



# The Straight Scoop

Department Newsletter of the Marine  
Corps League  
P.O. Box 1224  
Athens, OH 45701-1224



Volume 14, Issue 1, January 2021

## Department Officers:

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Sr. Vice Commandant: Jerry Bain, 304-675-1905  
Jr. Vice Commandant: Greg Irwin 304-704-5758  
Judge Advocate: Randy Thomas 304-688-8456  
Jr. Past Commandant: Scott Kirby, 304-588-0318  
Legislative: Hershel Williams, 304-743-1026  
Chief of Staff: Roger Ware, 304-636-4365  
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Adjutant: Patti Leib, 740-591-8611  
Paymaster: Patti Leib, 740-591-8611  
Chaplain: Frank Armentrout, 304-837-4011  
Sgt.-at-Arms: Jason Lowe, 304-893-2025  
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## Commandant's Letter



**Welcome to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Chaplains and Associate Members:**

Thank goodness the year 2020 is finally over and hopefully 2021 will eventually be better.

With the COVID19 virus still raging I will be in contact with the Department of West Virginia Board of Trustees on whether to move the January Quarterly meeting to a later date or to cancel all together. If we move the date or cancel, I will notify all Detachment Commandants so they can notify their members.

John Nanny Commandant of Detachment 771, Wheeling and Woody Williams Scholarship Chairman is still in the hospital in ICU. You can send get well cards to John Nanny, P.O. Box 2121, Wheeling, WV 26003-0234 **but no phone calls please.**

Another member just out of the hospital that would welcome get well cards is Jean Lamb, Adjutant/Paymaster for Detachment 947, Charleston. She had COVID 19 and is slowly recovering at home. Cards can be sent to her at 198 Alexander St. Cedar Grove, WV 25039. If there are any members that are sick or has the COVID19 virus please let me or our Adjutant Patti Leib know so we can send a card and let the membership know.

It's not too early to be collecting items for the Woody Williams Scholarship Auction at the Department Convention in Elkins on May 14-15, 2021.

The 2021 Modern Day Marine Expo scheduled for May 2021 at MCB Quantico, VA has been moved to September 21-23, 2021 due to the COVID-19 virus and Marine West Expo on February 2021 has been cancelled also due to the virus. Marine South Expo for October 2021 at MCB Camp Lejeune is cancelled due to the shift of Modern-Day Marine Expo at MCB Quantico.

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

Semper Fi

Jim Doss, Commandant  
Department of West Virginia  
Marine Corps League

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### Chaplain's Corner

Father, Thank you for your great love and blessing over our lives. Thank you that your favor has no end, but it lasts for our entire lifetime. Forgive us for sometimes forgetting that you are intimately acquainted with all of our ways, that you know what concerns us, and you cover us as with a shield. We ask that we would walk in your blessing and goodness today. That your face would shine on us. That you would open the right doors for our lives and for our loved ones, that you would close the wrong doors and protect us from those we need to walk away from. Establish the work of our hands and bring to fulfillment all that you have given us to do in these days. We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice, and make us strong by your huge favor and grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

– Debbie McDaniel, [www.crosswalk.com](http://www.crosswalk.com)

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**For distribution to Detachment Commandants, Paymasters, & Adjutants. Not for Social Media**

Good Morning and welcome to 2021. The National Headquarters has a lot going on. During 2020 we:

- Changed the **Ship's Store** platform over to a new system which will help making updates and improvements easier.
- Switched to a new **plastic membership card** and have been working the bugs out of the process with a vendor that prints the cards and mails them. As an "already" life member, I purchased a replacement membership card so I don't have to carry the old laminated card anymore. We established a means for any of us to do it via a web link: <https://secure.etransfer.com/EFT/BlockCodeEvent/Payment1.cfm?d2org=MCLLeague&d2tool=MemberLifeCards>
- We "turned on" the **new database** and began working on report generation and data entry. This will be a continuing effort to scrub the data for each of the 60,000+ members.
- In 2021 (right now actually) we are changing over to **QuickBooks Online**. This is a major shift for us and will start learning the new system. The version we were using is from 2015 and is no longer supported by Intuit because it is too old.
- Regarding the **new database**: the **roster** now works and although the official roster still comes from headquarters, Departments are able to generate a roster report anytime they want. Special thanks to Wendell Webb and JD Foster for their tireless efforts on getting this report functional.
- Presently JD and the team are working on the **12/31 roster** and plan to send it out on 1/15/21. The roster pull will come from the new database for the first time. This is a major focus change as we push data into the new database. Please take a deep breath and exhale. We know there will be changes/updates needed.
- The Membership Department would like an **email** ([jfoster@mcleague.org](mailto:jfoster@mcleague.org)) **with updates** from what detachments see in the roster that need correction.

