



HUBERT J FALTYN
Marine Corps League Detachment 881

Editor: Wayne Benson

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MAIL CALL
MAY 2006



COMMANDANT'S CORNER

We have been so busy growing and doing worthwhile things for the Marine Corps League that we have been ignoring one of the most important functions, i.e. having fun by simply taking the time to enjoying the company of our fellow Marines. With that in mind we have decided to initiate a quarterly social event. This quarter we will have a no host dinner at the Eagles Lodge on the evening of Friday, May 26th. Dinner will be at 1800 and after word we will go to the social hall where there will be live music by a group named "Manila", and dancing. Wear your best MCL uniforms or appropriate civilian attire. Of course, attendance is not mandatory and there is no formal agenda - just have fun with fellow Marines. We are planning on other such events, so stay tuned. I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

Also, the day after our regular monthly meeting we will have an expedition from our Detachment going to Chinook Winds Casino giving those folks a certificate of appreciation for helping us with our sunglasses for the troops. We will be departing on May 11, from my house on Ward Drive at 1100 hrs. We will be getting back to Salem no later than 1700. Uniform will be MCL long or short sleeve shirts. Hope you can make it. There will be plenty of time for "gaming" after the ceremony at 1300.

Hope you can all make it to the regular meeting on May 10th at the Eagles. Looking forward to seeing you there. Bring your spouse if you so desire. They are always welcome.

Semper Fi

Terry



JUDGE ADVOCATE

1. For Memorial Day:

“May 29, 2006 – 11:00 am – The Greater Salem Area Veteran’s Organization (GSVAO) will be sponsoring the 26th annual Memorial Day program at City View Cemetery, located at 390 Hoyt Street South. The ceremony’s guest speaker will be Jim Willis, Director of Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs. An F-15 flyover from the Oregon National Guard has been requested. A potluck luncheon will be held afterward at VFW Post 661 at 640 Hood Street N.E., Salem, Oregon. Our participation will include presenting of our wreath with the other organization’s wreaths at the ceremony and having both of our flags posted. There will be a practice at 11:00 am on Saturday, May 27th at the cemetery.”

- 2. “4th of July Parade in Keizer. H.J. Faltyn det. colorguard will lead the parade. Please contact Wayne or Mark for colorguard information.”**

Semper Fi,

Coralee Berwick
Judge Advocate
(503) 365-7771



JR VICE COMMANDANT

We have ordered our Color Guard Rifles but I would be surprised if we have them for the Parade in July. If we could I would like for Mark, Pete, Lynn, James, Delmer and Dennis to plan on staying just a little later on Wednesday night. I think it would be a good time to run our first practice session. I would suggest that we all wear short sleeve shirt for the July Parade so if you don't own a short sleeve shirt please see Coralee. I would also like to discuss dress blue trousers and kakie shirt as a possible parade uniform in the future.

VA ALERT ON VAS: the Veterans Administration has put out a warning regarding involvement with an organization calling itself Veterans Affairs Services (VAS). This organization is gathering personal information on veterans under a VA services look alike website www.vaservices.org. This organization is not affiliated with the VA in any way and in reality is a private company based in California. It describes itself as a nonprofit veteran's service organization but they are actually affiliated with the Military Financial Planning association. They may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the VA name and seal. VA's legal counsel has requested installations be informed of this organization's activities and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by VA to provide any services. In addition, anyone having examples of VAS acts such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, is requested to pass these on to Michael.Daugherty2@va.gov, (202) 273-8636. Mr. Daugherty is a Staff Attorney with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington D.C. I am attaching an info paper describing the company and their websites. [Source: USDR msg 24 Apr 06]

COLD WAR MEDAL: Congress approved a Cold War Medal in its 2002 National Defense Authorization Bill (NDAA) but left final authorization up to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. DoD said in late January 2002 that the medal would not be authorized. The House version of last year's fiscal 2006 NDAA contained provisions for a Cold War medal, but a joint conference committee struck it out. This year the idea has resurfaced. Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and Rep. Robert Andrews (D-NJ) have introduced S.1361 and H.R.2568 respectively that would direct the Defense Department to issue such a medal. Service members and DoD civilians who served honorably at any time between Sept. 2, 1945, through Dec. 26, 1991 would be eligible. The chairman of the Cold War Veterans Association estimated that 20 million Americans served during the Cold War. According to the association, 357 U.S. soldiers lost their lives in action during the Cold War. Others

were injured, or kept as prisoners of war. The numbers may pale in comparison to other wars, yet this was a time of highly tense and very secretive missions, when soldiers were told to hold their fire, but be ready to return fire if ordered. The proposed legislation would face stiff opposition from DoD because of funding concerns and because a Cold War medal could reduce the prestige accorded other medals awarded during the same era. As a substitute, Public Law 105-85 authorized a Cold War Recognition Certificate for Cold War participants. [Source: Armed Forces News 28 Apr 06 ++]

Semper Fi

Wayne

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Pete Zielinski has agreed to become our new Adjutant and will be take the Oath of Office at our next meeting. Pete is going to be a great asset to our organization and will need everyone's help as we move forward.

Quote of the Month

Former Marine refers to an individual that completed their service and has received an [honorable](#) or [general](#) discharge from the service. Marines who have retired are commonly called "retired Marines," vice "former".

Marines are inculcated with the Marine [ethos](#) and one of several mottos, "*Once a Marine, always a Marine*". While it remains the smallest military service, it has a large number of former members.

