



# *The Straight Scoop*

**Department Newsletter of the  
Marine Corps League  
Department of West Virginia  
P.O. Box 11828  
Charleston, WV 25339**



**Volume 3, Issue 11, November 2010**

**Department Officers:**

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## **Department Financial Report**

Marine Corps League, Department of West Virginia Hershel "Woody" Williams  
Scholarship Foundation:

22 Sep 2010 beginning balance: \$12,526.46 Deposits: none Interest: \$3.09

22 Oct 2010 ending balance: \$12,529.55

Please send all donations to John Nanny, P.O. Box 2121, Wheeling, WV 26003-0234.

Marine Corps League, Department of West Virginia General Account and Paymaster  
Report:

20 Sep 2010 statement beginning balance: \$4,208.63 Deposits: \$187.00

Debits: \$93.86

20 Oct 2010 statement ending balance: \$4,301.77

Paymaster Gill has only received the Paid Life Membership Certifications for the following detachments: Huntington Detachment 340; Herbert J. Thompson Detachment 947; L.D. "Crow" Crawford Detachment 956; Southern Highland Detachment 977; DHL Detachment 981; and Cpl. Walter L. Mann Detachment 1065. If your detachment is not listed, PLEASE be sure to get it to Paymaster Gill before the middle of December. He needs it by then to have time to record it and get it to National HQ before the end of December. If you have questions, call him at 304-377-1345.

Dept membership as of 9/30/10 -- Life members: 453, paid: 247, total paid: 700, unpaid: 81. Detachments contact your unpaid members and keep them active.

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## **Certificate Of Insurance**

National MCL HQ has mailed a copy of the Commercial General Liability Insurance from Rust Insurance Agency, LLC to the department and all detachments. The period of coverage is Sept 1, 2010, to Sept 1, 2011. The Certificate of Insurance should be kept in your permanent files. This insurance is designated to protect you against claims alleging negligence that causes injuries to third parties (persons other than members). It does not cover lawsuits brought against a member by another. The policy also excludes any injury to participants in athletic events or other sports activities. This is not and was never intended to be an accident policy for the members. As a new guideline, if you solely host the following special events and have more than 150 attendees, there is an additional

charge to the department/detachments: art/crafts shows, fairs/antiques shows, birthday balls/dinner dances, fashion shows, picnics, car washes, golf tournaments, casino nights and auction/wine tastings. There is an attached Certificate of Insurance Request Form that must be filled out and returned to Rust Insurance Agency, LLC for the additional coverage.

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**Memorandum from MCL National Commandant  
On Political Participation**

October 16, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DEPARTMENT COMMANDANTS  
DETACHMENT COMMANDANTS  
ALL MCL MEMBERS

Subj: MARINE CORPS LEAGUE POLICY ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION  
IN LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS

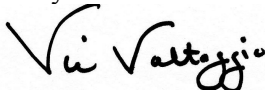
Marines: As we are about to conclude the mid-term elections of 2010, it has been brought to my attention, on more than one occasion I'm sad to say, that apparently members of the Marine Corps League have publicly spoken out to endorse or speak in opposition of political candidates, and in some cases, appeared in TV and newspaper advertisements and photos on behalf of political candidates, that gives the appearance these Leaguers are offering an endorsement by the Marine Corps League for their candidacy. The following is the Marine Corps League's POLICY on the aforementioned subject taken from the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, Chapter One, Section 110:

**SECTION 110 – POLICY**

(b) The Marine Corps League shall never take part in Any labor or management dispute or issue, and it shall be ever non-sectarian, non-political, and non-partisan; nor shall it be based on the grounds of race, color, creed, nationality, or sex; nor shall it be used as a medium of political ambition or preferment; nor shall former or present military rank or former or present civilian position be used as the basis for special consideration or preferment.

The Marine Corps League wants and strongly encourages ALL its members and families to exercise their Constitutional right and duty to vote. With that said, our membership cannot give the impression that the League supports or opposes ANY one candidate or political party.

