



The Straight Scoop

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



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Commandant's Letter ~ March, 2022

Welcome to all MCL Members, Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Chaplains and Associate Members:

February was a very wet month and I hope no one was flooded out.

I appointed Sr. Vice Commandant Mike McLain to represent the Department at the Midwinter Staff Conference to be held in Norfolk, VA February 23-27, 2022 as I was unable to attend.

I submitted the Departments negative response to National on having Marine At Large members in the Department of WV.

I visited Detachment 1065 Ripley and Detachment 1474 in Hurricane for their Detachment meetings.

As Department Commandant and Detachment 1180 Commandant I delivered 100 bags of fruit, crackers, and Valentine's cards along with Detachment 1180 Sr. Vice Ben Edwards to the Hershel Woody Williams VA Hospital in Huntington, WV for distribution to veterans for Valentine's Day.

Detachment members that plan to attend the Department Convention May 20-21, 2022 hosted by MGM Detachment 1180, Point Pleasant, WV need to get their hotel reservation made as well as their reservation for the Saturday night Banquet. The hotel is just across the Ohio River from Point Pleasant in Gallipolis, OH on State Route 7 North – it's very easy to find and is the same location as the 2018 Department Convention.

Detachments should submit to Detachment MGM 1180 an ad for their Detachment in the Convention Ad Book or make a monetary donation. The Department Adjutant and our Ad Book Chairman sent out the information on this earlier this month. This is a great way to promote your Detachment, so be sure to submit your ad! We also do a Memorial Page to honor members we've lost over the years; it's only \$5 per name and a nice tribute to their memory.

Detachments need to bring several items to be auctioned off for the Scholarship Fund at the Saturday night Banquet and bring an item for Detachment 1180 to auction off Friday night in the hospitality room. This helps the Detachment with expenses for the Department Convention and it funds the Woody Williams Scholarship program to help keep it going. Also, if your Detachment hasn't made a donation to the Scholarship program recently, please consider doing that as there are so many of our students who could use this assistance.

Please keep all members of our Armed Forces in your thoughts and prayers as they serve around the world in harm's way.

Semper Fi

Jim Doss, Commandant

Department of West Virginia

Marine Corps League

Chaplain's Corner

As spring will soon arrive and the earth will refresh following a long winter, we ask Our Lord to renew us that we will love one another unselfishly, give of ourselves unconditionally and not be satisfied by the trappings of the world but instead be content with the simple everyday blessings around us.

“May you always be blessed with a roof for the rain,
a warm cup of tea by the fire,
laughter to cheer you,
those you love near you,
and all that your heart might desire.”

– Irish blessing

Professional Development Training

Department and Detachment Board Of Trustees Duties

(1) The elected Officers of the Department and Detachment shall be their respective Board of Trustees; however, a Department Convention is authorized to appoint the outgoing Department Commandant or a Past Department Commandant to serve a one-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees. A Detachment is authorized to appoint the outgoing Detachment Commandant or a Past Detachment Commandant to serve a one-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees. The Department Board of Trustees recommendation is that no more than two members from one detachment can serve on the Board during the year. This ensures there is parity in the Department. No individual member of the Department shall serve in more than one position on the Board of Trustees.

(2) All Officers serving in elective offices must be Regular Members in good standing and have attended a high percentage of regular or special meetings of the Department or Detachment in which they are elected to serve. Each officer is to take possession of those materials previously in the possession of the officer they replaced, and they will turn over all materials in their possession to their successor.

(3) Each member of the Board of Trustees has the special duty to act in good faith with reasonable judgment for the interest of all its members and to examine all aspects of the department or detachment business including adherence to procedures, financial reports, submission of reports and substantiated expense accounts. Full transparency of financial records is imperative for the benefit of the membership. Every member of the

Board should be held accountable to their ethical and fiduciary responsibilities because they serve as a corporate officer too.

(4) The Department and Detachment will have an ongoing officer training program to ensure that every current or prospective officer has a working knowledge of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and Robert's Rules of Order. On the detachment level the officers should be well versed in their own Bylaws and Administrative procedures. Every officer must be well versed in the duties of all other officers within the department or detachment so they can take over and fulfill these duties, as necessary. The Commandant and Adjutant/Paymaster or Paymaster will be bonded by a commercial crime policy paid for and administered by National. The bond limit will be in the amount of \$10,000 with deductible of \$1,000.

