



# *The Straight Scoop*

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



**Volume 11, Issue 5 May 2018**

## **Department Officers:**

Commandant: Michael McLain, 304-464-5049  
Sr. Vice Commandant: Scott Kirby, 304-588-0318  
Jr. Vice Commandant: Jerry Bain, 304-675-1905  
Judge Advocate: Richard Sneigle, 304-588-7901  
Jr. Past Commandant: Richard Shank, 304-633-1814  
Legislative: Hershel Williams, 304-743-1026  
Chief of Staff: Roger Ware, 304-636-4365  
Web Sgt: Steven Swenton, 304-277-8872

Adjutant: Patti Leib, 740-591-8611  
Paymaster: Patti Leib, 740-591-8611  
Chaplain: Frank Armentrout, 304-837-4011  
Sgt.-at-Arms: Chuck Ghuste, 304-692-0334  
Asst Sgt-at-Arms: Roy Wood, 304-339-3326  
Service/VAVS: Roger L. Estep, 304-380-7930  
Public Relations: Jean Lamb, 304-595-1482  
Historian: Mike Lynon, 304-419-0982

Department E-mail contact: [mclain@suddenlink.net](mailto:mclain@suddenlink.net)

Department Web site: <http://www.mcleaguedeptofwv.org/>

Department Adjutant/Paymaster: [pattileib024@gmail.com](mailto:pattileib024@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: Roger Ware, 181 Weese Street, Elkins, WV 26241 E-mail: [rrware@yahoo.com](mailto:rrware@yahoo.com)

## **New Member/Reinstatement Dues**

### **New members August 31 – Last day of February**

Full dues expire August 31 next year - \$25

Full dues MAL expire August 31 next year - \$30

### **New members March 1 – August 30**

Partial dues expire August 31 same year - \$15

Partial dues MAL expire August 31 same year - \$15

### **Reinstatements – must be delinquent at least 1 full year**

Full dues \$20 or \$30 August 31 - last day of February

Partial dues \$10 or \$15 March 1 – August 30<sup>th</sup>

***THERE IS A NEW DUES TRANSMITTAL FORM ON LIBRARY SITE BELOW***

## **Dues Notice**

### **New Members:**

Members who join between August 31 – last day of February

Pay \$25 and expiration date will be August 31 of the following year

Example: Member who joins August 31, 2018 – end of February 2019 will expire in August 2019

Members who join between March 1 – August 30

Example: Member who joins March 1, 2018 – August 30, 2018 will expire in August 2018

Going forward all members will expire August 31 and pay \$20 each year for renewal.

This will be the New Member guidelines going forward, this is not temporary.

### **Reinstatements: Members who are reinstating**

(Reinstating members are members who have been delinquent more than a year, have dropped off the roster, & do not want to pay all back dues & keep their length of membership, they will get a new enrollment date.)

Members with a reinstatement date of August 31 – end of February Pay \$20 and the new expiration date will be August 31 of the following year

Members with a reinstatement date of March 1 – August 30: Pay \$10 and the new expiration date will be August 31 of the current year. Then each member will owe \$20 each year on August 31.

### **Members at Large - MAL**

Members who join between August 31 – the last day of February

Pay \$30 and expiration date will be August 31 of the following year

Example: Member who joins August 31, 2018 – end of February 2019 will expire in August 2019

Members who join between March 1 – August 30

Pay \$15 and expiration date will be August 31 of the current year

Example: Member who joins March 1, 2018 – August 30, 2018 will expire in August 2018

**Going forward all members who expire August 31 will pay \$30 each year**

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#### MCL Current Websites

MCL National <https://www.mclnational.org/>

MCL National Library <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/>

MCL Mideast <http://www.mclmideast.com/>

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**2018 MCL Department Convention Schedule The Quality Inn,  
Gallipolis, Ohio  
May 4-5, 2018**

