



Pikes Peak Detachment 29 Marine Corps League

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September 2017 Newsletter



Pikes Peak Detachment 2017 Officers

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22nd Annual Bowl-a-thon
Sunday, October 8th @ 1300 (1 PM)
Brunswick Zone
999 North Circle Drive

Bowl-A-Thon Coordinator Marianne Smith

The Bowl-a-thon is fast approaching and is before our monthly meeting in October. This is the last newsletter before the event. I am in need of bowlers and pledges. All the bowlers need to be at Brunswick lanes at **12:30**. Please come and cheer us on. We are very low with pledges. Please sign up at our next meeting, if you have not pledged yet. Donations should be made out to: MCL BOWL-A-THON and sent to my address: 546 Raymar Drive, Colorado Springs, CO, 80911 or pay at the meeting. For those who have paid already, "a big thanks!" If you have questions, call 392-4456 or cell 432-9715. Denise Wickersheim and I are calling on you. Please do respond. Help us make this bowl-a-thon a great one!

Marianne Smith, Bowl-a-thon Committee

Pikes Peak Detachment Monthly Meeting

16 September 2017

Breakfast at 0800
Meeting at 0900

VFW Post 4051
430 E Pikes Peak Ave
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Cash Sales will be open!



Karnivorous Kanines

**Military Order
of the Devils Dogs**

Pound Growl

16 Sept. after the Det. monthly meeting.

Growl will include elections and award ceremony. If you are a member of the MCL with at least one-year membership under your belt, join us.

Bring some bones!

Commandant Paul Hinojosa

Hello Marines, Navy FMF Corpsmen and Chaplains, associate members and families. Although I missed this past months meeting due to other league events that required attendance, we had a pretty good turn out with 29 attendants including one FMF corpsman guest whom I have contacted to see what he thought of us and he stated that it felt great to be amongst his Marines again.

I want to give a special thanks to Joe G. Martinez who helped out at the 30th Anniversary Salute to the American Veterans and POW/MIA rally in Cripple Creek. Since our quartermaster and I were in Kansas attending the National Convention, Joe volunteered to help gather the equipment needed for this three-day event and set up tent on Thursday in preparation for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Joe was there the whole event, that is dedication folks! Thank you, Joe. Please read the article from our quartermaster concerning sales from that event. Attendance for this event was not very high, it maybe, we got trumped by the Solar eclipse event on August 21. Both Pat Carty and I left the National convention early Thursday morning and rushed back into the Springs to help Joe with the event which started on Friday. Russ Miller left the event on Saturday and rushed over to help us out on Sunday. That was a lot of driving, in that week alone, I put in almost 2,000 miles on my truck. But well worth it! Thanks to Col Salasko, Col Davis (now retired), and many other Marines from the active duty side of the house at NORAD/NORTHCOM/STRATCOM for assisting Jim Wear of Pro-Promotions to present the Custom Motorcycle built for Gunny Chris Claude, a combat injured amputee. An honor color guard was on hand for this particular event manned by Sgt. Corral, Cpl Loree, SSgt's Bard and Chavez to help present the motorcycle, this color guard happened to use our color guard equipment which included the new telescopic flag poles and gold spears. Needless to say, the Marines looked very sharp with our new equipment. During the three-day event, we presented two Marines that have helped our detachment with Toys for Tots and color guards last year with Honorary Active Duty MCL membership certificates.

On August 26, was the 40th anniversary celebration for the Marine Corps Memorial in Golden, Colorado. In attendance from our detachment were Russ Miller, Joe G. Martinez, Pat Carty, Del Duval, Gunny Gibson (as Dept. Commandant), Peggy Baldwin, Terry Crum, Bob Berndt and yours truly. Our very own National Young Marine of the Year from Pikes Peak Young Marines was also in attendance as a VIP, accompanying him were several Young Marine units from Colorado. The attendance was great, weather cooperated, and traffic and parking was not as bad as we thought it would be, the whole event was very well coordinated.

