

The Straight Scoop

Department Newsletter of the Marine Corps League P.O. Box 1224 Athens, OH 45701-1224



Volume 13, Issue 8, August 2020

Department Officers:

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COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains and Associate Members. I hope this finds you well.

Well, July has come and gone and things are almost as crazy as they were when this thing started. I am now back in the saddle after taking a short vacation and ready to push on. At this point all of our administrative duties are up to date with the exception of rifle inventories and Paid Life Member audits. Please make sure that your detachment is trying to locate these members and verify that they are still living. We have had several instances where a paid life member audit was turned in but not truly audited as there were members counted that were deceased.

Next month is our Department Quarterly meeting. We will be holding our Officer elections, giving out our Marine of the Year Award as well as the Department awards that were going to be given at the Convention before it was canceled. There will be a Grand Growl of the Pack directly following the Quarterly meeting. We will be socially distancing and wearing masks if you are comfortable doings so. Masks are not required as long as we can social-distance. I hope to see everyone there as this will be my last meeting as your Commandant.

(More on that in the next issue). If you or someone you know is interested in holding a position in the Department, please reach out to SR Vice Jim Doss and give him those names. We will also be taking nominations from the floor.

I want to remind all Detachments that we are required by law to hold meetings according to the bylaws. With COVID19, we are not always able to meet in person. In May I asked that all detachments that can't meet in person hold their monthly meetings via conference call. The conference calls are free and easy to use. There isn't an excuse not to hold meetings and conduct the business of the League. Make sure you are sending your minutes to Patti as the Department Adjutant.

Please keep all members of our Armed Forces in your thoughts and Prayers as they serve in harm's way. Semper Fidelis,

Scott Kirby

Commandant

Dept. of WV

Marine Corps League

Chaplain's Corner

Bless Our Veterans Prayer

Mighty God, thank you that you can satisfy our every desire and need. Hear our prayer of thanks for our veterans who made great sacrifices on our behalf. We ask that you would bless them and meet all their needs. We pray you would give them peace when they suffer from past trauma. We acknowledge the debt of gratitude that we owe them for the freedom of our country. Lord, bless them and keep them, make your face shine upon them. Turn your face towards them and give them peace. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

MCL Honor Guard Report

Detachments, please submit your reports for the following directly to Department Adjutant Patti Leib so they will be compiled and forwarded to the Mideast Division Adjutant.

I'm John Clickener, Chair of our National MCL Honor Guard Committee and I'm requesting your assistance in collecting data of Honor Guard and Color Guard activities within each of your Divisions. This is essentially the same process that was used by T J Morgan in previous years. I hope to receive the data for your Division's Honor Guards and Color Guards by the end of August.

This could be an aggregating process with each of your Detachments submitting a simple report of the number of their activities/events during Calendar Year 2019:

Honor Guard Funerals	Cerer	nonies	Other Events	
Color Guard Parades_	Cereme	oniesC	Other Events	
This Detachment reports could be aggregated at the Department Level by listing the number of Honor Guards				
and Color Guards reported by the Detachments as follows:				
# of Honor Guards	_Funerals	Ceremonies	SOther Events	
# of Color Guards	Parades_	Ceremonie	sOther Events	

Your Department's Aggregated Reports could be further aggregated by your Division Staff and sent to me by email or you may have your Departments send their reports directly to me with a CC to you (or your staff) and I

will aggregate the information from Departments. DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION ADJUTANTS: Please ensure that the Division or Department reports are sent by email to: honorguard@mcleague.org or click03@verizon.net. Detachments, Please do not send directly to National – send to your Department.

Thanks in advance for your assistance. Respectfully,

Semper Fi - John

Serving Those Who Served

John R. Clickener, USMC (Ret.) Cell/Text 804 761-3269

2020 Department Fall Quarterly Meeting will be Sept 12, 2020 at 10 AM at VFW Post 1212 Garfield Avenue Parkersburg WV 26101. Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting.