### **Friday, May 4, 2018**

1300-1600 Professional Development & Leadership Training

1300-1600 MCL & MODD Registration

1200-1300 Lunch on your own

1300-1700 Department Audit Committee\*

1600-1700 Commandant's Council for Detachment Commandants/**Staff Officers Meeting**

1700-1830 Dinner on your own

1700-2230 Hospitality Room open

1830-1900 MODD Pack Board Meeting - At call of Dept Commandant, Pack Leader, MODD

1900-2100 MODD Growl of the Pack

### **Saturday, May 5, 2018**

0600-0930 Breakfast on your own

0800-1000 MCL registration

0800-0815 Flag-raising Ceremony - Dept Sgt-at-Arms - Uniform – White shirt

0820-0930 Memorial Services, all hands attending - Dept Chaplain

0930-0945 Department Budget Committee Meeting\*

0930-0945 Department Nominations Committee Meeting\*

1000-1200 MCL Business Meeting

1200-1315 Lunch on your own

1315-1600 MCL Business Meeting Officer Installation & Department Officers' Meeting

1800-1900 Formal Reception & Grand Banquet - Uniform Dinner dress, red blazer or business attire

\* At call of Chairman for Audit, Budget and Nominations Committee

### **Professional Development Training at Gallipolis, Ohio**

On Friday May 4, 2018 at the Quality Inn in Gallipolis, Ohio there will be several professional development classes presented which will include duties of the Detachment Board of Trustees, Recurring reports – 990 N efile, Annual Corporate Reports, new 2018 Dues transmittal form, Paymaster and Adjutant duties, Dept Guidebook for Detachments, Membership Retention Team, Guidebook for Elections, Guidebook on how to submit a bid for Dept Quarterly Meeting or Convention. These periods of instruction will be short and focused on how to keep your detachment administratively functional. Most will be on a computer with projector off DVD. Discs will be available. All classes commence at 1 PM and go until 4 PM. This material is essential to help you gain more knowledge of administrative procedures and business communications.

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### **Incorporation of Detachments**

The Detachment is formed for non-profit purposes and no member has a right to any form of profit or personally benefit from the assets or property of the Detachment, with the exception that a member might be hired to provide commercial services for which they can or should be paid. According to National Bylaws, upon dissolution of a Detachment, any remaining assets shall be distributed to the Department and or National.

The Department of West Virginia, including Detachments, which engage in services or business, either profit or non-profit, or which use the name of the Marine Corps League shall be incorporated in accordance with Article Seven, Section 700 of the National Bylaws. The Department or any detachment shall not utilize the EIN number of the National Organization. To apply for an EIN, use IRS Form SS-4 and follow the directions on the form.

Detachments should incorporate within the State of West Virginia as a IRC 501 (c) 4 non-profit organization with their own Employer Identification Number (EIN) under the Marine Corps League's Group Exemption Number 0955. The MCL is registered as a social organization and is not considered a Veterans organization. This allows the Detachment to operate, collect monies for membership and activities, to collect charitable donations for detachment programs, and to act as a corporate entity for sales and other activities, with associated tax benefits for a non-profit entity. Incorporation protects the Officers and members of the Detachment, and by the same measure establishes the limitations for the organization in doing business as a non-profit organization. Therefore, only members shall represent the Marine Corps League.

To avoid any legal ramifications of membership in the MCL, National HQ requires each detachment to file for corporate status within two years of receiving their charter. A correctly formed and operated Corporation shields each individual member of the League from becoming liable for the satisfaction of any possible court issued judgment. Officers of the Detachment have an ethical and fiduciary responsibility to make decisions in good faith that will bring no harm to the Detachment, and they can be held accountable for their decisions.

The Board of Trustees of a corporation has certain duties and must examine all aspects of the corporate business. These duties include a good faith effort to manage the affairs of the corporation through attending meetings, adherence to procedures, examining financial statements to assure each officer is complying with the rules, Bylaws and directives of the board and examination of the books and records where called for. Overlying all is the duty of good faith and reasonable judgment. To do otherwise is break faith with the membership at large and risk personal liability. Full transparency of financial records is imperative for the benefit of the membership.

