



JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER

Our next monthly meeting is: **19 June 2024**

<https://youtu.be/jNpSPF4yYJ4?si=GP9-lWN3Ds6Aaxsl>

A you tube story about United States Marine Dan Daly. Dan Daley is one of two Marines to receive the Medal of Honor twice.

(Brought to you by detachment Life Member Rudy Grein)



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4 June – Kim Lonberg

5 June – Dave (Doc) Turner

12 June – John Lane **Deceased**

15 June 1950 – Dan Stombaugh

23 June – Thomas H. Williams **Deceased**

24 June – Teresa Robinowitz

My apologies to those persons who had a May Birthday. I somehow neglected to put the May Birthday Wishes in the May Newsletter.



May Birthdays

13 May – Janis Fornachiari **Deceased**

25 May – Barry Fryrear

Please take a moment a remember, or recognize, every one of them on the “Anniversary-of-the-Day-They-Were Born.”

Installation Ceremony,
Emerald Empire Detachment #917
Officers for 2024 – 2025



On 15 May 2024, Emerald Empire Detachment Commandant Dave Huber administered the Oath of Office to the elected officers of Emerald Empire Detachment #917, Marine Corps League, for the year 2024 – 2025.



Newly elected officers (from Right – Left) Detachment Commandant Joseph Lamm, Senior Vice-Commandant Stephen Price, Junior Vice-Commandant Paul Grinde, and appointed Sergeant-of-Arms Matthew Scott take the Oath of Office.



Webmaster Debbie Barker, Adjutant Ray Miller, and Paymaster Lois Price took their Oath of Office.

The Emerald Empire Detachment Officers contact information is listed toward the end of each newsletter.



CORPSMAN



Kim Lonberg – Kim experienced a fall that has caused her knee pain. She also had wrist/hand surgery on 15 May 2024 and was not able to attend the May meeting.

Thad Lukasik – Thad started a new chemo drug. A check-in with them on 15 May 2024 found they were both doing “pretty good.” Thad and Nancy attended the breakfast service on 26 May 2024. Thad was able to do some dining-room cleanup.





From the Chaplain's Corner



June is here! Happy Father's Day to all the dads with kids and those who have helped "parent" children who needed your guidance, love, and assistance. I know before we adopted our two kids, their dad and I were stand in parents for a lot of young people. And then there are the fur baby humans! May you all be blessed.



FATHER'S DAY



I've written a recurring theme about gardening and how I was looking forward to sunnier days (as I look outside, where it is chilly, with a breeze). I've only gotten a few things planted so far, but I'm looking forward to tending them as they grow to maturity and bear fruit to share. I'm sure I'll have lots, as I planted two zucchini plants and a couple other summer squash, hahaha.

I hope as gardens grow and produce good fruit, we can also grow in the grace and truth of our supreme Commandant, so we can bear the fruit of the Spirit. Love, joy, peace, patience are 'early bloomers'. I will write more about the other fruits in July.



Take good care of yourselves and each other. And watch out for all the kiddies who will be getting out of school on June 14th (in Springfield, at least). They will be out and about, often without as much supervision as they usually have, while their parents are working.

BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS
LOVE JOY
PEACE PATIENCE
KINDNESS
GOODNESS
FAITHFULNESS
GENTLENESS
& SELF-CONTROL
Galatians 5:22-23

Enjoy the sunshine, when it returns.

Semper Fi,
Joy Cavin
Chaplain
Emerald Empire Detachment #917
Marine Corps League



Fund-Raising Breakfast Service for Sunday, 26 May 2024



At the 26 May 2024 fund-raising breakfast, we served 21 meals which was a little slow due to the Memorial Day Weekend but brought in \$210.00. We also received \$10.00 in tips, for a total of **\$220.00**.

Stephen Price ran the grill. Joseph Lamm's brother-in-law Charles Shaw, and Marine buddy Taggart Hecker were there to assist. Taggart assisted Stephen with grill work and monitored the gravy. Charles pitched in where needed. Joseph ran the toaster and bacon warming trays.

