



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

-- Incorporated by an Act of Congress -- 27 August 1937 --

6 March 2021

From: Glen Barry Evans, PDC

To: National COO

Subj: Proposed Amendment to the National Bylaws

In accordance with CHAPTER TEN, SECTION 10020 of the National Administrative Procedures, the following amendment is proposed.

Reword the SECTION 7025 of CHAPTER SEVEN of the National Administrative Procedures as follows:

Section 7025. Annual Membership Dues and Fees. The payment of annual National Membership dues entitles all members in good standing an automatic subscription to the Marine Corps League publication, and enrollment privileges in any National Group Insurance Programs and any other programs that may be in effect.

- a. The National annual per capita dues and fees shall be recommended **and announced** by the Budget and Finance Committee at the Mid-Winter National Staff Meeting and requires approval by the delegates at the National Convention. **In addition to the posting on the National Web Site as a Proposed Amendment to the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures**, the general membership will be advised of the proposed dues amount by an announcement in the **Spring Issue** of **Semper Fi, The Marine Corps League Magazine**.
- b. An initiation Fee shall be recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee. The initiation fee shall be as is approved by the delegates at the National Convention. The current Initiation Fee is \$5.00. The fee shall be collected for each new member in addition to the annual National dues. Each new member shall receive an official membership lapel button which shall be provided by National Headquarters.
- c. All of the National membership dues and fees which are due National Headquarters are in addition to the dues of a Detachment and a Department which are authorized under the provisions of the Administrative Procedures, Chapter Five, Section 5010 and Chapter Six, Section 6010. The Membership Year and the Annual Dues shall expire on the 31st day of August of each year **and the full amount of the National, Department and Detachment Dues will be due for Renewal on that date**.
- d. **The current National Dues for each Membership Year are \$20.00 for Annual Members in a Detachment and \$30.00 for Members-at-Large.**
- e. New Members joining the MCL and former Members being Reinstated between **1 July and 31 December**, inclusive, will pay the full amount of the current National Dues and will have a Membership Expiration Date of the following year **(up to 14 months)**. New Members joining and Reinstated Members rejoining between **1 January and 30 June**, inclusive, will pay one-half (½) the current National Dues, and will have a membership expiration date of the current year. New Members will also pay the Initiation Fee in both cases.

This Proposal is to become effective immediately upon Adoption.

(OVER)

RATIONALE: The Rationale for this Amendment comes in three parts.

1. I have observed with some trepidation the deterioration of the “Prior Notification” that is required for actions of this type. While the practice of presenting a proposed Dues change without any Prior Notification was stopped in the mid-1990’s, it has slipped back to where the Prior Notification is given in the SUMMER Edition of *Semper Fi*, which comes out on July and allows only a few scant weeks for the Membership to become aware of the proposal and does not allow sufficient time for debate within the Detachment to be followed by debate at the Department Convention. The whole purpose of originally setting the Mid-Winter Staff Conference as the beginning of the notification process was to allow the “Red Hats” to have time to either support or object to the proposal.
2. The amount of the National Dues should be clearly stated in the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures just as the amount for the Initiation Fee is, and just as the amounts for the Paid Life Member are.
3. I have thought the dates for full payment and one-half (1/2) are interesting. A new Member who joined in November 2020 has ten (10) months before renewal, not 13-14 months currently in Section 7025, and their expiration date would be 31 August 2020, the “following year”. However, a new Member joining in February 2021 would also have their expiration date in the “following year,” except now it would be 2022, and they would have nineteen (19) months of Membership. (I don’t believe it was meant to be that way, but that is what the wording currently says.) The proposed adjustment of the dates provides an even six (6) for the full payment, and six (6) months for the one-half (1/2) payment. That seems to make more sense.

The proposed changes are identified in the ***Red*** font.

‘Nuff said.

Semper Fidelis,



Glen Barry Evans