To maintain corporation status within WV the following applies.

Detachments must have EIN Number, must file for corporation status, must have Bylaws, must maintain meeting Minutes, must hold elections and have Board of Directors (Trustees), Must file annual IRS 990, Must complete Annual corporate report with WV Secretary of State and conduct annual financial audit.

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## **National Commandant Wendell Webb - Camp Lejeune Water**

*This is internal e-mail for our leadership down to the Department and Detachment Commandants. This is sent on the advice of legal counsel.*

Dear MCL: We were recently contacted by a group seeking legislation to allow Marines and others affected by the ground water poisoning at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, to sue the government for injuries sustained from this unfortunate incident that occurred over a period of many years. Normally, such lawsuits against the government are not permitted. I know that many of our members and their loved ones were affected by this unfortunate circumstance and might like to see such legislation signed into law.

It is our natural reaction to want to assist other Marines, particularly those injured in combat or otherwise, in any way that we can. This is admirable. It is what makes us Marines. But as leaders of the MCL, we must understand that the actions that we take can have unintended ramifications and potentially adverse consequences. Let me explain.

The group that contacted us in this regard has requested to share their message with our membership at the upcoming Convention in Buffalo. And it would seem to be a good message, of interest to many of us. But as you know, we generally permit only veterans or affiliated nonprofit organizations to make presentations or have a booth at such events. If we allow a group like this to have such a platform, we would be going beyond our normal policy and this would establish a new precedent making it very hard for us to refuse future requests from unaffiliated organizations or for-profit entities.

Additionally, as much as this issue is of great concern and interest to all of us, this group proposing the presentations may or may not be the right group to take up this battle on our behalf. The point is, we don't know them. If we give them our stage, it will appear that they have the endorsement and imprimatur of the MCL when that is not the case.

I recently learned that this group had already arranged to speak with one of our detachments and was about to propose such a presentation to another. From my perspective, the same considerations noted above would apply and they should not be permitted to make presentations to our members during official functions or meetings or we risk setting the same precedent and could then find it legally difficult to decline such proposals from other groups, with perhaps less compelling goals, in the future.

Please contact me with any questions. Semper Fidelis,

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Wendell W. Webb

National Commandant and CEO Marine Corps League  
[wwebb@mcleague.org](mailto:wwebb@mcleague.org) Phone – 314-705-0595

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## **VA Presumptive Disabilities: Top 10 Claimed and Agent Orange**

### **Top 10: Those That Served**

**Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Sleep Apnea, Diabetes Type II, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Tinnitus, Peripheral Neuropathy, Depression Anxiety, and Various Skin Disorders**

### **Agent Orange Related**

- 1. Acute & Subacute Peripheral Neuropathy**
- 2. Adult Fibrosarcoma**
- 3. Alveolar Soft Part Sarcoma**
- 4. Angiosarcoma**
- 5. B-Cell Leukemias**

6. Bone Pain
7. Chloracne
8. Clear Cell Sarcoma of Aponeuroses
9. Clear Cell Sarcoma of Tendons & Aponeuroses
10. Congenital Fibrosarcoma
11. Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans
12. Ectomesenchymoma
13. Epithelioid Malignant Leiomyosarcoma
14. Epithelioid & Glandular Malignant Schwannomas
15. Epithelioid Sarcoma
16. Extra skeletal Ewing's Sarcoma
17. Hemangiosarcoma
18. Hodgkin's Disease
19. Infantile Fibrosarcoma
20. Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD)
21. Leiomyosarcoma
22. Liposarcoma
23. Lymphangiosarcoma
24. Malignant Fibrous Histiocytoma
25. Malignant Ganglioneuroma
26. Malignant Giant Cell Tumor of the Tendon Sheath
27. Malignant Glandular Schwannoma
28. Malignant Granular Cell Tumor
29. Malignant Hemangiopericytoma
30. Malignant Leiomyoblastoma
31. Malignant Mesenchymoma
32. Malignant Schwannoma with Rhabdomyoblastic Differentiation
33. Malignant Synovioma
34. Multiple Myeloma
35. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
36. Parkinson's Disease
37. Porphyria Cutanea Tarda
38. Proliferating Angiendotheriomatosis
39. Prostate Cancer
40. Respiratory Cancer
41. Rhabdomyosarcoma