Great News! Not sure where or who sent me this information as this month has been somewhat of a daze, but Lowes is offering a permanent 10% discount to all veterans. Simply go to the customer service desk with your DD214, they will create a Lowes account so when you are checking out, simply give the cashier your phone number and you get your discount. I verified this with Lowes. Secondly, all honorably discharged veterans will have access to the online military exchanges come November. You can sign up now by going to vetverify.org. I've been granted access now for beta testing and I am seeing some great prices, so check it out!

That's all I have for the newsletter, if anything new comes up or if I forgot to mention anything, I'll be sure to bring it up in our next meeting. Stay active, and stay healthy. If opportunity arises, consider volunteering in our events, we can always use more hands and you know, the company isn't half bad! Semper Fi, Paul



Outstanding Detachment Officers



Our guest Doc Milt Whitacre

Junior Vice Commandant Steve Schwartz

Hope all of you have had a great summer. It's been a very busy few months for the Detachment and I want to thank you for participating in the many events we have participated in starting with the Memorial Day honors in Fountain and at Memorial Park. Then there was the 4th of July parade in Monument and the Veterans Rally in Cripple Creek. Not to mention the individual efforts in support of our members and families. September started with the Fountain Fall Festival Parade and then the Cruise Above the Clouds mid-month. Major events upcoming in October and November include the Veterans Stand Down, the Marine Corps Ball and the Veterans Parade. As you can see, we are a very busy Detachment.

Again I want to say thank you. Makes me proud to be a Marine. See you at the meeting September 16.

Chaplain Pat Carty's message

Greetings Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Associates and, Friends. August has been a rough month for many of our members and friends. Gunny Garry Gibson's wife Marjorie succumbed to her courageous battle with cancer on 17 August. Gunny was at her side, as he had been for over a year, as she fought with all her strength through her very painful ordeal. Gunny will hold a private ceremony for Marjorie at their place in Black Forest, a place she so dearly loved. Gunny appreciates all the concern, phone calls, cards and offers of help during her illness. Iris Rudesill's son Sean Michael Rudesill passed away on the Hawaiian island of Maui on 07 August from internal bleeding. His cremated ashes were sent to Iris. At this point she has no plans for a service. In addition to her loss Iris is suffering from the painful effects of arthritis and, could use some help with her meals, etc. as she has trouble standing for any length of time. Please call Iris at 719.685.5014 to find out how you can help. Rocky Mountain Division Vice Commandant Allen Brink's daughter Lisa passed away in August from cancer. Allen and his wife Judy's address is 6715 W. 80th Circle, Arvada, Colorado 80003.

Joe and Sandy Esposito tragically lost their son Joe Jr. in August. Sandy is the lady with the seeing eye dog that our detachment has supported through her banquet to raise funds to train seeing eye dogs for veterans who have been blinded in combat and also to train Therapy/Service Dogs for veterans with TBI and PTSD. Her husband Joe is a Marine Vietnam Veteran and has been a member of the Royal Gorge Detachment in the past. Their son Joe Jr. (age 29 living in New Orleans) came home from work to find his two roommates being robbed at gunpoint in their apartment. When Joey saw his friends kneeling on the floor with guns held to their heads, he immediately jumped into action, fought the gun away from one of the burglars, shooting the one of the burglars in the hand in the process. The other burglar then turned and shot Joey twice and then both fled the scene. Joey died almost immediately, but saved the lives of his roommates in the process. Sandy has asked for our thoughts and prayers for Joe Sr. especially, this has had a very profound impact on him.

The Bereavement Team attended a service for WWII Marine Frank Roberts 05 August at Memorial Gardens. Frank was a recipient of the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in combat. Please consider becoming a member of the Bereavement Team as our ranks have thinned over time. As I've said in the past the families of our departed Marines sincerely appreciate our participation. Marine Mike Chapman passed away 30 August, from heart failure. Mike, as you may recall, was the Marine who never received his Dress Blues as Platoon Honor Man after graduation from boot camp, many years ago. Jr. Past Commandant Russ Miller found out about this and, saw to it that this travesty was rectified. Members of the Detachment attended a ceremony at Mike's home where he was presented with those long awaited Dress Blues. I never saw a happier Marine than when Russ gave them to him. A funeral service date has yet to be set. I will send out an announcement when it is confirmed. Jim and Polly Woods are settling in at their new place: Brookdale Vista Grande, apartment 203, 2780 Vickers Dr. They welcome guests to stop and see them. However, you should call first to see if they are home as they may have doctor's appointments. Their home phone number is 719.390.6538. Please remember them all with your thoughts and prayers.

