



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**  
**Northwest Division**

Feb 23, 2022

From: John "Moose" Moysiuk, National Vice Commandant, NW Div  
To: Johnny Baker, National Commandant  
Subj: Annual Report, National Mid-Winter 2022

Membership for NW Div:

	Members	Detachments
NW Div	2537	
AK	59	4
ID	455	8
MT	553	9
OR	695	11
WA	775	15

Sir Commandant, thru this past year of seclusion and isolation along with the array of factors placed upon our membership, our division has continued to strive forward even if it was at a snail's pace. Use of Zoom and WebEx meeting has become more common and has proven to be a useful tool in connecting those which might have a much longer commute to get to a meeting or convention out west here. Since the National Convention of 2021 in Springfield, I have attended multiple functions within the division either in person or by Zoom or WebEx. All attending were pleased with the ability to gather in one form or another. Nothing better than to hear the best practices that allow us as a service organization to move forward serving veterans and their families.

Recently, we lost our Assistant NVC NW Div Harry Armstrong with no notice and are currently in the hunt for his replacement. I believe I have a replacement. I am hoping to make it to all Department Conventions once more so as to provide a sort of mini-Northwest Division conventions where I could pass the critical information and hear directly the concerns of our membership. Last year's decision to do so provided good input to the division as well as input from our members to National. I believe out west to consider this a best practice for reaching our membership. Next attending the National Convention, I would once more relay to our membership what was transpiring and how it impacts each of us in our League.

Eagles Scout Awards presentations within the NW Div number is reflected as zero on the standing committees report. Departments report WA-5, MT-2.

Assisting transitioning military families were 78 of which I am aware of presently within the NW Division.

Rendering Honors/Color Guards/Burial Details were 114 within the NW Division.

Toys for Tots included the majority of our detachments assisting in one way or another with some impressive numbers of families/children receiving toys.

Community service hours included Honor Details, Flag Details, Toys for Tots, VAAC, Memorial Services, Veteran's Day services, Eagle Scout Award presentations, Young Marines, Parades, and community outreach in a variety of ways.

Further fund-raising activities were still accomplished especially in regards to supporting the Toys for Tots Foundation campaign. Drive-by donation drop sites, online fundraising from companies wanting to support, and drive-by pick-up locations were among some of the options used effectively. Rose sales were non-existent this year.

The NW Div has suffered the loss of a large number of our membership for a variety of reason but we have further gained those numbers with a slight increase from last year.

The NW Div as a whole has had some issues with staying connected thru this pandemic and our membership is thinking outside the box to gain new members. Moving forward into the electronic age is what will make us stronger as depicted by preparing to add another Detachment in Idaho (Snake River Detachment #1488) and potentially using the fireteam approach for a couple of more start up detachments in the works. I will be traveling to Caldwell ID to swear in the Snake River Detachment on 12 March.

There are still membership issues which I will be addressing in regard to our database and ROI entry as well as Transmittals. I'll be working with membership on this.

Understanding the staff at National HQ has been limited, I am excited to see the state of our League as it moves forward electronically and as each of us climbs out of the pandemic darkness to reach for the brightness ahead. Semper Fidelis!

Respectfully,

John "Moose" Moysiuk  
NVC NW Div

Semper Fidelis

To: NVC-Northwest Division, John Moysiuk

COO Bob Borka:

Subject: Mid-winter report for Idaho Department

Provided from the information provided by the Detachments in Idaho

39 Funeral honors between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.

Unknown service hours but there are 2 Young Marine units in Idaho. Treasure Valley Detachment has provided financial assistance for Young Marine uniforms, summer programs, and repairs on their unit vehicle.

Detachments have supported Eagle Scout programs, attended several local parades but have not reported the number of hours donated.

Toys for Tots:

12610 children served, 72533 toys collected, and \$124,458.32 collected.

3 marines were assisted through the Marine 4 Life program. Several marines, their widows and their families have been assisted with everything from building wheelchair ramps for WWII veterans, to providing sod and a sprinkler system for children to play in their backyard, to assisting with purchasing a furnace and getting a vehicle transmission repaired.

Detachments have active color guards that perform at sports events such as hockey games, baseball games, and indoor football games.

They have provided assistance in displaying the flags at Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies and participated in Wreaths Across America and the Rose program.

Additionally, they have cooked at V.A. Barbeques, assisted V.A. home residents with a fishing day, and supplemented the V.A. canteen after it was curtailed because of Covid-19 protocols.

