



The Straight Scoop

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



Volume 11, Issue 8, August 2018

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COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

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

The Marines have landed. The Fire Team has had its second Meet and Greet in Beckley WV and we are one step closer to having a new Detachment. We are asking for help to make this happen. If you know a Marine, FMF Corpsman or Chaplain please let them know about the new Detachment and get them to the next meeting. Speak with your Commandant for all the details as they have all received an email with a flier with all of the information.

The Department Staff and a few Commandants met in Charleston WV for the Department Staff meeting on July 28th. The meeting was a success as ideas were shared with how to make our Department a better one. One good note is that all Detachments answered the call and the Department is 100% on all Annual Corporate Reports,

990's and ROI's. The only thing left is our Paid Life Member audits. We have until December, but most Detachments have turned those in, so let's have a big push and finish early.

I will be traveling to Buffalo NY for the upcoming National Convention in a couple of weeks. I will collect as much information to pass to you at our Quarterly meeting in Huntington on September 8th. I would like to have a big showing at the meeting as we will have tons of good info to pass. I have heard from most of your Commandants, now I would like to hear your thoughts on how we can make our Department better.

I want to thank each and every one of you for all that you do. Please be safe and remember to always take care of each other.

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

Semper Fidelis,

Scott Kirby
Commandant
Dept. of WV
Marine Corps League

Chaplain's Corner

How I Lost Three Hundred Lunches

I have a friend who, while in High School, started a rock band. In the process, he skipped lunch and save the lunch money until he had enough to buy a sound system. Not long afterward, a thief broke in and stole his sound system... the thief stole the system by taking it out a window. About 300 lunches!!

In the same way, there are all sort of pursuits in life that end up not being worth all the work in the end. The world is full of people who spend their lives sacrificing their peace, their relationships, their time, their integrity, their joy, even their health and their relationship with God. And for what? Money? Ambitious status? What are you spending your life to get? Is it worth it? Look at your life and be blessed with what you DO have!

Treasure the time you have been given, your loved ones, and all the blessing God has given you. Otherwise, you might end up on your death bed regretting all you sacrificed... all you lost. Just like the three hundred lunches that went right out the window! ~ Frank Armentrout, Department Chaplain

A Note from Your Paymaster

I learned something new this past week; our Past Paymaster answered my questions about rules for becoming a Life Member – I always thought a person had to be an active member for a full year before he/she could apply to be a Life Member, but George Gill said the reason I couldn't find that rule in the Bylaws is because it isn't a Marine Corps League rule. If you have even a brand-new member who wants to be a Life Member, just collect his dues for both his initial membership, and also his Life Member dues, depending on his age. When preparing the transmittal, fill in the first line as N (New Member) or NAM (New Associate Member), then fill in the 2nd line as L (Life). Include the proper fees to National, plus the \$5 fee to the Department of WV, and Congratulate your new Life Member! ~ Patti Leib, Department Paymaster

A Reminder from Your Paymaster: It's Time to Audit your Annual Verification of Paid Life Members!

This is a reminder to all detachments to verify their Paid Life Members (PLM) listed on the Paid Life Member Audit dated 6/30/18 from National (these were sent out to each Detachment July 12th to all Commandants and Adjutants/Paymasters). The best time to do this each year is when you receive them so it's not forgotten. These are due at National before Dec. 31, but I will hold on to the audits I receive until I have all of them, or until time is short and I must submit. It is best to submit all detachments at the same time to assure no one is left out. 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 PLM roster and verify the PLM member's information is correct, or note the corrections on the page. 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 or that changes have been noted. This must also be dated. Make a copy after signing and then forward the original to me, Dept Paymaster Patti Leib. I will send this to the National Adjutant/Paymaster. You must send this signed roster to me with enough lead time that I can to send it to National so it will arrive there by Dec. 31. Ref: National Bylaws Sections 645 and 646. The interest paid this year to each detachment was \$1.87 per paid member on your PLM roster as of 9/30/16. There is always a lag time between when the Member becomes a Paid Life Member and when the first allocation is made; this is because the funds must be on deposit for at least a year before interest is earned.

