



FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Our next monthly meeting is set for: **21 February 2024**



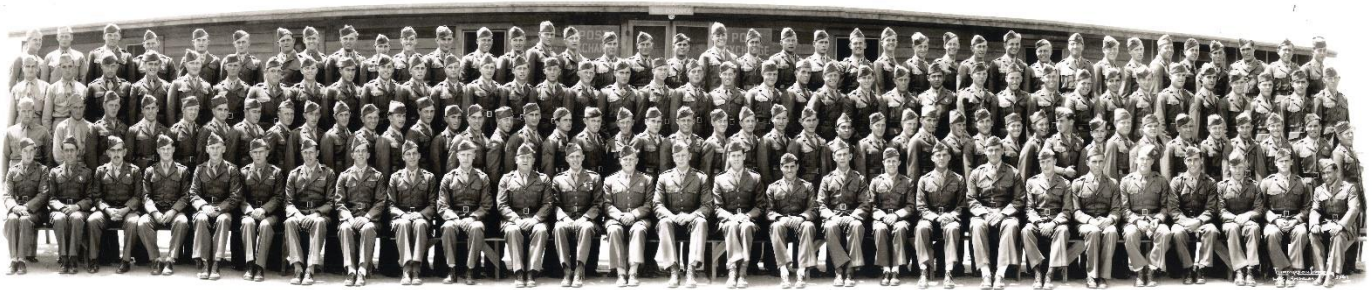
On 21 February 1945, my father Ardon Emmett Grinde was Wounded-In-Action by Japanese mortar fragments on Iwo Jima. He was serving with Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Marines, 5th Marine Division, United States Marine Corps.





SGT. K. E. SMITH

CORP. R. L. SUTTON



**"F" Company, 2nd Battalion, 28th Marines, 5th Marine Division
Company Photograph**

Photo taken at Tent Camp One, Post Exchange, Camp Pendleton, California. Year 1944, sometime before shipping out to the Big Island of Hawaii, and subsequently onto Iwo Jima 19 February 1945.

Photo restored by Clyde Jackson - Clyde is shown in the 3rd row from front and 14th from left as you look at photo.

Ardon Emmett Grinde is shown in the 3rd row from front and 1st one from the right. (Looking at photo).

Ardon's sons Paul & Matthew were also stationed at the same area as their dad, but we knew it as Las Pulgas (43 area) of Camp Pendleton during the 1980s. The building shown in the back was the 43 Area (Las Pulgas) PX. It was still that when Paul was discharged in August of 1988.

Bowker Family Update



Luke and Mary proud parents.



The 11 newest members of the Bowker family.

Chocolate Labs

Robert reports that all are keeping warm with the delivered firewood and that it is lasting well.



From the Chaplain's Corner



February, in addition to being the shortest month, is the month of Valentine's Day, black history and leap years, which 2024 happens to be! It is the only month whose number of days changes, depending on the year. Every four years, on leap years, one extra day is added to the calendar and February is extended to 29 days. Why?

Well, because the Earth technically takes 365-and-a-quarter days to make its' journey around the sun. Leap years/days are important because they allow the calendar to be as accurate as possible.

FEBRUARY	2024	2024
29	366	LEAP
LEAP DAY	DAYS	YEAR

Have you known anyone who was born on February 29th? My mother-in-law and one of her older sisters were both born, 10 years apart, on Leap Day and claimed to be $\frac{1}{4}$ the number of years old that the total of their months of life indicated. They took great delight in telling everyone they were much younger.

This February, think about the variables in life which we are all subject to, and to the constants, also. I think it is important to recognize the importance of both and, while we strive to be consistent, we also need to be flexible and go with the flow. In our area, particularly in Springfield, we just experienced a devastating ice storm and had many trees break under the



weight of the ice encasing them – their ability to be flexible was compromised. That caused much damage to the power grid as trees fell across power lines and some of us just this week had electricity restored, after nearly two weeks without it!

This month I encourage you to enjoy the constants in your life while you work to be flexible so you are able to endure the “ice storms” that come your way. A thought that might help us do this is what the Apostle Paul said in First Thessalonians 5:18, “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ



Jesus.” It wasn’t always easy, but when I had big branches breaking off my maple tree and falling on my roof, with one banging against my plate glass window, I was grateful the window didn’t break, no holes were punched in the roof, and the really big limb didn’t break off and crush my car.





FEBRUARY 2024

BIRTHDAYS

24 February – Steve Kanaga

Please take a moment to remember Steve on the anniversary of the day he was born.

ATTENTION!!!!

If your name does not appear on the birthday listing for the month you were born, I do not have that information. So, please let me know your birth month and day (not the year) so I can be sure to add you to my birthday list.

Fund-Raising Breakfast Service for Sunday,



21 January 2024



The breakfast service for 21 January 2024 did take place following the Winter Storm 2024. Some members were without power and no hot water, but they improvised, adapted, and overcame the adverse conditions.

We served 38 (37 @ the \$8.00 rate, and 1 @ a \$10.00 rate) paid meals. This brought in \$306.00. We also received \$45.00 in tips, for a total of **\$351.00.**

Matt Scott and his mother Peggy Harley were able to attend. Matt helped with order deliveries, Peggy had breakfast and socialized with the attendees.

Thad and Nancy Lukasik were able to make it. Sounds like our breakfast was the better meal they have had due to the retirement facility being without power and staffing shortages.

Marine Corps League “Mission Statement”

Detachment Commandant Dave Huber has tasked the Senior Vice-Commandant with reading the Marine Corps League Mission Statement at each meeting so that we all are reminded on a regular basis what the “mission” of the Marine Corps League is, and what we should be striving for.

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
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Moose Lodge 1726
2011 Laura Street
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Phone: (541) 746-3321
3rd Wednesday of the Month

Dinner @ 1800 hours

Meeting Starts @ 1900 hours

Mailing address:

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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

21 February 2024 (Bar Menu Items)

20 March 2024 (Corned beef and cabbage, salad, and potatoes)

17 April 2024 (Ham and scalloped potatoes, Peas, Dinner Roll, and salad)

15 May 2024

19 June 2024

17 July 2024

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

18 February 2024

17 March 2024 (St. Patrick's Day)

21 April 2024

19 May 2024

16 June 2024 (Father's Day)

21 July 2024

18 August 2024

15 September 2024

20 October 2024

17 November 2024

15 December 2024