

Vol M1, Issue 12

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5334 Wolf Run Drive
Gahanna, Ohio 43230-1509
614-478-1703

Detachment Officers

- **Commandant**
John Maurer
614-262-9002
- **Sr. Vice Commandant**
Mike Muncy
614-267-5194
- **Jr. Vice Commandant**
Philip Garrett
614-793-2417
- **Judge Advocate**
Joe M. Hart
614-889-2687
- **Adjutant/Paymaster**
Richard Rozzell
614-478-1703
- **Chaplain**
Earl Bailey
614-429-0601
Asst—John Myers
614-268-0926
- **Sergeant-at-Arms**
Jack Wolff
614-783-4191
Asst—Dave Baran
614-505-0185
- **Trustees**
Harry Lewis
614-764-2706

Stanley Kinney
614-262-4930

David Sheeley
614-885-4731

Steve Stiverson
740-815-8231

James Weant
740-893-2169

March 2009 • Call To Meeting

The next three meetings of Belleau Wood Detachment are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 1900
Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 1900
Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 1900

The monthly meetings start promptly at 1900 and seldom last more than one hour. Consider dropping in to meet your fellow MCL members. Last month 10 showed up at the informal gab session afterwards in the Post, with salted nuts and libations. Come out, see what we're doing, and contribute to community awareness of the League.

All meetings are held at Linden AMVETS Post 89 at 3535 Westerville Road, Columbus, Ohio. Any time severe weather is a factor, call Post 89 at 614-475-9007 to see if it's open. If the Post is closed or about to be closed we will not meet.

If you would like to attend a meeting but do not have transportation, please feel free to call a Detachment officer for assistance. We will do our best to help you.

Future Activities and Events

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| March 7 | Breakfast with the OSU ROTC Marine Corps option Cadets in the back room at Post 89, 0800. Come share your life experience with the future Marine Corps Leaders. |
| March 7 | MCL Department meeting at the Baymont Inn at Rickenbacker. Come after the breakfast, and see how MCL sausage is made! |
| April 17-19 | MCL Central Division Meeting in Wisconsin. For more info, contact the Commandant or see http://www.mcleague.com/mdp/userpages/CENTRAL_DIVISION.php |

A word from the Commandant



If you or anyone you know needs it, the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has founded a national suicide prevention hotline to ensure veterans in emotional crisis have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. To operate the Veterans Hotline, the VA partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Veterans can call the Lifeline number, 1-800-273-TALK (8255), and press "1" to be routed to the Veterans Hotline.

Remember to check our website for up to the minute news, informational links, and other items. And don't forget—gifts and bequests to the League are tax-deductible. Semper Fidelis

*Detachment Meeting
Election and Installation
Of 2009 Officers
Wednesday March 18,
2009 @1900
AMVETS Post 89
3535 Westerville Road
Columbus, Ohio*

Life Membership Dues

Age group	As of 01/01/2009
Birth - 35	\$500
36 - 40	\$400
41 - 50	\$400
51 - 60	\$300
61 - Ancient	\$150

A REMINDER

If you have ever wondered how to obtain a copy of your SRB and Service Health Records, the process is easy and free to Veterans. In order to obtain these records one only needs to fill out and submit a Standard Form 180. This can be accomplished on line at www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs, then following easy instructions. Also the SF180's may be obtained from any Veterans Administration Facility, or from our Veteran Service Officer and Detachment Chaplain, Marine Earl Bailey, who is usually at the breakfasts.

2009 ELECTION OF BELLEAU WOOD OFFICERS

Marine Roger Bock served as the Chair of the Nominating Committee of the Detachment, and is deserving of thanks for his efforts in finding persons who will assume leadership roles in our detachment.

All the current elected officers have agreed to stand again for the offices which they now hold. There will be one office in which a vote will be necessary, as Marines Mike Muncy, the current Sr. Vice Commandant, and Marine Dave Baran, the current Web Sergeant, are both in the running for the office of Sr. Vice Commandant. Baran, if elected as Senior Vice, can continue in his role as Web Sergeant, as there is no conflict in the responsibilities of those positions.

Show up and vote, or you can't complain. Semper Fidelis.