(5) The Board members must ensure that proper administrative, clerical, and financial functions are being performed as necessary by all elected and appointed officers. This includes knowing their department or detachment EIN number, Charter date and Incorporation date, It also includes: holding staff and monthly meetings and keeping minutes, electing officers annually between September 1 and June 30 (Department) and September 1 and May 15 (Detachment) ensuring the Report of Officer Installation (ROI) is submitted, filing of the IRS 990N as soon as possible after June 30 yearly when their fiscal year ends, the audit and completion using the National June 30 detachment membership roster of all Paid Life Members (PLM), Department or Detachment has a Web Sgt and functioning web page, recruitment and retention of members and as required the filing of Annual Corporate Report prior to July 1 annually. Ensure that a TACOM Rifle inspection and inventory is conducted every 3 years of those detachments with rifles. If a detachment Charter is surrendered or revoked, a letter must be submitted with the Charter that the detachment has no rifles, or they have been returned to the arsenal.

The submission of all membership dues transmittal and completion of the Paymaster Report each month. Detachments need to conduct a property inventory yearly to account for all detachment property, so they know where everything is located. The responsibilities of the Board of Trustees are not only limited to these duties but all other that arise. The department will monitor and use a system to track their detachments for all administrative reports. Detachments can list all report filing dates in their monthly minutes and can include their Charter date, EIN, incorporation number and date as well as their financial audit and property inventory dates. This allows them to track all reports and is a snapshot for aiding in future filings. The department will ensure their adjutant and paymaster maintain a working relationship with all detachments and offer assistance when necessary if any required reports are not submitted as required. The department BOT will take immediate action on any item requested from National HQ or their Division. They must be proactive to ensure their department and detachment officers complete all administrative and financial duties as required.

Commandant

It shall be the duty of the Commandant to set the example for other officers and members and preside at all meetings of the Detachment Board of Trustees. The Detachment Commandant together with the Board of Trustees shall have direction and control of the executive and administrative functions of the Detachment. The Commandant will ensure that the administrative chain of command is followed in the Detachment thus forwarding all correspondence through the Department. In addition, the Detachment Commandant shall:

(1) With the Detachment Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster or written appointed custodians, have custody of all funds and property of the Detachment subject to the supervision of the Board of Trustees. The Detachment Commandant may assign the care, custody of the Detachment funds to deposit and/or withdraw funds for the good of the Detachment. The letter of authorization shall be maintained with the Detachment Financial records for audit purposes. Jointly sign all Detachment checks with the Detachment Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster.

(2) Be responsible to ensure the Annual Report of Officer Installation is completed by the Installing Officer and properly submitted. Will also be directly responsible to ensure all reports are filed as necessary by respective Detachment Officers.

(3) Will be ultimately responsible for the fiduciary nature of all Detachment funds and will ensure that an annual audit of detachment property and financial records is conducted prior to the annual installation of

Officers. Will understand sources of revenue, expense control, cash flow and profit and loss information for financial stability of the Detachment. Will solicit funds thorough donations or fund-raising events, as necessary.

(4) Ensure that all Officers read and have a working knowledge of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and Detachment Bylaws and that the Detachment and its members adhere to these Bylaws. Officers should have Bylaws training classes and prospective officers should attend a Bylaws Training Class conducted by the Department.

(5) That members of the Marine Corps League represent the detachment and maintain MC/MCL professionalism during Detachment activities and civic events.

(6) Upon approval of the membership, submit a formal bid to the Department Time and Place Committee to host a Department Convention or Department Quarterly meeting.

(7) Ensure a copy of the Detachment Articles of Incorporation and Detachment Bylaws are on file with the county clerk.

(8) Assign a member as the Detachment Web Sergeant for the Department web site listed under National Headquarters.

(9) Conduct all meetings according to the Ritual of the Marine Corps League and be well versed in Robert's Rules of Order. Ensure that his detachment is represented and has a prepared summary of detachment activities to report during Department Quarterly meetings and Department Convention.

(10) Have Bylaws and Officer Training on a regular basis either during detachment meetings or set up training schedules.

(11) Establish a Membership Retention Team (MRT) with the Jr Vice Commandant as Chairman and include Paymaster and one additional member well versed in MCL policies and procedures and ensure they give a report on membership and retention at each detachment meeting.

(12) Has the authority and opportunity to recognize members, non-member citizens of the community and companies for service and achievements in support of Detachment/League objectives.

(13) Will assign a Marine for Life representative and a unit Service Officer to advise members of veteran issues.

Senior Vice Commandant

The Senior Vice Commandant's position is important to assist and support the Commandant; to prepare for succession to the Commandant's office and to back up the Commandant when absent to perform the duties of that office. It shall be the duty of the Senior Vice Commandant to acquire a working knowledge of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League, the Department of West Virginia and the Detachment and be well versed with Robert's Rules of Order. Should be administratively involved with all detachment activities and be able to prepare an agenda and be administratively informed of all the Detachment activities and events.

