



BUNKER

TALK

God Country Corps

J. R. Spears Detachment #066
Pensacola, FL
Founded January 19th, 1984 by
William D. Carter

★ MEETINGS

Day & Time:
2nd Tuesday of each month
at 1900

Location:

National Guard Armory
8790 Grow Drive in the
Ellison Park Industrial

Contact Us:

J. R. Spears Det. 066
Marine Corps League
P. O. Box 3491
Milton, FL 32572
850-712-0210

Detachment Website:

<http://marinecorpsleaguepensacola.org>

Department of FL Website:

<http://mclfl.org>

Southeast Division Website:

<http://sediv.org>

MCL Website:

<http://mclnational.org>

★ April 2012

Commandant

Chris Holzworth
cavemanholz@gmail.com
850-463-2494

Senior Vice Commandant

Rob Fernandez
w5.usmc@gmail.com
850-712-0210

Junior Vice Commandant

Chuck Lea
clea56@cox.net
850-485-8280

Judge Advocate

Tom Fitzgerald
fitzgerald346@aol.com
850-206-6873

Junior Past Commandant

Clifford Zack
zaksewski@yahoo.com
850-917-8526

Adjutant/Newsletter

Margret Rogers
teachothers@aol.com
562-964-8702

Paymaster

Ben Sandoval
bensand48@hotmail.com
850-572-0554

Chaplain/Visitation Chair

William Broach
jet727@gulftel.com
251-961-7272

Admin Officer (S-1)

JoAnn Lee
joannlee1983@gmail.com
850-791-7089

Ops Officer (S-3)

Kenneth Morrow
good2015year@gmail.com
850-288-1097

Logistics Officer (S-4)

Kaci Sloan
mrsalismom@gmail.com
850-400-0165

Webmaster (S-6)

Ralph Koeniger
web.pcolamcleague@gmail.com
850-725-0034

Public Affairs Officer

Ed Rouse
erousecpa@bellsouth.net
850-393-3507

Service Officer

George "Doc" Dodge
whiteantelope1945a@gmail.com
562-230-2379

Sgt-at-Arms

Hiram Johnson
850-453-4521

A Message from the Commandant

This year is going to be better than last year with your help. Please do not forget that elections are coming soon. Voting is April. Please show up and vote.

Semper Fi, Caveman Holzworth, Commandant, CPL J. R. Spears Detachment, Pensacola, Florida

Minutes March 13th Detachment Meeting:

Commandant Holtworth called the meeting to order at 1900 at the National Guard Armory, 8790 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL.

There were 29 members and 5 guests present.

Opening ceremonies and rituals were conducted.

Commandant opened the meeting with overview of the upcoming elections and procedures. Voting to take place at the April meeting and installation of officers at the May meeting. The SJA brief the current nominations and the membership voted and accepted the current nominations.

Rob Fernandez presented personnel to continue to fill the appointed billets. Open billets are the S3, Paymaster, and Adjutant. Nominations close in February command mtg. Nomination names will agree to or disagree with the position nominated for. Elections will be held on April command mtg.

Elected Command Billets:

*Commandant: Gunner Fernandez

*Sr Vice Commandant: Drag Morrow

*Jr Vice Commandant: Chuck Lea, Maggie Rogers

*SJA: Tom "Fitz" Fitzgerald

(1) Principle Staff Billet Nomination Month: March 2018

-Nominations Seconds by Command Administered by SJA:

Appointed Staff Billets: All S-Shop Department Heads

*S-1: Joanne Lee

*S-3: OPEN

*S-4: Kaci Sloan

* S-6 Web Gunny: Ralph Koeniger

*Paymaster: Tim Chandler (Pending)

Appointed Special Staff billets

*Adjutant: OPEN

*PAO: Ed "The Lt" Rouse

*Chaplain: Father Bill Broach

*Service Officer: Doc Dodge

*Sgt of Arms: SgtMaj Hiram Johnson

Ron Smith briefed the status of the carshow. Fundraising is continuing. Plan is to stage gear on Friday night and execute Saturday morning at 0500.