## 42. Synovial Sarcoma

## 43. Type II Diabetes

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### VA Claim Notice of Disagreement and When to File

Use the Notice of Disagreement (NOD) form 21-0958 to indicate to your Regional Office (RO) that you disagree with a decision you received regarding your claim for disability compensation. Examples of these decisions may include entitlement to service connection, percentage of evaluation assigned, and effective date among other things. Only fill out this form if you disagree with a decision issued by your RO. This includes an initial decision, a decision for an increased rating, or any other decision you disagree with. You can ask the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to help you fill out the form by contacting your local VA. Before you contact the VA, please make sure you gather the necessary information and materials, and complete as much of the form as you can.

Upon completing the NOD, you should provide your signature in the block provided at the bottom of the second page. Be sure to sign every form you fill out before you send it to us. If you don't sign the form, VA will return it for you to sign, and it will take a longer process. Attach any materials that support and explain your NOD. Mail or take your NOD to the RO that issued the decision or notification that you disagree with, which is the Agency of Original Jurisdiction (AOJ.) It is important that you keep a copy of all completed forms and materials you give to VA. You can download the form at <https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21-0958-ARE.pdf>

### VA Benefits Eligibility Based on Disability Rating

Take a look at the eligibility matrix below to see what benefits you are eligible for based on your disability rating:

#### **Rating of 0% - 20%**

Certification of Eligibility for home loan guaranty. Home loan guaranty fee exemption. VA Priority medical treatment card.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling under Title 38 USC Chapter 31 (must be at least 10%).

Service Disabled Veterans Insurance (Maximum of \$10,000 coverage) must file within 2 years from the date of new service connection.

10-point Civil Service preference (10 points added to Civil Service test score).

Clothing allowance for veterans who use or wear a prosthetic or orthopedic appliance (artificial limb, braces, wheelchair) or use prescribed medications for skin condition, which tend to wear, tear or soil clothing.

Temporary total evaluation (100%) based on hospitalization for a service connected disability in excess of 21 days; or surgical treatment for a service connected disability necessitating at least 1 month of convalescence or immobilization by cast, without surgery of more major joints.

#### **Rating of 30%**

Additional allowance for dependent (spouse, child(ren), step child(ren), helpless child(ren), full-time students between the ages of 18 and 23 and parent(s).

Additional allowances for a spouse who is a patient in a nursing home or helpless or blind or so nearly helpless or blind as to require the regular aid and attendance of another person.

#### **Rating of 40%**

Automobile grant and/or special adaptive equipment for an automobile provided there is loss or permanent loss of use of one or both feet, loss or permanent loss of one or both hands or permanent impaired vision in both eyes with central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in better eye.

Special adaptive equipment may also be applied for if there is ankylosis of one or both knees or one or both hips.

### **Rating of 50%**

VA Medical outpatient treatment for any condition except dental. Preventative health care services. Hospital care and medical services in non-VA facilities under an authorized fee basis agreement.

### **Rating of 60% - 80%**

Increased compensation (100%) based on Individual Unemployability (IU) (applies to veterans who are unable to obtain or maintain substantially gainful employment due to service connected disability).

### **Rating of 100%**

Dental treatment.

Department of Defense Commissary privileges. Veteran's employment preference for spouse.

Waiver of National Service Life Insurance premiums.

National Service Life Insurance total disability income provisions.