Annual Financial Audit, Weapons Audit and Detachment Property Inventory

A financial audit must be performed prior to the turnover of Commandants yearly. A report should be sent to the Department Adjutant-Paymaster along with the report of officer Installation (ROI). If your detachment has any weapons, they are required to conduct an inventory and file a report every three years. During the oath of installation for all officers, they are stating that they will turn over all property in their possession to their relief. A detachment should have a property inventory performed yearly that lists all material, files, equipment, banners, flags, trailers and any other items that belong to the detachment. The location of the item should be listed as well as who maintains it. This is important in the event of fire, theft, or in an emergency or death of a member who has custody of detachment property. A copy of this inventory should be kept in the detachment files.

MCL Ceremonial Rifle Program inventory and report to US Army TACOM

Any detachment that has rifles is required to inventory them and submit a report to TACOM. This report was done by most detachment s in 2017 so take a look at your last report and verify your weapons inventory and file the report. Look on the program site at National HQ for this program. Here is the link to download an inventory form for submission to TACOM https://www.tacom.army.mil/docs/default-source/donations-program-documents/cri-(jan-2020)-fillable8999d1bb7132487d8c5c42b9f75e4ed5.pdf?sfvrsn=7f5fcc52_0

After you submit your Rifle Audit to TACOM, send an email to Adjutant Leib to confirm this was done and sent to TACOM via Certified Mail. She doesn't need a copy – just confirmation of the date you submitted it.

Make Annual Verification of Paid Life Members

Paymaster Patti Leib sends a reminder to all detachments to verify their Paid Life Members (PLM) listed on the PLM Audit dated 6/30/20 from National. Upon receipt is the best time to do this so it's not forgotten. These are due at National before Dec. 31. If a detachment does not certify its PLM roster is true and accurate before the deadline, it will not receive its annual residual interest for its life members. Take the original copy of the AUDIT and verify the PLM members. The Commandant and Paymaster must sign a statement on the original that they certify and annotate that the life member list is audited and is true and accurate and that there are no changes. This must also be dated. Make a copy after signing and then forward the original to Dept Paymaster Patti Leib. She will send this to the National Adjutant/Paymaster.

You must send this signed AUDIT to Paymaster Leib with enough lead time for her to send it to National and arrive there by Dec. 31. Ref: National Administrative Procedures Section 7055. The interest paid this year to each detachment was \$2.15 per paid member on your roster as of 9/30/18. You will recognize the PLM Audit by the

two right hand columns labeled "TAPS" and "ELIGIBLE". If a member has passed away, the date of his/her passing should show under TAPS; if it's not there, please write it in. If the Eligible column says TRUE, then interest will be paid for that member. If it says FALSE, then no interest will be paid this year. The reason is, the funds must be on deposit for the first two years after a member becomes a Paid Life member before interest is accrued and paid. Then interest will continue to be paid for a period of two years after the member passes. If the member's date of passing is listed, you don't need to do anything, but if it's not, then please write it in and make sure a Death Notice has been submitted to the Department Chaplain.

Annual Dues Expire August 31

Paymasters, it's time to generate and mail a letter to all your dues paying members with a reminder that their dues expire August 31. National does not send out a reminder notice so you have to be proactive and send them one. Be sure to inform them the amount of their dues payment and to make the check payable to your detachment. Most important is to include your mailing address so they know where to send their payment. You need to track all those who pay and a good idea is to use a copy of the last quarterly roster you received from National and just mark 'paid' in the margin beside their name. In addition, if you join new members they should be included on your list. Plus, if a member passes away make a notion on the list. If you have any address changes this must be changed on a transmittal to the Department Paymaster and on your master list too. Each month you should review your list and make contact with all those who do not pay their dues with your initial mailings so your MRT can follow up. The MRT is Member Retention Team, consisting of your Jr Vice, Paymaster, and one other member.

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Professional Development Training Administrative functions from National

The only things that need to be snail mailed to the Department Adjutant-Paymaster are Transmittals as the ROI and PLM Audit should be emailed to pattileib024@gmail.com The Department Adjutant-Paymaster will forward the email to National. Death Notices should be emailed to the Department Chaplain, and he/she will forward this email to National. This is much faster and keeps an electronic record.