Please help me help you! Send me your PLM Audit early – I already have about half of them for the entire Department. Thanks for the early submissions!

Patti Leib
Adjutant-Paymaster Department of WV - MCL
(740) 591-8611
pattileib024@gmail.com

PS – Paymasters/Adjutants: Now would be a good time to set reminders on your calendars for the following requirements:

- * ALL Detachments Must submit their Annual Corporation Report to the State of WV No Later than June 30 Every Year! There is a \$26 fee, and if you file late, there is a \$25 late fee. It's best to file As Soon as your Detachment has held your election each year. Even if you only elect new Officers every other year, you MUST submit your ACR Every Year.
 - * ALL Detachments Must submit their IRS990-N each fiscal year, within 5 months after your fiscal year ends. Most detachments fiscal years begin July 1 and end June 30 each year, so the Best Time to submit your 990-N is July 1st. If you need assistance, please call or email me; I do not recommend using one of the on-line companies, as they will charge you maybe even \$50 to file, but to file on the IRS Website is FREE. Save your Detachment \$50 by letting me help you instead.
 - * Paid Life Member Audit can be done as soon as you receive it in early July. It's not due until December, but it would save me a lot of effort in keeping track of who has or hasn't submitted it to me over the next few months, and it would assure you don't forget and end up with no allocation. Submit early and get it out of the way!
 - * Report of Officer Installation (ROI): This is due right after you hold elections and swear in your Officers. Be sure you list the Day/Date/Time your Detachment holds your Monthly Meetings at the top where it says DAY/DATE OF MEETING, TIME, and PLACE. Do Not list the date and location of your election in this area! (The Election Information goes just above the thick black box in the boxes identified for Election information) It's important not to mix these boxes up because this is where National gets the information to put on your Roster for your Meetings, and lists on the Website for your Detachment.
- Again, please call or email me if you need help or have questions; I am Always happy to help!

Marine Corps League Facebook Honor Guard link

If you could do me a huge favor and push this Facebook Honor guard link out to your division, that would be great. We only have about 49 members so I'm not sure the word has made it down to the red hats. Lots of important info will be share here and I will post SOP-10 once the BOT has approved that as well. Here is the link.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/205728566690022/members/>

Please see this link for the Funeral Honors Video from Marine Forces Reserve.

<https://youtu.be/l3ZiIYQ-RTM>

Thank you,
Bob Borka
Chief Operating Officer Headquarters Marine Corps League

Subject: Message from DoD Chief Management Officer: Update on the Task Force for Enterprise Management of Community Services

Good Afternoon, Ladies and Gentlemen:

DoD Chief Management Officer John Gibson has asked me to forward you this important update on the Task Force for Enterprise Management of Community Services:

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MSO/VSO Leaders,

Since our announcement of the selection of Dr. Keith Thurgood as the Task Force for Enterprise Management of Community Services Director, several developments have occurred that I wanted to share with you.

Dr. Thurgood reported on June 25th and immediately began acclimating to the reform efforts. This morning, five core team representatives from each of the military resale organizations and the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) joined Dr. Thurgood at the office space near the Pentagon to officially establish the Task Force.

The Task Force today kicks off the first phase of the reform initiative, supported by the Boston Consulting Group (BCG), which received contract award last week. BCG has substantial and relevant industry experience, to include recent work with the Defense Commissary Agency on its transformation efforts. Together, the core team and BCG are expected to perform financial due diligence and business case analysis for the reform of Community Services over the course of approximately four months.

We have a significant opportunity to improve the commissary and exchange system by improving efficiencies in the back-office aspects of the enterprise while completely preserving the benefit to the uniformed members, their families, and our veterans. This task force will evaluate our potential in generating efficiencies and scrutinize the above- the-store business aspects of the exchange system, with a goal of validating and leveraging our execution plan for the way forward.

This project is one initiative of many to execute the Secretary's third line of effort to bring resources back to the warfighter, and we are committed to keeping stakeholders informed and receiving input on this reform initiative. To that end, we are in the process of scheduling regular roundtable and informational sessions in an effort to continue the dialogue and share our progress with you.