They have also provided free coffee, hot chocolate, and tea at rest stops on highways I-84 and I-90. However the number of hours and days have not been reported.

Submitted,

Skip Nakashima

Idaho Department Commandant.

# DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA

## MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2022 REPORT

**DET 418 Billings.** The Eugene Sara Detachment, the largest in our Department, remains very active and benefits from great leadership. The Detachment publishes an outstanding Monthly Newsletter which is shared with all of the Detachments within the Department as a great example to follow. Detachment activities included: (3) Honor Guard Details, (3) Colors details, (15) funeral details, and (1) gun show. The annual Toys for Tots campaign served 1024 families, 2700 children, donated \$2000.00 for the purchase of toys, donated \$225.00 for the purchase of grocery carts to assist families with shopping, and provided 340 hours of volunteer service. The Department has a very active Young Marine Program. The Detachment provided 22 firing details. The Marines for Life Department Coordinator, Mike Tolstedt, who is also the Commandant of this Detachment, interviewed and referred a transitioning Marine to the Bozeman Detachment. Membership stands at 84 paid and 17 unpaid members, 54 of which are paid life members.

**DET 620 Helena.** The Donald J. Ruhl Detachment was recognized last year Nationally as the Outstanding Toys for Tots Program, awarded to Detachment Coordinator Howard Mears. This year the program supported three counties and eight recognized Indian Nations in Montana, providing 106,269 toys, to 26,594 children, involving 39 Marines, who provided 2,125 volunteer service hours. Monthly Pot Luck Dinners have been renewed at Detachment meetings to add a social aspect and to increase attendance at monthly business meetings. The Detachment made a \$1,000.00 donation to the Marine Corps League Foundation in the name of Junior Past Department Commandant, Harry Armstrong. Membership stands at 26 paid members, and 11 unpaid members, 22 of which are paid life members.

**DET 688 Great Falls.** The Great Falls Detachment participated in a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, held in Black Eagle, MT with a marching Color Guard and vehicles. At the Fall Gun Show in August, the Detachment raised \$9,155.00 after expenses. A September Pot Luck attracted 15 Detachment members. The Detachment provided the opening ceremony Color Guard for a Veteran's Stand Down held 23-24 September. The Stand Down served 205 veterans with 51 new veterans and 22 women veterans in that number. The Stand Down included a Job Fair where employers could interview prospective employees. The Detachment will have a MCL Recruiting table at next year's Stand Down. The Detachment Honor Guard Coordinator reported honors at 17 funerals, 3 Color Guard events, and 3 Memorial Day services. Two courts of Honor for Eagle Scouts were held and awards presented. A USMC Birthday celebration was held with 67 in attendance. On Veteran's Day the Honor Guard conducted a cake cutting and served cake at the Ivy Manor and The Lodge for their residents. A Color Guard was provided at the Cascade, MT Veteran's Day ceremony. Membership stands at 77 paid, and 28 unpaid members, of which 43 are paid life members.

**DET 724 Butte.** The South West Montana Detachment continued to conduct their Monthly business meetings and SOS Breakfast get togethers during this period. Nine funeral details were conducted, with many families choosing to wait for warmer weather to bury or inter their loved ones remains. Five coffee stop fundraisers were conducted at the Interstate 90 Anaconda rest stop near Opportunity, MT which raised an average of \$800.00 each in donations. The annual Toys for Tots campaign, which covers Butte, Dillon, Twin Bridges, and the Ruby Valley served 259 families, 888 children, provided 4,164 toys, 593 books, and 3, 199 stocking stuffers. The Detachment owned building "The Hootch" serves not only as the Detachment meeting place, but also hosts meetings of the VFW Post 1448 and the VFW 1448 Auxiliary. Current Membership stands at 45 paid members, and 26 unpaid members, 27 of which are paid life members.

**DET 903 Roundup.** The Walt Phister Detachment conducted (4) Military Honors Funeral Details at three cemeteries in conjunction with the VFW and American

Legion during this period. A flag raising ceremony at Roundup High School was conducted on Veteran's Day. The Toys for Tots Campaign distributed 1, 146 toys to 305 children at the Roundup Community Center. Membership currently stands at 16 paid members, 8 of which are paid life members.

