



The Straight Scoop

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



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COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

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

The Department Quarterly meeting was a great success with a lot of information discussed. Thank you to Wood County Detachment 1087 for hosting. Commandant's, please ensure you are nominating your Marines for the Department Awards. Raffle tickets were passed out or mailed to all Detachments. Get those tickets sold and get the money and ticket stubs turned in to The Department Raffle Ticket Chairman Denny Wood as soon as you get them sold.

Each Detachment should be coming up on their elections. Make sure you are announcing your elections at least one month prior to holding them. Ensure that you are following the Bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order when holding your elections. Please get your Report of Officer Installation in to Patti Leib the Department Adjutant as soon as your elections are held.

Speaking of bylaws, if you have a suggestion or a potential change to the bylaws please submit it to the Department Judge Advocate or the bylaws committee.

The Earl Anderson Detachment is working hard on the Department Convention. They are ensuring a great Convention. Please consider supporting them with an ad for the ad book. Contact Det Commandant Vangilder for information concerning your donation or ad.

In closing, I would like to remind all of you of the Oath that you took when joining the League. Especially the following "I will never knowingly wrong or injure or permit any member or any member's family to be wronged or injured, if to prevent the same is with in my power." This means that no matter what position you hold, you should treat every member with respect. Everyone has a different opinion about things and just because your opinions may differ, doesn't mean that we can no longer be friends. Too many times, I have seen a detachment have issues because two members can't seem to get along. This then causes other members to choose sides. Once this happens, you have a division within your detachment and before you know it members stop showing up, membership numbers drop and it becomes more of a chore to hold your functions and even harder to recover. It doesn't matter what we did in the Corps, whether you are a Combat Veteran, Grunt, Office Pogue or Motor Transport. It doesn't matter what generation that you served. We are all Marines or Corpsmen or Honorably discharged Veterans of the greatest country in the world. If we can't find anything else to agree on, let's agree that we are all Brothers and Sisters in Arms and should find a common ground in that.

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

In his book, Rocket Men, Robert Kurson describes the turmoil of 1968 with its riots, assassinations, and political unrest. But in December that year, three astronauts flew to the moon, a quarter million miles away. No one had ever traveled more than 853 miles into space. The Apollo 8 mission was the most daring enterprise NASA had attempted. Peering thru the window of the spacecraft, Frank Bowman viewed the troubled world from a greater distance than any human in history. He thought to himself, "This must be what God sees."

In a scriptural sense, we need to see our world as God does and view our own lives from an eternal perspective We don't have to go to the moon-only to the Bible. Simon Peter wrote, "With minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the Grace to be brought to you When Jesus is revealed" 1 Pet. 1:13

Change the way you're looking at your problems, your priorities, your schedule, your world. Look at life from God's perspective, and set your hope on the Grace of Christ's return.

Point: The entire space achievement is put into perspective when one realizes that God walking on Earth is more important than man walking on the moon.

God Bless, Chaplain Frank

The Chapel of Four Chaplains - February 3

February 3, 1943 is the date that four Army chaplains, George L. Fox, Alexander D. Goode, Clark V. Poling and John P. Washington lost their lives. The Chapel of Four Chaplains memorializes the courageous act of these four Army Chaplains who gave their life jackets to others when the troopship USAT Dorchester sank after being torpedoed on February 3, 1943, and honors the 672 men who perished. The Chapel of Four Chaplains is a national nonprofit organization, founded in 1947, which recognizes and encourages cooperation, brotherhood, and selfless service. The work of the Chapel is sustained solely by the cooperation and contributions of friends who share in the dedicated spirit of the Four Chaplains.

Many of the members in our department are recipients of the Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award. The Chapel is a lasting tribute to those four Army chaplains who lost their lives on Feb 3, 1943 when the USAT Dorchester was torpedoed by a German submarine. The Chapel will soon be mailing out donation requests to every member who has been inducted into the Legion of Honor, asking for their support in keeping the Chapel of Four Chaplains vibrant. The Chapel's motto of "Unity without Uniformity and the recognition of "ordinary people who do extraordinary things" continues to be manifested in so many ways all over the country, and to so many people. Please consider supporting the Chapel with a donation and mail to: The Chapel of Four Chaplains, 1201 Constitution Avenue, The Navy Yard, Building 649, Philadelphia, PA 19112-1307.

Department Officer Nominations

Department Sr Vice Commandant Jim Doss is Chairman of the Department Nominating Committee. The following Department Officers will be elected during the Department Convention in Morgantown, WV on May 18, 2019. Commandant, Sr Vice Commandant, Jr Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate. Nominations for these positions can be submitted to Sr Vice Commandant Doss commencing January 2019. Floor nominations will be taken at the Department Convention.

Hershel "Woody" Williams Scholarship Foundation

Applications Foundation Chairman John Nanny has mailed out applications to every detachment Commandant in the Department. The applications may be reproduced as needed. The Foundation normally awards four scholarship in the amount of \$1000.00. This is a onetime scholarship so prior recipients are not eligible. The deadline for applications must be postmarked no later than March 15th, 2019. Please assure that all portions of the application are completed, all requested materials are included and proof of eligibility from the local Marine Corps League is verified. The application includes additional information required to complete and submit the application properly. Paying attention to detail is necessary in submission of an application. In the seventeen years since the Scholarship Foundation was instituted, 117 scholarships totaling \$99,000 have been awarded.

Department Awards

Department Awards Chairman Rodney Mayberry will send out nomination forms for the following department awards after January 2019. Detachments should be considering those individuals who they desire to nominate for one or more of these awards. All nominations must be postmarked by March 30, 2019 to be considered.