Nominations Close This Meeting

-Elections: April Command Meeting

-Installation of New Principle Staff May Command Meeting

Ed Rouse passed word that the HAU lineup was complete and would start working on the poster with the schedule/lineup. Sponsorship drive to begin at the end of March.

Kenneth (Drag) Morrow presented an after action to the social. Next social will be a gun shoot. Time/place TBD.

Web Gunny presented by ED Current issues identified are being worked by DigiPro.

Ben Sandoval gave an After-Action Report. Motioned it by Don Roe, second by Rob Fernandez to receive the Paymaster's Report subject to audit.

Service Officer Doc Dodge presented a banner Corpsman group named Team Eagle

Public Affairs: Don Roe talked about the HAU for 2018 possible – May – Enlisted Night; June – Coast Guard Night; July -Iraq/OLF/OIF Night; August - ; September – SOG; October – POW night (subject to change) Starts on the last Thursday of the month from May to Oct at Veteran Memorial Park.

SJA: N/A

Good of the League:

Doc Dodge presented Wayne Sasser as a new member/Corpsman

Fitzie presented Paul Hamlin.

Zach discussed the Young Marines Mess Night. RSVP required NLT 4/1. Look for information on their FB page.

Commandant gave some brief closing remarks.

Closing ceremonies and rituals were conducted.

The 50/50 (___ collected) was won by ___ ().

The meeting was adjourned at 2000.

Submitted,

Sr. Vice Commandant

Mark Your Calendars

{Check Our Website for More Info on Events}

April Events

3 Apr – Staff mtg

10 Apr – Commnd mtg

14 Apr – YM Mess Night

27 Apr – Military Appreciation Night

28 Apr – Car Show

May Events

1 May – staff mtg

8 May – Command mtg

31 May – Sgt Major Night



My Service Dog

As some of you know, that I went for my service dog training. This was the best decision that I have made for myself in dealing with my medical problems. It was a long process in researching until I found South Eastern Guide Dogs. The application process was not that hard and to go through a home visit to ensure that my home and myself are ready to except the responsibility of owning and caring for a service dog. The home has to be secured to make sure that the dog cannot get out or hurt itself. They also ask a

series of questions pertaining to myself and the responsibility of owning a service dog. Once this was done it took about 2 to 3 weeks to receive a response on whether I was accepted for their program. Once I was accepted for the program, I had to travel to Palmetto, Florida.

The only cost is your travel down to Palmetto, FL and anything you want to purchase.

I want to also state that South Eastern Guide Dogs www.guides.org have very well trained service dogs for our veterans. The training is intense, but very while worth your time because you are now trained and bonded with your service dog. What amazed me was the trainers knew how to match the service to you.

You wonder how I know that this was a right place for me to get my service dog from:

1. The service dog has started their training at very young age at puppy academy
2. They go to a puppy raiser until about 16 months.
3. Then they are trained with the trainers, by the way they are amazing
4. They have well cared for and the veterinarian on staff that makes sure they are healthy. Near the of end of training you visit the vet and you get a copy of service dog history.
5. Intense training for 11 days
6. Any questions no matter how dumb you think they are the trainers will answer them.
7. The trainers work with and go beyond to help you.
8. When you take your service dog home. They are not done with you. They are there for any question asked. In addition they will do a 3 month, 6 month and a year visit. The year visit will be retested.

(Best part of Southeastern Guide Dogs they are accredited with ADI. The test, but they like to call a demonstration to keep the vets at ease, is followed by ADI for service dogs. And yes you get a Service Dog Id.)
www.guidedogs.org

He Sacrificed Himself To Save Fellow Marines — Now A Navy Destroyer Will Bear His Name

(THE SUN HERALD 11 MAR 18) ... Patrick Ochs

The USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114) set sail from Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula on Friday. The guided missile destroyer is headed to Charleston, South Carolina, where it will be the latest Arleigh Burke-class destroyer commissioned into the U.S. Navy on March 24.