John H. Gibson II
Chief Management Officer, Department of Defense

Take a Knee ~ as written by Ted Nugent

Take a little trip to Valley Forge in January. Hold a musket ball in your fingers and imagine it piercing your flesh and breaking a bone or two. There won't be a doctor or trainer to assist you until after the battle, so just wait your turn. Take your cleats and socks off to get a real experience.

Then, take a knee on the beach in Normandy where man after American man stormed the beach, even as the one in front of him was shot to pieces, the very sea stained with American blood. The only blockers most had were the dead bodies in front of them, riddled with bullets from enemy fire.

Take a knee in the sweat soaked jungles of Vietnam. From Khe Sanh to Saigon, anywhere will do. Americans died in all those jungles. There was no playbook that told them what was next, but they knew what flag they represented. When they came home, they were protested as well;

Take another knee in the blood drenched sands of Fallujah in 110-degree heat. Wear your Kevlar helmet and battle dress. Your number won't be printed on it unless your number is up! You'll need to stay hydrated but there won't be anyone to squirt Gatorade into your mouth. You're on your own.

There are a lot of places to take a knee where Americans have given their lives all over the world. When you use the banner under which they fought as a source for your displeasure, you dishonor the memories of those who bled for the very freedoms you have. That's what the red stripes mean. It represents the blood of those who spilled a sea of it defending your liberty.

While you're on your knee, pray for those that came before you, not on a manicured lawn striped and printed with numbers to announce every inch of ground taken, but on nameless hills and bloodied beaches and sweltering forests and bitter cold mountains, every inch marked by an American life lost serving that flag you protest. No cheerleaders, no announcers, no coaches, no fans, just American men and women, delivering the real fight against those who chose to harm us, blazing a path so you would have the right to "take a knee". You haven't any inkling of what it took to get you where you are, but your "protest" is duly noted. Not only is it disgraceful to a nation of real heroes, it serves the purpose of pointing to you in gratitude for those who chose to defend you under that banner that will still wave long after your jersey is retired.

If you really feel the need to take a knee, come with me to church on Sunday and we'll both kneel before Almighty God. We'll thank Him for preserving this country for as long as He has; we'll beg forgiveness for our ingratitude for all He has provided us; we'll appeal to Him for understanding and wisdom. We'll pray for liberty and justice for all, because He is the one who provides those things. But there will be no protest. There will only be gratitude for His provision and a plea for His continued grace and mercy on the land of the free and the home of the brave. It goes like this

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

John Glenn – Best Speech He Ever Gave

Some people still don't understand why military personnel do what they do for a living. The following exchange between Senator John Glenn (D -OH) and Senator Howard Metzenbaum (D - OH) is worth reading. Not only is it a pretty impressive and impromptu speech, but it's also a good example of one man's explanation of why men and women in the Armed Services do what they do for a living. This IS a typical, though sad, example of what some who have never served think of the Military.

Senator Metzenbaum to Senator Glenn: "How can you run for the Senate when you've never held a "real job?"

Senator Glenn: "I served 23 years in the United States Marine Corps. I served through two wars. I flew 149 missions. My plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire on 12 different occasions. I was in the Space Program. It wasn't my checkbook, Howard, it was my Life on the line. It was not a 9 to 5 job, where I took time off to take the daily cash receipts to the bank. I ask you to go with me as I went the other day to a Veterans Hospital and look those men - with their mangled bodies - in the eye, and tell THEM they didn't hold a job! You go with me to the Space

Program at NASA and go, as I have gone, to the widows and orphans of Ed White, Gus Grissom and Roger Chaffee and you look those kids in the eye and tell them that their DADS didn't hold a job. You go with me on Memorial Day and you stand in Arlington National Cemetery, where I have more friends buried than I'd like to remember, and you watch those waving flags. You stand there, and you think about this Nation, and you tell ME that those people didn't have a job?

I'll tell you, Howard Metzenbaum, you should be on your knees every day of your life thanking God that there were some men - SOME MEN - who held a REAL job.

