



Newsletter

June, 2020

Eugene Sara Detachment
Marine Corps League

PO Box 2051
Billings, MT 59103

WEB www.eugenesara.com

Commandant - Mike Tolstedt

Editor - Tim Bender

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Commandants Message



Good Day Gentlemen,

Given Governor Bullocks announcement that the State will move into Phase Two of the Re-opening the Big Sky. We can anticipate having our June 8th meeting while maintaining the six feet social distance guideline. Wearing

masks is recommended but is up to each individual. Phase 2 recommends that vulnerable people continue to adhere to the stay at home guidelines. Please let me know if you decide not to attend. At this point we have not received any new directives from National regarding funeral and color guard details. The Friends of the Yellowstone National Cemetery intends to resume their Unattended ceremonies for veterans after June 1st. They have also stated that regular Memorial Day services will commence by this time next year. As you know this continues to be a fluid situation which we will continue to follow closely. Stay safe, stay strong. **I also wanted to bring to your attention the Free Help For Homeless Veterans phone number: 1-877-424-3838, which has 24 hour access.**

Semper Fi!

Mike Tolstedt (406)698-4965

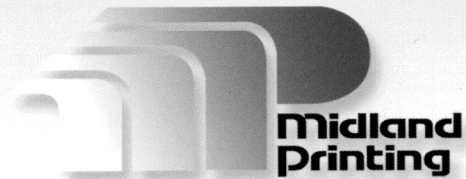
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1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)

Chaplains Report:



Marines & families,
This will be short because of covid-19. I pray everyone is doing ok.
As for myself, I've stayed pretty busy. Napping with the dog, sitting outside watching the grass and weeds grow, lots of praying. I just realized, I need a vacation.

God Bless all.

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

Paymasters Report:



No Report

Semper Fidelis, Scott
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:

AGES	65+	\$200
	51-64	\$300
	36-50	\$400
	35 & under	\$500

Life membership costs may be going up!

In previous editions of the Newsletter we added some new content that will be available in the digital edition only. This will help keep our 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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Jr. Vice Commandants Report:



Fellow survivors,
Our Marines here have fought through this battle of the Covid and come through strong. I have not heard of any casualties on our part and things are looking up for the summer. As you know Bullock is relaxing the rules and things are reopening. Bozeman has already held their first post shutdown meeting and ours will be held June 8th. If you can attend we will be set up for it and if you want wear a mask. If you are ill please stay at home and just get yourself better. Word will be announced later regarding awards and installation.


Semper Fi,

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


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Senior Vice Commandant Report:



Marine Corps Leaguers,
I hope this newsletter finds all to be well. June 8th will be the next meeting, It would nice to have a good attendance. Bozeman had their first meeting since the virus hit us and had a very good turnout. Burt Gigoux and another Marine held a two Marine Memorial Day observance in Pahrump,

Nevada.
Semper Fi
Tom Jones, Sr. Vice
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tcgysgt21@yahoo.com



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**Marine Corps League
Eugene Sara Detachment #418
Meeting Minutes May 2020
No meeting held**

**Election results: Commandant—Mike Tolstedt , Sr. Vice— Tom Jones, Jr. Vice— Tim Bender
Judge Advocate — Ralph McKinney appointees: Chaplain— Jim Borner, Adjutant/Paymaster—
Scott Dunlap, Sgt at Arms— Doug Wood**

Marine Corps History in June source marineparents.com

June 2, 1918, the German 28th Division attacked American troops on the Paris-Metz Road, hitting the American 2nd Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened fire with deadly accuracy, helping hand German troops a setback that set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood which would soon follow.

June 8, 1995, a Marine recovery team from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit stationed on board the *USS Kearsarge* rescued American pilot Captain Scott O'Grady, USAF, who had been shot down over Bosnia six days earlier.

June 12, 1898, the First Marine Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Robert Huntington, landed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The next day, Lieutenant Herbert Draper raised the American flag over Camp McCalla where it flew for the next eleven days. Huntington later sent the flag to Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood informing him (Heywood) that, "when bullets were flying, ...the sight of the flag upon the midnight sky has thrilled our hearts."

June 12, 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed a Presidential Proclamation calling for the American flag to be flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, "at all times during the day and night." The proclamation came as a result of discussions between the Attorney General's office and Marine Corps officials earlier that year on improving the visibility and appearance of the monument.

June 15, 1944, the V Amphibious Corps assaulted the west coast of the island of Saipan in the Mariana Islands. The assault was preceded by hours of naval gunfire and airstrikes and by nightfall the 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions had established a beachhead 10,000 yards wide and 1,500 yards deep despite heavy Japanese resistance.

June 20, 1950, eight divisions of the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded the Republic of Korea shortly before dawn. Within three days, Seoul, the capital city of South Korea, had been captured. Tendsdays later, on June 30, President Harry S. Truman ordered a naval blockade of the Korean coast and authorized the sending of U.S. ground troops to Korea. Two days later, General Douglas MacArthur, the Commander in Chief Far East, formally requested that a Marine regimental combat team be deployed to the area.

June 25, 1966, *Operation Jay* began approximately 20 miles northwest of the central Vietnamese city of Hue. The operation, which lasted nine days, saw the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines land north of the North Vietnamese 812th Main Force Battalion, while the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines landed south of the enemy's position. Caught between the two Marine units, the North Vietnamese battalion suffered more than 80 dead during the course of the operation.

