

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE HERBERT A. LITTLETON DETACHMENT

NEWSLETTER 09.19.09



MEMORIAL DEDICATION

The tornado was more than we could adjust to. However the rain did not spoil our celebration although it did bring about several adjustments. Despite the rain and nasty weather, there were several hundred people gathered together in Mena, Arkansas that celebrated the selfless service and self sacrifice of Herbert A Littleton for which he received the Medal of Honor

Beginning at 10:00 a.m. a dedication Ceremony took place at the Old National Guard Armory on DeQueen Street in Mena. Speakers included Congressman Mike Ross, Marine Brigadier General Timothy C. Hanifen, Arkansas Deputy Adjutant General: Brigadier General William J. Johnson, Marine Corps League National Commandant Jim Laskey as well as Ms. Patricia Duncan and Ms. Donna Littleton members of the Littleton Family. All spoke of the deep underlying values, selfless service and self sacrifice of not only Medal of Honor recipient Marine PFC Littleton but of those same qualities represented by our brave men and women that serve our country. These same qualities were acknowledged in the citizens of Polk County as they helping one another recover from the recent tornado here in Polk County.

Fifty members of the Mena High School Band gave up their Saturday to provide inspirational music to accompany the speeches and to add emphasis to the ideals of values, service and self sacrifice. A special thanks for their self-sacrificing service.



Following the Dedication Ceremony we gathered at the County Courthouse lawn where an unveiling Ceremony took place in which a Memorial to Marine PFC Littleton was unveiled. The memorial displays an picture of PFC Littleton, his Medal of Honor and a citation by the President of the United States, that states the deeds for which PFC Littleton received the Medal of Honor

The unveiling Ceremony was followed by a reception and luncheon at the St. Agnes Catholic Church, Parish Hall. A special thanks to the Knights of Columbus and the Altar Society who prepared and served the wonderful meal. The

reception and luncheon provided an opportunity for those attending to break bread together, visit the comrades of Herbert A. Littleton that fought alongside him in Korea, the Littleton family members, fellow Marines and other honored guest. A special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Victor Schell who prepared four beautifully decorated cakes for desert. The cakes were decorated with edible images of Herbert A. Littleton, his Congressional Medal of Honor, the Marine Corps Emblem and the Emblem of the Herbert A Littleton Detachment.

At 2:00 P.M The Celebration of Values, selfless service, and sacrifice move to the Holly Harshman Gymnasium where the Mena High School band presented a free concert to celebrate not only Herbert A. Littleton but the selfless service and personal sacrifice of many of our fellow Americans. This program included the singing of the national Anthem by Mr. James Tarver, a speech by National Marine Corps League Commandant Jim Laskey and music by the Mena High School Band.

Mr. Buddy Hixon (who fought beside Herbert A. Littleton in Korea) stated that "I was originally disappointed that the Marine Corps Band that had been scheduled to provide music in support of Herbert a Littleton Day was not going to be available. However, after the wonderful presentation by the Mena High School Band I was glad that this band was the one that played and supported this wonderful day of celebration.

Special thanks to all the people who helped make this Memorial Dedication a special and enjoyable event.

DETACHMENT BIBLE

Chaplain Burle Mattingly contributed a Hard cover Bible to our detachment. Sergeant At Arms, Ervin Pringle took the Bible to Cobblers Corner and had it covered with a tan leather cover with our Marine Corps League Emblem imprinted on it.

DETACHMENT FLAG

The Detachment is holding a drawing for a Mossberg 12 Gauge Pump Action shotgun. The purpose of the drawing is to raise funds to purchase of a detachment flag. Only 400 tickets will be produced & distributed. The drawing will be on December 15, 2009 or sooner if all tickets are distributed before December 15, 2009. We are asking for a \$5.00 dollar donation per ticket. We need help in seeking donations. Check with Bob Toombs for more information at: 479-394-8147.

NEXT MEETING

Our regular meeting will be September 22, 2009 at the American Legion Building in Acorn. Officers are requested to meet at 6:00 PM, the regular meeting will start at 6:30 PM. Officers are requested to wear dress uniform.

Semper Fi