PLM Audits are due to HQ by 12/31 each year. ROI must be done every 12 months (not older than). A Notice of Death must be done in order for a person to show up in TAPS in the *Semper Fi magazine*.

The Semper Fi Magazine is a tab in the mcleaguelibrary.org website. The password is the document that got us out of the military, no dashes and all lower case: dd214

The Member Library is a tab in the mcleaguelibrary.org website. The password is the document that got us into the military, no dashes and all lower case: dd4

The Member Portal is a tab in the mcleaguelibrary.org website. The username is a person's email. They can reset their own password in the site. This is the new database. Commandants and Paymasters have access to edit members of their detachment. The person's email address is not in the database until the Commandant or Paymaster enters the email address into the database.

Members have access to edit their own information (address, email, and phone).

Please note that Department Commandant and Paymaster have ATLAS access - the back side of the data.

Detachment Desktop Procedures

The Detachment Commandant must ensure that the Adjutant and Paymaster maintain desktop procedures and all Detachment turn-over files, including copies of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, Detachment Bylaws, MCL Ritual Manual, Articles of Incorporation, IRS Form 990-N e-file, state business license, annual corporate license, Report of Officer Installation (ROI), Detachment financial records, Detachment minutes, resolutions and Marine Corps League Guidebook for Detachment officers. These files

must be kept in a secure area and readily available on demand from the Detachment Commandant, Department or National Commandant. These files serve as the Detachment history for audit purposes and are turned over to their respective successor. All equipment and files used for each respective officer position is never considered their personal items or materials but rather that of the position and must be turned over to their relief. This includes everything used during that officer's tenure as it belongs to the detachment. Anyone not turning over everything in their possession is a direct violation of their Oath of Installation and should be held accountable. During the yearly required detachment audit and property inventory these records and files should be made available for inspection as necessary and included in the report to the Detachment Commandant. It is highly recommended that you save copies of everything to flash drives, and share these with your Commandant or keep them in a secure location where you have your Detachment equipment stored. Update the flash drives at least quarterly so your Detachment has another source should your home suffer a fire or flood or some other natural disaster, or should the Adjutant-Paymaster be incapacitated or pass away unexpectedly.

Detachment Commandants, Paymasters, Adjutants and Adjutant/Paymasters

It is time for most; if not all; of the Detachments to elect their officers for the 2020 - 2021 terms. That also means it is time for you to submit your Report of Officer Installation (ROI) for 2020 - 2021. Remember that you have to send in a Report of Officer Installation (ROI) every year even if none of your Officers change.

PAYMASTERS: Remember, our new Fiscal Year began **July 1** so the correct numbering system of your TRANSMITTALS is now T21-01, T21-02, T21-03, etc. Transmittals, Applications for Membership, and Payment (checks to National MCL and the Department of WV MCL) must be mailed US Mail to my PO Box in Athens. You cannot email them because payment is required. Remember: Do Not save the Transmittal form to your desktop! National updates it fairly often and if you use an outdated version, they may reject it. Always go the National MCL website to obtain the current version; you can find it at this link: https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Official-Transmittal-Form-7-1-2020.pdf
Thanks!

Semper Fi,

Patti Leib, Adjutant-Paymaster Department of West Virginia – MCL pattileib024@gmail.com Mail to: PO Box 1224 Athens, Ohio 45701-1224

IRS 990 -N -e-file - postcard

All detachments MODD Pounds, WV Pack and Department of WV are required to file an annual IRS 990 Nefile. It should be filed after your fiscal year ends. For most it is June 30. You can file commencing July 1. Below is the information required. Read over the info and then log onto this site to get a new user name and password.

https://www.irs.gov/Charities-&-Non-Profits/Annual-Electronic-Filing-Requirement-for-Small-Exempt-Organizations-Form-990-N-e-Postcard

