



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF OREGON
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT



01 July 2023

From: Benjamin Quen, Department of Oregon Commandant
To: Johnny Baker, National Commandant
Subj.: Annual Report, Department Oregon

The period covered in this report is June 2022 to June 2023. During 2022 and 2023 Detachment activities are starting to get back to normal after the COVID 19 restrictions. Despite this we are finding that some members are slow in returning and participating in Detachment activities. The Detachments are scheduling activities in the hope that more of their members will reengage.

The following Detachments within the Department of Oregon reported performing attending Funerals or Color Details.

Det.	FUNERALS	COLORS
373	35	6
374	NA	NA
386	60	0
470	145	0
578	0	0
917	NA	NA
1042	NA	NA
1228	10	0
1308	26	26
1481	10	0
Total	286	31

The following table breaks out the numbers for Community Service and the Toys for Tots statistics for the Detachments reporting.

Det.	Hrs	Kids	Toys	Dollars
373	7,124	4,096	9,882	\$11,715
374	NA	NA	535	NA

386	NA	NA	NA	NA
470	1,100	5,519	11,038	\$420
578	NA	1,959	4,117	\$7,327
917	NA	NA	NA	NA
1042	NA	NA	NA	NA
1228	NA	600	2,500	NA
1308	2,150	5,200	10,000	\$5,000
1481	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	10,374	17,374	38,072	\$24,462

The following data is in reference to ‘The Marine for Life’ program. The difficulty with the IRR list is the fact that there are no physical addresses where letters can be sent. Attempting to contact individuals from the phone numbers and emails provided is not yielding any positive results.

Det.	M4L
373	0
374	0
386	0
470	2
578	0
917	NA
1042	0
1228	0
1308	0
1481	0
Total	2

Other notes of interest:

Det.	NOTES:
373	<p>Throughout the past 12 months, the Crater Lake Detachment #373 has remained fully engaged in promoting the fellowship of the league, sustaining, and increasing our membership and participating in and supporting community events and programs.</p> <p>Our MCL Scholarship program was bolstered with a private endowment which allows us to now provide three (3) separate scholarships to extremely qualified applicants. Our members and leadership continue to make a positive impact on our local schools, our county and city governing bodies, as well as our local businesses and houses of faith.</p> <p>Our members enjoy special meal gatherings every month and joining together to support city and county projects and events throughout the year. Most recently, the Crater Lake Detachment has taken on the task of making improvements to the historic Marine Barracks Memorial. Numerous local businesses and private citizens have made donations and contributions exceeding \$18,000 in the effort to make this memorial park a destination place for all who live here and those who travel in from outside the region. A dedication ceremony will be taking place on the afternoon of 10 June 2023. Marines from around the state, as well as other service members from our region, and community members will be gathering for this important event.</p> <p>There were three of our members serving in four Department of Oregon elected and appointed positions for the 2022-2023 period, Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Chaplain, and Sgt. At Arms.</p> <p>At the 2023 Department Summer Convention, four Detachment members were elected or appointed to the following Department positions. Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Sgt. At Arms and Marine for Life.</p> <p>At the Department Summer Convention, the following members were recognized. Saran Callen – Community Service Award, Tamara Wilson- Recruiter of the Year, Anthony Morello – Associate of the Year</p>
374	<p>Santiam Detachment #374 - All toys collected for Toys for Tots are given to a central charity service provider who consolidates collections from several collecting agencies and then distributes them to needy children. We are not informed of the number of children receiving support.</p> <p>We have been unable to gain new membership. The Detachment is losing “old” members slowly and likely, in the not-too-distant future will have to</p>

surrender the charter as it is becoming difficult to even get a quorum at meetings.

Registered letters have been mailed to last known addresses of all PLM, only five or so have been returned by the PLM, the rest are returned by USPS as undelivered. We don't know if those PLM are living, moved, or what their status is. We can't act on their membership without supporting documentation, therefore, they remain on our roster until some process of "cleansing" at National takes place.

386

Rogue Valley Detachment 386 - The pandemic has been debilitating to a senior detachment. Folks just don't want to risk getting sick. We have lost several participating members recently due to age and illness. The staff has been steady and faithful. The Dress Blues Team is awesome, and most are staff members. We have an active newsletter keeping folks up to date. Issues that need to be voted on by the members are handled through email with a very good response.

At the 2023 Department Summer Convention, a Detachment member was appointed to the following Department position, Chaplain.

At the Department Summer Convention, the following member was recognized. Andy Prudhon – Individual Meritorious Commendation Award.

470

USS Oregon Detachment 470 - Chaplain Gary Brannan received the "Meritorious Public Service Award" from the Dept. of the Navy, which was presented by Brigadier General William E Souza III, CG Marine Corps Forces Reserve.

Recruitment and retention of members are very important to keeping our Detachment moving forward. We try to use our activities to help us achieve this Goal. Having guest speakers from the Marine community at our Detachment meetings is another way to achieve this as well.

We begin each fiscal year with Flag Day in Gresham, OR, or with services and the retirement of flags. July brings the Hillsboro, OR 4th of July parade and our detachment annual picnic.

November if the Portland, OR Veterans Day parade and December we have our Christmas social.

Each spring we select a group of 1st responders. We present them with a Certificate of Appreciation for their service to the community, Box Lunches, Snacks and Drinks. This is always one of our Favorite Detachment Activities. We end our year on Memorial Day at the Vietnam Veterans of OR Living Memorial, with services and the reading of names of the Oregonians who gave their all in the Vietnam War.

