



Gold Country
 Detachment. #885
 Grass Valley, CA
 Vol. 5 Dec 2016

The Boondocker

Commandant's Message



Thanksgiving has come and gone and now I am looking forward to Christmas and the New Year. First of all I want wish all hands a very Merry Christmas and hope that everyone enjoys this Blessed Season.

Looking back on this past year I am having mixed feelings of joy and sorrow. There is the blessing of my wife surviving a fall down the stairs where she broke her neck and the joy of her recovery and becoming stronger every day.

Sadly we lost another member last month on Sunday the 13th. Tom O'Flanagan left for his eternal post with the Ultimate Commandant and His Son. I really miss Tom. He was a strong Marine and a true friend. Pr-

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Sr. Vice 'Commandant's Message

Marines,

This past month's activities went off just as planned. On November 10th we had our celebration at the National Hotel. The cake-cutting went well as did the Commandants message. The Toys-for-Tots campaign got started on time as well as Cornish Christmas.



This month of December we're still doing at least one more Cornish Christmas session out on the street with Toys-for-Tots, giving away rose pens for donations. We've had a lot of fun the first two Fridays and received a good amount in donations. Please join us at the booth on Friday, December 9th at 1730. We now have a late request to put together more rose pens. I'll be getting raw rose supplies on Monday so we need to convert them to usable pens by Friday. I'll announce the time & day at the meeting or you can call me.

As in the past with Toys-for-Tots , we are once again working

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Marine Corps Role in National Security Policy

The Marine Corps has long provided the Nation with a force adept at rapidly and effectively solving complex, multifaceted, and seemingly intractable security challenges—so much so that “Send in the Marines” connotes both a demand for action and a presumption of success. While he general public may not be conversant



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with what exactly the Marine Corps is or does, our fellow citizens display an intuitive understanding that in times of trouble the Marines stand ready to do whatever has to be done. In recent years, their confidence has been reinforced by the performance of Marines in toppling the regime in Iraq, eradicating the ensuing endemic violence within that country's al Anbar Province, and in numerous humanitarian assistance operations worldwide. This flexibility and dependability has been captured in the expression, "No better friend, no worse enemy." While Marine Corps forces may perform a variety of missions across the range of military operations, two stand at the forefront of what we do.

First, as part of the naval team we **assure littoral access** by bridging the difficult seam between operations at sea and on land. This is accomplished through a combination of activities ranging from military engagement, crisis response, and power projection (both soft and hard). This capability contributes to overcoming diplomatic, geographic and military challenges to access and assists the Nation in its strategic objectives of preventing conflict, protecting national interests, assuring access to engage partners and to defeat aggression when necessary.

Second, we fight what have historically been called "**small wars, operations**" that require a high degree of adaptability along with versatile, comprehensive skills. We have a long track record of success in solving; spanning recently from Al Anbar province, to the Barbary Wars and suppression of the slave trade in the early 19th century. These are complex problems in which purely military solutions will not suffice— because the fundamental causes of the conflict are often a complicated combination of security, economic, political and social issues.

What assured littoral access and "small wars" have in common is that they require forces that are strategically mobile, operationally flexible, and tactically proficient. These three defining traits allow the Marine Corps to meet this standard: our naval character, our high state of mental and material readiness, and an exceptional degree of military professionalism. These capabilities and traits ensure that the Marine Corps can effectively support joint force actions to "prevail in today's wars; ... prevent and deter threats against the United States, its interests, and our allies and partners; and prepare to defend the United States in a wide range of contingencies against state and non-state actors."

Reproduced from MC Operating Concepts Manual

Binacle List

Joe Alietti and Carole Alietti
 John Bynes and Nancy Bynes
 Eve DeZaparkansky
 Ann Edwards
 Dennis Jensen & Becky Jensen
 Ted Lingenfelter
 Prue Miller
 Skip Rankin
 Dale Thomas

2016-2017 Officers & Staff:

Commandant: Gary Miller
Sr. Vice Commandant: Jim Brodeur
Jr. Vice Commandant: Al Hernandez
JAG: Dennis Larson
Adjutant/Paymaster: Rick Viscarra
Sgt-at-Arms: John Bynes
Quarter Master: John Bynes
Chaplain: Dennis Jensen
Boondocker Editor: Art Leitherer



Happy Birthday!!!

December:

- Ted Lingenfelter
- Felicia Rankin
- All Marines!!!

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dence and I enjoyed his company and were really saddened with his passing.

Tom was a retired San Francisco Police Officer. In addition to being a member of our Detachment, he also belonged to the VFW, Native Sons of the Golden West, Elks and Moose Lodges. He was generous to his friends and the causes of the organizations he belonged to. In recent months his health took a turn and he needed care. Never one to complain, he let few of us know the suffering he was going through.

There are plans in the works for Memorial for Tom. As we get closer to putting it all together there will be an announcement.

Back to a much happier note: we celebrated our 241st Birthday at the National Hotel on November 10th. We had the Commandants Birthday message (and every one could hear and see it this year), a cake cutting and the usual rounds of good cheer.

Let us all look forward to a new year filled with joy and accomplishments.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Semper Fi

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with the Salvation Army. The weekend after Thanksgiving we went to Toys-R-US and bought a van load of toys to get things moving along. Our boxes are filling up quickly and we expect to have a banner year for toy donations. Please help in any way you can.

The annual Donation day parade is on Friday, December 16th at 1000 right in front of the Hennesey school. Four of us will be there to lead the parade with our color guard, come on out to cheer us on or hold the banner and march with us. Call me for more info if you want to participate – 477-5120.

See you all at the 1800 regular meeting on the 5th of December.

Semper Fi.

In Memoriam



Tom O'Flanagan
Born: December 22, 1931
Departed: November 13, 2016
Will be missed by his fellow
Marines and Detachment
#885.



Monthly Events

- **Nov 30, 2016 — Staff Meeting — 1800**
3rd Wednesday of every month, GVVH
- **Dec 2 & 9, 2016 — Cornish Christmas**
- **Dec 5, 2016 — Regular Meeting — 1800**
At the Grass Valley Vet's Hall. Be on time and bring a friend!
- **Dec 12-16, 2016 — Toys-4-Tots Readiness**
- **Dec 16, 2016 — Donation Day Parade —1000**
- **Dec 17, 2016 — Distribute Toys to Children**
- **Dec 25, 2016 — Christmas**
- **Jan 1, 2017 — News Year**
- **Dec 28, 2016 — Staff Meeting — 1800**
3rd Wednesday of every month, GVVH
- **Jan 2, 2017 — Regular Meeting — 1800**
At the Grass Valley Vet's Hall. Be on time and bring a friend!



Gold Country Detachment #885

Marine Corps League

578 Sutton Way, PMB #375

