Modern Day Marine

Coming Up:
Mid-Winter Conference

Opening Ceremony:
New Marine Corps League National Headquarters

National Convention Guide 2017
Great Rates For Drivers
Auto loan rates as low as:

1.49% APR 36 MOS
NEW CAR & NEW CAR REFINANCING

1.99% APR 36 MOS
USED CAR

Earn Points Wherever You Shop
The PenFed Platinum Rewards Visa Signature Card

5X POINTS on gas purchases at the pump.²

3X POINTS on groceries.²

1X POINT on all other purchases.²

Visit PenFed.org/MCL or call 800-247-5626.

¹ Rates and offers current as of December 28, 2016 and are subject to change. Your actual APR will be determined at the time of disbursement and will be based on your application and credit information. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate. Rates also depend on amount borrowed and term. Other restrictions, including vehicle age and mileage, may apply. Vehicle weight restrictions apply. Up to 110% financing is available to qualified members for vehicle purchases. One hundred percent financing available for refinanced vehicles. New vehicles are where you are the original owner and the vehicle is a current or prior model year (2016). New vehicle payment example: $20,000 loan with rate of 1.49% APR, 36 monthly payments of approximately $595.61. Maximum used car loan advance will be determined by PenFed using a NADA value. Used car loan example: $20,000 loan with rate of 1.99% APR, 36 monthly payments of approximately $572.76. PenFed does not allow internal refinances of an existing PenFed auto loan.

² Offers current as of December 28, 2016, and are subject to change. Cash advances, credit card checks, and balance transfers are excluded from earning Platinum Rewards points. Visa® USA determines which transactions are categorized as gas purchases at the pump and which stores are categorized as supermarkets. Military commissions are supermarkets. Fuel purchases for airplanes and boats receive 1 point per dollar spent.
BATTLE-PROVEN.

THE FN MILITARY COLLECTOR SERIES

The FN M249S™ PARA is now available. Welcome the civilian-ready PARA version of the legendary M249 SAW. Originally designed for airborne warriors, this lighter, more compact configuration is the fourth in our series of semi-automatic versions of FN military rifles. Authentic to the last detail, battle-proven across the globe, and now ready for your collection. The world's most battle-proven firearms.

TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIREARMS RETAILER OR VISIT FNAMERICA.COM.
## Table of Contents

### Feature Articles

- **10** Meet Your New Publisher
- **12** Modern Day Marine 2016
- **16** Opening Ceremony: New Marine Corps League National Headquarters
- **18** Federal Guidance Eases PTSD TBI Dishonorable Discharge Status
- **20** 2017 National Convention Guide
- **27** Semper Fi New Editorial Procedures Overview
- **39** Coming Up: Mid-Winter Conference
- **42** Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society: Combat Casualty Visiting Nurse Program. Kim Bradley, RN, BSN
## Table of Contents

### Columns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>National Commandant’s Letter&lt;br&gt;Richard D. Gore, Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Executive Director’s Letter&lt;br&gt;Thomas W. Hazlett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>National President, MOLA&lt;br&gt;Karen Aune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>National Sr. Vice Commandant&lt;br&gt;Wendell W. Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>National Jr. Vice Commandant&lt;br&gt;Dennis Tobin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>National Judge Advocate&lt;br&gt;Johnny B. Baker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Division Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Chief Devil Dog&lt;br&gt;C.O. Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Junior Past National Commandant&lt;br&gt;James “Jim” Laskey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>League Application for Membership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Reunions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Attention on Deck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Events in Marine History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>The Semper Fi Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Roll Call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>National Legislative Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Taps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Marine Corps League Event Calendar 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Military Historical Tours Raffle Form</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### About the Cover
Massachusetts State Trooper (retired) Mr. Richard D. Gore Sr., commandant of the Marine Corps League, speaks during the Modern Day Marine Military Exposition ceremony at Lejeune Field, Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA, on Sept. 27, 2016. Open to the public, the exposition is held annually to display the progression of equipment and technology used for the modern day Marine. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Cristian L. Ricardo)
ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

NATIONAL COMMANDANT’S LETTER

RICHARD D. GORE, SR.

WELCOME ABOARD

to our new
Semper Fi publishers,
Chipotle Publishing, LLC, of Henderson, Nevada.

Marines:

I want to start this article by saying “Welcome Aboard” to our new Semper Fi publishers, Chipotle Publishing, LLC, of Henderson, Nevada. This is a family-owned business that is involved in printing and publishing Small Arms Review, as well as other weapons-related offerings that show their love for weapons and military subjects. This issue is our first undertaking and I feel confident the product will be something you cannot wait to receive in the mail.

We have had a lot happening on the National level beginning with the Modern Day Marine exhibition held at Quantico during the last week of September. Attendance was high, and Detachments from the Mideast Division and the Southeast Division attended, passed out our welcome bags, greeted the public and helped make them aware of the MCL presence. Thank you to all who helped!

In November we participated in the Battle Color ceremony at the Iwo Jima Monument. The League as well as the M.O.D.D. and Auxiliary were in attendance and enjoyed the festivities. On Veterans Day the League as well as the Auxiliary lay a wreath at the “Tomb of The Unknown Soldier” along with the heads of the other veterans, organizations. On the 12th the Commandant of the Marine Corps held his birthday Ball, and all of the League Members present enjoyed the company of being with 3,000 other active duty and retired service members from all branches who were celebrating with the Corps. May we enjoy many more and always keep our pride evident and strong.

On November 18th, an event took place at our new National Headquarters, when we dedicated the opening of our new facilities for all to come and view our operation and celebrate with us. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held and remarks were made by guests in attendance. A fine BBQ Buffet was served by Master Guns Jeremiah Burns and his wife, and a cake cutting was held. It was a great time and we served approximately 100 people, friends, family and Marines. I can assure you that the Marines on the base know we are on board for assistance to them as well as their dependents.

As this is going to press I can also state that the Tree of Lights, held yearly for the VPF donations, is going to be held inside our HQ in our Conference Hall and there will be plenty of room for all—we will not have to rent a facility as we have in the past. I invite all, when you are in the area of Quantico, to come and visit and meet with the HQ staff.

Please remember all our servicemen and women who are in harms way and pray for their safe return to their loved ones!

SEMPER FIDELIS,

Richard D. Gore, Sr.
National Commandant
Marine Corps League

THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

The Marine Corps League Inc. is a Congressionally chartered, non-profit organization.

National Commandant: Richard D. Gore, Sr.
Executive Director: Thomas W. Hazlett

Semper Fi is published quarterly for the Marine Corps League by:
Chipotle Publishing, LLC
631 Stephanie St. #282
Henderson, NV 89014
Phone: (702) 565-0746
Website: www.chipotlepublishing.com

Executive Editor and Publisher
Thomas W. Hazlett

Director Of Operations
Megan Shea

Art Director
G. Alejandro

Graphic Designer
Ashley Powell

General Manager
Deborah L. Shea
Editors
Lisa Weder / Megan Shea

Editorial Coordinator
Lisa Weder

Advertising Representatives
Megan Shea, Jayne Wynes
Phone: (702) 565-0746

CALL (703) 207-9588

for any issues related to Marine Corps League membership, Semper Fi subscriptions or changes of address.


Subscriptions: Members national dues include a free subscription to Semper Fi. For non-members, single-copy price is $10. yearly subscription is $30. Call (800) MCL-1775 for any issues related to Marine Corps League membership, Semper Fi subscriptions or changes of address.

Editorial Contributions: Letters, manuscripts, stories, materials or photographs are welcomed but cannot be returned unless sender provides SASE. Semper Fi, The Magazine of the Marine Corps League,” will not be responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, photos and drawings. Submission of articles and letters implies the right to edit and publish all or in part. Feature articles must be approved before submission. High-resolution digital photos preferred. For complete editorial and photo guidelines, contact Chipotle Publishing, LLC at semperfi@chipotlepublishing.com or (702) 565-0746.

Postmaster: Send address changes to MCL National Headquarters, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554.

Opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and are not to be construed as those of the publisher nor as the official views of the Marine Corps League, the United States Marine Corps, the U.S. Department of Defense or any of its agencies, unless otherwise made manifest by writers or spokespersons acting on behalf of the foregoing. Advertising of products and services herein does not imply endorsement or approval by the Marine Corps League. No portion of the magazine may be reproduced in whole or in part without written consent.
Most insurance companies have a business plan. We have a mission.

At Navy Mutual, our guiding principle is to serve our Members the same way they serve our country — with integrity, passion, and commitment. Helping military families achieve financial security is more than our business. It’s our duty. That’s why we are non-profit. It’s why we never take commissions. And it’s why our products are free of fine print or military restrictions.

To learn how we can help your family visit NavyMutual.org
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S LETTER

THOMAS W. HAZLETT

I hope all of you had a very SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY

Mid-Winter is just around the corner, and I look forward to seeing those of you who will be in attendance at the 2017 Mid-Winter Conference. We are excited about the chance to be in a new area, and we all hope that you enjoy Fredericksburg, VA, not only is it a beautiful area with lots of attractions, it is also a historically rich area from our American Civil War.

In case you are not aware of it, our move was completed, and we are now fully operational in the Quantico area. Mr. Murphy displayed himself at every opportunity, but I must recognize and thank each of the Headquarters staff who worked so hard to not only make the move successful but to also set up for and help see the Open House successful. We had many distinguished guests in attendance and wish to thank Lt. General Laster, Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps, for honoring us at our conference to decide where to put the money received from the sale of the property.

The old Headquarters located in Fairfax is now history; the closing on the building took place on November 15th. The National Commandant and I attended the closing and signed all of the documents making the sale official. The Board of Trustees will already have met via a phone conference to decide where to put the money received from the sale of the property.

Wish to take this time to welcome Chipotle Publishing; this edition of the Semper Fi magazine is their first, and we are all looking forward to hearing back from the membership to let us know your thoughts and ideas. Thank you all for sending in your articles; as they are received, they are looked at and forwarded from Chipotle Publishing to me for a look-over. We make every effort to see to it that all articles are published; unfortunately, not all articles can be for various reasons. Please keep sending in articles and if possible, please send in digital photos with your articles; avoid sending in photographs on paper.

For all of you doing the Toys for Tots in your areas; my sincerest thank you goes out to each of you; what a tremendous program and what an exceptional job you do in making it possible for Every Child to have a Christmas.

Again I look forward to seeing many of you in Fredericksburg, VA, for the 2017 Mid-Winter. Please remember our deployed Marines and their families; may all of our deployed Marines, Navy Corpsmen and Chaplains return home safely to their loved ones.

As Always, I Remain Semper Fi,
Tom Hazlett
National Executive Director
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

THOMAS W. HAZLETT

National Executive Director

MCL National Headquarters, 3619 Jefferson

is as follows:

moves. If you do not have our new address it

the patience shown during this most trying of

membership of the League and appreciate

fully engaged and devoted to supporting the

most of them are building-related, but we are

We still have a few quirks at the headquarters;

in helping to put this event together.

thank my staff enough for all of their hard work

go around to all in attendance, and again I can't

many guests who attended. The cookout was

(Ret) Jeremiah Burns for his great BBQ and the

Williams, Base Sergeant Major; MGySgt USMC

Michael Regner, Sergeant Major Charles R.

to Lt. General Stephen Olmstead, Maj. General

ribbon cutting ceremony. Many thanks go out

of the Marine Corps, for honoring us at our

wish to thank Lt. General Laster, Chief of Staff

many distinguished guests in attendance and

help see the Open House successful. We had

move successful but to also set up for and

staff who worked so hard to not only make the

recognize and thank each of the Headquarters

himself at every opportunity, but I must

in the Quantico area. Mr. Murphy displayed

completed, and we are now fully operational

In case you are not aware of it, our move was

a Christmas.

with lots of attractions, it is also a historically

to be in a new area, and we all hope that you enjoy

Conference. We are excited about the chance

be in attendance at the 2017 Mid-Winter

Mid-Winter is just around the corner, and I

look forward to seeing those of you who will

Please remember our deployed Marines and

their families; may all of our deployed Marines,

exclusive ConCeal Carry Option - two inner

pockets to secure valuables, which are fitted with

holster straps for those licensed to carry a firearm.

Available in sizes Small through 3XL.

Thank You Introductory price starting at just $99 -
SAVE OVER $401 (See order form for details and available options)

HONORING YOUR MILITARY SERVICE

- FREE - A Marine Corps woven patch, provided by Sgt. Grit Marine Specialties, is affixed to the chest of your jacket.

- VIETNAM VETERANS - You may add a War Veteran patch to the right sleeve of your jacket for just $20 extra.

(Other patches available - call for details.)

YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO WEAR THIS SPECIAL JACKET!

TO ORDER CALL TOLL FREE: 1-800-255-3048
OR VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.VETCOM.COM

Please include my FREE Proud To Be A Veteran Zipper Pull!

Size: (See chart above)  34-36  38-40  42-44  46-48  50-52  54-56

Order this Size:  S  M  L  XL  2XL  3XL

MA-1 "BRAVO" JACKET WITH FREE MARINE CORPS PATCH: $99.00

- Concealed Carry Feature (Add $30)
- Vietnam Veteran Patch on right sleeve (Add $20)
- American Flag Patch on left shoulder (Add $20)
- *Sizzes XXL to 3XL (Add $20)

Plus Shipping & Handling $19.95

Total Due: $119.95

I prefer to pay as follows:

- Enclosed is my check payable to Veterans Commemoratives for the Total Due
- Charge my credit card for the Total Due
- Charge my credit card in two equal interest-free monthly payments

Credit Card: □ Visa □ MasterCard □ AMEX □ Discover

CC#: ___________ Exp. Date: ___ / ___

Card Security Code (CSC): ___________ Signature: ___________

Shipping Address:**(We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes) Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Name: ___________

Address: ___________

City: ___________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________

Phone #: ___________ (in case we have a question about your order)

Email: ___________

*Universe State Marine Corps patch provided by Sgt. Grit Marine Specialties

© ICM 2017

MA1JKT-MCL-0117
Greetings to the Marine Corps League!

MEET YOUR NEW PUBLISHER

Chipotle Publishing, LLC, is a family-owned company with a strong understanding of and dedication to service. Our specialty so far has been on historical and modern small arms … and now we’ve adopted a whole bunch of Marines!

About 70,000 of them, actually. Starting with this Winter 2017 issue, we are proud to be the new publisher for Semper Fi. We promise to do our best to create a publication that reflects the spirit and fellowship of the Marine Corps League. The good works you all do should never go unrecognized, and our goal is to highlight League activities and stories to the best of our abilities. We hope that you all enjoy the new design.

I had the pleasure of attending the August 2016 National Convention and meeting MCL members face to face, hearing their stories and getting an idea of what the League is about. I even got to do a quick last-minute speech, which was terrifying for me, but hopefully my point came across that everyone at our company is delighted to have the opportunity to work on Semper Fi.

Our team has been bombarded with submissions and requests, so we do appreciate your patience as we streamline our processes. Editorial Guidelines will be available on our website in late January, and we will soon have a new, custom online upload system for all of your submissions including Roll Call, columns, Reunions and feature article ideas. Please see Page 27 for a few further details on the new procedures.

Looking forward, we hope to have a new website up and running for Semper Fi within the next year. There’s nothing there yet, but the website will be www.semperfimagazine.org. This will allow us to highlight even more Roll Call submissions and bring more timely news and announcements to the League.

Please note that all matters relating to membership and subscriptions including address changes are still being handled by the Marine Corps League (call 703-207-9588).

Remember to like Semper Fi on Facebook! Go to: www.facebook.com/semperfimagazine.

Semper Fi,
Megan M. Shea
Director of Operations
Chipotle Publishing, LLC

MORE ABOUT US:
We also publish Small Arms Review (20 years) and Small Arms Defense Journal (9 years), which provide authoritative content to a diverse consumer, military, law enforcement and defense industry audience. Some of our book titles include: The Gun That Made the 20s Roar, AK-47: The Grim Reaper and The Mac Man: Gordon B. Ingram and His Submachine Guns. We also run a gun show called SAR West in Phoenix every December in partnership with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows.

OUR WEBSITES ARE:
www.chipotlepublishing.com
www.sarwestshows.com
www.smallarmsreview.com
www.sadefensejournal.com
Greetings to the Marine Corps League!