□The **Report of Officer Installations** (ROI) will likely not all be up to date but the team is working diligently to get them input into the new system prior to 1/15/21. They are also putting as much transmittal information in as possible before 1/15/21.

□**PLM Audit** dates are still being input for those received by the deadline of 12/31. The roster may go out prior to those dates being completed. If your Detachment has submitted a PLM audit prior to the deadline and the date is not reflected, please email [jfoster@mcleague.org](mailto:jfoster@mcleague.org) to verify. I will not begin working on PLM distribution (direct deposits) for a couple months. Typically, the distribution occurs in April and May.

We really have a great team at Headquarters and I am so proud of them. Lynn, JD, Bill, Jennifer, Shanelle, Kat, Christine, & Hannah are remarkable individuals who are dedicated and have adapted to working remotely, carefully meeting to exchange work, and operating within strict COVID-19 precautions. This, in the middle of changing store platform, membership database platform, and accounting platform. We are blessed to have them and as a red hat, I appreciate knowing these folks are supporting us. There will be challenges to continue to work through in our systems but I am so appreciative of the people around to support these efforts.

I also want to give a shout out to Chief Devil Dog Tom Hazlett. He volunteers behind the scenes and it does not go unnoticed. Thank you, Chief!

**What will 2021 bring?** Don't know but am hopeful that by 6/30/21 all Americans will have access to the COVID-19 Vaccine. I am looking forward to getting one.

What's the word on the **National Midwinter Conference (Norfolk, VA) and National Convention (Springfield, IL)? Presently, there is no change.** The Board of Trustees and Convention Committee are keeping a close eye on both. Hopefully, we will know more by the end of January. Presently, the Virginia Governor has us limited to a maximum of 10 persons in a gathering till 1/31/21, modified stay at home order, telework wherever possible, and a positivity rate above 20%.

**Marine Military Expositions:** Marine West Expo was scheduled for February 2021 and has been canceled due to COVID-19. Modern Day Marine was scheduled for May 2021 on MCB Quantico. It has been shifted to September 2021 due to COVID-19. Marine South Expo was scheduled for October 2021 but has been canceled due to the shift of Modern-Day Marine dates.

Please keep your family close. Your health and safety are important. Let's get to the other side of this so we can lean into the future.

Semper Fidelis,

Bob Borka, Chief Operating Officer, Marine Corps League

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### **Recruiting new members**

When you are trying to recruit new members, you have to be prepared to distribute MCL material on the spot as you may meet a potential new member anywhere. You should always carry a membership application with you and have some in your vehicles in case you run across more than one new member. Being properly prepared is part of the process. Everyone is a salesman and you should be ready to give someone your elevator speech as we say. Being able to inform a new member of what the MCL is and what your detachment does in the community is extremely important. That's why it's paramount that you keep your detachment activities in the eyes of the public through promotional and media articles in the local newspaper or television station. Informing them of your event in advance can pay dividend as it's free advertising that these prospective members might see. You can always submit photos and an article of your events and activities to the media. Always promote your detachment. The department has promotional brochures where you can staple a membership application with it and include your mailing address and phone number. It does no good if they cannot contact you. Make up yourself some business type cards through [vistprint.com](http://vistprint.com) and attach one to the brochure is very helpful.

Distribute some of the brochures in your post office, local library, other military organizations, local bulletin boards in shopping centers or malls and in your visitor and convention centers. If you have a National guard unit in your area go talk with the members about the MCL as often there are several Marines in these units. If there is a truck stop or popular restaurant near by drop off some brochures there. Go talk with the local police or fire departments as Marines always seek positions where they are in demand Wear something that defines who you are. Marine gear is popular so wear it. If you see a vehicle in a parking lot with USMC decals, insert one of your brochures under the windshield wiper or wait and make contact with that person. Establish a relationship with your local Marine recruiters as this will pay numerous dividends with recruitment. The idea is to get in places where there is a lot of foot traffic.