Junior Vice Commandant

It shall be the duty of the Junior Vice Commandant to create and promulgate such membership incentives and programs that will produce enthusiastic response resulting in continuous membership growth and retention of department members. The JVC should be familiar with the operations and projects of the Detachment, influence programs and act as a spokesman to the Board of Trustees on what members and prospective members are looking for from the organization. The JVC and the Adjutant should assure that there is a current membership list with phone numbers and addresses available periodically (at least quarterly). The JVC should also maintain a list of potential members, Marine units, and other contacts to make sure that they are welcome at meetings, events, and activities of the Detachment In the absence and/or illness of the Commandant and the Senior Vice Commandant to perform the duties of that office. It shall be the duty of the JVC to acquire a working knowledge of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League, the Department of West Virginia and the Detachment and Robert's Rules of Order. He shall serve as Chairman of the

Detachment Membership Retention Team (MRT) and report status of membership recruiting and retention at each meeting. He shall also serve as the Marine for Life representative.

Judge Advocate

Shall act as legal advisor to the Detachment, interpreting the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, the Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and the Detachment Bylaws. The most common issues to be brought before the Judge Advocate (JA) will be Detachment questions, which should have their findings in the Detachment by-laws and policies. In the absence of specific Detachment references, Department and National bylaws and policies apply. In addition, if there are precedents for specific issues not covered in the Detachment by-laws and policies and if these precedents are within the framework and spirit of the National and Department by-laws, such precedents can apply in rendering an opinion. The JA shall advise, construe, counsel and render opinion on law and procedure to the Detachment Commandant, Detachment Board of Trustees, and Detachments members when so required in the manner outlined hereafter:

(1) Questions of law and procedure pertaining to the Detachment, the JA shall rule in writing, mailing copies of the ruling to the parties and to the Detachment Commandant, and such ruling shall be binding unless and until reversed by the Detachment Board of Trustees. A ruling can be obtained from the Department Judge Advocate if submitted in writing.

(2) The JA will be thoroughly familiar with and have a working knowledge of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures as well as their Detachment Bylaws and be able to advise the detachment on any questionable issues and or problems. In addition, should be able to answer questions regarding attendance at the Department and National meetings and processes for submitting changes to the Bylaws and policies, awards, and discussion topics for agenda items.

(3) The JA is to assure that strict adherence to all three levels of the Bylaws and policies are followed. Must also assure conformity to the letter and the spirit of accepted laws and policies of the League in general and to ensure that conditions of Charter and incorporation are maintained.

(4) The JA should review motions and votes, eligibility of voters, and activities on a regular basis to assure compliance. The JA should have documentation of issues and instances for the record for review in the future in any similar instances.

(5) The JA will be well versed in issues of parliamentary procedures, ritual, and business order during meetings.

(6) The JA is the keeper, protector and counselor of the laws, policies and procedures within the detachment. Must be diligent in assuring conformance to these credentials that allow the League and the Detachment to exist in an orderly manner. Also has the right and obligation to suggest meaningful change of the statutes from higher levels and a procedure for being heard.

(7) Will enforce through the Board of Trustees and advise members and Officers of the Detachment with the objective of maintaining order within the League organization.

Junior Past Commandant

Shall be a full voting member of the Detachment Board of Trustees and assist the Detachment Commandant as may be requested in the best interest of the Detachment. He shall also serve as the principal advisor to the Board of Trustees due to the past corporate knowledge and historical events. He should assist in providing continuity from one administration of officers to the next. His experience, background, and knowledge should be utilized for purposes of educating and assisting officers. He can provide past decisions and directions, experiences learned, and direction for incomplete objectives and or unfinished plans. He should be considered a resource to be used by the Board of Trustees and Staff Officers in accomplishing their assignments.

10 Principles of Leadership

Leadership Principles

As a Marine Corps League Officer, you must be able to demonstrate ability to accomplish your mission and be able to answer questions and demonstrate competence in your position.

Respect shows competence. Competence can be learned by attending Leadership Schools, reading, and having a working knowledge of Bylaws, enclosures, and Administrative Procedures and from on-the-job training.

Emulate previous leaders who were proven leaders

Learn to seek out those positions that help you grow and learn leadership. Good leadership is acquired only through practice. Prepare yourself for the job of leader at the next higher level. Know yourself and seek improvement by working on your weak points.

Know yourself so you can determine the best way to deal with any given situation. In dealing with membership in certain situations, you may have to be firm, however in many scenarios, be tactful as you are dealing with volunteers. Do not put yourself so aloft that you hesitate to ask advice from those that have been there and done that.

Make an honest evaluation of yourself to determine your weak points seek advice from other leaders to improve your leadership abilities. Develop a genuine interest in people and become effective in writing and speaking. Know your members capabilities and look out for their welfare. You do not want to assign someone to a committee chair if he/she is nervous and cannot work without supervision.