DEPARTMENT HEART & SOUL AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding spirit and enhancement of the mission and principles of the U. S. Marine Corps and Marine Corps League from May 2018 to March 2019

COMMANDANT OF THE YEAR AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding leadership and guidance in meeting all department and national guidelines, policies and procedures from May 2018 to March 2019

DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY AWARD is presented in recognition of this Detachment's outstanding public relations contributions and community involvement from May 2018 to March 2019

DEPARTMENT AMERICANISM AWARD is presented in recognition of promoting patriotism, citizenship, participating in parade activities, and observing all traditions of U.S. Marine Corps and Marine Corps League from May 2018 to March 2019

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT/PAYMASTER AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding administrative and fiscal practices and procedures in the Marine Corps League from May 2018 to March 2019

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER AWARD is presented in recognition of this Marine Corps League member's outstanding service performance and volunteer work to veterans and their dependents from May 2018 to March 2019

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER AWARD is presented to Detachment____in recognition for publishing an outstanding newsletter that conforms to the National Newsletter guidelines from May 2018 to March 2019

DEPARTMENT COMMENDATION AWARD is presented in recognition for displaying outstanding principles and purposes of the U. S. Marine Corps and Marine Corps League from May 2018 to March 2019

DEPARTMENT RECRUITER OF THE YEAR AWARD is presented in recognition to this Marine Corps League member for recruiting the highest number of new Marine Corps League members for the period May 2018 to March 2019

Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year Award

Roger Ware, President, Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year Society will be sending out an announcement for the 2019 Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year after January 2019. Detachments should be considering and submitting a member for nomination for this prestige award upon receipt of the announcement letter. All nominations must be postmarked by March 1, 2019 to be considered. An example of the nomination form and cover letter are at the end of this newsletter.

Mideast Division Marine of the Year

Section 300 (h) of the National Administrative Procedures outlines the criteria for selection of the National Marine of the Year. Using these provisions, the following Mideast Division MOY recipients are the committee to select a 2019 Mideast Division Marine of the Year. The Chairman is Roger Ware - Department of West Virginia The other committee members are: Bud Raines - Department of Maryland, Richard Tanner - Department of Delaware, Mike McLain - Department of West Virginia and Jeffrey Jones and Rick Thomason - Department of North Carolina. The guidelines in Section 300 (h)

(2) of the above reference must be followed for each nomination. Please insert "Division" in lieu of "National", as appropriate. Any regular member from the Mideast Division can be nominated and the Mideast Division MOY will be presented at the 2019 Mideast Division Conference, June 22, 2019 in Princeton, WV. Each letter of nomination must be mailed to the above chairman, registered return receipt, post marked not later than May 15, 2019. Mail to Roger Ware, 181 Weese St, Elkins, WV 26241. Telephone: 304-636- 4365. The Marine of the Year Committee will announce the 2019 recipient during the Mideast Division Conference. The above provisions are for 2019 Marine of the Year selection only.

Division Marine of the Year Criteria

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

Letters of nomination must originate only at the DETACHMENT LEVEL. No individual nor any subsidiary unit of the Marine Corps League shall submit a letter of nomination. All letters of nomination shall include a letter signed by the Detachment Commandant and Adjutant, stating that the nominee for Division Marine of the Year was approved at a regular meeting of the detachment by a majority vote. (In the event a nominee is the Commandant, the letter of nomination shall be signed by the Senior Vice Commandant and the Adjutant. In the event a nominee is the Detachment Adjutant, the letter of nomination shall be signed by the Detachment Commandant and Senior Vice Commandant).

Each nomination submitted must be placed in a sealed envelope and addressed to "Chairman, Division Marine of the Year Society". THIS ENVELOPE SHALL THEN BE PLACED IN ANOTHER ENVELOPE and mailed, certified/return receipt requested, to:
the Chairman at the address listed on the announcement.

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

The recommendation should summarize what the member has done in his detachment, and or department. It should be brief and only impact areas where the candidate performed that brought credit upon his detachment and not merely list that he performed the duties expected of his position and or attended meetings. What were the results of any activities he participated in that were above the normal expected duties of his position?

List those activities where he was the chairman or committee lead. Examples: Toys for Tots for 15 years and how

many toys collected and how many children benefited.

Chairman of numerous fund-raising events that benefited detachment or selected charities. What was the total amount generated? Did he teach flag etiquette or flag folding to children, how many classes and how many kids for how many years.

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

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

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

2019 Department of WV Convention

The Morgantown Marriott at Waterfront Place, Morgantown, WV May 17 -19, 2019

2019 MCL Department Convention Schedule

Friday, May 17, 2019

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 18, 2019

0600-0930 Breakfast on your own

0800-1000 MCL registration

0800-0815 Flag-raising Ceremony - Dept Sgt-at-Arms

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

1615-1640 New Officer Installation & Department Officers' Meeting

1800-1900 Formal Reception

1900-2200 Grand Banquet

At call of Chairman for Audit, Budget and Nominations Committee

PISTOL RAFFLE at 2019 Convention

Each Detachment has been given a number of raffle tickets for the drawing for the Shield 9MM semiautomatic pistol. PLEASE, Send your sold ticket stubs and check for the full amount to Denny Wood, 9 Cherokee Court, Huntington, WV 25705. Do Not send your sold ticket stubs to Adjutant-Paymaster Leib! Only send the stubs to:

Denny Wood at 9 Cherokee Court, Huntington, WV 25705.