MEET YOUR NEW PUBLISHER

Chipotle Publishing, LLC, is a family-owned company with a strong understanding of and dedication to service. Our specialty so far has been on historical and modern small arms … and now we’ve adopted a whole bunch of Marines! About 70,000 of them, actually. Starting with this Winter 2017 issue, we are proud to be the new publisher for *Semper Fi*. We promise to do our best to create a publication that reflects the spirit and fellowship of the Marine Corps League. The good works you all do should never go unrecognized, and our goal is to highlight League activities and stories to the best of our abilities. We hope that you all enjoy the new design.

I had the pleasure of attending the August 2016 National Convention and meeting MCL members face to face, hearing their stories and getting an idea of what the League is about. I even got to do a quick last-minute speech, which was terrifying for me, but hopefully my point came across that everyone at our company is delighted to have the opportunity to work on *Semper Fi*.

Our team has been bombarded with submissions and requests, so we do appreciate your patience as we streamline our processes. Editorial Guidelines will be available on our website in late January, and we will soon have a new, custom online upload system for all of your submissions including Roll Call, columns, Reunions and feature article ideas. Please see Page 27 for a few further details on the new procedures.

Looking forward, we hope to have a new website up and running for *Semper Fi* within the next year. There’s nothing there yet, but the website will be www.semperfimagazine.org. This will allow us to highlight even more Roll Call submissions and bring more timely news and announcements to the League.

Please note that all matters relating to membership and subscriptions including address changes are still being handled by the Marine Corps League (call 703-207-9588). Remember to like *Semper Fi* on Facebook! Go to: www.facebook.com/semperfimagazine.

Semper Fi,
Megan M. Shea
Director of Operations
Chipotle Publishing, LLC

MORE ABOUT US:

We also publish *Small Arms Review* (20 years) and *Small Arms Defense Journal* (9 years), which provide authoritative content to a diverse consumer, military, law enforcement and defense industry audience. Some of our book titles include: *The Gun That Made the 20s Roar*, *AK-47: The Grim Reaper* and *The Mac Man: Gordon B. Ingram and His Submachine Guns*. We also run a gun show called SAR West in Phoenix every December in partnership with Crossroads of the West Gun Shows.

OUR WEBSITES ARE:

www.chipotlepublishing.com
www.sarwestshows.com
www.smallarmsreview.com
www.sadefensejournal.com

---

**Raise a glass to the Corps**

Raise a toast to the United States Marine Corps with an exclusive, fully licensed barware set that celebrates USMC history. Each of the four 10 oz. glasses is ringed in 12K gold and features vivid, wrap-around artwork of dauntless Marines and a word that exemplifies them. A matching glass decanter bears the USMC Eagle, Globe and Anchor as well as the motto “Semper Fidelis.” Accented with more 12K gold, it stylishly holds 25 oz. of your favorite spirit. It all comes in a distinctive, cushioned gift box.

**Exceptional value; satisfaction guaranteed**

Strong demand is likely for this Bradford Exchange exclusive 5-piece set. Act now to acquire yours in four installments of $39.99, totaling $159.95*, backed by our 365-day money-back guarantee. Send no money now. Just return the Reservation Application today.

**EASY TO ORDER!** www.bradfordexchange.com/usmcdecanter

---

**RESERVATION APPLICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mrs. Mr. Ms.</th>
<th>Name (Please Print Clearly)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Zip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail (optional)</td>
<td>01-24635-001-E26491-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Plus $19.99 shipping and service. Limited-edition presentation restricted to 95 firing days. Please allow 4-8 weeks after initial payment for shipment. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.
2016 marked the 26th year of the Modern Day Marine exhibition, now held at MCB Quantico, VA (also known as the “Crossroads of the Marine Corps”). From a runway strip in Yuma, AZ, over three decades ago to the world’s only “expeditionary convention center” today, the Modern Day Marine military exhibition has grown over time.
2016 marked the 26th year of the Modern Day Marine exhibition, now held at MCB Quantico, VA (also known as the “Crossroads of the Marine Corps”). From a runway strip in Yuma, AZ, over three decades ago to the world’s only “expeditionary convention center” today, the Modern Day Marine military exhibition has grown over time.


Members of the Marine Corps League speak to active duty Marines about League membership. (Photo by Megan Shea)

League members take a quick photo break at the Marine Corps League booth with Maj. Gen. Michael R. Regner (retired). (Photo by Megan Shea)
The Marine Corps League takes pride in continuing the tradition of hosting Modern Day Marine with over 1,100 Detachments across the globe and nearly 70,000 members. Marine Military Expositions showcase the latest innovations in military equipment and systems, designed specifically to address the evolving, expeditionary needs of the Marine Corps. It is an essential exhibition in helping prepare today’s Marines for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century.

MCB Quantico, home to the Combat Development Command and the Marine Corps Systems Command, is responsible for setting requirements, developing equipment and systems and purchasing the equipment and systems that the Marine Corps will rely on in the years to come. These vital and unique functions play a large part in positioning Modern Day Marine as the premier military equipment, systems, services and technology exposition.

The Marine Corps League takes pride in continuing the tradition of hosting Modern Day Marine with over 1,100 Detachments across the globe and nearly 70,000 members. Marine Military Expositions showcase the latest innovations in military equipment and systems, designed specifically to address the evolving, expeditionary needs of the Marine Corps. It is an essential exhibition in helping prepare today’s Marines for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century.

MCB Quantico, home to the Combat Development Command and the Marine Corps Systems Command, is responsible for setting requirements, developing equipment and systems and purchasing the equipment and systems that the Marine Corps will rely on in the years to come. These vital and unique functions play a large part in positioning Modern Day Marine as the premier military equipment, systems, services and technology exposition.

Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Robert B. Neller opened his Wednesday morning presentation titled "Marine Corps Operating Concept: How an Expeditionary Force Operates in the 21st Century" with a thank you to the Marine Corps League: “I’d just like to thank all the Marine Corps League folks for doing what they do.” Earlier in 2016, Gen. Neller spoke at the Marine Corps League National Convention and emphasized the concept of “Once a Marine, Always a Marine.” What hasn’t changed is your support of the Marine Corps League and its commitment to using Modern Day Marine as a force multiplier in identifying and procuring the best products and services to help our Marines fight and win in combat.

UPCOMING DATES

Marine West       February 1-2, 2017       Camp Pendleton, CA
Marine South      April 12-13, 2017     Camp Lejeune, NC
Modern Day Marine September 19-21, 2017   Quantico, VA

For more information, go to www.marinemilitaryexpos.com.
A crowd of approximately 70 guests attended the event; included in the crowd were Lt. General Stephen Olmstead, USMC Retired and Maj. General Michael Regner USMC Retired. Also in attendance were Colonel Joseph M. Murray, Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Base Quantico and Sgt. Major Charles Williams, the Base Sgt. Major. Mr. Michael Migliara of the Veterans Affairs Office and his son were also in attendance as well as members of several Virginia and Maryland MCL Detachments where they feasted on a roasted pig with all the fixings.

The Marine Corps League began the move in October and despite several setbacks managed to complete their move and set the new location up for business in time for the planned ceremony on November 18. The reception was held in the beautiful conference room which is adorned with numerous works of art depicting both Marine Corps and Marine Corps League history.
A crowd of approximately 70 guests attended the event; included in the crowd were Lt. General Stephen Olmstead, USMC Retired and Maj. General Michael Regner USMC Retired. Also in attendance were Colonel Joseph M. Murray, Commanding Officer of Marine Corps Base Quantico and Sgt. Major Charles Williams, the Base Sgt. Major. Mr. Michael Migliara of the Veterans Affairs Office and his son were also in attendance as well as members of several Virginia and Maryland MCL Detachments where they feasted on a roasted pig with all the fixings. The Marine Corps League began the move in October and despite several setbacks managed to complete their move and set the new location up for business in time for the planned ceremony on November 18. The reception was held in the beautiful conference room which is adorned with numerous works of art depicting both Marine Corps and Marine Corps League history.

Commandant Gore gave a special thanks to all of the guests and explained how important it is to be located in the vicinity of the Marine Base and how being so close will be beneficial to the membership growth of the League. Executive Director Hazlett read a letter from Marine Corps Commandant General Robert Neller congratulating them on their successful move and wishing that duty had not made it impossible for him to attend.

During a ceremony at the new Marine Corps League Headquarters, Lt. General James Laster, Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps cut the ribbon which officially opened the new Headquarters located just a few miles south of the Gateway of the Marine Corps, Quantico Marine Corps Base. General Laster along with Marine Corps League National Commandant Richard Gore and National Executive Director Thomas Hazlett assisted the General in the ceremony.

When the day was over, much of the fresh pig along with several trays of chicken as well as salads, fruits, vegetables, beverages and desserts were consumed, and no one left hungry. Hazlett stated that this move allows the Headquarters for the Marine Corps League to be where they belong, with Marines. The Marine Corps Commandant’s new program involving the Marine for Life Program and the Marine Corps League which assists in reducing the alarmingly high rate of suicide amongst veterans allows the League to better interact with active duty Marines and to better inform them of the mission of the Marine Corps League. Being just a few miles away from the base where hundreds of vehicles belonging to Marines pass by daily makes the new headquarters very visible and accessible.
Every year an average of 166,000 military personnel are discharged; of those, 12,400 are discharged with an other than honorable status.

A large number of these veterans are likely suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI); these illnesses may have prevented them from being honorably discharged.

Over the last 15 years more than 185,000 active duty service members were discharged with an other than honorable status. These veterans do not qualify for the post 9/11 GI bill and are unlikely to receive any health care assistance or compensation benefits from the VA. These individuals are also more than likely to be unemployed, and according to a recent study conducted by the Department of Defense, they are more likely to commit suicide than those who were honorably discharged.

Many veterans are likely to be unaware of a recent guidance titled “Supplemental Guidance to Military Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records Considering Discharge Upgrade Requests by Veterans Claiming Post Traumatic Stress Disorder” provided by the Secretary of Defense. That guidance resulted in an improved process for having a discharge status reviewed to determine if PTSD and/or TBI were contributing factors in the behavior that resulted in the other than honorable discharge status. The Secretary of the Navy also recently issued similar guidance for active duty service members being separated for misconduct. The medical conditions will now take precedent over the legal issue when PTSD and/or TBI are a factor in the misconduct as determined by the medical community.

Everyone’s help is needed to educate and inform those separated with an other than honorable discharge of their options to request a discharge upgrade. Together, we can help ensure those leaving service and those having left service are able to be productive citizens and have the opportunity to obtain needed mental health care. If we all work to inform those separated, then maybe we will no longer have such high suicide rates among our former military personnel.
MARINES:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As we move into the new year I hope that you are doing so with a renewed commitment to the Auxiliary and our purpose.

As the holiday season winds down and we move on to more normal days, I ask that you continue to reach out to those in need. It only takes one small gesture or kindness to make someone feel special and cared for. And it could easily change their lives for the better.

Please remember our servicemen and women daily and ask for their protection as they protect us.

Thank you for all that you do every day and know that you are why this Auxiliary is so great! I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Mid-Winter Conference in Fredericksburg, VA.

Semper Fi,
Karen Aune
National President, MCLA

We are only as strong as our membership, and recruiting is a great way to kick off the new year. For those Detachments that don’t have an Auxiliary, I sincerely hope that you will consider the many advantages of joining forces. The Auxiliary is full of passionate, hard working ladies who want to do nothing more than assist our Marines and Veterans in any way they can, and there are many more just like them waiting to join the ranks. On our website, www.nationalmcla.org, you will find a brochure “What is the Marine Corps League Auxiliary.”

I have had the honor of representing our members at several events over the last few months, and it has been an amazing experience. We are now in our new office, and, with a great amount of diligence and hard work, things are coming together very well. It is an exciting time for us, and I hope that you are feeling the renewed energy.
Our annual Marine Corps League National Convention will be held this summer in Overland Park, KS on August 13-18, 2017. Hosted by the General Larry Oppenheimer MCL Detachment & M/SGT Luis Romero Jr. MCLA Unit, Lenexa, KS, the convention will take place at the Overland Park Convention Center, located at 6000 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66211.

Located in the Kansas City metropolitan area, Overland Park is the second largest city in Kansas with an approximate population of 189,460. The city traces its roots back to 1905 with the arrival of its founder, William B. Strang Jr., who platted subdivisions, including one named “Overland Park,” along a military roadway. Kansas City is centrally-located, rich in military history (dating back to when Kansas was Indian Territory), and has an abundance of leisure activities.
Please note that there are no firearms allowed in the hotels or convention center. The primary convention hotel is the Sheraton, but at press time this hotel was sold out. Overflow rooms are available in the Chase Suite Hotel Overland Park, Courtyard Kansas City Overland Park/Convention Center, Holiday Inn Convention Center, and Hilton Garden Inn Overland Park. For more information including rates, phone numbers, and rate codes, please go to www.2017mclnationalconvention.com/hotel.html.

According to Yelp reviewers, the top rental car companies in Overland Park are:
- Hertz Rent-A-Car (913-381-5519)
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car on Metcalf (913-642-9669)
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Lenexa (913-894-0400)
- Avis in Overland Park (913-383-3374)

Events reservations will be open by March 1, 2017. EVENTS INCLUDE:
- Early Bird at the National World War I Museum
- Kansas City BBQ
- Casino Night
- Dinner Theatre
- Shopping
- Cooking Class
- PB&J for Harvesters Charity Event
- 78th Supreme Growl Luncheon
- Convention Banquet

Scooter rentals are available through Chuck’s Mobility, call (913) 859-0290 or go to: www.chucksmobility.com/scooters/1930765.

Kansas City is proud of its distinctive BBQ flavors and Overland Park is home to many excellent BBQ joints, including some of the Convention’s featured restaurants: Jack Stack Barbecue Overland Park (www.jackstackbbq.com) and Joe’s Kansas City Bar-B-Que in Leawood (www.joeskc.com).

For more featured restaurants, go to www.2017mclnationalconvention.com.
Keep in mind that Overland Park is in Central Standard Time.

A 9/11 memorial (located at the OP Fire Training Center) is open to the public where visitors can view a 14-foot, 2.5 ton piece of steel that came from Ground Zero. There is a Korean War Veterans Memorial honoring the fallen and missing warriors of the Korean War as well as the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial (www.theworldwar.org).

**SOME MUSEUMS OF NOTE INCLUDE:**
- Negro Leagues Baseball Museum
- Museum at Prairiefire (in collaboration with the American Museum of Natural History)
- Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
- The American Jazz Museum
- Truman Presidential Library and Museum

Go to [www.visitoverlandpark.com](http://www.visitoverlandpark.com) to learn more about local attractions, dining, events, and more!
THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE
AD
HISTOR. TOURS

Keep in mind that Overland Park is in Central Standard Time.

LOCAL INFORMATION

A 9/11 memorial (located at the OP Fire Training Center) is open to the public where visitors can view a 14-foot, 2.5 ton piece of steel that came from Ground Zero. There is a Korean War Veterans Memorial honoring the fallen and missing warriors of the Korean War as well as the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial (www.theworldwar.org).

SOME MUSEUMS OF NOTE INCLUDE:
- Negro Leagues Baseball Museum
- Museum at Prairiefire (in collaboration with the American Museum of Natural History)
- Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
- The American Jazz Museum
- Truman Presidential Library and Museum

Go to www.visitoverlandpark.com to learn more about local attractions, dining, events, and more!

To get a Together as One ring:

1. GO TO www.bradfordexchange.com/13555
2. Click on the “Together as One” ring
3. Fill out the reservation form
4. Pay by credit card

Nothing brings two hearts closer together than finding someone special and falling in love. Now, you can show the world the love you’ve found with a sparkling jewelry creation with a unique surprise.

Over Half a Carat of Genuine Topaz in an Exclusive Hinged Design

Expertly hand-crafted of solid sterling silver, our “Together as One” Personalized Topaz Ring showcases two center hearts joined together. Over 70 genuine white topaz are set all throughout the hearts and along the band’s stunning sculpted heart gallery work for over a half carat of glittering beauty. Tucked behind the two center hearts is a unique surprise.

The hearts open on a hinged ring to reveal your two names—engraved FREE! The inside of the ring is engraved with the sentiment “Together as One” to finish this dazzling symbol of your own true love.

Not Available in Stores... Order Today!

An outstanding value at $119, the ring is payable in 4 easy installments of $29.75 and backed by our 120-day unconditional guarantee. It arrives, along with a Certificate of Authenticity, in a custom case and gift box. To reserve, send no money now; just mail the Priority Reservation. You won’t find this exclusive ring anywhere else. So don’t miss out—order yours today!

