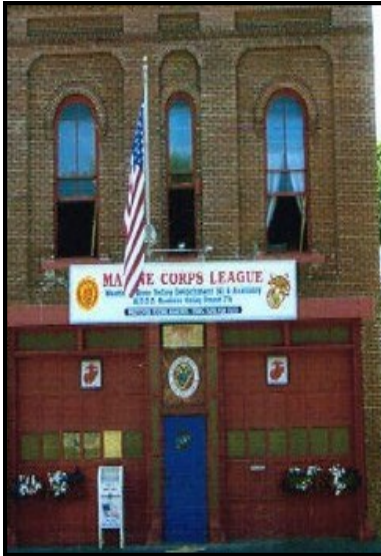


Scuttlebutt

Newsletter of the Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
Serving the Greater Springfield Area
Hampden & Hampshire Counties



Commandant: Brian P. Dupee
Volume 73, Issue 1

Chartered November 28, 1945
Chartered May 23, 1949

Editor: Marc S. Dunne
January 2012

Message From The Commandant:

I hope everyone observed a joyous Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanza and 2012 brings the best of health and prosperity possible. Our December Detachment events proved very successful. Our attendance at the Pearl Harbor Ceremony this year was well received by the community. Thanks to Don, Bill, Marc, Vinny, Jack and Roger. The Kids Christmas party was another outstanding success this year, thanks Marc. Captain Tom's Firefighters informal open chow and hoedown turned out better than expected. The Soldiers Home Veterans Christmas party was one of our best presentations ever, thanks to "Doc" and the Young Marines. The Kids Skate party made for some happy faces at Amelia Park this year, thanks to Big Y, Wal-Mart and Stop n Shop for their donations. In the spirit of the season many visits were made to our convalescing Veterans by members of Detachment 141. In closing, may God bless and watch eternally over all our American troops where e'er they may be.

Semper Fi,

John S. Rutovich
Commandant



Commandant John Rutovich

**Detachment 141 meets monthly on the second Monday
at 1900 hours. Social hour at 1800 hours.**



About Us:

The Westfield River Valley, Detachment 141 and Auxiliary are located in Westfield, Massachusetts. The Detachment's Charter was signed on November 28, 1945. The Auxiliary unit received its Charter on May 23, 1949, but was misplaced and on October 25, 1979 received their new Charter.

Fundraisers:

The Detachment and Auxiliary work close together in support of the principles of the Marine Corps League. We hold several annual fundraising events including: a scholarship dinner, flag pin sales on Mother's Day and Father's Day, July 4th pig roast, a baked potato and chili booth at the Westfield Fair, a motorcycle run and a July 4th and Christmas calendar raffle. The Detachment hands out 4 scholarships totaling (\$1200.00) every year. Our motorcycle run is entering its fourth year, and last year we donated 100% of the proceeds (\$5500.00) to the Marines Helping Marines/Wounded Warriors Fund.

Financial Support:

The Detachment provides and has provided financial support to the following:

- Captain John Maloney Fund
- Sgt. Joshua Desforges Fund
- The Chapel of Four Chaplains
- Tree of Lights
- Marines Helping Marines
- Wounded Warriors
- Holyoke Soldiers Home
- Veterans Hospital—Leeds
- Westover Young Marines
- Marine Corps League Youth Fitness Program
- Korean War Memorial
- Local Boy's and Girl's Clubs
- Westfield Veterans Council
- Americanism Program

In December, we host a Children's Christmas Party at the barracks and a Kid's Skate Party at Amelia Skate Park during school vacation, along with serving breakfast for all veterans every Saturday morning from 0700-1100.

Meetings:

Detachment meetings are held at 1900 on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Marine Barracks located at 71 North Elm Street, Westfield, MA. Social hour is at 1800.

Community Involvement:

Our members are actively involved in the Greater Springfield area. We provide:

- Color Guards for Memorial Day and Veterans Day services, parades and other patriotic occasions.
- Honor Guards for funerals of military veterans.
- Care packages to deployed Marines and FMF Corpsmen.
- Speakers for local and area schools for patriotic occasions.
- Certificates of Appreciation to leaders of community organizations and private citizens who demonstrate patriotism.
- Good Citizenship Awards to Boy Scouts who attain the rank of Eagle Scout.
- Flag Retirement Ceremonies.
- Marine Corps Birthday Ceremonies.
- Assistance to Marines, families and Marine Units.

The Detachment also sponsored the 2010 Department of Massachusetts Convention at Westover Air Reserve Base.

