



Gold Country Det. #885  
Grass Valley, California

# The Boondocker

## Detachment BBQ July 18th!!!

**When:** Saturday 18 July  
**Where:** The Rankin's Home  
**Time:** 1500

Get ready to have some good food and fun! Bring you sweetheart, wife or significant other. Bring the whole family! There'll be BBQ, music, horse shoes and cold beverages. Please BYOB if you'd like an adult beverage.

If you'd like to bring a recruit please do so! Just come to the July Meeting and let us know you're coming.

Please RSVP to  
staff@MCL885.org or  
530-615-0060  
See you there !!!!!



## Commandant's Message

Happy Independence Day Marines !!!

I hope you all had a great Father's Day and spent it doing whatever it is that you like to do with your loved ones; I know I did.

Summer is definitely here! What a great time of year with warmer weather and everything that brings like shorts, vacation and bikinis ;-)

For some I know the 4th of July is just another holiday or three day weekend; heck some people don't really know what it means and that is truly sad.

To me, Independence Day and the Marine Corps go together hand in glove. Not just because we have fought to keep our Nation free but for many of us and still today, the Marine Corps represents the first real time of independence as people. First time away from home, first time to travel, first sense of real accomplishment, first time to be responsible, first time to be part of something bigger than yourself & first time to be independent.

This 4th of July, I wish all of you the very best. I pray that you and your families will be happy and healthy as well as our League and our great Nation. Stand tall and remember that you were and are part of an elite Corps of the finest fighting force the world has ever seen.

### 2009-2010 Officers

Commandant	David Voors
Sr. Vice Commandant	John Bynes
Jr. Vice Commandant	David Spencer
JAG	Ed Rossovich
Adjutant/Paymaster	Gary Miller
Sgt-at-Arms (1)	Hans Koschyk
Sgt-at-Arms (2)	Dan Baldwin
Quarter Master	Skip Rankin
Chaplain	Jim Edwards
Chaplain	Carlos Flores

**Boondocker Editor = [staff@MCL885.org](mailto:staff@MCL885.org)**

Just like the Corps itself, we may not be the largest Veteran's group in town but we are the best, most recognizable and the most active.

Please reach out to those members who may not be coming to meetings regularly or not at all.

While I think we have one of the finest MCL websites in the nation and we communicate well through email, not everyone is online and so we need to reach out and stay in touch with **ALL** our comrades.

With our longer summer days I hope to see some of you Marines that don't like driving after dark. We meet at 1800 so there's no excuse now, you can come to the meeting and still be home before dark; if you need a ride call me and we'll arrange it.

Lastly, I hope you all can come out to the parade and our summer BBQ for a good time. Let's do our best to advance our cause and have a good time doing it.

Semper Fidelis,

David Voors  
Commandant  
530-308-8386  
[dvoors@MCL885.org](mailto:dvoors@MCL885.org)



## This Month in USMC History

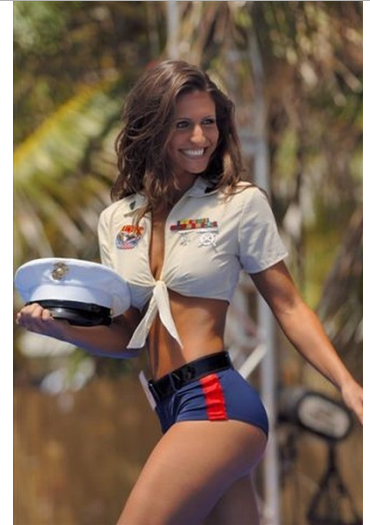
**4 July 1801:** President Thomas Jefferson reviewed the Marines, led by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, LtCol William W. Burrows and the Marine Band, on the White House grounds. The smartly uniformed Marines performed drills and fired various salutes in observance of the new nation's 25th anniversary.

**28 July 1918:** Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2d Division, U.S. Army in France, and remained in that capacity until August 1919 when the unit was demobilized. He was the first Marine officer to hold an Army divisional command, and following the Armistice, he led his division in the march into Germany

**24 July 1944:** The V Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Harry Schmidt, landed on Tinian, in the Mariana Islands. The following morning, the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions began a shoulder-to-shoulder southward sweep of the island. Organized enemy resistance faded within a week, and on 1 August, MajGen Schmidt declared the island secure.



V-22 Osprey



New WM Dress Blues?!?

### Ed McMahon called to heaven's gates.

Edward Peter Leo McMahon, Jr. was born in Detroit Michigan in 1923. McMahon led a somewhat unhappy and nomadic childhood. His father traveled all over the country pursuing various financial ventures including carnival jobs and bingo games.

McMahon's ambition was to be a radio announcer and had his first announcing job at the age of 15. When the United States began gearing up for World War II, McMahon wanted to become a Marine fighter pilot. Since the Navy's V-5 program required two years of college, he enrolled in Boston College. When the Navy relaxed the two-year requirement, McMahon dropped out of school and signed up. In early 1943, he first went to a civilian-run Wartime Training School in Texarkana where the Navy evaluated cadets' potential by checking them out in a Piper Cub.

Cont...  
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## Nevada County Airfest 2009

Airfest 2009 is coming soon. Mark your calendar for this years air show at the Nevada County Airport (KGOO) coming up Saturday July 11th.

There will be experimentals, warbirds, classics, antiques, air tankers and jets at this years event. This is a well funded air show and should be entertaining for all who show up.

