

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 ~ July, 2022

Greeting Marines, Associate members, Navy FMF Corpsmen and Chaplains:

About 15 of our department members attended the Mideast Division Conference in Raleigh-Durham, NC over this past weekend. It was well attended by members from throughout the division. Our Department Adjutant-Paymaster Patti Leib was the recipient of the Mideast Division 2022 Associate Member of the Year award. Congratulations to her as this prestigious award is well deserved. She is the first Associate member to receive this award in our Division. I know she will proudly inspire other Associate members to emulate her. Our Department Officers have been awarded four Division Member of the Year Awards so one might say that West Virginia is leading the Division

Ok time to get back to the snake killing as we are coming up on the busiest time of the year as we have so many reports and files coming due in the next couple of months. All Detachments are on the fiscal year reporting for

their annual IRS 990 N efile. These are due commencing July 1 as the fiscal year ends June 30 for our Department, all Detachments, MODD Pounds and the WV Pack. Our Paid Life Member (PLM) audit will be pending upon receipt of the National PLM audit roster for all Detachments. Please check this roster to verify that your life members are still alive and submit the report to our Department Paymaster after the Commandant and Paymaster sign and date it. All dues expire August 31st, so Detachments ensure you contact every unpaid member and encourage them to continue their membership and that they know where to send their dues payments. Our Fall Quarterly meeting will be held on September 17, 2022 hosted by Cpl William B Fulks Detachment 1474 in the Winfield Community Center, 178 Second Street, Winfield WV, 25213. Please make plans to attend. The Department Staff stands ready to assist you in every way so reach out if you need any assistance. Take care of those you love and keep our deployed troops in your thoughts and prayers.

My best, God bless and Semper Fidelis,

Mike

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Lord,

This daylight, upon waking and getting ready for my day, I pray that you give me strength today, to be strong for You in this world full of temptations. Lord, You know that there are struggles I will go through today. I pray that you are with me as I go through them. Carry me when I am too weak. If I stumble into temptation, forgive me, Father. Lead me away from them, Father. I need Your strength to overcome these evils. When I triumph against them, I praise you, Father. For without You, I would not be where I am, and I would not have the strength I have. Bless my loved ones with the strength You have given me, Lord. You are worthy of all praises and honor in the entire world. You are my strength and my protection. Keep me and my family safe at all times, Lord, especially those who are in transit during this morning.

In Your Son Jesus' name, I pray, Amen

Professional Development Training

Annual Financial Audit, Weapons Audit and Detachment Property Inventory

A financial audit must be performed prior to the change of Commandants yearly. A report should be sent to the Department 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 state that they will turn over all property in their possession to their relief. A detachment should have a Property Inventory performed yearly that list 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.

Annual dues

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 must 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; a good idea is to use a copy of your last quarterly roster 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 your master list and submitted on a COAO/COAN transmittal to the Department, too. Each month you should review your list and make contact with all those who do not pay their dues with your initial mailings

Finance

The Fiscal Year shall end at the close of business on June 30th of each year. The revenue of the Detachment shall be derived from membership dues and such other sources as may be properly established at regular meetings or by the Detachment Board of Trustees. Disbursement of Detachment funds shall be made as established for payment of National Membership per capita and Department per capita dues, annual Application to Change or Appoint Officers, State of WV Annual Corporate Report, IRS 990N, Paid Life Member Audit, and those items previously approved by the membership.

Donations to non-profit organizations or members in distress can be made by approval of Board of Trustees or by voice vote during regular member meetings. A letter should be received from any non-profit organization or school requesting a donation in support of a function. The letter should be read during a membership meeting and any donation must be approved or denied by the membership. A budget will be established, as necessary. Each Detachment shall fix the amount of its annual membership dues. Annual dues shall include the Department and National per-capita dues and fees.

All other disbursements will be approved during normal business meetings. The maximum amount of funds that the Commandant is authorized to disburse without getting general membership approval should be specified in your Detachment's Bylaws. The maximum amount for the Board of Trustees should also be specified in the Bylaws. The Paymaster will reimburse members for approved items upon paid receipts if funds are available.

The Detachment will maintain a checking account and all funds received will be deposited. The Paymaster will draw down funds on all checks and ensure proper signatures are obtained. Two signatures are required on each check. This account will be audited with the monthly bank statement and a report will be given during the general membership meeting by the Paymaster. An annual audit will be conducted by the Audit Committee prior to the Officer Installation.