INTRODUCTION TO THE VETERANS' AID AND ATTENDANCE SPECIAL PENSION

The Veterans' Administration offers a Special Pension with Aid and Attendance (A&A) benefit that is largely unknown. This Special Pension (part of the VA Improved Pension program) allows for Veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in eating, bathing, dressing, undressing or taking care of the needs of nature to receive additional monetary benefits. It also includes individuals who are blind or a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity. Assisted care in an assisted living facility also qualifies. See: <http://www.veteranaid.org/>.

This most important benefit is overlooked by many families with Veterans or surviving spouses who need additional monies to help care for ailing parents or loved ones. This is a "pension benefit" and is not dependent upon service-related injuries for compensation. Most Veterans who are in need of assistance qualify for this pension. Aid and Attendance can help pay for care in the home, nursing home or assisted living facility. A Veteran is eligible for up to \$1,554 per month, while a surviving spouse is eligible for up to \$998 per month. A couple is eligible for up to \$1,842 per month*.

The Aid and Attendance Benefit is considered to be the third tier of a VA program called Improved Pension. The other two tiers are Basic and Housebound. Each tier has its own level of benefits and qualifications. While the objective of this info is to inform about the Aid and Attendance Benefit, we urge you to read an important document prepared by the American Veterans Institute <http://www.vetassist.org/> that clearly explains the Improved Pension program, its levels of benefits and the qualifications for each. If you or your loved one does not qualify for Aid and Attendance, you may want to check to see if you qualify for another level of the Pension.

To learn more about the Aid & Attendance Special Pension, eligibility Requirements, how to apply, what to expect and resources to help you with this critical benefit go to the above listed websites, or visit the VA or your local Veteran's Service Officer. If you need this benefit, and qualify for it, by all means use it.

The benefit pays up to \$1,644 a month, \$19,736 annually, toward assisted living, nursing homes or in-home care for veterans 65 and older who served at least 90 days and one day during wartime, stateside or overseas. Veterans and their spouses can receive up to \$23,396 annually and spouses of deceased veterans, \$12,681. Semper Fi.

IDEA for consideration —a July 2009 Detachment Pot Luck Picnic

The detachment is considering an afternoon Family Day Pot Luck Picnic at Post #89. An event like this will get members together and will allow ladies to show their cooking skills. To sign up please call or send your name and address and the number of people who will attend to Adjutant/Paymaster Rozzell .We will need a final count by late May to decide if this will be a GO, and when we have enough interest, to help with the purchase of supplies. A committee will be established with commitments from volunteer cooks, food-handlers, entertainment, etc., The date tentatively scheduled is Saturday 25 July. The Post will allow us the use of the picnic/shelter house area for a fee of two-hundred dollars which allows us to purchase draught beer through the Club and to have to use of their grills. We would be permitted to also bring our own hard stuff, if so desired. Please respond so we know who is interested in having and participating in such an event. Thanks to Marine Genesky for this idea and to Marine Muncy for working on it. Let's share our brotherhood with those who can't drive at night or make it to the monthly meetings. Semper Fi.

2009 Welcome Aboards.

Greg and Brian Evans, Father and Son,
sponsored by Mike Muncy.

Uniform Purchases Information

Any members who want uniform items should contact Marine Upper or Marine Rozzell. Upper has the items, Rozzell will take your money. Allow a couple of weeks.

Rifle Pistol Team —prepare for 2009!

Get out to your local range, and practice. At the least, get your weapons sighted in before your next match. (that last item is a tip from your forgetful Commandant)

Detachment Website, Email Addresses, etc.

If you would like an email address through our website, contact the webmaster. It's easy, and you will get an address ending in @mcleague508.com Go to our website, and take a look at some of the interesting USMC items there, at www.mcleague508.com.

Consider a tax deductible contribution to maintain our detachment website. Contributions are gratefully accepted. Help us stay in the 21st century. Semper Fi.

**2008/2009
Committee Assignments
for Belleau Wood Detachment**

The Commandant serves on all committees. To have your name added or removed from a committee, contact the Commandant or Adjutant.

Awards

Rozzell 478 1703

Birthday Ball

Upper 764 9570
Johnson 898 0449

Burial

As needed

Membership

All members

Fund Raising

All members

Parades & Observances

Steve Stiverson 740 815
8231

Nominating

TBA as needed

Rifle & Pistol

Muncy 267 5194
Bowman 208 6223

Public Information

Earl Bailey 429 0601

Telephone

Volunteer needed

Toys for Tots

As needed

Web Site

Dave Baran
webmaster@
mcleague508.com