And they required a dedication to a purpose - and a love of country and a dedication to duty - that was more important than life itself. And their self-sacrifice is what made this country possible. I HAVE held a job, Howard! What about you?"

For those who don't remember - During WW II, Howard Metzenbaum was an attorney representing the Communist Party in the USA. Now he is a Senator!

Professional Development Training

Sample Letter to members about Annual Dues:

Leland D. "Crow" Crawford
Detachment 956 – Marine Corps League
Department of West Virginia
PO Box 852
Elkins, WV 26241
304-636-4365

August 1, 2018

Audie Murphy
333 Blazing Guns Road
Abilene, TX 23456

Dear Audie:

Marine Corps League National HQ has changed the expiration date for all annual dues to August 31 yearly. National will no longer send out dues renewal notices to dues paying members. This change will save National HQ over \$70,000 in postage and printing fees. Your current dues will expire on August 31, 2018. This is to let you know that you can pay your 2019 dues after August 1 and they will automatically expire on August 31, 2019.

To keep your membership current in the MCL, please send a check for \$26 payable to MCL Detachment 956 and mail it to the above address. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Audie, we thank you for your military service and for being a member of Detachment 956. We want you to remain a member of the Marine Corps League so you can enjoy reading the bimonthly *Semper Fi* magazine and can see what various detachments do within the state and across the nation. There is a special DMV, Marine Corps League license plate that you are eligible to have on your vehicle if you desire. We can send you information on this if you decide you want this plate. There are many Marine Corps units forward deployed aboard our Navy ships and land bases supporting missions around the globe. They have been doing an outstanding job and you can be especially proud that you also served in the greatest fighting force in the world and the Marines of today are still carrying the legacy of the Corps. November 10, 2018, the USMC will celebrate 243 years of being on the tip of the spear and you can be extremely proud that you were part of this. Please pay your dues so we can continue keeping you in good standing in our detachment. Our detachment meetings are the fourth Monday of every month at 6 PM at the American Legion Post 29 in Elkins. Come join

us and bring your ideas and thoughts.

Semper Fidelis,
Roger Ware
Commandant

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**Detachment Administration:**

Desktop Procedures – Detachments Need to maintain copies of National, Department and their own Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. In addition, the following is a guideline for other administrative reports, files and related correspondence that should be maintained for reference.

- Detachment Bylaws
- Department Bylaws with current changes
- National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures with current changes Guidebook for Detachment Officers
- Marine Corps League Ritual Charter
- Articles of Incorporation
- Permanent business certification - Business License

West Virginia requires Detachments to have a business license. Effective 2010 all license renewals were issued a permanent license. All non-profit corporations have no fee for their business licenses. If your business license has expired and you have not renewed it, contact the WV State Tax Department at 1-800-982-8297 and a renewal form will be mailed to your detachment so you can receive a **Permanent Business Certificate**. Ensure you have this permanent business license with you anytime you conduct a raffle or a fund raiser. Suggest making a copy of it and covering in a plastic frame, and keep your original in your detachment files.

Detachment Filing procedures yearly accounts - Files should be set up according to years. Retain all pertinent files and reports into your yearly folder. Example: 2015, 2016, 2017. These should include: IRS 990 N, Annual Corporate Report, Insurance policy, Paymaster Reports, Bank statements, Financial audits, Property inventory, detachment meeting minutes

Detachment Property Inventory - Should be performed prior to Officer Installation yearly to account for all detachment property.

- Financial Records
  - (1) Bank Statements
  - (2) Financial Audit - annual
  - (3) Paymaster Reports
  - (4) Dues Transmittals

Detachment Meeting Minutes - Should be maintained for reference and for any audit from state or IRS as your fund-raising events, donations, and detachment administrative activities are documented. The Detachment will meet for regular meetings on a scheduled basis on the same day and same time once monthly or as necessary as ordered by the Commandant at a place to be designated. All members will be informed of the meeting date, time and location. Special meetings may be called by the Commandant or by the Board of Trustees upon reasonable notice to the members thereof.

