

Kettle Moraine Marine



January 2008

Detachment #1203

Vol IV Issue 1

The Monthly Newsletter for Washington and Ozaukee County Marines.

Detachment

Officers

Commandant

John Stern
(262) 629-5967

Sr. Vice

Commandant

Bill Wallace
(262) 338-3525

Jr. Vice

Commandant

Glen Brewer
(262) 365-0165

Judge Advocate

Charlie Keller
(262) 335-3330

Adjutant

Jason Waier
(262) 623-1417

Paymaster

Roger Cross
(262) 675-6965

Chaplain

Paul Bollmann
(262) 628-0469

Sgt at Arms

Barry Oelerich
(262) 255-6517

Historians

Jim Krudwig
(262) 689-5409

Jason Waier
(262) 623-1417

Public Affairs

Danny O'Toole
(262) 255-3514

John Fleischman
(262) 626-1156

Honor Guard Cmdr

John Stern
(262) 629-5967

Color Guard Cmdr

Charlie Keller
(262) 335-3330

Newsletter Editor

Jim Krudwig
(262) 689-5409

Flag History Team

Jim Krudwig
(262) 689-5409



Kettle Moraine Detachment members Andrew and Chris Moericke in 29 Palms California take a break while training with the rest of Fox Co 2nd Bn 24th Marines for a quick picture. They are preparing for a training exercise using paintball guns, thus the blue barrels, handguards and odd looking headgear.

Sgt Chris Moericke has already deployed to Iraq, LCpl Moericke will be leaving with the rest of Fox Co at the end of January.

Read both recent articles on Fox Co and its Marines at www.ketmordet.com.

Photo by Karen Sherlock

Our next Meeting is 0900 hrs Saturday January 19th, 2008 at the Trenton Town Hall.
Located at 1071 State Hwy 33 East, West Bend Wi 53095.

Kettle Moraine Detachment 1203, Marine Corps League
Minutes of Meeting Held on December 15th, 2007
21 Members were present

The Meeting was held at the Trenton Town Hall in West Bend, WI.

The Sr Vice Commandant called the meeting to order at 0906. The Sgt at Arms presented the Colors, and the Chaplain said the opening prayer.

Roll Call of Officers

Commandant: John Stern excused
Sr. Vice Commandant: Bill Wallace present
Jr. Vice Commandant: Glen Brewer present
Adjutant: Jason Waier present
Judge Advocate: Charlie Keller excused

Paymaster: Roger Cross present
Chaplain: Paul Bollmann present
Sgt at Arms: Barry Oelerich present
Historians: Jason Waier present
" Jim Krudwig present

Other Members in Attendance

Chantelois, Steve	Conde, Ted	Coulter, Dan	Erdman, Don	Fleischman, John
Heiman, Carl	Link, Paul	Moericke, Rollie	Montag, Fred	O'Toole, Dan
Rodriguez, Sean	Straub, Hugo	Unertl, Ken	Wujcik, George	

New Members/Guests

Paul Link , and Steve Chantelois were sworn in as new Members. Welcome aboard!

Reading of the Minutes

There was no regular KetMorDet meeting during November as Members celebrated the Marine Birthday Ball instead. In addition there also was no Newsletter in November. The December Newsletter was printed later than usual and not all of the Members had the opportunity to see the October Minutes in it. Discussion of both the October and December Minutes will be held during the regular January Meeting.

Paymaster's Report

The Paymaster distributed the Financial Report. He felt the 2007 Marine Birthday Ball was a huge success with 59 paid attendees. This was agreed upon by those that attended it. The Ball came in **UNDER** budget again this year. Ted Conde gave the Paymaster a \$50 refund from the security deposit for the Birthday Ball hall rental. There is a CD that will mature at the end of December. Paul Bollmann made a motion to let the Paymaster automatically renew CD's as they come due. The Paymaster and Adjutant Jason Waier said that it only takes a minute to mention the CD's when they are due and someone may know of better interest rate then at different banking institutions. There was no second to the motion. Fritz Montag made a motion to accept the Paymaster's Report. Motion seconded by Don Erdman and passed. The Paymaster has received solicitations from "The Museum of the Marine" in Jacksonville, NC and "The National League of Families of American and Missing in South East Asia". There was no positive feedback to donate at this time to these organizations and the matter was dropped. Donations are being sought for "The Fountain of Tears", a Korean War monument which is being built at The High Ground Veterans Memorial Park. Jim Krudwig made a motion to get more info on purchasing a Legacy Stone which would be placed in The High Ground's plaza walkway. You can visit their website at www.thehighground.org. Motion seconded by Paul Bollmann and carried. The Paymaster has the winter Detachment jackets on hand for Members to purchase. The cost is \$58. If interested contact Roger Cross.

