeping force in the area near their positions around the Beirut International Airport.

**8 September 1942:** On Guadalcanal, the 1st Raider Battalion and the 1st Parachute Battalion, supported by planes of MAG-23 and two destroyer transports, landed east of Tasimboko, advanced west into the rear of Japanese positions, and carried out a successful raid on a Japanese supply base.

**11 September 1992:** Hurricane Iniki devastated the island of Kauai in Hawaii in one of the worst storms the islands had seen in over a century. Marines of the 1st Marine Brigade based at Kaneohe Bay, spearheaded Operation Garden Sweep, the massive cleanup effort.

**11 September 2001:** At 9:38a.m. a commercial airliner, piloted by terrorists, slammed into the Pentagon, the headquarters of the Department of Defense, located across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. The Marines Corps was fortunate in

that no Marines were killed or seriously injured in this attack. The weekend before, most of the Department of Marine Aviation, located directly above the site of impact, had been relocated to another area of the Pentagon, during building renovation. Immediately following the attack, Marines set up a "command center" under an overpass of Interstate 395, which runs beside the Pentagon. Working alongside fellow servicemen and civilians for hours, days, and weeks after the tragedy, Marines played a large role in the rescue and recovery effort. Including those aboard the hijacked Boeing 757, 189 men, women, and children were killed in the terrorist attack on the Pentagon.

**15 September 1950:** The 3d Battalion, 5th Marines landed on Wolmi-do Island in Inchon Harbor and secured it prior to the main landing. The 1st Marine Division under the command of Major General Oliver P. Smith landed at Inchon and began the Inchon-Seoul campaign.

**16 September 1814:** A detachment of Marines under Major Daniel Carmick from the Naval Station at New Orleans, together with an Army detachment, destroyed a pirate stronghold at Barataria, on the Island of Grande Terre, near New Orleans.

**18 September 1990:** A new 40-acre training facility for Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) was dedicated at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, by General Alfred M. Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

**20 September 1950:** Marines of the 1st Marine Division crossed the Han River along a six-mile beachhead, eight miles northwest of Seoul, Korea. Five days later, the 1st and 5th Marines would attack Seoul and the city would be captured by 27 September.

**24 September 1873:** One hundred and ninety Marines and seamen from the USS Pensacola and Benicia landed at the Bay of Panama, Columbia, to protect the railroad and American lives and property during the revolution.

**27 September 1944:** The American flag was raised over Peleliu, Palau Islands, at the 1st Marine Division Command Post. Although the flag raising symbolized that the island was secured, pockets of determined Japanese defenders continued to fight on. As late as 21 April 1947, 27 Japanese holdouts finally surrendered to the American naval commander on the scene.

**30 September 1945:** Marines of III Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Keller E. Rockey, began landing in North China to assist the Chinese Nationalist government in accepting the surrender of Japanese forces and repatriating Japanese soldiers and civilians.

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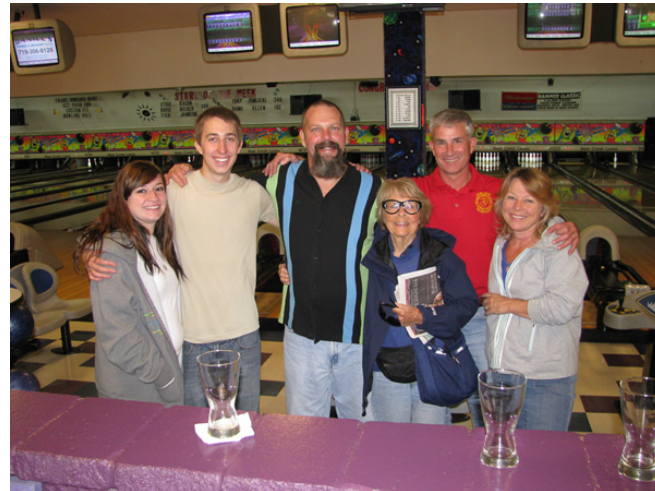




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**August Meeting**  
**Events Past**



**Bowlathon 2010**



**Cruise Above the Clouds 2011**



**Marine Corps Ball 2010**



**Veterans Day 2013**



**High Country T4T Motorcycle Run 2012**

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