



Date: February 13, 2026

To: National Marine Corps League Commandant
Nation Marine Corps League Board of Trustees

From: National Marine Corps League Scout Committee Chair

Subject: **2026 National Marine Corps League Mid-Winter Report**

Marines and Associates,

This report will discuss the activities of the National Scout Committee during the previous twelve months.

Our committee is comprised of:

- | | | |
|------------------|--|------------|
| • Joe Uribe | juribe@mcleague.org | Ex-Officio |
| • Bill Kropa | N3evz@rcn.com | Chair |
| • Rich Walsh | rich@walsh-ss.com | Vice Chair |
| • Dave Masunas | masunasfam@gtlakes.com | |
| • Charles Minton | ssgtcdminton@yahoo.com | |
| • Steve Bosshard | stevebosshard@aol.com | |

This report contains the following sections:

1. Purpose of the Committee
2. 2026 Good Citizenship Certificates
3. Committee Initiatives
4. Community Organization Award
5. Eagle Scout Medals
6. Department of Defense/War Support

1. Purpose of the Committee

The mission of the National Scout Committee is to support the overall mission of the Marine Corps League, specifically in fostering the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism. We do this by working with Divisions, Departments, and Detachments in recognizing America's youth who have earned the highest achievements in Scouting; recognizing regular and associate members who have met the requirements for the Scouting America Community Organization Square Knot Award; recommend deserving youth for the Hero Medal; and working with local Scouting units in identifying service projects to support Veterans.

2. 2026 Good Citizenship Certificates to Date

Our primary focus continues to be presenting Good Citizenship certificates to deserving youth. Please refer to appendix A for the details on what each Department, by Division, have presented. If there were no number, no report was received.



As of this report, we have presented 761 certificates this year. Congratulations to the Northeast Division and the Department of Missouri for presenting the most certificates, 230 and 197 certificates, respectively.

3. Committee Initiatives

a. Social Media

We continue to work on spreading the word about the Good Citizenship Certificate across the country. We have a presence on:

- Boy Scout Volunteers
- Scouts BSA Female Troops Volunteers
- Commissioner Service (Scouting America, formerly Boy Scouts of America)
- Marine Corps League Connections
- MCL Membership
- USMC Vets. Marine Corps Veterans

We have posted information and links to the National MCL web page and have been encouraged by the feedback asking about our certificate. Facebook has been a great way to find different Scout districts and troops and spread the word about our program.

b. Contact List

One of the largest challenges we have is communication. National receives requests for areas all over the country, and even outside the country, and it is very time consuming to try and figure out who to contact to best support the event. The committee developed a contact list that identifies the Scout Team at National, Division, and Department levels and even has many Detachment contacts.

d. Detachment Support

We have been working with Detachments across the country to assist them in developing a program that works for them.

4. Community Organization Award

In early 2020, the Board of Trustees approved the Marine Corps League in participating in the (now) Scouting America's Community Service Award program. This award is for Marine Corps League members, in good standing, that are also registered leaders with Scouting America Councils, Districts, and/or units who have met certain requirements upon approval by the National Scout committee and Scouting America. *Information regarding this award can be found on the National web page.* This is an award that is worn on the Scouting uniform that utilizes the Eagle, Globe and Anchor device to denote our organization from the other aligned organizations. Below is what the award looks like.





5. Eagle Scout Medals

The committee would request permission for Marines and Associates that earned their Eagle Scout rank be allowed to wear their medal on their uniform during the presentation of the Good Citizenship Award. This helps instill a deeper sense of camaraderie between the Marine Corps League and Scouting.

6. Department of Defense/War Support

Not to rehash the numerous news articles and opinion pieces all over the internet, we would simply point to the Scout Oath and Law that guides all Scouts and Scouters to illustrate how it complements and reinforces the Marine Corps League's values.

The Scout Oath

*"On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."*

Key Components and Meaning

"On my honor...": A personal commitment, often witnessed, to act with integrity.

"...do my best": Focuses on effort and personal improvement rather than perfection.

"Duty to God and country": A pledge to be faithful in religious duties and a responsible citizen.

"Obey the Scout Law": A commitment to the 12 points of the Scout Law (trustworthy, loyal, helpful, etc.).

"Help other people at all times": A promise of service and kindness to others.

"Physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight": A commitment to holistic health—taking care of one's body, keeping the mind sharp, and maintaining high moral standards.

The 12 Points of the Scout Law

Trustworthy: Tell the truth and keep promises.

Loyal: Show care for family, friends, leaders, and country.

Helpful: Volunteer to assist others without reward.

Friendly: Be a friend to everyone, regardless of differences.

Courteous: Be polite and use good manners.

Kind: Treat others as you want to be treated.

Obedient: Follow rules of family, school, and troop.

Cheerful: Look for the bright side and help others be happy.

Thrifty: Work to pay your way and conserve resources.

Brave: Face difficult situations, even when afraid.

Clean: Keep body and mind fit and surroundings clean.

Reverent: Be faithful in religious duties.

The Marine Corps League (MCL) is built on the core values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment, which guide members in upholding the traditions of the U.S. Marine Corps. Key values include fostering patriotism, serving communities and fellow veterans, maintaining camaraderie, and adhering to high moral standards in personal life.

Key Values and Principles



- Core Values: Like the active duty component, the League strictly adheres to Honor (integrity), Courage (moral strength), and Commitment (dedication).
- Mission-Driven Values:
 - Americanism: Fostering ideals of patriotism, volunteerism, and love for country.
 - Camaraderie: Strengthening the bond of "Once a Marine, Always a Marine" by supporting fellow veterans, FMF Corpsmen, and their families.
 - Service: Assisting Marines, local communities, and preserving the traditions of the Marine Corps.
- Personal Conduct: Members pledge to act as honorable, decent individuals, ensuring they do not bring discredit to the League.
- Youth Development: Emphasizing values like honesty, respect, industry, loyalty, and dependability through youth programs.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact us at scouting@MCLeague.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Kropa

Bill Kropa
Committee Chair



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
National Scout Committee
Department Count by Division

2026



NATIONAL COUNT

761



Central Division	
None Assigned	
Illinois	
Indiana	
Kentucky	0
Michigan	39
Ohio	
Wisconsin	28
Division Total	67

Midwest Division	
Charles Minton	
Delaware	
District of Columbia	0
Maryland	
North Carolina	92
Virginia	7
West Virginia	31
Division Total	130

Midwest Division	
Janice Hartley	
Iowa	9
Kansas	12
Minnesota	0
Missouri	197
Nebraska	1
North Dakota	0
South Dakota	0
Division Total	219

New England Division	
Chris Cekovsky	
Connecticut	1
Maine	0
Massachusetts	9
New Hampshire	2
Rhode Island	2
Vermont	0
Division Total	14

Northeast Division	
Adam Tegge	
New Jersey	65
New York	136
Pennsylvania	29
Division Total	230

Northwest Division	
Bonnie Holden	
Alaska	
Idaho	
Montana	
Oregon	
Washington	
Division Total	0

Rocky Mountain Division	
John Everhart	
Colorado	10
New Mexico	6
Utah	0
Wyoming	0
Division Total	16

Southeast	
Claude Davis	
Alabama	
Florida	
Georgia	24
Louisiana	
Mississippi	
South Carolina	
Tennessee	
Division Total	24

Southern Division	
Jim Howington	
Arkansas	5
Oklahoma	5
Texas	12
Division Total	22

Southwest Division	
Steve Bosshard	
Arizona	0
California	39
Hawaii	0
Nevada	0
Okinawa	0
Puerto Rico	0
Division Total	39