

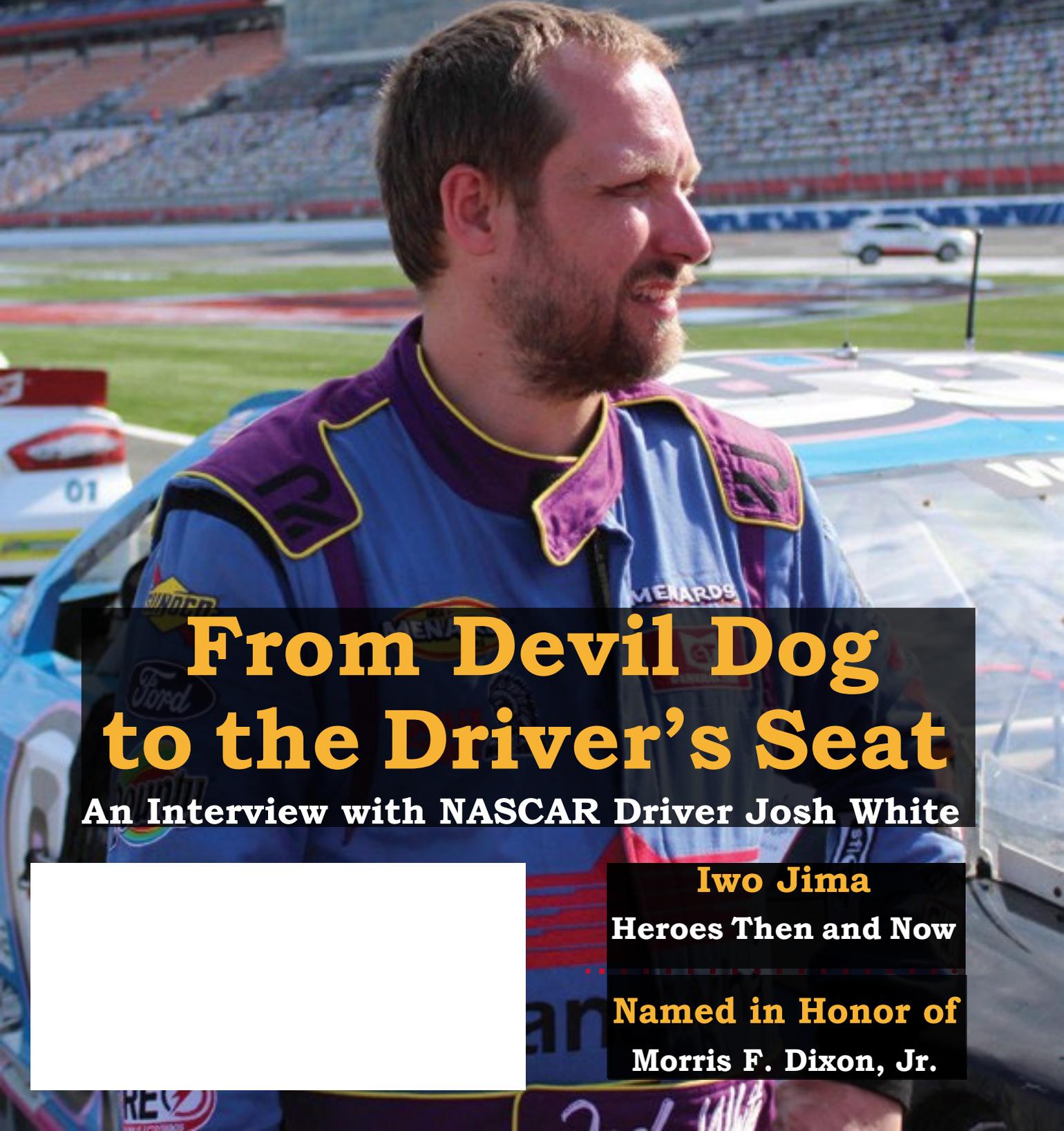
ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE

Vol. 78 No. 3 • SUMMER 2022

# SEMPER PARATI



The Magazine of the Marine Corps League



## From Devil Dog to the Driver's Seat

An Interview with NASCAR Driver Josh White

**Iwo Jima**

Heroes Then and Now

**Named in Honor of**

Morris F. Dixon, Jr.



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# SEMPER FI

The Magazine of the Marine Corps League



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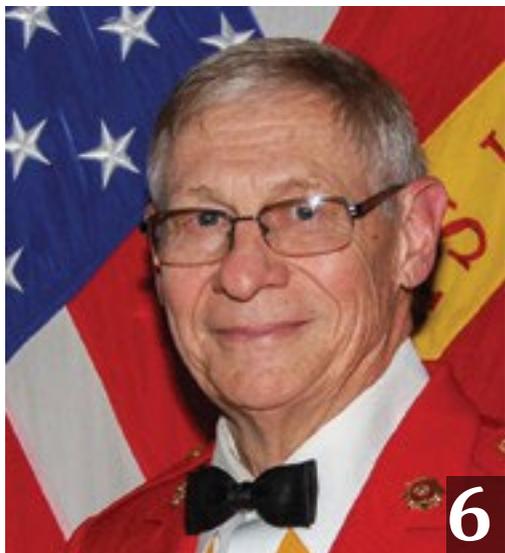
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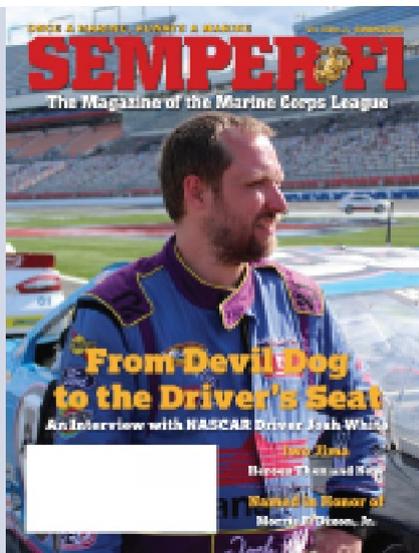
In *Semper Fi* volume 78 Issue 2, an article titled "The Quest for Extraordinary" credits General Alfred Mason Gray Jr. with establishing the "Crucible." This is incorrect. General Charles C. Krulak established the "Crucible." *Semper Fi* regrets the error.

Also, *Semper Fi* regrets and apologizes for the use of a fun, but unprofessional photograph of the chairperson of the Public Relations Committee in the same issue. A more professional image will be used in the future.

*Semper Fi* does not endorse any advertiser.



**ON THE COVER:**  
 From Devil Dog to the Driver's Seat, an interview with NASCAR driver Josh White.  
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Founded in 1923 by Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune ('LUH-jern'), the Marine Corps League is the only federally chartered Marine Corps-related veterans organization in the United States.



# NATIONAL COMMANDANT'S LETTER

JOHNNY B. BAKER

## Shoot, Move, & Communicate!



**MARINES:** The National Midwinter Conference in Norfolk, VA was a great event. A lot of information was passed, and the talent show was a huge success. We were very fortunate to have the Commander Marine Forces Reserve and Marine Forces South, Lt Gen David G. Bellon as our guest of honor. Also present was the Toys for Tots Foundation President & CEO, Lt. Gen. (Retired) James Laster, as well as Marine Corps Association President & CEO, Lt. Gen. (Retired) Charles Chiarotti. These exceptional leaders provided important information to our membership.

During my tours in artillery, "Shoot, Move, & Communicate" echoed in our minds many times. Shoot, Move, Communicate, meant that we must get the rounds quickly downrange, move to our next firing point, and then communicate and be ready for the next fire mission. But during this entire evolution, communication was the key to our success.

All aspects of Marine Corps artillery are driven with its ability to communicate. In today's Marine Corps League, communication is the key to our success, as well. Communication is defined as conveying knowledge or information; to make known; to share; and to transmit information, thought or feeling so that it is satisfactorily received.

How often do we attend a department convention or quarterly meeting, a division conference, or even the national convention and the information never gets back to the Marines in our detachment? Many detachments and departments send a representative to these conferences and conventions to represent the detachment. Often, the detachment or department may even cover the expenses of these representatives to attend. But my question is, what information was brought back and shared? We often hear of the good time and camaraderie that we shared at these events. But what about the information and knowledge that was passed?

Marines attending these conferences and conventions should return to their detachment and present an after-action report of what was passed, new rules and regulations, as well other important information. It should be their responsibility to communicate the knowledge that they learned back to the members that could not attend. Communication is the key to make our detachments and the Marine Corps League stronger. Please convey your learned knowledge or information to other members; make that information known to all members; share as much information that you possible can; and finally ensure that your members receive and understand the knowledge you are passing to them. It is all about communication!

Marines: I hope that you are preparing for your annual trip to the Marine Corps League's national convention in Daytona Beach, Florida. The Marines in Florida have been working hard to make this a memorable event. We hope that we will see you at the convention. We will pass valuable information that you can take back to your detachments and departments to SHARE!

**Semper Fi!**



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The Magazine of the Marine Corps League

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## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/COO

**BOB BORKA**

### As Things Get Tough, Look to Your MCL Family



**MARINES:** We constantly hear how COVID-19 has affected our lives. Now inflation is the bad word. Just as relevant and impacting as sickness, inflation is over 8% (in 2020 it was 1.23%). I am seeing changes in almost every facet of things we do. In booking travel to all the division conference, the flight cost has sharply risen. I believe the trips have been significantly beneficial and I have certainly appreciated the participation.

The trips to the post office and printer are certainly increasing. Postage is hitting us worse than anything. I am not even sure what percent to place on it, perhaps 500% increase in shipping costs. Things that used to cost \$1 to ship are now \$5, or more. While things are changing, we must continue to see how it impacts us.

Just when you think things are tough where you are, we see that others have it the same or worse. I thought gasoline in Virginia was expensive until I drove in California. I heard a saying recently: "The grass is green." Referring to the saying of grass being greener on the other side. At least the grass isn't brown, like where my dogs make head calls. These are my thoughts as I follow them with a bag in the morning.

With all the things happening in our lives, we do continue to have a constant. This is the Marine Corps League; and we are family. Not always cohesive, but still family. Remember that as we communicate with one another. From the Disney movie Lilo and Stitch, the character Stitch (a wild, crazy, and tactically effective, blue alien) says, "This is my family. I found it, all on my own. It's little, and broken, but still good. Yeah, still good." We had the help of a Marine Corps Recruiter to find the family. Perhaps my next tattoo will be Stitch holding our Eagle, Globe, and Anchor.

*Semper Fil*

## NATIONAL PR COMMITTEE

**VICTORIA McCOY**

### Tips for Online Communication

**MARINES:** When communicating on the internet, remember you are communicating with people and not computers or smartphones. Rules of etiquette are necessary on the internet – 'netiquette' is important to avoid consequences.



#### Stick to rules of conduct online

When communicating online, remember etiquette rules you follow in everyday life. Refrain from insulting, provoking, threatening or insulting others. Respect opinions and express constructive criticism. You can be prosecuted for cyber-bullying.

#### Netiquette: Think of the person

Think of the person behind the computer; you are communicating with real people, not with a machine. Consider what/how you write, the internet

*Continued Next Page*



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## PR COMMITTEE

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doesn't forget anything! It's easy for folks to grab a screen shot of a message posted which can still exist even if the message is deleted. Before posting, read through your response - check grammar, punctuation, spelling, and tone. Don't make the other person decipher poor grammar or fat thumbs. If grammar or spelling is your weakness, use spelling aids before posting the message.

### Present your best side

Online communication comes with certain anonymity, leading to lower thresholds for tolerance. Users will behave rudely if you disagree with them; people will leverage distant anonymity as opportunities to lash out. Don't fall into this trap and become a cyberbully. Show your best side online - remain friendly and respectful, even if you disagree. Refrain from posting with all capital letters – on the internet, this portrays shouting and is impolite.

### Internet Comment Etiquette

Treat other people with consideration and respect when commenting, whether it's on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, etc. What means one thing to you might mean something different to another. If you see videos or posts you don't agree with, keep scrolling. If the posts continue to make you uncomfortable, step away, unfriend or unfollow, for your own sanity.

### Online Etiquette for Chat Rooms or Facebook Groups

■ Ask Targeted Questions; but be sure to seek out an answer yourself first. This shows you're willing to do some research yourself and help narrow down your inquiry and ask a more specific question.