**Detachment Meetings**

The Detachment Commandant is in charge of all meetings and must maintain control of those meetings. Members are reminded that they took an oath to bring no harm to any of the members and would follow and obey the rules of the League. All guests including Department, Division or National officers while attending a detachment meeting also follow the same rules as the Detachment Commandant is in charge of his meeting room and has the authority to have the Sgt-at-Arms remove a disgruntled or unruly member from the meeting.

The opening and closing ceremonies will follow the Ritual provided by National Headquarters of the Marine Corps League. The Bible, national insignia, Charter and gavel will always be present. A minimum number of members required to transact the regular and legal business of the Detachment is a quorum. The majority vote of those members present is required to approve general business. Officer meetings require no less than three to conduct business.

The Commandant will have an agenda that indicates the occurring events and reports. The business meeting will be concise, and will serve to inform members of Detachment activities and affairs, and solicit member ideas, information, and response to activities and reports. The meeting will allow time for introduction of guests and new members, induction of new members, and introduction of all the members. Membership meetings are where members can voice their thoughts or opinions so any potential conflicts can be discussed and settled by the members.

The Detachment is a corporate entity and must be run like a business entity with minutes taken to comply with corporate laws. Copies of minutes from all meetings will be kept in the Detachment's permanent files and copies will be sent to the Department Commandant. Members through their action and/or verbiage will not do anything detrimental to the good order of a meeting. Committees will meet at time and place deemed necessary and nonmembers will be excluded from meetings when conducting official business.

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## **Membership**

Membership is the life blood of the League. Retention and retaining members should be a high priority of the goals for each detachment. Every Marine is a salesman and in their daily routine and travels promotes the USMC in so many ways. Carrying oneself as Marines do promotes leadership and confidence. Marines enjoy the company of other Marines and they seek out each other. Meer strangers before meeting, yet Marines thereafter are no longer strangers and look out for each other. The League does the same thing and encourages every Marine to seek out and sign up new members. When you serve on active duty you bond with those members of your unit and the same can be said of the League. As you attend your detachment meetings, department quarterly meetings and conventions, national staff meetings, Marine expo, and finally National conventions, you come to enjoy these events as much as a reunion. Because you see a lot of the same people at these events and often times members plan out their vacations, just so they can see each other. Marines have always enjoyed the traditions and rituals that they project as well as the discipline, but they also enjoy having fun. Adding humor and fun into your daily lives and events enhances your life and there's no reason why this cannot be done in your league events also. Your past military rank should not be a factor in your league events because after all, membership in the league is voluntary. When you think about the League, you also have to consider some expenses. These might include: purchase uniform items, travel to meeting and conventions, hotel and food costs and other incidentals. Every member made a commitment to sign up so let's get the fun back into the League and do what we can to keep the costs down so more members can attend the League events. Brainstorm, car pool, share expenses, and keep signing up more members so those newly discharged Marines can come home to the Corps and be active in the League. Talk with your local Marine Corps recruiters and get the word to them about the league as Marines being discharged are not being informed of the MCL. Take some brochures to them and invite the recruiters to your events as it will pay dividends.

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## **Thousands of Disabled Vets Owed Tax Refund**

According to the DoD and IRS more than 130,000 disabled veterans who took a lump-sum disability severance are due a tax refund. The tax refund is owed because the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) had used an outdated process to determine tax withholding on military disability severance payments. Unfortunately, very few veterans knew to apply for a refund or the value of doing so. Get the full story in this [week's Military Update on www.Military.com](#)

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## VA Reviewing WWII Mustard Gas Claims

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is reviewing previously-denied claims from World War II Veterans who participated in full-body testing for mustard gas or Lewisite in the 1940s. VA has contacted identifiable World War II Veterans with a previously-denied claim for exposure to mustard gas or Lewisite to re-adjudicate those claims. World War II Veterans who were previously denied benefits for mustard gas or Lewisite exposure and have not been contacted by VA should call (800) 827-1000 to request that their claim be reviewed. For more information, visit the VA Exposure to Mustard Gas or Lewisite webpage and read the VA Vantage Point Blog.