If you have unsold tickets or are concerned you won't be able to sell them soon, then contact Denny Wood ASAP at (304) 523-7876 so he can make arrangements to have them sold by others. **DO NOT WAIT** until Convention to turn them in unsold!! This causes tickets to go unsold, which is a loss to both the Woody Williams Scholarship Foundation and your Department.

VA Begins New Claims Appeals Process Next Month

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that a new procedure for appealing disability claims decisions will begin Feb. 19, 2019. The new system, known as the Rapid Appeals Modernization Program (RAMP), is touted by the VA as a major improvement in the claims appeals process.

It is meant to fix the dismal delays veterans face when appealing the VA's decisions on disability claims. This new program was mandated by Public Law 115-55, The Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017.

Why Does the VA Need to Change the Claims Appeals Process?

Previously, if you disagreed with the VA's decision on your disability claim, your only recourse was to appeal to the VA's Board of Veterans' Appeals, a process that could take years.

In fact, in its Federal Register filing, the VA itself said that, under the current appeal process (which will be replaced by the RAMP program in February), veterans who appeal wait an average of three years for a final decision, and an average of seven years if they continue their appeal to the board.

Under RAMP, the VA estimates the average time to complete an appeal will be approximately two years less than under the legacy appeals process.

What Exactly Is Different About the New Appeals Process?

The new law created three different ways for you to appeal the VA's decision on your disability claim:

A Supplemental Claim Lane. This is done by submitting new evidence to the same office that originally denied your claim. It will then re-examine everything and make a new decision.

A Higher-Level Review. If you already gave the VA all the evidence you have, but believe it made a mistake or missed something, you can request a higher-level review that may, or may not, be at the same office that originally denied your claim.

An Appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals. This is basically the same option as you currently have, except that you can now choose between three options:

A Direct Review. If you have no additional evidence to submit and don't want a hearing, you can request the board to review the decision made by the original office.

Additional Evidence Submission. Choose this option if you don't want a hearing but have additional evidence to submit.

The Choice of a Hearing. If you want your day in court to submit evidence and testify to the judge, choose this option.

The VA says that cases appealed under the first two methods should be decided in four months or less. It also says that diverting a majority of cases from the Board of Veterans' Appeals to a lower-level authority should speed up the time it takes cases to be resolved.

How to Get Increased Disability Compensation

Did you know that you can have your VA disability compensation benefit increased by the Department of Veterans Affairs? Many types of medical conditions get worse over time. If you are getting disability benefits from the VA, you have the right to request that your rating be increased if your medical condition gets worse or causes your health to deteriorate.

Before you file for an increase in your disability rating, make sure you know what you can expect from the VA, and be prepared for both the best and worst outcomes you might face after requesting a disability rating increase.

There are basically three different courses of action you can take when applying for an increase in disability benefits: requesting compensation for a new disability; filing for an increase to an existing disability because the condition has gotten worse, or you can disagree with the VA's current disability rating decision.

Requesting Compensation for a New Disability

You normally do this if you are already getting VA disability, or have filed before and were denied. For example, you hurt your back while in the military so the VA is paying you disability compensation for a bad back. Now, you realize you are having hearing issues that may be related to your military service.

In this case, you just have to file a new disability claim with the VA. Some disabilities may have time limits, and you do have to document everything just like any other application for VA disability.

Filing for an Increase to an Existing Disability

There may come a time that your disability begins to worsen. You may have more pain, have new symptoms, or find that your existing disability causes other issues. For example, your service-connected back injury leads you to favor one leg over the other, causing knee pain.

To file for an increase, you normally go through the same procedure you went through when you initially filed for compensation. You will need medical proof that your condition has gotten worse. This can be from either the VA doctor or a private doctor. You can file your increase request using [eBenefits](#) or by filling out a VA Form 21-526b.

If you have medical information from a private doctor, you must submit a VA Form 21-4142, which authorizes that doctor to share information with the VA.

If you are seeing a civilian doctor as part of the Veterans' Choice program, you may not need the VA Form 21-4142, but it never hurts to have one on file.

What Happens When You File for Increased Disability Compensation?

When you request an increase in your VA disability rating, you are in effect opening up your claim for re-evaluation. The VA can actually lower or terminate your existing rating, so you need to make sure you have all your ducks in a row before you file.

If you've had your VA disability for more than five years, the VA has to prove that your illness or disease has gotten better and will stay better before reducing or terminating your rating.

If you've had your disability for 10 years or more, the VA can very rarely terminate your benefits unless it proves that you've been fraudulent in your claim. It can, however, reduce your benefits.

If you've had your disability for 20 years, the VA won't reduce your rating below the lowest one you've received in those 20 years.

The VA can also reduce or terminate your compensation if you miss a scheduled disability rating medical exam.

Whatever the situation, be prepared to send in a ton of documents, fill out lots of forms (this may be easier to do using [eBenefits](#) instead of regular mail), and wait for several months before the VA makes a decision on your claim.

Disagreeing with the VA's Decision

If you disagree with the VA's decision on your disability, you can file what is known as a "Notice of Disagreement" with the VA. This is also known as an appeal.

You can file an appeal if you think the VA rated your disability too low or it denied your disability. You can file an appeal with any decision made by the VA, the initial rating or any subsequent rating.

Increased Disability Rating for Time Spent in a Hospital

Did you spend time in a VA hospital or a VA-approved hospital for a disability related to your military service (called a service-connected disability)? If you did, you may be able to get added disability compensation or benefits with a temporary 100% disability rating for the time you spent in the hospital. Find out if you can get this benefit.