Remember, be approachable, treat old and new members the same, Put your member's welfare before your own. Encourage individual development. Keep your members informed as you are promoting efficiency and morale. You should promote initiative, enthusiasm, loyalty, and convictions. Be alert to stop the spread of rumors by replacing them with the truth. All too often as a Marine Corps Leaguer progresses through the ranks, he/she develops an attitude of "Do as I say, not as I do."

Show your members that you are willing to do the same things that you ask them to do. Lead from the point and always be positive and ensure your personal conduct is not open to criticism. Your example instills confidence and shows the members you can do the job. Delegate authority and avoid micromanaging in order to develop leadership among subordinates.

To be Successful:

You must be tolerant and be able to respect the opinion of your members and never remember these members are Volunteers. Look within yourself before you say something as what may seem innocent and harmless to you may be perceived by others as Hurtful and Calculating. Listen, listen, listen. Understand the true meaning of argue and offer reasons to Dispute and Discuss and remember the detachment membership has the last word by vote. Have an agenda and keep your meeting moving and keep the idle chatter to a minimum. You should also have a monthly Staff meeting and make them open to the membership.

If you have intentions to become part of the leadership, you must read the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and develop a working knowledge of the same.

Once elected:

Lead within the scope of your authority. Understand your limits. Make only the decisions that you are permitted to make. Accept the tasks that are assigned and exercise self-initiative tasks. Understand the Chain of Command and know where you stand within the chain. Keep everyone in the chain informed. Communication is the key to Success

U Understand your role within the chain of command

S Stay within your scope of leadership and delegate tasks. Do not micromanage.

M Manage your time properly so you can be effective.

C Communication is critical in everything so do not hesitate to disseminate or ask questions or your predecessors.

Ten Worst Meeting Offenses

1. Being Unprepared:
 - A. Includes Staff Officers or anyone designated to report.
 - B. Make sure that all technical aides being used are operational.
 - C. Always provide an agenda and support material in advance.
2. Starting Late instead of On Time:
 - A. Insist on starting the meeting at the scheduled time.
 - B. Whether your meetings are attended by 12 members or 200 members showing up late or starting late will damage the image that you should be trying to project.
 - C. A Meeting Hog is a person that talks just to hear himself or herself talk. You should encourage your Officers and Staff to have a written Report to present to the membership...there is nothing worse than an Elected or Appointed Officer standing and saying, "Nothing to report sir." What have you done for the Detachment during the time between the monthly meetings? If you have nothing to report, it's self-explanatory...
3. Take Part in the Meeting:
 - A. Don't just sit there if you have something to offer...Many times a member will not rise to address the body but wait until the meeting is over and then approach the Commandant or one of the Staff and offer something that is beneficial to the Detachment.
4. Sitting Silently during the Meeting:
 - A. The extreme opposite of not taking part is the member that has nothing to offer during the meeting except idle chatter. You should refrain from private meetings because it is not only rude, but you may also miss something important being said.
5. Expressing Rude Body Language:
 - A. Avoid making facial gestures and rude comments during presentation because you disagree with what is being said...You will get your chance to address the body if you so desire. Never get up and leave the room in disagreement. If you show the speaker the lack of respect to at least listen, then you have lost the battle.
 - B. It is the duty of the Commandant to manage those being disrespectful in a tactful way and do not ever put a member down by trying to humiliate him.
6. Sidebar conversations are a NO-NO:
 - A. Sidebar conversations are the rudest thing that can happen during the meeting...This should be stopped immediately and refocus on the subject at hand.
7. Arguing or putting others down:
 - A. Disagreements are Healthy and Fine, but never get into personal attacks. Don't make others look bad for the sake of making yourself look good! Never be condescending or discredit the opinions of the membership. Always be professional in your choice of response if you disagree.
8. Cells Phones:
 - A. When the Commandant orders the Sgt-at-Arms to open the meeting, he (Sgt at Arms) will open the meeting according to the ritual and the following "The smoking lamp is out and please turn off all Cell Phones." Additionally, there should be NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE MEETING ROOM. This is a common sense ruling because we all know that alcohol changes your perspective.
9. Chewing Gum or Eating:
 - A. While chairing a meeting, the membership does not want to hear you chewing gum... A bottle of water is permissible.
 - B. The staff or Board of Trustees should not be indulging either.
10. Shutting Down the Meeting:
 - A. We all know that if a meeting runs too long, you are probably going to have some disgruntled members... If you are in the process of conducting some important business and it needs to be settled

then and there, you should ask for a motion to extend the meeting an additional fifteen minutes...This shows the membership that you respect their time and are trying to be as expeditious as possible.

Dos and Don'ts for Officers of the Marine Corps League

Do:

Plan an agenda and outline your program for each meeting.