The ship is named after Medal of Honor recipient Pfc. Ralph Henry Johnson, who was 19 in the midst of the Vietnam War when his 15-man reconnaissance patrol was attacked in Quan Duc Valley on March 5, 1968. With the battle enveloping the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, a hand grenade landed in the fighting hole Johnson shared with fellow Marines, according to Huntington Ingalls Industries. Johnson threw his body over the grenade, absorbing the full impact of the blast. He died instantly and was posthumously honored by President Richard Nixon in 1970.

The USS Ralph Johnson is equipped with the Aegis Baseline 9 combat system, allowing it to use Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) capability with Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) 5.0 and Naval Integrated Fire Control-Counter Air.

The ship is the 64th Arleigh Burke-class destroyer and 30th DDG 51 class destroyer built by HII, according to the Navy.

According to a release, the keel of Ralph Johnson was laid down in the fall of 2014. The ship was launched in Dec. 2015 and christened on April 2, 2016.

Following commissioning, the ship will make her way to homeport in Everett, Washington.

"My team had a key part in building this ship and the 113 and the 107 and the 105," said Freddie Joe O'Brien, master shipbuilder who has worked at Ingalls for 46 years. "The responsibility and the feeling of pride is much, much different than it was back then."

<https://www.stripes.com/news/us/he-sacrificed-himself-to-save-fellow-marines-now-a-navy-destroyer-will-bear-his-name-1.516021>

VA Services for Veterans and Families

Why seek Veteran Services?

Community and Family Support is important to a Veteran's treatment and recovery. Veteran Services do more than help the Veteran's recovery, they promote healing for the whole family.

VA Medical Center

The VA main campus in Biloxi, Mississippi, offers medical and mental health hospitalization, specialty outpatient care, extended care for older Veterans, and short-term residential treatment for PTSD and/or substance use. Veterans are encouraged to include their families in working with the health care team to ensure long-term recovery.

Biloxi VA Medical Center

(228) 523-5000

Behavioral Health Acute Inpatient Unit

(228) 523-4725

(228) 523-5727

Residential Rehabilitation and Treatment Program (RRTP)

(228) 523-5201 or (228) 523-4682

VA Outpatient Clinics

Primary Care is the entry point to VA Outpatient Care. Primary Care Social Workers offer help with referrals to VA and community resources. Behavioral Health staff are available to provide treatment for mental health, substance use, and relationship issues. VA Chaplains are available to help with spiritual support. Veterans may ask their VA Primary Care team for a referral tailored to their unique situation.

Biloxi VA Medical Center

400 Veterans Ave.

Biloxi, MS 39531

(228) 523-5000 or (800) 296-8872

Mobile VA Clinic

1504 Springhill Ave. Mobile, AL 36604

(251) 219-3900 or (888) 201-0110

Pensacola/Joint Ambulatory Care Center

790 Veterans Way

Pensacola, FL 32507

(850) 912-2000 or (866) 927-1420

Eglin VA Clinic

100 Veterans Way

Eglin Air Force Base, FL 32542

(850) 609-2600 or (866) 520-7359

Panama City Beach VA Clinic (Primary Care) 2600 Veterans Way Panama City Beach, FL 32408 (850) 636-7000 or (888) 231-5047

VA Panama City Beach Clinic West (Behavioral Health) 140 Richard Jackson Blvd. Panama City Beach, FL 32407

(850) 636-7000 or (888) 231-5047

VA Vet Centers

Vet Centers are part of the VA health care system. In addition to providing outreach and readjustment counseling to combat Veterans, they also offer couples counseling for families. Counseling to Veterans about military sexual trauma is also available.

Biloxi Vet Center

288 Veterans Ave.

Biloxi, MS 39531

(228) 388-9938

Mobile Vet Center

3221 Springhill Ave. Building 2, Suite C
Mobile, AL 36607
(251) 478-5906

Pensacola Vet Center

4504 Twin Oaks Dr.
Pensacola, FL 32506
(850) 456-5886 or (877) 927-8387

Okaloosa County Vet Center

6 11th Ave., Suite G 1
Shalimar, FL 32579
(850) 651-1000 or (877) 927-8387

Bay County Vet Center

3109 Minnesota Ave., Suite 101
Panama City, FL 32405
(850) 522-6102 or (877) 927-8387

More Locations

1-877-WARVETS (927-8387)
<https://www.vetcenter.va.gov>

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

VA funds the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program to provide case management services that promote self-sufficiency and prevent homelessness.