Chaplain's Report

George Wujcik was at the December Meeting and is recovering from recent surgery. Jim Krudwig said that Doug Duffin has not been able to participate in recent Det. activities due to his health. The Chaplain said that he has spoken to Cal Racine and that he is back to work after his surgery.

Correspondence Received/Delivered

During the October Meeting John Fleischman stated that Rush Limbaugh had made a huge donation to the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation. The donation came from the sale of a letter written by Sen. Harry Reid and signed by 40 other fellow Democratic Senators. Mr. Limbaugh had made a comment during his radio program pertaining to "phony soldiers". He was talking about all the people falsely posing as military veterans, who are being brought to justice. Harry Reid twisted the meaning of those comments to include ALL veterans, not just those posing as veterans. He wrote a letter to the CEO of Clear Channel Radio, who hosts the Rush Limbaugh radio show, asking him to publicly repudiate Mr. Limbaugh, and make him apologize for his comments. Not only did Mr. Limbaugh not apologize for his comments, he put the letter up for sale on e-bay. He stated he would match the amount that the letter sells for with the proceeds to go to the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation. The letter sold for \$2.1 million dollars. Rush Limbaugh kept his word and matched that amount. There are several good articles on the internet pertaining to this. Just GOOGLE "Rush Limbaugh smear letter" and everything from a copy of the original letter, to a video of Harry Reid on the Senate floor talking about it. John Fleischman's motion was to send Mr. Limbaugh a Thank you note from the Detachment for that large donation. Seconded by Steve Chantelois and passed.

Report of Standing Committees

Honor Guard: Nothing new to report

Flag History Presentation Team: Following recent FHP's, donations were received from Cub Scout Pack 3731 - \$50, and Bethlehem Lutheran School - \$50. The Senior Friends group in Hartford collected \$111.45 in donations for a recent presentation. It should be noted that none of these donations showing appreciation for the FHP's were solicited.

Quartermaster: Nothing new to report.

VAVS: Contact the Commandant if interested in volunteering for this position.

PAO: Nothing new to report.

Fundraising: The Commandant is looking for a Member to take on the position of Fundraising Chairman for the coming year. If interested contact John Stern. This position will entail setting up fundraising sites, and dates. The Commandant also stated that the fundraisers may not be held during the big holiday weekends next year. Hopefully this would get more Members out to help during fundraisers.

Newsletter: As there was no November Meeting, the November and December Newsletters were combined into a single larger one containing more photos and color pages. The Editor distributed copies of the Nov/Dec issue following the Dec Meeting. Annual Newsletter ads are due again at \$100 for a single ad or \$175 for a double. Members obtaining donations for three ads will get the new green KetMorDet t-shirt.

Color Guard: Nothing new to report.

Birthday Ball: Bill Wallace thanked all that attended the Ball this year. It was worth all the hard work. Dan O'Toole suggested that Members should not be charged to attend the Ball, only the guests. Dan Coulter noted that the general public may not appreciate finding out that the money they had donated was used for Detachment parties. Jim Krudwig said that any potential problem could be alleviated if consideration would be given to using specific fundraisers like Brat Fry proceeds for Detachment activities versus Marine Rose proceeds used for the troops and other charities. Roger Cross is already working on scheduling 2008 Birthday Ball guest speaker. Paul Bollmann made a motion to present a thank you card and plaque to the 2007 Ball guest speaker, LtCol Gillette, for his outstanding presentation. Seconded by Paul Link and passed.

Old Business

Ted Conde spoke about the new Freedom Memorial in front of the Old County Courthouse Museum Plaza in West Bend. It will be a new monument for veterans of the War in Iraq. It will be placed near the WWI Doughboy statue which was erected in 1927, and the WWII, Korean, and Vietnam War monument which was erected in 1998. During the rebuilding of the Plaza, KetMorDet could purchase an 18x18 inch granite stone with the Detachments name on it to help defer the cost of the new monument. Jim Krudwig made a motion to purchase one stone for \$150 with it saying Marine Corps League, Kettle Moraine Detachment #1203, Washington County. Roger Cross stated he would talk to Wally Miller of Miller Monuments to see if it could all fit. Motion seconded by Paul Bollmann and passed. As noted in the last Newsletter Carl Heiman has found a website where the black double soled dress shoes can be purchased on line for \$26.97. These are seconds, or blemished shoes, but can be found at www.sportsmansguide.com. Both Paul Bollmann and Jim Krudwig stated that all Members need to participate in more Det. events. There are currently 53 members, but only a small percentage do most of the work. It takes team work to get the job done.

