





them until they thought they would teach us a lesson; so they sent a raiding party, two hundred and fifty strong, to take our trenches and incidentally to get some prisoners. But we cut them to pieces, and instead of capturing any of us we captured most of them. They figured it was no use trying to capture any Marines, and they then nicknamed us "Teufelhunden." It must have spread down the line, because when we went over the top after them they started yelling, as I said before. So when the word goes down the German line how we smashed their best troops, I think they will consider us a little better than just raw men with uniforms."

Fact, fiction or a little of both, Marines, by and large, hold the name "Devil Dog" with pride.



Today, that place of battle remains hallowed ground. That summer of 1918, the Germans left over 8,600 men on the

field of battle while Americans left over 1,800. After the battle, the French renamed the woods, "Bois de la Brigade de Marine" ("Wood of the Marine Brigade") in honor of the Marines. The French government also later awarded the 4th Brigade the Croix de Guerre. Whether the Germans gave Marines the nickname or not, it can be said with confidence that the Marines fought with valor and ferocity. The name Devil Dog is suitably appropriate.



Tucked away at the convergence of the D9 (the road to Château-Thierry) and the D139 lays the ancient village of Belleau, France, just 54 miles from Paris.

Within the heart of this forever-historic place, is a moss-

banked fountain which has become ~ by a quirk of history ~ a central symbol in the lore of the U.S. Marine Corps.

The iconography of the fountain predates the arrival of the Marines in 1918. The "bulldog" of the fountain is, in fact, a bull mastiff, one of the hunting dogs for which the Chateau of Belleau was famous. It was to this same Chateau of Belleau which Belleau Wood, Bois de Belleau, belonged by tradition. The cold water which gushes from the mastiff's mouth is the "beautiful water," belle eau, for which the village itself was named.

When the Marines took Belleau Wood from the Germans in June, 1918, they had just been dubbed Teufelhunden by their opponents, a sobriquet which the Leathernecks quite obviously adopted. Almost at once, depictions of fierce helmeted hounds began appearing on recruiting posters and even in the letters like Corporal Nelligan's. And so it was that when the first Marines entered the shattered, abandoned village of Belleau, begrimed by battle and the unrelenting heat, they must have greeted the sight of this venerable canine with particular delight. For only in the wake of one of their fiercest battles up to that time could they luxuriate in the clear and cooling stream, slaking thirst and swabbing their steaming necks. In the very act of replenishment, in a ritualistic partaking of restorative water bestowed by the beast, they affirmed, as though with a warriors' toast of raised aluminum cups and canteens, the newest and hardest-won symbol of the Corps: Teufelhunden ~ Devil Dogs ~ Bulldogs of the Marne.

#### INTERNET TIPS AND TRAP:

**Phishing** emails are written to look like real business communications from familiar and reputable companies. They typically instruct the receiver to take some sort of action to avoid an undesired consequence — such as "Act now or your eBay account will be closed!". Usually the emails contain links to malicious Web sites that look just like the legitimate company's site and ask for personal information, such as account, credit card, and social security numbers. Email providers and browser developers have been scrambling to incorporate technologies to combat phishing attempts, but the criminals keep evolving their tactics to stay just ahead of the curve.

**MONTHLY CASH DRAWING**

Don't forget about our monthly meeting cash drawing! At the conclusion of each meeting a member's name is drawn from the hat and the winner receives a cash prize. However to claim the prize, the member must be in attendance. This sounds to me like a darn good incentive to be at each meeting. The prize is increased by ten dollars each month to a maximum of one hundred dollars until some lucky member can claim it. The winner of the September drawing was **Joe Egglar** who was in attendance. Joe won \$80.00. There was no winner in October and we did not have a drawing in November so the pot is now at \$20.00 for this month's drawing.



**ATTACHMENT:**

1. Summary of Financial Accounts for month ending November 2008 (**Members Only**)

15 December 2008  
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