



The Straight Scoop

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



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Jr. Past Commandant: Scott Kirby, 304-588-0318
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Chaplain: Frank Armentrout, 304-837-4011
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Asst. Sgt-at-Arms: Allen Miller, 304-379-0731
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Commandant's Letter ~ February, 2022

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

I want to commend all the Detachment Commandants, Detachment Officers and Detachment Members that represented their Detachment at the Department Winter Quarterly Telephone Conference Call. It was held on Saturday January 22 at 10:00 AM and lasted approximately 2 ½ hours with 30 members present. We had eleven out of our fourteen Detachments represented. What I don't understand since there was no travel involved and only a phone call needed why the three other Detachments didn't have a Detachment Officer or at least a Detachment Member involved in the call. There was a lot of information provided and everyone had the opportunity to contribute.

Some, but not all, of the items discussed were Marine at Large Members, Department Awards, Marine of the Year and Associate Member of the Year Awards, Budget and Finance, Membership Retention and the Department Convention in May at Gallipolis, OH hosted by MGM Detachment 1180. So far there have only been two proposed changes to the Department By-Laws and Administrative Procedures submitted, two nominations for Department Officer positions (which have since been withdrawn), and some discussion on the Department possibly applying to host the 2026 National Convention to be held in Charleston, WV.

Roger Ware had the only submission for the Department of West Virginia 50th Anniversary Ribbon, Mini Medal and Challenge Coin that will be officially approved at the Department Convention in May. It will then be sent to National for their approval before a price can be solicited to have them made.

Two motions were passed. One to donate \$200 to the Chapel of Four Chaplains; and one to send \$125 as a one-time donation to the Mideast Division for their operating expenses.

The Adjutant's report listed the Department having 411 Paid Life Members, 308 annual dues paying members, and 68 unpaid members for a total of 719 members. The Department had 11 Deceased Members since the last Department meeting September 18, 2021 in Winfield, WV.

There was one submission by Detachment 1087 Parkersburg, WV to host the 50th Anniversary Department Convention in May 2023. No submissions have been submitted yet for the Fall Quarterly meeting in September, 2022 or the Winter Quarterly meeting in January, 2023.

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

**Semper Fi
Jim Doss, Commandant
Department of West Virginia
Marine Corps League**

Chaplain's Corner

THE EIGHT BEATITUDES OF JESUS

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Gospel of Matthew 5:3-10

Rabbi Roland Gittelsohn's Iwo Jima Eulogy to his Fallen Comrades after the island was secured from the Japanese in March 1945

“This is perhaps the grimmest, and surely the holiest task we have faced since D-Day. Here before us lie the bodies of comrades and friends. Men who until yesterday or last week laughed with us, joked with us,

trained with us. Men who were on the same ships with us, and went over the sides with us, as we prepared to hit the beaches of this island. Men who fought with us and feared with us. Somewhere in this plot of ground there may lie the individual who could have discovered the cure for cancer. Under one of these Christian crosses, or beneath a Jewish Star of David, there may rest now an individual who was destined to be a great prophet to find the way, perhaps, for all to live in plenty, with poverty and hardship for none. Now they lie here silently in this sacred soil, and we gather to consecrate this earth in their memory.”

“IT IS NOT EASY TO DO SO. Some of us have buried our closest friends here. We saw these men killed before our very eyes. Any one of us might have died in their places. Indeed, some of us are alive and breathing at this very moment only because men who lie here beneath us, had the courage and strength to give their lives for ours. To speak in memory of such men as these is not easy. Of them, too, can it be said with utter truth: “The world will little note nor long remember what we say here. It can never forget what they did here.”

“No, our poor power of speech can add nothing to what these men and the other dead of our division who are not here have already done. All that we can even hope to do is follow their example. To show the same selfless courage in peace that they did in war. To swear that, by the grace of God and the stubborn strength and power of human will, their sons and ours shall never suffer these pains again. These men have done their job well. They have paid the ghastly price of freedom. If that freedom be once again lost, as it was after the last war, the unforgivable blame will be ours, not theirs. So, it be the living who are here to be dedicated and consecrated.”