I enjoin you, as the leadership of the Marine Corps League, to ensure all those members under your charge review the Marine Corps League's Policy as outlined above and ensure it is adhered to. Thank you for taking the time to read this memorandum. The League needs your total support on this issue. Give my personal best wishes to everyone as we prepare to celebrate our 235th Birthday. God Bless America.



VIC VOLTAGGIO  
National Commandant

## **Military Mailing for Units Forward Deployed**

The recommended mailing deadline for sending economy-priced holiday packages to service members in Afghanistan, Iraq and other places around the world is 12 NOV, officials at the U.S. Postal Service say. "Shipping holiday packages early helps ensure that they arrive in time for the holidays," Prefab Shah, vice president and managing director of global business at the Postal Service, said in a press release this week. "They are a great morale boost for those men and women serving their country in places far from home." Other deadlines for arrival by 25 DEC are 26 NOV for space-available mail; 3 DEC for parcel airlift mail; 10 DEC for priority mail and first-class mail, letters and cards; and 18 DEC for express mail military service. Holiday packages and mail headed for Iraq and Afghanistan must be sent a week earlier than the deadlines above, postal officials say. Express mail military service is not available to those destinations. The Postal Service offers a discount on its largest priority-mail flat-rate box ... a 12-inch by 12-inch by 5.5-inch carton that can accommodate laptop computers, small conventional ovens, and military care packages.

Mail sent to overseas military addresses costs the same as domestic mail and the usual price for the large flat-rate box is \$14.50. But for packages heading to APO/FPO addresses, the Postal Service charges \$12.50 or \$11.95 for those who print the priority-mail postage label online. Priority-mail flat-rate boxes are available at any Post Office at no charge and can be ordered online at [shop.usps.com](http://shop.usps.com). Postage, labels and customs forms can be printed online at the Postal Service website. APO/FPO addresses usually require customs forms, Postal officials say, and each country has customs regulations that apply to all mail, including U.S. military mail, coming into the country. Mail addressed to military and diplomatic post offices overseas is subject to restrictions in content, preparation and handling. Each five-digit military and post office ZIP code [APO/FPO] has specific restrictions. For specific restrictions and mailing prices to an APO/FPO address, visit the Postal Service's online price calculator or a local post office or call 1-800-ASK-USPS.

The following are prohibited in the regions of Operation New Dawn in Iraq and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan:

- Horror comics and obscene articles like prints, paintings, cards, films and videotapes;
- Anything depicting nude or seminude persons, pornographic or sexual items, or unauthorized political materials;
- Bulk quantities of religious materials contrary to the Islamic faith, though items for personal use are permitted, and,
- Pork or pork by-products.

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## **Subway Veterans Day Celebration**

Subway is giving a free six-inch sub to any veteran or active-duty military with valid ID on Thursday, November 11, for the Veterans Day celebration.

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## **Applebee's To Give Veterans Free Meals on Nov. 11**

All Applebee's restaurants nationwide will give a free meal to active duty military and all veterans on Thursday, November 11, in honor of Veterans Day. Several pre-selected dinner specials will be offered. Any veterans should have some verification to prove his/her military service. Your VA card or MCL membership card will work. Please leave a generous tip and thank the restaurant manager for their appreciation in honoring veterans.

## **Free Dinners for Veterans at Golden Corral on Nov. 15**

The Golden Corral restaurant will offer a free dinner to all veterans from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 15. The dinner includes one free buffet dinner and drink. For more information, check out Golden Corral's website on Internet at <http://www.goldencorral.com/military/>

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## **Free Hugo Canes for Veterans**

In honor of Veterans Day, Sam's Club® locations nationwide will distribute 36,000 Hugo® canes free of charge on November 10th, 11th and 12th, 2010 to U.S. military veterans in need of mobility assistance.

"We salute our veterans for all the incredible contributions made to our country. To all who have served ... Thank You!" a spokesman said. Limited quantities available only while supplies last. Sam's Club® membership is not required. Proof of military service may be required. Canes provided by Hugo®. Sam's Club® is a sponsor of this program.