Matt Scott and his mother Peggy were also there, Matt assisting with various jobs. Thad and Nancy also were able to attend. Thad did dining-room clean-up. Debbie ran the pancake griddle and other various jobs. Ray and Linda were there, too, Ray doing dish washing duty.



Joseph invited the Eugene Emeralds General Manager and an Army (Sniper) Veteran that works for the Eugene Emeralds.





GOOD OF THE LEAGUE & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Robert (Bobby) Graves spoke at the May meeting about his trip on the Honor Flight to the Nation's Capital. Bobby said that they departed Eugene, stopped, and picked up more veterans in Albany, and then on to Portland. There was a Coast Guard Honor Guard at PDX. Of his group there were 2 World War II vets, and 4 Korean War/Era vets. He said that all of them were very overwhelmed, honored, and humbled by the experience and treatment that they received.

They visited all the museums, monuments, and laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. It was raining while at the tomb. He said that thing that really stood out to him there was the stark difference between how the soldiers walk their post as compared to other countries who go through loud gyrations. He said the Silence and Respect truly makes it the most reverent place of honor.

They had dinner and a program of recognition and thanks at the Arlington Elks Club. The local Young Marines group served the dinner. Bobby said that he and another veteran buddy of his started a hat passing to raise money for those Young Marines. There was a substantial amount of money raised to support those outstanding Young Marines.

Upon arriving back to Portland, Bobby was the first one off the plane and all the veterans were treated with Bagpipes. When they noticed he was a Marine, the bagpiper began playing the Marine's Hymn.

He emphasized again how truly Honored and Humbled he was to be recognized for his service during this whole experience. He stated that anyone who qualifies and has not taken an Honor Flight to do so.

On 17 May 2024, Emerald Empire Detachment #917 Junior Vice-Commandant Paul Grinde attended the Gary Sinise Foundation Home Dedication event for Josh Geddis and his family. Their forever home is specially made for his needs due to his injuries.



Joshua Geddis

U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class (Ret.), Navy Seabees



Joshua Geddis always remembers wanting to join the military, and one day, after a call from the Navy recruiter, he signed right up. Joshua joked, “It must have been one of the easiest recruitments he had in a while.” Following Basic Training and school, Joshua was stationed in Gulfport, MS. He made three deployments to Japan/Indonesia, Iraq, and the Philippines before transferring to Oak Harbor, WA, where he made his last two deployments to East Africa.

On January 16, 2017, while deployed to East Africa he was upgrading the securities of the Forward Operating Base, when one of the barriers became unstable and fell on top of Joshua, crushing him with 4,500 pounds of weight. Although he was quickly unpinned, due to the extreme mass, his L1 burst causing Joshua to lose feeling below his waist, leaving him paraplegic.

Joshua’s road to recovery wasn’t easy, but his spirits remained unwavering. His mentality is, “Can’t be sad, that won’t help. Being mad at yourself for something you cannot control doesn’t help anybody.” And so, he continued to thrive as best he could with his new norm.

Joshua looks forward to everything a Gary Sinise Foundation specially adapted, smart-technology home will bring him. It will empower him at home, easing his way of life. Joshua said, “I just want to be comfortable in my daily life and being here makes it harder. It’s simply things that people don’t think about that really make a difference in a house. Having roll under sinks, a work area in the kitchen, more than one door to get in and out of the house, being able to get into the kids’ rooms (just to see if it is really clean), and a garbage disposal switch I could reach would make things so much easier and improve life.”

The Gary Sinise Foundation looks forward to building Joshua a home to ease his daily struggles and mobility needs around the home.

While there I met Travis Reynders, a Marine, who works for the Gary Sinise Foundation.

TRAVIS REYNDERS
P.I.S.E. MANAGER

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GARYSINISEFOUNDATION.ORG



I also met the Department of Oregon Junior Vice-Commandant William “Bulldog” Sump. William had heard of the event from a Veteran Motorcycle Rider he has known for many years.