**DET 937 Hamilton.** The Bitterroot Valley Detachment continues to conduct Monthly Business meetings and SOS Breakfast social meetings. Activities included: (7) Military Honors funeral details; a Veteran's Day military firing detail and wreath laying ceremony at the Ravalli County Museum, a USMC Birthday Dinner and celebration attended by 35 personnel, and planning and preparation to host the Department Convention which will be held in Hamilton, MT at the Eagles Lodge, 125 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Hamilton, MT 59840. Lodging reservations can be made at the Quality Inn Hotel, 1113 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Hamilton, MT 59840, Phone # 406-363-6600, Group Rate is \$115.00, Group Rate number is 4247127 or M.C.L. – HF99W3. A hospitality room will be on site provided by the Bitterroot Detachment. Current Membership stands at 36 paid, and 10 unpaid members, 23 of which are paid life members.

**DET 1041 Polson.** The Hellroaring Detachment continues to hold monthly meetings at the Polson VFW Post. During this period the detachment provided a Color Guard for the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, conducted their annual picnic with 36 members, family, and friends in attendance, conducted a Toys for Tots golf scramble to raise funds for the campaign, conducted a Fall Gun Show and raffle in Kallispell, joined with the VFW and American Legion to honor the 13 Service members killed in the Afghanistan evacuation and the 39 Montana Service Members killed during the Global War on Terrorism. Celebrated the USMC Birthday with a Dinner and traditional Birthday ceremony, during which awards were presented and members recognized for their service, including: Law Officer of the Year; Detachment Marine of the Year; Detachment Associate of the Year; Gareth Moon Award; Anniversary Pins and Certificates for 5, 10, 15, and 20 year service; awarded active Past Detachment Commandants with the Marine Officer Sword. The annual Toys for Tots Campaign provided 5, 570 toys to 1, 336 children. Donated a new flag, installed at Moise, Montana. Election of

**Officers was conducted and Installation of Officers was performed by Past Commandant, Rick Marquart. Elected Officers: Commandant – John Miller; SrV – PDC Brian Pugh; JrV – Merrill Feiker; Judge Advocate – PDC Mauri Morin. Appointed Officers: Adjutant – Nancy Pieper; Paymaster – Keith Miller; Chaplain – PDC Ernest Butt; Service Officer – PDC Ernest Butt; Sgt at Arms – Henry Pieper. Membership stands at 44 paid, and 5 unpaid, which includes 28 paid life members.**

**DET 1380 Anaconda. The Private Mike Detachment resumed Monthly meetings in September, but ceased in person meetings in January due to very high number of COVID cases. Conducted a successful Toys for Tots campaign for 2021 and completed the necessary paperwork to conduct a Campaign during 2022. Both the IRS 990N and Sec of State Annual Report are current. A current Record of Installation of Officers is on file. Participates in all Department Zoom meetings. Membership stands at 26 paid, and 3 unpaid members, of which 19 are paid life members.**

**DET 1050 Bozeman. The Robert A. Ellerd Detachment has an outstanding marksmanship program which has helped to attract a significant number of younger Marines to become members of the Detachment. Membership stands at 67 paid, and 37 unpaid members, of which 11 are paid life members.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Joseph Rogish**

**Commandant, Department of Montana**

## Department of Oregon Mid-Winter Report

This report is submitted by the Department of Oregon for use at the Marine Corps League National Mid-Winter Conference.

The information provided is a compilation of data submitted by reporting Detachments. Comments provided for the Member At Large Survey are views provided by Detachment Commandants and the Department Commandant.

### **Charitable Activities:**

#### **Toys for Tots Activities:**

Do you support a Marine Corps Reserve Center - One (1) Detachment support a Reserve Center the other nine (9) do not.

Do you support a Marine Toys For Tots Foundation Local Area Coordinator - Yes

Name of Campaign Supported: Toys for TOTS NW Oregon, Portland Oregon

Is the Local Area Coordinator a US Marine/FMF Corpsman - One Detachment does, others do not

Is the Local Area Coordinator a Marine Corps League Member/Associate/Auxiliary - Yes

Total number of toys collected by Department - 12,504+

Total amount of monetary donations collected by Department \$1,250.00

Noteworthy event(s) participated in or sponsored by Detachment / Department:

- Fill the Truck at LUM's Auto Center.
- MC Birthday Ball members had to bring a toy.
- Volunteered for box & poster delivery and installation.
- Collection and delivery of boxes to MCB Swan Island for counting and inventory
- Filled orders for distribution