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## **MCL License Plates Available**

League members in good standing may purchase the Marine Corps League vanity license plate through the WV Division of Motor Vehicles. A member must be a life member or pay annual MCL dues to maintain a continuous MCL license plate on their vehicle. If you do not keep your annual dues paid, you will have to remove your MCL plates and return them to DMV. Do not allow your plates to expire by failing to pay your annual MCL dues. To avoid any problems, consider paying a life membership and keep the plates forever. Your spouse can continue the plates while you are on guard with the Supreme Commandant.

## **Toys for Tots**

The annual Toys for Tots (T4T) program has started and several detachments are participating again this year. This program generates an enormous amount of visibility for the Marine Corps League and has an immediate impact within the communities where the toys are distributed. Media articles and promotional events are excellent means to get your detachment recognized. League members donate countless hours and many use their personal vehicles to support the program and they are thanked so much. After each detachment completes the T4T campaign in their respective area, be sure to make an extra copy of your After Action report and give to Department Adj George Gill as MCL National HQ requires a T4T summary from every department.

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## **Replacement of Personal Records**

Imagine that your house burns down or gets completely destroyed by fire, flood or other disaster. Would you know how to go about replacing your essential paperwork? Here's a helpful list of links that can help you replace your essential personal paperwork as well as change your address:

- \* Passport: For information on replacing a lost or stolen passport, visit the State Department website at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/lost/lost\\_848.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/lost/lost_848.html)
- \* Social Security Card: Go to [http://ssa-custhelp.ssa.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/251](http://ssa-custhelp.ssa.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/251) for information and an application for a new card.
- \* Driver's License: If you need a get a new driver's license or renew the one you have, go to [http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Motor\\_Vehicles.shtml](http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Motor_Vehicles.shtml) to find the nearest DMV office.
- \* Birth and death certificates, marriage and divorce decrees: Information on getting replacement certificates of birth, death, marriage and divorce decrees can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Website at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm> You'll find helpful details in plain English, along with links and even prices.
- \* Bank records: You can get information about accessing accounts, lost records, ATM

cards and direct deposits by calling the FDIC at 877-275-3342. For information regarding credit unions, call 703-518-6300.

\* School records: If you need records from your former primary, secondary, or post-secondary school (whether public or private) the first place you should contact would be your former school. Administrators at the school should be able to tell you where school records are kept and what you need to do to obtain them. If the school you attended is closed, you should contact the appropriate school district. The Institute of Education Sciences (IES), a part of the Department of Education (ED), has a website which provides locators for public schools <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/schoolsearch> , private schools <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss/privateschoolsearch> or school districts <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/districtsearch>. Contact information for your State Department of Education is available at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html>. If you are trying to locate records from a postsecondary school that has closed, you will need to contact your State Higher Education Agency. A list by state is available at [http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org\\_list.cfm?category\\_ID=SHE](http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org_list.cfm?category_ID=SHE) Your State Higher Education Agency can explain how to find records from closed schools in your state.

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES), a part of the Department of Education (ED), has a website which provides locators for public schools: <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/schoolsearch> private schools <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss/privateschoolsearch> or school districts <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/districtsearch>

Contact information for your State Department of Education is available at <http://www2.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html> If you are trying to locate records from a postsecondary school that has closed, you will need to contact your State Higher Education Agency. A list by state is available at [http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org\\_list.cfm?category\\_ID=SHE](http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org_list.cfm?category_ID=SHE) Your State Higher Education Agency can explain how to find records from closed schools in your state.

\* Savings Bonds: If you have old savings bonds stashed away somewhere, be careful. Lose them and you can lose the money. At [http://www.treasurydirect.gov/indiv/research/indepth/ebonds/res\\_e\\_bonds\\_eereplace.htm](http://www.treasurydirect.gov/indiv/research/indepth/ebonds/res_e_bonds_eereplace.htm), the Treasury Department tells you exactly what to do with those bonds while you can still find them -- and what to do if you can't.

