



Newsletter

March, 2020

**Eugene Sara Detachment
Marine Corps League**

PO Box 2051
Billings, MT 59103

WEB www.eugenesara.com

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Commandants Message



Marines,

We lost one of our founding members this month. Herb Livingston not only was one of our charter members, but also was instrumental in forming the state Department. He was our first commandant and the first state commandant. He believed in the League and what it could do for all Marines. He was active in the events we participated in and is who made the league what it is in Montana. Thank you Herb. You will be missed and never forgotten. Semper Fi!

There was a great turn-out for the service for Herb. Many Marines that knew him and worked with him while he was active as well as his years in the League. Thanks to all who came including Jim Benner coming from Great Falls.

March brings us elections. I know we have a pool of great men to step in and carry us forward. With mixed feelings. I am stepping down and we will get new blood to lead our outstanding group of men and continue to move on to better things. Thanks so much to all of you for showing your respect and support for the past three years. We would have gotten no where without it. I could always count on things getting done when I asked for help with something. It made my job easier and I am confident that you will all do the same for the new leadership. The meeting is March 8th at 7:00 VFW in the heights. See you there.

Tom Lowry, Commandant
(406)366-1347
sevens@midrivers.com



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The Detachment Exchange

Buy, Sell or trade you unused uniform parts or pieces in this column of the newsletter. Just send the item description to me and I will list them for you. —Tim

Tom Lowry has 2 pair of Dress shoes size 10.5 & a cover size 7 1/4.

I have numerous items from Jim Borner and Diana Schaefer for use, just contact Tim at 697-5968.

Chaplains Report:



Members & families,
I won't bore you this month, besides I'm sure my fellow Marines will pick up the slack. The most important news is we lost a marine from the greatest generation, Herb Livingston at the age of 97. It would take a lot of space to address all his accomplishments, so let me know if you would like more details about him. We will probably start getting busy as we get closer to warmer weather. If you get a chance, stop in at a meeting and say Hi.

Semper Fi,
James Borner, Chaplain
(406)850-1802
jborner@gmail.com

Paymasters Report:



Hello all,

No Report

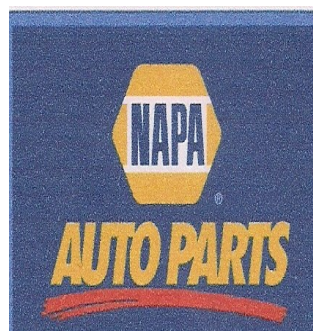
Semper Fidelis Marines,
Scott Dunlap, Paymaster
(406) 281-1271

MCL dues are \$35 please remit to the Detachment at: PO Box 2051 Billings, MT 59103. You may wish to consider Life Membership, the rates are as follows:

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Thank you for
your service

Jr. Vice Commandants Report:



To all League Members,
It's almost spring, this is something to look forward to. As we reach March we have the officers elections, if you would like an officer position please step up. We are missing our founding member Herb Livingston who just passed in February, Semper Fi forever

Herb!!

Should have the word out shortly, or by the meeting as to where the Installation Dinner will be held, Tom gave his preference and I am working on that. That's all for now, see you at the meeting.

Semper Fi,
Tim Bender, Jr Vice
(406)697-5968
tim.mtlonegunman@gmail.com

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Senior Vice Commandant Report:



Marine Corps Leaguers,

We had a very successful Rifle Raffle at the gun show and MATE show. Thanks to all that helped. I received many compliments on our Color Guard that did the opening ceremonies at the MATE Show each day. On Saturday, 7 March, four Eugene Sara members are going to Butte for the Department of Montana mid winter conference. Lunch at noon, Department meeting at 1 and Devil Dog Growl will follow. We will have a report at the next meeting. Semper Fi

Tom Jones, Sr. Vice

(406)670-4364

tcgysgt21@yahoo.com

Denis Pitman

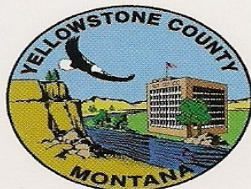
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EMAIL: dpitman@co.yellowstone.mt.gov

In previous editions of the Newsletter we added some new content that will be available in the digital edition only. This will help keep are letter costs down and still have the best of both worlds. Contact me if you want the digital copy sent to your email.