■ Don't post messages that you wouldn't be comfortable with all persons seeing.

■ It's likely that you will be providing feedback for inquiries. Strike a balance between being kind and being helpful. Offer constructive criticism that is encouraging and honest.

■ Stay on the topic of the post. It isn't the place to start talking about unrelated topics.

■ If someone helps you along your way, never miss the opportunity to follow up with a thanks of some kind.

■ A significant portion of online communication is non-verbal. People have less information about what tone you're using with the messages sent versus their abilities as face-to-face or phone call. If you want to say something positive, say it explicitly to avoid confusion. Try some magic words to inject civility in your written communication.

*Semper Fi!*

# Are You Ready?





**Mike & Kay Ross**  
Albert E. Shockey Detachment #960  
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## CHIEF DEVIL DOG

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# Woof, Woof to all Dogs of the Order!



“The Military Order of the Devil Dogs is the fun and honor society of the Marine Corps League.”

- From the MODD Handbook

**MARINES:** This will be my last Semper Fi Article as your Chief Devil Dog and it has been an amazing experience to serve the Order as your 59th CDD. I have seen the Order transition in many ways and we are in great paws for the future. Please remember that the Pound, like the Detachment in the MCL, is what the MODD is all about; you are the nucleus of our organization, and it is at the Pound level that our Order grows and prospers. As I've traveled across the country and attended the many department and divisions conventions and conferences, I find fewer and fewer MCL members that are not already Dogs but, there are still many who would make excellent Dogs if invited. I urge you to seek out those MCL members who do great things for our MCL and yet are not members of our Order. Remember, we grow by the Pound and any Pound that does not have Pups simply means they are not growing.

As we move into warmer months and the hustle and bustle of department and division conventions and conferences are taking place, please remember to have some fun as you meet in Growl assembly. Boring Growls just makes for bored Dogs and the desire to continue to return to those boring Growls decreases. Be creative in what you do, throw some fun in there.

I have enjoyed this past year so much because the Growls I've attended have been extremely fun and enjoyable and I see those Dogs in attendance laughing and having a great time. I can always tell how much fun they have by the number of Big Bones collected in fines and by the donations given to the Children's Hospital. Happy Dogs give more and believe me, what I've seen as of late sure proved that theory. I am so excited and looking forward to Daytona, I think we will have a huge turnout of Dogs and we will have lots of fun; hopefully, you've already registered on the MCL Website for the convention, and you have filled out the new registration for attending the Growl. This is the first time we will have a pre-registration for attending the Supreme Growl, there are no Bones committed, it is just an easier way to get some of the administrative work done as well as having a neat and accurate Devil Dog pre-made registration card. Once you've checked into National at the convention site, you simply take your credentials to the MODD registration site, your pre-made

card is attached to your credentials and you complete your check-in with the MODD. No more standing in a long line as you fill out your MODD registration card. That should make the Honorable Operations and Watch Dogs a bit happier.

I would like to take this time to thank all the MODD Kennel staff for their support, hard work and perseverance over the past few years. COVID really left its mark in our ranks. We have lost so many great Dogs so as we open-up what we are allowed to do, I urge you to GROW your Pounds and Packs. Don't forget to maintain your administrative requirements, filing your 990's and completing your states' requirements are so important. We have lost complete Packs due to lack of attention and it is so much easier to spend a few minutes to complete those requirements as opposed to hours and hours of time as well as hundreds if not thousands of Big Bones paid out in order to correct something so easily done to start with.

Thank you again for your support, for all the great Growls I've attended, for the thousands of Big Bones collected for your local charities as well as for our Children's Hospital fundraiser. This year we will present another huge check to the Children's Hospital, and it is all because of your hard work and dedication. Missouri Pack, you Rule! Thank you so much for what you've done this year and to all the Packs and Pounds that have contributed so much over the past 3 years...I am so proud to be able to represent you as those checks are presented to the hospitals where the National Convention takes place. Keep up the great work. Please remember our Veterans and remember the many of our deployed service members and show it by wearing your remember everyone deployed (RED) shirts on Fridays. Remember to thank a Veteran for their service to our great nation.

I want to also thank you for the many tons of pet food and pet supplies that you have donated to your local animal shelters. You do make a huge difference and your support of our four-legged brothers and sisters are just as incredible as your support of those children in hospitals across the country. God bless you all and thank you for these three years of fun and honor. It has been an honor to serve you and to represent you; it truly is an honor to be a Devil Dog!

**Semper Woof!**



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Semper FI!  
Scott Westervelt  
Commandant



Iwo Jima Memorial at Foster Park in Young Harris, GA.

# Iwo Jima - Heroes Then and Now

By Alton “Doc” Coleman  
Commandant, MCL Unicoi Detachment 783

On Monday, 21 February 2022, the Marine Corps League’s Unicoi Detachment 783, hosted a remembrance ceremony commemorating the 77th anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima. The centerpiece of this annual observance was a steel and stone sculpture honoring those who returned from Iwo Jima and those who gave the last full measure. Two special guests were honored, the late Navy Chief Petty Officer Clarence “Bud” Johnson, for his 33 years of service to his country, and the late Woodrow Sanders, U.S. Army, who’s artillery unit made the initial landing on Iwo Jima with the Marines. A memorial wreath was presented to honor them and



Left, MCL Detachment 783 Commandant Alton “Doc” Coleman, right, MCL National Commandant Johnny Baker.

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Custom styling includes gray poly wool exterior with mahogany brown faux leather accents throughout, and sturdy metal feet. When not in use, it folds flat for easy storing.

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**01-32181-001-E26401**



From left, Dept. of GA Commandant Larry Heard, Department of GA JVC Rex Delk, Department of GA JVC Lisa Delk, National Commandant Johnny Baker, NVC SED Jerry Holt, Department of SC Commandant Jim Stone, and Detachment 783 Commandant Alton "Doc" Coleman.



Honor Guard presenting the Iwo Jima Memorial Wreath.

those who served in the battle, followed by a moment of silence.

Bud Johnson enlisted in the United States Navy on 14 June 1939 at the age of 17. On 23 February 1945, while standing watch on the quarterdeck of the USS Silverstein, he witnessed the raising of the American flag atop of Mount Suribachi. As the American flag replaced that of Japan's, the Pacific Fleet, some 450-plus ships, began sounding their whistles and horns. It was a moment that would remain with him for the rest of his life.

Bud Johnson passed away on 1 January 2021, at the age of 99. In the wake of his passing, he left behind an everlasting gift. According to local resident, USCG

veteran Scott Drummond, sometime around 2012, Bud began holding Iwo Jima luncheons at local restaurants each February. He would create flyers for the event and post them all around Towns County. He would invite members of the various veteran service organizations to attend. Camaraderie was at hand while war stories were shared, short speeches were given, and prayers were said. Eventually the response to these events gave rise for Bud to approach (then) County Commissioner Bill Kendall with an idea; Towns County should erect an Iwo Jima Memorial. A committee was formed, meetings were conducted, and on 11 September 2015, Bill Kendall commissioned local artist and kinetic sculptor

Al Garnto to create a memorial depicting the flag raising atop of Mt Suribachi. The steel and stone memorial was dedicated in ceremony on 11 November 2015 at Foster Park in Young Harris, GA. It is believed to be the only one of its kind in the state. Since then, the ceremony is carried out each year in grand fashion. Special guest speakers and dignitaries are invited, citizens from Towns and Union County are present and those who served in the battle are remembered.

For the 77th Anniversary of the epic battle, MCL National Commandant

Johnny Baker, NVC Southeast Division Jerry Holt, Department of Georgia Commandant Larry Heard, and Department of South Carolina Commandant Jim Stone were in attendance. In addition, numerous veterans from all branches, and members of various veteran service organizations from Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama were present.

During his opening remarks, Commandant Baker noted that it was an honor to be there, especially considering all the history present in the room.

The commandant went on to talk about the second raising of the U.S. flag, made famous by Joe Rosenthal's photo, noting its significance and the strength it gave our battle-weary warriors and he asked attendees, "Where did we get



Guest Speaker Johnny Baker, MCL National Commandant.



2022 Iwo Jima Memorial Ceremony cake by Dixie Confexions Bakery.

such men to go out there and give their lives for a cause that they believed in? Many of them were 18, 19, 20-year-old Marines.” Keynote speaker, Jimmie McKeral Jr., a retired USMC CWO3, talked about the impossible odds our Marines had to overcome in order to achieve their objectives and the number of lives it would cost to do so.

McKeral noted Admiral Chester Nim-

itz’s quote from 1945, “Uncommon valor was a common virtue,” and he talked about the importance of rallying around the U.S. flag today. McKeral went on to note that history was not meant to be selective, it was there for us to learn from, so that we did not repeat our mistakes. Bud Johnson might have been thinking the same thing when he was conceiving his idea for a memorial. Fos-

ter Park is home to a memorial draped by the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains of the Appalachians. It is a beautiful sight, but more memorable than that is the gift that Bud Johnson gave to the citizens of Towns County and the state of Georgia itself. The memorial is a testament for our heroes, then and now. May we never forget them. Fair winds and following seas Chief Johnson.

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# NATIONAL PRESIDENT, MCL AUXILIARY

EVELYN JOPPA

NATIONALMCLA.ORG

## Success Is Built on the Dreams of Those Who Serve Others



**MARINES AND AUXILIARY LADIES:** As we move through the swift waters to new opportunities, let us remember the future is ours to grab hold of and continue the glorious traditions set by those who paved the way to build this organization. Opportunity to grow our organization is ripe for the picking. People have been cooped up due to the pandemic and want to get out to do good work to build the future. Let us together show them how valuable the Auxiliary principles and ideals are. We have the means to help our Marines, Veterans and Communities and involve new members in worthy causes. Roll up your sleeves and welcome the opportunity. Recruit today! A valued resource is the marine who joins our Auxiliary and expands our understanding and aids us in working with the League.

By the date of publishing of this magazine, the Committee reports for Americanism, Child Welfare, VAVS, Rehabilitation and Civics have been sent to the National Chairs. It will be exciting to see all the great things your unit has accomplished. Thank you for adapting and overcoming the obstacles and forging ahead. Nothing can stop us from accomplishing the goals of our Units, Departments, Divisions, or National unless we do not put heart and soul in all we do. Our future is bright. Let

us make it brighter, by adding those helping hands of new members. As we gain those newmembers, let us remember to praise those long-time members who always step up to get the work done and to guide those new members in our important work.



Our National Convention scheduled for August 14-20, 2022 is just a month or so away. Have you made your reservations to attend? Daytona Beach, Florida is calling you to warm weather and sunshine. This is great chance to make your voice heard! We need your input and ideas. Your voice counts. The changes to the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures may change the direction of the Auxiliary. Will you be part of the change or stand aside and wish you had your say?

Thank you to all who have supported this president for the last three years! Our board and Staff have been outstanding and together we have worked together for the good of the Auxiliary.

Thank you for all you do to support the League and strengthen the Auxiliary. Please keep our members who are sick and/or distressed in your prayers.

Success is built on the dreams of those who seek to serve others! One other change is the Southwest Division now has a Division VP. Pauline Forsell. **Semper Fi!**



National MCLA Representative Debby Krueger presents a donation to the James H. Parke Scholarship Fund at the 76th National Advisory Committee Meeting. Received by John P Brown, III.



Left to Right, Mitzy Abeyta, Judy Brink, Eve Joppa & Debby Krueger were workers for the 76th VA National Advisory Committee.

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY

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## PRESIDENT, MCL FOUNDATION

HOWARD C. SCHAEFFER

MCLFOUNDATION.ORG

### When Times are Hard, Your Help is Needed Most

**MARINES:** As we approach our national convention, it is important to embrace the bonds of our brotherhood and sisterhood, and to remember that there is a foundation which is here for all of us.

As you all know, the Marine Corps League Foundation is a non-profit that provides important financial assistance to Marines and their families, as well as other charitable causes. The Foundation provides help and resources for such things as humanitarian aid, disaster relief, scholarships, and support for youth physical fitness and other individual programs. The Foundation only exists with the generous donations from inside and outside of our community.