Our own MCL 885 will have a booth there where we will be giving away (for donations) our rose pens. Look for the 10x10 booth with the red Marine Corps flag and a bunch of good looking guys! Several of us members will be manning the booth throughout the day but we can always use more help so drop in for a bit to help us out. Our local Experimental Aircraft Chapter, EAA1175 is

hosting the pancake breakfast at the airport starting at 0800. See their web page at [EAA1175.org](http://EAA1175.org) (I happen to be a member).

I also encourage you to attend the Hangar Party and Dinner Dance" on Friday July 10th.

The 40's band and dance will be in the big hangar at Alpine Aviation with the warbirds parked outside for a

real WWII theme. Sister Swing is the name of the band and the tickets are only \$35.00 per person. For more information about the air show or dinner/dance see the web page: <http://www.horsedesigns.com/airfest/>. If you have any questions call or email me directly. See you there.

- J. Brodeur





## Adopt-a-Squad update

Below are excerpts from a letter from Cpl Sharp to Marine Rossvich. As you can see, they are in good spirits.

Hey SSgt, how are you doing? Things have been going alright here. We're starting up greenbelt course today, and then maybe on to brown belt after that.

Some of the guys are asking for addresses for the people that are sending care packages, so that the Marines can write thank you letters.

The Marines are still getting the packages and enjoy

them every time. Just get to reminisce about home for a bit.

So far Shannon is been doing alright, we don't really get to talk much with the other group from MTM. But from what I've heard from Sgt Wells, all is well.

What's the word on the next crew out here? What's the word on the ball this year? Do we need to start making reservations or getting tickets?

Alright SSgt, hope all is well at home, take care.

S/F  
-Cpl Sharp

## McMahon cont...

After receiving his commission and wings in early 1945, McMahon was sent to the Corsair Operational Training Unit. Upon completion of training, he was "plowed back" and became an instructor in the same unit. On the day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, McMahon received orders to join the Marine carrier program on the West Coast. His orders were cancelled and he returned to civilian life.

He was recalled into the Marine Corps due to the Korean War and flew 85 artillery-spotting missions in the Cessna OE Bird Dog in 1953.

McMahon remained active in the Marine Reserves retiring as a full colonel in 1966.

Ed McMahon passed away at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center on 23 June 2009.

## Around the League

- 86<sup>th</sup> National Convention
- July 31-Aug 8, 2009
  - Rochester, Minnesota
  - Info: David Nogosek (507) 951-5191

## Marine Quotes

"The United States Marine Corps with its fiercely proud tradition of excellence in combat, its hallowed rituals, and its unbending code of honor, is part of the fabric of American myth."

—Thomas E. Ricks, "Making the Corps," 1997

"We Marines are truly blessed. We get to enjoy the sweet taste of freedom because we know its price."

—Marine veteran John Chipura, survivor of the 1983 Beirut bombing, a NY Fireman, who wrote the above for the 225th Marine Corps birthday, 2000. He was later killed while responding to the terrorist attack, Sept. 11 at the World Trade Center, Tower 2.

## Happy Birthday!!!

### July:

- John Strapak -01
- Frank Morales -06
- Dave Voors -07
- Dusty Eichler -10
- Norvan Holverson -12
- Dan Baldwin -16
- Bob Noyes -23
- Barbara Gunning -28
- Archie Rackerby -31

## Adjutant / Paymaster's Corner

Atlas Shrugged

By: Ayn Rand,

"To the glory of mankind, there was, for the first and only time in history, a country of money - and I have no higher, more reverent tribute to pay to America, for this means: a country of reason, justice, freedom, production, achievement. For the first time, man's mind and money were set free, and there were no fortunes-by-conquest, but only fortunes-by-work, and instead of swordsmen and slaves, there appeared the real maker of wealth, the greatest worker,

the highest type of being - the self-made man - the American industrialist.

The Members that are due for renewal in June that have not paid yet are:

- Harkins, Eric
- Pavlik, John
- Salinas, Estaban
- Wolf, River

Semper Fi,  
Gary





Marine Spencer & Rankin have some fun at Casino Night

When I joined the Marine Corps, I figured I'd be a infantryman, go on liberty, drink beer, punch sailors, chase wild women, kill communists, and if I kept my boots clean and qualified with the rifle every year, I might grow up to be a gunnery sergeant.

—Retired MGySgt R. R. Keene, Leatherneck, April 1996, page 51

## Upcoming Events

### • Independence Day— 4th of July Parade in Grass Valley

Parade starts at 1100, be there in your Marine or Patriotic gear!

### • July 6, 2009 — Regular Meeting

1800 at the Grass Valley Vet's Hall. Please be on time and bring a friend!

### • July 15, 2009 —Staff Meeting—1730

3rd Wednesday of every month

### • July 18, 2009—Detachment BBQ

1500—2000, at the Ranking home, BYOB adult beverages

### • August 3, 2009— Regular Meeting

1800 at the Grass Valley Vet's Hall. Please be on time and bring a friend!

### • August 19,2009—Staff Meeting—1730

3rd Wednesday of every month



Boondocker Issue 04-0709



USMC



Your Best Friend  
Your Worst Enemy



Gold Country Detachment #885  
664-A Freeman Lane # 255  
Grass Valley, Ca 95949  
[www.MCL885.org](http://www.MCL885.org)