A motion should be made by the Paymaster to change bank signature cards during a regular meeting upon Installation of Officers and this must be included in the minutes, then a copy of the minutes given to the bank as back up for requesting new signature cards.

The annual per capita dues shall be provided for by the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures plus an additional Department per capita dues as determined by the Department Convention. The sum of these two accounts shall be forwarded with every membership application or renewal thereof by the Detachment Paymaster directly to the Department Paymaster who will remit the National per capita dues in each instance to the National Paymaster. The current Department of WV annual per capita of \$5.00 is effective as of 1/1/2003. A member resigning from membership shall not be entitled to any refund of per capita paid.

The Detachment Commandant and Detachment 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. If there is a conflict of interest, the Sr Vice Commandant can be the authorized signer in place of the Commandant, with approval of the Membership.

Checks drawn against Detachment funds shall be valid only if they cover disbursements authorized and jointly bear the signatures of the Commandant and Paymaster. The Detachment financial records will include the Detachment corporation name, address, telephone number and Employer Identification Number (EIN).

No Officer or member of the Detachment shall obligate the Detachment financially in any manner whatsoever without the prior consent of the membership or Board of Trustees.

To assure the financial integrity and credibility of the Detachment, any funds received for a charitable purpose or for a specific purpose will be deposited into the Detachment funds and will be reserved for that respective charity or specific purpose.

Detachment Audits and Reports - An annual audit of detachment finances will be conducted prior to the annual Installation of Officers. Monthly audits can be conducted and be combined to satisfy the annual audit required by this section if these audits are included in detachment meeting minutes and approved by members. A copy of the audit and all the minutes from the last installation will be sent to the Department Commandant and to the Department Adjutant-Paymaster or submitted monthly.

Fund Raising

Two of the most important tasks of every detachment are the recruiting and retention of members and raising funds to run the operation and support detachment programs and objectives. A detachment cannot make the mistake of continually relying on its own membership to fund operations and projects. Brainstorming on numerous methods and ideas to generate funds will benefit your detachment.

Any fund raising must be discussed during your membership meetings When deciding to do your event, have the membership approve your event and document the vote in your meeting minutes. This makes it officially under the Corporation and covered under the insurance policy. In conducting a fund raiser ensure you specify what the funds are being collected for. If collecting funds for your detachment operating funds or for Veterans, you can keep those funds in your detachment general fund as long as you desire and disburse when you want. If collecting funds for an IRS registered non-profit charity you can hold those funds in your account and disburse indefinitely either yearly or all at once. However, if you collect funds for a local nonregistered charity or for a local benefit, these funds must be liquidated before the end of your detachment fiscal year. Any of these type funds held beyond your fiscal year can be counted as profit in the event of an audit by the IRS or the state.

If you do a raffle to benefit a charity, then those funds must be dedicated toward that respective purpose. The net proceeds from a drawing need to be applied to that program or project for which the money was received. From the total revenue, the cost of merchandise, printing of tickets, and an amount for the reserve fund of the Detachment may be deducted. These funds can be kept in your general account as long as you keep track of them in a separate spreadsheet.

Don't forget, when your detachment is incorporated this is your authority to conduct fund raisers within your respective area and your general business license from the state of WV supports your activity. I would highly suggest that each Detachment file a copy of their Detachment Bylaws and Corporate papers with its respective County Clerk's Office as this makes everything a matter of record in the event a fund-raising issue develops.

Make posters listing your prizes and drawing dates, set up a small table at a mall entrance or large department store: Walmart, Kmart, Tractor Supply Company, etc. You might even have a donation jar for anyone who wants to make a donation to a local charity, such as Humane Society, Relay for Life, Make a Wish, or any other non-profit organization (ensure any funds collected this way go to that organization). When you collect these funds and then make the donation, be sure to get photo of event in local paper as it gets your Detachment some visibility and further supports future events in your communities.

Make Annual Verification of Paid Life Members (PLM)

Paymaster Patti Leib sends a reminder to all detachments to verify their Paid Life Members (PLM) listed on the membership roster dated 6/30/22 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 roster 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 roster to Paymaster Leib with enough lead time for her to send it to National and arrive there by Dec. 31, but she usually spends the Christmas holidays with her family in Arizona, so she asks that this be completed before November 30.