	<p>While there is plenty of time in between these activities, we support the Tualatin OR Young Marines, Honor Flights, Quilts of Valor, Volunteering at the Veterans Home in Lebanon OR, NROTC at Oregon State University and the Marine Corps Coordinating Council.</p> <p>There was one of our members serving as the Department of Oregon Jr. Vice Commandant for the 2022-2023 period.</p> <p>At the 2023 Department Summer Convention, two Detachment members were elected or appointed to the following Department positions, Jr Vice Commandant and Web Master.</p> <p>At the Department Summer Convention, the following member was recognized. Gary Brannan – Marine of the Year. In addition, the Detachment was awarded the Detachment of the Year award.</p>
578	<p>Calvin E Murphy Detachment 578 - We have been very limited due to COVID 19.</p> <p>Did 'Homecoming' surprise party for a Marine returning from Boot Camp.</p> <p>At the 2023 Department Summer Convention, a Detachment member was elected to the following Department position, Judge Advocate.</p>
917	NA
1042	<p>Coquille River Detachment 1042 – We continue to rebuild after a period when we were considering surrendering our Charter. We are taking small steps but at least the steps are forward. Being that we do not have a Toys for Tots program close to us. we continue to focus on our 'Fishing Poles for Kids' project. We continue to support children 14 years old and younger through our 'Kids Fish Free' program. Through community donations we have been able to provide free Rods and Reels to children throughout the community during Christmas. Often, over 500 children and their families show up for the distribution of the Rods and Reels.</p>
1228	<p>Detachment 1228 has had a very disappointing year. Several of our events were cancelled due to the ongoing fear of COVID.</p> <p>We did accomplish the following items:</p> <p>Retired 267 National Standards, 24 State Flags and 15 Military Flags total flags retired for a total of 306 flags.</p> <p>Our fund raiser with Detachment 1481 was very successful and we raised over \$3,000.00 for our Programs.</p>

We are actively recruiting new members. We just created a recruiting team. Also, we are working on getting our Facebook page up and running and our Web Site.

Our volunteer hours for this period:

Hours 2,360.8 assisting with cooking meals at the American Legion, VFW, Poppies on Memorial Day,
Mileage 859 miles
Cost \$1,863.00

There was one detachment member serving in a department appointed positions for the 2022-2023 period, Paymaster, and adjutant.

At the 2023 Department Summer Convention, one of our Detachment members was appointed to the following Department positions. Paymaster, and adjutant.

1308

7 new members since January 2023; participation in Veterans Day Parade; Held Marine Corps Birthday Ball with 120 attendees; Participation in 5 Memorial Day Services throughout Deschutes County OR, with flags placed in 3 cemeteries.

There was one detachment member serving in a department elected position for the 2022-2023 period, Judge Advocate.

1481

We provide security and escort, the Oregon state wall every year to the casino.

We provide parking enforcement for the Salmon Bake.

We provided security for the Halloween event at the LC outlets mall.

We had a Veterans hot dog eating contest.

We helped with the crab feed, serving over 700 lbs. of crab.

We gave flags of military service to the WW2 veterans at their retirement homes.

We lay the flags on veterans at the hospital or at home no matter what branch of service they served when called. At no charge. We've been doing this for over 20 years.

Marine Corps Birthday Dinner we had 81 people last year, even during Covid.

At the Department Summer Convention, the following member was recognized. William "Bulldog" Sump – Distinguished Citizen Award.

Dept.	<p>The 2022 Department Mid-Winter Conference and 2023 Summer Convention were held in complete and formal configuration, Friday Hospitality event, Department Meeting Session, Banquet, and a Grand Growl. The members seem to like the Department Meetings being conducted in this fashion. During COVID, if we met in person, it was just the meeting session.</p>
	<p>This year we added two appointed positions to the Department Staff – “United Veterans Groups of Oregon” (UVG) Representative and “Eagle Scout” Representative.</p>
	<p>I had to appoint a new Webmaster for the Department Website. The previous webmaster decided to retire from the position after five years of serving in that capacity. The new webmaster is making several changes that are enhancing the website.</p>
	<p>This year I implemented several Department awards that were presented at the Summer Convention: Individual Meritorious Commendation Award, Community Service Award, Distinguished Service Award, Recruiter of the Year, Associate of the Year, Marine of the Year, Distinguished Citizen Award and Detachment of the Year. Prior to this Department level awards were not being given in a consistent manner.</p>
	<p>Communications with a couple of Detachments continues to be an issue. One of the Detachments seems to have previous issues with the Department leadership and is holding on to a grudge. I continue to reach out to the Detachment with the hope they will engage me when they are ready. After all, one can only request that they communicate with the Department.</p>
<p>There is a small group of Marines in one of our communities who have shown interest in standing up a new Detachment. A Commandant who is close (proximity) is assisting them to fulfill the requirements for a new Charter, specifically the member requirement.</p>	

The following table represents the Detachments strength report of **Regular Members**. Some of the Detachments have stated that the membership numbers in the National Database do not match local records. This especially affects the amount of Pd and Unpd members where the Detachment records show more members paid than reflected in the national roster. Also, changes due to Death Notices are slow in being processed and reflected in the roster. The detachments have reported that paid and life members are falling off their rosters for no apparent reasons. They reappear only after the issues are referred to National for resolution.

Det.	PLM	Pd	UnPd
373	50	39	29

374	26	6	2
386	32	21	2
470	36	24	0
578	16	6	0
917	18	11	0
1042	5	7	9
1228	23	23	0
1308	25	26	0
1481	1	23	0
TTL	232	225	42

Respectfully Submitted,
Semper Fidelis

Benjamin Quen

Benjamin Quen
Department of Oregon, Commandant