©2017 The Bradford Exchange
Printed in U.S.A. 01-13555-001-BB17
Once a Marine, always a Marine

Mid-Winter Conference makes our 2016-2017 fiscal year over half completed. Everyone in the League is a recruiter and marketer for the League from a membership and business perspective. Use every opportunity to talk about our organization because it is still a well-kept secret who we are.

A feature article in this Semper Fi is about the Combat Causality Assistance Visiting Nurses program. These nurses support our warriors as they return from deployment and will follow them over a long period of time. I wanted to share with you my experience with the last 2016 class at FOCUS Marine Foundation. We had 26 applicants actually fly into our location. After a couple of days one individual decided to return home and he was taken to the airport. The rest of the week turned into the most awesome experience I have had since working with this program. We had two Army, one Corpsman and 21 Marines. I usually get approximately 40% to sign up for further contact about joining the Marine Corps League. This class of Warriors were the most open and wanting to be part of something after leaving the class on Saturday morning. By the end of the period I had 100% signup and even used our locator to pick out Detachments where they were interested. Even had one Marine say, “I know that guy on the contact list for the Detachment.” We also had a couple interested in starting Fire Teams in their areas.

What was so unique about this class verses the others? I would have to say the average age of this class was 34.6 years, the level of maturity, and having time to work on their lives after leaving the Corps. Many missed the fellowship of being around Marines, and even the Army guys missed the connection with military veterans. They also were making improvements and adjustments with family and friends, and this week allowed them to reach out and make some of those phone calls to make amends and create a renewed relationship. I had one Marine tell me his wife said he needed to find an organization where he can be around Marines and have that special bond. After our discussions, the Marine Corps League filled that need and also allowed a purpose and pay-it-forward opportunity with fellow Marines. We had applicants who covered 9 MCL Divisions. It will be a while before I know if all of the warriors actually joined when they got home, but I will be tracking with each warrior and asking how well we did in inviting them into our family of the Marine Corps League. We had one Marine, after two tours in Afghanistan, who lost a leg and the positive receptive feedback from Dept. of Colorado was outstanding. This Marine will require some additional care at the VA hospital in the San Diego area, and I have worked with our nurses and MCL members on the west coast to show this Marine he has the same support from us in the League as he did from his unit Marines in theater. This is what we are about, Marines.

Semper Fidelis,
Wendell Webb
National Sr. Vice Commandant

Marines:
2017 is here, and there is a lot to do this year in regards to our Marine Corps League
I need to know if the last rosters are correct compared to the last quarter. If they’re not, how far off are they? The Detachments and departments are the only ones that can answer that question right now.

I need to know about recruiting. I need numbers on new members and new Detachments. What are the Detachments doing with delinquents; have they gotten any delinquents back, any unable to contact or not interested, and if so send them to me on a transmittal, and I will have them removed from their rosters. I’ve received a great deal of push back regarding this report. I’ve been told it’s not in the by-laws so they don’t have to do the report, and I’ve been told we’re too busy to take time out to do a report. Between the database, the Detachments and departments I’m trying to keep up-to-date on our membership, and the unwillingness of our Detachments and departments is unsatisfactory. It appears to me that Detachments and departments are sitting back expecting National to do all the paperwork and hand them all the information on their membership, and when it’s either late or wrong we get all the negative feedback.

It all comes down to Detachment and department officers doing their jobs. The Jr. Vice is in charge of membership (unless the Commandant gives that job to another officer or appoints a separate membership chairperson). That job is a big one, and it should be the only job that person does. The Jr. Vice needs to be on top of all membership numbers, paid up or delinquent, who’s active and who’s not, sick and distressed, and which active member hasn’t been to a meeting in awhile. They should have a program in place to get delinquent members paid up and involved and asked how many new members if any and include a program to follow up on potential new members.

The Jr. Vice should know right away if the National roster is incorrect and doesn’t match his/her numbers and it should be reported immediately to the Department, then to the Division Vice to be looked into. It’s much easier to correct a problem if we are working as a team and not as individuals. It comes down to the willingness to do the job you have been elected or appointed to do. Before you take a position, know what that position entails and how much work is involved to perform that job properly. Do not take a position at any level if you are not willing to give 100+%. It does no one any good if you just want some prestige and of course it falls on the Commandant to make sure his/her staff are doing the job.

Marines, in the past year a number of changes have taken place to better our Marine Corps League. You have a group of National Officers that are actually working together for the betterment of the league and not their own interests. There have been some bumps along the way and there will be more, but as Marines we improvise, adapt and overcome, and we do it together. Negative answers to requests for information or in this case a quarterly report are unacceptable and do not help our endeavor to move forward. So I will ask again for all Detachments to look over their membership regarding total numbers compared to the National roster—do you have any new members, have you brought back any delinquent members, and what are you doing to cut your delinquent members and anything else you may want to report? Then send it to your Department Jr. Vice who will then compile all the information and make sure his/her numbers match with yours. They will then send the report to their National Division Vice who will check them and forward them to me. I will keep a file and check out and try to resolve all discrepancies. I do look forward to positive responses.

Semper Fidelis,
Dennis Tobin
National Jr. Vice Commandant
JOHNNY B. BAKER

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE

Bylaws Enclosure 4. It is very precise and is all inclusive on how to properly wear the MCL uniform. I encourage each Detachment to conduct Professional Development Training on this subject regularly.

As far as MCL members’ wearing of the Dress Blues, there is specific guidance in “MCO P1020.34G.” Just do a search for “USMC Uniform Regulations” and click on the subject of “MCO P1020.34G.” This Marine Corps Order, subsection 11002 states: “Former Members of the Armed Forces. Unless qualified under another provision of this Order or under the provisions of 10 U.S.C. 772, former members who served honorably during a declared or undeclared war and whose most recent service was terminated under honorable conditions may wear the uniform in the highest grade held during such war service only upon the following occasions and in the course of travel incident thereto: (1) Military funerals, memorial services, weddings, and inaugurals. (2) Parades on national or state holidays; or other parades or ceremonies of a patriotic character in which any active or reserve United States military unit are taking part. Wearing of the uniform or any part thereof at any other time or for any purpose is prohibited.” Section 8003(1) states: “Retired officers and enlisted personnel not on active duty are entitled to wear the prescribed uniform of the grade held on the retired list when wear of the uniform is appropriate, and not specifically prohibited under the provisions of subparagraph 11002.1.” When the Marine Corps Uniform is worn, the wearer must meet all Marine Corps height and weight standards, as well as grooming regulations. Read the MCO!

Finally Marines, I hope that this new year brings each of us an exciting period where our country transitions from one President to another. Changes will be inevitable, and change is a good thing. Let’s all continue to march and pray for America’s success. Norman Schwarzkopf once said, “The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it.” As we live our Marine Corps League lives, let’s make sure that we strive to do the right thing.

Semper Fi,
Johnny B. Baker
National Judge Advocate
Semper Fi is currently at 68 pages, and there are only so many items we can fit into this quarterly print publication. We appreciate your patience and understanding if you make a Roll Call submission or submit an article idea and it does not get chosen for the print publication. Some calls are made by the League, others by us, the publisher, but all calls are made to line up with the vision we have for the final, printed magazine.

Once we have a website up and running, overflow submissions will be considered for online content. This way, we will be able to recognize more contributions than we ever could in a print format.

A few helpful hints are below regarding our processes moving forward. Full information will be available on our website starting January 25th, 2017 at www.chipotlepublishing.com/semperfi.cfm.

"*Please DO NOT mail editorial submissions to us unless they are in digital format on a CD. We will only accept digital submissions moving forward. Some exceptions may be made for historical documents."

NEW FEATURE OPPORTUNITY!

- We’re starting a new regular Feature on Marines recently out of the Corps that have done well for themselves (started a business, etc.). Please follow the Feature Article process below for pre-approval of your submission.

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

- These will be available on January 25th at www.chipotlepublishing.com/semperfi.cfm.

COLUMN SUBMISSIONS

- Only members of the Marine Corps League may make submissions.
- This category applies to Roll Call, regular columns, and Reunions.
- We will soon have a new, custom online upload system for all of your submissions. In this online system, you will create a username and password and then follow the simple steps to upload your text and photos.
- There will be a minimum file size required for photo quality. Please ensure that you upload the highest resolution photo you can. Photos under print-quality standards will be rejected automatically by the upload system.

FEATURE ARTICLES

- This category applies to articles that are separate from the normal columns above such as Roll Call, etc.
- If you would like to write a feature article for us, please email your idea to semperfi@chipotlepublishing.com with the subject line: ARTICLE IDEA.
- We will then let you know if the MCL approves your article and, if it’s approved, tell you how many words and photos we’d like you to submit to us.

PHOTOS

- "Image is everything.” “A picture is worth a thousand words.” These are clichéd statements, but they are true. We want each photo in Semper Fi to tell a story and we’re asking for your help in that.
- Please submit pictures that include people when possible.
- Photos that show action are much better at telling a story than staged photos. A photo of an MCL member handing a child a toy for the Toys for Tots program is a much more powerful image than a group photo.
- Photo quality: Each image size must be at least 1MB, preferably over 3MB. Always submit the largest photo size you can.
- Do not submit photos in the text of an email or in a MS Word document. Always submit your photo file separately.
CENTRAL DIVISION

Volunteers are needed to fill in our ranks of Tavern, it’s up to us to grow the League.

is civilian clothes. We are still extending the always made a difference and that difference when the Marines get involved. Marines have been working hard to do what we thought was best and to ensure your best interest in the League.

We have made many changes. A new Headquarters centrally located between the Main entrance and the museum on Jefferson Davis Highway at Quantico, the Crossroads of the Corps; balancing the budget, going over every line to see what the expense is, asking do we need it and is it charged correctly? We have replaced the Semper Fi publisher, making the magazine a League magazine, with League-interest editorials, pictures and advertisements along with cutting costs and increasing revenue. (This is the new publisher’s first print.) We have rolled out a new system for dues, which includes cost-cutting measures undertaken at Headquarters—all to insure the Marine Corps League will prosper in the future.

We still need to recruit and retain membership. This is not just the job of Headquarters BUT every department and Detachment. This is the job of the Commandant, Jr Vice and paymaster. The National Headquarters can’t call or write a note to every member that has not renewed. This is the Detachment’s job.

We as a League have more improvements to obtain; this we will achieve as a team. We as a Board cannot do this alone. We need and must have your input in the future of the Marine Corps League.

I am announcing that I will be running for the Office of National Judge Advocate at the National Convention in Overland Park, Kansas 2017. I would like and need your support. I believe I am a qualified candidate for this office, able and willing to do the job for you.

Raymond L. Dailey
NVC, Central Division

MID-EAST DIVISION

MARINES:
On November 10, we celebrated the 241ST BIRTHDAY OF OUR CORPS.

During the years since those volunteers gathered together in Tun Tavern, Marines have been involved in many conflicts where the names of these locations could not be pronounced or spelled correctly.

As I write this article we are on the eve of Thanksgiving, and I truly hope that everyone enjoyed themselves by spending time with their families. Christmas is just around the corner and I want to extend my wishes that each of you have a joyous holiday season and that 2017 brings you good health and lots of special times with those you love. We have a new Commander-in-Chief, and he has indicated that he will expand the totals in our nation’s armed forces.

Many units will conduct their annual Toys
CENTRAL DIVISION

Volunteers are needed to fill in our ranks of Tavern, it’s up to us to grow the League. Now. Just like those early volunteers at Tun Marine Corps League. We honor all those in civilian clothes. We are still extending the line to see what the expense is, asking the Corps; balancing the budget, going over Davis Highway at Quantico, the Crossroads of Semper Fi.

The Board of Trustees, Nat. Commandant, Publisher, Jr Vice and paymaster. The National Headquarters can’t call or write job of the Commandant, Jr Vice and paymaster. This is the new publisher’s advertisements along with cutting costs and increasing revenue. (This is the new publisher’s advertisement.)

THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

241ST BIRTHDAY OF OUR CORPS.

On November 10, we celebrated the 241st Birthday of the US Marine Corps.

During the years since those volunteers gathered together in Tun Tavern, Marines have been involved in many conflicts where the names of these locations could bring you good health and lots of special times and I want to extend my wishes that each of your families. Christmas is just around the corner and Thanksgiving, and I truly hope that everyone has a joyous holiday season and that 2017 brings you good health and lots of special times.

I would like to thank Marine Bernie Thompson, MWD, Chief of Staff, and his Minnesota Toys for Tots Staff for the tremendous amount of time and effort put into making Toys for Tots a success in Minnesota. Along with the Toys for Tots program, I would also like to thank Janice Hartley, Dept. of Missouri and MWD Paymaster, Eagle Scout Award Chairman, for her effort in collecting the Scouting awards issued in the Midwest Division and making the required reports to National. The number of Eagle Scouts has increased in recent years and is an outstanding way to get the word out that there is a Marine Corps League and that we as Marines do honor our youth for a job well done.

Assistant Division Vice Commandant David Ossian informed me that the Cornhuskers Detachment #370, Lincoln, NE, members have, to this date, created housing for eight homeless veterans, that’s eight veterans off the streets with thousands more in need. Outstanding work Cornhuskers.

The Midwest Division has been working with National Sr. Vice Commandant Wendell Webb in contacting FOCUS Marine Foundation Class 16-03 members within the division to relay information about the League and, after all requirements are satisfied, attempt to bring them into a local Detachment.

The Division continues to work on Fire teams in an attempt to get former Marines and Corpsman in remote areas involved. Let’s make them feel like they are home and among Brothers.

The problem of keeping an accurate membership roster for the Detachment is ongoing. This task must be accomplished as it is the only way Detachments and departments can track their membership. If the detachments and departments do not have current accurate information National will never have a current list of members.

Finally National Headquarter’s move is complete, and in time, everything will settle down and operation will become smooth. The new location near Quantico is a plus for the League. Mid-Winter is upon us, and a tremendous amount of work lies ahead—the hiring of a new Executive Director and the revising of the current League Bylaws, just to name a few.

Happy 241st Birthday Marines, remember our Brothers that remain in harm’s way.

Harvey L. Harris
NVC, Midwest Division

MIDWEST DIVISION

GREETINGS MARINES:
The Midwest Division is gearing up for TOYS FOR TOTS.

This is the time when we as Marines and Corpsman do our best to make each child feel needed.

There are several events pending, and here are the locations and dates. It’s never too early to make plans so go ahead and schedule yourself to attend so you don’t forget. The Mid-Winter Conference will be held March 2-4, 2017 at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center in Fredericksburg, VA. The Midwest Division Conference will be June 23-25, 2017, hosted by Department of North Carolina at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park in Durham, NC. The MCL National Convention will be August 13-18, 2017 at the Sheraton Overland Park at the Convention Center, Overland Park, KS.

Nominations for the Midwest Division Marine of the Year should be discussed at the Detachment level so once the official announcement is listed, your nomination can be submitted to the Chairman. This announcement will be published in the January 2017 Mideast Division Bulletin.

Once we all get to Overland Park in August, I will have completed four years as your Mideast Division National Vice Commandant. It has been my extreme pleasure to serve as your NVC and I look forward to working with the new Division NVC. Along the way, I have met many League members and made many friends. I extend my appreciation to the division staff officers who supported me and made my job easier. I thank all the members of the Mideast Division for their time and dedication they gave to improve and grow our League.

We still have Marines deployed around the world. Let’s always keep them in our prayers that they complete their missions and come home safely. Take care of yourselves and those you love. Thank you for your service to our nation and our League.

Mike McLain
NVC, Mideast Division
DIVISION REPORTS

NEW ENGLAND DIVISION

HELLO MARINES:
WINTER IS UPON US.

Our Birthday celebrations are past, hopefully we are wholeheartedly introducing new Marines into the League. It is a time of flight for many as you snowbirds fly south for the winter. When you are enjoying the benefits of the warm climes, find out where the local Detachment is and share a greeting. We are a small Corps and this is a way of renewing old friendships and sharing stories of your duty stations. Every one of us has a story. You can find out what a Detachment does that perhaps yours might want to copy.