New Business

Nominations will be taken at the January Meeting for the 2008 Detachment Officers. Elections will be held at the February Meeting. The Adjutant is working to arrange the Dept of WI State Commandant to swear in the new Officers at the March Meeting. The Judge Advocate has served the two year maximum permitted by the Det. By-laws, and the Sr Vice Commandant, and Sergeant at Arms are not seeking re-election. Members are asked to step forward to help lead the Detachment for the next year. We cannot operate without leaders. Nominations will be taken for ALL Officer positions. Duties of the Officers can be found by clicking on the Calendar/Forms tab of the Detachment website www.ketmordet.com and then clicking on the Detachment By-laws on the right column. Jim Krudwig said that the short sleeve summer shirts are not appropriate for winter wear and spoke of looking into purchasing long sleeve shirts, ties and tie clasps for the Color/Honor Guard and Flag History Presentation team. The cost would be around \$75-\$80 each when finished. The total cost should not exceed \$1500 to \$2000. The donations being received for the many FHP's should eventually cover this cost. Most of the FHP's are conducted during the winter season. Paul Bollmann made a motion that this be considered. Don Erdman seconded and passed. Jim Krudwig stated he would write up a proposal and present it at the January meeting.

Good of the League

Paul Bollmann brought in coffee and donuts for the Members. Come in early for the meeting and share some time with your fellow Marines. Instead of just showing up once a month for a business meeting, let's use this time and get to know each other a little better. Dan Coulter brought in left over napkins and placemats from the Ball. Members Chris and Andrew Moericke are finishing up their time at Marine Corps Base, 29 Palms, CA before shipping out to Iraq. Be sure to stay up to date with them at www.ketmordet.com. John Fleischman wished to thank the Detachment again for the Det donation to his niece.

Meeting Closed

With no further business to be conducted, the Sr Vice Commandant gave the order to close the Meeting. The Sgt at Arms retired the Colors, the Chaplain gave the closing prayer, and the Sr. Vice Commandant thanked all for attending and asked that they secure new members.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Waier, Adjutant

A BELATED MARINE CHRISTMAS STORY

Most of those Members who use the internet and e-mail are aware of the SGT GRIT page and his catalog of great Marine stuff for sale. But it also includes notes from and about Marines. The following was passed on by a retired Marine.

Sgt Grit,

This week our daughter, Cathy, was traveling home from college to be with us for Christmas. When she checked in at the airport in College Station (home of Texas A&M where she is a student) she found they had canceled her flight due to mechanical problems with the aircraft. Because of the Christmas holiday, available seats on other flights were almost impossible to find.

After waiting many hours and not finding any seats on other flights, things were not looking good. Alone in the airport (with the exception of workers) she didn't know if she was going to make it home to see us. After sitting on a bench and crying in frustration an older gentleman approached her and asked what was wrong. She explained the situation. They chatted a while, and the gentleman explained he was visiting A&M to see his grandson get commissioned in the Marines.

About that time, they both noticed an old T-28 aircraft taking off from the airport. Cathy explained to the gentleman that her father had flown those and helicopters many years ago. The gentleman asked "in what branch of service did your father serve?" She proudly said, "the Marines, sir!" Our daughter went on to explain that her mother was also a Marine, and that she even had her very own Gunny who helped raise her, and who ultimately retired as a SgtMaj. She continued on with her story and sadly told the gentleman that we had to bury "her Gunny" during Thanksgiving.

The older gentleman said, "Young lady, maybe I can help. Where are you headed?" Cathy told him first to Houston with a connection on to Birmingham. The gentleman got up and went over to speak with the gate agent and came back a short time later. He said, "If it is OK with you, you can fly with me to Houston and make your connection." Not comfortable with "getting a ride from a stranger" Cathy was a bit hesitant. About that time an aircraft taxied up and parked on the tarmac in front of the terminal. On the side of the aircraft was "United States Marine Corps". The gentleman said, "That's my ride, and I can get you to Houston. Would you like to come along?" Cathy quickly responded, "Yes sir" and off they went. When boarding, Cathy noticed several Marine Officers were already in the aircraft. Upon landing in Houston, the older gentleman made sure that Cathy was escorted by two Marine Lieutenants in dress blues through private security screening and all the way down to her gate, catching the eye of everyone in the airport.