A good initiative that detachments might consider is a have a collaborative effort to sign one new member per month. Every member in the detachment can help place focus on signing that one new member. By setting a goal of one new member for the detachment to recruit per month is a lot easier than everyone trying to sign up a new member themselves. Work as a unit on this and communicate with each other to find that new member. Make it your mission and start working on this. Be sure to invite potential new members to your events and social activities and include their families. A good idea is to recruit some of the wives in your detachment as Associate members and this is often a good draw for new members knowing that their wives can also join serves as a great social outlet for the wives.

These are just some general ideas on recruitment but I am sure you can think of other but this can get you kick started.

Semper Fi,  
Greg Irwin  
Jr. Vice Commandant  
Department of WV

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## **Recruiting and Retention**

It's a typical stereotype image associated in locations where veterans gather: a place to retreat and share kinship with men who became close because they stood side by side in conflicts like the Vietnam War, or met in veteran outreach programs.

But it's not the image the next generation of vets wants people to think of. As we attempt to change the image that most older veterans portray younger veterans indicate it's time to go back to a grassroots campaign of family-oriented programs and community service.

The Marine Corps League, like the military itself, must shift and offer more personalized, tailored positions that give prospective members or those thinking of leaving the Marine Corps League a sense of purpose and belonging.

At some point in time, the MCL and other legacy service organizations, switched from being a community-centered focal point to being an exclusive social club. And that is switching back.

Post-9/11 vets find themselves more closely aligned to the League's founders, the World War I era service members who were on a mission to give back to communities, build partnerships with local and state organizations and foster programs geared toward camaraderie and family events.

While the League has always maintained a responsibility to its purposes, those efforts at some point became less prominent. The image of a bunch of old guys sitting around complaining about the VA and swapping war stories was born.

They're fighting against their own perception of what the MCL is because the MCL is not a bar and they're fighting against the public perception because that's all they've done for the last several decades. There's most positive growth across the country in communities where the members are active and gaining exposure.

Participating in numerous military themed events and civic activities is a huge aid in recruiting more members. While old members are dying off, the young Marines aren't interested as the Marine Corps League has lost its appeal. Acknowledging there has been the long-standing stigma of WWII Veterans verses Vietnam and today's Veteran, because each Vet has something different to offer either to their Detachment or to his or her community.

Standing up a new detachment is especially promising because they offer a fresh start and can be whatever they want to be. A lot of people think that they have to have a building. You can do it anywhere, really. Your home, community, just have to have a place to host your meetings. It could be someone's house. It could be a Denny's; it could be a virtual community through online video conferencing. It could be via face book or other media There is a larger, long-term strategy to bring in new members and the MCL is long overdue to incorporate more targeted conversations and marketing efforts to recruit and retain members. The MCL needs to capitalize on the talents of the people that we're recruiting.

The recruitment conversation can come down to picking a demographic, and it comes down to a question of, for lack of a better word, talent management and engagement.

The Defense Department has moved toward tailored messaging to a generation skeptical of service. The League have a struggle with talent management, where we have people that want to come in and do-good work, they want to continue serving, but we haven't trained ourselves as an organization to identify and put those people in the right position.

Retention is also a huge problem for similar reasons. If you don't capitalize on the skill set or the interest of the veteran, they're not going to renew. They don't want to come back. They can't get what they are looking for out of this organization, which we should be offering.

You have to ensure that you're providing something that is satisfying for all the members of your detachments across all demographics and generations. You really have to re inflate that sense of purpose and direction that people know that what they're doing is making a difference. We have to engage them and get them into a committee where they are productive.

One main reason they do not join is because they have a family and there's a need to share time with them. The department had been going through a tough phase, but reinvigorating family time cookouts, fairs, and a little something for everyone became the catalyst it needed. The family is important and doing things where they can interact helps them see the benefit of belonging and the social aspect. It's also about the outreach work with our mission of taking care of veterans and their families, widows and orphans and strengthening our community. When we do events and activities where our members physically participate, it helps bond them to our League.

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2021 Department of WV Winter Quarterly Meeting will be January 16, 2021 hosted by MGM Detachment 1180 at American Legion Post 23, 100 Second Street Point Pleasant, WV 25550. Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting. Everyone must wear a facial mask and keep social distancing. Temperatures will be taken.

