



# Marine Corps League

Chartered by Act of Congress 1937

Maj. Kenneth D. Bailey

Detachment #824

Vermilion Regional Airport

22633 N. Bowman Ave

Danville, Illinois 61832

## The Devil Dog Reporter

February 2011

### DETACHMENT NEWS

**First of all**, hope everyone was safe during the not so pleasant greeting February sent us all here in Central IL.

**Welcome** Aboard new member Dick Clark of Westville.

**New officers** have been elected. The new officers will be officially installed at the FEB. meeting. Incoming Commandant Barrett requests that members wear their uniforms for the installation ceremony.

**Meet Our New Officers:**  
Commandant,  
Tom Barrett

Sr. Vice Commandant,  
Robert O'Melia

Jr. Vice Commandant,  
Randy Shields

Adjutant,  
Jeff Wakeland

Paymaster,  
Tom Barrett

Judge Advocate,  
Bob Gagnon

Chaplain,  
Thomas Church

Sergeant-at-Arms,  
Steve Bean

### COMMITTEE UPDATES

Kale O'Melia isn't wasting any time on next year's **Toys for Tots** campaign. Already she and her squad of elves are making headway towards what she says, "...will be the biggest TFT event ever." Oorah Kate!

The **Planning Committee** will be reporting on their progress at the next meeting. Chairman Ron Johnson said, "We're getting things organized into steps. The first thing we need to do is build up our membership." Ron and his team are going down to visit the MCL in Terre Haute, IN. They have one of the largest MCL's in the country and have agreed to help us any way they can.

Ron said, "We have many

goals, but our greatest goal is to get our own place. A place we can call home. It will take time and a lot of work, but hey, that's what Marines do. Get the job done. The rest is just taking it one step at a time."

### THE DEBATE IS OVER

No more "FORMER or EX" Marine!

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James F. Amos has spoken... He said, "**... There is no such thing as a former Marine. You're a Marine, just in a different uniform and you're in a different phase in your life. But you'll always be a Marine....**"

Here's the article on MCL National's web site (scroll down the front page):  
[www.mcleague.com](http://www.mcleague.com)





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **19-FEB-2011**

Join our monthly “**Meet-Greet-Eat**” dinner. To be held at De Coral Buffet, 3355 N. Vermilion at 1800hrs.

All members, spouses, family, friends, including potential new members are always welcomed!!!

### **20-FEB-2011**

**Next monthly meeting** will be at 1500hrs in the conference room at the Vermilion Regional Airport Terminal Building.

Thanks goes to Bob Gagnon for making this space available to us!

### **22-FEB-2011**

#### **IWO JIMA DAY**

Detachment visit to the Illiana V.A. We'll be serving supper to our fellow Marines.

Meet at Royal Donut - 2201 E. Main (across from V.A. main entrance) at 1800hrs. Then off to the V.A. to serve at 1830hrs.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**26-JUN-2011** Annual Detachment Picnic at Mallard Point Shelter, Kennekuk County Park, Henning Rd., Danville. More info later...

**09-JUL-2011** Barney and Ruth Baroff invite all Detachment #824 members and spouses to join them in celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at Spanky's Banquet Hall 2-5 pm.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks go to Past Commandant Bob Frischkorn and others, for their service to the Detachment and to the Community.

**NOTE** from Commandant Barrett: I would like to have a uniformed Color Guard to present the Colors at the IWO JIMA detail at the V.A. 22-FEB-11.

If you're able to help out, please call (217) 260-9849 or e-mail me: [tom\\_20021@yahoo.com](mailto:tom_20021@yahoo.com) Thanks.

## DEFINITION OF A VETERAN

*A veteran - whether active duty, retired, national guard, or reserve – is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to The 'United States of America', for an amount of 'up to and including my life.'*

*That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.*

- Author Unknown



*Semper fi*

**Contact** Gary Reaktenwalt with your MCL News & Events. Voice your suggestions, concerns & opinions.  
(217) 431-6099