NOTE: IRS has changed how they accept the filings and does not send a confirmation back to your mail so when you finally get logged into the site and answer all the questions and file, make a copy of what you entered before sending. IRS does not send you a confirmation copy or acceptance. Once you create a user name and password, be sure to write it down. Log into your email account and you will be given a code to enter your information. It's only good for 15 minutes. When you try to log into the site, you can enter your user name okay but you will have to enter your password twice as it will deny you on the first attempt. After logging in and answering all the questions, copy off what you entered. After filing, wait for about an hour and log back into the site and see if IRS accepted your file. Copy off the IRS acceptance and send a copy to your Paymaster

and or Dog Robber

Annual Electronic Filing Requirement for Small Exempt Organizations — Form 990-N (e- Postcard) How to file

To electronically submit Form 990-N, *Electronic Notice* (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or Form 990EZ, use the Form 990-N Electronic Filing system (e-Postcard).

All organizations are required to register at IRS.gov prior to filing Form 990-N. You may or may not be asked to register again the next time you file, but if you are, you can use the same user name and password as before. Form 990-N must be completed and filed electronically. *There is no paper form*. Form 990-N filers may choose to file a complete Form 990 or Form 990-EZ instead.

Use the Form 990-N Electronic Filing System (e-Postcard) <u>User Guide</u> while registering and filing.

For filing system and website issues, refer to the second question on the <u>How to File: Frequently Asked Questions</u> page.

Prior to filing your form, please review the following information:

Who must file? Most small tax-exempt organizations whose annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less can satisfy their annual reporting requirement by electronically submitting Form 990-N if they choose not to file Form 990 or Form 990-EZ instead.

Exceptions to this requirement include: Organizations that are included in a group return, <u>Churches</u>, their integrated auxiliaries, conventions or associations of churches, and Organizations <u>required to file a different</u> return

• Form 990-N filing due date

Form 990-N is due every year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your <u>tax year</u>. You cannot file the *e-Postcard* until after your tax year ends.

Example: If your tax year ended on December 31, the *e-Postcard* is due May 15 of the following year. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the due date is the next business day.

If your 990-N is late, the IRS will send a reminder notice to the last address they received. While there is no penalty assessment for filing Form 990-N late, organizations that fail to file required Forms 990, 990-EZ or 990-N for three consecutive years will <u>automatically lose their tax-exempt status</u>. Revocation of the organization's tax-exempt status will happen on the filing due date of the third consecutively-missed year. Watch this IRS <u>YouTube presentation</u> for more information.

Information you will need when filing Form 990-N

Form 990-N is easy to complete. You'll need only eight items of basic information about your organization.

Search for Form 990-N filings to search for organizations that have filed Form 990-N and to view their filings, see *Exempt Organizations Select Check*. You can also download the entire database of Form 990-N filing

Stuff" on a Shingle (S.O.S.)

So, do you remember your first contact with the fabled S.O.S.? Was it at Parris Island or did you "hold out" until you reached Lejeune, or perhaps were aboard one of the many ships we shared? And, would you like to be re-introduced or share the delight with family and friends? Here is the original recipe that Marines have thrived on for more than 200 years. Tried once, you're evermore addicted.

Gather the following ingredients: 1 1/2 pounds lean hamburger

- 2 tablespoons butter/margarine; 1 cup chopped onion
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 2 tablespoons granulated garlic; 4 tablespoons soy sauce

1 tablespoon Worcestershire; 2 cups of milk

Salt and pepper to taste.

Brown the meat, then add the margarine/ butter stirring the mix thoroughly. Throw in the chopped onions and simmer all until the onions are translucent.

Now, add the flour and cook for two to three minutes. Add the garlic, soy and Worcestershire sauces, again mixing thoroughly. Finally, add the milk a little at a time and stir until all thickens:

"VOILA!!!," you have a USMC treat that can be spread on biscuits, hash browns or toast. Remember to thank your old Mess Sgt who prepared that SOS for you.

We are Veterans

Courtesy of Jack W. in Las Vegas...

For ALL my Nonmilitary FRIENDS out there, this may or may not help you understand those of us that served in the Military.