Please contact me if you hear of any Marines or, their family members who may need our help. Hope to see you at the upcoming Labor Day Parade in Fountain 04 September, come early at 0630 and join us for breakfast at Sarge's Grill 6485 US-85 in Fountain, CO.

Paymaster Peggy Baldwin

It is time to pay your 2018 dues of \$36, if you haven't already paid them. There are 20 members that have not paid their 2017 dues. The amount due for 2017 can vary depending on your last expiration date. Please see me to get the proper amount due if you are not sure.

Anybody who wants a member's phone list please contact me. I can either email it or send it by USPS.
Semper Fi,
Peggy

Toys for Tots Coordinator Russ Miller

It seems hard to believe that we are quickly approaching another Toys for Tots Campaign already. We are talking with Commercial Real Estate Brokers as we search for a company to donate the use of 10,000 square feet of warehouse space for the 2017 Christmas Season.

In one month, we will be kicking off with a number of events.

1 Oct – The High Country Toy Run. Thanks to Jim and Pam Wear of Pro Promotions, we are back on track for the 30th Annual Toy Run. It will start from the Motorcycle Museum / Pikes Peak Harley Davidson and follow the traditional route through town, ending at Cowboys Bar downtown on Tejon.

2 Oct – Begin Distributing T4T Collection Boxes to Area Businesses If you are available to deliver boxes we could really use your help.

6 Oct – The Toys for Tots Golf Tournament. This will be our 2nd Annual Tournament at Silver Spruce Golf Course onboard Peterson AFB run by Marine Gary Green. We are still reaching out to local businesses for raffle items and prizes for the tournament as well as hole sponsors. If you are available to help us spread the word, please contact Russ for flyers to take to potential sponsors.

28 Oct – Colorado Springs Comic and Toy Convention. This is our third year being the honored charity at this event. We will need a couple volunteers to man an information table and collect monetary donations and toys as a number of our officers will be attending the Department of Colorado Staff Meeting in Salida that day.

Watch your email for more information on all these and more events as the dates draw closer.
Semper Fi, Russ

Quartermaster Russ Miller

Thanks to all that helped with Cash Sales up in Cripple Creek during the Salute to American Veterans & POW/MIA Recognition Ride Rally. This year's attendance in Cripple Creek seemed down a bit from past years, I think in part due to the Solar Eclipse. As I was driving up on Sunday Morning, (day 3 of the event) I passed a large number of Motorcycles headed down the mountain rather than up. As we would expect, with lower attendance came lower sales. Our total three day sales was less than we made just on Saturday alone last year. Better luck next time!!

I also want to say a special thank you to Col Salasko, Col Davis (now RETIRED), and many other Marines from the active duty side of the house at NORAD/NORTHCOM/STRATCOM for the assistance they gave to Jim Wear in presenting the Custom Adaptive Motorcycle to Gunny Chris Claude, a combat injured critical amputee. Doesn't sound like there was a dry eye in the place as this event came full circle from it's beginnings when it was started 30 years ago by Jim and a hand full of Marine I&I staff here in Colorado Springs back before the Reserve Unit was moved up to Buckley.

Our Detachment Commandant, Paul Hinojosa, also awarded two hard charging Marines that have been a huge help to our detachment with Toys for Tots and Color Guards, SSgt Gerad Patton and Sgt David Ramires with their Honorary Active Duty MCL Membership Certificates. The Distinguished Citizen Bronze Medal and Certificate was presented to SSGT Patton for all his efforts and leadership among our active duty brothers and sisters over the past few years. We look forward to his return to the Springs once he has completed his current orders overseas.