The following agencies receive VA funding to administer the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program on the Gulf Coast:

SSVF at Housing First

279-B N. Washington Ave.
Mobile, AL 36603
(251) 450-3345, www.hfal.org

SSVF at 90Works

115 Gregory Square, Pensacola, FL 32502
(855) 909-6757, www.90works.org

SSVF at Hancock Resource Center

454 Highway 90, Suite B
Waveland, MS 39576
(228) 463-8887
www.hancockhrc.org

SSVF South Mississippi (Oak Arbor)

Highway 49 South, Hattiesburg, MS 39401
(601) 545-2925 or (888) 291-0646
<http://www.southmsveteransresources.com/programs/supportive-services/>

Soldier On/Voice of Calvary Ministries

531 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39203
(601) 969-3088, www.vocm.org

Other VA Resources**Warrior to Soul Mate Program (W2SM)**

VA offers workshops to help Veterans and their spouses/partners strengthen their relationships. Workshops are free of charge and led by VA staff using the PAIRS curriculum (see www.pairs.org). For information on upcoming workshops, contact VA Chaplain Service: (228) 523-5730.

VA Caregiver Support Program

<https://www.caregiver.va.gov>

Caregiver Support Line: (855) 260-3274

VA Coaching into Care

Free telephone consultation to family members wishing to help a Veteran seek mental health care in a VA treatment facility or Vet Center: (888) 823-7458

Make The Connection

<https://maketheconnection.net>

VA Online Parenting Class

<https://www.veterantraining.va.gov/parenting>

Talking with Kids about PTSD

https://www.mirecc.va.gov/VISN16/docs/Talking_with_Kids_about_PTSD.pdf

Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255, press 1

Welcome Home Resource Guide for Veterans and Their Families Download PDF from the VA website:

<https://www.biloxi.va.gov/services/Welcomhome.asp>

Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System | **VA Services for Veterans and Families**

GULF COAST VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

400 Veterans Avenue | Biloxi, MS 39531 | (228) 523-5000 | www.biloxi.va.gov

Changes to TRICARE dental and vision are coming. Are you ready?

On December 31, 2018 the current TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end. Retirees and their family members will be given the option to select a dental plan through the Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). Vision plans will also be available through this new program and not just for retirees and their families. The lack of DoD-sponsored vision coverage for active duty members and their families will soon be a thing of the past.

Until now this program was only available to Federal and USPS employees, retirees, and their eligible family members. However, the program has now expanded to include military retirees and their families.

How will these changes affect me?

No changes will take effect in 2018. Beginning in November you will need to opt into the new FEDVIP plan. This program offers choice. In addition to the Delta Dental, current administrator of the TRDP, you and your family will be able to pick from a database of 10 nationwide and regional dental carriers and four vision carriers. The good news: you will have more choices, better flexibility and premium options. FEDVIP premiums will be deducted from TRICARE enrollees' post-tax pay.* Retirees will have the option to select both dental and vision, only one, or neither. The choice is yours.

For active duty members and their families, dental will remain the same but they will be able to opt into the vision plan under the FEDVIP plan. This new availability of a vision plan will help military families save money. The option to choose between carriers for retirees and active duty members provides the freedom to shop around, saving money and increasing options. You will have the opportunity to choose the coverage that is right for you.

Here is a sneak peak at the dental and vision carriers under the FEDVIP plan beginning January of 2019.

FEDVIP dental plans

- Aetna Dental
- Delta Dental
- Dominion Dental
- EmblemHealth
- FEP BlueDental
- GEHA
- Humana
- MetLife
- Triple-S Salud
- United Concordia Dental

FEDVIP vision plans

- Aetna Vision
- FEP BlueVision
- UnitedHealthcare Vision
- Vision Service Plan
-

I suggest doing a quick search of the reviews left on [Consumer Affairs](#) regarding the dental and vision plan you would be using. As for how the change from TRDP to FEDVIP will impact each of us, time will tell. I am hopeful that the expanded options and ability to choose will create ease in use.

