



10 November 2022

From the 64th National Commandant of the Marine Corps League
247th Marine Corps Birthday Message

Marines, 247 years ago, a Corps of Marines was founded at Tun Tavern, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Since 1921 we who are Marines, celebrate the birth of our Corps on 10 November. For the past 247 years, our citizens have called upon and counted on the Marines to do what we do best, to defend American soil and protect the American way of life and freedoms. It is a mission that we all swore an oath to “support and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

The Marine Corps League is a continuation of the esprit de corps that we all enjoyed while serving on active duty or the reserves. This common spirit and patriotism exist in all members of our League. We all share this inspiring enthusiasm, devotion, and strong honor of being a Marine. Within our Marine Corps League membership today, we have the greatest generation of Marines that served during World War II, Korean War, Vietnam, Beirut, Gulf War in Iraq and Afghanistan, and many other areas threatening our American way of life. Marines rose to the occasion then as they do now. America is proud of their Marines and rightfully so.

As Marines, we are extremely proud of our history and our legacy. The Marine Corps League also has its history and legacy and we are just as proud. As each of you celebrates the 247th year of the birth of the Marine Corps, I ask that you please remember our legacy and those that served before us. Think about and remember that esprit de corps that made us who we are today, United States Marines. Celebrate the bond that all Marines enjoy. Be proud of your Marine Corps and your Marine Corps League.

Reach out to say “Happy Birthday” to our active and reserve Marines throughout the world. Remind them of the legacy that we are leaving for them and the legacy that they too will someday leave for those that follows. Reminding them of this obligation may spark their enthusiasm and spirit of who we are by leaving the Corps a little better than they found it and leaving their own legacy.

So, Happy Birthday Marines. Enjoy your celebrations throughout our country and continue to focus on each other and making our League stronger for all of us to enjoy! If you do not attend a formal celebration on the birth of our Marine Corps, please celebrate this day in your own way. Call a Marine that you haven’t heard from in a while and just say, “Happy Birthday Marine!” Stay healthy and take care of one another.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Johnny Baker'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Johnny Baker
64th National Commandant
Maine Corps League