Semper Fi, Russ

40th Anniversary Marine Corps Memorial Golden, Colorado 26 August 2017

The sun shone bright on the Marine Corps Memorial celebrants in Golden, Colorado as they observed the memorial's 40th anniversary, the largest memorial west of the Mississippi that's dedicated to the United States Marine Corps. Many people gathered together on the warm August day, some traveling quite a distance, to be part of the event and honor the finest warriors the world has ever produced.

The prime mover behind the memorial's 40th anniversary was the Memorial Foundation President Paula Sarlls. She worked tirelessly to orchestrate the various aspects of this event. Furthermore, Marine Corps League Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and Auxiliary members worked together to plan, organize an event worthy of a Marine Corps Memorial often referred to as the "The Jewel in Colorado's Golden Crown". And in the hearts of many, a fine jewel it is. A special "shout out" must be given to the Young Marines. It does the heart good to see the Young Marines with so much patriotism and motivation, and the color guard was outstanding. Sadly, the total number of worthy people are too numerous to list here, but each and every one who contributed to event is well appreciated.

The list of speakers is long and distinguished. Many outstanding Marines and predominate members of the community graced the event with their presence. We were honored to have the following people speak at the event: LtGen Rex C. McMillian, Congressman Mike Coffman, BGen Floyd "Sumo" Dunstan, LtCol Orson Swindle, and Mr. Bill Davis. Mr. Davis during his portion of the presentation introduced those present to the National Young Marine of the Year, Sergeant Major Angel Orozco. The highlight of the celebrations was a motivating speech by Congressional Medal of Honor recipient MajGen James E Livingston USMC (Ret). The Generals speech was crowned with a fly over by aircraft.

Never to rest on their laurels, the Marine Corps League Association and Foundation are planning a \$3.02 million remodel of the memorial bringing it into the 21st century and beyond. See the plans at www.usmarinecorpsmemorial.org. The best is yet to come!

Karnivorous Kanines of Pikes Peak Dog Robber Russ Miller

Woof Woof Devil Dogs! It's time for all you hounds to renew your licenses, and make sure you have your rabies, parvo and dis-temper vaccinations up to date or risk being spayed or neutered. To ensure that you are paying the correct number of Big Bones so we can forward dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones on to the Pack and Kennel, please recall that last year we raised our paws in agreement to increase our Pound Dues by 2 big bones from 18 to 20 Big Bones a year. (10BB to the Kennel, 5BB to the Pack, and 5BB stay with the Pound) Don't make this BIG DAWG come jump your fence and dig those bones out of your yard myself. I will be contacting any Pups that are eligible to advance to DD at the Pack growl in Salida on 28 OCT. Keep having fun chewing those Italian loafers. Woof WOOF!!

Semper Fi,
Russ "Slim" Miller

Minutes of the 19 August Pikes Peak Detachment Meeting

Senior Vice Commandant Terry Crum opened the 19 August meeting of the Marine Corps League Pikes Peak Detachment for official business at the VFW #4051 Post at 0900 with Salute to Colors and opening prayer. All officers were present except for the Commandant, Junior Past Commandant, Paymaster, and Quartermaster. 29 members were in attendance.

Guests / Application for Membership:

Doc Milt Whitacre, served as a Navy FMF Corpsmen 1968-1972.

A motion was made and seconded to accept Doc Milt Whitacre as a member of the Detachment upon prove of honorable service and new membership dues are paid. The motion carried.

Minutes: A motion to accept the July 2017 minutes was made and seconded by Roger Baty and Arden Rivers respectively. The motion carried.

New Correspondence: No new correspondence.

Paymaster: Denise Wickersheim (Stand-in)

The Marine Corps League runs on a fiscal year and not calendar year. National HQ has decided that all memberships will expire August 31st and will no longer be sending out renewal notices. The 2018 membership dues are \$36 and payable by August 31, 2017. For delinquent members whose membership expired before January 1, 2016 and are still on the National roster a total of \$72 is needed; \$36 for 2017 dues and \$36 for 2018 dues. Delinquent members whose membership expired between January 1, 2017 and June 30, 2017 a total of \$56 is needed; \$20 for 2017 dues and \$36 for 2018 dues.