Detachment Awards:

- Distinguished Detachment Award (2006)
- National Jr. Vice Commandant's Citation for 100% Membership (2007, 2009)
- Meritorious Unit Commendation (2009)
- Honorable Mention for Americanism Book (2011)
- Certificate of Participation, National Newsletter (2011)

Detachment 141 Marines of the Year:

The following members have been honored as Detachment Marines of the Year:

1998-99	Arthur Fisher
1999-00	Don Dorrington
2006-07	John S. Rutovich
2007-08	Thomas D. Pirnie
2008-09	Frederic R. Hoekstra
2009-10	Daniel J. Bishop

Detachment 141 would like to thank all our sponsors from the community and our membership for their continued dedication and support of this monthly newsletter.




Bill Taylor
 45TH CHIEF DEVIL DOG
 MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS
 Email: the45thpdd@comcast.net

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Marine Spotlight Joe Messina

4

Where were you born?	Ware, Mass.
Graduated from? (High School)	Monson High School
Married? Children?	Single, 3 children
Graduated from? (Boot Camp)	Parris Island, 2nd Battalion, Platoon 230
MOS	2847
First Duty Station?	MCRD, San Diego
Last Duty Station?	Camp Pendleton, California
What did you do after leaving the Corps?	Worked & raised the family
Favorite meal?	Prime Rib
Current occupation?	Letter carrier
Where were you on 7 December 1941?	In my father's future
Favorite President?	George W. Bush
Favorite movie?	Halls of Montezuma
Favorite actor?	John Wayne
Favorite comedian?	Don Rickles
Favorite book?	
Favorite vacation place?	Hampton Beach
Favorite subject to talk about?	My kids & grandchildren
Favorite quote?	
What do you think of today's Marines?	Great
Most memorable lifetime event?	Boot Camp
Did you make the Corps your career?	No
Would you do it all over again?	Twice
Should politics be kept out of the military?	Absolutely
All time favorite Marine?	Chesty Puller



The 10th Marines is an artillery regiment based at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. They fall under the command of the 2nd Marine Division and the II Marine Expeditionary Force. The regiment took part in the conflicts of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. During WWII, the unit was involved in the assault on Guadalcanal, and also participated on Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian and Okinawa. In early 2003, the 10th deployed to Kuwait and provided support for Task Force Tarawa. Units of the regiment continue to deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The unit's nickname is "Fireball".

Upcoming Detachment 141 Events

Mon. Jan. 9:	Detachment 141 meeting
Sun. Jan. 15:	Pack Growl at Worcester Barracks
Mon. Feb. 13:	Detachment 141 meeting Scholarship Dinner TBA
Mon. March 12:	Detachment 141 meeting
Mon. April 9:	Detachment 141 meeting
Friday May 11:	Flag pin sales at Geissler's Market (Sat. & Sun)
Mon. May 14:	Detachment 141 meeting

*****Saturday Breakfast is back***
Chef J.R. is back also**

Come see us every Saturday for breakfast, hours are from 0700-1000. (depending on food). Our menu includes eggs, sausage, toast, SOS, hash, juices, milk, coffee, (regular and decaf) and donuts. Enjoy the company of your fellow members, watch the news on the big screen TV or mingle with the vets from the Soldiers Home or Leeds. Why watch history on TV when you can sit right next to it at the barracks.

Scuttlebutt

Scuttlebutt is the official newsletter of the Westfield River Valley, Detachment 141, Dept. of Mass. Marine Corps League, and is intended only for the information of its members. Articles and photos do not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Marine Corps or the Marine Corps League. Detachment Headquarters is located at 71 North Elm Street, Westfield, MA. 01085. Items for publication should be dropped off at headquarters or by contacting the editor. For current events and up to date calendar items, go to our Web Site at www.mclwrv141.com. The Detachment phone number is 413-562-4850

Detachment 141 Officers:

Commandant:	John S. Rutovich	sakejack61@comcast.net	413-222-2684
Senior Vice:	Marc S. Dunne	marcdunne@comcast.net	413-250-5515
Junior Vice:	Roger Beer	rbeer4@comcast.net	413-437-7542
Adjutant:	Geoff Croteau	geoffcroteau@gmail.com	413-222-4883
Judge Advocate:	Don "Doc" Rivette	devildoc734@yahoo.com	413-583-8931
Paymaster	Michael Burke	mapabarkingdog@aol.com	413-568-3689
Sgt. at Arms	Aldo Mancini	manscruffy@comcast.net	413-789-0830
Chaplain:	J.B. Stern	jarhead2squid@hotmail.com	413-530-2391
Asst. Chaplain:	James Bouchard	jamesbouchard@comcast.net	413-687-9262
Jr. Past Commandant	Brian P. Dupee	bdupee6281@charter.net	413-527-6281
Photos:	Matt Knas	tatra@charter.net	413-525-6270
PAO:	Frank Real	fgreal@aol.com	413-348-7885

Upcoming Dues:

January Dues

Richard Stone, Barry Szymojko, Robert Dittrich, Jr.