Start meetings promptly. Busy people are usually punctual.

Use the opening ritual at all MCL meetings.

See that Committee reports, Officers' reports, Installation Forms, etc., are submitted as required and on time.

Respond to all communications properly.

Encourage each Officer to be familiar with the description of his/her duties as outlined in the Bylaws.

Be neat in appearance. Wear your uniform with pride.

Give praise where praise is due and be ready with a hearty "thank you" when a job is well done.

Be gracious and friendly at all times; you represent the USMC and the MCL. Many will judge your organization by you and your actions.

Be as tactful and diplomatic as possible at all times.

Use "soft words" rather than harsh and blunt criticism. Be professional and treat others as you would want to be treated (the Golden Rule)

Perform the duties of your office in such a manner as to inspire the confidence of your membership.

Know your responsibilities as well as those of your Officers.

Try to understand both sides of a controversial matter and be impartial in your viewpoint.

Admit your mistakes if you are in the wrong.

Don't:

Don't allow new members to sit alone. Make new members feel welcome and needed.

Don't allow clashes of personalities during meetings. Issues should be debated in an orderly manner.

Don't take an office just for the title and prestige.

Don't "Pass the buck" onto someone else to cover for your mistakes or obligations.

Don't recount the difficulties or tasks you must overcome to carry out the duties of your office. You accepted the position and should expect to make some sacrifices to accomplish the duties and goals of your office. Have a positive attitude and show that you truly enjoy your position.

Don't hesitate to ask questions as to procedures, etc., or of decisions made at meetings and conventions.

Don't expect or request anyone to perform any duty you would not do yourself.

Don't insist on having your own way if the majority's desire is to the contrary. Don't be "bossy" and dictatorial or "throw your weight around."

Don't criticize unnecessarily. Try to see both sides of the problem.

Don't give preference and privilege to a few. All members are to be treated equally.

Don't apologize for shortcomings, always put your best foot forward.

Don't set yourself apart from the members or expect to be "set apart" because of your office. No matter your position, you are no better than anyone else.

Don't discuss problems with those who are not involved. Be discreet.

Wearing additional stars on MCL ribbons NOTE 1 from the Uniform code

A 5/16" gold star will be worn to indicate additional awards and a 5/16" silver star will be worn in place of five (5) gold stars for the below listed awards.

Distinguished Citizen Ribbon - Gold - 5/16" Gold Star
Distinguished Citizen Ribbon - Silver - 5/16" Gold Star
Distinguished Citizen Ribbon - Bronze - 5/16" Gold Star
Distinguished Service Ribbon – 5/16" Gold Star

National Marine of the Year Ribbon -White FMF device
National Associate Member of the Year -White Bronze A
Division Marine of the Year Ribbon - Gold - FMF Device
Division Associate Member of the Year- Gold - Bronze A
Department Marine of the Year Ribbon - Scarlet and Gold – FMF device
Department Associate Member of the Year -Scarlet and Gold - Bronze A
Detachment Marine of the Year Ribbon – Scarlet FMF device
Detachment Associate Member of the Year-Scarlet – Bronze A

For each additional medal award, a bronze star will be worn. A silver star will be worn in place of five (5) bronze stars and a gold star will be worn in place of five (5) silver stars unless otherwise noted.

National Staff Ribbon Elected – Bronze Star
National Staff Ribbon Appointed - Bronze Star
Department Commandant Ribbon - Bronze Star
Department Staff Ribbon Elected - Bronze Star
Department Staff Ribbon Appointed - Bronze Star
Department Recruiter – Silver - Bronze Star
Detachment Commandant Ribbon - Bronze Star
Detachment Staff Ribbon Elected - Bronze Star
Detachment Staff Ribbon Appointed - Bronze Star
Detachment Recruiter – Bronze - Bronze Star
Marine Corps League Community Service Ribbon - Bronze Star
Board of Trustees Commendation (Victor T. Fisher Award) - Bronze Star
Meritorious Unit Commendation – National - Bronze Star
Meritorious Unit Commendation – Department - Bronze Star
Meritorious Individual Commendation - Bronze Star
Ceremonial Guard Ribbon - Bronze Star
Kennel Dog of the Year
Chief Devil Dogs Meritorious Commendation (Individual) - Bronze Star
Pack Dog of the Year
Pack Leaders Meritorious Commendation (Individual) - Bronze Star
Pound Dog of the Year
Pound Keepers Meritorious Commendation (Individual) - Bronze Star
Past Pack Leader Ribbon - Bronze Star
Past Pound Keeper Ribbon - Bronze Star
Marine Corps League Ribbon (Membership - Bronze Star for every 5 years served

Adjutant-Paymaster Leib advises Detachments to hold their Elections and Officer Installations in March and April; this gives you time to submit your Report of Officer Installation (ROI) no later than April 30 so she can update National and the Department Directory. This is also the time to submit your Annual Corporation Report (ACR) to the WV Secretary of State. If you need assistance, contact her ASAP. Even though the final due date for the ACR is June 30, it's easy to forget and incur a late fee of an additional \$25. Submit the ROI and ACR at the same time each year – this is required even if none of your Officers change positions!