Concepts on League memberships

The Marine Corps League has been around for almost a century and was created to build a community among Marines who served or returning from the horrors of war and to:

- a. To preserve the traditions and to promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps.
- b. To band those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service together in fellowship that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy.
- c. To fit its members for duties of citizenship and to encourage them to serve as ably as citizens as they have served the Nation under arms;
- d. To hold sacred the history and memory of the men who have given their lives to the Nation.
- e. To foster love for the principles which they have supported by blood and valor since the founding of the republic;
- f. To maintain true allegiance to American institutions;
- g. To create a bond of comradeship between those in the service and those who have returned to civilian life;
- h. To aid voluntarily and to render assistance to all Marines, honorably discharged Marines, FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplains, as well as to their families, their widows and their orphans;
- i. To perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps, and by fitting acts, to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions that are of particular interest to Marines.

The League is a place where the deep bonds begun by serving in the Corps or in foxholes overseas can be woven stronger, where generations have not only healed but chosen to give back to their communities.

As the Iraq and Afghanistan veterans transition back into civilian life and deal with the horrors and side effects of PTSD brought on by multiple tours in combat zones. Several League members that are combat veterans from WW II, Korea and Vietnam know exactly what that feels like.

The League provides the platform for these members as well as Peacetime and Associate members to band together and provide valuable insight to each other from shared life experiences.

When the League gathers together as a unit, we show moral support to each other by being there for one another and taking time to just listen to each other's thoughts and concerns and in turn mental support is achieved to curve the current epidemic of veteran suicide today which is heartbreakingly high due to America's all-volunteer force serving multiple tours in combat zones as well as veterans dealing with problems we have in everyday life that can accrue during or after military service.

Once you find the Marine Corps League and embrace the tribe, you will find that none of us stand alone and the acronym we follow is (T.E.A.M) Together Everyone Achieves More. Semper Fidelis!

Marines that have PTSD have found that in by joining the League is like a hospital as it's therapy and more than anything, it's a family, and still a "Band of brothers".

Those stereotypes are those that we continue to combat and it's fair to say that Marines enjoyed going into a bar and swapping war stories, and maybe that was the extent of it. But over the years, Marines' desires just have changed drastically.

The generation of Marines who fought in the post-9/11 wars, have found community in other places, and they often prefer experiences like participating in marathons and going kayaking versus sitting around listening to some older Marines talk about politics.

The League is a lot more aware of its image, and is starting to focusing on that image to be sure that members know the League is a representative of Marines from every era.

The aging membership rolls continue to lose Marines, and the generation of retired service members from two decades of combat this millennium haven't shown up to fill their shoes.

Are our current members willing to take responsibility to actively seek new and younger members, like recruiters for the USMC, to help secure the future of the Marine Corps League, and to assist the younger generation with successfully transitioning and acclimating back into civilian life. It's not only important to the future of our League, but also young Marine families, and the future of our Country.

Our League has a lot to offer besides renewing the camaraderie shared while serving on active duty. We have members who can help with VA claims, others who can help network for employment, funds for Marines in distress, scholarships for education, community and civic involvement for students, fund raising activities to benefit school sports programs, participation in various military theme events, disaster assistance and lobbying for medical and additional benefits for Marines. These are just a few things our League supports so are you ready to get on board and come join our league and share your vision and ideas.

Concepts written by: Past Department Commandants - Roger Ware and Rick Shank

Recruitment of younger Marine Corps members

Military veterans by participating in a veterans organization provides a unique opportunity to serve in their community with people from all walks of life and offers the opportunity to share the bond and camaraderie that melds veterans together as proud United States Marines.

Far too often, detachments are standing by and waiting for this younger generation of Marines to just walk in and join like their fathers and grandfathers before them. And this appeared to be the marketing strategy to bolster membership in the League. The League relies solely on their name to entice these young Marines to show up and join, and most have a marketing campaign that hasn't quite made it into the 21st Century. It may be sending an application for them to complete and asking for money and not enclosing an information page. You must be aggressive and seek them out. Go to high traffic areas, set up a booth or table and sell the league.

How do we get the younger Marines to be part of that? The answer is we don't The League has to change. The thought that eventually the younger Marines will join because they are missing the camaraderie is a false notion. There are too many newer and younger Veteran Organizations that have popped-up in the recent years for them to join leaving a vast number of veteran organizations competing for membership from a much smaller pool of veterans.