William “Bulldog” Sump
951.392.9104
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1811- Tanker (M60)

Semper Fi 

I also met two representatives from Amazon - Military. One from Boise, Idaho and the other from Virginia. Both are Marines and work for Amazon in providing the tech items needed for the Smart Home. The Idaho Marine was in survey during his time in, and the Virginia Marine retired from the United States Marine Corps and was in Amtracs.



A vast number of local and national companies come together as sponsors of the Gary Sinise Foundation that make building these homes possible. For a list of national sponsors go to the Gary Sinise Foundation website.



Josh Gettis arrives in his completely custom truck made to assist him in being able to drive.



Travis Reynders (Marine Veteran) presents Josh with the smart pad (instead of keys) that makes it possible for Josh to control just about every aspect of his new home.



The final step in the process is the raising of the United States of America flag, and the U.S. Navy flag on the home's flagpole.

The base of the flag sits on pavers with inscriptions of donors, and sponsors as a lasting tribute.





Detachment members Debbie Barker, Lois Price and Stephen Price attended the Springfield Memorial Day event to honor Airman Trinity Reinhart.



On September 16, 2023, while serving at an US Air Force base in northeast Colorado, Airman Trinity Reinhart of Springfield was killed in a Humvee accident just two months shy of her 20th Birthday. 1st Lt. Joshua Beerbower said, “She was truly exceptional and always willing to help others, no matter the situation – she loved what she did as a defender.”

The City of Springfield, along with its partner Willamalane, and the American Legion Post #40 in Springfield, honored and remembered Airman Reinhart on Memorial Day, 2024, with a plaque dedication and tree planting near the Women Veterans Memorial at the Springfield Veterans Plaza. Mayor Sean VanGordon and Lane County Commissioner David Loveall provided remarks as part of the program.



The event started with a F15 flyover by Kingsley Field, Home of the 173rd Fighter Wing of the Oregon Air National Guard.



Oregon Veterans' Home, Lebanon, Oregon

We are currently collecting hygiene items for donation to the Oregon Veterans' Home in Lebanon, Oregon.

Collected items will be transported to the Veterans' Home by Paul Grinde (due to his proximity to Lebanon.)

The below listed information came from the Oregon Veterans Home, Website:

<https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Vets-Homes/Lebanon/Pages/Donate.aspx>

Donations to the OVHL are used to support our veteran residents or augment the many programs we have. Donations are used to enhance the quality of life for veterans through activities, events, and equipment. Great consideration is taken to use the gifts to improve the quality of life for our honored veterans to enjoy. **(We reserve the right to carefully select what donations are accepted and prefer each donation to be in good to best condition for the honor of our veteran residents. The OVHL is a state-owned facility, and therefore a non-smoking campus, and will not accept any smoking-related items.)**

Our residents need / use the following items:

- Bluetooth speakers with a USB port input
- Electric razors (Norelco, Remington, etc.)
 - Apple iTunes gift cards
 - Amazon gift cards
- Local (Lebanon/Albany) restaurant gift cards (in increments of \$10)
 - Wal-Mart gift cards (in increments of \$10)
 - Microwave popcorn/kettle corn
 - Hostess snack cakes

- Adult clothing protectors (bibs)
 - Magnifying glasses
- Handheld electronic games (e.g. Yahtzee and poker)
- Sensory stimulating items such as soap, body wash (Old Spice), shaving cream (**not travel size**)
 - Aroma therapy lotion
 - Gatorade Regular and Zero (Diabetics)
 - Dove (Gentle Body Wash)
 - Old Spice Body Wash
 - Non-Scented and Non-Medicated Lotion
 - Non-Caffeinated Root Beer
 - Diet (Sugar Free) Root Beer
 - Non-Caffeinated Orange Crush
 - Diet (Sugar Free) Orange Crush
 - Birthday Party Decor - Plates, Cups, Balloons
 - Keurig Cups - Folgers, Decafe and Hot Cocoa
 - Acrylic Paints and Canvas of many different sizes
 - Adult Coloring Books that are larger/easier to see

Welcome Basket Needs

We offer a welcome basket to each new veteran resident that is filled with supplies to make the transition into the OVHL easier. The items we need:

- Wall calendars
- Back scratchers

- Stress balls
- Patriotic items (e.g. flags, pins)
 - Americana items
 - Loofahs (various colors)
- Travel-size air fresheners (e.g. Febreze), various scents
- Chapstick, various flavors

No travel-size toiletries, please.