We Are Veterans.

We left home at a very young age for an unknown adventure.

We loved our country enough to defend it and protect it with our own lives. We said goodbye to friends and family and everything we knew.

We learned the basics and then we scattered in the wind to the far corners of the Earth.

We found new friends and new family.

We became brothers and sisters regardless of color, race or creed. We had plenty of good times, and plenty of bad times.

We didn't get enough sleep.

We smoked and drank too much.

We picked up both good and bad habits. We worked hard and played harder.

We didn't earn a great wage.

We experienced the happiness of mail call and the sadness of missing important events. We didn't know when, or even if, we were ever going to see home again.

We grew up fast, and yet somehow, we never grew up at all. We fought for our freedom, as well as the freedom of others. Some of us saw actual combat, and some of us didn't.

Some of us saw the world, and some of us didn't.

Some of us dealt with physical warfare, most of us dealt with psychological warfare.

We have seen and experienced and dealt with things that we can't fully describe or explain, as not all of our sacrifices were physical.

We participated in time honored ceremonies and rituals with each other, strengthening our bonds and camaraderie.

We counted on each other to get our job done and sometimes to survive it at all. We have dealt with victory and tragedy. We have celebrated and mourned. We lost a few along the way.

When our adventure was over, some of us went back home, some of us started somewhere new and some of us never came home at all.

We have told amazing and hilarious stories of our exploits and adventures.

We share an unspoken bond with each other, that most people don't experience, and few will understand.

We speak highly of our own branch of service, and poke fun at the other branches.

We know however, that, if needed, we will be there for our brothers and sisters and stand together as one, in a heartbeat.

Being a veteran is something that had to be earned, and it can never be taken away. It has no monetary value, but at the same time it is a priceless gift.

People see a veteran and they thank them for their service.

When we see each other, we give that little upwards head nod, or a slight smile, knowing that we have shared and experienced things that most people have not.

So, from myself to the rest of the veterans out there, I commend and thank you for all that you have done and sacrificed for your country.

Try to remember the good times and forget the bad times. Share your stories.

But most importantly, stand tall and proud, for you have earned the right to be called a Veteran.



Detachment 956 2019 Marine of the Year Medallion and MCL Certificate presented to Todd Hess (left) by Detachment Commandant Roger Ware. Hess was recognized for his multiple years of supporting Toys for Tots, fund raising events, Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Beirut Bombing Memorial services and area parades. He also assisted with annual Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs Expo at Elkins High School.



Marines William "Al" Lipscomb and Dexter Owsley presented the Eagle Scout Award to Adam Ferguson, Robert Nunley, Sean Kemp and Brett Stephens of Troop 5 of Charleston on 15 July 2020.

Pending Calendar

2020 Department of North Carolina Annual Convention: The 50th Anniversary Convention date has moved to 25-26 September, 2020 It will still be held at the Hilton Charlotte University Hotel, 8629 J M Keynes Dr., Charlotte, NC 28262. Reservations: 800-445-8667 or 704-547-7444 use Block Code – NCMARI. Hosted by Pfc Bruce Larson Detachment #1242 and Charlotte Detachment #750. MCL rate is \$119 ++ (Regular Rate: \$129 ++ to \$149 ++). Reserve before 8/31/2020. 75 Rooms are blocked until 8/31/2020. Reservations made 9/21 to 9/28 will be guaranteed the MCL rate but the room might not be available if the hotel is filled. MCL rate is in effect for stays between 9/21 and 9/28. Room choice is one King or two Double beds. Breakfast for 2 is included. No charge for parking. Questions, contact DCMathias@aol.com or call 704- 451-1397 Note that all dates have been corrected for the date change of the Convention.