Can I get disability benefits from VA?

You may be able to get disability benefits if one of the situations below describes your experience.

One of these must be true:

You spent more than 21 days in a VA hospital or other approved hospital for a service-connected disability, or
You were under hospital observation for more than 21 days at our expense for a service-connected disability
Who's covered? Veterans!

What kind of disability benefits can I get?

Health care: Increased compensation (payments) for the time you spent in the hospital

How do I get these benefits?

You'll need to file a claim for disability compensation. [Find out how to file a claim.](#)

Note: If you weren't in a VA hospital, when filing your claim, you'll need to give us your hospital discharge summary showing the length and cause of your hospital stay.

Example: A Veteran with a 40% service-connected disability rating for diabetes had to stay in a VA hospital after going into a diabetic coma. He needed to stay in the hospital for 25 days because of the coma and related infections. We raised his rating to 100% during his hospital stay. After he got out of the hospital, his disability rating went back to 40%.

Professional Development Training: Duties of Detachment Officers

Senior Vice Commandant -

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

Junior Vice Commandant -

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

Judge Advocate -

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

Questions of law and procedure pertaining to the Detachment, the JA shall rule in writing, mailing copies of the ruling to the parties and to the Detachment Commandant, and such ruling shall be binding unless and until reversed by the Detachment Board of Trustees. A ruling can be obtained from the Department Judge Advocate if submitted in writing. The JA will be thoroughly familiar with and have a working knowledge of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures as well as their Detachment Bylaws and be able to advise the detachment on any questionable issues and or problems. In addition, should be able to answer questions regarding attendance at the Department and National meetings and processes for submitting changes to the Bylaws and policies, awards, and discussion topics for agenda items.

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

The JA should review motions and votes, eligibility of voters, and activities on a regular basis to assure compliance.

The JA should have documentation of issues and instances for the record for review in the future in any similar instances.

The JA will be well versed in issues of parliamentary procedures, ritual, and business order during meetings. The JA is the keeper, protector and counselor of the laws, policies and procedures within the detachment. Must be diligent in assuring conformance to these credentials that allow the League and the Detachment to exist in an orderly manner. Also has the right and obligation to suggest meaningful change of the statutes from higher levels and a procedure for being heard.

The JA will enforce through the Board of Trustees and advise members and Officers of the Detachment with the objective of maintaining order within the League organization.

The JA should check bank accounts and checks to assure that dual signatures and procedures for expenditure of funds are being followed according to Detachment procedures.

He will ensure that the detachment maintains all changes to the National BL and AP for continuity and accuracy.

Junior Past Commandant -

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

Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster -

Serve as the Detachment's treasurer and in that capacity shall be directly responsible to the Detachment's Board of Trustees. Will be responsible for paying authorized bills and will assure the legitimacy of payment requests and Board of Trustees approvals, prior to releasing funds. Will have a right to question expenditures if necessary. Will ensure that new bank signature cards are completed on new Commandant and Paymaster after Officer installation each year. Cause to be kept all proper and necessary books for the recording of all the financial business of the Detachment, including a correct record of all membership accounts.

Receive all monies, keeping a record of their sources and purposes and shall deposit said monies, in an approved and federally insured account, including, but not limited to, a checking account. All monies deposited shall be in the name of the Marine Corps League Detachment only.

Provide such assistance to the Audit Committee to ensure the annual audit of the Detachment finances is completed prior to the annual installation of officers. Monthly audits can be conducted and be combined to satisfy the audit required. Otherwise, this report along with a copy of the monthly minutes of the meetings must be forwarded to the Department Commandant no later than 10 days after the installation of officers.

Will audit the Quarterly Member Listing of 30 June each year from National Headquarters and make corrections, additions or other adjustments and certify it to be correct as annotated and ensure that the Detachment Commandant and he sign it and forward through the Department to National Headquarters before 30 December annually.

Complete and file the annual IRS Form 990-N after the fiscal year ending 30 June and ensure National Headquarters and the Department Paymaster receives a true and complete copy of the IRS confirmation reply.

Submit membership National per capita and Department per capita dues, application fees and life member fees to the Department Paymaster ensuring that these arrive before the end of the month of the member's renewal date.

Serve as a member of Detachment Membership Retention Team (MRT) and keep track of all paid and unpaid members in the detachment on a monthly basis and report on membership status at each meeting. The National Membership quarterly roster will be used to track all paid and unpaid members.

Will submit a dues transmittal form monthly for those members paying their dues in that month. All dues must be forwarded within 30 days of receipt and will not hold any transmittal until all boxes are filled out.

Adjutant-

Shall be the recording secretary of the Detachment meetings and affairs. Support the detachment officers through correspondence, documentation, written communication, media releases and other staff assistance as may be directed

by the Detachment Commandant. The Adjutant is also responsible for official notifications to the members. When an application for new membership is received shall read and record the application at the proper time, starting all pertinent data including name of sponsor, and clearly state that the required dues and fee have been verified and are in the possession of the Detachment staff, and shall physically view the DD 214 of the applicant/member. Shall ensure that all applications are submitted using a 2013 or later date form.

When submitting a member for the National Marine of the Year Award or the Department Marine of the Year Award, a Letter of Nomination must be submitted by the Detachment. The Letter of Nomination shall contain a statement of certification from the Detachment Commandant and Detachment Adjutant stating the nominee was approved by the Detachment by a majority vote. Also insure that the member meets all requirements as set forth in the National and/or Department By-Laws. In addition, the Detachment Adjutant shall:

Keep and transcribe complete and accurate record of the business meetings at all Board meetings, detachment meetings for a permanent record for a period not to exceed three (3) years. If a separate Officers meeting has been held and if decision have been made by the Officers, then the Adjutant will read a report of that meeting at the general membership meeting.