What are the deadlines?

To avoid having a gap in your coverage there are a few dates you need to know:

November 12, 2018 – Beginning in November of 2018, you will be able to enroll in the new FEDVIP plan during “open season.” You will have the opportunity to sign up from November 12 to December 10. While opportunities are available to make [qualifying life event changes](#) outside of open season, this is your window to register so make sure to mark it on your calendar now.

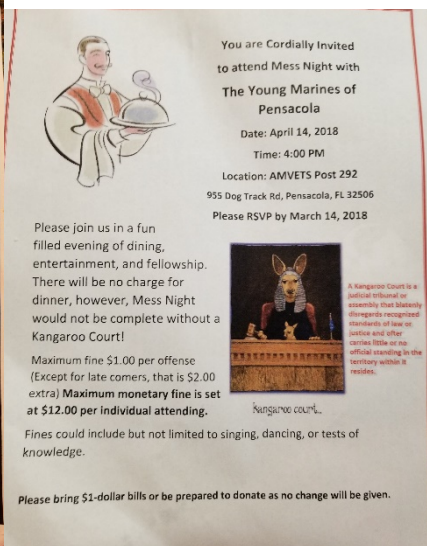
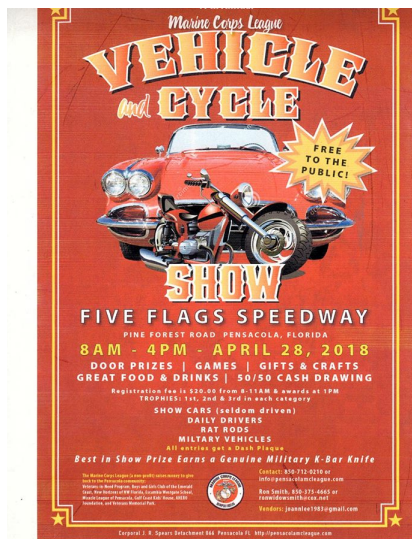
December 10, 2018 – This is your last day to enroll in FEDVIP.

December 31, 2018 – TRDP will expire on Dec. 31, 2018. You must self-enroll with FEDVIP prior to this date in order to receive continued dental coverage as you will not be automatically enrolled in the new plan.

January 1, 2019 – Once enrolled your full FEDVIP coverage will begin on January 1, 2019.

To stay up-to-date on the changes bookmark and visit [trdp.org](#) and [Tricare.mil](#). More information will be posted as the enrollment date approaches.

By Hope Griffin



2018

Sponsored by: Marine Corps League • Corporal J. R. Spears Detachment 066 • Pensacola, Florida

HEROES AMONG US SPEAKER SERIES

2018
Scheduled
Events

MAY
31

WHEN: May – October, 6 pm See schedule for dates

WHERE: Pensacola Veterans Memorial Park
(Bayfront Parkway near 9th Avenue)

REPRESENTING THOSE WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES
IN COMBAT FROM EVERY GENERATION AND BRANCH
OF THE ARMED FORCES.

JUN
28

SERGEANT MAJOR'S NIGHT

SEERGEANT MAJOR BRYAN BATTAGLIA, USMC
Bronze Star, Combat V
Purple Heart

**WORLD WAR II
CARRIER PILOTS NIGHT**

CAPTAIN FLOYD BOWEN, USN

JUL
26

COAST GUARD NIGHT

SPECIAL FORCES NIGHT

RANDY COKENHAM, USA
Valley of Tigers

AUG
30

**EMBEDDED REPORTERS
NIGHT**

ROB WILLIAMS
2nd Tank Battalion, USMC
Operation Iraqi Freedom

**PRISONER OF WAR
NIGHT**

CAPTAIN COLLINS H. HAINES, USN
Prisoner of War
Republic of Vietnam

SEP
27

Water and light refreshments provided • Bring chairs and blankets for seating
• Rain Venue: Rosie's at Seville Quarter



HEROES AMONG US: awarded the 2015 George Washington
Honor Medal by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

OCT
25

HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
The Honorable Ashton Hayward
Mayor of Pensacola



Donations for the "Veterans in Distress Fund" can be sent to:
EDWARD M. ROUSE, CPA, 6825 Oak Street, Milton, FL 32570.
Checks payable to: MCL DET 066.