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### Department Fall Quarterly Meeting – September 8, 2018

Department Fall Quarterly Meeting - September 8, 2018 in Huntington, WV will be hosted by Huntington Detachment 340 at American Legion Post 16 in Huntington, WV, 1421 6th Ave, Huntington, WV 25701. Directions: Take I-64 W toward Huntington, take WV-10 Hal Greer Exit 11, turn right onto 16th St Rd/Hal Greer Blvd for 2.5 miles. Turn left on 6th Ave for 0.2 miles. American Legion Post 16 will be on your left. Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting.

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John Nanny, Past Dept Commandant, left above, meets with USMC Brig. Gen. Austin “Sparky” Renforth, right, during the Change of Command Ceremony on June 15, 2018, at Parris Island, S.C. Nanny presents a Parris Island Challenge Coin to newly graduated Marine Jeremy Ramnath of Maryland, below right.



Jones, Wolin & O'Brien Det 771 Commandant John Nanny, Det 771-member Fritz Sweeney, USMC Commandant Robert Neller, Nanny's stepson Jeff Yoakum and Det 771-member Steve Duncil converse following the Change of Command Ceremony on June 25, 2018 at Parris Island, S.C



Military Order of the Devil Dogs Minutemen Pound 215 WV Pack conducted a special growl of the Pack at Woodlands Retirement Community Home in Huntington, WV. This special growl of the Pack was authorized by the Kennel and Pack of WV after Pound 215 filed a medical exception to advance Devil Dog Harold J. Poindexter, above left, who is declining health and is unable to travel, to Pedigree Devil Dog. Even though Harold is in chronic pain, this Devil Dog managed to get his MCL cover, Dog collar and MCL polo shirt on for the advancement ceremony. This was a special day for PDD Poindexter and for his son, who was also in attendance, to see his dad achieve this high honor in the Order. Congratulating PDD Poindexter is Worthy Jr. Vice Pack Leader PDD Rick Shank, right.



Huntington Det. 340 MCL presented seven American Legion Post 16 members of Huntington with the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award for their long- term contributions and unselfish dedication to veterans and their families. Front row, left to right, are Stacy Wehrle, Richard W. Bohnke, Bill Karnes, Charles Smoot, Fred Buchanan, Shannon Harshbarger and Joe Wilson. Back row, left to right, are Marines Roy Marcum, Rick Shank, Roger Estep and Denny Wood of Det. 340. For more information, visit [Chapel@fourchaplains.org](mailto:Chapel@fourchaplains.org).

## Pending Calendar

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. Cut-off date is July 9, 2018. Reservations open 0801 21 August 2017 [www.Buffalo.hyatt.com](http://www.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://www.aa.org), phone: 716-693-5695 and they are pet friendly

2018 Department of WV Fall Quarterly Meeting will be Sept 8, 2018 hosted by Huntington Detachment 340 at American Legion Post 16 in Huntington, WV. 1421 6th Ave, Huntington, WV 25701. Directions: Take I-64 W toward Huntington, take WV-10 Hal Greer Exit 11, turn right onto 16th St Rd/Hal Greer Blvd 2.5 miles. Turn left on 6th Ave for 0.2 miles. American Legion Post 16 will be on your left

Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting.

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

2019 Department of WV Spring Quarterly Meeting will be January 5, 2019 hosted by Wood County Detachment 1087 at VFW Post 1212, 1630 Garfield Ave, Parkersburg WV 26101. Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting.

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.

2019 Department of WV Department Convention will be May 17-19, 2019 hosted by Earl Anderson Detachment 342 in Morgantown, WV.

2019 Department of NC Department Convention will be June 7th & 8th in Jacksonville @ the Hilton Garden Inn 1016 Jacksonville Pkwy. Jacksonville, NC 28546 Tel: 910) 346-2400

2019 Mideast Division Conference will be June 21-23, 2019 hosted by Mountaineer Marine Detachment 957 and the Department of WV at the Comfort Inn in Princeton, WV.

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