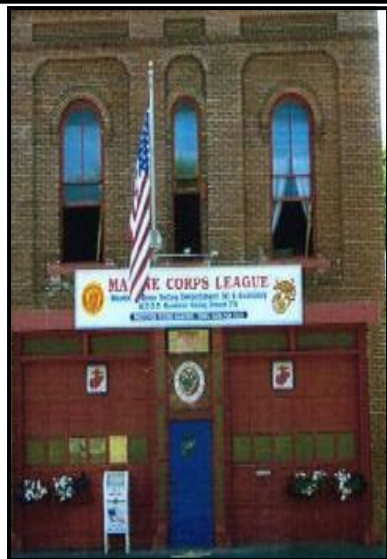


Scuttlebutt

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



Commandant: *Brian P. Dupee*
Volume 72, Issue 9

Chartered November 28, 1945
Chartered May 23, 1949

Editor: *Marc S. Dunne*
September 2011

Message From The Commandant:

August brought an incredible amount of work for the detachment. In the most earliest part of the month, I had a great time representing this detachment at our National Convention in Boise, Idaho and I thank you all for allowing me to do so along with Lynn and Michael Burke. It was very warm there, but we had a wonderful time with everyone. Not many changes to the national staff but as usual the by-law changes were long.

The Westfield Fair came upon us with a lot of heat and less rain which made the fair very successful. Nothing but open mouths to feed and all kinds of smiles. A big round of applause to those who helped this year, especially the Woman's Auxiliary.

I also represented us along with Mike Burke, at a dinner in Clinton. A long-time member of the American Turners had their hall dedicated to him for all the work he has done. He is a surviving Iwo Jima Veteran and was given a Life membership to the League by our Department Commandant.

It seems like we have nothing but hard working and dedicated individuals, because right around the corner is our annual Bike Ride. The committee is still working long and hard to make this a success. Please help in anyway that you can. Every little bit makes this a success each and every year.

Let's not forget that breakfast starts back up after the holiday weekend. The first official breakfast for the year is September 10th. We need volunteers to keep this wonderful event going.

Following the breakfast is a Department meeting on Sunday the 11th at our headquarters along with brunch beforehand. We will need volunteers for this also. Also, think about the primaries that are upon us this month. Remember, that those officers you vote for will be representing you for the next year.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the September meeting. In closing, let's remember our men and women in harms way. We shall keep faith with them and their families and ask God to watch over them in their everyday duties.

Semper Fi,

Brian P. Dupee
Commandant



Commandant Brian P. Dupee



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 third year, and last year we donated 100% of the proceeds (\$1500.00) 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
- Toys for Tots
- 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.

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.
- Toys for Tots programs.
- 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
2006-07	John S. Rutovich
2007-08	Thomas D. Pirnie
2008-09	Frederic R. Hoekstra
2009-10	Daniel J. Bishop

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.

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
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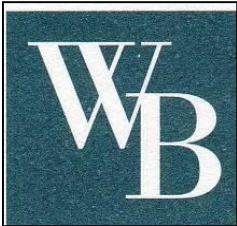
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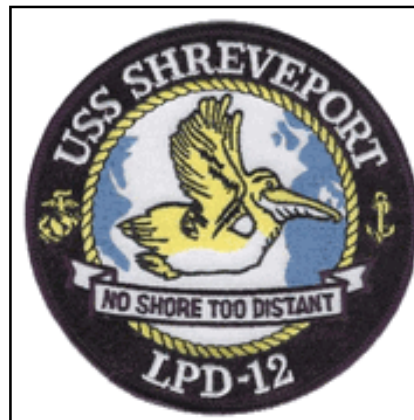


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Marine Spotlight Steve Christenson

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Where were you born?	Northampton, Mass.
Graduated from? (High School)	Hampshire Regional High (1989)
Married? Children?	Wife, Kim—2 children Eva and Nolan
Graduated from? (Boot Camp)	Parris Island, 3rd Battalion
MOS	0351
First Duty Station?	Camp LeJeune, North Carolina
Last Duty Station?	Camp LeJeune, North Carolina
What did you do after leaving the Corps?	Went to work in Family Business, Florence Casket Company
Favorite meal?	BBQ anything
Current occupation?	Still at Family Business
Where were you on 7 December 1941?	Not born yet
Favorite President?	Ronald Reagan
Favorite movie?	Full Metal Jacket
Favorite actor?	Edward Norton
Favorite comedian?	Steven Wright
Favorite book?	Moby Dick
Favorite vacation place?	Bar Harbor, Maine
Favorite subject to talk about?	Sports
Favorite quote?	“Do as I say, Not as I do”
What do you think of today’s Marines?	Heroic
Most memorable lifetime event?	Getting married
Did you make the Corps your career?	No
Would you do it all over again?	Yes
Should politics be kept out of the military?	Yes
All time favorite Marine?	John Basilone



The Marine Corps has just been called by the New York Times, “The elite of this country”. I say “They are the elite of the world.” Adm. William “Bull” Halsey, U.S. Navy

Upcoming Detachment 141 Events

September 11:	Dept. of Mass meeting at Barracks
September 12:	Detachment 141 meeting, nominations of Officers
September 18:	T4T Motorcycle Run, cook-out at Post #338, Southwick, MA
October 3:	Pack Growl, Pound 62 in Peabody at 1300
October 9:	Pulaski Park Memorial Ceremony
October 10:	Detachment 141 meeting, election of Officers
October 16:	Pound 276 Annual Fundraising Dinner at Headquarters Bar
November 10:	236th Marine Corps Birthday
November 14:	Detachment 141 meeting
December 11:	Kids Christmas Party at Barracks
December 12:	Detachment 141 meeting
TBA	Kids Skate Party at Amelia Skate Park
January 9:	Detachment 141 meeting