She made it home Monday night, with a Christmas story she will remember for the rest of her life. No, the older gentleman wasn't St. Nick. He was General Al Gray, former Commandant of the US Marine Corps, still taking care of one of his Marine Corps Family. Semper Fi Jon & Carolyn Minerich

TALKING DOG FOR SALE

A guy is driving around the back woods of Tennessee and he sees a sign in front of a broken down shanty-style house:

'Talking Dog For Sale' He stops his car and thinks to himself, "This I gotta see."

The old redneck, who is sitting on the front porch in his rocking chair, tells him that the dog is in the backyard where he can look at it. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a nice looking Labrador Retriever sitting there.

"You talk?" he asks.

"Yep," the Lab replies.

After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says "So, what's your story?"

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. By time I was two, I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA and they had me sworn into the toughest branch of the armed forces, the *United States Marines*. You know that one of their nicknames is *'The Devil Dogs'*. In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders; because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running, but the jetting around really tired me out and I knew I wasn't getting any younger. So, I decided to settle down. I retired from the Corps (8 dog years is 56 Corps years) and signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired and settled down."

The guy runs around to the front of the house and asks the old redneck sitting there "How much do you want for that dog?"

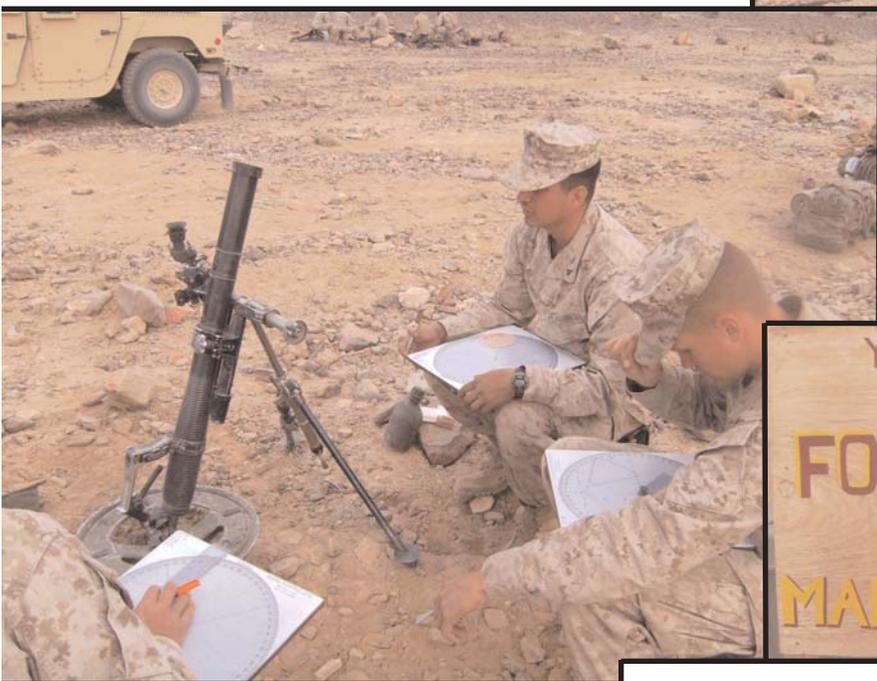
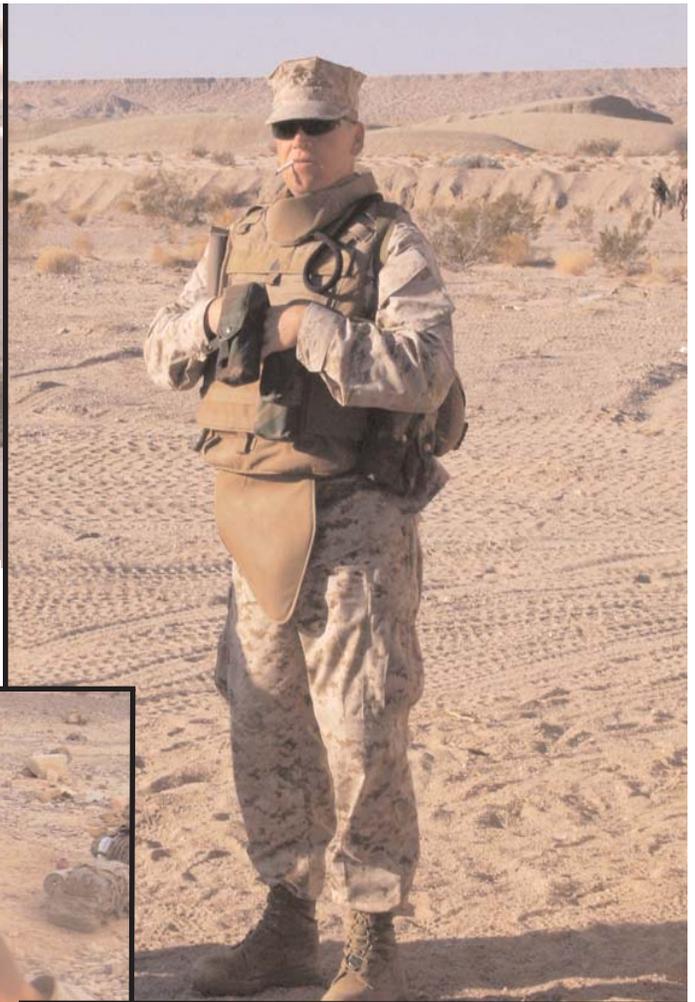
The old redneck replies "\$10.00". The guy can't believe his luck and says, "This dog is amazing. That's pretty cheap for a talking dog who was a hero."