Assist the Detachment Commandant in preparing agendas for all business meetings and information for detachment special projects.

Prepare the Detachment Quarterly Report and Detachment Annual Report for presentation during any scheduled Department Quarterly meetings or convention.

Ensure the annual Report of Officer Installation is completed with renewal dues amount and is signed by the Installing Officer and forwarded through the Department. He will also ensure a listing of the new officers are given to the Detachment Web Sgt for the Locator page. Will ensure that the detachment has 15 paid members before they elect their officers and send in their ROI.

After annual officer installations are completed, the Adjutant will complete and file the Corporation Annual Report prior to July 1 for the Detachment each year and mail to the WV Secretary of State, Business and Licensing Division and forward confirmation of Annual Corporate report to the Dept. Adjutant.

If Officers are installed after 1 July the Adjutant will complete and file an Application to Appoint or change Officers, and/or Office Addresses with the WV Secretary of State and mail a copy to the Department Adjutant

The Adjutant will complete and file for a permanent WV State Tax Department Business Registration Certificate for the detachment. He will ensure this certificate is at all locations where the detachment members conduct fund raising activities.

The Adjutant will prepare new bank signature cards after annual installation of Officers that includes the Detachment Commandant and Detachment Paymaster. The Adjutant will ensure a motion is made during a membership meeting and approved by vote to change bank signature cards and that it is recorded in the Detachment Minutes.

The Adjutant will maintain desktop procedures and all Detachment turn-over files, copies of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, Detachment Bylaws, Detachment minutes and resolutions and Marine Corps League Guidebook for Detachment officers.

The Adjutant in addition to preparing Detachment minutes, records and other communications is responsible in the absence of a Historian for maintaining, organizing and filing correspondence and letters and certifications of merit that will preserve a chronological documentary of detachment actions and events.

Maintain and publish a Detachment Directory which shall contain:

Listing of detachment officers and general membership

Past Detachment Commandants

Past Detachment Marine of the Year

To aid the detachment in the accountability of all recurring reports the Adjutant will include the following in the monthly meeting minutes:

Officer Installation date:	Detachment EIN:	Detachment Charter date:
Incorporation date:	Locator page last update:	PLM Audit:
990-N-efile date:	Annual Corporate Report filed:	Financial Audit
PLM:	Paid members	Unpaid members

Chaplain -

Shall perform such duties of a spiritual nature as are customarily performed by members of the clergy and required by the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League. The activities of the Detachment Chaplain require duties specifically assigned to him or her in the Ritual and the Commandant may assign such other functions within the category of that office as to him or her. He will complete a Notice of Death and forward to the Department Chaplain upon notification of the death of a Detachment member.

Sergeant-at-Arms -

Shall preserve order at all Detachment meetings, to keep an attendance roster of all meetings and to perform such other functions within the category of that office as many be assigned by the Commandant. The Sergeant-at-Arms is empowered to deputize such Deputy Sergeants-at-Arms as may be necessary for the proper performance of his duties. In addition, the Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms shall:

Take custody of all detachment property (Colors, Charter, Gavel, Bible, etc.) and shall ensure that such properties are present and in their proper place at all meetings and as may be directed by the Detachment Commandant.

The Sgt at Arms will be well versed in his part of the Ritual and will ensure the Meeting Room and/or other event room is properly set up and will ensure the place is cleaned afterward. He shall have a working knowledge of the National, Department and Detachment Bylaws and Administrative procedures

The Sgt at Arms will be in charge of all military protocol activities and will take charge of all military themed events and activities thus ensuring necessary personnel are in proper dress and knowledgeable of the activity or event.

Chief of Staff -

Shall perform as a Staff Officer, coordinating staff functions and planning for the Detachment Commandant and assuming other administrative tasks as assigned to him or her by the Commandant. Will have full knowledge of all detachment activities and events and have working knowledge of National, Department and Detachment bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

Historian -

Shall, under the direction of the Board of Trustees, assemble and maintain a record of the Detachment history and achievements. To perform such other functions as may be assigned to him or her by the Board of Trustees.

VAVS Officer-

Each VA Hospital is authorized one VAVS Representative and three Deputy VAVS Representatives. All VAVS and Deputy VAVS Representatives are appointed by the National VAVS Representative. Detachment Commandants submit certification/recertification Request for MCL Members form to the National Marine Corps League VAVS Representative requesting that a person be appointed to a vacancy or to replace a current representative. The National MCL Representative makes the appointment and notifies the individual appointed and the respective VA Hospital.

The Service and VAVS officer will:

Will be a volunteer to provide service performance and volunteer work to veterans and their dependents.

The VAVS and Deputy VAVS Representatives will attend 4 meetings a year at their respective VA Hospitals and keep their Detachment Commandants informed about VA Hospital activities and volunteer procedures.

Shall report VA volunteer hours to the department VAVS Officer to be reported during Dept. Quarterly meetings.

Web Sergeant -

Will be responsible to maintain the detachment web site including the Locator page. He will ensure that a listing of all officers is updated after the annual Officer election and installation and or if any changes occur during the year. He will also include any pertinent material and the following information as directed by the Commandant or other responsible officer.