‘WE DEDICATE OURSELVES, first, to live together in peace the way they fought and are buried in war. Here lie men who loved America because their ancestors, generations ago helped in her founding, and other men who loved her with equal passion because they themselves or their own fathers escaped from oppression to her blessed shores. Here lie officers and privates, blacks and whites, rich and poor...together. Here are Protestants, Catholics, and Jews...together. Here no man prefers another because of his faith or despises him because of his color. Here there are no quotas of how many from each group are admitted or allowed. Among these men there is no discrimination. No prejudice. No hatred. Theirs is the highest and purest democracy.”

“Anyone among us the living who fails to understand that, will thereby betray those who lie here. Whoever of us lifts his hand in hate against another or thinks himself superior to those who happen to be in the minority, makes of this ceremony and of the bloody sacrifice it commemorates, an empty, hollow mockery. To this, then, as our solemn, sacred duty, do we the living now dedicate ourselves: to the right Protestants, Catholics, and Jews, of all races alike, to enjoy the democracy for which all of them have here paid the price.”

‘TO ONE THING MORE do we consecrate ourselves in memory of those who sleep beneath these crosses and stars. We shall not foolishly suppose, as did the last generation of America’s fighting, that victory on the battlefield will automatically guarantee the triumph of democracy at home. This war, with all its frightful heartache and suffering, is but the beginning of our generation’s struggle for democracy. When the last battle has been won, there will be those at home, as there were last time, who will want us to turn our backs in selfish isolation on the rest of organized humanity, and thus to sabotage the very peace for which we fight. We promise you who lie here; we will not do that. We will join hands with Britain, China, Russia—in peace, even as we have in war, to build the kind of world for which you died.”

‘WHEN THE LAST SHOT has been fired, there will still be those eyes that are turned backward not forward, who will be satisfied with those wide extremes of poverty and wealth in which the seeds of another war can breed. We promise you, our departed comrades: this, too, we will not permit. This war has been fought by the common man; its fruits of peace must be enjoyed by the common man. We promise, by all that is sacred and holy, that your sons, the sons of miners and millers, the sons of farmers and workers—will inherit from your death the right to a living that is decent and secure.’”

“WHEN THE FINAL CROSS has been placed in the last cemetery, once again there will be those to whom profit is more important than peace, who will insist with the voice of sweet reasonableness and appeasement that it is better to trade with the enemies of mankind than, by crushing them, to lose their profit. To you who sleep here silently, we give our promise: we will not listen: We will not forget that some of you were burnt with oil that came from American wells, that many of you were killed by shells fashioned from American steel. We promise that when once again people seek profit at your expense, we shall remember how you looked when we placed you reverently, lovingly, in the ground.”

“THIS DO WE MEMORIALIZE those who, having ceased living with us, now live within us. Thus, do we consecrate ourselves, the living, to carry on the struggle they began. Too much blood has gone into this soil for us to let it lie barren. Too much pain and heartache have fertilized the earth on which we stand. We here solemnly swear this shall not be in vain. Out of this, and from the suffering and sorrow of those who mourn this, will come—we promise—the birth of a new freedom for all humanity everywhere. And let us say...AMEN. “

—**Rabbi Roland Gittelsohn**

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.

Professional Development Training

Incorporation of Detachments

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

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

Detachments should incorporate within the State of West Virginia as an IRC 501 (c) 4 non-profit organization with their own Employer Identification Number (EIN) under the Marine Corps League's Group Exemption Number 0955. This allows the Detachment to operate, collect monies for membership and activities, to collect charitable donations for detachment programs, and to act as a corporate entity for sales and other activities, with associated tax benefits for a non-profit entity. Incorporation protects the Officers and members of the Detachment, and by the same measure establishes the limitations for the organization in doing business as a non-profit organization. Therefore, only members shall represent the Marine Corps League.