For those of us who stay in the northern climes, winter can be a tough time for those down on their luck. At holiday parties or other events, you might want to have a clothing drive or a food drive as a part of the event. Patients at our VA hospitals and those finding themselves in a veterans’ shelter need our help. You may not be able to feed hundreds but start with one; just letting him know that his fellow Marines care makes a difference.

In Boston there is an annual Semper Fi Luncheon that is attended by 2,000 Marines including the Commandant. I was able to attend this event with members of the New England Division and many local League members. I was very proud to see a sea of the red blazers throughout the event. This is just one way we promote the existence of the League. When you wear your cover, a shirt with our logo, anything with the League on it, people notice. Our eyes are always attracted to writing on clothing. No Marine should ever be able to say, “I never heard of the Marine Corps League.” We help so many Marines in so many ways we want everyone to know we are here to help.

The expo in Quantico was quite well attended, and thank you to all of the Marine Corps League members who helped greet and provide everyone who entered with a League goodie bag. This takes a lot of time and effort on their part. I look forward to attending the Expo at Pendleton and meeting more League members there.

Our new Headquarters is now open for business. If you are traveling by, drop in and you will be impressed and proud of our new location. The Crossroads of the Corps is where we are and where we belong!

Hope to see many of you in my travels. In New England a little global warming is not such a bad thing. It is my honor to represent our League.

Warren “Griff” Griffin
NVC, New England Division

NORTHEAST DIVISION

HELLO MARINES:
IT IS 2017 ALREADY.

Where did the time go?

The holiday campaigns and programs are wrapping up and we are getting ready for the Mid-Winter Conference in Fredericksburg.

We all need to congratulate the Headquarters staff for the successful opening of the new National Headquarters in Stafford, VA. The Marine Corps League has taken another step forward, making the League stronger every day.

Plans for the Northeast Division Conference at the Stockton Seaview Hotel and Golf Club in Galloway, NJ on March 23–25, 2017 were finalized in November. We are looking forward to a great conference. We are planning to have training and presentations for most of the conference and keep the business session to a minimum. We hope to see representation from as many Detachments as possible. This conference is an ideal way to share ideas on what is working and ask for guidance on situations that are hindering your progress.

The Northeast will continue to work on Recruiting and Retention. The departments are dedicated to increasing their membership with quality Marines, FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplains. We will also be focusing on the Active Duty and Transition Readiness Programs discussed at the National Convention. The departments are looking for ways to implement the “Fire Team Concept.” The Department of New York has been working on some great recruiting material and sharing it with the other departments and National. Great job!

To recruit new members we need to ask a few simple questions. What are the new members looking for? What do they need? Once we get those answers we need to sit back and look at our Detachments and ask ourselves a few questions. Do we have what the new members are looking for / need? What can we do to accommodate the new members while still meeting the needs of our current membership? This plan needs to be fluid so it can be adjusted as the needs / situations change. Adapt and overcome. We can do this!

As always please keep our service members in your thoughts and prayers. It is through their efforts and dedication today that we are still enjoying the freedoms we served to protect.

It truly is an honor to serve the membership of the Marine Corps League.

Look forward to seeing everyone in March at the conferences.

PDC (PCDD) Leanna L. Dietrich
NVC, Northeast Division
NORTHWEST DIVISION

Seeing all the new gear and talking with the active duty Marines as well as the vendors makes me feel like the Marine Corps is still the Corps I love and continues to move forward. The weather could have been a bit better, but there is always next year. At MDM, we had the privilege to hear the CMC many times as well as at the grand banquet the night before departure. The room was filled with pride as the CMC had us all stand, and we all sang the Marines Hymn, a moment I will not forget.

I had the great fortune to play in the Young Marines golf tournament and after arriving with two delays for the Northwest; I finally settled in my room and hit the rack about 0330. Next thing I knew, I had the NJA calling me and had 45 minutes to S.S.S and make my way to the Medal of Honor course at Quantico. Made it on time and I can say without hesitation I golfed like crap but that was not the idea of golfing. It was a great group and the support given to the YM was the point.

Our Birthday has come and gone, and I have seen a ton of pictures and posts from our great NWDIV—by the looks of things, everyone was having a great time and celebrating as only the Marines can.

Now it’s time to fire up the slay, and all of us here are starting the kickoff off to a wonderful season of Toys for Tots. I know like everywhere else, Marines will be busy filling orders, picking up toys and handing them out to families everywhere. I have always enjoyed this time of year and the looks you get when you can make a difference.

Tis the season here in the NW. The snow will soon fall, temperatures are starting to drop and time spent with loved ones is cherished. Take a moment to reflect on your year and hug a little tighter. There are no guarantees on what tomorrow will bring. Thank you all who have emailed and sent cards out to my family for our daughter, as we continue to march toward her transplant. This will be our year! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

T.J. Morgan
NVC, Northwest Division

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION

Hello Marines:

First and foremost I’d like to wish everybody Happy New Year, and I hope everyone had a wonderful

Thanksgiving and Christmas Season.

As we begin to calm down from family time and the hustle and bustle over the holidays, we should begin to refocus on the League. Remember to get your 990s updated and make sure your EIN status is current.

The new Headquarters had its Grand Opening on November 18, 2016—this should be a great thing for the League because of the location and the fact that we will be able to support the Marine Corps in several ways and have a chance to hire Marines or their families.

As we come into January and February, we’ve got the Marine West Expo in California and we also have the Mid-Winter Conference in March. I believe that every Department Commandant should make plans to be there—if not you, one of your officers should be there in your place. (This is one of your job duties as Department Commandant.) The Dept. Commandant’s are required to give a report there to the Senior Vice Commandant, and information is exchanged from department to National and back. I also hope to see others from the division make it to Mid-Winter as it is a very important meeting for the League and a great deal of good information is put out during this time. Let’s move on to the Division Conference, which will be held in New Mexico along with the department of New Mexico convention. I would like every department represented there, and any and all Detachments can attend as well. I hope we will have a good showing and attendance at the Division Conference.

Lastly, I would like to remind Members of the Rocky Mountain Division to please follow the chain of leadership at all level Detachments, departments and divisions. The officers in these areas are here to help you; we cannot help you if we don’t know there is a problem. Also there are many things that occur at the different levels that not all members are aware of—just follow the chain of leadership to get the answers. But most important is to remember to have fun and work for the betterment of the League. Be safe out there.

Charles D. Davies
NVC, Rocky Mountain Division
HELLO MARINES:

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

TO: NATIONAL COMMANDANT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ALL MEMBERS.

I want to give a shout out to Lynn LeBerg for allowing me to be chosen to hand out the Marine of the Year Awards at Modern Day Marine Exposition.

It was an honor to be part of the ceremony. Ten great deserving Marines and a Navy Corpsman. The turnout at the Expo was, as always, a great success.

Here in the Villages we had numerous Birthday Balls and Rogene and I attended the big one at the new Rohan Recreation Center. We had approximately 250 attendees including the Army, Navy, and the Air Force. We had an excellent meal of prime rib with all the trimmings. I volunteered to be one of the greeters and was able to meet some great veterans and Marines. Now on to Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s. My, how time flies when we’re having fun.

Southeast is continuing on the late dues and attempting to get the members to come back to their Detachments. It is a struggle, and we are all on board to get this accomplished as soon as possible. In the Department of Florida, we have an extreme amount of attrition since many of our members are retired and it seems we are still able to obtain new members because of them wanting to come to warm weather. We will continue to strongly to pursue this problem in the Detachments, Departments and Divisions and get the information to National Headquarters in a suitable time.

I was not able to attend the opening of the new office for Headquarters and hope that it all went as planned. I may be able to get there at Mid-Winter which will be here before we know it. It will be interesting to see how we function being away from Washington D.C. I do know that the previous Executive Director was involved with many organizations when he was on board and certainly opened many doors for our beloved Marine Corps League. The changes we as a League are confronting will not be as much of a struggle as I have heard mentioned by some of the “naysayers.” It seems we as Marines have always been able to improvise, adapt, and overcome the obstacles before us. I often recall something my late father said to me which was, “Too soon you will get old, and too late you will get smart.” I should have listened to him more closely!

I would ask that we keep our Marines and Servicemen and Women in all your thoughts and prayers and never forget how it felt not to be home for the holidays.

God Bless America, God Bless the United States Marine Corps, and lastly, God Bless our Marine Corps League.

Until next time “I’LLCUONTHEBEACH”!!!

Jim Hackbarth
NVC, Southeast Division

SOUTHERN DIVISION

HELLO MARINES:

Membership Recruiting & Retention

I want to start my article this time by addressing the same subject that I addressed in an article a year ago and that is the subject of membership recruiting and retention with all the Department and Detachment Junior Vice Commandants. The reason I want to repeat this subject is because it is an important subject for a membership type organization like the Marine Corps League. Part of the duties of the Junior Vice Commandant as stated in the Marine Corps League National By-laws are as follows: “Shall create and promulgate such incentives and programs as will produce enthusiastic response resulting in continuous membership growth.” What this means is that if you are a Junior Vice Commandant you need to have a program in place to recognize those members that are out there recruiting new members, and you need to be making regular reports to the general membership on those programs and the members going that extra mile to bring in new members. The National Junior Vice Commandant has excellent programs to recognize individuals and units for membership growth that you can adapt to Department and Detachment programs so feel free to check with the National Junior Vice Commandant or myself on those programs. Remember that it is the duty of all members to recruit new members, but it is your duty as the Junior Vice Commandant.
Hello Marines:

The Marine West expo is fast approaching. It is the 1st and 2nd of February 2017 at Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California. This is the time of the year where Marines of the Southwest Division come together as a team to support the expo. This is always a great time where old friends meet. The Southwest Division Meeting will be held the afternoon of the February 2, 2017. The meeting will be held in Oceanside, California and the schedule of events will be published in the near future.

I am looking forward to the Mid-Winter National Conference to be held in Fredericksburg, Virginia on March 2-4, 2017. This will be a great event and a chance to meet with old friends.

Richard Hoery
NVC, Southwest Division

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Hello Marines:

Thank you!

After being afforded the opportunity of attending both fall conferences in the Southwest Division I would like to thank the Department of California Commandant Bob Villalobos and Department of Arizona Commandant Pat Connell along with all their members for the professional manner in which their fall conferences were conducted. They were both held in the highest standards of the Marine Corps League.

I attended the Marine Corps Birthday Ball for both Pahrump Detachment 1199, Pahrump, Nevada and The Greater Nevada Detachment 186, Las Vegas, Nevada. Both Birthday Balls were excellent.

My next trip will be to Newport Beach, California where I have been invited to sit on the board to select the District 6 Young Marine that will compete for the National Young Marine of the Year Award.

I look forward to seeing all of you on March 24 and 25 at the Southern Division Conference in Tyler, Texas, and I know that the Rose City Detachment is planning to make it a wonderful weekend for everyone. It looks like we will have a number of Detachments in 2017 that will qualify for streamers for achieving the Southern Division goals for 2016, and I look forward to congratulating them for their efforts over the past 12 months. This year we will be changing things around, and there will be no leadership classes that have become part of every Division Conference over the last few years. We are working on some different presentations to be conducted during the morning session and I look forward to seeing what subjects will be presented. In addition the membership in attendance will be making their selection of the next Southern Division NVC to take over for me in August. This is an important decision on the part of the membership and I hope to see a huge turnout for the conference meeting on Saturday afternoon.

I look forward to seeing all of you on March 24 and 25 at the Southern Division Conference

Randall Rigg
NVC, Southern Division
Winter has arrived with a vengeance in west central Illinois. Schools have been cancelled for two days due to sub-zero temperatures and even colder wind chills and ice. We are expecting warmer weather by the time Santa makes his rounds.

I would like to welcome several new Pounds: Treasure Valley Pound 270, ID Pack (reinstated), Pioneer PD 373, OH Pack, Lyle Gillette Pound 374, MT Pack, Surprise Devil Dogs PD 375, AZ Pack, Jack Lucas PD 376 in MS, and Desoto PD in FL, whose Charter has just been approved and no number has yet been assigned. Woof, Woof!

My travels on behalf of the Order this fall have taken me to the Modern Day Marine Expo at Quantico, VA; the National Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington, VA for the 241st birthday of the United States Marine Corps; and the National Veterans Day Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery on Veterans Day where I had the honor and privilege of participating in the Wreath-Laying Ceremony with MCL National Commandant Richard Gore, MCL National Executive Director Tom Hazlett and MCLA National President Karen Aune. I made it back home just in time to assist with our local Toys for Tots efforts and our annual Christmas party for the Marine residents at the Illinois Veterans’ Home in Quincy.

If you have not yet made reservations for the Mid-Winter Conference to be held the first weekend of March at the Hospitality House & Conference Center in Fredericksburg, VA, I suggest you do it ASAP. The Mid-Winter Mini-Growl will be held on Friday evening, March 3. If you had fun at the Supreme Growl in Tulsa, you won’t want to miss this one! Remember that this is the only opportunity for Devil Dogs and Pups to attend a Kennel growl.

For those dogs planning to advance to Pedigree at the Supreme Growl in Overland Park, KS, in August, start preparing your paperwork and submit it in a timely manner. The deadline for it to be in the Kennel Dog Robber’s paws is July 1, 2017. The list of those candidates whose papers have been received and recorded are now on the Kennel website (look under “Growl Info”), thanks to the combined efforts of PDD Steve Joppa, KDR and PCDD Leanna Dietrich, Kennel Webmaster. Check the list for your name if you plan to advance and take proper action if it is not listed. And speaking of the Supreme Growl, remember to submit bones for the selected children’s hospital at the 2017 National Convention.

If you have any questions or concerns, my contact information is on the Kennel website.

Semper Woof,
CDD C.O. Smith
57th Chief Devil Dog
I would like to welcome several new Pounds: Treasure Valley Pound 270, ID Pack (reinstated), Pioneer PD 373, OH Pack, Lyle Gillette Pound 374, MT Pack, Surprise Devil Dogs PD 375, AZ Pack, Jack Lucas PD 376 in MS, and Desoto PD in FL, whose Charter has just been approved and no number has yet been assigned. Woof, Woof!

My travels on behalf of the Order this fall have taken me to the Modern Day Marine Expo at Quantico, VA; the National Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington, VA for the 241st birthday of the United States Marine Corps; and the National Veterans Day Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery on Veterans Day where I had the honor and privilege of participating in the Wreath-Laying Ceremony with MCL National Commandant Richard Gore, MCL National Executive Director Tom Hazlett and MCLA National President Karen Aune. I made it back home just in time to assist with our local Toys for Tots efforts and our annual Christmas party for the Marine residents at the Illinois Veterans’ Home in Quincy.

If you have not yet made reservations for the Mid-Winter Conference to be held the first weekend of March at the Hospitality House & Conference Center in Fredericksburg, VA, I suggest you do it ASAP. The Mid-Winter Mini-Growl will be held on Friday evening, March 3. If you had fun at the Supreme Growl in Tulsa, you won’t want to miss this one! Remember that this is the only opportunity for Devil Dogs and Pups to attend a Kennel growl.

For those dogs planning to advance to Pedigree at the Supreme Growl in Overland Park, KS, in August, start preparing your paperwork and submit it in a timely manner. The deadline for it to be in the Kennel Dog Robber’s paws is July 1, 2017. The list of those candidates whose papers have been received and recorded are now on the Kennel website (look under “Growl Info”), thanks to the combined efforts of PDD Steve Joppa, KDR and PCDD Leanna Dietrich, Kennel Webmaster. Check the list for your name if you plan to advance and take proper action if it is not listed. And speaking of the Supreme Growl, remember to submit bones for the selected children’s hospital at the 2017 National Convention.

If you have any questions or concerns, my contact information is on the Kennel website.

Semper Woof,

CDD C.O. Smith
57th Chief Devil Dog

---

Winter has arrived with a vengeance in west central Illinois. Schools have been cancelled for two days due to sub-zero temperatures and even colder wind chills and ice. We are expecting warmer weather by the time Santa makes his rounds.

---

**CARRY A MESSAGE OF MARINE CORPS PRIDE WHEREVER YOU GO**

Here’s a do-anything, go-anywhere custom bag with your name on it! With our “USMC” Personalized Messenger Bag, you can carry all your essentials in organized, compact, sharp-looking style… while also carrying a message of U.S. Marine Corps pride. And we’ll personalize it… FREE!