Officer Installation date: Detachment EIN: Detachment Charter date:
Incorporation date: Locator page last update: PLM Audit: 990-N-e-file date:
Annual Corporate Report filed: Financial Audit date: Membership totals: PLM: Total Paid:
Total Unpaid:

He will give a status report as directed during all meetings and will maintain the web page in accordance with the National Professional Development section for Web Sergeant in the performance of his duties.

Public Relations Officer-

Shall disseminate information of the Marine Corps League to all media and to perform such other functions within the category of that office as may be assigned to him or her by the Commandant.

Service Officer -

It shall be the duty of the Service Officer to supervise and direct all contacts by the Detachment , with the United States Rehabilitation Office, the Veterans administrative and other facilities where Marines are hospitalized, to assist Marines who contact the Detachment to prepare and file government claim forms with the Veterans Administration and to perform such other functions within the category of that office as may be assigned to him or her by the Commandant, and to surrender to his duty appointed and qualified successor in office all records and property entrusted to his or her office.

Assist Marine veterans, and veterans of all U.S. Military services upon request, and their dependents, widows or widowers, in locating a certified VSO to assist them in securing the benefits provided by law and regulations

Marine-For-Life Representative -

The Marine-For-Life representative will be well versed in the aspects of the Marine-For-Life Program and will assist to provide transition assistance to Marines who honorably leave active service and return to civilian life and to support injured Marines and their families. USMC directives for the Marine-For-Life Program will be used for reference in the performance of duties in this program.

Robocalls Do Not Call List Registration

The US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) continue to team up to combat illegal robocalls targeting Americans, including Veterans and their families. Each year, the FCC receives more than 200,000 complaints about unwanted calls. While this may seem like a big number, it pales in comparison to the millions of robocalls being made each day. The calls interrupt dinners and family time; they flood landline and mobile phones. Scam calls frequently solicit money for fake charities, including ones claiming to support America's Veterans - some even claiming to be VA representatives. We know that scam activity increases during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, so the FCC and VA urge you to be vigilant. The following tips are offered to help you avoid unwanted calls and scams.

Don't answer calls from unknown numbers. Scammers may spoof their caller ID to display a fake number that appears to be local. If you answer such a call, hang up immediately.

Never give out personal information such as account numbers, Social Security numbers, mother's maiden names, or passwords in response to unexpected or suspicious calls.

Be sure to set a password for all voice mail accounts to avoid being hacked.

Register your number on the Do Not Call List [<https://donotcall.gov>] to block calls from legitimate telemarketers. When you do you will receive an email verification that you are registered. It's free, your number is never taken off the list, and it will at least stop some law-abiding solicitors. It's for both cellphones and landlines.

Ask your phone company about call-blocking tools and services for your landline phone, and check for helpful apps that you can download to your mobile phone.

Help spread the word about robocall fraud among those who may need assistance particularly those who are frequently targeted by phone scams. For more information, visit: www.fcc.gov/robocalls

Vet Myths Five | Ways the Public Views Vets Isn't Always Accurate.

Here's something everyone can agree on: The way the public views a veteran isn't always accurate. For example, take the assumption that all veterans have served in combat and have post-traumatic stress disorder, or that people only go into the military because they can't get into college. Those are just a couple of the "persistent, recycled myths" about veterans that Syracuse University researchers addressed during a session at the Student Veterans of America National Conference 4 JAN, using both federal data and an 8,600-person survey of the military community to debunk some of the most common misconceptions about the nation's youngest generation of veterans.

On one hand, studies by Gallup, Pew Research and others have shown there is "enormous public support (for the military) but at the same time a tremendous gap in knowledge about who we're supporting," said Corri Zoli, director of research at Syracuse's Institute for National Security and Counter terrorism. "They don't have a lot of granular detail about who they're supporting and why."

Myth 1: Veterans are a small subset of the population. The number that's often thrown out is 1 percent, but that applies to active duty troops, researchers said. As of 2017, federal data show veterans make up 8 percent of the U.S. population, with post-9/11 veterans the fastest growing group among them.

Myth 2: Veterans join the military because they could not get into college and are uneducated. According to federal data collected in the 2017 Current Population Survey, 35 percent of post-9/11 veterans have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 31 percent of all veterans and 32 percent of the general U.S. population. Rosalinda Maury, a researcher with the Syracuse Institute for Veterans and Military Families, said education benefits tend to be a top recruiting incentive, and the military promotes and prepares service members for post-secondary education. Other research has found this to be true as well. A 2017 RAND Corporation study found education to be one of the most commonly cited reasons new recruits gave for joining the military.

Myth 3: The military is a homogeneous population. "The fact of the matter is the military is the most diverse, ethnically and racially diverse, public institution," Zoli said. "That's a fact." Not everyone is male, white and has the so-called "Ra Ra USA" attitude so often attributed to veterans, she said. While, yes, veterans are predominantly male, and the majority are white, women are the fastest growing group of veterans, Zoli said, and racial minorities make up a higher proportion of the post-9/11 veteran population than older veterans. They also come from a variety of states, family backgrounds and life experiences that add to their diversity.

Myth 4: Veterans have a limited skill set and pursue careers similar to their military specialization. "There's this common misconception that what you did in the military is what you're going to do post military life," Maury said. "What we found is that the majority actually wanted to pursue something completely different." In the researchers' survey of more than 8,500 service members, veterans, reservists and military dependents, 55 percent said they wanted to pursue a different career not related to their MOS. Maury said there was a similar split among entrepreneurs, about half of whom started a business related to their military skills.