The redneck replies, "I have to be honest with you. That dog is a liar. He never did any of those things he claims. He was really in the Air Force"

(Taken from the internet - author unknown)

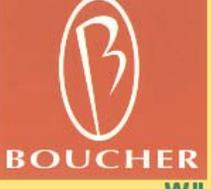


The above Marines of Postal Detachment Camp Fullujah recently recieved a KetMorDet care package. Pictured are: Gunny Elver, SSgt Gibbs, Sgt Jones, Cpl Adams, LCpl Miller, LCpl Cole, Cpl Carter, and Cpl Butler.



See more of Fox Co. pics at www.ketmordet.com

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Be sure to stay in touch with the Detachment at www.ketmordet.com

KETMORDET OFFICER REPORTS FOR JANUARY 2008

In order to expedite the regular meeting time, the Commandant has requested that all Officers and Committee chairs provide their input to the Newsletter Editor by the first week of each month. Members are also welcome to submit something. Any submission may be edited. This will enable Members to review items of interest and reduce discussion at the meeting. Additionally, it provides any Member who cannot make it to a regular meeting, the opportunity to remain abreast of Det. activities.

COMMANDANT JOHN STERN REPORTS:

Honor Guard: The Honor Guard did not participate in any functions during the month of December. If any uniformed Member is interested in participating and would like to learn the commands and sequences of a firing detail, contact the Honor Guard Commander and a practice session will be scheduled.

Support the Troops Packages: Spec Nicholas Grief and Sgt. Christopher Rupel were sent packages during December. I encourage the entire KetMorDet membership to submit names, addresses, e-mail addresses and names of the person making the request to me for future mailings. For 2007, the Det. mailed 41 packages totaling 244 pounds, 12 ounces. (I have retained the postal records to substantiate this should anyone inquire as to how funds are spent.) With the deployment of Fox Company, 2/24, the Marine Corps Reserve unit from Milwaukee, the total number of packages KetMorDet sends to the troops during 2008 should easily surpass our 2007 efforts.

Next time you are in the area of Pick-N-Save North off Washington St (Hwy 33), I encourage you to stop by the Marine Recruiting Station and introduce yourselves to SSgt Tim Hall and his team. Look for future 'joint ventures' between KetMorDet and his team of recruiters during 2008.

Notes from the Troops: Note from Sgt Christopher Rupel in Iraq who was sent a package during 2007.

"Hoorah Sgt Stern, everything is correct in the address except my rank, I am a Sgt like yourself sir. I appreciate all of your support and the service you have given our Country before my time. I have 37 Marines out here who are carrying the torch for you and are glad to hear that there are still some other true Americans back there rooting for us. Thanks again."

The following is the format of the generic letter sent out, by e-mail, to the troops (from any branch of the military) who are in harm's way and whose names KetMorDet. receives. It will be reprinted annually so all are aware of how this is handled.

"Pvt/Cpl/Sgt/Lt/Capt/etc _____: "

Greetings from the Kettle Moraine Detachment - Marine Corps League. I hope that this e-mail finds you and your unit safe and in good spirits. One of our organization's many missions is to support service men and women like you currently serving our country. Our organization holds numerous fund raisers throughout Washington and Ozaukee Counties in Wisconsin using the proceeds to purchase socks, baby wipes, beef jerky, hand sanitizer, AT&T phone cards, hot sauce, smokeless tobacco and other items we think might be of use. I plan to ship out boxes next week and would like to include you as a recipient. While I can't make any promises, if there is any item that you are particularly in need of, please let me know and I'll bring it to the attention of our membership. Likewise, if for any reason, you cannot use any of the above items, let me know and I will not include them in our package. Once you have confirmed the address given to me by _____, I'll get that package in the mail. As it sometimes takes up to two weeks for the package to arrive, please let me know if the address given me by (them/ him/her) will be valid for the next 30 days. The address provided is:

Rank - Last name, First Name, MI

Unit addresses info:

FPO/APO address and Zip Code

As a Vietnam veteran, I am keenly aware that sometimes it may feel that most Americans really don't appreciate all the sacrifices being made by you and your fellow (Marines/Soldiers/Sailors/Airmen). Be assured that the people of Washington and Ozaukee Counties of Wisconsin, whose generous contributions allow us to send these packages, do care and appreciate all that you do. I speak for the entire Kettle Moraine Detachment - Marine Corps League, who "thank you" and are praying for your safe return.