June 26, 1898, Lewis "Chesty" Puller, the most decorated Marine in history, was born in West Point, Virginia. Puller would enlist in the Marine Corps in 1918 during World War I (although he didn't see action during that war) and in 37 years of service, he served in numerous conflicts during the "Banana Wars," including the Occupation of Haiti and the Occupation of Nicaragua, World War II, including the Battles of Guadalcanal and Peleliu, and the Korean War, including the Battle of Inchon and the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.

June 26, 1918, one of the most important and legendary battles in Marine Corps history--The Battle of Bois de Belleau, or Belleau Wood, came to an end after 20 days of bitter fighting.



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Judge Advocates Report:

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the June 8th meeting. It will be good to get back to normal. It will be a very different Memorial Day without events. The veterans are still in my thoughts.

Semper Fi
Ralph McKinney



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Sergeant at Arms Report:

Marines,
Regular business meeting for June— June 8th
at 1900hrs. @ Heights VFW

No Details at this time.
Doug Wood

Denis Pitman

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The Detachment Exchange

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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.

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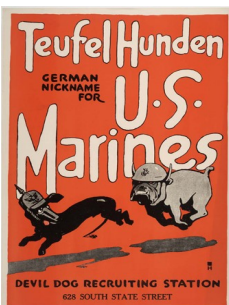
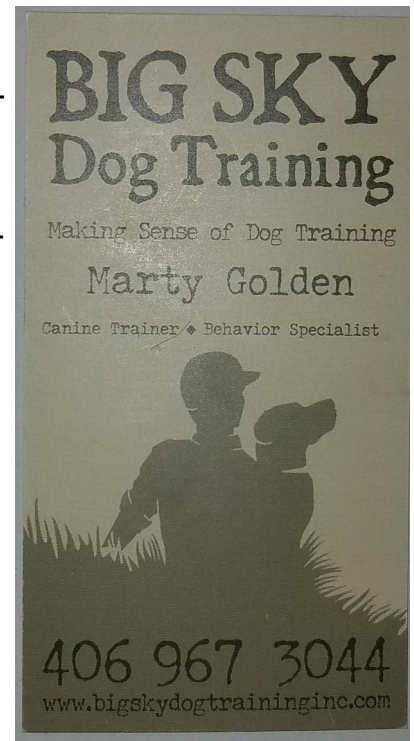
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Miles City Squad B Meeting Minutes

No meeting held

Battle of Belleau Wood WORLD WAR I [1918] — Excerpt source Encyclopedia Britannica May 25, 2020

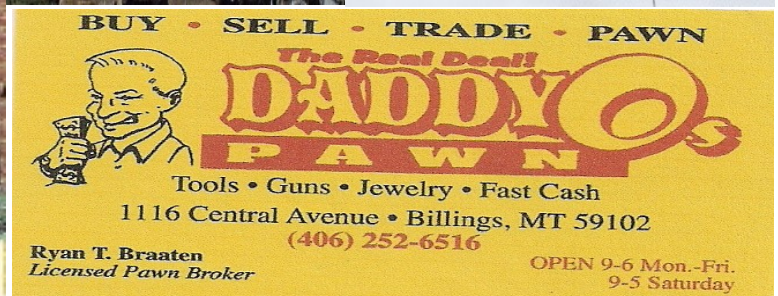
Battle of Belleau Wood, (1–26 June 1918), The first major engagement of the U.S. military in World War I, that greatly boosted morale amid the German's Spring Offensive. The struggle for Belleau Wood announced to the Germans that the U.S. armed forces had arrived on the Western Front in strength and were eager to fight. It was a tough baptism of fire for the Americans but persistence and resolution secured them their first important victory in the War effort. The bravery of the U.S. Army's 2nd Division and the 4th Marine Brigade (the "Fighting Fifth" and 6th Marine Regiments) were especially noteworthy. In recognition of their service and sacrifice, the French renamed Belleau Wood the "Bois de la Brigade de Marine"—Wood of the Marine Brigade—and awarded the 4th Marine Brigade the coveted **Croix de Guerre**. As the Germans tried to extend and develop their offensive against the French on the Marne River, they came up against the U.S. 2nd and 3rd Divisions at Château-Thierry and Belleau Wood. Having been checked at Château-Thierry, the Germans advanced through the nearby Belleau Wood and then encountered more of the 2nd Division and a brigade of U.S. Marines. Neighboring French troops began to fall back and urged the Americans to do likewise, eliciting the famous response from U.S. Marine Captain Lloyd W. Williams: "Retreat? Hell, we just got here!" The Americans dug in and with a fine display of marksmanship held the German attack on 4 June. The Americans went on the offensive and attacked the German positions in front of Belleau Wood on 6 June, suffering heavy losses in the process (the highest in U.S. Marine Corps history until the Battle of Tarawa in 1943). A subsequent attack gained the Americans a foothold on the edge of the wood, but progress was painfully slow, the enthusiasm of the Americans being met by equal determination from the defending Germans. The fighting was relentless, much of it at close quarters and involving bayonets, knives, and even fists. The Americans launched six attacks before the Germans were finally expelled from Belleau Wood on 26 June.



Battle Losses
American, 9,777 casualties (1,811 killed)
German, 9,500 casualties, including 1,600 captured.



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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.