



**Commandant, Department of Montana Report 07/15/2023**

**Elections:** Elections for the Department of Montana were held on 20 May at the Department Convention held in Bozeman. Sr. Vice Department Commandant Mike Flynn was elected and sworn in by NVC NW John Moysiuk as Department Commandant, along with the entire Department Staff.

**Monthly Meetings:** The Department is continuing the legacy established by Jr Past Commandant Rogish of monthly zoom meeting for the Department staff with each Detachment Commandant. It is a great method to maintain communication throughout the Department as the distance between Detachments is significant.

**Pay Master Training:** The rise in Life Membership applications highlighted some discrepancies within the various Detachments. As such we are establishing a training period during our Monthly Zoom calls. Once we bolster the Pay Masters we will branch out to other positions. These will be quick 15 minute or less lessons.

**Communication:** The other positive aspect of our monthly Zoom's are maintaining communication and recognizing when there is a breakdown sooner. It allows us to respond to Detachments that appear to be floundering without waiting until the Department Convention. It also increases engagement of our newer officers. The use of digital data and devices is well accepted among our newer members. We are wise to take advantage of it.

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Mike Flynn  
Commandant, Department of Montana**

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**Membership:** During the past year, four of our nine Detachments increased membership, four decreased membership, and one Detachment remained the same. Two years of pandemic have driven some members away as many people have decreased their social contacts and avoided groups of people. Aggressive recruiting efforts and planned events by two of our Detachments have proven successful.

**Monthly Zoom Meetings:** The monthly Department Zoom meetings have been well attended by our Department Commandants and Staff. The meetings serve as a forum to exchange information, ask questions, and keep our membership informed.

**IRS:** I contacted the IRS, requested and received a new EIN as the Department moves from a 401(C) 3 to a 501(C) 4 status under the MCL National exemption code.

**Fire Team,** as part of the Bitterroot Detachment. Current strength of the Fire Team stands at 13 members. This Fire Team is composed of Marines who intend upon growing to the minimum required membership of 20 members to be entitled to submit a Request for Charter so as to re-establish a Detachment in Missoula. The Fire Team has scheduled Monthly meetings, two of which were cancelled on short notice, which goes back to why the previous Detachment lost their Charter. The Bitterroot Detachment will continue to advise and instruct the Fire Team members to help them to grow in numbers, leadership, and understanding of Marine Corps League Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

**Distribution of information via forwarded email from National:** National regularly sends out information that is relevant to MCL Members and Veterans in general with request to share with our membership. Last year I forwarded 36 such emails to our Department Commandants and Staff with a request that they forward to their members for information, or action as might be appropriate.

**Paid Life Member Audit:** Congratulations to our Nine Detachments for the timely and accurate completion of the Audit and electronic receipt of funds from that Investment program. Great job Paymasters.

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Joseph J. Rogish  
Commandant, Department of Montana**