Directions to American Legion Post 23 in Point Pleasant for January 16, 2021 Quarterly meeting:

Come across the bridge over the Kanawha River, turn left at the stop light on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, make another left onto Main Street, and follow it down to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (corner of 2nd St and Main) address is 100 Second Street

Coming in from the east on WV Route 62/WV-2 follow until you are in town and turn left onto WV2 Spur (there is a McDonald's on the corner on your right). Turn left, go two blocks, turn right onto 4<sup>th</sup> Street, go one block and turn left onto Main Street. Follow Main two blocks and the American Legion is on your right.

From Route 7 in Ohio, you cross the Silver Bridge over the Ohio River into WV, take the second right (first one goes to Huntington, second right goes to Point Pleasant), merge onto Route 2 which crosses the Kanawha river,

turn left at the light at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, go one block, turn left onto Main Street, go one block and the American Legion is on your right.

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## **Department of WV, MCL Dept Staff Officers Meeting 0930 January 16, 2021 in Point Pleasant, WV**

Dept Membership: PLM          Total Paid          Unpaid          as of December 31, 2020

Detachments and renewal notice letters for annual dues expire Sep 1 yearly

Membership Retention Team work on renewal and increase membership

Detachment Admin Reference Dept snapshot page

Professional Development Training –

Detachment ROI with installation send copy to Dept Adjutant

Only Use the New National MCL dues transmittal form - <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/>

Dept MOY nomination packages

Dept Awards nomination Packages

Mideast Division MOY (see online application instructions)

Scholarship applications

Member recognition - MCL certification

2021 Department of WV Fall Quarterly Meeting site

2021 Dept Convention – Elkins

Dept Pistol raffle

Department Directory for 2021

Death Notices go through the Department Adj to National HQ

Nominations – floor nomination will be taken

Scholarship auction items for dept convention

National data base detachments need to update their membership in the base.

Use National web site for all administrative forms

Grant funds guidance

Annual Honor Guard/Color Guard Activity Report due to Dept by Jan 15

2021 MCL Midwinter Staff Conference will be Feb 24-28, 2021 at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside - 777 Waterside Dr, Norfolk [VA](#) 23510. group code: MCL Phone: (757-622-6664) Room rate includes up to 4 breakfast vouchers per occupancy. \$129.00 per night + prevailing tax (currently 14%) Please make your room reservation direct to the hotel.

2021 Mideast Division Conference is 16, 17, 18 April 2021 in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

2021 Department of WV Department Convention is May 14-16, 2021 in Elkins, WV

2021 Modern Day Marine Expo is Sept 21-23, 2021 at MCB, Quantico, VA

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## **Department of WV MCL Instructions for Detachment Commandant's Report**

2021 Department of WV Regular Meeting will be held on January 16, 2021 hosted by MGM Detachment 1180 at American Legion Post 23, 100 Second Street Point Pleasant, WV 25550. Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will immediately follow Dept. Meeting. Must wear a mask and keep social distancing during meeting. Everyone will have their temperature taken. The uniform code has been modified for the department regular meetings as members can wear polo shirts and black trousers, with fore and aft cover.

Department Regular Meeting Reports Sep 12, 2020 to January 16, 2021.

Detachment Commandants: The Dept. of WV requests that each detachment Commandant or appointed representative attend the department regular meeting to submit their detachment report. In the event that attendance by your detachment is not possible, please contact the Department Commandant to be excused and mail or email a copy of your report to the Dept. Adjutant/Paymaster Patti Leib before the date of the regular meeting. Bring 1 copy of your detachment report and give to the Dept. Adjutant/Paymaster.

No oral reports will be given as all will be submitted to Dept Adjutant Patti Leib for file.

Use the following when submitting your reports:

**Administration:**

Have you filed your Annual Honor Guard/Color Guard Activity Report due to Dept by Jan 15?

Have you conducted any conference calls with your members in lieu of active meeting?

Have you elected your officers and submitted the ROI? Please give the date filed: (Due to Dept Adj before Convention in May, preferably by April 30<sup>th</sup>)

Have your annual Financial Audit and Property Inventory been completed and filed with the Dept. Adjutant/Paymaster?

Have you submitted your IRS 990 N efile? Date filed (Dept Adjutant-Paymaster Patti Leib can do this for you at no cost) This is due 5 months after the end of your fiscal year.

