

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE HERBERT A. LITTLETON DETACHMENT



NEWSLETTER 12.10.09

***ATTENTION ON DECK ***

The Shotgun Drawing will take place during the next meeting which will be WEDNESDAY, December 16. ALL TICKETS MUST BE TURNED IN prior to the meeting.

Special Officers Meeting @ 1800 Wednesday December 16. The Commandant has requested all League Officers report 30 minutes prior to the next regular meeting at the American Legion.

Shotgun Raffle ticket sales will conclude December 15. Everyone is encouraged to continue promoting the raffle.

Toys for Tots Live Telethon was a success. League members manned the phones on December 5th to raise over \$4,000 in toys and money with more still coming in. Walt Gray is getting ready to make another run to Texarkana to pick up more toys and could use some help.

Postcards to honor Herbert A. Littleton have been ordered bearing the likeness of HAL and a brief comment on his heroic action. Our Detachment logo is also on the postcard. Members will be able to purchase these and the detachment will use them as a quick way to notify members of special events. We hope the postcards will be here in time for our Dec 16th meeting.

Mena Christmas Parade The color guard participated in the Mena Christmas Parade on December 4. Representing the League were James Scott, Erick Burton, Ervin Pringle, and Chris Irons. They wore our MCL uniform and cap, with black or dark gloves and carried the flags and rifles.

Thanks to Ervin Pringle and Homer Ethridge for providing the '03 rifles for the color guard and to Walt Gray for coordinating the event.

Bob Toombs drove his truck loaded with Toys for Tots collection boxes and banners on the sides.

Salvation Army Kettle Drive League members rang the bell to raise money for the Salvation Army.

Thanks to Walt Gray, Ervin Pringle, and James Christi for standing post at the kettle.

The Marine Corps Prayer

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer. AMEN

December Meeting CHANGED Our next meeting is scheduled for **WEDNESDAY December 16, 2009** at 1830 at the American Legion Hall in Acorn.

Semper Fi

Mr. Vice President, Mr. Speaker, Members of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives:

Yesterday, December 7th, 1941 -- a date which will live in infamy -- the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. The United States was at peace with that nation and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with its government and its emperor looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific. Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in the American island of Oahu, the Japanese ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to our Secretary of State a formal reply to a recent American message. And while this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or of armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time, the Japanese government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. I regret to tell you that very many American lives have been lost. In addition, American ships have been reported torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Yesterday, the Japanese government also launched an attack against Malaya. Last night, Japanese forces attacked Hong Kong. Last night, Japanese forces attacked Guam. Last night, Japanese forces attacked the Philippine Islands. Last night, the Japanese attacked Wake Island. And this morning, the Japanese attacked Midway Island. Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday and today speak for themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and well understand the implications to the very life and safety of our nation.

As commander in chief of the Army and Navy, I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense. But always will our whole nation remember the character of the onslaught against us. No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory. I believe that I interpret the will of the Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make it very certain that this form of treachery shall never again endanger us. Hostilities exist. There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory, and our interests are in grave danger. With confidence in our armed forces, with the unbounding determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God.

I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7th, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese empire.

Video of President Roosevelt's speech: <http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/fdrpearlharbor.htm>

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