These are challenging times for all with inflation, most prominently the rising cost of fuel and groceries, making things increasingly difficult for some families. Now, more than ever, we will be called upon to help our Marines and their families who are in difficult positions due to circumstances beyond their control.

As President, I ask no matter how small or large the dona-



tion, please find it in your heart to help support your Foundation. As a Marine, I ask that you to remember that any support you give will be used to help fellow Marines and their families recover from unforeseen hardships, help with defraying some of the cost of higher education and provide a brighter future, assist youth to participate in sports which will help them learn the importance of being a part of a team, along with many other

humanitarian causes that may arise. It is the Foundation's mission to adhere to the principles which were instilled upon each of us in the Marine Corps. We are one family, and together we can ensure that none of our fellow Marines or their families are left to struggle on their own. Thank you for all your generous support in the past, as well as any contributions you may make in the future.

**Semper Fi!**

## YOUNG MARINES OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

BILL DAVIS

YOUNGMARINES.COM

### Our Young Marines are Vital and Involved

**MARINES:** We are full speed ahead on all programs this year. Our Young Marines are being challenged in Leadership Schools, camps, outdoor adventures, and other activities. Concurrently, I am excited to have Young Marines representatives engaged at all MCL Division conventions so far this year and several departments! It has been amazing to have such great interaction and discussion about how our programs can work together for each other's mutual support. Young Marines get the benefit of learning a variety of lessons from MCL members and the MCL gets the support of the Young Marines in helping execute missions of community service in their local areas.

A highlight in April was to have our 2021 National Unit of the Year, Imagine Young Marines from North Port Florida, attend the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs Hall of Fame induction. These Young Marines got to meet many great veterans from around the state of Florida and hear about their lifetime of service to country, state, and community. MajGen Hartsell, director of Florida's VA, and his staff took great care of the Young Marines as he had them perform the color guard and integrated them into the ceremony. After the ceremony, the Young Marines toured the Florida Capitol, receiving a class on civics, as well. Activities like this are how we help develop our next generation of leaders and good citizens.

I am reminded again about the importance of our Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) education mission. Sadly, our country



is facing record breaking deaths by drug overdose, which keep climbing. Military service and over seven million transportation jobs require a clean drug test, all of them are struggling to find good candidates. The Young Marines has made DDR education a cornerstone of our program since the 1990s. Living a healthy, drug-free lifestyle is not the most popular choice these days, but we help educate our Young Marines about why it is important to their development and success in life. Young Marines is part of the solution and saving lives across the country.

All the best to my friends across the League and I look forward to seeing you in Daytona, if not sooner!

**Semper Fi!**

## NATIONAL SR. VICE COMMANDANT

WARREN C. GRIFFIN

### Always Looking Toward Our Future

**MARINES:** We have now completed our 1st Modern Day Marine since the COVID shutdown and the first time this event has operated under the new format. We now are joined at the hip with the Marine Corps Association in sponsoring this event for the Marine Corps. The venue has changed to the Convention Center in Washington D.C. and Commandant Berger has taken a much more hands-on approach in directing the outcome. When all is said and done, hopefully the vision for the future of our Corps will be enhanced by this transformation. For the League, our mission is more clearly appreciated by both the Marine Corps and our partnering organization the Marine Corps Association. Our future is stronger and brighter because of these bonds.

The view from around the country is inspiring with many well-established detachments making the transition to new and younger leadership. A couple of new members becomes a few young members who become many young members who now want to step up and take charge. This is reassuring that our future will stay bright. Those who do not embrace the change will find the lights will be turning out in their detachments and surely, we do not want to see this anywhere in our country.

As a veterans organization, we are always striving to provide



help and support for our veteran community. Talking to people around the country, one support system that I keep hearing about is the concept of equine therapy. It is surprising to hear how many Leaguers are involve with providing this support group for those in need. The one thing I find is that the people running these programs feel that they are unique and alone in their efforts. We may need to better orga-

nize and promote this effort. Their work is great and needs to be publicized for all to see and understand. It is not limited to one geographic area or one particular group. This something we may all want to get on board with.

I look forward to seeing many, many of you in Daytona for our National Convention. I know the people in Florida have worked extremely hard to ensure that our convention will be a fun filled experience. I hope to have your support as I will be running for my second year as your national senior vice commandant.

*Semper Fi!*

## NATIONAL JR. VICE COMMANDANT

T.J. MORGAN

### The Future of Our Membership Might be Younger than You Think

**MARINES:** What you are doing today when recruiting new members, and doing things that retain the members you have, does make a difference. Our numbers are getting better. Our attention to detail in our meeting and in social gatherings is making a difference. We are our brothers and sisters keepers. What you do today will make tomorrows leaders and members and give them the purpose they need. Although our numbers are slowly getting better, our mission statement is what we do. Our ideas, our "embrace the tribe" mentality will touch someone, somewhere. That is who we are. Everyone has a back story. Everyone is damaged in a way that doing what we do could help them. Keep this in mind when you are reaching out.

I had PNC Webb run a quick report on how our membership age groups are shaping up. It seems that our biggest success is Dessert Storm veterans and post-9/11 veterans. The committee's recommendation of 35-55 is about right. I hope we can get younger than 35-year-old members, so don't exclude them. I see



some great things and success from detachments with the under 35 segment. It is a harder group to recruit, so make sure you have things in your detachment that younger members will embrace such as silky hikes, ruck sack events, BBQ competitions, or a chili cook-off. Social gathering are the best way to introduce new members. Please don't forget their families. Have things during your social events that will entertain the kids.

Lastly, Florida, here we come, finally. This will be one of our biggest conventions. Please support the local area while you are there. Dine in the hotel, thank the staff, and do all the things we need to do to make this a successful convention. Next year is our 100th anniversary. That one should break records!

*Semper Fi!*



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**911004-E26501**

## NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE

PHIL ZAMORA

### We are a Corporation and Must Act as One

**MARINES:** By the time this article comes out, we should be only one month out from the national convention in Daytona Beach. I would like to report that we will have 27 bylaws and administrative procedures that will be voted on at the national convention, by the time we get to Daytona the bylaws committee will have talked about all these changes that will be presented to you and give you the best recommendation possible.

I was thinking this past few weeks about what I should write about and talked to the commandant about this and he said when he was judge advocate it was all about the flavor of the month and I couldn't agree more, so let's talk about the flavor of the month.

I've mentioned in past articles that two members fighting within a detachment is never a good thing and could be a bad thing, some members will always go to one side and the rest will take the other side. Some will try and remain neutral, but the damage is done and may end the detachment. Or, for those that stick around, it will take months, if not years, to undo the damage. I know because this happened in my detachment just before I joined, and it took some great officers and teamwork to fix what was broken and to rebuild my detachment.

Now, let's talk about what is happening today. If you are a member in a detachment, you are part of a corporation. All detachments must have filed paperwork in your state to become a



corporation. So, you must do certain things as a corporation, such as take minutes of your meetings in which the next meeting must be voted on, write a paymasters report, write a report of the elected officers, etc., and also use Robert Rule of Order. And, if you are an officer trying to tell your other officers why they must follow what a corporation must do to survive, don't let this message tear you apart. If you are getting push-

back then try and present to the officers why all of this is important, and if that doesn't help then get help from your department, *don't let it tear you apart.*

Teamwork is what some need to get back to. Our League is one of only a few veterans organizations that have members from one military organization and sometimes some forget that we are *all* brothers and sisters of that U.S. military organization. Let's *all* work together, not just some.

Last thing: I will be running for a second term as your judge advocate at the national convention in Daytona Beach. I hope to see all of you there.

**Semper Fi!**

## JUNIOR PAST NATIONAL COMMANDANT

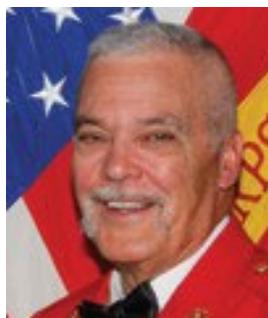
DENNIS TOBIN

### Keep Moving Up in the League

**MARINES:** In this article I want to discuss leaders, leadership, and the Marine Corps League. When you join the league it's to continue as part of the tribe, to continue to stand with Marines as a Marine. As a member of a detachment, you are all responsible for its success or failure. You want to take part in ceremonies, parades, work parties and detachment functions and some decide to become an officer and help lead their detachment.

When were told you were being promoted, you didn't refuse, you accepted it and the responsibility of a leader. In the Marine Corps League, you have a choice to become a leader or not. The problem today is too many members do not want the responsibility of leadership within the league. When everyone says "not me" is when the problem starts. Officers stay in their position for years, or those that have already served as an officer end up back to do it again. The detachment becomes stalled, everything stays the same. Eventually those same officers become tired, die, or just walk away and then the detachment begins to fold and close down.

Commandant, senior vice, junior vice and judge advocate, they're not hard jobs. Every detachment should have an officers guidebook available for members to look at. Marines, if you find yourself sitting in a meeting thinking, "nothing is getting done, it's always the same, why should I come to meetings?" That's not the time to walk away,



that's the time to tell yourself, "I can make a change," become an officer, go up through the chairs to commandant, be that leader and help make your detachment better.

Most detachments have two one-year terms. At the end of their second term, the commandant should be done and the others move up to the next position. Normally the judge advocate would be the vacant office and it's the best place to start

because you learn everything about the Marine Corps League and hope it operates within the by-laws. Some detachments have JA's that stay on for years and the vacant position would be the jr. vice who handles recruiting and retention. Think about Marines, we cannot function without leaders, and it all starts at the detachment level. Every Marine is a potential leader and that should carry over into the Marine Corps League.

Think about it Marines, we need new leaders with fresh ideas, that's you.

**Semper Fi!**

# YOUNG MARINES LIAISON

BY ANGELA MANESS

YOUNGMARINES.COM

## Your Opportunity to Volunteer-Benefits for You as a Servant Leader

**MARINES:** Timing is everything and what better time than the present to offer your spare time to a Young Marine unit near you? It really is that simple, go to this website [www.youngmarines.org](http://www.youngmarines.org) and select to the "Get Involved" tab and scroll down to the "Volunteer Today" section:

Computers not your thing? You'd rather talk to someone in person? That's fine too - pick up the phone and call 1-800-717-0060 ext. 215 and speak to our Regional Support Officer, Michael Hoff. He can answer all of your questions and give you a general idea of the many opportunities available to you.

Still wondering if your volunteer time will make a difference? Here is evidence that servant leadership is alive and well. Below are just a few photos of Marine Corps League members who have dedicated their time with the Young Marine Program — maybe you'll recognize these motivators?



John Gionet



As always, the Young Marines are grateful for the opportunity to work side by side with the Marine Corps League - supporting each other's mission. I believe both organizations have the positive forward momentum to inspire goodness across the nation.

*Semper Fi!*



Sal Cenicacelaya

The amount of time (and effort) you dedicate to the program is 100% up to you. Your local unit needs your help — even if just for an hour, once a month. Every minute counts — you are a valuable asset to any organization and your presence will make a difference in the lives of America's youth.

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## MODD DOG SPEAK

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| BARKINGDOG    | PACK         |
| BIGBONE       | PACKLEADER   |
| BONE          | POLICEDOG    |
| CHIEFDEVILDOG | POUND        |
| DOGHOUSE      | POUNDKEEPER  |
| DOGROBBER     | REARPAW      |
| DOGTRAINER    | SCRATCHINGS  |
| FRONTPAW      | SIR          |
| GRANDGROWL    | SMARTDOG     |
| GROWL         | SUPREMEGROWL |
| GRRRR         | WATCHDOG     |
| HONORABLE     | WOOFWOOF     |
| HYDRANTCALL   | WORTHY       |
| KENNEL        |              |

## DIVISION REPORTS

### New Generations, New Ideas; Same Team, New Efforts



**Mike Sturch**

**NVC, Central Division**



**MARINES:** Things are beginning to return to near normal; meetings and conventions and conferences are opening up and happening. If we haven't already, I believe we are all eager to begin participating in local and community events. We need to keep our presence relevant to grow our membership.