Tim

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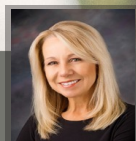
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**Marine Corps League
Eugene Sara Detachment #418
Meeting Minutes
February 10th, 2020**

Meeting called to order @ 1900 Ritual followed

Officers present: Tom Lowry, Tom Jones , Tim Bender, Scott Dunlap, Keith Thompson, Jim Born-er, Mike Tolstedt.

New Applications for membership: (Possible) Dennis Tracy, no other info. Available.

Last Meeting Minutes: Read and approved with the following corrections: \$595 raised at the No- vember Gun Show.

Miles City Squad minutes: See Miles City Page

Correspondence: Thank you card from the Billings Navy Reserve for the Color Guard for their ball. Letter from the MATE Show requesting Color Guards for the mornings of the MATE. Received a in- formation letter from Quiet Waters, veterans support organization.

Paymasters Report: 89 current members, 32 annual, 53 Life members, 4 associate , 6 past due. All funds account have been balanced. Motion made to accept report as read. 2nd and voted aye.

Chaplain: Bill Van Wieren is doing better and currently in Las Vegas. Herb Livingston Passed away on February 9th, 2020. Service held on 2/14. Pete Siegel, fell and reinjured himself, is at home. Prayers to all!!

Senior Vice: Commented on the Sweethearts Dinner at Gusicks. Mentioned conflict between Gun Show and Herbs Memorial/internment on Friday the 14th. Also need Color Guards for the MATE Show and coverage for the table. **Junior Vice:** Report on great attendance at the sweetheart Dinner. **Jr. Past Commandant:** None **Adjutant:** Awards

committee is still going through after action reports and working on awards. **Judge Advocate:** None **Detail Commander:** Livingston Memorial on Friday 2/14 at Michelotti/Sawyers on 10th & Alderson 10am, Honor Guard at Mountview Cemetery after. St. Patrick's day parade –March 14th **Report of any member or member's family sick or in distress:** None

Standing Committees:

Riverside Cemetery Detail / Friends of the Cemetery — The Riverside detail—completed/

Friends of the Cemetery An calendar event rotation has been put forward by the FOC members. Tom brought up that the National cemetery has memorial benches available for sponsorship for ap- proximately \$3000 (includes inscription). **Toys for Tots —** None **Finance Committee —** Meeting on February 17th at Mike Wyrwas house. **Young Marines —** None **Birthday Ball —** None

Election Committee: Most officers are trying not too tied down to the posts and would like to see some new folks step up to officers positions. **Good of the League—** Motion made and 2nd to purchase sponsorship of a bench for \$3000 out of funds in Honor of Herb Livingston, voted aye.

Old Business- Bank CD's interest bearing at .15% and not liquid as an asset. Discussion tabled to later date. **New Business —** Friday, 2/14 Heights VFW is hosting a Valentines Prime Rib dinner. A motion was made to donate \$500 to the Heights VFW for coffee and room use, motion 2nd and vot- ed aye. The easel for the Deceased members board is missing, a motion was made to purchase a new and stronger easel for the board. Motion 2nd and voted aye. We are also working to update the list of member that have passed on.

Meeting closed at 1952hrs.

Next meeting will be @ 1900 on March 9th, 2020



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406-657-6071

Judge Advocates Report:



As veterans most, if not all of us are acutely aware of the crisis of veterans suicide. Sadly, it has been reported that the Marine Corps has the highest suicide rate of all the services. As a Detachment we have been keeping abreast of the services that are offered in our community and state for those veterans suffering from mental health issues. Given the number of state, local, and federal resources available to veterans and their families it can be challenging to identify how we as a Detachment can do our part to assist our Marines. To date your Detachment has met with representatives of the Billings Vet Center, attended last year's Neural Injury conference regarding "Helping Veterans and Their families", and we are actively involved in the "Mayors Challenge" to prevent suicide among service members which is a group of local and state professional and lay volunteers who meet monthly at The Riverstone Health Center. We have certainly learned that there are many resources and dedicated people who are working hard to help our veterans and their families. That being said, the challenge for us as a Detachment is to find a way that we can best help our veterans. We can certainly keep abreast of those available services. We also need to stay informed about what our State and Federal Representatives are doing to help our veterans. An excellent way to do this is to read the online Marine Corp Times. On the state and local level you are encouraged to visit online the MT 211 website. This is an excellent resource for finding state and local resources covering a wide range of services for veterans and their families. At our December Detachment meeting we agreed that we can volunteer to support those in need by simply making ourselves available to do things such as take a vet fishing, take a vet to a movie, lunch, bowling, golf or any other activity which gives a Vet a chance to simply spend time with another Marine.