Have you completed your Annual Corporate Report to the Secretary of State? (Dept Paymaster Patti Leib can file this for you, but your Det needs to reimburse her for the \$25 fee) This is due no later than June 30 each year and a \$25 late fee will be assessed for any late filing.

Have you completed your PLM (Paid Life Member) audit and sent to the Dept Paymaster? This should be done in late July or August using the Audit sheet sent from National with June 30's PLM Roster (NOT the regular roster, but the PLM roster which has different information on it); the deadline is December.

**Membership and Retention Team:**

List number of paid life members: paid annual members: total paid: and total unpaid as of Dec 31, 2020

Do you have a roster of every member that includes mailing address, phone number, date of birth, and email address? Do you have an accurate data base for all members?

Does your detachment's MRT report membership totals in your business meetings and list the unpaid members?

How does your MRT contact the unpaid members? How often do they contact all members?

How many new members have joined your detachment since Sept 12, 2020, and has each new member been assigned a mentor?

What recruiting events has the detachment conducted since Sept 12, 2020?

Do you send your monthly meeting minutes to those members who do not attend meetings and to the Dept Adjutant?

**Professional Development Training:**

Is your detachment implementing Professional Development Training into your membership meetings?

Are you using the Guidebook for Det. Officers, Dept. DVD training disc to assist in training? What PDT classes have been conducted in your detachment meetings since Sept 12, 2020? What type of training would you like for the dept to conduct during the Dept Convention?

**Chaplain's Report:**

List deceased members from Sept 12, 2020.

Have death notices for these members been filed by your detachment Chaplain and forwarded to the Dept. Paymaster and Chaplain? All death notices are to be sent via the Dept Paymaster

**Detachment Awards:**

How do you recognize your members? How many members have the Chapel of Four Chaplains Award?

**Dept Convention and Mideast Division Conference**

How many members are considering attending to support the Dept Convention in Elkins in 2021?  
Can you obtain auction items?

**Americanism and Civic Events:**

Summarize your most important activities or significant events.

**Detachment Commandants additional Comments:**

In this section of your report the Detachment Commandant can make any comments, requests and or suggestions to the Dept. of WV Staff.

Semper Fi,  
Roger Ware  
Chief of Staff

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**Detachment Insurance Information**

Rust Insurance policy only covers members of the detachment and not family members or volunteers. Only members of the detachment should participate in approved detachment functions, honor guard, fund raising events, civic projects.

The annual ROI must be filed for record of those officers covered under insurance bond for theft of \$10,000. For assets over that amount, an increase must be purchased. There is a \$1,000 deductible for any loss. Incorporation only covers the members against personal liability or debt of the detachment. Non-members are not covered.

All activities and events must be approved by the members to be effective and included in the minutes; this protects the members against libel under the corporation

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**Department Officer Nominations**

Department Sr Vice Commandant Jerry Bain is Chairman of the Department Nominating Committee. The following Department Officers will be elected during the Department Convention in Elkins WV on May 15, 2021. Commandant, Sr Vice Commandant, Jr Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate. Nominations for these positions can be submitted to Sr Vice Commandant Doss commencing January 2021. Floor nominations will be taken at the Department Convention.

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**Hershel “Woody” Williams Scholarship Foundation Applications**

Foundation Acting Chairman George Gill (temporarily replacing John Nanny) will provide applications to every detachment Commandant in the Department. The applications may be reproduced as needed. The Foundation normally awards scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00. This is a one-time scholarship so prior recipients are not eligible. The deadline for applications must be postmarked no later than March 15th, 2021. 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 eighteen years since the Scholarship Foundation was instituted, 134 scholarships totaling \$116,000 have been awarded.

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**Department Awards**

Department Awards Chairman Randy “Doc” Thomas will provide nomination forms for the following department awards after January 2021 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, 2021 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 2020 to March 2021

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 2020 to March 2021

DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY AWARD is presented in recognition of this Detachment's outstanding public relations contributions and community involvement from May 2020 to March 2021

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 2020 to March 2021

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 2020 to March 2021

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 2020 to March 2021

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER AWARD is presented to Detachment\_\_\_\_\_ in recognition for publishing an outstanding newsletter that conforms to the National Newsletter guidelines from May 2020 to March 2021

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 2020 to March 2021

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 2020 to March 2021

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### **Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year Award**

Denny Wood, President, Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year Society will be sending out an announcement for the 2021 Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year after January 2021. 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, 2021 to be considered.