Former Sgt John W. Stern USMC, Commandant, Kettle Moraine Detachment - Marine Corps League

A Few Good Men: With nominations for the 2008 KetMorDet Officers being taken in January and the elections in February, I urge everyone to consider a leadership position in your Detachment.

SR VICE COMMANDANT BILL WALLACE REPORTS:

The Senior Vice Commandant position will be open for 2008 as I do not plan to run for any Officer position.

JR VICE COMMANDANT GLEN BREWER: Nothing reported.

JUDGE ADVOCATE CHARLIE KELLER REPORTS:

Thank You Marines. I have served as your Judge Advocate for last 2 ½ years, under three Commandants. I have enjoyed every minute of it, some good and some not so good, however, all outstanding. Under our Detachment By-laws, I will be unable to run for this office again. So it with great appreciation, I say.....Semper Fi

ADJUTANT JASON WAIER REPORTS:

Marines, Officer nominations are upon us. This is your time to step forward and help guide the Detachment for the next year. If there is something that you would like to change about how the Detachment works, now is your time. Don't just sit in the back and be silent.

Several Members' dues are late or are coming due including: Greg Bertling, Mark Bustamante, Gil DeLaurier, Ken Heinecke, Jerry Lorenz, Brian Rahn, Richard Schlice and Doug Smith. If any of these Members feel this info to be wrong, please contact the Paymaster or Adjutant.

I would like to wish Wally Huf, George Kaczmarek, Dan O'Toole, and Cal Racine a Happy Birthday this month.

PAYMASTER ROGER CROSS: Nothing reported.

ACTING CHAPLAIN PAUL BOLLMAN: Nothing reported.

FLAG HISTORY CHAIR JIM KRUDWIG REPORTS:

One Flag History Presentation that was not previously reported was conducted:

FHP for the Badger Boosters 4-H Club in West Bend on Dec 13th (100 viewers) with Team Members: Erdman, Heiman, Kaczmarek, Montag, Unertl, and Krudwig participating.

The schedule was deliberately kept lean during the holidays so the Members could spend time with their families. We are back into it and have queries and requests coming in as far off as next June. Members are requested to get the word out to schools, groups, organizations that would benefit from having a FHP conducted for them. A month lead time helps keep things organized.

NEWSLETTER: As we go to press, there are a few ad blocks left for 2008. The donations from our supporters for the Ads pay for the printing and mailing of the Newsletter. Members are encouraged to speak to their local vendors and businesses to see if they would donate for an Ad. The cost is \$100 for a single block and \$175 for a double. Finally, **read over who our advertisers are and help support them to show KetMorDet's appreciation for their support.**

DUTIES OF KETMORDET OFFICERS - THROW YOUR NAME INTO THE NOMINATION BIN:

Commandant: It shall be duty of the Commandant to preside at all Detachment meetings; to enforce all rules and regulations; to appoint such officers and committees not otherwise provided for in the By-Laws; to direct the affairs of the Detachment according to the By-Laws and according to the rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Detachment Officers; to perform such other duties as usual for such office.

Senior Vice Commandant: It shall be the duty of the Senior Vice Commandant to give every assistance to the Commandant. In the absence of the Detachment Commandant he will perform the duties of that office. He shall also perform other duties assigned to him by the Detachment Commandant.

Junior Vice Commandant: It shall be the duties of the Junior Vice Commandant to aid the Commandant, and to create membership incentives and programs in order to ensure membership growth. He shall also perform other duties as may be assigned to him by the Detachment Commandant.

Judge Advocate: It shall be the duties of the Judge Advocate to interpret National, Department and Detachment By-Laws; to render opinions when requested by any member during any meeting. The Judge Advocate will always address Detachment Commandant whereupon the Detachment Commandant will rule on the opinion. The ruling shall be final unless appealed and put to a vote. A simple majority of the voting membership is required to reverse the ruling of the Detachment Commandant. He shall also perform other duties as assigned to him by the Detachment Commandant.