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Sergeant at Arms Report:

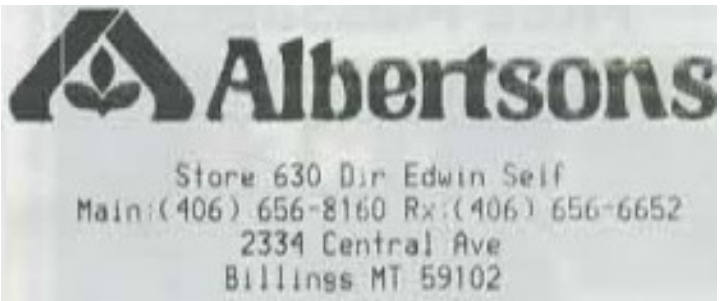
Marines,

March events—

March 9th— Regular MCL Business Meeting at the heights VFW. 1900hrs.

March 14th — St. Patty's Day Parade downtown Billings

Keith Thompson, Detail Commander



Judge Advocate report (continued)— It doesn't take much to just reach out and show that you care. This necessarily means that you have to step up. If you are willing to help a Marine just give me a call (698-4965) and leave me message letting me know what you are willing to do. Please leave me a contact number and/or email address. We can then let the other resource providers know how we can help our fellow veterans. Step up if you can! It doesn't take much to let our brothers and sisters know that we care.

Mike Tolstedt (406)698-4965
mtolstedt@yahoo.com

Miles City Squad B Meeting Minutes

February 7th, 2020

Regular meeting called to order by Squad Leader Dee Murray

Ritual Followed

All Officers Present

No new membership applications

No one sick or under the weather

Our meeting was held at 1800hrs at the VFW.

Old Business — John Reed has inventoried the shotgun ammo and we have a little under a case. We will hold on to them and see what comes up this spring. Dee checked with Custer County shooting Sports (4H) , they meet on Tuesdays & Thursdays. Dee and Tom attended their Thursday meeting. They have 40 kids shooting right now and their biggest need is another pistol. A motion was made to purchase a pistol for them for \$800, so they have it for their state meet. We will stay in touch with them to see if they need any help down the road.

Next meeting will be March **To Be Determined**, 2020 at the VFW at 1800hrs.

Respectfully submitted by
Thomas Ketchum



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Thanks again, to all of our members and sponsors for all of your continuing support throughout the past and current year. You are all important to our continuing programs and events.

OUR MARINES **This is a repost of the recent article in honor of Herb**

This is a new addition to our newsletter where we will be honoring active duty and honorably discharged Montana Marines. **Herb Livingston was a charter member of the Eugene Sara Detachment #418, here in Billings. Who along with his good friend Bill Van Weiren & other Marines got the detachment up and running.**

Herbert Livingston, Born in 1922 , grew up in Boston, Massachusetts, joined the Marines in January 1942, not long after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. "I always wanted to be a Marine," he said. He saw fierce action as a machine gunner on the front lines at Tulagi, Guadalcanal and Peleliu. When wounded in his leg on Guadalcanal, a Navy corpsman patched him up and sent him back to combat. But during a four-month siege on Guadalcanal, malaria and skin diseases so weakened him that he was sent to Australia to recuperate.

After the war was over, Livingston left the Marines, married a Bostonian and had two children. His wife, Christina, sensing that Livingston didn't like civilian life, encouraged him to re-enlist in 1949. This time he went into Marine aviation. He served two years as an air controller on airbases in Korea during the Korean War.

