



Marine Corps League Department of Rhode Island National Convention Report

To: National Commandant Johnny Baker

From: Patrick Maguire, Commandant, Department of Rhode Island

RE: Department Report for National Convention

The Department of Rhode Island is pleased to report that our membership is up from last year at this time. Albeit only by a handful, we are going in the right direction. RIMCL has participated in many events across the state and by our side has been the RI Young Marines. We have been able to form this bond that each organization benefits from. There are 10 members who are currently AV's with the YM's here in RI.

MCL Members as well as the XO traveled to New Hampshire to help open the new Granite State YM unit. It is moving a little slow but nonetheless, they are moving in the right direction. When we return from National, we will be making a trip up to Boston to help open a unit in the Greater Boston area.

All three Detachments are doing well, one will have more members then the next but that's what's unique about RI, we are small so we are able to assist each other in activities and events. The Department did very well this past year with the Toys for Tots efforts. Working with the Marines from the reserve unit here in RI and working with individuals doing T4T's right over the line in Massachusetts collecting, separating, and loading up trucks for delivery was very rewarding, seeing those smiles and hearing the stories made the hard work and the hours put in well worth it.

*This past year, the Department partnered with a company whose mission as a leader in product philanthropy and purposeful giving. They partner with some of the world's largest corporations to source essential goods and distribute them through a network of diverse nonprofits, supporting people in need. We purchased some lazy boy chairs and distributed them to Veterans around the state who were in need of a chair. We didn't want to limit the program to just Marines, so we found Veterans of other branches that needed a new recliner. We had a 83 year old Coast Guardsman, three Navy personnel, one who became a member and an Army Vet who served in Vietnam. A couple of them had trouble getting out of their recliners, by receiving one of these, they just had to push a button and it would raise them up and get them on their feet. They as well as their families were very appreciative. We now call this program "**Lazy with the League**"*

Not pertaining to the Department I would be remiss if I didn't mention my trip to Guantanamo to escort the Norwich University Professor. It was a trip of a lifetime and the Marines at Marine Security Company were absolutely fantastic from wheels down to wheels up.

There were many different functions throughout the year, whether it was a rose collection, a parade, or going on a field trip with the YM's. The biggest of them all was our family picnic that was recently held at Goddard State Park. It was a time for all of us to come together and just relax, get to know others and for the kids to meet new friends as they played on the bouncy house and enjoy a magic show.

Last year I mentioned we were heading in the right direction, that holds true for this year. I had a goal that the League would be better known through the state and I believe that has happened. Incoming Commandant Alfonso has some great ideas slated for R1.

If I may end with this, I want to thank you for your dedication to the league. You had a well thought out plan, a mission, laser focused, knew what needed to be rectified and also knew at times there were going to be some members who would not be happy. You always had the attitude that anything you did or had to do was in the best interest of the League. The members of Rhode Island wish you nothing but the best of luck in the future. Semper Fi!!!!

Semper Fidelis!

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Maguire

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Commandant

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