Announcements

Yearly Dues

For members who pay their dues annually the dues are now \$45 for renewals and \$52 for new members. The \$52 includes the cost of the name tag.

New Members

All new members are required to submit a copy of their DD214/215. A copy will be kept in the detachment personnel files. Without it, his/her discharge cannot be verified to have an Honorable Discharge. If the Honorable Discharge cannot be verified than he/she will not be joined.

Life Membership Dues

AGE GROUP	As of JUL 2017
0 - 35	\$500
36 - 50	\$400
51 - 64	\$300
65 - Over	\$200

Note: Must already be a Member in "Good Standing"

Ship's Store

Members wishing to purchase MCL merchandise, including covers, may do so by contacting the Marine Corps League Ship's Store at 800-625-1775 or visit www.mcleague.org.

PSD ID Card Processing Hours and Information

ID CARDS and DEERS ISSUES are handled between 0730 HRS and 1600 HRS, Monday through Friday. The Customer Line may be tagged prior to 1600 hrs to accommodate the volume of customers.

Wreaths Across America



They accept donations year around. Visit their website **www.wreaths-across-america.org** for further information and consider making a donation to help them continue this outstanding program. The Young Marines of Pensacola are selling wreaths locally for \$15 each.

If you require an ID card, you must have 2 forms of identification. In addition, military dependents must be accompanied by the sponsor or have a Power of Attorney for the sponsor AND a DD-1172 signed by the sponsor and an ID Verification Official. Please bring any required documentation needed for the requested service.

To assure that your ID CARD and DEERS issues are handled in a timely manner, it is suggested that you make an appointment at the following website:

<http://appointments.cac.navy.mil>

Please contact our office if you have questions.

PSD Pensacola, Bldg
680 421 Saufley Street,
Suite B 850-452-3617

Businesses supporting the J.R. Spears Detachment of the Marine Corps League

Detachment Member Owned Businesses



Steve Sanderson
Automotive Alternative
6426 Pensacola Blvd.
Pensacola, FL 32505
850-857-1222



Earl Wright.
AlarmDirect
850-776-7873
Smart Security and
Surveillance Solutions



Roy M. Kinsey, Jr.
Attorney at Law
438 E. Government St.
Pensacola, Florida 32507
850-434-5267

SMITH FAMILY CARPETS
7865 Pine Forest Road
Pensacola, FL 32526
850-944-5888

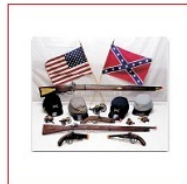


Tom Armstrong
More Ink For Less
120 Chief's Way, Suite 1
Pensacola, FL 32507
850-455-1234

Community Owned Businesses



Medals to Honor, Inc.
"Honoring Those Who Serve"
www.MedalsToHonor.com
910-326-4275



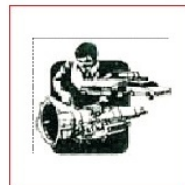
Del Lozano
T&D Gallery of Gifts
Pea Ridge Flea Market
5186 Hwy 90 Booth #33 & 34
850-450-7825



BKInflatables, Inc.
Let Us Inflate Your Next
Party
850-324-1812



Ed Rouse
Ducker & Company
6825 Oak Street
Milton, FL 32570-0889
850-623-3250



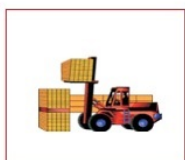
Hirst
Transmission Specialist
8415 N. Palafox St.
Ensley, FL 32534
850-478-3395



Frenchy LaFontaine
Ultra Marine Productions
9810 Indian Ford Rd.
Milton, FL 32570
850-957-9069



Petrick Custom
Cabinets
Free Estimates
850-492-5480



Cantonment Building
Materials & Hardware
990 Hwy 29 North
Cantonment, FL 32533
850-968-6639