Myth 5: Veterans are broken heroes. This myth has made its way even to college campuses, where veteran advocates like Sarah Skelton, a psychologist at Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, are working hard to change the narrative. In an interview following her session at the conference, "Destigmatizing Veterans on Campus," Skelton said when she first arrived at her university a few years ago, the tab for veterans on the school's website was essentially just a list of PTSD symptoms. And although well-intentioned, that carried with it a lot of assumptions about student veterans. "One of the things that I educate people on is: We are less likely to see somebody (in counseling) for service-connected disability ... than we are for stress related to being a nontraditional student," she said.

In other words, the normal stressors of being a first-generation college student or balancing a full-time job and family life with school, as many veterans do, can have more of an impact on their education than PTSD, a diagnosis that also has varying degrees of impact, she said. Through staff training, peer-to-peer networks and various other engagements with stakeholders, Skelton said she has worked to reframe the conversation on veterans from a starting point of "They're broken and disabled" to "This is what they bring to campus." "They bring the leadership skills that we really want to see for our students," she said.

In the Syracuse study, researchers found that while more than 3.9 million veterans have a recorded service connected disability that takes a toll on their personal and professional lives, they're not living as though they're broken. In spite of these challenges, 88 percent of veterans surveyed said joining the military was a good decision, and 79 percent gave credit to the military for their success. Many are civic-minded, pursuing careers in social work, law enforcement and other fields in which they can continue to serve others. They support existing veteran service organizations and create new ones, including Student Veterans of America, which will celebrate its 11th year later this month. "All across the board you're seeing it, in all of their decisions," Zoli said. "This idea that folks want to contribute to public life and are engaged and participating in a public way debunks this idea of the broken hero."

Vets Groups: Effectiveness and Impact on the Younger Vet Community

Now, nearly a generation after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the oldest and largest veterans' service organizations known colloquially as "the Big Six" are seeing their influence diluted, as newer, smaller organizations focused on post-9/11 veterans compete for money, political influence and relevance. While there are thousands of nonprofit veterans' organizations registered with the Internal Revenue Service, the majority of power has been consolidated among the Big Six: Disabled American Veterans; Veterans of Foreign Wars; American Legion; Paralyzed Veterans of America; Am vets; and Vietnam Veterans of America.

The newer organizations reflect cultural shifts in a smaller community of younger and increasingly diverse veterans who are replacing the older, predominantly male veterans. The scores of upstarts include Student Veterans of America, which advocates on education and job issues; Team Red, White and Blue, which promotes service and “camaraderie” events; and Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, which focuses on the specific health and employment challenges those who served in those two wars face. Leaner and more financially efficient these newer veterans’ organizations focus on issues such as education and job training rather than meeting spaces or lobbying Congress. In addition, their goals are to integrate veterans back into civilian communities where they feel misunderstood and have lost ties, while helping civilians who have had little contact with veterans understand their experiences.

A shrinking veteran population over all has caused memberships to fall and some groups to restructure. The young vets are saying we need to do things differently with a different emphasis. Most veterans today are married with families, and that means new demands, new interests and new pressures.

The shifts, while perhaps inevitable, leave some worrying that the hard work of pressing for the complicated and expensive health care needs, and other issues, will lack a generation of new leaders. These smaller groups don’t do policy advocacy while the Big Six have been carrying all the water.

A relatively new entry, the Wounded Warrior Project, has set a new model for advocacy organizations, raising money from outside the veterans’ community and funding research and services rather than infrastructure. They figured out how to raise money from outside the vet’s community better than anyone else. The Big Six are struggling with overhead.

As the veteran population shrinks, how they end up dealing with the overhead of maintaining buildings and their structures is yet to be determined. Through grants, the Wounded Warriors Project also marries legacy Big Six organizations with newcomers to build coalitions around issues like toxic exposure, which brings post-9/11 veterans into advocacy, and legacy groups into the future.

Congress still listens to the Big Six but when it comes to forming laws, some groups are clearly on the rise, like Student Veterans of America, which played a significant role in drafting a new G.I. Bill. These groups, lacking the large governance structures of the old veterans’ service organizations, tend to be faster on their advocacy feet.

Younger veterans prefer community centers with healthier and more practical assets, like Wi-Fi, child care and yoga classes. In many cases, social media has replaced physical spaces as a place where veterans congregate. Many of the new groups steer away from lobbying on Capitol Hill, and have turned instead to community services, running races and other activities meant not to connect veterans to one another as much as to the rest of the communities they have rejoined.

The epidemic of alienation and loneliness in society writ large is magnified in the vet’s community, and Team Red, White and Blue, which engages veterans in community service and physical activities. Many post-9/11 vets served five, 10, 15 years, and they are looking for connection and community and support. Team Red, White and Blue are key to getting people out into their communities and taking what they learned from their service, doing things together shoulder to shoulder to build deep bonds with other people. Their organization is not necessarily in the advocacy space, as they work toward mental health solutions via physical and social activity.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Don’t forget! As soon as you have held your elections, it is *Very Important* to submit your Report of Officer Installation to Adjutant-Paymaster Leib, and to submit your Annual Corporation Report to the WV Department of State, with a copy to Adjutant-Paymaster Leib. It is very important to keep the Dept. of WV MCL updated on your reporting requirements; if you fall behind, Adjutant Leib will be in contact with you as she is charged with reporting to the Dept. Officers, keeping them updated on the status of all Detachments. Penalties for late filings can generate late fees, or even cause the Detachment to lose their State License.

Pending Calendar

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 Delaware Department Convention and elections of officers will be on Saturday 11 May 2019 at the Heritage Shores Golf Club, Bridgeville, DE. Note to all. The Club is located on US 13 near the intersection of DE Rt. 404 and US 13. 1 hour north of Ocean City and 40 minutes south of Dover, DE.