Department Officer Nominations

Department Sr Vice Commandant Mike McLain is Chairman of the Department Nominating Committee. The following Department Officers will be elected during the Department Convention in Gallipolis, OH on May 21, 2022. Commandant, Sr Vice Commandant, Jr Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate. Nominations for these positions can be submitted to Sr Vice Commandant McLain commencing January 2022. Floor nominations will be taken at the Department Convention.

Hershel "Woody" Williams Scholarship Foundation Applications

Foundation Chairman George Gill has mailed out applications to every detachment Commandant in the Department. The applications may be reproduced as needed. The Foundation normally awards four scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00. This is a one-time scholarship so prior recipients are not eligible. The deadline for applications must be postmarked no later than March 15th, 2022. Please assure that all portions of the application are completed, all requested materials are included and proof of eligibility from the local Marine Corps League is verified. The application includes additional information required to complete and submit the application properly. Paying attention to detail is necessary in submission of an application. In the twenty-one years since the Scholarship Foundation was instituted, 150 scholarships totaling \$132,000 have been awarded.

Department Awards

Department Awards Chairman Rick Shank has mailed out nomination forms for the following department awards. Detachments should be considering those individuals who they desire to nominate for one or more of these awards. All nominations must be postmarked by March 30, 2022 to be considered and every nominee must be approved by the members at a regular detachment membership meeting and be included in your Minutes.

DEPARTMENT HEART & SOUL AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding spirit and enhancement of the mission and principles of the U. S. Marine Corps and Marine Corps League from May 2021 to March 2022

COMMANDANT OF THE YEAR AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding leadership and guidance in meeting all department and national guidelines, policies and procedures from May 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY AWARD is presented in recognition of this Detachment's outstanding public relations contributions and community involvement from May 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT AMERICANISM AWARD is presented in recognition of promoting patriotism, citizenship, participating in parade activities, and observing all traditions of U.S. Marine Corps and Marine Corps League from May 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT/PAYMASTER AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding administrative and fiscal practices and procedures in the Marine Corps League from May 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding service performance and volunteer work to veterans and their dependents from May 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER AWARD is presented to Detachment _____ in recognition for publishing an outstanding newsletter that conforms to the National Newsletter guidelines from May 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT COMMENDATION AWARD is presented in recognition for displaying outstanding principles and purposes of the U. S. Marine Corps and Marine Corps League from May 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT RECRUITER OF THE YEAR AWARD is presented in recognition to this Marine Corps League member for recruiting the highest number of new Marine Corps League members for the period May 2021 to March 2022

Associate Member of the Year



Associate Member of the Year Award Ribbon has been approved at the National, Division, Department and Detachment levels. This change/addition would be for a RIBBON ONLY. **APPROVED WITH AN “A” IN RIBBON VICE EGA.** Department Chief of Staff Roger Ware has the letter “A” for the Associate Members of the Year and the Eagle/Globe/Anchor for the Members of the Year awards.

Bronze A Device



Department Ribbon with A Device



Detachment AMOY medallion and ribbon with A device

Mideast Division Marine of the Year and Associate Member of the Year

Section 300 (h) of the National Administrative Procedures outlines the criteria for selection of the National Marine of the Year. Using these provisions, the following Mideast Division MOY recipients are the committee to select a 2022 Mideast Division Marine of the Year and the Associate Member of the Year. The Chairman is Frank Mathers - Department of Delaware. The other committee members are: Richard Tanner - Department of Delaware, Roger Ware, Mike McLain, Rick Shank and Scott Kirby - Department of West Virginia and Jeffrey Jones and Rick Thomason - Department of North Carolina. The guidelines in Section 300 (h) (2) of the above reference must be followed for each nomination. Please insert “Division” in lieu of “National”, as appropriate. Any regular member from the Mideast Division can be nominated and the Mideast Division MOY will be presented at the 2022 Mideast Division Conference. Any Associate member from the Mideast Division can be nominated and the Mideast Division Associate MOY will be presented at the 2022 Mideast Division Conference. Each letter of nomination must be mailed to the above chairman, registered return receipt, post marked not later than May 17, 2022. Mail to Frank Mathers, Mideast Division Chairperson Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year Committee, 17 Fairway Drive, Ocean View, Delaware 18870. Telephone: 301-520-8051. It must have a cover letter signed by the Commandant and Adjutant or other officers if one of them is nominated. An inner envelope must be addressed to the Mideast Division Chairperson Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year Committee. A second envelope must be addressed to the Chairperson. It must be sent Certified, Return Receipt Requested for your records, before the postmark deadline. The Marine of the Year Committee will announce the 2022 recipient during the Mideast Division Conference. The above provisions are for 2022 Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year selection only.

