



November is the Month We Honor the United States Marine Corps



“Missions have changed over the years, but what has remained constant since November 10, 1775 is our unyielding commitment to protecting the lives of our citizens and the interests of our nation. Our purpose, by congressional mandate, is to be this nation’s rapid response force; we are thus called to be “most ready when the nation is least ready.” From humanitarian relief efforts to combat operations; from air, land and sea to every clime and place, the Marine Corps is ready to answer our nation’s call.

Semper Fidelis distinguishes the Marine Corps bond from any other. It goes beyond teamwork—it is a brotherhood that can always be counted on. Latin for “always

faithful,” *Semper Fidelis* became the Marine Corps motto in 1883. It guides Marines to remain faithful to the mission at hand, to each other, to the Corps and to country, no matter what. Becoming a Marine is a transformation that cannot be undone, and *Semper Fidelis* is a permanent reminder of that. Once made, a Marine will forever live by the ethics and values of the Corps.

Marine Corps Birthday

“Marking the birth of our Corps and honoring our proud lineage of warriors, November 10th is a celebratory occasion throughout our ranks. Since the official order that established it as a Marine Corps holiday in 1921, the Marine Corps birthday

has been a yearly reminder of the brave spirit that has compelled young men and women to defend our nation and its interests for more than two centuries. The celebration includes a formal Birthday Ball (when in garrison), the reading of a birthday message from the Commandant, the cutting of a birthday cake by the commanding officer, and the presentation of the first and second pieces of cake to the oldest and youngest Marines present. Whether on a stateside base or on a remote post abroad, on this day, every Marine who serves or who has served is entitled to the words, “Happy Birthday, Marine.””

November 1950, the 10,000 men of the United States Marine Corps First Division were surrounded by more than 100,000 men of the Chinese Army near the Chosin Reservoir. To fight their way out, they had to go through the Toktong Pass. The 246 Marines of Fox Company, Second Battalion, Seventh Regiment were assigned the task of occupying a hill overlooking the Pass to keep it open for the rest of the Division to pass through. Surrounded by 10,000 Chinese soldiers, Fox Company held its ground for four days and five nights of nearly continuous Chinese attempts to take what was now called Fox



Private First Class Richard Bonelli

Hill. Three quarters of the Fox Company’s Marines were killed or wounded. The cold was so intense that rifles and machine guns jammed. They had to gnaw frozen C-Rations. Toward the end, increasingly desperate Marines on Fox Hill fought off the Chinese with shovels, knives, rocks and their bare hands. But they held until relieved and kept the Pass open. Private First Class Richard Bonelli was one of those Fox Company Marines. Severely wounded he survived and was awarded the Silver Star for his heroic actions. Now Sergeant Bonelli, he will be our guest for

our Marine Corps Birthday Dinner 20 November.

The Sword



“The oldest weapons still in service in the United States Armed Forces belong to Marines. Today, the swords Marines carry represent the Marine Corps’ rich heritage as America’s original defenders. Officers carry the Mameluke Sword, which was originally given to Lieutenant Presley O’Bannon in 1805 by a Mameluke chieftain in North Africa. Lt O’Bannon and his Marines marched across 600 miles of North African desert to rid the “shores of Tripoli” of pirates and rescue the kidnapped crew of the USS Philadelphia. By 1825, all Marine Officers carried the Mameluke sword in recognition of this historic battle—the Marine Corps’ first on foreign soil.”

Happy 238th Birthday, United States Navy

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which was established on October 1775 when the Continental Congress authorized the procurement, fitting out, manning, and dispatch of two armed vessels to search for munitions ships supplying the British Army in America.

In 1972 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized recognition of 13 October as the Navy’s birthday, and since then each CNO has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration of this occasion “to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride

and professionalism in the naval service.” Our council’s recognition of this special date took place on October 16th at our dinner meeting at the Bird Key Yacht Club, when members helped to celebrate the Navy’s 238th birthday with a ceremonial cake-cutting. As is customary,

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...from the Council President

a time to celebrate, reflect and look forward

It's that time of year (already) when we look forward to the return of our "snowbird" members, and a time when our calendars tend to get busier. Holidays are rapidly approaching and plans are being made for celebrations, family gatherings and more. As you work your calendar for the next few months, I hope you'll include some time for our council activities and to support the good things we do in our community. Please keep in mind:

• On **November 6th** we'll hold the 8th Annual Earl Fowler Memorial Golf Tournament at the Heritage Oaks Golf and Country Club, Sarasota. Shotgun start is at 1 PM. The tournament is the one fund-raiser we conduct each year and the income allows us to grant scholarships, to support youth groups like the Sea Cadets, Young Marines and NJROTC, and to recognize our active duty Coast Guard people at Station Cortez and aboard the cutter Crocodile. It's not too late to sign up to play. You can print an entry form from our web site, www.navyleague-sarasota-manatee.org. Don't golf? You can help us by volunteering to work on the day of the tournament, or you can make a donation that will support the complementary greens fees that we give to active duty players from our sponsored units. Questions? You can call me at 941-756-0304, or Jerry at 941-492-6266.