February Dues

Sophia Bartosik, Steve Christenson, Leila Connolly, Bennie Forester, Jr., James Laverty,
Peter Pitoniak

Life Membership Dues

Members age 35 and younger.....\$500

Members age 36-50.....\$400

Members age 51-60.....\$300

Members age 61 and over.....\$150

Happy Birthday to the following members:

(1st) Stephen Donaghue (PLM), (2nd) Richard Croteau (PLM), (3rd) John Johnson, (9th) Joe Knapik (PLM), (12th) Jeff Johnson, (16th) Richard Hardie (PLM), (17th) Barbara Dymon, John Torrone, (21st) Morris Cave, (24th) Donald Liptak, (26th) Joanne Lisee, (28th) Jack Ramsey (PLM), Manny Marrero, (29th) Wayne Fisher



“I want you boys to hurry up and whip these Germans so we can get out to the Pacific and kick the shit out of those Japanese, before the Goddamned MARINES get all the credit!”

Lieutenant General George Patton, U.S. Army, 1945

This Month In History....

7

10 January 1995: The Pentagon announced that 2,600 U.S. Marines would be deployed to Somalia for Operation United Shield to assist in the final withdrawal of UN peacekeeping troops from Somalia. The decision came in response to a UN request for American protection of its peacekeeping forces serving in the war-torn African nation.

11 January 1945: The first elements of Marine Aircraft Group 24, commanded by Col. Lyle H. Meyer, landed at Lingayen, Luzon, Philippine Islands, to provide close air support for Army forces. Over the next 3 months, MAG-24 and MAG 32 would fly a total of 8,842 combat sorties and drop more than 19,000 bombs as part of the Fifth Air Force in support of the Sixth Army.

16 January 1991: Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm as forces of the allied coalition launched an all-out air campaign against targets in Iraq and occupied Kuwait in an effort to liberate Kuwait and enforce the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council. Overall, the coalition forces included some 415,000 U.S. troops.

18 January 1951: Marines of the 1st Marine Division began mopping-up operations against guerillas in the Pohang area, South Korea, following the Division's return from its epic battle against Communist Chinese troops at the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir.

18 January 1943: Admiral William F. "Bull" Halsey landed the 4th Raider Battalion on New Georgia, a large island located on the southern flank of the Slot, about halfway up the Solomon Islands

20 January 1968: The second battle for Khe Sanh began when Marines from the 3rd Battalion, 26th Marines attacked a North Vietnamese battalion between Hill 881 South and Hill 881 North. More than 100 of the enemy were killed.

21 January 1918: The 1st Aeronautical Company arrived in Ponta Delgada, Azores, for anti-submarine duty. That unit was one of the first completely equipped American aviation units to serve overseas in World War I.

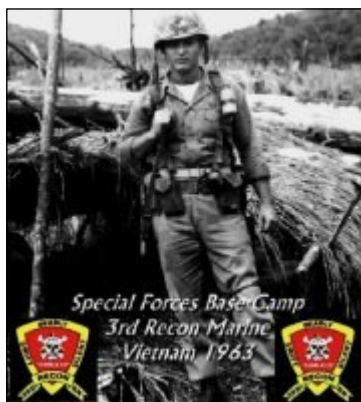
22 January 1969: Operation Dewey Canyon, perhaps the most successful high-mobility regimental-size action of the Vietnam War, began in the A Shau/Da Krong Valleys, when the 9th Marines, commanded by Col. Robert H. Barrow, and supporting artillery were lifted from Quang Tri. By 18 March the enemy's base area had been cleared out, 1,617 enemy dead had been counted, and more than 500 tons of weapons and ammunition unearthed.

25 January 1856: Marines and seaman from the U.S sloop DECATUR went ashore at the village of Seattle, Washington, to protect settlers from Indian raids. The Indians launched a seven-hour attack but were driven off later that day after suffering severe losses. Incredibly, only two civilian volunteers were killed and no Marines or sailors were lost.

27 January 1988: About 400 Marines and sailors from the 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, and 2nd Force Service Support Group deployed for the Persian Gulf. The Contingency Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) CM 2-88 would relieve Contingency MAGTF 1-88 in the volatile Persian Gulf and provide the effective landing force capability to Joint Task Force Middle East.

29 January 1991: The first serious ground fighting of Operation Desert Storm broke out when Iraqi troops mounted an attack into Saudi Arabia along a 40-mile front. Iraqi troops centered their efforts on Khafji, a port city six miles south of the border. Saudi and Quatari troops, supported by artillery from the 1st Marine Division and attack helicopters and other allied coalition aircraft, recaptured the town two days later.

