



Commandant, Department of Montana Report 07/30/2024

Monthly Meetings: The Department is continuing our 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. One concern is the participation of representatives of individual Detachments. Please place some emphasis on this as it remains the best method to discuss issues and pass on information

Pay Master Training: We continue to extend the offer of Paymaster training. With this being election time and new staff members assuming new roles, please do reach out if we can assist in training for Pay Master or any other position.

Communication: Participation is the key to communication. It is also a two-way street. As the Department passes down information to the Detachments, I hope the Detachments are passing that information down to its members. We all tend to be the decision maker of what we feel is important as we don't want to overload anyone's email. I hope we all accept we will get emails we don't need because someone else may have found that email to be valuable to them. The use of digital data and devices continues to grow and is well accepted among most of our members. Be sure and read National Sr. Vice Commandant TJ Morgan's article in the latest issue of Semper Fi magazine.

IRS/EIN Filing: After a long battle I am happy to announce the Department is again recognized as a 501c4 organization with a Group 1 designation. Being Group 1 mean we CAN receive tax deductible donations. Thank you to Jr Past Commandant Joe Rogish and Department Adjutant Janet Wagner for their hard efforts. This was literally a three-year effort.

Let us know your Detachment is up to date. I hope each Detachment got your MT. Sec. of State report complete by April 15th. Montana had waived the fees this year if you did so.

2025 Department Convention: Will be in Anaconda hosted by the Private Mike Detachment #1380. May 16 – 18 are the projected dates.

Elections: Our Department elections were held and Commandant, Sr Vice and Jr Vice remain Mike, AJ, and Ben respectively. Robert Colston is our new Judge Advocate. We welcome Robert and say thank you to Kit Johnson for his years of service with the Department.

Mid-Winter: Mid-Winter Conference is in DC. Feb 27-Mar 01, 2025 at the Sheraton Pentagon City again. I will be attending.

Department Calendar: Please publish your details for your Detachment events. Janet can put it on the Department Calendar. We want to make our website, montanamcl.org an easy place to find and share information.

Fall Conference: Our Fall Conference will be in Helena. What does September 28th look like for everyone?

New Detachments: The Missoula Detachment will hopefully be chartering this summer. Tony Hatzenbuehler is working with myself as well and Joe Rogish and Chris Ferguson with Bitterroot Detachment #937 in Hamilton. Next, I plan on starting the process to charter a Detachment in Ennis Mt. If you wish to participate, please let me know.

Respectfully Submitted

Mike Flynn

Commandant, Department of Montana