There are other forms of donating to the Oregon Veterans' Home, Lebanon, Oregon. Please see their website, which is listed above in this email for those other ways of donating.



The Emerald Empire Young Marines did some cleanup at the camp, and then had a bon fire. During this stay they discovered that a window had been broken on the main building and the generator had been stolen from the storage shed.

Former Department of Oregon Commandant

Jim Hale



This photo was taken 18 July 2012, when Jim was the Department of Oregon Commandant. He was visiting the Emerald Empire Detachment when Joseph Lamm was Detachment Commandant.

He's now in moderate-advanced dementia and has had daily seizures. He loves reading and still does remember friends most the time. Cards would be nice:

5058 Ralph Winchester Rd, Lenoir, NC 28645

Marine Corps League “Mission Statement”

Marine Corps League Mission Statement (As shown on our detachment website)

Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy, voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen and former Marines and FMF Corpsmen and to their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.

The Mission of the Marine Corps League (as shown on national website)

The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and to preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and FMF Chaplains who wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.



LEAGUE PATCHES ARE IN

The detachment bought Marine Corps League patches (regular and associate). These are available for purchase for those persons wishing to buy new league shirts, or replace old league shirts.



Regular Patches are \$4.00 each
Associate Patches are \$7.00 each

Emerald Empire Detachment #917 Advertising Pens



The pens are available to detachment members for \$1.00 each pen. This covers the cost of the pens and earns the detachment approximately 23 cents per pen.

The pens are for handing out to Marines, Corpsmen, Chaplains, and persons we want to try and recruit for membership.

HATS & VISORS



Eagle, globe, anchor & “Semper Fi” White Sun visors and Black Marine Corps League hats - **\$1.00 each** – **What a Deal.** Hats/Visors are now available at the monthly meetings.



DETACHMENT COINS / CHIPS

Available for \$1.50 each which off-sets the cost of buying them and earns the detachment 45 cents on each one purchased. They are available for purchase in-person during the monthly meetings and from the detachment paymaster.



You can carry one on you as your representation of the detachment when “challenged.” You can also give them out to Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains, and persons who may want to be associate members as recruiting tools; or as gifts to family, friends, and acquaintances who are veterans themselves.

EMERALD EMPIRE DETACHMENT # 917
OFFICERS & CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Judge Advocate Thad Lukasik
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Moose Lodge 1726
2011 Laura Street
Springfield, OR 97477-2100
Phone: (541) 746-3321
3rd Wednesday of the Month

Dinner @ 1800 hours

Meeting Starts @ 1900 hours

Mailing address:
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PO Box 70455 Springfield, OR 97475

Detachment E-mail Address:
mcldet917@gmail.com

Detachment Facebook Page: [MCL Detachment 917](#)

Detachment Web Site: www.mcl917.org

Department Web Site: <http://www.mcl-oregon.org>

National Website: www.mclnational.org

2024 Meeting Dates

MARK YOUR 2024 CALENDARS NOW

19 June 2024 (Fried Chicken, Coleslaw, Baked Beans)

17 July 2024 (Hot Dog, Fresh Corn on the Cob, Apple Pie)

21 August 2024

18 September 2024

16 October 2024

20 November 2024

18 December 2024

2024 Fund Raising Breakfast

Dates

MARK YOUR 2024 CALENDARS NOW

16 June 2024 (Father's Day)

21 July 2024

18 August 2024

15 September 2024

20 October 2024

17 November 2024

15 December 2024