Specially adapted housing for veterans who have loss or permanent loss of use of both lower extremities or the loss of blindness in both eyes having light perception only plus loss of use of one lower extremity or the loss or permanent loss of use of one lower extremity with loss or permanent loss of use of one upper extremity or the loss or permanent loss of use of one extremity together with an organic disease which affects the functions of balance and propulsion as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes or wheelchair.

Special home adaptation grant (for veterans who don't qualify for Specially Adapted Housing) may be applied for if the veteran is permanently and totally disabled due to blindness in both eyes with visual acuity of 5/200 or less or loss or permanent loss of use of both hands.

Rating of 100% (Permanent and Total) In Addition to the Above:

Civilian Health and Medical Program for Dependents and Survivors (CHAMPVA). Survivors and dependents education assistance under Title 38 USC Chapter 35.

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## **DoD Disability Severance Refund on Improper Taxation**

More than 133,000 veterans may qualify for a refund of federal taxes they paid on disability severance pay dating back to 1991 — taxes that shouldn't have been collected in the first place. Within the next month, Defense Department officials will send notification letters to veterans that they may be eligible for the refund, said Army Lt. Col. David Dulaney, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council. Eligible veterans will have a year after they receive the notice to file a claim for the refund. These refunds, which are the result of a law passed in 2016, apply to veterans who received this pay dating back to Jan. 17, 1991, with taxes withheld, and who also qualified for disability from the Veterans Affairs Department.

The 2016 Combat Injured Veterans Tax Fairness Act went into effect in 2017. The law requires DoD to identify the veterans whose benefits were previously improperly taxed; and the notification letter will include information about the amount of disability

severance payments that were improperly taxed, and instructions for filing an amended tax return to receive the refund. Of the 300,000 veterans who received the disability severance payment, DoD has identified 133,000 who may qualify for refunds, Dulaney said.

Under federal law, any service member who suffers a combat-related injury and is separated from the military receives a one-time, lump-sum disability severance payment based on their rank and years of service. Although the payout was supposed to be tax-free, DoD routinely took taxes out of the severance pay, according to advocacy groups. The 2016 law mandated that DoD stop improperly taxing the pay. The notification letters will provide information to veterans on how they can apply for the refund. Defense officials have been working with Internal Revenue Service officials to clarify the process, Dulaney said. The amount of tax refund will vary by veteran, as the amount of the disability severance varies based on rank and

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years of service. But it's worth the time to file the claim, Dulaney said.

### **SBP DIC Offset**

There are 2 types of SBP/DIC beneficiaries. First are widows and widowers of service members who served a full career in the military and paid into SBP as a retirement. The second groups' sponsors died while on active duty and qualify for SBP by statute. As we continue to push to get the SBP/DIC offset abolished and we often get small improvements rather than a total abolition; the program gets more difficult to understand. But here goes. Following is where the program currently stands:

Retirees -- If the retiree dies of a full or partial service connected disability or had been 100% service connected disabled for 10 or more years, regardless of what caused his death, the survivor would indeed be entitled to DIC. There is a dollar per dollar offset of SBP payments for DIC payments. Many people have asked if it would really be worthwhile to file for DIC if their service member spouse dies and they are already receiving or going to receive SBP. The answer now is almost always yes. This is because we have been working for years to end the SBP/DIC offset; just as we have worked to end the military retired pay/VA disability pay offset. We have not yet had the same degree of success but we have made some progress.

The DIC payment became a flat payment regardless of rank in 1993. It is presently a tax free monthly payment of \$1,283.11. Every year it receives a COLA adjustment. If the SBP is 55% of the retired pay the offset will probably completely offset the SBP. Only the very highest ranks in the officers or enlisted ranks would receive more. However, there is the advantage of it being tax free while SBP is taxable. Then if the DIC completely wipes out the SBP payment a beneficiary would be qualified to have all the monthly SBP payments returned to him or her. That could be a large lump sum. (It would be taxable.) Additionally, to partially correct the offset, Congress passed a SSIA (Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance) payment bill. It started in 2008 at only \$50 a month and through additional increases and modifications has reached \$310 a month. Last year the SSIA was made permanent and a COLA was added.