• **November 20th** we'll hold our next monthly dinner meeting at the Bird Key Yacht Club. It's a

great venue with excellent food and we'll celebrate the 238th birthday of the United States Marine Corps. Details are on the enclosed dinner flyer. I hope you can attend!

• **December 4** we will hold our annual members' meeting at the Gold Coast Eagle Distributing facility in Lakewood Ranch. Beverages and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served and we will elect board members and officers for 2014. There will be no formal program: We'll take care of our annual election "business," and then socialize. Come out and join us!

• **January 15th, 2014**, at 6 PM we'll hold our regular monthly meeting, location and program to be determined. Please mark the date on your calendar and we'll have more details soon.

• **February 19th, 2014**, at 6 PM we'll hold our joint meeting with the Propeller Club of Port Manatee, at the Sara Bay Country Club.

We take justifiable pride in the good that we do for our youth and our active duty personnel, and with the support of our members we'll continue these wonderful programs. I hope you'll each make a special effort to participate in our events whenever possible because the more support we have from our membership, the more good things we can do for our community.

Thanks,

Tim Rocklein
President

Happy 238th Birthday *continued from page 1*

both the senior and junior Navy personnel present were invited to cut the cake, with Rear Admiral Don Harvey (USN Ret) and Ensign Danielle Vignocchi, (USNR), performing their duties with exceptional expertise. Joining them at the cutting were numerous council members who have served the Navy on active duty.

We also recognized the outstanding service provided by our Coast Guardsmen at US Coast Guard Station Cortez. The Senior Chief

Boatswain's Mate Travis Park read the citations for Sailor of the Quarter for Boatswain's Mate Second Class John Gentry, Boatswain's Mate Second Class Kyle Gaub, and Boatswain's Mate Third Class Bart Sullivan.

The Navy Birthday was also celebrated by a Ball in Tampa sponsored by the U.S. Special Operations Command. Our Council was represented by Council President and Mrs. Rocklein and Council Vice President and Mrs. St. Germain.



Admiral Harvey and Ensign Vignocchi cut the cake



Senior Chief Park with his Sailors of the Quarter Gentry, Gaub and Sullivan



St. Germain and Rockleins at Tampa Navy Birthday Ball



NAVY LEAGUE
Of The United States
Sarasota/Manatee Council

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Marla Vignocchi*

*National Director
**National Director Emeritus

NAVY LEAGUE **Of The United States**

VISION STATEMENT

The Navy League of the United States will be the preferred resource for the education of the American Congress and the American Public on our sea services.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Navy League of the United States is a civilian organization dedicated to informing the American people and their government that the United States of America is a maritime nation and that its national defense and economic well being are dependent upon strong sea services – United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard and United States Merchant Marine.

GOALS

- Educate national leaders and the nation.
- Support the men and women of the sea services.
- Provide assistance to sea service families.
- Support youth programs.

North Port High School NJROTC News

North port high school's NJROTC participated in their first drill meet of the season on October 5th, 2013. The day began with the athletic team competing in the push ups and sit ups. The day kept it's steady pace, as both the Unarmed and Armed drill teams completed their respective drill cards. Immediately after finishing, both teams went to their exhibition routines. At the same time, Color



Guard was off participating in their segment. Finishing up the long day, the races started. The NJROTC ran both the 100 meter and 200 meter run. The only team to not compete at the meet was the Academic team, they had finished their test prior to attending the drill meet. It was a tiring but educational experience for both returning and new cadets. -c/Petty Officer 1st class David Escobar



Color Guard



Cadet Fariello



Cadet Karillo

Venice High School MCJROTC News

MCJROTC goes climbing

On Saturday, September 21, 2013, the Venice High MCJROTC experienced "TreeUmph," a thrilling high rope course located in Bradenton. We arrived early and were greeted by the owners, and safety guides who made us feel at home, and helped cadets through the process of negotiating the five progressively difficult courses.



MCJROTC Cadets Alyssa Knittle, Seneca Symonds, Anthony Marois, and Morgan Atwell

After the safety and procedural briefing, students began having great fun in the

trees. The five courses offered multiple obstacles such as; tunnels, rope bridges, rock walls, and zip lines. Almost all of our 48 climbers made it through the first three levels with ease, and some even finished all five before a wonderful MRE meal. The heights and difficult obstacles offered a challenge to everyone. For some, the extreme altitude shook them. The last zip line (60 feet high and 650 feet long) was a great finale to a totally awesome adventure!

by Cadet/Major Alana Soodak

Sarasota Manatee Council NLUS 2014 Nominating Committee

Chaired by Al Burda, the Nominating Committee consisting of himself and June Moore, Alex Morris, Deb Harvey, and Jack Koach, is proud to present the following slate of Council officers for 2014.