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### **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 2021 Mideast Division Marine of the Year. The Chairman is Frank Mathers - Department of Delaware. The other committee members are: Bud Raines - Department of Maryland, Richard Tanner – Department of Delaware, Roger Ware, Mike McLain and Rick Shank - 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 2021 Mideast Division Conference, April 17, 2021 in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Each letter of nomination must be mailed to the above chairman, registered return receipt, post marked not later than March 17, 2021. Mail to Frank Mathers, Mideast Division Chairperson Marine of the Year Committee, 17 Fairway Drive, Ocean View, Delaware 18870. Telephone: 301-520-8051. It must have a cover letter signed by the Commandant and Adjutant or other officers if one of them is nominated. An inner envelope must be addressed to the Mideast Division Chairperson Marine of the Year Committee. A second envelope must be addressed to the Chairperson. It must be sent Certified, Return Receipt Requested for your records, before the postmark deadline. The Marine of the Year Committee will announce the 2021 recipient during the Mideast Division Conference. The above provisions are for 2021 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 cover 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 shall be placed in a sealed envelope and addressed to "Chairperson, 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 fundraising 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.

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## **VA Vaccine Policy:**

Many of our Veterans have been asking when and how they might have access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

To best stay informed and get the latest information is to do the following:

1. Click here: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine> (you can also link to it from [va.gov](https://www.va.gov))
2. Let the VA know you are interested in updates on the COVID-19 Vaccine by clicking here:

*[Sign up to stay informed]* <<https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stayinformed>>

If and when you're eligible to get a vaccine, your VA health care team will contact you. You don't need to reserve a vaccine, go to a VA facility to request one, or receive a vaccine until the VA contacts you. The VA staff will only provide vaccines to Veterans who are currently eligible for one based on VA and CDC risk criteria.

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## **Department and Detachment Board of Trustees Duties**

- (1) The elected Officers of the Department and Detachment shall be their respective Board of Trustees; however, a Department Convention is authorized to appoint the outgoing Department Commandant or a Past Department Commandant to serve a one-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees. A Detachment is authorized to appoint the outgoing Detachment Commandant or a Past Detachment Commandant to serve a one-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees. The Department Board of Trustees will be limited so no more than two members from one detachment can be on the Board during the year. This ensures there is parity in the Department. No individual member of the Department shall serve in more than one position on the Board of Trustees.
- (2) All Officers serving in elective offices must be Regular Members in good standing and have attended a high percentage of regular or special meetings of the Department or Detachment in which they are elected to serve. Each officer is to take possession of those materials previously in the possession of the officer they replaced and they will turn over all materials in their possession to their successor.
- (3) Each member of the Board of Trustees has the special duty to act in good faith with reasonable judgment for the interest of all its members and to examine all aspects of the department or detachment business including adherence to procedures, financial reports, submission of reports and substantiated expense accounts. Full transparency of financial records is imperative for the benefit of the membership. Every member of the Board should be held accountable to their ethical and fiduciary responsibilities because they serve as a corporate Officer, too.
- (4) The Department and Detachment will have an ongoing officer training program to ensure that every current or prospective officer has a working knowledge of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and Robert's Rules of Order. On the detachment level the officers should be well versed in their own Bylaws and Administrative procedures. Every officer must be well versed in the duties of all other officers within the department or detachment so they can take over and fulfill these duties as necessary.
- (5) The Commandant and Adjutant/Paymaster or Paymaster will be bonded by a commercial crime policy paid for and administered by National. The bond limit will be in the amount of \$10,000 with deductible of \$1,000.
- (6) The Board members must ensure that proper administrative, clerical and financial functions are being performed as necessary by all elected and appointed officers. This includes knowing their department or detachment EIN number, Charter date and Incorporation date, It also includes: holding staff and monthly

meetings and keeping minutes, electing officers annually between September 1 and June 30 (Department) and September 1 and May 15 (Detachment) ensuring the Report of Officer Installation (ROI) is submitted, filing of the IRS 990N as soon as possible after June 30 yearly, or when their fiscal year ends, the audit and completion using the National June 30 detachment membership roster of all Paid Life Members (PLM), Department or Detachment has a Web Sgt and functioning web page, recruitment and retention of members and as required the filing of Annual Corporate Report prior to July 1 annually. The submission of all membership dues transmittal and completion of the Paymaster Report each month. The responsibilities of the Board of Trustees are not only limited to these duties but all other that arise. The department will monitor and use a system to track their detachments for all administrative reports. The department BOT will take immediate action on any item requested from National HQ or their Division. They must be proactive to ensure their department and detachment officers complete all administrative and financial duties as required.