Died on Active Duty -- In this case, the survivor is entitled to the present SSIA payment of \$310 a month + COLA which is nontaxable. (No return of premiums since they did not make any). In addition, if there are minor children in the family, they too will qualify for DIC. Presently a surviving spouse with children under the age of 18 will also receive \$317.87 a month per child + a 2-year transition for the parent of \$250 a month. The benefit for the child runs out when he/she turns 23. If a child is permanently disabled they may continue to be eligible into adulthood. Call our DC office at (703)-684-1981 to go over these detailed requirements.

We are still working to end the SBP/DIC offset completely. In the House H.R. 846 has 237 co-sponsors while the Senate's S. 339 has 38 co-sponsors. So, you can see there is wide bipartisan support. But it is very unlikely that we will get the bills passed this year. If not, we will have to start again next year. We are not giving up on this issue. Finally, there are also 2 special programs A&A (Aid and Attendance) which presently pays an additional \$317.87 a month and Home bound which pays an additional \$148.91 a month which a parent might be eligible for if he/she is suffering from certain disabilities.

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### **VA Service Connection - Events That Warrant It**

You've probably wondered from time-to-time what type of disability warrants compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It's probably crossed your mind if any of your service-related accidents, or injuries, could possibly qualify for VA compensation, especially, if you have an ongoing ailment that requires medical attention. For instance, injuries sustained during PT oftentimes get worse over time, and require constant medical attention over time. Perhaps you twisted an ankle during PT, and the minor injury caused you to end up on quarters for a few days, and the injury was documented in your service medical records, it's possible you could qualify for VA compensation today. Especially, if the injury has resulted in an arthritic ankle.

If you have ever thought for a moment what kind of injuries or military events could justify service-connected

compensation today? Well, we have a list of some of the disabilities that veterans receive VA disability compensation. The list is not complete and is only a list that consists of events and disabilities as shared by the veteran (USVCP given permission by the veteran to list events and disabilities. Service-connected disabilities confirmed via VA documentation). See list below.

A veteran fell from a service pole as he worked on repairing wires. The fall broke both the veterans' ankles. Veteran fell 40 feet during the accident. Veteran reported to base psychologist because he thought he was going to die during and after the trauma.

Currently, the veteran has nightmares about falling, he can no longer climb poles of any kind, and he is afraid of heights (Acrophobia). Veteran is service-connected for osteoporosis in both ankles and PTSD.

A Veteran suffers from flashbacks, nightmares, anxiety, and depression. Veteran reported that she was raped by her drill sergeant in basic training. Veteran service-connected for MST.

A veteran is suffering from nightmares, anxiety, depression, and startle reflex from an incident that happened on his ship while in the Navy in Vietnam. The ship was attacked by Vietcong troops while he was asleep on board. Veteran hid under his bunk during attack. Several crew members were injured. Veteran reported that he believed he was going to die. Veteran is service-connected for PTSD and anxiety.

A veteran suffers from nightmares, fear of guns (hoplophobia), depression, and exaggerated startled reflex. Veteran's gun backfired during M-16 training in basic training. The incident scared veteran badly around his face and neck. Veteran is service-connected for anxiety.

Veteran suffers from diarrhea, severe bloating, and abdominal discomfort. Veteran was struck with a bout of food poisoning while serving in Iraq. Veteran lost 25 pounds and was hospitalized for two weeks with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) resulting from food poisoning. Veteran is service-connected for IBS.

Veteran suffers from nightmares, night sweats, startle response, anxiety, and depression. Veteran was on duty and was performing maintenance on his jeep when the jeep blew up. Veteran sustained second degree burns on his face, neck, and arms. Veteran is service-connected for PTSD, scars, and various skin conditions.

Veteran suffers from nightmares, flashbacks, avoidance of ships, avoidance of engines, irritability, and trouble sleeping. Veteran was in the boiler room on his ship when the boiler room caught fire. Veteran was almost killed in the fire. Veteran is service-connected for PTSD, pleurisy, TBI, and scars.