New members will pay the new member fee of \$41. After that renewals will be \$36 and payable by August 31 each year. Members no longer on the National roster who want to be reinstated will need to complete another application and pay the renewal fee of \$36. Now is a great time to consider purchasing a life membership if you can afford it. In the long run it can you save money and you avoid the hassle of having to pay annual membership dues. Members must be in good standing (current on dues) before purchasing a life membership. See me for more details.

Chaplain/Sick and in Distress:

The very sad news of Marjorie Gibson's death was announced.
Iris Rudesill health is still improving and she is mourning the death of her son.
The medical issues of Steve Schwartz and Bob Roper were also discussed.
WWII/Korean/Vietnam Veterans Luncheon was a success.
The bereavement team attended the funeral service for Marine Frank D. Roberts.
Jim and Polly Woods are settled in at their new home and now welcome guest.

Report of Officers

Commandant: Senior Vice Commandant Terry Crum (Stand-in)

The 3rd Marine Division Association will hold its annual reunion this year in Colorado Springs at the Hotel Elegante, 2886 S. Circle Dr. on Sept. 13. Commencing @ 0900 and ending by 1400 hours. Since they don't have a local chapter anywhere in Colorado, they've reached out to our detachment for three volunteers for two main areas, registration and hospitality room. Volunteers so far: Pat Carty and Russ Miller, Paul Hinojosa, Gunny Gibson, and Dennis Wickersheim.

Oct. 17 Colorado Springs Homeless Veterans stand down. The coordinator, James Griffith, has asked us to hand out clothing and boots, 1 volunteer driver for homeless families, and in addition, escort homeless vets as we greet them at the registration tables and ensuring they complete and turn in their paperwork and go to the services they need. We would be on standby to escort.

Aug 26 will be the 40th anniversary celebration for the Marine Corps Memorial in Golden, CO. MOH recipient Maj. Gen. James E. Livingston USMC to present. Would like many folks from our detachment go to the event. We will be caravanning out to Golden. Gunny has offered his place as a staging ground.

An idea was presented by a staff member on the subject of conducting future flag burning ceremonies with the Young Marines. Currently, Union Colony Marines are doing this where they replace a worn flag being flown by offering a new flag in exchange in order to properly retire the old one. In our case, we would bring in the Pikes Peak Young Marines and work together to gather and retire flags.

We have a good contingent of volunteers. Currently there are now enough of us that once we create a work schedule, each individual should only be working one Wednesday every two months. Thanks everyone for stepping up and helping.

The Discussions was informed that a 1-hour day care for members who cannot attend our meetings due to child care. This is still in discussion, first step is to clear this with Rust Insurance to see if we are covered, second is to find someone willing to watch the children in a room provided by the VFW (if approved by both Rust insurance and VFW). Don Lopes discussed the qualifications of some of the Young Marines, first aid and CPR.

Senior Vice: Terry Crum

MCL National web site was updated: <https://www.mclnational.org>.

The MCL national has announced a new Chief Operating Chief: Mr. Robert Borka. Educated, experienced and is a Marine Corps veteran. Could be a good sign. Please let me know if you are having issues accessing the MCL web site/emails.

Junior Vice Commandant: Steve Schwartz –

Update given on the Veterans Rally in Cripple Creek. Waiting for information from the Fountain Chamber of Commerce regarding the Labor Day Parade. Steve will register the Detachment for the Veterans Day Parade soon.

Adjutant: Theresa Crum - NSTR

Judge Advocate: Gary George – NSTR

Junior Past Commandant: Russ Miller – NSTR

Quartermaster: Senior Vice Commandant Terry Crum (Stand-in)

We have been invited to set up our cash sales at the VA clinic on a periodic basis starting with the 13OCT open house. This will be an outstanding recruiting opportunity for us as well as another venue for us to sell our wares and make some funds for the detachment's many programs.