I'd like to reiterate what Commandant Baker talked about in his last article. This was also discussed at the last Mid-Winter Conference, as well as most, if not all, Division Conferences. This has been talked about for some time now, but it seems not everyone is getting the word. The Marine Corps League website is an invaluable tool for all of our benefit. The library is full of information for all, as well as the most recently updated forms and documents you may need. Many of these are fillable;

meaning you can fill them out, save them, and email them to the powers that be. No more printing and saving thousands of forms for years and years! There is a calendar of events on the website that all may use for every event you want to advertise. There are award certificate templates to utilize. Please visit and use this website to your own advantage. It is not a secret vault that only a select few have access to – this is for every member! If you do not know how to access the information, please refer to your chain of command.

With Memorial Day approaching (as I write this; it will have passed by the time this prints), I want to encourage everyone to remember and honor all of our fallen comrades throughout the year. It doesn't just have to be on Memorial Day. We have all lost a loved one, a good friend, or teammate. It may not have been while in service; it may have come to pass years after. Honor their memory and legacy by doing the best that you can do.

Last year I assumed duties as the Central Division Vice Commandant after Phil Zamora was elected as the National Judge Advocate. I finished his tour of duty, meaning that I am now up for my own tour. I would appreciate your support and confidence in electing me as your National Vice Commandant for the Central Division for this upcoming tour.

Always remember our Brothers and Sisters who are serving, those who never came home, and those who came home but never returned.

**Semper Fi!**

### Don't Let Your Mistakes Become Habits



**Rick Thomason**

**NVC, Mideast Division**



**MARINES:** A fellow Marine of the Marine Corps League has a quotation from Winston Churchill at the end of each of his emails that states, "The longer you look back, the farther you can look forward." If you think about it, it's very true. By looking at our past, we can avoid making the same mistakes those who came before us did. Now, the question being, can you see the mistakes of the past? Do you know that the way it was done then, and quite often still being done is wrong? Just because, "We always have done it like that," does not make it right. Making the same mistake over and over does not make it right. It only makes it constantly wrong.

When was the last time you checked the revision date on your Ritual manual? Are you using the correct "Oath of Membership" for the new regular members? So, it's the one in the Ritual manual. Could it be

wrong? Well, yes it could. It was revised 25 Jan. 2020. The correct "Oath of Membership" is in the Library on the MCL National website. Print it and paste it into your Ritual so that the future leaders will not be using the wrong dialogue for installation.

Well, what else might you be doing wrong? When have you last looked at the National Flag Code? Uh, never? Could it be that you are performing the "Pledge of Allegiance" incorrectly? Oh, no way. We always salute and say it just like we always have. And what did we just speak of about mistakes of the past? Look at the flag code closely:

*"The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: 'I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all', should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute. Members of the Armed Forces not in uniform and veterans may render the military salute in the manner provided for persons in uniform.*

WOW! Does this mean we, and I do mean we, have been doing it wrong at every League meeting we have been to? Well, most of us have. Lately my Detachment and a few others have corrected our procedure for the opening ceremony. We salute the colors as directed by the sergeant at arms. He then announces, "Order Arms. Uncover." We then recite the Pledge of Allegiance. We remain uncovered until the chaplain performs the opening prayer as per the Ritual. Now you have something to think about!

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website: [mclmideast.com](http://mclmideast.com)**

## Continued Training is Paramount for MCL Officers



**Jan A. Denney**

**NVC, Midwest Division**



**MARINES:** At the time of this writing, I have just returned from the Midwest Division 2022 Spring Conference in Saint Louis, Missouri hosted by the Lincoln County Detachment 1405. I thank Chuck Covert, Hugh Nisbet and all Detachment members who assisted in making this a great Conference. A special thanks to National Judge Advocate Phil Zamora and Boy Scout Committee Chair Davis Masuna for attending and speaking at our business session.

The training agenda included Detachment leadership development. The training stressed the point that the right person with the correct traits is so important to fill the Detachment offices. Detachment staff must train their replacements and become mentors to new members. Offices in the Marine Corps League are not a life-

time appointment. Everyone can, and should, be replaced. Multiple terms mean the detachment is not growing. Terms of office are limited for a reason.

“Forms and Functions” class for commandants and paymasters on the required paperwork for departments and detachments to remain in good standing was presented. The issue is that we were preaching to the choir. Class attendees were the same as the past training classes. You have heard of the saying, “you can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make them drink.” Our issue is that you can’t get the members who need training to attend training. We have members who are willing and able to pass their knowledge to newly elected officers, but they don’t show for training. Marines pass traditions and experiences down from the oldest to the youngest. We have MCL members who have a world of knowledge, and only few are listening.

Department and Detachment commandants and paymasters should be required to attend division and department conferences. If you raise your hand and are sworn as an officer, then represent your Marines at conferences and learn all you can to improve your detachment and departments. Too many times have non-attendees requested assistance on topics we covered in training just a few days earlier.

This will be my last article for the Semper Fi Magazine. ADVC Joe Hughes will move up the chairs and Jim Maevers, Commandant Department of Missouri, will be ADVC after they are sworn at the National Convention.

It has been an honor to serve the Midwest Division for the past two years. I had the privilege working with and for great Marine Corps League members. The League is accomplishing great things in their communities. Keep up the good work and take care of each other.

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website:** [midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org](http://midwestdivisionmarinecorpsleague.org)

## How Valuable is the Commandant?



**David Porter**

**NVC, New England Division**



**MARINES:** I first have to say, I am truly grateful and lucky to be part of an amazing division. It is humbling to be in the position as the division vice commandant of a motivating team in New England. For we see ourselves not as a group, but as a family. No family is perfect, but we strive to be the best. The time spent together is priceless. This was proven back in April, where the Department of Rhode Island hosted a very successful Quad State conventions and Division conferences coming out of the pandemic. It was well needed and motivating to see everyone come together from all six departments!

Commandants, department and detachments, I believe in all of you to have the right mindset were we can start making a difference by each of you believing in yourselves. With that frame of mind, change

starts with you. You are the standard as a commandant and raise the bar on yourself to motivate your members.

A great friend and a mentor always says, “Add value!” Ask yourself; are you that commandant that wants to bring value? Your presence matters and is needed. You need to celebrate every win, no matter how small because you need to bring that radiance of energy to the table. You will be surprised how a little positive energy will grow! Commandants who are adding worth are keeping the detachments thriving. Detachments, even if you’re at the minimum of 15 members, you can still make a difference! Hold the line till you get more new members.

Commandants, to add value, you cannot go into it alone. You need to surround yourself with a great team. A smooth functioning team will make a difference. Even in the ritual of Installation for Officers, it states, “Call upon your Staff of Officers for assistance and advice”. The responsibility does not stop there, you need to build your team to be the future leaders. The key is, not be part of the team just for the title, there is no shame in not accepting the roll if you cannot handle the responsibility.

To leave off: leadership starts at the top, but the heart of the league is the membership with in the detachments. I ask you, commandants, what do you want your legacy to be? When you get sworn in, listen to the oath, “End of your tour of duty will mark a task well done”. I challenge you to be that leader that adds value!

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website:** [mclnenedivision.com](http://mclnenedivision.com)

## DIVISION REPORTS

### The Importance of Responsibility vs. Accountability



**Mike Waluk**

**NVC, Northeast Division**



**MARINES:** Of all the characteristics we pride ourselves on as being Marines; our sense of duty with all the responsibilities and tasks we take on along with our desire to see it through to completion takes precedence. Making sure we have done everything possible when all is said and done, goes a step further than just being responsible. When we look at the final project and see what the ramifications and consequences are, then we become accountable. The caveat here is not to think of the aforementioned as only having negative connotations. The outcomes, whether intended or unintended can be either positive or negative. This is where we need to make sure that we've crossed our T's and dotted our I's and reflect upon the decisions we've made.

When looking at accountability through our mind's eye, it becomes more of a personal endeavor. Being accountable is about ownership of actions taken. It focuses on the leader who is obligated to explain his or her actions, justly or otherwise.

If there is an expectancy of accomplishment, a leader who is not accountable will have a definitive impact upon those who are subordinate. It will quickly lead to mistrust and a fault in judgment to the point where relationships become so eroded that trying to assemble a team becomes jeopardized.

There is an intrinsic value to being accountable in the League. This is essential to achieve success. You need to connect with and motivate the Marines in your charge while holding yourself to the highest of standards. This was a common mantra in OCS & TBS where we were told, "If you don't live up to those standards, you will lose credibility with the troops." Professionalism is paramount.

When engaging with your Marines, be sure to listen to them and reflect upon the feedback received. While you may not come up with all the ideas, you will be liable for the decisions made. Therefore, hear what others are saying and see things from their perspective, but be equally concerned with what is not being said.

Articulate your expectations clearly and concisely. Inquire about project status and provide updates and direction.

While the difference between responsibility and accountability are often confusing, they are distinct from each other. Knowing these differences is what will aid you in achieving desirable outcomes.

While many can be responsible for a portion of a project; remember, only one is held accountable. Do not dismiss the importance of accountability. It demands more than just commonality and consistency from both the leaders and the membership. There will be many challenges and obstacles to overcome. Maintain a sustainable standard whereby you exercise making good decisions for you and your Marines.

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website: [nedmcl.org](http://nedmcl.org)**

### Service Equals Purpose and Equates to Value



**John Moysiuk**

**NVC, Northwest Division**



**MARINES:** Through the past few Semper Fi Magazine articles, I try and express the reasoning for providing those articles. There is great service taking place in our detachments, departments, divisions and at National.

As a Veterans Service Organization, we are here to assist our fellow veterans in all aspects of need. Most veterans will not ask for help because it's embedded in our ethos that asking for help is a sign of weakness. I am all too familiar with this, as I work with veterans in multiple situations that occur in their lives. Working with these veterans is a badge of service that motivates me, as I find it satisfying that I am helping others. That is what service does. That is exactly what mentorship does. You may not know the impact you have on others that see what you do, but, to them, you are their

lifesaver, their angel.

This past week I received a call from someone I know that ran into a young Marine that she felt was on the verge of taking his own life. I was able to make several calls and was able to track down the Marine and hold a very long conversation with him on what was happening in his life. Yes, listening is one of those most important factors you need when talking with others. After talking with him, understanding his culture (as he was combat Marine), and further explaining who I was, we got to the heart of what was taking place. He was trying to get counseling through the V.A. but was having no luck. This effort had been taking place for about a year. Just talking with him made him feel better and realizing he was talking with another combat Marine reduced the tension as we built rapport. The additional factors of losing his job, becoming homeless and living in his car, added the additional stress. Additional factors with having no income added to the fog of war taking place in his head. Having the ability to walk him thru processes to solution and reducing the stress was lifechanging for him.

As mentors, adding our knowledge of programs, processes and community-based services is instrumental in helping our veterans as it did with this young Marine. Praying for him was impactful to him and gave him the hope he was seeking. The power of prayer was working for him. All of his issues that were lifted up in prayer had been addressed and resolved the next day or were in the process of coming to resolution for him. That was the nutshell version. Understand that veterans are unique, they have their own culture. Understanding their culture allows doors to open for them to accept assistance. Don't ever think that you can't serve your fellow Marines and veterans. As a Veteran Service Organization, we are here to serve, and you have value!

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website: [mcl-nwdiv.org](http://mcl-nwdiv.org)**

## Always Forward, Never Back!



**Russ Miller**

**NVC, Rocky Mountain Division**



**MARINES:** Congratulations to all the newly elected and appointed officers of the Rocky Mountain Division's four departments. Last month I encouraged everyone to support their department conventions and division conferences, and I am so very thankful to all that attended each gathering. I especially appreciated the engaging conversations and desire to gain more knowledge from one another as we continue to experience the technological growing pains that come with moving forward in the 21st Century, while simultaneously seeking to add more of those from the modern generations to our growing membership rolls. The camaraderie of course was the best part of each weekend's schedule and those who didn't attend really missed out. I once heard a business friend of mine say, "The leadership conference that you miss is probably the one

where just what you needed to hear was taught."

Now as we look forward to the National Convention, it's important for us to take that same enthusiasm and desire to stretch and grow mentally and numerically with us to Daytona Beach, FL. We can then return to our detachments to share and apply what we glean there and further ignite an even greater desire to continue marching forward as the premier veteran's organization across the United States.