31 January 1968: In the early morning hours, a division-size force of North Vietnamese Army (NVA) and Viet Cong (VC) launched a well coordinated multi-pronged attack on the city of Hue. Their targets were the Tay Loc airfield and the 1st ARVN Division headquarters in the Citadel, and the MACV compound in the New City on the south side of the river. Their strategic objective was to "liberate" the entire city as part of a country-wide popular uprising to sweep the Communist insurgents into power.



Cpl. John Gariano
3rd RECON BN
DaNang, Vietnam 1963



2011 Kids Christmas Party



Santa bringing gifts and joy to the kids at Detachment 141. All photos by Matt Knas.

Commandant Rutovich, Sr. Vice Dunne presenting Santa with certificate of appreciation for his work.



WFD delivers Santa to the Barracks

Santa

Christmas Party for the Vets at Holyoke Soldiers Home



Westover Young Marines & members of Detachment 141 caroling.



Holyoke Soldiers Home, Liaison Don Rivette, Cmdt. John Rutovich and Past Cmdt. Francis Curnow

Pearl Harbor Ceremony



L-R, Jack Ramsey, Don Gadoua, Marc Dunne, Roger Beer, John Rutovich and Vinny Sulewski



Pear Harbor Veterans releasing the ceremonial wreath. All photos by Matt Knas.

“Marines I see as two breeds, Rottweiler’s and Dobermans, because Marines come in two varieties, big and mean or skinny and mean. They are aggressive on the attack and tenacious on the defense. They’ve got really short hair and they always go for the throat.” RAdm. “Jay” R. Stark, USN; 10 November 1995



*Military Order of the Devil Dogs
Pound #276, MA Pack
Pound Keeper: Mike "Speedy" Burke*

WHAT IT IS

The Military Order of Devil Dogs is the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League.

1. WHAT IT DOES

It promotes good fellowship amongst the members of different Marine Corps League Detachments. The Order provides amusement and entertainment at all gatherings of the League, when and where advisable. It assists in the accomplishment of all programs and objectives of the League, preserves and strengthens the principles and ideals of the League, and maintains true allegiance to the United States of America and its Constitution and laws. It fosters and extends American institutions of freedom and defends America against all enemies whatsoever. The Order is also VERY active in raising funds for different charities.

WHO BELONGS

The Military Order of the Devil Dogs is made up of only members of the Marine Corps League. The Order accepts only the most worthy of League members.

HOW TO JOIN

You must be a paid-up member and in good standing in the Marine Corps League with at least one year's membership. The applicant must be active in his or her Detachment in the League, and must request membership in the Order. He or she must be recommended by his or her Detachment Commandant and be sponsored by two Devil Dogs or Pedigreed Devil Dogs. The applicant is then interviewed by the members of the Pound at the Pound Growl. (A meeting is called a Growl.) If accepted, the applicant must undergo an initiation and swearing-in ceremony. Then he or she becomes a Pup in the Order.

ORGANIZATION

The Pound is on a local level and is usually made up of members of different Marine Corps League Detachments. On the State level there is the Pack, and on the National level there is a Kennel. There are three different degrees in the Order. The lowest degree is that of Pup. The next degree is that of Devil Dog. The highest degree is that of Pedigreed Devil Dog. The Pup wears a black ribbon, the Devil Dog wears a red ribbon, and the Pedigreed Devil Dog wears a gold ribbon. The ribbon is worn around the neck and a Dog Tag is attached to it.

The head of the Pound is called the Pound Keeper. The head of the pack is the Pack Leader. The head of the Kennel is also the head of all Devil Dogs and is called Chief Devil Dog.

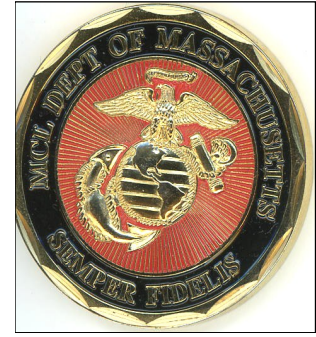
The Order's many charitable donations not only help people in need, but also build good public relations for the Order, the League, and the United States Marine Corps.

**Pound 276 would like to welcome it's newest litter:
Pup Roger Beer**

**Woof! Woof!!
Next Growl on March 4 at Pound 276, 1300 hours**



Visit our website at
www.mclwrv141.com



From the East, take Exit 3 off the Mass Pike, thru toll booth and stay right on Rt. 202, N. Elm Street. Go down the hill thru the lights and straight ahead. Stay right, 1st building on left after parking lot.

Saepe Expertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres Aetern, Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever



Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
Marine Corps League
71 North Elm Street
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