**Superior Craftsmanship in a Custom Design**
Exceptional craftsmanship is at the forefront of this classically styled messenger bag crafted of durable canvas in khaki, with contrasting faux leather trim, and fabric handles and an adjustable, removable padded shoulder strap. Front and center on the bag, you’ll find a USMC emblem patch, “MARINES THE FEW THE PROUD Est. 1775”, antiqued metal stars and, at no additional cost… your name, nickname or initials (up to 12 characters).

The stylish bag is ready to deliver with amazing versatility too, featuring two exterior flap pockets and an exterior slip pocket on the back, two inside slip pockets, an inside zip pocket, and an inside laptop pocket. Talk about always ready to serve… yes sir, it is!

**A Remarkable Value... Available for a Limited Time**
Our handsome personalized bag is a remarkable value at $99.95, and you can pay for it in 4 easy installments of $24.99 each. To order yours, backed by our unconditional 90-day guarantee, send no money now, just mail in your Priority Reservation. This classically-styled canvas messenger bag is not available in stores, so don’t miss out… inspire Marine Corps pride wherever you go and reserve yours today!

[www.bradfordexchange.com/usmcmessenger](http://www.bradfordexchange.com/usmcmessenger)
Over the last two years, we all have seen dramatic changes in the way your Marine Corps League does its business. I wish to express my hearty congratulations to our national Commandant Richard Gore and his Board of Trustees and to our national Executive Director Tom Hazlett and his staff for the splendid job they have done in redeveloping and implementing a National Headquarters that is now working together. I think it is very evident to all that Marine Hazlett inherited a job that had to be redefined and rebuilt. It becomes extremely difficult to do a job when there “is no turnover files or documentation” to ease the transition from one entity to another. I can only say that the membership needs to look at where we were two years ago and where we are today and because of the hard work of these key members of this organization we are financially in the best shape that we have been in years.

This year’s National Convention will be an important one as we will select a new Commandant and other nationally elected offices and replace some of our National Vice Commandants. To this end please continue the growth and prestige of our Marine Corps League. Only you have the power to elect those officers that will continue to allow our Marine Corps League to prosper. I ask you to please choose our leaders with care and conviction as we enter into a new year of growth. As we have all heard before this is not the time for us to stand by and allow this great organization to take two steps backwards. We must step forward and volunteer to help our newly elected officers continue to make this the premier Marine Corps organization that we are today.

I for one would like to thank Commandant Gore and Executive Director Tom Hazlett for having the foresight to come together with our sister Marine Corps organizations. I think we all should remember that it is the goal of all Marine Corps organizations to support the ideals, traditions and our Marines in uniform. We all want the same thing for our corps. I like the idea of having united Marine Corps organizational solidarity with the United States Marine Corps. It is time for all Marines of every organization to come together and support our United States Marine Corps. Remember if it weren’t for the United States Marine Corps we would have no reason to join together as an organization. It is because the United States Marine Corps has given us all the pride and ability to continue the history of our beloved corps. I am so proud of our Marines in uniform today—in my opinion they have raised that bar of excellence. We all should take a moment and thank our active duty Marines for their tenacity their abilities and their love of country and corps. They are doing a magnificent job of upholding the reputation and legacy of the United States Marine Corps.

As your liaison to the Young Marines of the Marine Corps League I am proud to be a part of this great organization as it continues to be a driving force in the area of drug reduction with the youth of America. The Marine Corps League can be proud that once again the Department of Defense has recognized your Young Marines of the Marine Corps League as a premier organizational leader in the war on drugs. The Marine Corps League should be proud that your Young Marines of the Marine Corps League has received the coveted Department of Defense Fulcrum Shield Award for their excellence in the youth anti-drug program. To me this program could not have come at a better time when many states are reducing or legalizing narcotic substances. Young Marine programs continue to educate our Young Marines on the adverse effects and pitfalls of artificial drug stimulants.

As Marine Corps Leaguers you should be proud of the efforts by the Young Marine units throughout the country that continue to offer these informational programs and lectures that continue to outline the dire dangers of narcotics on these young developing minds. I would ask all Marine Corps League detachments and departments to reach out and establish a liaison position with those Young Marine units within your area. I would further ask those divisional Vice Commandants to forward to me the names of their liaisons to the Young Marine program. We should be able to assist each other in fulfilling our mission and keeping a spirit of cooperation with each other. Marines please remember this is one of our programs.

My final thought is that I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Young Marine chairman of the board Col. Bill Smith and the Executive Director, Col. Bill Davis, Col. Mike Kessler and the entire Board of Directors for the Young Marine program for their suggestions and wisdom. I have been fortunate to have learned so much and how a nonprofit board conducts itself. This board appointment has certainly enlightened and inspired me on the correct and proper workings of a nonprofit organizational Board of Directors. Believe me this has been an inspiration to me and this is a body we should all emulate.

God bless the United States of America and the United States Marine Corps and keep them both safe.

Semper Fidelis,
James “Jim” Laskey
Past National Commandant
GOOD MORNING MARINES:

I am James "Jim" Laskey, Past National Commandant of the Marine Corps League. I assume the mantle of Past National Commandant with the foresight to come together with our sister organization, the United States Marine Corps, to promote the Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League. I am joined in this endeavor by Executive Director Tom Hazlett and his entirety of staff, as well as our board of directors, who are today.

I for one would like to thank Commandant Gore and his Board of Trustees and to Richard Gore and his Board of Trustees and to congratulate our national Commandant for his magnificent job of upholding the reputation and ideals of the Marine Corps in our country. The Marine Corps League should be proud of this magnificent job.

I like the idea of having united Marine Corps organizations support the ideals, traditions and history of our beloved corps. I am proud to be a part of this program for their suggestion and wisdom. I do not feel United States Marine Corps. It is time for all Marines of this great organization as it continues to evolve.

Over the last two years, we all have seen dramatic changes in the way your Marine Corps League does its business. I wish to express my hearty congrats to our national Commandant and other National Vice Commandants. To this end please choose our leaders with care and conviction as Marine Corps League to prosper. I ask you to please continue the growth and prestige of our Marine Corps League. Only you have the power to elect members of this organization we are financially in good standing of the United States Marine Corps and keep them both safe.

As your liaison to the Young Marines of the Marine Corps League, I will be working with other Marine Corps organizations to support the ideals, traditions and history of our beloved corps. I am proud to be a part of this program for their suggestion and wisdom. I do not feel United States Marine Corps. It is time for all Marines of this great organization as it continues to evolve.

I would like to take this opportunity to address the members of the Marine Corps League. It is a pleasure to be able to address the members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League. I would like to take this opportunity to address the members of the Marine Corps League. It is a pleasure to be able to address the members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League.

As the acting Junior Past National Commandant, I will begin by addressing the membership of the Marine Corps League. It is my hope that you will take advantage of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League. I would like to take this opportunity to address the members of the Marine Corps League. It is a pleasure to be able to address the members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League.

I would like to take this opportunity to address the members of the Marine Corps League. It is a pleasure to be able to address the members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League. I would like to take this opportunity to address the members of the Marine Corps League. It is a pleasure to be able to address the members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League.

God bless the United States of America and our United States Marine Corps. Remember if it weren't for the United States Marine Corps we would have no reason to join together as an organization to come together and support the ideals, traditions and history of our beloved corps. I am proud to be a part of this program for their suggestion and wisdom. I do not feel United States Marine Corps. It is time for all Marines of this great organization as it continues to evolve.

Believe me this has been an inspiration to me and has inspired me on the correct and proper workings of a nonprofit organizational Board of Directors. I have been fortunate to have learned so much about the workings of a nonprofit organizational Board of Directors. I have been fortunate to have learned so much about the workings of a nonprofit organizational Board of Directors. I have been fortunate to have learned so much about the workings of a nonprofit organizational Board of Directors.

My final thought is that I would like to take this opportunity to address the members of the Marine Corps League. It is a pleasure to be able to address the members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League. I would like to take this opportunity to address the members of the Marine Corps League. It is a pleasure to be able to address the members of the Marine Corps League. I am aware that many of you are not aware of the programs and activities that are available to you as members of the Marine Corps League.
OATH OF MEMBERSHIP – REGULAR MEMBERS

I, ________________________________, in the presence of Almighty God, and the members of the Marine Corps League here assembled, being fully aware of the symbols, motto, principles and purposes of the Marine Corps League, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will uphold and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America and of the Marine Corps League. I will never knowingly wrong, deceive or defraud the League as to the value of anything. I will never knowingly wrong or injure or permit any member or any member's family to be wronged or injured if to prevent the same is within my power. I will never propose for membership one known to me to be unqualified or worthy to become a member of the League. I further promise to govern my conduct in the League's affairs and in my personal life in a manner becoming a decent honorable person and will never knowingly bring discredit to the League, so help me God.

Signature ________________________________

OATH OF MEMBERSHIP – ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

I, ________________________________, in the presence of Almighty God, and the members of the Marine Corps League here assembled, being fully aware that, as an Associate Member, I will not be permitted to hold an elective office or to vote on Marine Corps League policy, a membership application, or an election of officers, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will uphold and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America and of the Marine Corps League. I will never knowingly wrong, deceive or defraud the League as to the value of anything. I will never knowingly wrong or injure or permit any member or any member's family to be wronged or injured if to prevent the same is within my power. I will never propose for membership one known to me to be unqualified or worthy to become a member of the League. I further promise to govern my conduct in the League's affairs and in my personal life in a manner becoming a decent honorable person and will never knowingly bring discredit to the League, so help me God.

Signature ________________________________
COMING UP:

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

The annual Marine Corps League National Mid-Winter Conference will be held March 2-4, 2017, at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House & Conference Center in Fredericksburg, VA, about 20 minutes south of MCB Quantico.
**Hotel Information**

Please make your room reservation directly with the hotel no later than February 10, 2017. You can call the hotel to book at (540) 786-8321 or just go to www.mclnational.org, scroll over PROGRAMS, then click Mid-Winter to find a link to book online. The special League room rate is $89.00 per night, single or double, and includes breakfast.

If you would like to look at hotel amenities, etc., the hotel website is: www.fredericksburghospitalityhouse.com.

**Conference Registration & Banquet**

If you'd like your name tag printed and packet prepared prior to your arrival, you must be pre-registered, so don't forget to send in your conference registration form by February 10, 2017. You may also register upon arrival. A registration form is available at www.mclnational.org.

A reception and banquet will be held on March 4 at 18:30. Banquet meals are $45 with a choice of beef, chicken or fish. A drawing will be held during the banquet for 2 lucky League members to win a battlefield tour of a lifetime in the 2017 Battlefield Tour Raffle. Tours are run by Military Historical Tours. Go to page 65 for more information on how to enter the drawing.

**Program Book**

The Mid-Winter National Conference program book has a number of advertising opportunities available, the League encourages support of this book to help offset the cost of the conference. You can reserve space for this using the conference registration form.

**Local Things to Do**

Fredericksburg is a place rich in military and cultural history, from Civil War battlefields to George Washington's boyhood home at Ferry Farm. Go to www.visitfred.com for more information on the many exciting offerings in the local area. We highly recommend a walk through Old Town if you have time.

A little over 20 miles from the hotel, The National Museum of the Marine Corps is a lasting tribute to U.S. Marines—past, present and future. Situated on a 135-acre site adjacent to Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA, and under the command of Marine Corps University, the Museum's soaring design evokes the image of the flag-raisers of Iwo Jima and beckons visitors to this 120,000-square-foot structure. World-class interactive exhibits using the most innovative technology surround visitors with irreplaceable artifacts and immerse them in the sights and sounds of Marines in action. Open 9AM-5PM daily, no admission fee. Go to www.usmcmuseum.com for more details.
THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

Please make your room reservation directly with the hotel no later than February 10, 2017. You can call the hotel to book at (540) 786-8321 or just go to www.mclnational.org, scroll over PROGRAMS, then click Mid-Winter to find a link to book online. The special League room rate is $89.00 per night, single or double, and includes breakfast. If you would like to look at hotel amenities, etc., the hotel website is: www.fredericksburghospitalityhouse.com.

HOTEL INFORMATION

If you'd like your name tag printed and packet prepared prior to your arrival, you must be pre-registered, so don't forget to send in your conference registration form by February 10, 2017. You may also register upon arrival. A registration form is available at www.mclnational.org.

A reception and banquet will be held on March 4 at 18:30. Banquet meals are $45 with a choice of beef, chicken or fish. A drawing will be held during the banquet for 2 lucky League members to win a battlefield tour of lifetime in the 2017 Battlefield Tour Raffle. Tours are run by Military Historical Tours. Go to page 65 for more information on how to enter the drawing.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION & BANQUET

The Mid-Winter National Conference program book has a number of advertising opportunities available, the League encourages support of this book to help offset the cost of the conference. You can reserve space for this using the conference registration form.

PROGRAM BOOK

LOCAL THINGS TO DO


Fredericksburg is a place rich in military and cultural history, from Civil War battlefields to George Washington's boyhood home at Ferry Farm. Go to www.visitfred.com for more information on the many exciting offerings in the local area. We highly recommend a walk through Old Town if you have time.

A little over 20 miles from the hotel, The National Museum of the Marine Corps is a lasting tribute to U.S. Marines—past, present and future. Situated on a 135-acre site adjacent to Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA, and under the command of Marine Corps University, the Museum's soaring design evokes the image of the flag-raisers of Iwo Jima and beckons visitors to this 120,000-square-foot structure. World-class interactive exhibits using the most innovative technology surround visitors with irreplaceable artifacts and immerse them in the sights and sounds of Marines in action. Open 9AM-5PM daily, no admission fee. Go to www.usmcmuseum.com for more details.
Once a Marine, Always A Marine

CCVN Yani Dilag conducts a home visit with Daniel and Angela Jimenez

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY
COMBAT CASUALTY VISITING NURSE PROGRAM

BY KIM BRADLEY, RN, BSN

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has a long history of helping Sailors and Marines in need. The Society’s Visiting Nurse Program was started in 1922 to help eligible families with health problems or concerns that weren’t met by others. In 2006, the Society identified a new unmet need among Navy and Marine Corps families - helping them deal with the effects of combat on their loved ones.

This program is now known as the Combat Casualty Assistance or “CCA” Visiting Nurse program. The CCA Visiting Nurse program is unique in that we are the only organization with registered nurses who travel throughout the country making face-to-face visits, at no charge to both active duty and veteran Marines/Sailors and their families, regardless of their location or discharge status. Our nurses each cover multiple states, ensuring there is representation throughout the country. Sadly, there is no equivalent program for other branches of service at this time.

Since the CCA program began in late 2006, the CCA nurses have made over 60,000 patient visits in homes, military and civilian hospitals, specialized treatment facilities, correctional facilities, etc. - wherever necessary - to better understand and assess the immediate needs of the Marine, Sailor and his/her family. Face to face visits allow the CCA nurse to observe the body language of the service member, veteran and family, and are critical to fostering long-term trust while allowing the CCA nurse to observe the dynamics that potentially impact the entire group. As registered nurses, we are trained to identify the non-verbal signs such as posture, eye contact, speech and gestures. These non-verbal cues offer information that can only be observed when you are face-to-face, and they exhibit the level of exhaustion, pain, fear, frustration, hopelessness and many other emotions that these families deal with on a daily basis.

While the wars in the Middle East have drawn down and the numbers of acutely injured are fewer, there is a growing number of Marines and Sailors discharged many years ago that are now accepting that they have problems related to their combat service and multiple deployments. Life can be overwhelming as many try to redefine their new identity, mission and purpose. This is also verified in a most recent report by the Department of Veteran Affairs stating we now experience 20 suicides daily. Our nurses, who are generally spouses of Marines/Sailors or who have served themselves, understand and are willing to walk the journey with the service member, veteran and family. We ensure they are not alone as we provide them with the necessary resources and support along the way.
Anyone can make a referral to our program if they are aware of a Marine/Sailor in need – provided they have the person’s permission.

Once a referral is received, contact will be made via phone, email and/or face to face. We will then perform an initial holistic assessment of medical and non-medical needs (housing, financial, benefits, family stresses, employment and education). Short and long-term goals will be identified and we will continue to work with the Marine/Sailor and family providing encouragement and support while ensuring action steps are taken to achieve desired success.