- President** Tim Rocklein
 - First Vice President & Operations** Martin Donner
 - Vice President, Membership and Retention** R. June Moore
 - Vice President, Education** Richard J. Petrucci
 - Vice President, Legislative Affairs** Tim Rocklein (acting)
 - Vice President, Treasurer** Gerard St. Germain*
 - Corresponding & Recording Secretary** Nel Rocklein
 - Judge Advocate** Marc Soss
 - Chaplain** Alois J. Burda
 - Editor, Anchor Line** Roger S. Betts**
 - Directors - All of the Above, Plus:** Larry Balok, Steve Bartek, Clifford P. Bermann, Stephen Moore, Alexander R. Morris, Peter Ross, and Marla Vignocchi
- *National Director
**National Director Emeritus

COMING EVENTS

Please Mark your calendar for the following Council events planned for the upcoming months. Some dates are tentative and details are in the works:

- Nov 6** 8th Annual Earl Fowler Charity Golf Tournament, Heritage Oaks Golf and Country Club, 1 PM Shotgun Start
6 PM Prime Rib Dinner
- Nov 20** Dinner Meeting, Bird Key Yacht Club. Celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday!
6 P.M. Cocktails, 6:45 Dinner
- Dec 4** Holiday Party and Annual Membership Meeting
Gold Coast Eagle Distributing Headquarters, Sarasota
- Jan 15, 2014** Dinner Meeting. Program and venue TBD.
- Feb 19, 2014** Joint dinner meeting with Propeller Club of Port Manatee
Sara Bay Country Club
6 P.M. Cocktails, 6:45 Dinner

Check Out Our Council's New Web Site!

We're proud to announce that we're moving into the 21st century with our very own Council web site. For the past several weeks our Vice President, Jerry St. Germain, has been working diligently to bring our site on-line and he's done a terrific job.

Our site, www.navyleague-sarasota-manatee.org, is state-of-the-art and allows us to give our members (and potential members) access to any of the relevant info they might need: From a photo gallery, to info on our supported units, upcoming events, links to other Navy League-related sites, and MUCH more. The site contains a trove of useful information.

Thank you, Jerry, for all the time you've taken to make this valuable asset a reality! And again, it's: www.navyleague-sarasota-manatee.org. Please give it a look.

Attention All Golfers – Mark your calendars and call your friends who play and/or want to support our Council activities. Wednesday 6 November at Heritage Oaks Golf and Country Club is our Annual Fund Raising - the Earl Fowler Memorial Golf Tournament/Prime Rib Dinner and Chinese Auction. Superb golf and dinner – great opportunities to win valuable prizes – Golfers pay \$125. If you do not, or cannot, play - sponsor an Active Duty Service Team (\$500 for four players) or \$125 for individual Active Duty Service Member. Sponsor a Hole and get name recognition for \$150. Proceeds fund all of our Council activities to support our Youth and Sea Service Programs.

NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP REPORT

(Remember to "update" your 2013 ROSTER with the following additions & changes)

NEW MEMBERS:

Judith NILLES (Judy)
(John)
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(John)
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REINSTATED MEMBERS:

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CHANGES & ADDITIONS IN 2013 ROSTER:

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(Melissa)
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John W. RYNERSON (Jack)
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Donations to support our JROTC
Units, USCG/CORTEZ, USCG Cutter
CROCODILE, SEA CADETS, YOUNG
MARINES, Council Support and
Navy League Guests:

Steve BARTEK
Roger BETTS
Cliff BERMANN
Barry BROWN
Marty DONNER
Dane & Sandra HAHN
Jack HARMON
Don HARVEY
June MOORE
Dick PETRUCCI
Tim & Nel ROCKLEIN
Jack RYNERSON
and all the participants in the "Pot
of Gold" drawings

IN MEMORIAM

Robert K. GEIGER
Roger C. MONSON

ATTENTION MEMBERS: Please remember to send your renewal dues at least two weeks before their expiration date. Include your ID# which is on your Sea Power Magazine address label. If you have any recent changes in your ROSTER information, please contact Jerry St. Germain at (941) 492-6266 or gtgermain@concast.net. The Anchor Line is now being mailed quarterly only. Events are being emailed/snail-mailed between publications. Note that our Navy League email address is nlsarasota@gmail.net. (nlsarasota@gmail.net is the Navy League email used for all messages updating information received between our "quarterly" Anchor Lines sent to you. Those 25 who do not have computer email are sent "snail mail" First Class typed notices)

ATTENTION TO PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF THE NAVY LEAGUE: If you have any questions about the Sarasota-Manatee Council of the NAVY LEAGUE or request a membership application and/or dinner meeting reservation, please call June Moore, Vice President, Membership at (941) 388-3118 or email junegemini@earthlink.net



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