Distance Driven to Support Toys for Tots - 459

Hours supporting Toys for Tots - 19

#### **Other Charitable Activities:**

Thanksgiving - worked with Salvation Army to pass out food to local community

### **Member At Large Survey:**

1. To ensure we are 100% in membership and grow our Department. At this point, due to COVID restrictions, our goal is to maintain current membership while trying to recruit new members. Continuing to have monthly communications via email or online (where possible). One Detachment had two (2) New Members, two (2) Transfers from within the Department, and one (1) MAL join the Detachment.
2. No - Who would monitor this Detachment? Its already hard enough just trying to keep current memberships. It would be preferred the MAL join the local Detachment, become more involved and possibly hold a position.
3. Yes - We have a new Detachment in the Department. Several Detachments were successful at retaining their membership numbers. Creating a new MAL Detachment would of course increase the Department's numbers, but its unknown as to how many. One Detachment cannot maintain the minimum 15 members to retain their charter, having a MAL Detachment and the required management of it would not be in the best interest of local Detachments struggling to retain their members; its envisioned where there would be a Department of MAL with Detachments withering on the vine.

## Department of Oregon Mid-Winter Report

4. Increased our membership by 35 new members. IF we can get a successful, continual conversation with the Recruiting community to provide a quarterly IRR roster we *might* be able to connect with the recently discharged Marines in our local areas to try attracting them to join the Detachment.
5. Yes - How to provide the MAL information, how to transfer them into the proper Detachment. Since there are no guidelines / SOP would make the process a lot smoother. Knowing what leadership would look like within the MAL Detachment. Some feel training from National would be unnecessary or not beneficial.
6. 4 - Average score from reporting Detachments
7. 5 - Average score from reporting Detachments
8. For the love of our Corps. To ensure our Detachment is up to date and to have fun. To see the smiles on the kids at Christmas time with Toys for Tots. For the Brotherhood and helping/supporting members and other Veterans. Some Detachment Commandants enjoy being the Commandant, working to grow the membership, and the camaraderie.
9. No - This will burden the Department Paymaster in maintaining the MAL list and trying to get the MAL members to pay their dues. Without any "intel" on the MAL initiative we can't support it. Others will support it and do the best they can.
10. Yes - We are growing professionally. No - We don't think our involvement in creating a MAL Detachment would make us feel more accomplished.
11. Ownership of the Detachment, Funds, Members in general. At this point we don't see any Pro's on creating a MAL Detachment. *Maybe* a Department level MAL Detachment would work but what would it look like?
12. No - Information and training before initiating. There's no resources. We received the Nov Rosters from National - there were only 44 names on it.

### Summary:

The MAL Detachment concept may work on the eastern side of the U.S.A where towns are relatively close together and driving times from a person's residence to the MCL Detachment's meeting location are a few miles. In the western Region that's simply NOT the case. Its not uncommon for there to be significant drives required to "get to town." There just isn't the population levels - especially Marines - to support much more than the bare minimum memberships to retain charter.

If the MAL Detachment concept were to be implemented WHO is going to be the Commandant of that Detachment? Where are the other officers coming from? Where do they meet - with several thousand square miles of territory in Oregon, the east does not come west and vice-versa. The energy required to maintain this Detachment - at initial blush - appears to be too great for a Department staff to sustain for any length of time.

MAL members should be encouraged to reach out to the closest local Detachment and join. But as I've said, a MAL residing 200 miles from a Detachment just isn't going to do that. They will remain MAL.

Sadly, there's also the "Tradition" mentality of members that prevent changing our activities, meeting times, etc. to attract the younger Marines to join and participate. Indeed, COVID has had a dramatic negative impact on attendance, participation, and therefore retention. Members who used to be willing to drive 75 miles to attend meetings, events, etc. are becoming less inclined to do so. In essence we are becoming trained to hibernate and not be social.

## Department of Oregon Mid-Winter Report

Hopefully, if there are lifting of restrictions SOON, we may be able to attract once active members back to the fold and encourage the young Marines to join and participate. We will surely have to adapt and overcome; we must change.



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON**

February 21, 2022

The Department of Washington has 15 Detachments with 775 members.

Since the Convention the Department held its 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Marine Memorial to honor the memory of 32 Marines who were killed on December 10<sup>th</sup> 1946, when the plane they were riding in crashed high atop Mt Rainier in the Cascade Mountain Range.

The Department was represented in the Auburn Veterans Day Parade, the largest Veterans parade west of the Mississippi River.

Many of the Detachments held local Birthday Balls or a Cake Cutting Ceremony to honor the 246<sup>th</sup> birth of our Corps.

For Toys for Tots, of the reporting Detachments, the following totals are given:

Toys Distributed: 201,236

Books Distributed: 4,106

Stocking Stuffers Distributed: 24,106

Number of Children Assisted: 120,811

Semper Fidelis

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