We find most of our current cases are dealing with the invisible wounds of war, which includes Traumatic Brain Injury, Post-Traumatic Stress and Moral Injury. Educating the Marine/Sailor and family members on their physical and psychological injuries is not only essential, but also critical in order for them to gain a better understanding of the services and programs available to assist them in moving forward with recovery and transition. Medication issues are also a common concern among our veterans, as many do not understand medication purposes and proper usage. As nurses, we are able to assess and help answer any questions/concerns regarding medications prescribed. If the veteran cannot understand why their medications are prescribed and the importance of proper usage, we find they may opt to not take prescriptions that could help improve medical and mental health conditions. Our integrated approach addresses mind, body and spirit, and we discuss suggestions for alternative treatments for their diagnoses if they are not comfortable with the current regimen they have been offered. Alternative treatment modalities may include such therapies as acupuncture, yoga, biofeedback, or massage therapy. Regardless of the issues, we want veterans to be educated, informed and empowered so that they have control over their own care while building better communication skills with their medical provider and avoid potential problems.

As nurses, we are just one spoke on the wheel of success as it takes a village to help our veterans and families successfully reintegrate into their communities. Our diverse skills and experiences afford us the ability to properly identify valuable local, state, federal and national agencies whose programs provide additional support and services at the community level and beyond. In 2012, our CCA Visiting Nurse Program partnered with the FOCUS Marines Foundation based outside St. Louis, MO. This partnership enables us to refer service members to the 7-day course offered by FOCUS. The FOCUS Program has two main components - personal transformation and vocational assistance. Participants are challenged to see their lives in new ways - helping them set goals, get out of the victim mindset and take responsibility for their lives and actions. This new perspective encourages the veterans to be open to seeking treatment, pursuing educational/employment opportunities and becoming involved in their communities.

At the beginning of each FOCUS course, our nurses engage in small group discussions with the participants in order to gain better insight on their current struggles. This helps us develop a plan throughout the week so we can solicit the support of other organizations like the Marine Corps League to help. As we have staffed each session over the last 4 years, our nurses have been witness to the life changing opportunity given to those Marines/Sailors that attend, as we provide ongoing support to those graduates as they return back home to their communities. Marines connecting with other Marines again and building a new network outside of the Marine Corps is key to their success.
“Our nurses are some of the most committed, caring spirits whose quiet understanding provides valuable insight and comfort to countless Navy and Marine Corps families facing the most difficult times in their lives.”

The Marine Corps League plays an even more vital role in the success of our transitioning Marines because it helps us to solicit support and mentorship at the community level, thus keeping the veterans on a successful trajectory. We have found MCL Detachments vary across the U.S.: some are willing to step up and help provide mentorship or financial assistance, but sometimes it may be fragmented support. I have had the opportunity to work with Wendell Webb, National Senior Vice Commandant of the MCL during FOCUS sessions and have shared with him our thoughts on the importance of mentorship between the MCL Detachments and the veterans in their community. The nurses find certain Detachments are more successful and willing to help than others and we truly need more Detachments to come aboard and help their brothers-in-arms. The ability to be accepted in one’s community without being judged for past actions and to feel connected again is what each of our Marines are yearning for. They also need an opportunity to serve again, and connecting with other veteran Marines through the local Detachments can provide a life-changing opportunity to help them thrive - not just survive - in their local community.

As a small part of a unique organization like NMCRS, the CCA Visiting Nurse Program has its challenges as well as successes. Although we closely partner with the Navy and Marine Corps we are not part of the standard “military health care system”, so Society Visiting Nurses are easily overlooked unless the nurses make the effort to promote the program. Most civilians don’t realize NMCRS is a non-profit and that we depend on donations to keep our programs in place. The constant need to communicate and educate the public about the CCA Visiting Nurse Program remains one of our biggest challenges. We can no longer be “the best kept secret” in the military; we are a valuable asset to the NMCRS and to the service members and families we serve, and we must be sure that people know we exist and how they can help us help our veterans.

In spite of these obstacles, the CCA Visiting Nurses look at their work as a “calling”, as it is truly a career that leaves each of us feeling good knowing we make a difference every day - even when we are exhausted physically and emotionally. This program touches more lives than anyone could ever realize. Our nurses are some of the most committed, caring spirits whose quiet understanding provides valuable insight and comfort to countless Navy and Marine Corps families facing the most difficult times in their lives.

If you know a post 9/11 Marine, Sailor or family member who could benefit from a call or visit from a Society visiting nurse, please contact us at (703) 696-0032 or email kim.bradley@nmcrs.org. If you are interested in making a donation to support our program or to learn more, please visit our website at www.nmcrs.org/page/content/nurse-impact/.
REUNIONS

ATTENTION ON DECK
CEREMONIAL RIFLE PROGRAM
Any Detachment in good standing can request ceremonial rifles and blank ammunition through the Marine Corps League’s National Headquarters, for use with color guards, parades, burial details, etc. The beginning steps are as follows:

STEP 1: Go to www.mclnational.org, scroll over DOCUMENTS and click on Ceremonial Rifles. Instructions are listed here with links to the 3 forms you will need in the next step. Information on requests for ammunition and clips are located here as well.

STEP 2: Send these 3 forms to U.S. Army TACOM to the address in the instructions: 1) Qualification Checklist for Ceremonial Rifles Veterans’ Organizations, 2) Certificate of Compliance with 10 USC § 4683, and 3) Certificate of Arms Storage.

STEP 3: A letter, requesting approval from National Headquarters, signed by the Detachment Commandant must be sent to MCL Headquarters, ATTN: Executive Director.

For more detailed information and for the next steps of the procedure, go to www.mclnational.org, scroll over DOCUMENTS and click on Ceremonial Rifles.

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS
Questions about new membership applications must first be directed to your Department, then to your Division. If your question is still unanswered, then move up the chain of command and send your questions to National.

EVENTS IN MARINE HISTORY

January 27, 1778
Capt. Nichols and 26 U.S. Marines captured Fort Nassau in the Bahamas.

January 15, 1865
365 U.S. Marines in a naval landing force attacked Fort Fisher at Wilmington, North Carolina.

February 20, 1815
Capt. Archibald Henderson led U.S. Marines in “Old Ironsides” to victory over Great Britain’s Cyane and Levant off the coast of Africa.

February 19, 1945
4th and 5th Marine divisions assaulted Iwo Jima, raised the American flag on Mt. Suribachi four days later.

March 9, 1847
Capt. Alvin Edson led a U.S. Marine battalion ashore with Army forces at Veracruz, Mexico. Battles occurred at San Gabriel and La Mesa.

March 8, 1911
The 1st Marine Division came into existence at Guantanamo Bay; now the oldest, largest active-duty, and most decorated division-sized unit in the USMC.

We are pleased to report that the Marine Corps League and former national executive director, Michael Blum; and former IT manager, Jason Blum, have come to a mutual agreement to resolve any and all outstanding issues between the parties.

RICHARD GORE
National Commandant

THOMAS HAZLETT
National Executive Director
THE SEMPER FI STORE

http://semperfistore.org

CHALLENGE COIN

MCL ANTIQUE SILVER

Item Code: cc27
Price: $7.00
Description: Challenge coin, MCL, antique silver (zinc alloy) one side with United States Marine Corps & Eagle, Globe & Anchor, 2nd side MCL & red

GRILLE ORNAMENT

EAGLE, GLOBE & ANCHOR

Item Code: a12
Price: $18.00
Description: Grille Ornament, 4” 3-D Eagle, Globe & Anchor, gold, includes hardware to attach

BUMPER STICKERS

Item Code: a01
Price: $0.30
Description: Bumper sticker, 11.5”x3” red background with lettering in white “MARINES... Once a Marine, always a Marine Join the Marine Corps League” and the MCL logo

Item Code: a02
Price: $0.50
Description: Bumper sticker, 11.5”x3” white background with red and black lettering “A BAND OF BROTHERS MARINE CORPS LEAGUE” and the MCL logo
**Challenge Coin**

Item Code: cc07  
Price: $7.00  
Description: Challenge coin, MCL, 1 ¾” on one side enameled white border with “MARINE CORPS LEAGUE” on top “SEMPER FIDELIS” on the bottom, silver & gold in Eagle, Globe & Anchor in the center with darker background. On second side enameled blue border with “ONCE A MARINE” on top and “ALWAYS A MARINE” on bottom with the IWO JIMA in the center in bronze with red enameled background.

**Patch**

Item Code: patch05  
Price: $2.00  
Description: Patch, round, 100% embroidered Marine Corps League logo round 3 1/2” (note: this is not a uniform patch).

**Logo Decal**

Item Code: a04  
Price: $0.50  
Description: Marine Corps League logo round 3 inch decal WHITE, BLACK & RED

Item Code: a05  
Price: $0.50  
Description: Marine Corps League logo round 4 ½ inch decal WHITE, BLACK & RED

**Patch**

Item Code: wa21  
Price: $8.00  
Description: Patch, round 10” MCL logo, printed in gold and white on red background.

**Silicone Tech Pocket**

Item Code: cell01  
Price: $5.00  
Description: Silicone Tech Pocket, red with MCL logo

Item Code: cell01a  
Price: $12.00  
Description: Silicone Tech Pocket, red with MCL logo, set of 3
The Cpl. Gerald Max Rich Detachment #1352, Cache Valley (Logan) UT, made a visit to the Logan-Cache Airport to show our support for Marines currently on active duty. The unique Osprey V-22 was in the valley for high altitude rotor blade testing. Test pilot Major Stevenson enlightened us with information about the highly sophisticated aircraft. Detachment member Loyd Lewis, 91 years young, was an additional highlight of the day. Loyd had made the 1944 amphibious landing on Iwo Jima in a Higgins boat—substantially less sophisticated than the Osprey. Having one of “America’s Greatest Generation” among us is an extraordinary honor. Semper Fi.

---

**Knife Multi-Tool**

Item Code: g320  
Price: $20.00  
Description: Knife, multi-tool, oriental hardwood handles, stainless steel, pliers with various other tools, including a small 2.5” blade, ruler, can opener, and 9-bit set, approx. 4” when closed, handle engraved with “UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS” and USMC logo.

---

**Red Satin Jacket**

Item Code: wa115  
Price: $45.00  
Description: Red Satin Jacket, Lightweight with US Marines down the left side. Available in Medium-3XL.

---

**Flags**

Item Code: g52  
Price: $5.00  
Description: Flag, 3’x5’ black background with white “POW/MIA, YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN” and silhouette, one sided with grommets.

Item Code: g42  
Price: $6.00  
Description: USMC 3 foot x 5 foot flag, (for outdoor use) RED with United States Marine Corps.

---

http://semperfistore.org
The Cpl. Gerald Max Rich Detachment #1352, Cache Valley (Logan) UT, made a visit to the Logan-Cache Airport to show our support for Marines currently on active duty. The unique Osprey V-22 was in the valley for high altitude roto blade testing. Test pilot Major Stevenson enlightened us with information about the highly sophisticated aircraft. Detachment member Loyd Lewis, 91 years young, was an additional highlight of the day. Loyd had made the 1944 amphibious landing on Iwo Jima in a Higgin’s boat—substantially less sophisticated than the Osprey. Having one of “America’s Greatest Generation” among us is an extraordinary honor. Semper Fi.

On November 12, 2016, members of the West Hudson Detachment celebrate the 241st birthday of the Marine Corps. Left to right: Joseph DeAngelo, Jr. (State Judge Advocate), Michael Apricena (Past Commandant and member of the LCpl. Jedh C. Barker Detachment), John Cleary (Membership Chairman and Past Commandant), Ray Santana (Commandant Air, Land & Sea Detachment), Barb DeAngelo (State Adjutant) and Brian Gillepsie (National Public Relations Committee member).

Top Photo: On November 6, 2016, Senior Vice Commandant, Adam Tegge recognizes John Mullins of Troop 17 in Hasbrouck Heights, NJ for his achievement of Eagle Scout.

Left Photo: At the Gooney Bird Detachment of New Milford, NJ Birthday Ball where our oldest and youngest Marines are both women. Pictured at the cake cutting ceremony is Maybelle Schneider, 93 years old, and Shifali Masih, at 37 years young. In the background is Commandant Ron Vrablic.
On October 13, 2016, the East Valley Young Marines received the DOD’s Fulcrum Shield Award. The Unit was sponsored by both the Saguaro Detachment 554 and the Department of Arizona. Both the Detachment and Department are extremely proud of these Young Marines as they are making a huge difference in both the local community and the State of Arizona. The award ceremony was held at the Pentagon in the Hall of Heroes. The room was full of dignitaries and all were very impressed with what our Young Marines have accomplished in our communities in our campaign “Closing the Gate on Drugs.” Our Young Marines got to have the opportunity to meet and converse with many of our Nation’s leaders. This was a huge eye opener and motivator for our Young Marines.

Receiving Fulcrum Shield Award (from L-R): Frank (Gunny) Alger Executive Officer East Valley Young Marines, YM PVT Nick Burt, YM GYSGT Tyson Henry, Dana Lippincott Unit Commander East Valley Young Marines.
From left to right: Brigadier General Walker is Commanding General of the District of Columbia National Guard Land Component; Dana Lippincott, Unit Commander East Valley Young Marines; YM PVT Nick Burt; YM GYSGT Tyson Henry; Frank (Gunny) Alger, Executive Officer East Valley Young Marines; Young Marine National Executive Director, Bill Davis (Col. ret); Young Marine West Coast Director, Joe Lusingnan.

The Staten Island Detachment received a call on November 10, 2016, that a Port Authority Police Officer (Frank Marcardi) dealing with 911/World Trade Center related cancer could not make it to any Marine Corps birthday events. The officers of SI Det. No. 1 decided to go to his bedside and wish him a Happy Marine Corps Birthday and thank him for his service to New York City. Shown here are Past Commandant Sean Torres, Sr. Sgt. at Arms Bob Geronimo, Marine Frank Macardi, Sr. Vice Commandant Butch Sarcone, Chief of Staff Jim Sweeney and Judge Advocate Volker Heyde.

Afterwards members had a photo taken with officials. Left to right: Northampton Supervisors Chairman Larry Weinstein, Gus Cales, Mike Clark, Harry Niemann, Congressman Elect Brian Fitzpatrick, Pete Palestina, State Representative Scott Petri and Commandant Dick Weaver.

The Cake Cutting Ceremony at the VA Hospital, Mountain Home, TN, on November 14, 2016. From left to right: Oldest Marine Major Keith Thompson, Tri-Cities MCL #969, Commandant Doug Essinger, Tri-Cities MCL #969: Youngest Marine PFC Caleb Hancock, India 3/25; and GySgt. Jesser Walden, India 3/25.
Once a Marine, Always a Marine

Roll Call
Around the League

Left to right: Dan White, Bob Dement, Nick Schuster, Don Hildebrand, Steve Norpel, Jim Bush, Larry Schlegal, Daryl Packard “Shorty Burger and “Blackie” Cashman at a Veteran Recognition in Dubuque, IA.

Brian Horgan of Rockland County, NY Marine Corps League Detachment #243 participates in the flag detail for evening colors at Aisne-Marne American Cemetery Belleau, France.

Detachment 1372, Sr. Vice, Art Chavez (left) and Commandant Harion Enervold (right) present Guest of Honor, General Peter Pace (16th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff) a Detachment Challenge Coin at the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation Dinner in Chicago. The Foundation offers each qualified child of a Marine or Navy Corpsman who has been KIA, or has been severely injured in service to our nation, the means to pursue their academic dreams after high school.

Glen Borvansky, Charter member and Sgt. at Arms of Detachment 1372, received the 2016 Congressional Veteran Commendation from Congressman, Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) Glen served in Vietnam 1969-70, with the 1st MarDiv.
PDD Randy Ott of the Melvin M. Smith Det. 586, Spokane, WA, presented Matthew Naccarato (left) and Garrett LaRue (right) Good Citizenship certificates and USA Flags for jobs well done. Garret’s Father, William, Jr., is an associate member; and his Grandfather, William LaRue, served from 1956-1959 and is an active member in Idaho’s Silver Valley Det #1060. Way to keep leadership in the family!

Left to right: Melvin M. Smith Det. #586 Commandant Jim Brown; Eagle Scouts: Josh Rowley, Dylan Schmidt, John Rowley, Noah Berndt, Seth Shryock and Randy Ott in the Millwood Presbyterian Church, Millwood, WA. The Scouts were presented with Good Citizenship certificates and USA Flags for jobs well done. Troop 430 supports many of our Memorial Day Ceremonies and Veterans events as isle escorts and color guard presentations.