Veteran suffers from nightmares, fear of heights (acrophobia), and emotional distress from things that remind veteran of the accident. Veteran fell from his dorm room window as he was cleaning the outside the window. Veteran is service-connected for PTSD.

Veteran suffers from depression, fear of water, nightmares, anxiety, emotional distress, and avoids places that remind the veteran of his accident. Veteran almost drowned in installation swimming pool as he trained for PT. Veteran was caught in the pool drainage pipe and was unable to free himself from the drain. He was pulled out of pool unconscious. Veteran is service-connected for PTSD.

Veteran suffers from nightmares, flashbacks, exaggerated startled response, depression, anxiety, and trouble concentrating. Veteran was fueling up a base jeep and the vehicle blew up. Veteran reported that he was certain he was going to die. Veteran service-connected for PTSD and TBI.

Veteran suffers from anxiety, depression, anger, fear of weather, and flashbacks. Veteran reported he almost died from a hurricane that hit his base. Veteran had to hide under his bed from the hurricane and was afraid to come out of his dorm room. Installation mental health team had to meet with veteran to get him from under his bed. Veteran service-connected for depression and anxiety.

Veteran suffers from joint pain, a herniated disc, sciatica, and radiculopathy. Veteran spent four years jumping out of C-130 aircraft. During active military service veteran was given pain medication for back pain. Over the year, veteran's back pain resulted in herniated discs which required hospitalization. Veteran is service connected for degenerative disc disease, and sciatica.

Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor awards were recently presented to DHL Detachment 981 members Marty DePersig (middle) and Ted Riley (right) by Past Department Commandant Roger Ware. They were honored for their long term selfless service to veterans, community and country.

## **Hershel “Woody” Williams Scholarship Recipients**

John B. Nanny, Chairman, Scholarship Foundation announced the recipients of the 2018 Department scholarship who were presented a check for \$1000.00 each during the Department Convention Banquet in Gallipolis, Ohio on May 65 2018. Since the inception of the program, a total of 117 scholarship have been awarded with \$99,000 total to date.

Christopher Calvin Bream - Drexel University Grandfather: Robert Douglas Wade, Eastern Panhandle Det. 1143

L/Cpl. Travis Brown - Shenandoah University Grandfather: Alan Brown, Jones-Wolin-O'Brien Det. 771

Brittany Dye - Shepherd University Grandfather: Elmer Shinault Mountaineer Marine Det. 957

Halle Linger - WVUP Grandfather: James Linger Wood County Det. 1087

Ivy Linger - WVUP Grandfather: James Linger Wood County Det. 1087

Megan Elizabeth Miller - Concord University Grandfather: James David Bell, Mountaineer Marine Det. 957

Bailey Kathryn Montgomery - Marshall University Grandfather: T.A. "Stan" Legge, Huntington Det. 340

Kendra Sarver - WVU Grandfather: Gareth Smith Cpl. Walter L. Mann Det. 065

Elana Rose Polinski - Coastal Carolina University Father: David Polinski, Jones-Wolin-O'Brien Det 771

Nicholas Shane Summerlin - WVU Father: Jamie S. Summerlin, Earl Anderson Det. 342

Taylor Lynn Westfall - WVU Grandfather: Edsel Westfall Wood County Det. 1087

Collin Woodrum - Athens Tech. College Grandfather: Hetrman Woodrum, Cpl. Walter L. Mann Det. 1065

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### **Detachment Commandants, Paymasters, Adjutants and Adjutant/Paymasters;**

It is time for most, if not all, of the Detachments to elect their officers for the 2018 - 2019 terms. That also means it is time for you to submit your Report of Officer Installation (ROI) for 2018 - 2019. Remember that you have to send in a Report of Officer Installation (ROI) every year even if none of your Officers change. Thanks! Semper Fi,

Mail them to me at:

Patti Leib, Adjutant-Paymaster  
Department of West Virginia – MCL  
PO Box 1224  
Athens, Ohio 45701-1224

Call or email if you have questions or problems with your reports and submissions  
[pattileib024@gmail.com](mailto:pattileib024@gmail.com) or phone (740) 591-8611



Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams, center, of Huntington Det. 340 was the guest speaker for the Past Commander's Night at the Moundsville VFW. Front row from left are Commandant John Nanny of Jones-Wolin-O'Brien Det. 771 of Wheeling and Dave Schoenian of the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and back row, Stephen Duncil and John Richmond of Det. 771.VFW Past Commander Jamie Schubert is a life member of Det. 771 and serves as Sr. Vice. Several MCL members were also in the Moundsville Honor Guard.



### **Disabled American Veterans - Mobile Service**

DAV is a nonprofit charity that provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, helping more than a million veterans in positive, life- changing ways each year.

One of the various services DAV provides at no cost to veterans is our Mobile Service Office (MSO) program. These “office-on-wheels” travel to under-served communities across the country to help veterans and their

families obtain the services and benefits they have earned.

Staffed by highly trained DAV National Claims Service officers, our MSOs provide professional support throughout the claims and appeals process. When you come to one of the MSO locations, please bring your identification, Social Security number and any other pertinent documentation regarding your military service. DAV membership is not required to utilize these free services.

DAV is committed to fulfilling our promises to the men and women who served. To learn more about DAV and our many services available to veterans, please visit [DAV.org](http://DAV.org).

DAV will make multiple stops in your area. The assistance we offer is free to you. Find the location that is most convenient for you listed below. For more information about MSO stops, please call Ronnie McClung, NSO supervisor, at (304) 399-9350.

– Tuesday, May 8, 2018 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Martinsburg VAMC, 510 Butler Avenue, Martinsburg, WV 25405

– Wednesday, May 9, 2018 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., VFP Post 9916, 340 Holland Avenue, Westover, WV 26051

– Thursday, May 10, 2018, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., VFW Post 7048, 1310 Morgantown Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554

– Friday, May 11, 2018, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., DAV Chapter 36, 16 South Kanawha Street, Buckhannon, WV 26201

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### **Pending Calendar**

2018 Mideast Division Conference will be June 15-16, 2018 at the Turf Valley Resort, 2700 Turf Valley Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Phone: 410-465-1500. Room rate: \$109.00 plus tax Use Group Code: 2944UW. Hosted by Department of Maryland.

2018 MCL National Convention will be August 12-17, 2018 at the Buffalo Hyatt, Two Fountains Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14202. Phone: (844) 612-8010. or 716-856-1234 (Ask for Laci) or Call 888-421-1442 for reservations. Cutoff date is July 9, 2018. Reservations open 0801 21 August 2017. [Buffalo.hyatt.com](http://Buffalo.hyatt.com). Room price \$113 for one and \$130 for 2 people plus room tax. Free parking, free breakfast and free Wi-Fi.

To any needing a camp ground for RVs or travel trailers the closest is AA Royal Motel and Camp Ground in N. Tonawanda NY. Their rate is \$53.10 per night. Reservations can be made now and identify yourself as with the Marine Corps League Convention. Address is [3333 Niagara Falls Blvd](http://3333NiagaraFallsBlvd), phone: [716-693-5695](http://716-693-5695) and they are pet friendly

2018 Modern Day Marine Expo will be Sep 25-27, 2018 at MCB, Quantico, VA.

2019 MCL Midwinter Staff Conference will be Feb 28 – Mar 2, 2019 at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conf. Center, 2801 Plank Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. group code: MCLMDWINTER17 Phone: (540) 786-8321 Room rate includes up to 4 breakfast vouchers per occupancy. TBA per night + prevailing tax (currently 11.3%) Please make your room reservation direct to the hotel no later than TBA at 540-786-8321.

2018 MCL National Convention will be August 2019 in Billings, Montana.