As I shared at each of our conventions, we are in the "catbird seat," in that while so many of the other organizations that we are all members of are rapidly declining in membership and a loss of interest in participation, the League continues to grow. Not only with the addition of more Marines & FMF Navy personnel becoming members, but also with more and more associate members. Family members continue to join the League as both auxiliary and associate members, but many of our brothers and sisters from our other branches of military service are jumping on board with us too because, as one Air Force veteran said, "You guys (the MCL) are the only organization in our town that is *doing* anything". One of my own detachment's best recruiters is not even a member of our detachment. He is a retired Army veteran that so admires all that the League does in the community that he may just have happened to swipe a stack of our tri-fold brochures from the VA clinic waiting area so he can stop every Marine he runs across and hand them one and tell them they **need** to go enjoy a great SOS breakfast and get involved.

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website: [rockymountainmcldiv.org](http://rockymountainmcldiv.org)**

## Beefing Up MCL's Community Emergency Response Capability



**Jerry Holt**

**NVC, Southeast Division**



**MARINES:** The Southeast Division is continuing its quest in developing its Disaster Recovery Plan. Unfortunately, we continue to be presented with the opportunities to deploy the plan, although not quite as frequently, or as seriously as last year's challenges. We still have members, detachments and departments contributing to our Disaster Recovery Fund which helps to ensure we have funds and resources available when needed.

Our vision for preparedness is to acquire a utility trailer and stock it with blankets, tarps, chain saws, a generator, other tools, and supplies. This outfitted trailer would be available to quickly deploy to a disaster-stricken area – hopefully with a contingent of League members, so we could work with local detachments and emergency management operation services to aid in quick recovery actions. Once the trailer is acquired, we hope to partner with some of

the hardware supply stores in order to equip it at a reasonable cost.

While our primary object of this effort is to assist in providing relief to League members, veterans, and others in affected communities, we believe that this effort that will also increase our visibility in communities and could very likely aid in attracting new members who have similar desires to help others. Our Marine Corps League is already recognized for its participation in patriotic community activities and for programs such as Toys for Tots. Those programs often provide the impetus for new members to join us. While recruitment is not our primary objective with this mission, it could very well be another opportunity to grow the League.

On another topic...

For those who have attended a recent division conference, you have probably seen the presentation regarding electronic submission of transmittals and dues payments. While transition to this new process is voluntary, it represents a significant step forward in streamlining our process. Initially, it applies only to the transmittals and payments from departments to National, but some departments have already extended this capability to the detachment level.

In those situations, detachment paymasters accept dues payments by cash, check or credit card, and using an application such as PayPal, Venmo or other similar system, make an electronic payment to their department, then scan and email the transmittal form. The department logs the activity, then forwards the appropriate payment and transmittal to National. This process is still in its infancy, but it represents a significant step forward in membership data management.

For those department paymasters interested in using this new process, access the Marine Corps League library through the National website (**[www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org)**), then select the Member Library, enter the password, then scroll down and click on "Department Online Transmittal Process." It's quick, and you receive an immediate confirmation number for your submission and payment.

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website: [seddiv.org](http://seddiv.org)**

## DIVISION REPORTS

### Get Ready for Serious Business



**Jim Howington**

**NVC,  
Southern  
Division**



**MARINES:** Spring is here and summer is just around the corner. This is the time of year that detachments, departments, divisions, and the National Convention is serious business.

The Mid-Winter Conference was in session in late February at Norfolk, VA. It was my first and I am here to tell you that I had a very educational experience during my four days in Norfolk. It was an experience that every Marine Corps League member should take advantage of. My most exciting experience was closely listening to the 29th U.S. Marine Corps Commandant, General Al Gray. This was the highlight of my trip to Norfolk. Listening to General Gray speak reminded me of being a part of a very large formation with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marines that was being led by First Sgt. Larry Mars at Camp Lejeune, NC in December 1990 just before deploying to Desert Storm.

Hats off to the Marine Corps League National staff for their hard work and drive to present all Marine Corps League Members a fantastic Mid-Winter Conference.

The Department of Arkansas will be conducting their department conference on 6-7 May, in North Little Rock, AR. The 59th Chief Devil Dog Thomas W. Hazlett will be guest speaker at this event. Also attending this event will be Mike Francis, aide-de-camp to Chief Devil Dog Thomas Hazlett, Karen Francis, National Banner Bearer.

It is now time for the Southern Division Conference that will be conducted in Tulsa, OK on 28 – 30 April 2022. The Albert E. Schwab in Tulsa is the hosting detachment. The detachment is being led by Commandant Chris Blake, Assistant National Vice Commandant George Petkovich and Division Aide-De-Camp Marty McKnight. These Marines have worked hard for several months to present a fantastic conference. This conference deserves a huge turnout with outstanding results.

I will get to travel to McAllen, TX in June to the Department of Texas Convention which will be conducted on Thursday, 23 June through Saturday, 25 June 2022. Department Commandant James Harvey will be replaced during the department election at this convention. Commandant Harvey has done a fantastic job and I am going to miss him. He is a true leader. I know I am going to enjoy my stay in Texas. Texas has a large membership, so we expect a large turnout. Commandant James Harvey, thank you for your hard work and loyalty to your Marine Corps League detachment membership.

I cannot forget the upcoming National Convention in Daytona Beach, FL. The dates for the convention will be 15 to 19 August 2022. Fun in the sun. I know this will also be a great experience with a lot of information, education, brotherhood and learning that will fill this whole week. If you have never attended a Department, Division or National Convention, you are missing so much that is offered. Meeting Marines is our way of life. Experience all that you can.

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website: [southernmcl.org](http://southernmcl.org)**

### Elections Offer Opportunities for Growth



**Patrick J. Connell**

**NVC,  
Southwest  
Division**



**MARINES:** Spring has finally started to break here in the mountains of northeast Arizona. Everything is starting to turn green, the robins are back out singing, the hummingbirds are feasting on the delicacies I have hanging from the eaves and it is finally warming up. A new day has dawned up here in my area and it is a welcome sight. I look at all the new growth around me and realize that life can only get better until the circle starts all over again.

So too is the Marine Corps League. Detachments and departments all across this land are starting to hold elections for the four main offices and those results will take those individual entities into the New Year. A “rebirth” if you will of each individual detachment and department. The elections afford an excellent chance to start working with all other detachment and department commandants to ensure that you are using

every tool possible out there to improve the quality of your individual detachment or department. Over the course of the last 2 ½ years serving in this capacity, I have had the greatest opportunity to travel to other detachments and see how they conduct their business and I have been impressed. I have interacted with other national vice commandants and have obtained a wealth of knowledge from each and every one of them. I have been fortunate to serve under two great national commandants who truly take their roles seriously and are not satisfied with just the title that goes along with their positions. I have seen the other side of the coin also where some commandants just serve in their position and relish the title but do little else to improve the quality of their detachment or department. They just seem to be content with working within their own detachment/department and have no desire to interact with other Marines from other detachments and miss out on the opportunities and information available by the interactions. I feel that they actually fail to fulfill one important part of the installing officers’ statement: “Conduct yourself with the determination that the end of your tour of duty will mark a task well done.” If they fail to interact with their fellow commandants, I am afraid that they become stagnant and prone to misstep which is detrimental to their detachments or departments.

As I complete my tour of duty as the national vice commandant for the Southwest Division, I am grateful that I was given this opportunity to serve and know that my successor will perform equally as well. I only hope that those newly elected detachment/department officers will recognize the trust placed in them by their fellow Marines, start interacting with other commandants and realize that their position is something more than just a title!

**Semper Fi!**

**Division Website: [mclswdivision.org](http://mclswdivision.org)**

# NATIONAL UNIFORM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

CRAIG REELING

CRAIG.REELING@MARYLANDMARINES.ORG

## Uniform Embroidery Guidance For All

**MARINES:** The detachment cover should be the first uniform item a member owns. You are considered to be in uniform when you wear your cover to a detachment meeting. How does your detachment support its membership with cover purchases? Every det. should appoint a quartermaster (or someone) to handle this duty. Remember, new members need guidance. Your det. should vote on exactly how your det. covers will be embroidered with the detachment name, detachment number, and a location. See the National Administrative Procedures, enclosure 3 for a diagram. Once you have settled on the embroidery text, locate a local vendor and request a vendor quote with the cost per cover. The quartermaster should collect the fee (cost for the cover plus embroidery). The Quartermaster then buys the cover from the National Ships Store, takes it to be embroidered locally and delivers it back to the member at the next meeting or event. **Don't let members go it alone and try and figure this out for themselves.**

Why embroider your detachment name, detachment number, and location? Some great reasons are: **1) Honors your namesake!** Honoring a deceased Marine. **2) Fundraising & Recruiting!** This lets the public know you are their local detachment, which in turn makes them more likely to donate locally or join the MCL. **3) Public Events!** The public will notice who you are at local events or at events outside of your area they will notice you traveled to support their event. **4) MCL Events!** Attending a department, division or national event? Your fellow MCL members will know what detachment you belong to.



My recommendation is that members with older covers should be grandfathered. They would upgrade to the new version as their current cover becomes unserviceable. Embroidery on the cover is your detachment's first step in local branding.

**Associate of the Year Medallions** are authorized for wear on the formal, casual and undress uniforms.

**Associate of the Year Ribbons with the "A" device** are authorized for wear on the undress short and long sleeve uniforms.

**Pocket Crest** is authorized for the casual uniform (red blazer) per Enclosure 3, Section VII Marine Corps League Crest. Commercially available at **MarineCrest.com** and listed as Marine Corps League Crest (Item # MCL-1). It does appear to conflict with section IX Name Tags, but the pocket crest Item # MCL-1 was specifically approved at a national convention (and yes, it has a spot for a name). Section VII supersedes Section IX because it is newer. So, if you want a name on your red blazer follow Section VII. No other name tags are authorized.

As always, if you choose to wear any of our MCL Uniforms, please wear them in accordance with Enclosure 3 and Enclosure 4.

*Semper Parat*



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**UPCOMING TOURS**

<p><b>AUG 25 – SEP 6</b> VN War—Return to I-Corps</p> <p><b>AUG 29 – SEP 4</b> MHT Civil War: Gettysburg, Bull Run &amp; Antietam</p> <p><b>SEP 10 – 22</b> Ireland—WWII U.S. “Irish Marines” Dublin, Belfast &amp; Derry</p> <p><b>SEP 9—14</b> Midway &amp; Hawaii</p> <p><b>SEP 10 – 21</b> All England Tour—WWII Blitz &amp; 8th Air Force</p> <p><b>SEP 12 – 24</b> Waterloo “Napoleon, Blucher &amp; Wellington”</p> <p>★ <b>OCT 9 – 22</b> D-Day Plus—Normandy &amp; Battle of the Bulge—Bastogne &amp; Paris</p> <p><b>OCT 9 – 19</b> China “Imperial Jewels”</p>	<p><b>OCT 15 – 22</b> MHT’s Great American South St Augustine to New Orleans</p> <p><b>NOV 4 – 14</b> Armistice Day Paris &amp; WWI Battlefields of France—Devil Dogs &amp; Doughboys</p> <p><b>NOV 27 – DEC 8</b> Vietnam War “Saigon to the DMZ”</p> <p><b>DEC 5 – 14</b> 81st Anniversary Wake island, Pearl Harbor &amp; Guam</p> <p><b>FEB 4 – 16</b> 55th Anniversary of the Vietnam War— I-Corps &amp; Battle of Hue City &amp; Tet</p> <p><b>MAR 24 – 30</b> 78th Anniversary of Iwo Jima</p> <p><b>APR 15 – 28</b> Vietnam 55th Anniversary “Delta to DMZ”</p> <p><b>APR 29 – MAY 5</b> MHT Civil War: Gettysburg, Bull Run &amp; Antietam</p>
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# THE *SEMPER FI* INTERVIEW



White with his truck as he prepares for the NASCAR Camping World Truck series race at Martinsville Speedway in 2016.

## From Devil Dog to the Driver's Seat

### An Interview with NASCAR Driver Josh White

By Miles Vining

Josh White came from humble beginnings as a high school parent, turned into a NASCAR racer. His time as a Marine influenced him greatly as a driver, but also as a

young man coming of age.