2019 Department of Maryland Department Convention will be 10-12 May 2019 at the at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center, 9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland 21842-2745. 1-800-4 ROYALE, (1-410-524-7777)

Rooms: \$105.00 plus tax. Banquet \$45.00. Ocean-view/Pool-view. Ocean Front: Includes free continental breakfast. Convention registration and banquet information can be downloaded at: www.deptofmdmcl.org. POC: Department Paymaster Ed Dahling Phone: 410-987-5714 Email: umpire86@aol.com

2019 Department of WV Department Convention will be May 17-19, 2019 at the Morgantown Marriott at Waterfront Place, 2 Waterfront Place, Morgantown, West Virginia 26501. Hosted by Earl Anderson Detachment 342. Saturday night banquet is buffet style; cost is \$35.00 per person and includes a choice of entre, vegetables, dessert, and non-alcoholic beverages. Send registration and banquet reservation to Department of WV Adjutant-Paymaster Patti Leib, PO Box 1224, Athens, OH 45701-1224. Detachments are encouraged to purchase and ad in the convention ad book. More information will be available in the Department Convention Flyer

Room rate: \$97.00 plus tax. Phone: 304-296-1700. For reservations by phone please use the code “**2019 Marine Corps League State Convention**”. **Rate available 05/17/19 to 05/19/19**. The reservation link is live as of now. Book your room by **04/27/19**. For online reservations please follow this link: [Book your group rate for 2019 Marine Corps League State Convention](https://www.marriott.com) <https://www.marriott.com>

In addition, Detachments are encouraged to submit an ad or send a donation to Det 342 to help defer the cost to put on the Convention. Contact Commandant Vangilder, Charity Quick, or Jamie Summerlin to place your camera-ready ad.

2019 Department of Virginia Department Convention will be May 17 – 19 2019 hosted by John A. Lejeune detachment at Holiday Inn Virginia Beach- Norfolk and Conference Center, 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, VA. 23462.

Room cost: \$99.00 per night plus tax. Reservations: Call 757-499-4400, Reservation Code is MCC. CUT OFF Date is 18 April 2019. Telephone Don coons POC at 757-510-0435 (c)

2019 Department of NC Department Convention will be June 7- 8, 2019 in Jacksonville @ the Hilton Garden Inn 1016 Jacksonville Pkwy. Jacksonville, NC 28546 Tel: 910) 346-2400. Rooms \$109.00 plus tax. Banquet \$40.00. For convention registration and banquet information go to: www.ncmcl.org and click on convention announcement.

2019 Mideast Division Conference will be June 21-23, 2019 hosted by Mountaineer Marine Detachment 957 and the Department of WV at the Days Inn, 347 Meadow Field Lane, Princeton, WV, 24739, Telephone: 304-425-8100.

Room rate \$75.60 with tax. Includes free breakfast, parking, Wi-Fi. Reservation start January 7, 2019. Code: 2019 Mideast Division Conference. Reserve by June 7.

Banquet \$25.00. Banquet speaker: Woody Williams, Medal of Honor recipient – Iwo Jima. POC: Susan Roles 804-393- 0352

2019 MCL National Convention will be August 4-10, 2019 hosted by Eugene Sara Detachment 418 at the Billings Hotel & Convention Center, Billings. Montana.

Telephone: 1-406-248-7151. Room rate: \$99.50 plus tax. Reservation open on Monday August 20, 2018 at 10 AM EST. Free breakfast, parking and WI fi. Link: www.mclnationalconvention2019

Department Marine of the Year Announcement Letter

Attention: Detachment Commandant:

Subj: Department Marine of the Year (MOY)

This letter is to inform all Commandants of the rules and regulations for the Department Marine of the Year (MOY).

Marine of the Year nominee shall be submitted for any regular member in good standing according to the Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures Chapter 3, section 301(8) of the AP section.

As per the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures please ensure that you place the letters MOY on the outside flap of the envelope. This will ensure the letter will not be opened until the MOY Society meeting. If the envelope is accidentally opened prior to the MOY meeting, your nomination will not be eligible for consideration of MOY. (Reference: chapter 3, section 301(8) (d) 1)

Please mail your nominations to me:

Roger Ware, President
Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year
181 Weese Street :
Elkins, WV 26241

All envelopes for nominees of MOY have to be postmarked no later than 1 March 2019. Any envelopes received postmarked after this date will not be accepted as a nominee.

Sincerely,

Roger Ware
President, Marine of the Year Society

Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year Nomination Form

Detachment: _____, Department of West Virginia nominates:

Name: _____ Member ID Number: _____

As Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year for 2019. Our Detachment has used the following information to determine his qualifications and merit:

He was approved by a majority vote of Detachment _____ members during a meeting on _____, 2019 and is nominated for the Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year. I certify the nominee was voted upon and accepted by the members of my Detachment at our _____, 2019 meeting.

Commandant: _____ Adj/Paymaster: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: All letters of nomination shall contain a statement that the nominee (1) has been a member in good standing for a minimum of two (2) years and has maintained a minimum of 70% attendance rate at the Detachment and 50% attendance rate at Department meetings (2) has held, or is holding an elective or appointed office in their detachment or the department. Please submit in accordance with Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. Ensure that outside flap of envelope is marked with letters: MOY and post marked no later than 1 March, 2019. Submit to: Roger Ware President, Department of West Virginia, Marine of the Year Society, 181 Weese Street, Elkins, WV 26241