Saturday Breakfast is back

Come see us every Saturday for breakfast, hours are from 0700-1000. (depending on food) Donations are greatly appreciated to offset the costs of operating the kitchen and feeding our veterans from the hospitals. Our menu includes eggs, sausage, biscuits, toast, SOS, hash, grits, 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

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Upcoming Dues: September Dues

David Benway, Joseph DeLeo, Mitchell Kuzdzal, Thomas Johnson, Patricia Matthieu

October Dues

Morris Cave, Neil Smith, Richard Rutowicz, John Haley

November Dues

Donald Liptak, Lowell Lloveras, Patrick Pompei, James Ross, Ernestine Stowell, Isabel Paulsen,
Lynn Dupee, Carrieann Bailey-Dymon

Dues Reminder 2010

Jeffrey Hall, Donna Magdycz, Ronson Sherman, John Godfrey, Harry Mifflin

2011

Thomas DelNegro, George DeBarge, Francisco Duncan, John Kern, Robert Potito, James Bouchard,
Lou Johnson, Earl Brick

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:

Fred Scholpp (1), Sophie Bartosik (2), Karl Ozga (2), Jeffrey Hall (6), Neil Smith (8), Carrieann Bailey-Dymon (8), Ronson Sherman (9), Lawrence Latour (19), Wendall Thomas (19), Bill Penkala (20), Harry Mulliken (21), Fredy Palacio (21), Vernon Morris (23), Lowell Lloveras (23), Edwin Orwat (24), Phillip Martin (24), David Benway (24), Rick Adams (26) and Joseph DeLeo (29)

Congratulations to our New Life Members:

Vincent Sulewski, Stephen Donoghue, Joshua Bouchard, Phillip Martin, Joseph Hart, Paul Tessier
and Samuel Adams

Welcome Aboard to our New Members:

Peter Szarkowski, Shelly Perry, Alan Bonifaz, Fredy Palacio, Donald Sauvageau, Robert McRobbie,
Michael Kunz and Rick Ortiz, John Johnson

This Month In History....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



What is a “Fisher House?” A Fisher House is “a home away from home” for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical centers. The homes are normally located within walking distance of the treatment facility or have transportation available. There are 54 Fisher Houses located in the United States and Germany.

Typically, the houses are 5,000 to 16,000 square foot homes donated by Fisher House Foundation. Each house is designed to provide eight to 21 suites. All are professionally furnished and decorated in the tone and style of the local region. The house can accommodate 16 to 42 family members. They feature a common kitchen, laundry facilities, spacious dining room and an inviting living room with library, and toys for children.

Fisher Houses are given to the U.S. Government as gifts. Military service secretaries and the Secretary of Veteran Affairs are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the homes. The Fisher House Foundation, Inc. a not-for-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code, builds new houses, and assists in the coordination of private support and encourages public support for the homes.

Criteria is established locally by hospital or installation commanders. Families DO NOT PAY at a Fisher House. Fees at Army, Navy and Air Force Fisher Houses are underwritten by Fisher House Foundation.

2010 Highlights

Families Served: Approximately 12,000

Average length of stay: 15 days

Average (combat casualties): 45-60 days

Average occupancy level: 87%

Saved families more than \$16 million in lodging cost, plus food and transportation

Since inception (1990)

Families served: More than 142,000

Number of lodging days offered: over 3.5 million

Saved families more than \$165 million in lodging and transportation cost

Fisher House Foundation facilitates several major programs that help improve the lives of military families, including:

Hero Miles

Allows donated frequent flyer miles to be used to bring family members to the bedside of injured service-members

Scholarships for Military Children

A grant program that provides scholarships to children of military families

For further information about this program, volunteering or to make a tax deductible gift:

Fisher House Foundation, Inc

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www.fisherhouse.org

**Pictures From The National Convention
In Boise, Idaho**



Mike Chouinard, Brian Dupee and Tony Garro



Mike Chouinard, Tony Garro, Lynn Dupee and
Brian Dupee



PCDD Bill Taylor, PCDD Doug Fisk and PCDD
Gary Chartrand

Bank Cited For Support of Veterans Breakfast Program



Officers of the Department of Massachusetts, Westfield River Valley Detachment 141, Westfield, Mass., present Easthampton (Mass.) Savings Bank President and Chief Executive Officer William S. Hogan, Jr. with a Certificate of Appreciation for the bank's donation of \$1200 to boost the Detachment's Saturday morning breakfast program that invites area Veterans' and those from the Holyoke Soldier's Home and Central Western VA Medical Facility at Northampton to the weekly event. From left to right are Commandant Brian Dupee, William Hogan and Senior Vice Commandant Daniel Bishop. Story and photo by Frank Real.

"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.

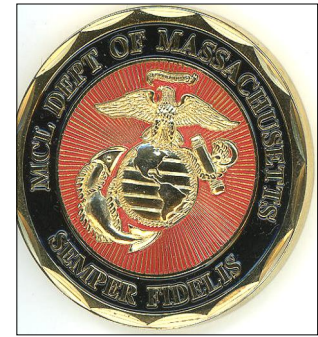
The head of the Pound is called the Pound Keeper. The head of the pack is the Pack Leader. The head of the Kennel is also the head of all Devil Dogs and is called Chief Devil Dog.

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.

Woof Woof



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
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