Josh White came from humble beginnings as a high school parent, turned into a NASCAR race car driver. His time as a Marine influenced him greatly as a

driver, but also as a young man coming of age as well. Enlisting in the Marine Corps Reserves in 2010, he was a combat engineer in Alpha Company, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion. At 31 years

old he is the second Marine to have raced in NASCAR.

**Semper Fi:** Josh, thank you for coming onboard, could you tell us a little bit about your upbringing?

**Josh White:** I'm from Charleston, West Virginia. I grew up in a place called Camel's Creek. Growing up, I went to high school at Riverside High School in Belle West, Virginia. I graduated in 2009. And two days after I walked the stage for graduation, I actually had a daughter, Isabella White. That made me grow up very fast. Two months later I enlisted in the Marine Corps in the Delayed Entry Program.

**SF:** What made you want to enlist?

**JW:** Well, growing up in West Virginia, it's hard to find a job, especially when you're that young. You don't have any experience. The best job you're going to get at that point, just out of high school, is, your local fast-food restaurant or maybe a local restaurant you can work at. And that wasn't enough to support a family. I've always thought about serving my country. So, I looked to the Marine Corps because, if I was going to serve my country and support my family, I wanted to be the elite. I wanted to be part of the best.

**SF:** Can you take us through that trajectory of your first contract in 2010?

**JW:** I went to Parris Island in South Carolina in January of 2010. I graduated in April of that year. And I went to MOS school at Courthouse Bay and MCT at Camp Geiger. I was a combat engineer. I was there longer than I should have been because they couldn't find me a platoon to put in or something. I reported to 4th CEB, Alpha Company in Cross Lanes, West Virginia, a reserve company.

**SF:** How was your time in the Reserves?

**JW:** It was a learning curve for me, being in the Reserves. I learned a lot of things. I also learned a few things about myself. Trying to balance the civilian life with the reserve side was tough. The stressors and the constant back and forth from snapping back into the Marine Corps mentality on a



White giving the thumbs up in his truck as he prepares for the NASCAR Camping World Truck series race at Martinsville Speedway in 2016.

weekend or two-week AT, then coming home where everything is just so relaxed. You don't have a structure or anything. It's like constantly transitioning. And even coming out of the Marine Corps, the transition problem is there. I didn't unfortunately get to go on any deployments.

**SF:** So, you got out in 2015 and then ended up a NASCAR champion, tell us about that.

**JW:** Yeah, so throughout the time that I've been in the Reserves and having kind of a life at home, I was able to race while I was at home. I started drag racing when I was 16 and I went circuit track racing and continued that when I came back from all my training. I was on dirt at that point. And I had actually gotten a few wins, a few top fives. I had a lot of fun. I had a blast. I loved the thought of dirt racing. I want to go



A new Marine returning home.

back dirt racing at some point. Love it. There's something about your roots that just shines. From there, I ended up meeting up with a team that did some ARCA truck racing. ARCA truck series isn't a series anymore, unfortunately. It was a really good series. I ran Toledo for them. I got like a top fifteen or something. And, yeah, I wasn't really concerned about winning it. I was just doing something new. These trucks were tough to drive. And I actually met a team owner in the ARCA series because the ARCA series and ARCA trucks would run that that same weekend. They would run together. They ended up getting me into an ARCA car for a couple races that year. And I ended up going to testing. I ended up going testing at Daytona that year as well, which is the only time I've got to test at Daytona. Chills going down your spine when you go underneath those tunnels.

**SF:** This is where you took your first trophies?

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*I've always thought about serving my country. So, I looked to the Marine Corps because, if I was going to serve my country and support my family, I wanted to be the elite. I wanted to be part of the best.*

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**JW:** I actually took the trophy in 2015 and I have it hanging up in my local grocery store up Camels Creek. So, I mean, getting this close to accomplishing your dream, you get an itch like no another. And it's something that can leave you

discouraged and disappointed. Or, if you're successful with it, like in this year, it can leave you really motivated, really encouraged, happy, and excited. And, you know, it's just one of those things you've got to constantly work on. And it's been a journey.

**SF:** What has kept you going when things get rough?

**JW:** Throughout all this, I've had a lot of negativity come my way. When I went in the Marine Corps they were like, "Uh, you can't ... You can't do that. No way. That's not you." I went and did it. Then with racing, "you ain't got the money." Uh, no way. I did it. And I'm going to do it again. So you can't ever give up. It's a constant struggle. It's like trying to make it month to month on minimum wage. You got to continuously grind, grind, grind. It's a journey. My time in the Marine Corps, if anything it's taught me the mentality of if you want something, go get it. Never give up, no matter what. When you're in the Marine Corps and



White posing by his company barracks in MCRD Parris Island.

somebody says, "Retreat," you reply, "Retreat, hell." And that is totally true for everything. But if you want something, you got to go after it. And you're not going to take no for an answer. And so, that's what I've done and that's how I've been... my time in the Marine Corps has helped me. It has helped me accomplish the impossible by constantly moving forward no matter what somebody has told me. No matter how somebody has tried to discourage me, how many "no's" I've heard.

**SF:** What would you tell Marines getting out right now about transitioning into civilian life?

**JW:** Yeah. Transitioning is extremely hard. I know a lot of Marines that think it'll be extremely hard and scary. It's not a bad thing coming out of the Marine Corps and going back into civilian life. But, it becomes a bad thing when you encounter the problems you can't overcome. When you're in the Marine Corps, you're taught to improvise, adapt, and overcome. And so you're doing a lot of

that when you're transitioning back to civilian life because you don't have any structure, everything's pretty much just wide open. So, one thing I recommend is to create your own structure. Find a hobby. And just keep moving forward that way. Find something you like and find you some friends to hang out with. Just stay busy. If you come out of the Marine Corps or any branch of service and you're in that transition period, the worst thing you can do is to sit around and not do anything or sit around and not know what to do. You've just got to go out there and do it.

**SF:** What's your involvement with the Marine Corps League?

**JW:** I am a member of the Marine Corps League and I'm proud to be involved. We just did a fundraising event for the Marine Corps League through our racing a couple of weeks ago.

**SF:** What makes being involved in the veteran community stand out to you?

**JW:** I love helping the veteran commu-

nity and I love being a part of it. And it makes it so much more fun, I think. I love helping people. And, coming out of the Marine Corps, it's another part that I kind of adapted. You go from one mission of fighting for your country and fighting for freedom to another mission of fighting for other veterans and other Marines and helping them out. And fighting the war against veteran suicide. And so, you know it just has given me a new set of missions to focus on.

**SF:** What kind of involvement would you recommend for Marines looking to get involved with the Marine Corps League?

**JW:** Go to your local detachment. Hang out for a little bit. If you like it, join up with them. You know all the Marine Corps League members I've met are really nice people. They're not out to leave anybody hanging or anything. The Marine Corps League is there to preserve the traditions of the Marine Corps.

# ROLL CALL

## AROUND THE LEAGUE



Marines of West Chatham MCL Detachment 1326 attended the installation of a 40 foot x 80 foot flag at Camping World on Interstate I-95 in Pooler, Georgia. Local dignitaries and city officials joined Marines Amy Cudihy, Jerry Bogus, Jack Willis, and Doug Masini for the event.



Marines from the Lewis B. Puller Jr. Detachment 524, Carlisle, PA Present an appreciation award to the owner of the County Butcher Shop for his years of generous support to the Marine Corps League. *Left to right* are Bob Kessler (Toys for Tots officer), Chas. Finkenbinder (shop owner), Alan Hostetter, Det. Sgt. At Arms, and Randy Heishman, Detachment Eagle Scout coordinator.



On 5 March 2022, seven members of Mitchell Redcloud Jr. Detachment 1363, Black River Falls, WI participated in a Recruiting and Fundraising Drive at a gun show in Onalaska, WI. They recruited two new associate members who then helped sell raffle tickets for an M1A rifle. Seated, *left to right*, Jane Binnebose, Emily Beattie, Reva Jo Beattie, with Bill Binnebose, Dave Aldocho, Bob Hodson, Dennis Beattie, Patric Beattie.

# ROLL CALL

## AROUND THE LEAGUE



The Fox Valley Marines Detachment 1233 participated in this year's St. Charles, IL St. Patrick's Day Parade, held on 12 March 2022. Joining their unit were members of the St. Charles Marine Recruiting Station and the Fox Valley Young Marines (not pictured).



Jim McElroy of the Cpl. William H Smith Detachment 667, Forked River, NJ was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a 35 year membership pin at our monthly meeting. Jim was instrumental in forming the Lacey Detachment which is now known as Cpl. William H Smith Detachment.

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THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

# ROLL CALL

## AROUND THE LEAGUE



Marine Corps League Ira Hayes Detachment 002, Phoenix, Arizona based at American Legion Post 41 with newly elected officers. In the front row, center, is our new Commandant Alfredo Quintana, Jr. These Marines and Associates serve with honor, pride, and dignity. They exemplify and respect veterans from all branches of service. These are all our brothers and sisters in arms that at one time signed up to defend our country with their life. We must also never forget what their families went through while they were in harm's way, and the ones that didn't come home. This is why these Marines and associates continue to do what they do.



Southwest Riverside County Marine Corps League Detachment 1057. One of our life members, Vietnam War veteran and former Lance Cpl. Paul M. Kraxberger (former Jr. Vice Cmdt.), passed away on 12 Mar 2022. Paul joined the Marine Corps League in 2016. In 2017, he became a life member and was elected to Jr. Vice Cmdt. Paul was actively engaged in our detachment through monthly meetings and multiple MCL fundraising events throughout Southern California, often commuting from hundreds of miles away. He lived in Menifee and Weldon, CA. Paul's final farewell was held on 21 March at the Ridgecrest, California VFW Post. Left to right, Ken Lepore, Ed Wiggs, Larock Benford, Paul's sons Navy PO1 Matthew Kraxberger, and Phillip Kraxberger. Retired Sgt. Maj. and MCL life member Larock Benford is holding Paul's life member card.

# ROLL CALL

## AROUND THE LEAGUE



(Top) Marine Corps League Cpl. Jack A. Davenport Detachment 684 of Houghton Lake, MI recently donated \$250 to River House, Inc., Grayling. River House is a non-profit agency that serves victims and survivors of domestic and sexual abuse in four northern Michigan counties: Crawford, Ogemaw, Oscoda and Roscommon. Left to right, Marine Corps League member Jon DeWitt, River House Executive Director Kim Scott, Marine Corps League member Earl Jones, River House Development Director Carla Ott and Marine Corps League member Bruce Bentley.



(Bottom) Elkhart marine receives the gift of mobility – Joe Reed of the Elkhart Area Marines, Detachment 1397 was gifted a tracked wheelchair from OP1VET, an organization dedicated to “Changing 1 Veteran’s Life at a Time.” The wheelchair will allow him to take part in many activities which previously had been out of reach. Reed served with honor in the Marine Corps from 1974 to 1977. He was serving as a police officer in Elkhart, IN in 1990 when he was struck by a subject he had previously arrested. Reed served as detachment commandant and continues to be a mainstay of the detachment. He looks forward to being able to join his wife, Teri, on walks through the woods and on the beach, activities which had been previously impossible. Pictured, Brad Ulick, District Vice Commandant for the Department of Indiana; Ed Christner, founder and president of Operations 1 Veteran, Inc., Joe Reed and Chris Grendys, Detachment Jr. Vice Commandant.

## Join Roll Call!

### ALL MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEMBERS MAY SUBMIT ROLL CALL ENTRIES

#### SUBMISSION DIRECTIONS

You may submit photos with short captions in email to [semperfi@chipotlepublishing.com](mailto:semperfi@chipotlepublishing.com). Photos must not be more than 20MB in size.

**Captions**—Photo captions should briefly describe the event and list persons present in the photo(s) along with detachment number and location. Captions should be no longer than 60 words. Please do not include information about persons not present in the photo(s).

**Photos**—We cannot use photos that are inserted into an email, PDF or MS Word document. Please make sure each photo is a separate file in the highest resolution possible (specific criteria are in the

instructions on the upload site).

**Permission**—For photos of youths under age 18, please visit [www.mcleague.org/programs/documents](http://www.mcleague.org/programs/documents) for the Photo Release Form.