The League might use the following common-sense steps to appeal to that younger generation of Marines who are the very lifeblood of the existing MCL to build more memberships

- 1. Be honest and transparent when sending out material to attract new members. Educate the younger veteran generation by conveying to them what you have accomplished locally and nationally to ensure that veteran issues stay at the forefront of the discussion. Show them that you are making a difference. Let them know about the whole League and not just your detachment, and that it's not just a narrow scope of membership and money.
- 2. Treat all Marine veterans equally. Both men and women have served honorable in the Marine Corps. To assume only men deployed or served is backwards thinking and has no room in today's Marine Corps League.
- 3. I know the more seasoned Marine veterans have life experience and perhaps a different frame of reference. But we should never think that the younger generation is any different. As leaders, we should always welcome

new ideas from everyone, and the younger veterans are full of ideas-just as we were at that age. You should embrace their energy and let them share their ideas about improving your detachment; you will be pleasantly surprised with the innovative ideas that they come up with. Be open to these new ideas.

- 4. Welcome all Marines into your detachments. When you see someone new walk in, welcome them with open arms, make them feel like they are part of your detachment and have found a new family and friends. And don't criticize the way they look now or their time in service.
- 5. Keep your meetings short and to the point. If you have younger veterans in your detachments, assign them a task during the meeting and ask them to work with the membership and complete it. Get them involved in the administration of your detachment and encourage their involvement. The younger generation, especially the millennial's like to solve problems by working and teaming with a group. This is a prime opportunity for the detachment leadership to mentor those younger Marines. Be patient. Some of these young Marine veterans suffer from a malady of challenges, such as Traumatic Brain Injury or PTSD
- 6. Use your detachment as a place where veterans can network with the community. Invite local business owners, company executives, your local college Veteran's Representatives, or members of the local Chamber of Commerce to speak at your meetings.
- 7. Don't be afraid to work with other veteran organizations within your community. Build a strong support network for all veterans.
- 8. If you have a reserve unit or National Guard unit nearby, begin working with them to build a relationship. These once flourishing programs have had their share of budget cuts, but the mission remains the same. This is where the Marine Corps League could make a positive impact with the base leadership as well as the surrounding veteran population.
- 9. Introduce yourself and your detachment to your local Guard and Reserve centers. Most of the members live, work, and shop in your community.
- 10. Sign up for and attend every veteran event that you can. Make sure the people in your community know that you are the person and veteran organization to contact when it comes to supporting veterans.

At the end of the day talking the talk and walking the walk will bring a more positive response and ensure that the new generation of Marines will know that they are not alone and have a family within the League.

Jr. Vice Commandant Greg Irwin – Recruiting Points

In my travels and in speaking with various detachments and members here are some topics that you might try interjecting into recruiting some new members. Remember Associate members increase your total membership numbers so sign more up.

Meetings need to be engaging. No one wants to site in a monthly meeting and regurgitate information. Some detachments have been securing guest speakers for their meetings to give their membership something relevant to take away from their time. Fun gatherings are also a good retention tool. As we know youth is a requirement for our organization to stay relevant. We need to add events that bring in the younger members and make them want to stay. Physical fitness events, hikes, sporting events, etc. are all good ideas to entice younger members to join. We need to keep in mind that we need to ADD events, not change the culture outright. Changing a culture outright may alienate people who enjoy some of the current atmosphere.

We have fabricated a trifold brochure that we will task out detachments to use with placement in high traffic areas throughout the state. In addition, we want our detachments to interact more with area USMC recruiters and target outdoor areas which appeal to Marines, i.e.: camping, hiking, boating, fishing, and hunting areas, plus seasonal recreational activities.

We need to home in on the 35 year and older Marines. Those younger have a wife with kids, a full time job and outside responsibilities. We should go after those whose children have grown and whose wife wants him out of the house. We need to do fundraisers that require more than just one or two Marines. Everyone gets involved. Exposure is key to recruitment. Entertainment is key to retention.

Semper Fi,

Greg Irwin

New VA Life Insurance Program Coming January 2023 for veterans with Service Connection Issues

The, VA will launch a new life insurance program in 2023 called Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife), which provides guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance coverage to Veterans age 80 and under, with any level of service-connected disability. Some Veterans aged 81 and older may also be eligible.