Division Marine of the Year (MOY) and Associate Member of the Year (AMOY) Criteria

These awards shall be presented to a REGULAR MEMBER or Associate Member of the Marine Corps League who has rendered service(s) and/or performed a deed(s) above and beyond the duties and obligations required of a member of the Marine Corps League, or a meritorious deed(s) so identified as being within the scope of these rules shall be of such substance that the weight will or shall have brought acclaim and prestige to the Marine Corps League; or has enhanced and/or furthered the concepts of the duties of being a citizen of the United States of America; or a deed(s) of courage or valor without regard for his/her own safety

Letters of nomination must originate only at the DETACHMENT LEVEL. No individual nor any subsidiary unit of the Marine Corps League shall submit a letter of nomination.

All letters of nomination shall include a letter signed by the Detachment Commandant and Adjutant, stating that the nominee for Division Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year was approved at a regular meeting of the detachment by a majority vote. (In the event a nominee is the Commandant, the letter of nomination shall be signed by the Senior Vice Commandant and the Adjutant. In the event a nominee is the Detachment Adjutant, the letter of nomination shall be signed by the Detachment Commandant and Senior Vice Commandant).

Each nomination submitted shall be placed in a sealed envelope and addressed to "Chairperson, Division Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year Society". THIS ENVELOPE SHALL THEN BE PLACED IN ANOTHER ENVELOPE and mailed, certified/return receipt requested, to: the Chairman at the address listed on the announcement. This also has a POSTMARK due date of May 17, 2022, certified, return receipt mail.

The member must be a member in good standing and have served at least either an elected or appointed for Associates position within his detachment and department. List how many years he has been a member. List his positions and what was the significance of each if any. Is he a Detachment or Department Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year?

The recommendation should summarize what the member has done in his detachment, and or department. It should be brief and only impact areas where the candidate performed that brought credit upon his detachment and not merely list that he performed the duties expected of his position and or attended meetings. What were the results of any activities he participated in that were above the normal expected duties of his position? List those activities where he was the chairman or committee lead. Examples: Toys for Tots for 15 years and how many toys collected and how many children benefited. Chairman of numerous fund-raising events that benefited detachment or selected charities. What was the total amount generated? Did he teach flag etiquette or flag folding to children, how many classes and how many kids for how many years.

What civic projects or volunteer did he do to enhance the league. If he did not participate as a league member in an event or activity, do not list it. What did he do as a volunteer outside of his detachment for the league? Was he recognized within his community for a project?

The nomination should be a snapshot of the member's achievements and not just listing his MCL awards. Did he attend his department quarterly meetings or convention, Mideast Division Conference, National Mid-Winter Staff Conference, National Convention?

The Division MOY or AMOY Committee has developed a point system to aid them in their selection process. Consideration can be giving a point for each event, and a point giving for participation outside his detachment for either serving on department, division, or national level and on any committee.

Making Part B enrollment decisions with VA benefits

You can have both Medicare and Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits, but Medicare and VA benefits do not work together. Medicare does not pay for any care that you receive at a VA facility.

- In order for your VA coverage to cover your care, you must generally receive health care services at a VA facility.
- For Medicare to cover your care, you must receive care at a Medicare-certified facility that works with your Medicare coverage.
- VA benefits will not pay for Medicare cost-sharing (deductibles, copayments, coinsurances).

Note: If the VA authorizes services in a non-VA hospital but does not pay for all the services you get during your hospital stay, Medicare may pay for Medicare-covered services the VA does not pay for.

If you chose not to enroll in Medicare and to keep your VA coverage, you will not have health insurance for facilities outside the VA health system. Some choose to enroll in Medicare Part A because it's premium-free but turn down Part B because of the additional monthly premium. If you want to enroll in Medicare in the future, you may face penalties and would likely have to wait to enroll during the General Enrollment Period (GEP). You will not be eligible for the Part B Special Enrollment Period (SEP) if you delay Medicare enrollment.

If you decide to enroll in Part B, you should do so during your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP). Enrolling in Part B provides you with the flexibility of getting health care outside the VA system. Also, you may qualify for programs to help pay the Part B premium and Medicare cost-sharing. Remember that you can keep your VA health benefits to get coverage for health care services and items not covered by Medicare, such as over-the-counter medications, annual physical exams, and hearing aids. Also be sure to think over your drug coverage options when deciding whether or not to delay Medicare enrollment.