**Sorry**—There are no guarantees of publication. The most common reasons for Roll Call rejection are: 1) the photo was blurry or too small in size, and 2) the uniforms in the photo did not meet regulations.

If you have any questions about uniform regulations, please contact Craig Reeling of the Uniform Committee at the National website: [www.mcnational.org](http://www.mcnational.org).

#### NOTICE TO MARINE CORPS LEAGUE DETACHMENTS!

Please consider taking a group photo of your detachment’s membership. Department and division conferences are another way to

capture some memories. We would love to include your photos in the *Semper Fi* magazine.

## NAMED IN HONOR OF



## Morris F. Dixon, Jr.

### Detachment 054

**M**orris F. Dixon, Jr. was born in Tarpon Springs, FL on 14 March 1941. His father, Morris is a native of Georgia. His mother, Inez, is a native of Tarpon Springs. Young Morris also had a sister Brenda. His pre-school years were spent in Tarpon Springs, but when he was five years old, he and his family moved just “down the road” to Clearwater, FL.

Morris attended North Ward High School and both Clearwater Jr. and Sr. High Schools. While in senior high, Morris was a member of the Interact Club and played four years of football with the Clearwater Tornados. Morris was listed in the Clearwater Senior High Superlatives of 1959, the year of his graduation.

After high school, Morris attended

the Citadel College in Charleston, SC for one year. During that time, he met his future bride, Mary Creech of Denmark, SC. They were married in November 1960 after which they moved to Clearwater. Morris went to work for Publix supermarkets until he was drafted in January of 1966.

When he was drafted, Morris chose the Marine Corps because, “they were the best! After boot camp at Parris Island, SC and ITR at Camp LeJeune, NC, he came home on boot leave prior to reporting to Camp Pendleton, CA for staging in preparation for deployment to Vietnam. While home on leave, Morris joined the Clearwater Detachment of the Marine Corps League.

While stationed in Da Nang, Morris served with the 2nd Battalion,

3rd Marine Division as a point with a machine gun squad. He was wounded in the right side by shrapnel in November 1966. His second Purple Heart was awarded for wounds he received in February 1967. Upon recovering from his wounds, Morris was transferred to Okinawa to train replacements prior to their deployment to Vietnam. When his groups of trainees were scheduled for deployment to Vietnam, Morris volunteered to return to Vietnam in order to stay with the men he helped train. In his last letter home he explained, “I cannot let the kids go in without an experienced leader with them.” It was on 9 May, 1967 that Morris was fatally wounded, while with the men he trained, during the second assault on Hill 881.

# BOOK REVIEWS

**BOOKS FOR, ABOUT & BY MARINES – BY BOB BORKA**

## Semper Parents – Supporting Your Marine and Sharing the Journey

**Mary Regner brings us** a wonderful work of literature. She has the experienced perspectives of both spouse and mother to Marines and her elegant spirit is evident in the pages of this book. The text flowed smoothly, and I could hear her voice as if reading it to me. Mary even shares a prayer that she spoke daily for safe returns. The book contains a great deal of information that families (mothers, fathers, spouses, & children) do not inherently know and is a great guide to be shared. I wish my parents had this book while I was in the military. You will want more than one copy and give them as gifts. It's an excellent book!

***Semper Parents – Supporting Your Marine and Sharing the Journey***

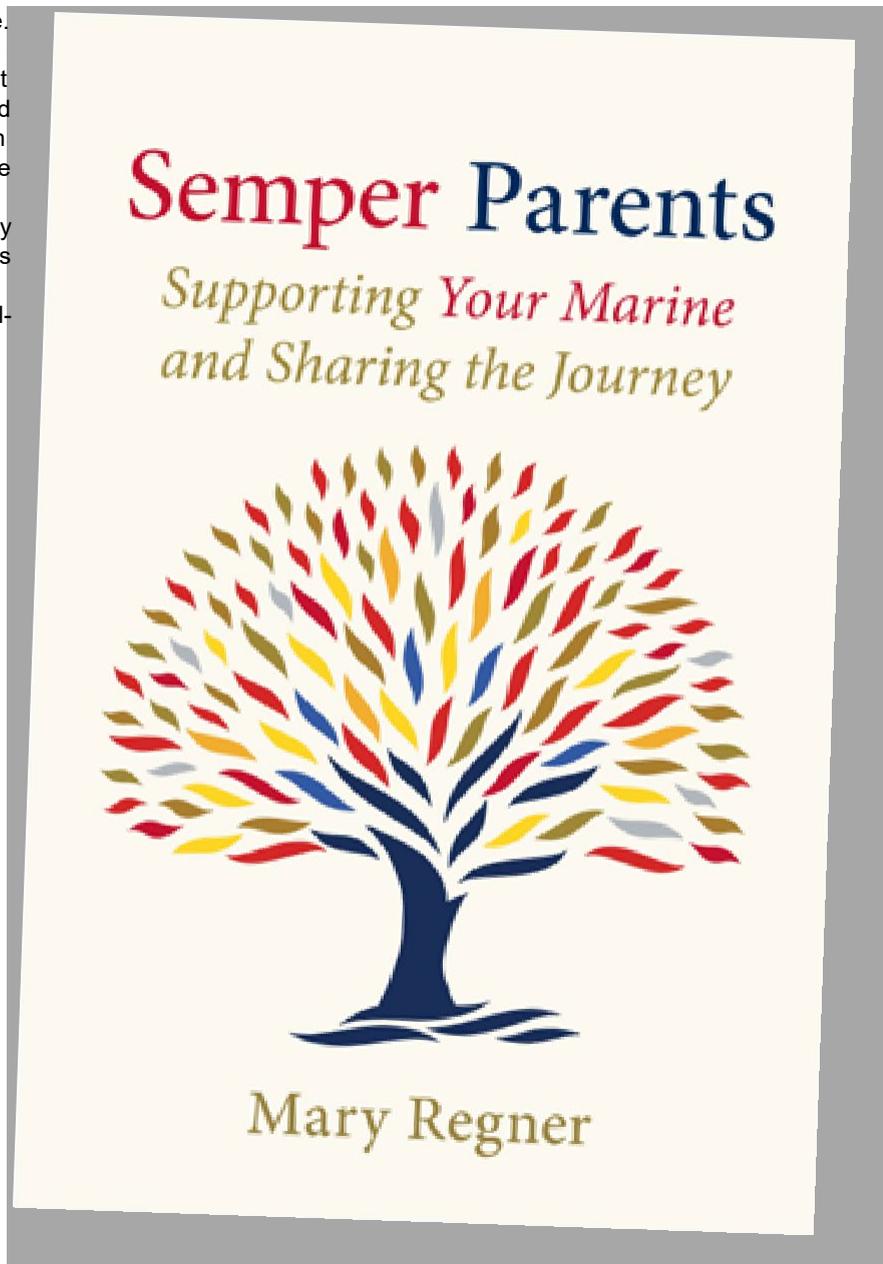
**Written by:** Mary Regner

**Pages:** 176 pages

**Publisher:** Elva Resa

**ISBN:** 978-1934617649

**Price:** \$20



### NOTICE TO PUBLISHERS & AUTHORS

For consideration for review, please send books to:

MCL National Headquarters, ATTN: COO, 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 115, Stafford, VA 22554

# IMPORTANT DATES IN USMC & MCL HISTORY

**June 6, 1923** – Miss Ray C. Sawyer is selected as the first Adjutant of the MCL. She would stay in this position until 1925.

**Sept. 7, 1937** – The National Office of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary (MCLA) is chartered at the National Convention in Akron, OH. Marian Harper (Boston MA) is elected as the first National President.

**1942** – The “Marine Corps League Bulletin” was created and the MCL has created its own member publication from then on. From 1924-1940, MCL news was carried in “Leatherneck Magazine.”

**August 1953** – Seven members of the “Old Timers Club” received recognition at the National Convention in Cleveland. These seven Marines enlisted between 1898 to 1900 and are MCL members.

**February 1957** – Gold metal life membership cards are introduced.

**June 1958** – The “Maurice J. Fagan Department Membership Trophy” is instituted for departments

with the highest percentage of average membership of the past five fiscal years.

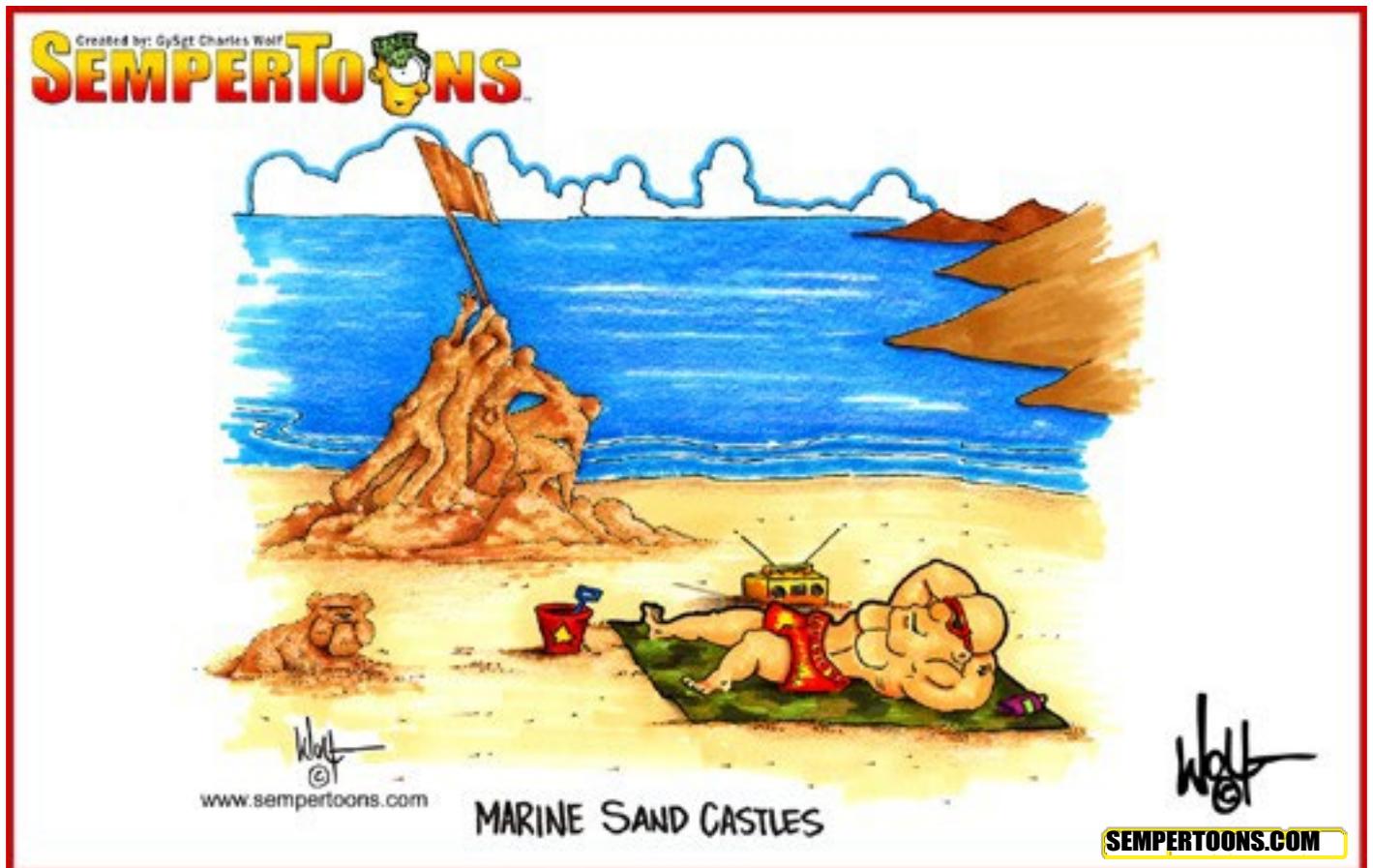
**1959** – The “National Marine of the Year” was instituted. The first recipient was I. D. Hale of Wisconsin.

**Oct. 17, 1965** – The National charter of the “Young Marines” was presented at Ansonia, CT. The first director of the Young Marines was Steve Zuraw.

**1967** – The “Youth Physical Fitness” program was adopted as a National MCL program. William A. Churchill, PNC, was the first National Chairman.