Adjutant: It shall be the duties of the Adjutant to keep the minutes of all Detachment meetings, maintain current and accurate membership roster, answer correspondence as directed by the Detachment Commandant; publish notices of meetings to the membership as may be required; maintain records and custody of all Detachment equipment and property. He shall also perform other duties as may be assigned by the Detachment Commandant.

Paymaster: It shall be the duties of the Paymaster to keep financial records of all Detachment business including records of all membership accounts; to hold all monies; pay out money only on approval of the members; to notify all members of dues/fees/ to inform the membership of any indebtedness the Detachment may have incurred. He shall also perform other duties as may be assigned by the Detachment Commandant.

Chaplain: It shall be the duty of the Detachment Chaplain to perform such duties as required by the By-Laws and Rituals of the Marine Corps League. He shall also perform other duties as may be assigned by the Detachment Commandant.

Sergeant at Arms: It shall be the duty of the Sergeant at Arms to preserve order at all meetings. He shall perform such duties as prescribed in the latest edition of the Marine Corps League ritual, and may perform other such duties as assigned by the Detachment Commandant.

Historian: It shall be the duty of the Historian to maintain a record of Detachment activities so as others may be witness to our functions. He shall also perform such duties as assigned by the Detachment Commandant.

ALL OFFICERS SHALL BE ELECTED FOR A TERM OF ONE (1) YEAR, UNLESS REMOVED FOR CAUSE WITH TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE YEARS MAXIMUM FOR THE COMMANDANT, SENIOR VICE, JUNIOR VICE AND JUDGE ADVOCATE.

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

WINTER STAFF MEETING - DATES: January 19 & 20, 2008

AMERICINN - 325 Seiple Blvd, Beaver Dam, WI - For reservations (920)356-9000

20 rooms blocked for MCL at military rates (15 Non-smoking & 5 smoking)

Other hotels in area: Super 8 (920)887-8880 & Campus Inn (920)887-7171

Saturday 19th - 1200 Check-In at AmericInn
1201 Hospitality Room Opens
1400 Dept of WI General Meeting (AmericInn)
1400 League/Auxiliary, General Meeting (AmericInn)
1700 Devil Dog Growl following Dept General Meeting

Sunday 20th - 0900 Dept Meetings Continue
0901 Check-Out

\$5.00 Registration Fee (Both League & Auxiliary) & \$10 Hospitality Room Fee

For further info contact: David Noe (920)885-5324 or e-mail at: devildog@powerweb.net

"ONCE A MARINE"

A Story By James Taylor

As I came out of the supermarket that sunny day, pushing my cart of groceries towards my car, I saw an old man with the hood of his car up and a lady sitting inside the car, with the door open. The old man was looking at the engine. I put my groceries away in my car and continued to watch the old gentleman from about twenty-five feet away. I saw a young man in his early twenties with a grocery bag in his arm, walking towards the old man. The old gentleman saw him coming too and took a few steps towards him. I saw the old gentleman point to his open hood and say something. The young man put his grocery bag into what look like a brand new Cadillac Escalade and then turn back to the old man and I heard him yell at the old gentleman saying, "You shouldn't even be allowed to drive a car at your age." And then with a wave of his hand, he got into his car and peeled rubber out of the parking lot. I saw the old gentleman pull out his handkerchief and mop his brow as he went back to his car and again looked at the engine. He then went to his wife and spoke with her and appeared to tell her it would be okay.

I had seen enough and I approached the old man. He saw me coming and stood straight and as I got hear him I said, "Looks like you are having a problem." He smiled sheepishly and quietly nodded his head. I looked under the hood myself and knew that whatever the problem was, it was beyond me. Looking around I saw a gas station up the road and told the old gentleman that I would be right back. I drove to the station and went inside and saw three attendants working on cars. I approached one of them and related the problem the old man had with his car and offered to pay them if they could follow me back down and help him.

The old man had pushed the heavy car under the shade of a tree and appeared to be comforting his wife. When he saw us he straightened up and thanked me for my help. As the mechanics diagnosed the problem (overheated engine), I spoke with the old gentleman. When I shook hands with him earlier he had notice my Marine Corps ring and commented about it, telling me that he had been a Marine too. I nodded and asked the usual question, "What outfit did you serve with?" He had mentioned that he served with the 1st Marine Division at Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal. He had hit all the big ones and retired from the Corps after the war was over.

As we talked, we heard the car engine come on and saw the mechanics lower the hood. They came over to us and as the old man reached for his wallet, but I stopped him and said I could just put the bill on my AAA card. He still reached for his wallet and handed me a card that I assumed had his name and address on it and I stuck it in m pocket. We shook hands all around again and I said my goodbye's to his wife. I told the two mechanics that I would follow them back up to the station.