Military Retiree ID Card Update No More Covid-19 Extensions

ID cards for retirees and their dependents have changed to the Next Gen USID cards which are being issued now. To reduce the risk of exposure during the COVID-19 pandemic, DOD electronically extended the expiration dates of ID cards. DOD has requested that retirees and their dependents who were extended under the above conditions renew their cards before they expire on Jan. 31, 2022. Extensions of ID cards for dependents of active-duty service members, and Reserve and National Guard service members and their dependents expired on Oct. 31, 2021. DOD will not issue any further extensions, so schedule your appointment today! To locate an office, refer to <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco>.

Pending Calendar

2022 Department of Maryland Convention will be 6-8 May 2022 at the Fenwick Inn 13801 Coastal Hwy Ocean City MD 1-800-641- 0011 (Code MCL) \$125.00/room. <https://www.fenwickinn.com>

2022 Department of Delaware Convention will be 7 May 2022 at the Heritage Shores Golf Club One Heritage Shores Cir, Bridgeville, DE 19933. Coffee Mess 0930, Business meeting 1000, lunch will be served after the close of the business meeting.

2022 Modern Day Marine Expo will be 10 – 12 May, 2022 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC.

2022 Department of North Carolina Convention will be May 13-14, 2022 It will be hosted by RDU Det #1482 in Durham, NC.

2022 Department of West Virginia Convention will be May 20-21 , 2022 at The Quality Inn Gallipolis, 577 State Route 7 North, Gallipolis, OH 45769. Phone: (740) 446-0090. MGM Detachment 1180 will be the host detachment. Rooms rate : \$89.00 plus tax Banquet includes choice of: Prime Rib \$30, Chicken \$30 Vegetarian \$25 each. Dinners include salad, 2 vegetables, rolls, beverage, and dessert. Amenities: Group Rate includes free WiFi, free parking, free cable, free in-room coffee, free breakfast for two guests per room (each additional guest in a room pays \$6) Breakfast is 6 a.m. – 10 a.m. Pre-registration due by April 15, 2022. For information call Jim Doss - (740) 441-5638, Jerry Bain – (304) 593-9519, Patti Leib – (740) 591-8611

2022 Department of Virginia Convention will be May 13-14, 2022 in Virginia Beach, Va.

2022 MCL Mideast Division Conference hosted by the Department of North Carolina in 17-18 June 2022. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park, 4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, North Carolina 27703, phone 855-605-0318 or 919-941-6000 The host Detachment is Cpl Alan D Lamm from Burlington. Costs TBD

2022 MCL National Convention Will be August 15-19, 2022 at Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, 100 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL, 32118 Phone: 800-774-1500 code MCL22 Room rate: \$127.00 plus 12.5% Room reservation open 0800 August 16, 2021. Rates good 4 days prior and 4 days after convention. Self-Parking: \$21.30 per car per night (includes 6.5% sales tax) Valet Parking: \$31.95 per car per night (includes 6.5% sales tax) This hotel is nearly full. ALTERNATE HOTEL INFORMATION: The Plaza Resort & Spa Daytona Beach's Grand Resort. 600 North Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118, Phone: (866) 500-5630 and as for MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, All-in Rate is \$142.88 per night includes 2 breakfasts per room per night. Self (\$15) and Valet (\$25) Parking is separate per day cost.

2023 MCL Midwinter Staff Conference will be 2/23/2023 – 2/25/2023 (check in 2/22, check out 2/26) Sheraton Norfolk Waterside, 777 Waterside Drive Norfolk, VA <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfsi-sheraton-norfolkwaterside-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.

2023 MCL National Convention will be August 14-18, 2023 in Oklahoma City, OK. At Omni Oklahoma City Hotel, 100 W Oklahoma City Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73109 , (405) 438-6500 Room rate \$165.48 includes tax. Parking not included but is \$10 per day. Pet friendly with service animals no charge but others is \$165.00 per week. Rate good for 3 days prior and afterwards.

What an awesome trip and representation of West Virginia at the Midwinter Conference in Norfolk, VA!!



National Marine of the Year for 2022 Ronald Scott Kirby, at the Midwinter Conference February 23-26, 2022 – Congratulations Scott!! Department of WV Officers at the Conference L to R Jr. Vice Greg Irwin, Past MED NVC Det 956 Commandant Roger Ware, Dept of WV Jr Past Commandant and National Marine of the Year for 2022 Scott Kirby, Representing the Department of West Virginia Sr. Vice Commandant Mike McLain, and Mideast Division Editor and PDD Richard Shank, MODD Minutemen Pound 215, WV Pack, Kennel 2021 Pound Dog Robber of the Year