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## Pending Calendar

2021 Department of WV Winter Quarterly Meeting will be January 16, 2021 hosted by MGM Detachment 1180 at ~~American Legion Post 23, 100 Second Street Pt Pleasant, WV 25550. Staff Officers Meeting is 0930 AM with general business meeting at 1000 AM. WV Pack Growl will follow Dept. Meeting.~~ **VIRTUAL**

2021 MCL Midwinter Staff Conference February 24– 28 2021 Sheraton Norfolk **Waterside, 777 Waterside Drive Norfolk, VA** <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfsi-sheraton-norfolk-waterside-hotel/> Group Code: MCL Phone: (757-622-6664) Room rate includes up to 4 breakfast vouchers per occupancy. \$129.00 per night + prevailing tax (currently 14%) Please make your room reservation directly to the hotel.

2021 Mideast Division Conference will be 16, 17, 18 April 2021 hosted by Department of Delaware at Atlantic Sands Hotel & Conference Center (Oceanfront) 1 Baltimore Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware 19971 Phone: 800-422-0600 | 302-227-2511 <https://atlanticsandshotel.com/> Room rate \$105.00 plus fees. Discounted breakfast, parking included. **Reservations may be made now.** \*Reservation may be made now by calling 1-800422-0600, refer to the **Mideast Division Marine Corps League Block #9579** arriving Friday, April 16, 2021. **Reservations are open.**

2021 Department of Delaware Department Convention and elections of officers will be May 8, 2021 on Saturday 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.

2021 Department of Maryland Department Convention will be: May 7-9, 2021 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: \$? Ocean-view/Pool-view. Ocean Front: Includes free continental breakfast. Convention registration and banquet information can be downloaded at: [www.deptofmdmcl.org](http://www.deptofmdmcl.org). POC: Department Paymaster Ed Dahling Phone: 410-987-5714 Email: [umpire86@aol.com](mailto:umpire86@aol.com)

2021 Department of West Virginia Department Convention will be May 14-16, 2021 at the Holiday Inn Express, 50 Martin Street, Elkins, WV 26241 hosted by Leland D. "Crow" Crawford Detachment #956. Room rate \$100.00 per night. Phone: 304-630-2266. Hotel registration deadline is April 29, 2021. Free parking; continental breakfast 6 -10 a.m. Banquet \$30 and will be buffet style. POC is Roger Ware 304-636-4365 or [rrware@yahoo.com](mailto:rrware@yahoo.com). **Please do not call the hotel to make your reservations as** Detachment 956 will make reservations when you send them your payment. Once your payment is received your name will be given to the hotel under the Code MCL. This is to take advantage of the tax-exempt status. There will be a pending flyer which can be used for advance registration, hotel and banquet. There is no preregistration fee or ad book.

2021 Department of North Carolina Department Convention will be June 11-13, 2021 in Charlotte, NC. It will be hosted by Catawba Valley Detachment #1163

2021 MCL National Convention will be August 6-14, 2021 at Wyndham Springfield City Centre, 700 E Adams St, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Room rate is \$129.95 with tax included. Free breakfast, free parking and WiFi. Pet friendly. [wyndhamhotels.com](http://wyndhamhotels.com) Phone 217-789-1530 Reservations opened August 17, 2020. Overflow hotel is the Doubletree by Hilton, 701 E. Adams St, Springfield, IL Phone: (217) 544-8800 Website: [doubletree1.hilton.com](http://doubletree1.hilton.com). Contract rate for MCL started August 31, 2020.

2021 Modern Day Marine Expo will be Sept 21-23, 2021 at MCB, Quantico, VA

2021 Marine South Expo will be Sept 29-30 at MCB, Camp Lejeune, NC **Canceled**

MCL National Convention will be August 15-20, 2022 at Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, 100 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL, 32118 Phone: 866-536-8477 or 1-800-HILTONS (toll free, 24-hour reservation center); 386-254-8200. Room rate: \$127.00 plus 12.5%