On October 21, 2016, the Centex Detachment of the Marine Corps League presented a good citizenship award to the Holiday Inn Midtown for their daily flying of the flag. General Manager Tom Breen accepted the award during a brief ceremony in front of the property on a beautiful sunny day in Austin. Several hotel staff members attended the presentation and were reminded that the 33rd anniversary of the Beirut Marine barracks bombing was fast approaching, in just 2 days. Mindful of the sacrifice of those brave Marines, all present will not soon forget this day. Left to right: Marines Christian Hunker, Bob Campos, Joel Araguze, Hal Wright and Deb Deluca.

Clearwater Threshers Baseball Team donation to Department of Florida MCL, Injured Warriors Fund Event. Date: September 3, 2016; Location: Clearwater, FL; $1895 donated to DoF MCL Injured Warriors Fund.

Pictured: Clearwater Threshers Mascot, Phinley, DoF Commandant, Ron Ashley, DoF Past Commandant, Bill Cona, DoF Sr. Vice Commandant, George LaMont, DoF Adjutant, John Marsh, Sr.
On September 18, 2016, members of the West Hudson Detachment Color Guard lead the 35th Annual John Basilone Memorial Parade in Raritan, NJ.


On September 18, 2016, members of the West Hudson Detachment Color Guard lead the 35th Annual John Basilone Memorial Parade in Raritan, NJ.

Terrell Detachment 1338, Memorial Day 2016 at Veterans Garden, Terrell, TX. Honor Guard Presentation (left to right): Honor Guard Commander Bob Petka, Hugh Wilson, Jr. Vice, Frank Laywell Sgt. at Arms and Andre Richardson.

Bill Davis (left), national executive director and CEO of the Young Marines with Joe Lusignan (right), drug demand reduction resource officer for the Young Marines with a group of youth members of the Young Marines holding the Fulcrum Shield award in the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon on Thursday, October 13, 2016.
On September 18, 2016, members of the West Hudson Detachment Color Guard lead the 35th Annual John Basilone Memorial Parade in Raritan, NJ. Bill Davis (left), national executive director and CEO of the Young Marines with Joe Lusignan (right), drug demand reduction resource officer for the Young Marines with a group of youth members of the Young Marines holding the Fulcrum Shield award in the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon on Thursday, October 13, 2016.


Patriot Detachment members John Frain and John Koutsouros raise the flag during a ceremony at the September 11th Northampton Days Festival.

Patriot Detachment members set up a booth at the September 11th Northampton Days Festival. Left to right: Pete Palestina, Neil Clark, Lonny Washington, John Frain and Gus Cales.

Members of the Burbank MCL Detachment 072 and their Auxiliary Unit, along with members from Illinois’s MODD Chicago Pound 12, held a combined organization’s Picnic on September 4, 2016, at the Worth Park District Picnic Grounds located at 7425 w. 115th in Worth, IL. Left to right: New Devil Dogs: (seated in wheel chair) Gray Cobbett, Victoria Cobbett, Don Tomich, Victor Mugica, Kennel CDD C.O. Smith, (seated) PDD Mike Malmstrom and to far right Illinois Pack Leader PDD Greg Baker.

President Ronald Reagan Detachment #597, Simi Valley, CA. Had another successful 2015 Christmas Toys for Tots collection effort. Members collected over 6,500 toys, including 15 bicycles. We are looking forward to the 2016 Christmas season! From left to right: Setting Don “Buggsey” Ansel, Keith Walker, Ramon Arevalo, Dillon Parker, Ken “doc” Honaker, Fausto Galvan, “Santa” Bob Martinez, Jennifer Walker, Kreiz (young marine), John Mitchell (Toys for Tots coordinator), Robin Hutton and Chris Segoviano.

Roll Call Around the League
The Young Marines, a national youth organization, received a $50,000 donation from GLOCK on Saturday, September 24, 2016, at the GLOCK Annual Shoot & Gunny Challenge XII in Griffin, GA.

Larry Brown, second from left, receives the Detachment Marine of the Year Award for Leland D. “Crow” Crawford Detachment 956 of Elkins, WV, during the Detachment’s annual U.S. Marine Corps birthday dinner on November 10, 2016. Brown’s achievements include serving in honor guard details for more than 1,000 military funerals; spearheading the naming of more than 20 local bridges in memory of veterans killed in action in Vietnam; and serving three years as co-chairman for the Toys for Tots program in two counties. Former MOY recipients participating in the award ceremony from left: Past Detachment Commandant Charles Ranew, Department of West Virginia Junior Past Commandant Roger Ware, Detachment Senior Vice Commandant Harvey Gum and Paymaster Roy Wood.

Patriot Detachment members prepare to start the September 11th Northampton Days Parade. Left to right: Neil Clark, John Frain, John Koutsouras and Staff Sgt. Lonny Washington.

MCL Ball 2016—SgtMaj. Carlton Kent with Commandant Don McCarty receiving his gift—a carving of himself.
The Young Marines, a national youth organization, received a $50,000 donation from GLOCK on Saturday, September 24, 2016, at the GLOCK Annual Shoot & Gunny Challenge XII in Griffin, GA.

**Roll Call Around the League**

Patriot Detachment members prepare to start the September 11th Northampton Days Parade.

**Left to right:** Neil Clark, John Frain, John Koutsouros and Staff Sgt. Lonny Washington.

Larry Brown, second from left, receives the Detachment Marine of the Year Award for Leland D. "Crow" Crawford Detachment 956 of Elkins, WV, during the Detachment’s annual U.S. Marine Corps birthday dinner on November 10, 2016. Brown’s achievements include serving in honor guard details for more than 1,000 military funerals; spearheading the naming of more than 20 local bridges in memory of veterans killed in action in Vietnam; and serving three years as co-chairman for the Toys for Tots program in two counties.

Former MOY recipients participating in the award ceremony from left: Past Detachment Commandant Charles Ranew, Department of West Virginia Junior Past Commandant Roger Ware, Detachment Senior Vice Commandant Harvey Gum and Paymaster Roy Wood.

**MCL Ball 2016—SgtMaj. Carlton Kent with Commandant Don McCarty receiving his gift—a carving of himself.**

Memorial Day presentation at Veterans Memorial in Terrell, TX, by Terrell Detachment 1338. Left to right: Commandant Jerry Persall and Sr. Vice Cheyrl Mobley.

The Marines of Mortars 2/12 reunion this year was held in St. Augustine, FL, just in time for hurricane Matthew! Our reunion was cut short by a couple of days but was great for the short time we had. We all served in Vietnam during the time period of 1967 to 1970. Our Battery did numerous helicopter assaults all over Vietnam but spent a lot of the time defending Firebase “Conthien,” located on the DMZ. Back row, left to right: Bob Hancox, Bill Sage, Morrie Deets, Jack Briley, Bob Effrig, Pete Dam, Rodney Button and Earl Bird. Front row, left to right: Mike (Doc) Mallach, Art Chesley, Capt. Sandy Patterson, Steve Cromwell, Moe Garcia, Henry Ortiz and Rick Hughes.
Once a Marine, Always a Marine

November 2016 General Meeting. The Northwest Suburban Marines Corps League Detachment #080, Arlington Heights, IL, presented a check for $5,000.00, along with many boxes of toys to active duty Marines from Chicago’s 2nd Battalion/24th Marines to help with this year’s Toys for Tots program!

MCL Ball 2016 hosted by MCL Det. 186 Greater Nevada. Head Table—Standing left to right: Paul Bowen, Jennifer Flaig, Carlton Kent, Mike Lamb, Ed Konieczka, RADM Kathleen Durossault, Brig Gen Jeannie Levitt, Craig Levitt, Don McCarty, Brig Gen Joe Heck, Lisa Heck, Mark Stevens and Tanya Stere; Seated left to right: Elizabeth Kent and Caryl McCarty.

Anderson-Jordan Detachment 1078 provide cookies, coffee and juice to the patients entering the VA medical center in Memphis on December 1, 2016—members Anick Wallace, John Kingsley and Julian Lindley. Yuriy Zmysly (in wheelchair) with his Service Dog (Brando).

Fox Valley Marines Detachment 1233 getting set for Veterans Day in Aurora, IL. Al Scott Robert Thornton Gold Star Associate, A. Aureliano and Steve Rashkow.

On October 16, 2016, members of the West Hudson Detachment install their officers for the 2017 fiscal year.

November 2016 General Meeting. The Northwest Suburban Marines Corps League Detachment #080, Arlington Heights, IL, presented a check for $5,000.00, along with many boxes of toys to active duty Marines from Chicago’s 2nd Battalion/24th Marines to help with this year’s Toys for Tots program!
The Burbank MCL Detachment 072 members celebrated the 241st Marine Corps Birthday on November 13, 2016, at the Garden Chalet Banquet Hall in Worth, IL. A great time was had by all. Marine’s assembled on the dance floor to sign our favorite song. Joining in to help sing the Marine Corps Hymn was member Cpl. Yuriy Zmysly (in wheel chair) with his Service Dog (Brando).

Anderson-Jordan Detachment 1078 provide cookies, coffee and juice to the patients entering the VA medical center in Memphis on December 1, 2016—members Anick Wallace, John Kingsley and Julian Lindley. Yuriy Zmysly (in wheel chair) with his Service Dog (Brando).

Fox Valley Marines Detachment 1233 getting set for Veterans Day in Aurora, IL. Al Scott Robert Thornton Gold Star Associate, A. Aureliano and Steve Rashkow.
On December 17, 2016, Central Wisconsin Detachment 350 met at Trigs Grocery in Stevens Point, WI, to load and distribute Food Baskets for Needy Veterans and Families. Food baskets and monetary gifts worth $3,000 were purchased to carry out our mission. Needed items were distributed to Veterans, Operation Boot Strap and needy families in Central Wisconsin. From left to right: Marines assisting—Stan Olejniczak, Dan Johnson, Stan Potocki, Jim Olejniczak, Ron Borski, Julian Sonnentag, Jerry Wojcik, Bill Nuck, Ray Potocki, Bob Pallen, Trigs Grocery Manager Jim Szymanski and Bob Wnuk kneeling in front.

On November 3, 2016, the Lt. John Paul Bobo Detachment 1118 Color Guard was asked to be present for a veterans’ appreciation ceremony at the North Gate Nursing Home. The event was also covered by Channel 7’s AM Buffalo. Front row from left to right: North Gate staff member, Dennis Eggers U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran, Judy Ogden North Gate Activity Director and interviewer Jon Summers from Channel 7’s AM Buffalo. Back row left to right: Lt. Bobo Detachment Color Guard Members Chaplain John Attanasio, Honor Guard Chairman Bill Talarico, Sr. Vice Rick Downs, Dick Bird and Commandant Kingsley Chandler.

December 17, 2016, CW02 Robert Amacker celebrated his 104th birthday. He was born December 17, 1912, and served 40 years in the Corps. He guarded the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia for 25 years and has received several commendations, including a commendation letter from President Truman. Pictured here along with CW02 Amacker is Commandant David Niemann, Northwest Arkansas Detachment #854, on the right and Junior Past Commandant Jay Adams on the left.

On November 3, 2016, the Lt. John Paul Bobo Detachment 1118 Color Guard was asked to be present for a veterans’ appreciation ceremony at the North Gate Nursing Home. The event was also covered by Channel 7’s AM Buffalo. Front row from left to right: North Gate staff member, Dennis Eggers U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran, Judy Ogden North Gate Activity Director and interviewer Jon Summers from Channel 7’s AM Buffalo. Back row left to right: Lt. Bobo Detachment Color Guard Members Chaplain John Attanasio, Honor Guard Chairman Bill Talarico, Sr. Vice Rick Downs, Dick Bird and Commandant Kingsley Chandler.
LEGISLATIVE REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, BOB BECKER

We have a new President (Commander-in-Chief) We the people of this great nation have to work together for the betterment for all. Let’s all work TOGETHER to support legislation that will help our veterans, military, national security and families make our nation the greatest in the world.

Issues we are supporting:

1. **Defense Budget**: DoD budget that is at least five (5) percent of the Gross Domestic Product to ensure adequate funding for both personnel and weapons programs.

2. **Active Duty Pay**: Secure annual active duty pay increases that are at least equal to the Employment Cost Index.

3. **Blue Water Support**: Seek to reverse the VA’s policy that prevents “blue water” military retirees and veterans from claiming disability benefits for diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War.

4. **Department of Veterans’ Affairs Funding**: Support initiatives to help ensure adequate funding for Department of Veterans Affairs.

5. **Support** meaningful claims and appeals processing reform.

6. **Oppose** any recommendations by any commission to reduce or eliminate benefits for disabled veterans.

7. **Caregiver**: Today, only veterans severely injured on or after September 11, 2001, are eligible for comprehensive VA caregiver support and services. Congress must pass legislation to expand the eligibility for VA’s Caregiver Support Program to veterans of **ALL ERAS**!

8. **Commission on Care for Veterans**: After 10+ months of public hearings, investigation, work, discussion and deliberation, the Congressionally created Commission on Care issued its final report on how the nation should transform veterans’ health care—
   a. Establishing high-performing, integrated, community-based health care networks;
   b. Credentialing community providers to ensure appropriate education, training and experience;
   c. Retaining existing VA specialty care resources and expertise in fields like spinal cord injury, blind rehabilitation, mental health care and prosthetics;
   d. Ensuring coordination of care and providing support for veterans;
   e. Allowing veterans to choose primary care providers and/or specialty care providers in the VHA care system;
   f. Improving data collection and management; and
   g. Establishing a leadership succession strategy and management system.

Let’s hope our Congressional leaders can fulfill the above issues.

We as members of the Marine Corps League support the League legislative agenda and need your help to stop the downsizing of our military, veterans’ benefits cuts, VA backlog, COLA, defending military reductions for retirees, health care equity, active duty compensation fairness, Strong National Defense, women veterans and funding as well as many other issues in Congress that will have some effect on all veterans, our military and their families. Also take the time to contact your Congressional leaders, and state leaders to let them know your concerns and to let them know the message; ask them to support our issues. You can make a difference in our nation. Your help is needed. Thank you!
ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

DIVISION REPORTS

Marines with U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific and members of the Marine Corps League gather after a ceremony at Barber’s Point Golf Course in Kapolei, Hawaii, Dec. 6, 2016. The commemoration was to honor the four Marines killed in the attack at Marine Corps Air Station Ewa Dec. 7, 1941 during the attack on Pearl Harbor and Oahu. The U.S. military and the State of Hawaii are hosting a series of remembrance events to honor the courage and sacrifices of Pacific Theater veterans. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew Casbarro)

ARKANAS
LAFAYETTE E. WILSON

ALABAMA
ROBERT DOBBS
ROBERT GILLILAND
NATHAN E. SMITH
GEORGE C. DAVIDSON
DUSTIN A. WOOD

CALIFORNIA
RICHARD A. PITTMAN
ALBERT F. KESSLER
NICK DEZAPARKANSZKY
KENNETH J. GOULARDT
HUGH O’BRIAN
ROBERT M. MASON
RICHARD M. PETTERSON
MAURICE M. MILAM
RICHARD H. SNYDER
DAVID J. HAWKINS
EDWARD H. DODGE
DONALD D. ULLUM
JAMES E. SULLIVAN
JAMES S. ROBINSON
MICHAEL C. MCQUEEN
LEROY E. SCHWAB

DELWARE
JAMES L. THOMPSON

FLORIDA
LAWRENCE E. HOFFMAN
KING HELIE
JOSEPH A. CONDON
ALBERT C. BILGER
NEVILLE L. ANDERSON
EUGENE A. MAKOWSKI
ALBERT R. BARNES
DAVE BLACKMER
DONALD L. KEEFE
WILLIAM MCKILLOP
FRANK L. HERRINGTON

GEORGIA
GEORGE B. LAVINDER
PAUL J. MINEHAN
JOHN R. BURNS
RONALD B. JOHNSON
WENTWORTH X. DURKEE
DAVID S. ALDRICH
JAMES D. HAMMOND
MELVAN E. HAWKINS

HAWAII
RALPH BULGER

IOWA
LEE D. FOSS

IDAHO
HOWARD BERGE

ILLINOIS
PAUL R. MEYER
JOSEPH F. CATALANELLO
WILLIAM R. DOTSON
EDWARD D. MAUER
CLYDE W. JENNINGS
PAUL G. KOSIENIAK
MATTHEW J. HEFFERNAN
LOVIE C. COLLINS
ERNEST D. BRANNON
STEPHEN HLAVACH
LE ROY HANSCH
HARRY L. HENDRICKS