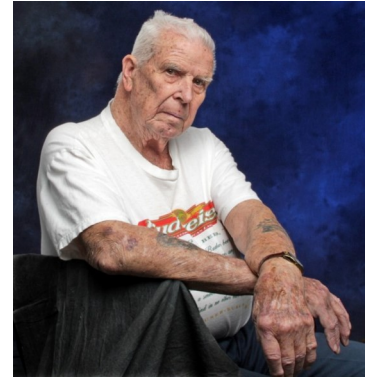
Later, in Vietnam, he assigned pilots to planes. Because he liked flying, he volunteered as a gunner on medevac flights picking up wounded soldiers.

After serving in Billings as a Marine Reserve Instructor/Inspector, he retired as a first sergeant and went to work for Hines Motor Supply, retiring for the second time in the 1980s.

The couple would be married for 56 years before Christina died in 2004.

Livingston, 97, has two children, Robert Livingston, of Missoula, and Donna Tauscher, of Colstrip, and two grandchildren.

Excerpted from a Billings Gazette article By MARY PICKETT Feb 24, 2013



Marine Corps History for February source marineparents.com

March 2, 1867, Jacob Zeilin, who had served as Colonel Commandant of the Marine Corps since June 30, 1864, was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General Commandant, the first time Congress authorized this rank for the Marine Corps.

March 8, 1965, the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade landed at DaNang, Vietnam, becoming the first American combat troops to arrive in country. The 3,500 men arrived both via the beach with the 3rd Battalion. 9th Marines Landing Team, and at DaNang Airfield with Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines.

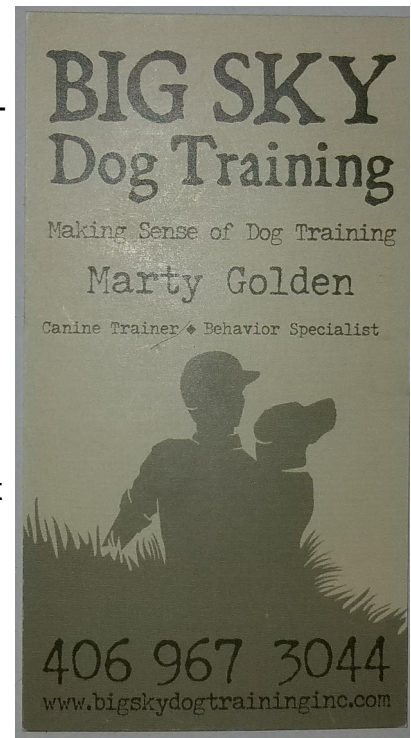
March 13, 1943, the first group of 71 female Marine officer candidates arrived at U.S. Midshipmen School (Women's Reserve) at Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts.

March 18, 1967, the first female Marine to serve in a combat zone reported for duty in Ho Chi Minh City (commonly known as Saigon), a city in southern Vietnam.

March 25, 1945, the assault on the island of Iwo Jima appeared to have ended after 35 days of intense fighting. However, that night, 300 Japanese troops launched a final, last-ditch counterattack near Airfield Number 2. Army pilots, Seabees, and Marines from the 5th Pioneer Battalion and 28th Marines fought the Japanese forces until morning but suffered heavy casualties.

March 27, 1953, the 5th Marines, supported by the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, counter-attacked enemy-held positions in the first full day of fighting after Chinese forces launched an assault on *Outpost Vegas*.

March 31, 1801, the second Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lieutenant Colonel William W. Burrows, rode with then-President Thomas Jefferson in search of, "a proper place to fix the Marine Barracks on." The two chose a square in Southeast Washington, at 8th and I streets.





In honor and memory of Herb Livingston I dedicated this page for photos from the memorial service and Honor Guard at the columbarium at Mountview Cemetery.

Top left– Herbs Uniform and memorial display. Top right — Rifle detail at the ready, pictured are L to R: Tom Lowry, Tom Jones, Mike Tolstedt, Bill Bishop, Joe Aguilar, Ralph McKinney and Keith Thompson. Center left — Chaplain Jim Borner delivers the eulogy and memories. Center right– 21 gun salute.

Lower left — Flag detail– Tim Bender and a Marine From the I&I staff and Jim Benner from Dept. MCL Montana.

Gunny's corner will return next month.