<u>2020 Mideast Division Conference</u> will be June 19-21, 2020 hosted by Dept of Virginia at Holiday Inn, 5655 Greenwich Road, VA Beach, VA 23462. Room rate \$120 plus 14% tax – total \$138.80, 1-800-567-3856 or 757-499-4400 – (dial 0) use code: MED. You can start reservation after July 12, 2019. **CANCELED**

<u>2020 MCL National Convention</u> will be August 10-15, 2020 at Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, 100 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL, 32118 Phone: 888-217-5507. Room rate: \$145.00 includes tax, Wi-Fi, parking and breakfast. Reservation open on Monday August 12, 2019 at 10 AM EST. CANCELED

<u>2020 Department Fall Quarterly Meeting</u> will be Sept 12, 2020 at 10 AM at VFW Post 1212 Garfield Avenue Parkersburg WV 26101. Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting.

2020 Modern Day Marine Expo will be Sept 22-24, 2020 at MCB, Quantico, VA. CANCELED

<u>2021 MCL Midwinter Staff Conference</u> February 24– 28 2021 Sheraton Norfolk Waterside, 777 Waterside Drive Norfolk, VA https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfsi-sheraton-norfolk-waterside-hotel/ Group Code: MCL Phone: (757-622-6664) Room rate includes up to 4 breakfast vouchers per occupancy. \$129.00 per night + prevailing tax (currently 14%) Please make your room reservation directly to the hotel.

2021 Mideast Division Conference will be 16, 17, 18 April 2021 hosted by Department of Delaware at Atlantic Sands Hotel & Conference Center (Oceanfront) 1 Baltimore Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware 19971 Phone: 800-422-0600 | 302-227-2511 https://atlanticsandshotel.com/ Room rate \$105.00 plus fees. Discounted breakfast, parking included. **Reservations may be made now**. *Reservation may be made now by calling 1-800-422-0600, refer to the **Mideast Division Marine Corps League Block #9579** arriving Friday, April 16, 2021. **Reservations are open.**

2021 Modern Day Marine Expo will be May 4-6, 2021 at MCB, Quantico, VA

2021 Department of West Virginia Department Convention will be May 14-16, 2021 at the Holiday Inn Express, 50 Martin Street, Elkins, WV 26241 hosted by Leland D. "Crow" Crawford Detachment #956. Room rate \$100.00 per night. Phone: 304-630-2266. Hotel registration deadline is April 29, 2021. Free parking and continental breakfast 6 -10 a.m. Banquet \$30 and will be buffet style. POC is Roger Ware 304-636-4365 or rware@yahoo.com. Please do not call the hotel to make your reservations as Detachment 956 will make reservations when you send them your payment. Once your payment is received your name will be given to the hotel under the Code MCL. This is to take advantage of the tax-exempt status. There will be a pending flyer which can be used for advance registration, hotel and banquet. There is no pre- registration fee or ad book.

<u>2021 Department of North Carolina Department Convention</u> will be June 11-13, 2021 in Hickory, NC. It will be hosted by Catawba Valley Detachment # 1163

<u>2021 MCL National Convention</u> will be August 6-14, 2021 at Wyndham Springfield City Centre, 700 E Adams St, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Room rate is \$129.95 with tax included. Free breakfast, free parking and WiFi. Pet friendly. <u>wyndhamhotels.com</u> Phone. 217-789-1530 Reservations open August 17, 2020.

2021 Marine South Expo will be Sept 29-30 at MCB, Camp Lejeune, NC

<u>2022 MCL National Convention</u> will be August 15-20, 2022 at Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, 100 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL, 32118 Phone: 866-536-8477 or 1-800-HILTONS (toll free, 24-hour reservation center); 386-254-8200. Room rate: \$127.00 plus 12.5% tax,



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS 3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

MCO 1001.57A MPP-84 MAY <u>02</u> 2020

MARINE CORPS ORDER 1001.57A

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps

To: Distribution List

Subj: COVID-19 CROSS OF GALLANTRY w/BAT AND FRAME, AWARD OF



 This order hereby authorizes the award of the COVID-19 CROSS OF GALLANTRY RIBBON to all Marines, retired or active duty, who have successfully completed AT HOME QUARANTINE without killing their Dependapotomus, their Spawn or Annoying Neighbors.

> FAUCI DE BLASIO Deputy Chief of Staff HQMC Awards Branch