**Aug 1972** – The “Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Puller Scholarship Fund” was established.

**August 19-26, 1973** – The 50th Anniversary of the MCL is celebrated at the National Convention held in Miami Beach, FL.



# MARINE CORPS LEAGUE EVENT CALENDAR



## National Events

### 2022 National Convention

August 15-19  
Daytona Beach, FL  
mclnational.org

### National Midwinter Conference

February 23-25, 2023  
Norfolk, VA

## REUNIONS

**Fox 2/7 (Vietnam)** 10-14 July 2022, at the Menger Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Contact: Tom at fox2seven@gmail.com

**Third Battalion, Fourth Marines Association** 17-20 August 2022, Lisle/Naperville, IL. Contact: Travis Fryzowicz (732) 251-5518, travisjfry@gmail.com

**42nd Annual MARINE Reunion** 20 August 2022, at the Saxon Club, 710 S Meridian Road, Youngstown, OH 44509. The event is open to all Marines, their families and all service members who served with Marine units. The cost is \$35 per person and includes buffet-style dinner with three main entrees and an

open bar. A special guest speaker from Headquarters Marine Corps will give a short talk on current issues involving events surrounding the Marine Corps. The event also includes door prizes, a silent auction, grand prize, and more. No ticket sales at the door, and all tickets must be purchased before 12 August 2022 to be honored as this event sells out quickly. Contact: Chester Kaschak (330) 533-6084

**Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA) Reunion and Awards Banquet** 26-29 September 2022, Four Queens Hotel and Casino, 202 Freemont St., Las Vegas, NV 89101. Contact: Lt. Col. George Carlson (Ret.) (931) 307-

9094, treasurer@marcorengasn.org or visit the MCEA website at www.marcorengasn.org

**Third Marine Division Association Annual Reunion** 12-18 September 2022, Holiday Inn San Diego Bayside, San Diego, CA. Contact: Roger Bacon rogerbacon45@yahoo.com or www.caltrap.org/reunion/2022.asp

**USMC 3rd Recon Battalion Association** 27 September – 2 October 2022 in Dayton OH. Contact: Sgt. Maj. Floyd Nagler (Ret.) (952) 440-1553, floydnagler@yahoo.com

The dates above are tentative due to possible COVID-19 restrictions. Please check [mclnational.org](http://mclnational.org) before making reservations.

## TAPS

**ALABAMA**

KEN BEDSOLE  
WILLIAM E. MAYHALL  
GEORGE H. MORRIS  
CARL A. PAULLET  
BOBBY G. RAINS  
DICK SLATTERY  
DANIEL T. SMITH  
JOSEPH W. VINCENT

**ARIZONA**

ANTHONY ABATE  
DAVID L. ALTHOFF  
ROBERT G. BIERS  
RANDY W. DARLING  
ACREEN DECKER  
CHARLES L. FORD  
ROBERT C. GABRYCH  
GREGG J GIRARD  
DOROTHY D. HANSEN  
MARION F. HATCHELL  
ERNEST R. KARKULA  
JOE H. KELLWOOD  
RONALD L. LAWSON  
DONALD F. MITCHELL  
PATRICK J. O'KEEFFE  
ALEX P. PAVLIN  
LEO J. PIMPLE  
ROBERT D. SCHMITZ  
GERALD A. SHOFF  
R. D. VERBAEL  
THOMAS O. ZIFFER

**ARKANSAS**

DOUGLAS BLAIR Jr.  
DONALD PACK  
HERSHEL L. WALTERS  
**CALIFORNIA**  
EDWARD L. ALARCON  
WILLIAM H. ALLEY  
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TOM BRIDGES  
FRED CARL Jr.  
MICHAEL B. DAY  
RICHARD E. DIETMEIER  
TED DOUGHERTY  
FRANIS J. DUFFY  
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HANK J. HARPER  
JAMES T. HART Jr.  
JERRY HENDERSON  
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BENJAMIN WILLIAMS  
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BRUCE BEVINS  
PAMELA M. BOSTROM  
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ROBERT CURTI  
MARCELLE M. DALEY  
ANTHONY B. DUBYOSKI  
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## Women's Short Sleeve Aviator

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**Description:** Women's White Short Sleeve Aviator Uniform Shirt

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**Price:** 2-20 \$22.00; 22-26 \$25.00 (even sizes)



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**Item Code:** U36a

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**Item Code:** U40A

**Description:** Black Leather Ratchet Belt w/ Gold MCL Buckle Up to 56"

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### USMC Flag

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**Description:** 4x6" MCL Logo Desk Flag on  
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### Desk Flag USMC

**Item Code:** G97  
**Description:** 4x6" USMC Logo Desk  
Flag on 10" Pole  
**Price:** \$4.00



### Desk Flag USA

**Item Code:** G98  
**Description:** 4x6" American Desk Flag on  
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### Badge Magic

**Item Code:** WA114  
**Description:** 8 1/2  
x12" 'Cut to Fit' Patch  
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### MCL Round Uniform Patch

**Item Code:** WA13  
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Code#	Quantity	Item Description	Size	Price Each	Total Cost

HANDLING & POSTAGE	
AMOUNT OF ORDER .....	CHARGE
UNDER \$10 .....	<b>\$7.99</b>
\$10.01-\$25.00 .....	<b>\$8.99</b>
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# 2022 BATTLEFIELD TOURS RAFFLE

**THE MCL GEARS UP FOR THIS YEAR'S DRAWING!**

In 2022, the Marine Corps League and Military Historical Tours ([miltours.com](http://miltours.com)) will offer the battlefield tour for a Marine Corps League Member as the winner of the League's Tour raffle. The winner will receive a trip for two.

Tickets: Marine Corps League 2022 Battlefield Tour Raffle.

One Grand Prize: Trip for Two Free Tour.

These trips span the globe and military history. 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 2022.

You do not need to be present to win. Winners will be notified within 3 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, P.O. Box 1990, Stafford, VA 22555-1990. 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!

## 2022 Tours

**25 Aug - 6 Sep**

Vietnam 55th Anniversary Return to I-Corps

**29 Aug - 4 Sep**

MHT Civil War Gettysburg, Bull Run & Antietam

**6 - 20 Sep**

Ireland - WWII U.S. Marines "Irish Marines:"  
Dublin, Belfast & Derry

**9 - 14 Sep**

Midway Island Return WWII "Battle of Midway"

**10 - 21 Sep**

All England Tour "God Save the Queen" & 8th Air Force-WWII

**12 - 24 Sep**

Waterloo "Napoleon, Blucher & Wellington"

**9 - 19 Oct**

China "Imperial Jewels:" Beijing-Xian-Shanghai

**9 - 22 Oct**

D-Day & Battle of the Bulge & Paris

**15 - 22 Oct**

MHT'S The Great American South (St. Augustine, FL to New Orleans, LA)

*Continues Next Page*

## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE 2022 BATTLEFIELD TOUR RAFFLE

\$5 per entry or  
5 entries for \$20

One Grand Prize: Trip for Two Free Tour to anywhere MCL's tour partner (Military Historical Tours) travels.

You need not be present to win. Drawing will occur at the 2022 Mid-Winter Conference Banquet. Mail completed tickets and a check for the full amount to: Marine Corps League, P.O. Box 1990, Stafford, VA 22555-1990.

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You need not be present to win. Winner  
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drawing if not present, and arrangements  
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*Continued From Previous Page*

**27 Nov – 8 Dec**  
Vietnam Delta to DMZ Post Tour: 9-14 Dec Laos &  
Cambodia  
**5 – 14 Dec**  
81st Anniversary of Wake Island: Guam & Pearl  
Harbor  
**8 – 13 Dec**  
Bermuda for Remembrance Day & USMC Birthday

## **2023 Tours**

**4 – 16 Feb**  
Tet Offensive/Battle of Hue  
**20 – 28 Mar**  
Iwo Jima – Guam 78th Anniversary Reunion of Honor  
**2 – 12 Apr**  
Philippines – WWII in the PI  
**15 – 28 Apr**  
Vietnam War “Saigon to the DMZ”  
**15 – 28 Apr**  
Friends & Family Trip to Vietnam  
**29 Apr – 5 May**  
MHT Civil War Gettysburg, Bull Run & Antietam  
**20 – 29 May**  
WWI Doughboys & Devil Dogs France  
**27 May – 9 Jun**  
79th Anniversary of D-Day & Battle of  
the Bulge & Paris  
**1 – 9 Jun**  
79th Anniversary of D-Day: Normandy to Paris  
**11 – 24 Jun**  
Famous Cathedrals of Northern France  
**29 Jun – 9 Jul**  
Russia “The Eastern Front” Kursk, Moscow &  
Stalingrad  
**TBD Jul**  
The Korean Experience  
**30 Jul – 4 Aug**  
“Bloody Tarawa”  
**31 Jul – 8 Aug**  
Guadalcanal 91st Op Watchtower  
**3 – 12 Aug**  
Morocco – WWII Operation Torch  
& French Foreign Legion  
**11 – 19 Aug**  
79th Anniversary of Operation Dragoon  
– South of France  
**11 – 25 Aug**  
Rise & Fall of the Third Reich: Munich-Berlin-  
Nuremberg-Dresden-Prague  
**23 Aug – 7 Sep**  
Ireland – Fighting Irish vs USNA Mids in Dublin  
plus Belfast & Derry  
**25 Aug – 6 Sep**  
“In the Footsteps” D-Day, Normandy, Battle of the  
Bulge & Arnhem



# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL REMINDER

**DON'T WAIT AND DON'T FORGET**



**WE ARE THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**



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**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Join Date ---/---/-----  
Membership Type - Regular ( ) Associate ( ) Dual ( )

Please indicate the amount enclosed: -----

Member's Signature

*Upon completion, turn into your Detachment Paymaster with required payment.*

*For Members At Large (MAL), remit this form with check or money order in the amount of \$30 to: Marine Corps League, National Headquarters  
P.O. Box 1990, Stafford, VA 22555-1990.*

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**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP - MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Date of Enlistment/Commissioning \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Date of Discharge/Retirement/Separation \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Type of Application - New ( ) Membership Type - Regular ( ) Associate ( ) Dual ( )

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? ( ) YES ( ) NO If YES is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of the felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.

( ) I hereby apply for membership in the \_\_\_\_\_ Detachment, Marine Corps League and enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for one year's membership.\*

-OR-

( ) I hereby apply for membership in the Marine Corps League as a Member-at-Large (MAL), and enclose \$30 for one year's membership.\*

\*Includes free subscription to *Semper Fi, The Magazine of the Marine Corps League*

I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the United States Marine Corps, "ON ACTIVE DUTY," for not less than ninety (90) days and earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor; or have served or am currently serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points; or that I have served or am currently serving as a U.S. Navy FMF Sailor who has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device (clasp) or the Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon. If discharged, I am in receipt of a DD Form 214 or a Certificate of Discharge indicating "Honorable Service." ("Honorable Service" will be defined by the last DD Form 214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received.) General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable service/discharge upon request. I hereby authorize the National Executive Director, Marine Corps League to obtain an un-redacted copy of my latest DD Form 214 from the Marine Corps custodian of Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF), and/or verification of honorable service if deemed necessary to verify my eligibility for regular membership in the Marine Corps League. I understand the DD Form 214 may contain information such as military awards, training, and character of service.

Amount

Sponsor's

(Sponsor where applicable)

Applicant's Signature (see reverse side)

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*Upon completion, turn into your Detachment sponsor with required payment. Applicants for MAL Membership, remit this form with check or money order in the amount of \$30 to: Marine Corps League, National Headquarters  
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# IN MEMORIAM

The Marine Corps League regrets to inform that MCL life member and Medal of Honor recipient CWO4 Herschel 'Woody' Williams, USMC (Retired), passed away on June 29, 2022 at the age of 98.

Herschel 'Woody' Williams was the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from WWII, earning this prestigious award during the Battle of Iwo Jima. Woody was a proud member of the Marine Corps League and selflessly dedicated his time, talent, and energy to ensuring that there is a Gold Star Families Memorial in every state. Not only did he achieve his goal, but there are 100 such memorials across the country. We are extraordinarily grateful for the gifts that he has given so many Gold Star Families.

Fair winds and following seas Marine.