What is Guaranteed Acceptance Whole Life Insurance?

Guaranteed acceptance is a whole life policy that does not require a medical exam or ask health questions. It also does not have a limited **two-year** window to sign up. Whole life insurance provides coverage for the entire life of the individual policyholder, provided that premiums are always paid. Premium rates are locked in for the life of the policy, and unlike term policies will not increase as the policyholder ages.

What benefits does it offer?

Created by Public Law 116-315, the new program meets the needs of service-connected Veterans who may not have previously qualified for life insurance with VA. VALife offers guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance coverage that lasts for an individual's entire life and provides the following benefits:

- All service-connected Veterans aged 80 and under with 0-100% VA disability ratings are eligible.
- Fully automated online enrollment with instant approvals.
 - Coverage comes in increments of \$10,000, up to a maximum of \$40,000, and premiums are competitive or better than what's available in the private sector. There is a two-year waiting period for full face value coverage to take effect.
- No medical requirements for enrollment.
- Cash value that builds over the life of the policy after the first two years of enrollment.
- Rates are best the earlier you sign up. Once locked in, premiums will never increase.

Who is eligible?

All Veterans ages 80 or younger with a VA disability rating of 0-100% are eligible for VALife, with no time limit to apply.

Veterans who are 81 or older may apply for VALife within two years of receiving a new service-connected disability rating if:

- They applied for VA disability compensation before age 81, and;
- They received a new service-connected disability rating after turning 81.

How does this impact other VA Life Insurance programs?

VALife opens life insurance coverage to more service-connected Veterans than ever before. In contrast to Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance (S-DVI), VALife has no medical requirements and there is no **two-year** time limit to apply if a Veteran is age 80 or under.

Veterans who currently hold an S-DVI policy can either keep their current coverage or apply for VALife when the application goes live. Veterans can keep their S-DVI policy until the full coverage of VALife begins two

years after enrollment as long as the application is received between Jan. 1, 2023, and Dec. 31, 2025 S-DVI will close to new enrollment after Dec. 31. Veterans interested in S-DVI should apply by this date, even if they are interested in applying for VALife in the new year. Applying for S-DVI now allows eligible Veterans to have life insurance coverage while waiting the two-year period for their VALife coverage to become available.

How can you apply for both?

The application for VALife will go live on Jan. 1, 2023. Stay tuned for more information on VALife and the application process. Once the program is open, the application will be available online at https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/VALife.asp.

If you are interested in applying for S-DVI before VALife opens, or would like to learn more about the coverage, please visit the S-DVI webpage here: https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/s-dvi/.

Where can I learn more?

To learn more about VALife and whether it's the right choice for you and your family, please visit the webpage here: https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/valife.asp.

If you would like to receive email updates about VALife, please sign up here: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVAVALI/subscriber/new.20

Pending Calendar

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.

2022 Department of WV Fall Quarterly Meeting will be held on September 17, 2022 hosted by **Cpl William B Fulks Detachment 1474 in the Winfield Community Center,** 178 Second Street, Winfield WV 25213, Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting. The uniform code has been modified for the department regular meetings as members can wear polo shirts and black pants, with fore and aft cover. The uniform code must be followed for the Department Convention.

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/orfsisheraton-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 Department of WV Department Convention will be May 19-21, 2023 at Comfort Inn & Suites,167 Elizabeth Pike, Mineral Wells, WV 26150. Phone: 304-699-0886. Room rate: \$85.00 Free breakfast, WIFI, parking. Rooms have refrigerator and microwave. **Do not call the hotel for room reservations** as they are being booked via Detachment 1087 to use tax exemption. **Contact Don Dearth, 304-481-9595 for rooms**, **banquet and advance registration**. The banquet rate is pending. Make check payable to MCL Detachment 1087. If you want to use your points or credit card, then contact the hotel. They will give you the block rate but

will charge you tax. The hotel has 22 jacuzzi rooms so when you call Don Dearth to book your room, let him know if you need an ADA room or want a King bed or want one of those jacuzzi rooms. If you are not sure you can actually attend, go ahead and book your room, as you can always call and cancel. You do not have to make payment for rooms, banquet and \$5.00pre-registration now but need to before the cutoff date.

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.