INDIANA
ROBERT WAGNER
DON E. MILLER
WALLACE K. MASSENGILL
WILLIAM E. OSBORN
The commemoration was to honor the four Marines killed in the attack at Marine Corps Air Station Ewa Dec. 7, 1941 during the attack on Pearl Harbor and Oahu. The

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

KANSAS
GERALD BRAUN
LEE E. REYNOLDS
PATRICK A. O’MALLEY
RICHARD W. HINRICHs
NANCY SPOOR
FRANK P. BEGLEY
FRED E. MILLER
BURTON D. BARKUS
JIM DENTON
VERNON OSBORN

MISSISSIPPI
FRANK S. CANNON
RONALD B. HOWARD
ANDREW R. RUSHING
ROBERT TUCKER

MISSOURI
PAUL PRIMAS
THORWALD L. NELSON
WILLIAM H. GODBEY
THEODORE WILLIAMS
THOMAS J. O’TOOLE

MONTANA
WILLIAM D. STEPHANI
PAUL F. GOLDSBY

NEW JERSEY
RAYMOND P. VENTI
EDWARD F. PFLUGI
WILLIAM J. BARRETT
BARNEY STOPSKY
JOHN M. KELLY
VICTOR CAPIAGHI
JOHN GUNThER
FRED J. ACQUAVITA
RICHARD H. GILBERT
RICHARD J. MILLER
MARVIN O. WRSLEY
THOMAS A. PHELAN
HERBERT H. KEARNS
PAUL E. WINTERS
ROBERT R. FITCH
WILLIAM LUPINACCI
ROBERT C. CROSSON
TERRY J. WESNER
BARBARA RESTELLI
LAWRENCE B. DIJOSEPH

NEW MEXICO
DARRELL L. HOWARTH
WILLIAM W. GOFF
DENNIS J. VANCE

NEVADA
ROGER C. KRAUSE

NEW YORK
DAWES L. DUNHAM
DAVID W. HOLLENBAUGH
DURWARD DOSTIE
JOHN BRODY
WOODROW R. FREY
WALTER J. REYNOLDS
RALPH P. BROWN
JOSEPH J. BRUNETT
ROY E. ALLBRIGHT
THOMAS W. LUCAS
ANTHONY R. COOKE
ART FERRARA
GEORGE BEVERBACH
JOHN VOLOSHIN
WILLIAM LENZI
EUGENE E. WHITEHEAD
ROBERT M. LINGENFELTER
BOB SCHUSTER
THADDEUS PIECZYNSKI
JOSEPH P. MURPHY
HENRY R. WENZEL
FRANCIS E. BELL
RONALD J. JONES
JIM HATCH
WILLIAM BRONKS
BENJAMIN CIRIGLIANO
JACK F. SPRINGER
THOMAS C. WOODHULL

OHIO
IVOR PETERS
JAMES KISHLER
RICHARD J. SVENTECK
RALPH H. WARD
ELMER L. STEVES
EDWARD J. BRUMBAUGH
RALPH E. WISCHMEYER
NICHOLAS S. BERENT
LOREN S. DRURY
RONALD D. HUMBERT
WILLIAM H. GODBEY
DENNY J. AULT

OKLAHOMA
CARL R. CHRISTIE

OREGON
ARTHUR R. MASSEY
J. EUGENE BARTLEY
JERRY D. REEVES

PENNSYLVANIA
ERNEST R. WALKER
CHARLES E. MCCANN
ALAN MORRIS
FRANK A. MAYER
DONALD KUSHNER
PETER L. SABAT
JAMES A. BINKLEY
F. DONALD WARNER
ROBERT L. WILLIAMS
RODNEY R. SPENCER
SHIRLEY HERRON
REED M. MAY

SOUTH CAROLINA
HAROLD B. WRIGHT
GUY G. HAFF
MARGORY ANN PALMER

SOUTH DAKOTA
ROBERT J. MOBERG, II

TENNESSEE
DALE M. QUILLEN
LAWRENCE R. HALL

TEXAS
W. R. CRIM
LAVELL WILLIAMS
HAVARD R. FRY
WALTER J. DIDION

VIRGINIA
WESLEY E. BOWER
DEWITT DOERRBECKER
ALBERT R. GASSEr
CHARLES E. SEYFARTH II
ERNST J. LUTZ
WILLIAM BLANKENSHIP
LARRY V. BOWLES

WISCONSIN
JOE A. MEDINA

WEST VIRGINIA
DELMER P. GIBSON
FRED W. WYATT II

WYOMING
RICHARD MOYER
EVENT CALENDAR 2017

**Marine West Exhibition**  
February 1-2, 2017  
Camp Pendleton, CA  
www.marinemilitaryexpos.com

**Budget Meeting**  
March 1, 2017  
MCL National Headquarters  
Stafford, VA

**Mid-Winter Conference**  
March 2-4, 2017  
Fredericksburg, VA  
www.mclnational.org

**Northeast Division Conference**  
March 23-25, 2017  
Galloway, NJ  
www.northeastdivmcleague.org

**Central Division Conference**  
March 23-26, 2017  
Richmond, IN  
www.mclecentdiv.net

**Southern Division Conference**  
March 24-25, 2017  
Tyler, TX

**Southeast Division Conference**  
March 30-April 1, 2017  
Mobile, AL  
www.sediv.org

**Marine South Exhibition**  
April 12-13, 2017  
Camp Lejeune, NC  
www.marinemilitaryexpos.com

**Midwest Division Conference**  
April 21–23, 2017  
Beatrice, NE  
www.midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org

**New England Division Conference**  
April 21-23, 2017  
Newport, RI  
www.nedivisionmcleague.org

**Mideast Division Conference**  
June 23-25, 2017  
Durham, NC  
www.mclmideast.com

**National Convention**  
August 13–18, 2017  
Overland Park, KS  
www.2017mclnationalconvention.com

**Northwest Division Conference**  
September 8–9, 2017  
Spokane Valley, WA  
www.mclnwdivision.org

**Modern Day Marine Exhibition**  
September 19-21, 2017  
Quantico, VA  
www.marinemilitaryexpos.com

**93rd Anniversary Tour Raffle**

In 2017, the Marine Corps League and Military Historical Tours will be giving away two Grand Prizes: Individual Free Tour to anywhere MCL’s tour partner (Military Historical Tours) travels. You need not be present to win. Winners will be notified within three days of the Mid-Winter Conference Banquet. Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554. You may buy as many tickets as you like. Please feel free to make additional copies of these raffle tickets if you wish to purchase additional chances!
2017 BATTLEFIELD TOUR RAFFLE:
THE MCL GEARS UP FOR THE MARCH DRAWING!

In 2017, the Marine Corps League and Military Historical Tours (www.mltours.com) will again offer the battlefield tour of a lifetime to two lucky League members as the grand prizes in the League’s 93rd Anniversary Tour Raffle.

These trips span the globe and military history: the 73rd anniversary of D-Day, the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War (Oak To 1967), and the 75th anniversary of Midway and Pearl Harbor, as well as exotic trips to Israel, Burma, Spain and many more! See the list below for a complete lineup.

Everyone who enters lends their support to League programs including Marines Helping Marines, Legislative Programs, Toys for Tots and more.

Raffle tickets cost $5 per single entry or five tickets for just $20! That’s right, the more you buy, the more you save and the more you help the League. The drawing will be held at our annual Mid-Winter Conference Banquet in March 2017.

You do not need to be present to win. Winners will be notified within three days of drawing if they are not present, and arrangements will be made with Military Historical Tours for selection of their tour prize.

Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554. You may buy as many tickets as you like. Please feel free to make additional copies of these raffle tickets if you wish to purchase additional chances!

2017/18 MCL RAFFLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 – 27 Mar</td>
<td>72nd Anniversary Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor – Guam WWII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 – 20 Apr</td>
<td>50th Anniversary of the Hill Fights I-Corps – Khe Sanh Cbt Base - 1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 – 27 Apr</td>
<td>Turkey – WWI Gallipoli Campaign &amp; ANZAC Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Apr – 3 May</td>
<td>Israel Military &amp; Cultural History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Apr – 12 May</td>
<td>50th Anniv of Op Junction City War Zone \ C II-III-IV Corps “Saigon to the DMZ”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 – 30 May</td>
<td>100th Anniversary of WWI American Battlefields – 1917 “The Yanks Are Coming!”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 May – 9 Jun</td>
<td>73rd Anniversary of D-Day: “The Longest Day” Normandy to Paris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 – 13 Jul</td>
<td>50th Anniversary of Operations Union I/II &amp; Buffalo - I-Corps 1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 – 28 Jul</td>
<td>50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War “Delta to the DMZ”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

93RD ANNIVERSARY TOUR RAFFLE

Two Grand Prizes: Individual Free Tour to anywhere MCL’s tour partner (Military Historical Tours) travels. Tours include the 75th anniversary of Midway & Pearl Harbor, 100th Anniversary of USMC World War I Battlefields, 50th Anniversary of the Tet Offensive and many more!

$5 per entry or 5 entries for $20

You need not be present to win. Drawing will occur at the March 2017 Mid-Winter Conference Banquet. Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to: Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

93RD ANNIVERSARY TOUR RAFFLE

Two Grand Prizes: Individual Free Tour to anywhere MCL’s tour partner (Military Historical Tours) travels. Tours include the 75th anniversary of Midway & Pearl Harbor, 100th Anniversary of USMC World War I Battlefields, 50th Anniversary of the Tet Offensive and many more!

$5 per entry or 5 entries for $20

You need not be present to win. Drawing will occur at the March 2017 Mid-Winter Conference Banquet. Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to: Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

93RD ANNIVERSARY TOUR RAFFLE

Two Grand Prizes: Individual Free Tour to anywhere MCL’s tour partner (Military Historical Tours) travels. Tours include the 75th anniversary of Midway & Pearl Harbor, 100th Anniversary of USMC World War I Battlefields, 50th Anniversary of the Tet Offensive and many more!

$5 per entry or 5 entries for $20

You need not be present to win. Drawing will occur at the March 2017 Mid-Winter Conference Banquet. Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to: Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

93RD ANNIVERSARY TOUR RAFFLE

Two Grand Prizes: Individual Free Tour to anywhere MCL’s tour partner (Military Historical Tours) travels. Tours include the 75th anniversary of Midway & Pearl Harbor, 100th Anniversary of USMC World War I Battlefields, 50th Anniversary of the Tet Offensive and many more!

$5 per entry or 5 entries for $20

You need not be present to win. Drawing will occur at the March 2017 Mid-Winter Conference Banquet. Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to: Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

93RD ANNIVERSARY TOUR RAFFLE

Two Grand Prizes: Individual Free Tour to anywhere MCL’s tour partner (Military Historical Tours) travels. Tours include the 75th anniversary of Midway & Pearl Harbor, 100th Anniversary of USMC World War I Battlefields, 50th Anniversary of the Tet Offensive and many more!

$5 per entry or 5 entries for $20

You need not be present to win. Drawing will occur at the March 2017 Mid-Winter Conference Banquet. Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to: Marine Corps League, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554.
ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

2017/18 MCL RAFFLE

30 Jul – 12 Aug  75th Anniversary of WWII Operation Watchtower - Guadalcanal
19 Aug – 1 Sep  50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War - Dak To 1967
2 – 14 Sep  50th Anniversary of Operation Swift I-Corps 1967
9 – 20 Sep  Spain - Military & Cultural History Exploration
14 – 27 Sep  All of Ireland for WWII U.S. Marines, Soldiers & Sailors
29 Oct – 8 Nov  Israel Military & Cultural History
11 – 18 Nov  Burma 75th Anniversary of Japanese Invasion & Capture of Mandalay
2 – 8 Dec  75th Anniversary of Midway & Pearl Harbor – 1942
2 – 13 Dec  Vietnam Holiday Tour
29 Jan – 10 Feb  ’18 50th Anniversary of Tet Offensive, Battle of Hue & Operation Houston
2 – 12 Feb  ’18 75th Anniversary of Operation Watchtower - Guadalcanal
19 – 26 Mar  ’18 73rd Anniversary Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor - Guam
7 – 19 Apr  ’18 50th Anniversary of Operation Pegasus I-Corps – Khe Sanh Cbt Base - 1968
21 Apr – 3 May  ’18 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Dai Do & I-Corps
28 Apr – 11 May  ’18 50th Anniversary Operations Resolve To Win & Toan Thang I/II Saigon to the DMZ
25 May – 3 Jun  ’18 Devil Dog Exclusive 100th Anniversary of WWI American Battlefields – 1918
27 May – 9 Jun  ’18 74th Anniversary of D-Day: Normandy to Paris

You need not be present to win. Winner will be notified within three days of drawing if not present, and arrangements will be made for coordination with Military Historical Tours for selection of tour prize.

Clip coupon and return along with your check made payable to:
Marine Corps League, Inc.
3619 Jefferson Davis Highway
Suite 115
Stafford, VA 22554

You need not be present to win. Winner will be notified within three days of drawing if not present, and arrangements will be made for coordination with Military Historical Tours for selection of tour prize.

You need not be present to win. Winner will be notified within three days of drawing if not present, and arrangements will be made for coordination with Military Historical Tours for selection of tour prize.

You need not be present to win. Winner will be notified within three days of drawing if not present, and arrangements will be made for coordination with Military Historical Tours for selection of tour prize.

You need not be present to win. Winner will be notified within three days of drawing if not present, and arrangements will be made for coordination with Military Historical Tours for selection of tour prize.

You need not be present to win. Winner will be notified within three days of drawing if not present, and arrangements will be made for coordination with Military Historical Tours for selection of tour prize.
ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

2017/18 MCL RAFFLE

30 Jul – 12 Aug
75th Anniversary of WWII Operation Watchtower – Guadalcanal

19 Aug – 1 Sep
50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War - Dak To 1967

2 – 14 Sep
50th Anniversary of Operation Swift I-Corps 1967

9 – 20 Sep
Spain - Military & Cultural History Exploration

14 – 27 Sep
All of Ireland for WWII U.S. Marines, Soldiers & Sailors

29 Oct – 8 Nov
Israel Military & Cultural History

11 – 18 Nov
Burma 75th Anniversary of Japanese Invasion & Capture of Mandalay

2 – 8 Dec
75th Anniversary of Midway & Pearl Harbor – 1942

2 – 13 Dec
Vietnam Holiday Tour

29 Jan – 10 Feb
'18 50th Anniversary of Tet Offensive, Battle of Hue & Operation Houston

2 – 12 Feb
'18 75th Anniversary of Operation Watchtower - Guadalcanal

19 – 26 Mar
'18 73rd Anniversary Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor – Guam

7 – 19 Apr
'18 50th Anniversary of Operation Pegasus I-Corps – Khe Sanh Cbt Base - 1968

21 Apr – 3 May
'18 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Dai Do & I-Corps Saigon to the DMZ

25 May – 3 Jun
'18 Devil Dog Exclusive 100th Anniversary of WWI American Battlefields – 1918

27 May – 9 Jun
'18 74th Anniversary of D-Day: Normandy to Paris

50% of all proceeds from the purchase of tickets to the 93rd Anniversary Tour Raffle go to support the Marine Corps League and the Marine Historical Tours.
USAA members saved an average of $3,443 through the USAA Car Buying Service.¹

Find your new or used car today.

USAA.COM/CARBUYING • 1-855-622-1775

¹ Between 1/1/15 and 12/31/15, the average estimated savings off MSRP presented by TrueCar Certified Dealers to users of the USAA Car Buying Service, based on users who configured virtual vehicles and subsequently purchased a new vehicle of the same make and model listed on the certificate from Certified Dealers, was $3,443, including applicable vehicle-specific manufacturer incentives. Your actual savings may vary based on multiple factors, including the vehicle you select, region, dealer and applicable vehicle-specific manufacturer incentives, which are subject to change. The Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) is determined by the manufacturer and may not reflect the price at which vehicles are generally sold in the dealer’s trade area as not all vehicles are sold at MSRP. Each dealer sets its own pricing. Your actual purchase price is negotiated between you and the dealer. Neither TrueCar nor USAA sells or leases motor vehicles. USAA Car Buying Service provided by TrueCar, Inc. USAA Bank receives marketing fees in connection with the Car Buying Service. The Marine Corps League receives financial support from USAA for this sponsorship. © 2016 USAA. 237897-0716