

From: Roy A. Thacker

To: National Adjutant/Paymaster c% Lynn Williamson

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the National Bylaws

In accordance with Article Eight, Section 800 of the National Bylaws the following section is proposed to be added to ENCLOSURE FOUR (4) MARINE CORPS AWARDS under the DESCRIPTION OF MEDALS, RIBBONS, AWARDS AND WHO MAY AUTHORIZE

**SECTION 5. National Division, Department and Detachment Marine of the Year Medallion currently reads:**

5. National. Division. Department and Detachment Marine of the Year Medallion

The Marine Corps League authorizes the creation of a "Marine of the Year" medallion for National, Division, Department and Detachments only. This medallion will be worn around the neck suspended by the appropriate color ribbon depending on the level of the award.

A National Medallion Standard Marine-of-the-Year Medallion Medallion Ribbon White Ribbon White with narrow gold stripe on right and left edge with FMF Device Awarded By National Commandant

B- Division Medallion Standard Marine of the Year medallion Medallion Ribbon Gold Ribbon Gold with FMF device Awarded By Division Vice Commandant

C - Department Medallion Standard Marine of the Year medallion Medallion Ribbon Scarlet and Gold Ribbon Scarlet and Gold with FMF device Awarded By Department Commandant

D - Detachment Medallion Standard Marine of the Year medallion Medallion Ribbon Scarlet Ribbon Scarlet with FMF device Awarded By Detachment Commandant

The Marine of the Year Medallion is authorized for wear with the Casual and Formal Uniform only as set forth in enclosure three (3) of these bylaws. While wearing the Marine of the Year medallion no other medal or devices shall also be suspended from the neck. No pins or other devices shall be attached to the suspension ribbon. In the event the person authorized to wear the Marine of the Year Award has been selected at more than one level for such an honor, the senior medallion and suspension ribbon will be worn.

Add the following new Section to Section 5

**\_\_ National. Division. Department and Detachment Member of the Year Ribbon** The Marine Corps League authorizes the creation of an "Associate Member of the Year Ribbon" for National, Division, Department and Detachments only. The appropriate color ribbon depends on the level of the award.

**\_\_ National Level: Standard Associate Member of the Year Ribbon.** The ribbon is White with narrow gold stripe on right and left edge with a capital letter "A" affixed. Awarded by the National Commandant.

**\_\_ Division Level: Standard Associate Member of the Year Ribbon.** The ribbon is Gold with a capital letter "A" affixed. Awarded By Division Vice Commandant

**\_\_ Department Level: Standard Associate Member of the Year Ribbon.** The ribbon is Scarlet and Gold with a capital letter "A" affixed. Awarded By the Department Commandant.

**\_\_ Detachment Medallion Standard Associate Member of the Year Ribbon.** The ribbon is a Scarlet with a capital letter "A" affixed Awarded By Detachment Commandant

*The final design of the ribbons shall be determined and/or modified by the awards committee.*

*This award is retroactive for all past associate members who have been awarded a certificate as the "Associate Member of the Year."*

**Rationale:** The World War II and Korean War veterans are leaving us in force. The upcoming generations of veterans tend not to be "joiners." This tendency is causing the Marine Corps League a slump in membership. Associate members can help in the membership shortage. The ability to attract and keep highly motivated associates can make the difference between a detachment surviving or folding.

Currently the only award for superior performance is a "certificate" for the "Associate Member of the Year." After the certificate is awarded, it is often taken home and filed away. There is no long term recognition of the past superior performance. The approval of this award will provide the superior performing associates with the recognition they deserve at every formal event of the Marine Corps League.

Semper Fidelis

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Past Detachment Commandant Det. #1267

& Det. #662 member