Marine Del Duvall has brought up the idea of having a drawing for a free cover at the monthly WWII / Korean / Vietnam luncheon that we host the second Tuesday of every month at Western Omelet. Del proposed that we would take one cover per branch to every luncheon and only give away one cover each month. The subject was discussed but did not gain traction.

Sergeant at Arms: NSTR

Web Sergeant: Terry Crum NSTR

Toys for Tots: Senior Vice Commandant Terry Crum (Stand-in)

Our 2017 Campaign is just around the corner. We are still in search of a building for this year. We will begin delivering collection boxes on 2 October.

6 October is the Toys for Tots Golf Tournament.

The High Country Toy Run is expected to run on either 1 or 8 October, pending more info from Jim Wear.

There will also be a Comic and Toy Convention in October that will be benefiting Toys for Tots.

The owner of Western Omelet has offered to trade us one of our hand pump pallet jacks that we use for Toys for Tots for an electric/motorized one that he has. We may have to replace one or both of the batteries if they will not hold a charge. Questions were raised about the price of a battery charger.

Military Order of Devil Dogs (MODD): Steve Schwartz

Hinojosa, Miller, Carty, Baty have successfully completed the initiation to Pedigree Devil Dog at the National Growl in Overland, KS. Both Roger Baty and Russ Miller made Honor Dog for their respective platoons 9 and 2, respectively. Tom Krueger was elected as the national Kennel Smart Dog.

A collection of 50,000 big bones was successfully collected from all the various packs, growls and the supreme growls and donated to the children's hospital in Kansas City.

Following the September Detachment meeting, the Pound Growl will take place shortly afterwards. The Pound elections will be held. All Devil Dogs are requested to attend and be prepared to be elected or appointed to Pound leadership positions for 2017-2018.

Standing Committees:

Report of Special Committees:

Unfinished Business: NSTR

New Business: NSTR

Good of the League:

Marianne Smith spoke about the 22nd Bowl-a-thon on October 8th. She is concerned that only \$1995.00 has been pledged to date. and the committee are accepting pledges now and have already had \$365 pledged! Only about 15 bowlers have signed up to date. We need bowlers!

Roger Baty announced that the 2017 Marine Corps Ball will be 10 November at the Double Tree.

Roger also announced an end of summer potluck picnic at his home 23 Sept. Carmella Miller announced that a birthday party was also planned for the 23 Sept. for Russ' 50th birthday at the Miller residence. Roger said he would consider having the potluck picnic on a different day. More to follow...

Marine Melvin Postlewait informed the Detachment the Jim Woods had recently given him the American Flag that had flown at the Woods home for many years. Melvin was proud to say that the flag pole has found a new home on the flag pole at his house.

With no additional business at hand, the 50/50 drawing was held. The total amount collected was \$81.00. Denise Wickersheim owned the winning ticket (\$41.50).

With all business being completed Senior Vice Commandant Crum closed the meeting at 0954. The next meeting will take place on 16 September 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Crum, Adjutant

Got any plans for 23 September?

One day in September, two parties

Picnic at the home of Roger and Terry Baty

Saturday 23 September
beginning time is 1330 until...

8720 Rugby Ct.

This is a potluck picnic so anyone that is coming, please contact Terry or I via email or phone (719-534-9683 – leave a message if we do not answer) regarding what you are planning to bring and how many will attend. We will provide all the drinks as well as brats/buns and condiments/paper plates. If there are any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to us.
Roger

Russ Miller's Big 50 Bash

If after that you still have the gumption to party some more Carmella Miller announced a birthday party was also planned for the 23 Sept. for Russ' 50th birthday at the Miller residence.

Russ and Carmella Miller will hold an open house. The Millers have requested no gifts but that you all would help with the celebration.

Saturday 23 September 1600-2000 (4PM-8PM)

5752 Wells Fargo Dr.

Look at who's all grown up and ready for a colonoscopy!