\* Contact government agencies: A list of links to federal, state and local government agencies, is available at <http://www.usa.gov/Agencies.shtml>

\* Address Change: To change your address online, with the post office go to <http://www.usps.com/realmove>. If you receive Social Security benefits, you can also make an address change online at [http://ssa-custhelp.ssa.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/219](http://ssa-custhelp.ssa.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/219). For the IRS you can download a form at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8822.pdf> and mail it in.

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## **MCL National Commandant 235<sup>th</sup> Birthday Message**

Marines --

As we prepare to celebrate the 235th Birthday of our beloved Corps, we should step back and reminisce about our own time of service and that of friends we remember. As the years go by, the one constant that remains is the pride of service to our Corps. It does not matter if your time was a single enlistment or you were there for the total package. It means something to all of us to wear the title "United States Marine." You have earned a place in the glorious history of our Corps and it can never be taken from you. It is your legacy. So lift your glasses one and all and drink a toast to the men and women who still stand tall ...

Happy Birthday Marines. Semper Fi.  
V. H. Voltaggio

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## 10 Nov 1775 - 10 Nov 2010 235<sup>th</sup> USMC Birthday Happy Birthday Marines!

### New Members Sworn in at Detachment 340



**SWORN IN** -- Two new members of MCL Detachment 340 of Huntington, standing right, are sworn in by Medal of Honor recipient Woody Williams, center, during a recent meeting. The new members include Danny Henry, second from right, and Glenn Gibson, right. Detachment members present include, clockwise from lower left, Adjutant Ben Fetty, Commandant John Hensley, Chaplain James Bolen and Sgt.-at-Arms Denny Wood.

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### West Virginians Killed in Beirut Remembered



**IN MEMORY** -- MCL Leland D. "Crow" Crawford Detachment 956 of Elkins remembered five West Virginians killed in the 1983 bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, during the detachment's 27th annual Beirut Bombing Memorial Service held Oct. 23 at the Randolph County Courthouse. Harold "Red" Cosner of Elkins, right, the father of Marine Lcpl David Cosner who was killed in the blast, and Detachment 956 Chaplain John Newlon, left, placed a wreath at the Beirut Bombing monument on the courthouse lawn. Other West Virginians who lost their lives included Marines Cpl Medot Camara, Hinton; Lcpl Russell Cyzicle, Star City; Cpl Timothy Runnigan, Princeton; and Navy Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Martin Kees, Martinsburg. A total of 241 Americans were killed in the Marine barrack explosion including 220 Marines, 17 Navy medical personnel and 4 Army soldiers. This was the largest single-day loss of U.S. Marines since the taking of Iwo Jima in February 1945. (Photo by Judith Ware)

## **Calendar of Events**

Department Quarterly meeting 10 a.m. Jan. 15, 2011, at American Legion Post 104 on Avery Street in Parkersburg. Department Staff Officers meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. and Pack Growl will follow.

Marine Corps League Midwinter National Staff Conference: February 10-12, 2011 at Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church, Virginia 22042 USA  
Phone: 1-703-849-9400 Fax: 1-703-849-8692

2011 Mid East Division Conference will be held in Delaware. Location and date TBA.

2011 Department Convention will be hosted by Jones, Wolin & O'Brien Detachment 771 in Wheeling, May 13-14 at Oglebay Resort & Conference Center.

2011 MCL National Convention Jul 31-August 6 at Doubletree Riverside Hotel, Boise, Idaho. 1-800-222-TREE or 1-208-343-1871. Room rates are \$86.00 plus 13% tax. Hosted by Treasure Valley MCL Detachment 878, Boise, Idaho.

2012 Department Convention will be hosted by Herbert J. Thomas Memorial Detachment 947 in Charleston, WV at Charleston Marriott.

2012 MCL National Convention Aug 12-18 at Renaissance in Mobile, Alabama in The Battle House Hotel & Spa Mobile and Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel. Tel: 1-800-922-3298 or 251-438-4000. Room rates \$107.00 plus 14% tax. Hosted by P.L. Wilson Detachment 447.

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