Once at the station, I told them that they had interrupted their own jobs to come along with me and help the old man. I said that I wanted to pay for the help but they refused to charge me. One of them pulled out a card from his pocket that looked exactly like the card the old man had given to me. Both of the men told me then, that they were Marine Corps Reserves. Once again, we shook hands all around and as I was leaving, one of them told me that I should look at the card the old man had given to me. I said that I would as I drove off.

For some reason, I had gone about two blocks when I pulled over and took the card out of my pocket and looked at it for a long, long, time. The name of the old gentleman was on the card in golden leaf and under his name....."Congressional Medal of Honor Society." I sat there motionless looking at the card and reading it over and over. I looked up from the card and smiled to no one but myself and marveled that on this day, four Marines had all come together, because one of us needed help. He was an old man alright, but it felt good to have stood next to greatness and courage and an hour to have been in his presence.

Forwarded on e-mail by former Marine Paul Smith of the General Holcomb Det, MCL, Wilmington, DE

When is the Hand Required to be Held Over the Heart?

Recently, there has been a lot of furor about the photo of a presidential candidate that did not put a hand over the heart during the playing of the National Anthem. The candidate responded to criticism by saying that the photo was taken during the National Anthem, not the Pledge of Allegiance, so it wasn't required to put a hand over the heart.

According to U.S. law, a civilian is supposed to stand up when the National Anthem is played, men should take off their hats, all face the flag, and put their right hand over their heart. When in uniform, members of the military can keep their hats on and salute instead of placing their hands on their hearts. A change to the law in July 2007 authorizes military personnel on active duty who are in civilian clothes, retired military and military veterans to also salute the flag rather than put their hand over their hearts, at their own discretion. They should do either one or the other.

Specific customs for listening to the anthem or reciting the pledge had formulated over the years. The National Flag Conference, an organization made up of representatives from the armed forces and civilian organizations, created a guide to flag etiquette in 1923. But it wasn't until June 1942, when America was fighting WW II, that Congress made this "Flag Code" official.

An aside to this was that the code originally called for the "Bellamy Salute" during the Pledge of Allegiance. The salute was named after Francis Bellamy, who wrote the pledge and published it in *Youth's Companion*, a family magazine in 1892. Bellamy instructed people reciting the pledge to start with their hands on their hearts and then - at the words "to my flag" (later changed to "to the flag of the United States of America") straighten their arms in a military salute. But in the late 1930's, the salute became controversial as people began to realize that this gesture looked quite similar to the arm movement favored by the Nazis in Germany. Schools in New York, New Jersey and elsewhere began to alter the salute, and in late 1942, it was eliminated from the code in favor of keeping the hand on the heart, as most patriotic Americans do today.

Excerpted from a NY Times article by Torie Bosch and posted on the internet Nov 13, 2007.

A young Second Lieutenant is working late at the Pentagon one evening. As he clocks out of his office at about 2100, he sees the General standing by the classified document shredder in the hallway, a piece of paper in hand.

"Do you know how to work this thing?" the General asks. "My secretary's gone home and I don't know how to run it."

"Yes Sir," says the anxious-to-please young Lieutenant, who turns on the machine, takes the paper from the General's hand and feeds it into the shredder.

"Thanks," says the General, "I just need one copy."

Taken from the internet by Gene Van of the Puget Sound Detachment

KETMORDET'S REPORTED SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 19 Sat	0855	Regular Monthly Meeting, Trenton Town Hall, Hwy 33 East of West Bend, Officer Nominations
Feb 16 Sat	0855	" " " " " " " " " " " Elections
Mar 15 Sat	0855	" " " " " " " " " " " Installation
Apr 4 Fri	Noon	Flag History Presentation, Daughters of the American Revolution luncheon, WI Club, Milwaukee
Jun 10 Tue	1930	Flag History Presentation, Theresa Lions Club with Supper, Theresa Town Hall

NEWSLETTER INFO:

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The *KETTLE MORAINÉ MARINE* Newsletter is normally published prior to monthly scheduled meetings for the information and use of Detachment Members. Articles and letters are invited but the Editor retains the right to edit any submission. Submit typed materials or photographs **marked for the newsletter** to the Editor either by e-mail to mgysgt@att.net or to 922 Walnut St, West Bend, WI 53095. Annual donation for ads is \$100 for a single and \$175 for a double. Half or full page ads are also available. Check with the Editor.

Editor: Jim Krudwig (262) 689-5409

Graphics Editor: Jason Waier (262) 623-1417

See the Detachment Newsletter and other info at www.ketmordet.com