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

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

Bylaws

Each Detachment must adopt By-Laws and Administrative Procedures which should not be inconsistent with the Department and National By-Laws and Administrative Procedures and shall be subject to approval by the Department Judge Advocate. Each Detachment's By-Laws and Administrative Procedures shall be filed with the Department Judge Advocate and Department Adjutant.

By-laws may be revised, amended, or repealed by a majority of the members voting at any regular membership meeting, provided that the proposed revision, amendment, or repeal is submitted to the Detachment Judge Advocate in enough time prior to the meeting at which said proposal is to be considered to ensure said proposal revision, amendment or repeal is in compliance with the National or Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. Any issues not covered in the Detachment Bylaws will be referred to the National or Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

Insurance

The National Headquarters provides blanket insurance coverage for Detachments in the commission of Detachment activities and events. The statement of insurance coverage is available from the Department Commandant or National Headquarters by the end of October in each calendar year. As stipulations in the coverage may change annually, the Detachment must request a copy and review the coverage statement regarding Detachment meetings, events, parades, and other activities. The insurance provided normally takes care of events, parades, and other activities in which the Detachment members "participate" but does not

provide coverage for the Detachment or its members as “sponsors” of an event. The policy also excludes any injury to participants in athletic events or other sports nature activities. The insurance is designed to protect the Detachment against claims alleging negligence that causes injury to third parties (person other than members) -- it does not cover suits brought against a member by another. The Detachment will only have Marine Corps League members represent the Detachment.

Detachment Areas of Interest

National mails a quarterly roster of all members for every Detachment in the Department. Every Detachment Paymaster receives a copy as well as the Department Commandant. Every Detachment Commandant is required to look over this listing of their membership as it lists all paid members, unpaid, Paid Life Members (PLM) total paid. They need to establish contact with every unpaid member and do whatever they can to get them to pay their annual dues and might want to suggest that some might consider paying the life member fee for their age group.

Every detachment is required to file an IRS 990-N efile after June 30 every year to maintain their non-profit status. A copy of the confirmation email from IRS must be forwarded to the Department Paymaster for forwarding to National headquarters.

Detachments should have a Membership Retention Team (MRT) that can work on contacting unpaid and delinquent members.

Professional Development and Leadership training must be pushed down to the Detachment level. National is focusing on what every Department is doing to ensure Detachment implements some type of training in this area. The National website has the latest info and can be downloaded.

A Marine For Life Chairman should be appointed in every detachment and on the Department staff to assist former active-duty Marines during their transition period after leaving active duty. Dept Jr Vice Commandant should serve as the Chairman.

All Detachments are required to have their own EIN number and be incorporated within their respective state. Every Detachment is considered a non-profit social organization to provide service to Marine veterans as an IRC 501 (c) 4. By being incorporated, they are required to have their own Detachment By-Laws, hold meetings, elect officers annually, maintain Minutes and file an annual IRS 990-N efile and annual corporate report.

It should be required that every detachment have a turnover folder and they should create a folder for each year with corporate papers, annual corporate report, IRS non-profit letter as IRC 501 (c) 4, IRS 990-N efile, insurance papers, Officer installation reports, minutes of meeting and other pertinent administrative papers. Every detachment must have a state business certificate.

Detachment Officer Training

Developing Officers and members to perform in their jobs is the goal and objective of training. The Department can provide guidelines and offer support to Detachments in this area. However, each Detachment must accept the responsibility for seeing that their Officers and members are trained to do the tasks to which they have been assigned. Understanding all duties and responsibilities is the first step, followed by understanding goals and objectives, and how to perform their jobs. The “Guidebook for Detachment Officers,” the National Bylaws, Department and Detachment Bylaws, the Marine Corps League Ritual, and the Policies and Procedures of National, Department and Detachment are all sources that will improve the effectiveness of Officers and members who serve in project and leadership roles. Every officer should be required to read and have a working knowledge of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures as well as their own Detachment Bylaws.

Department Quarterly or Convention Bid

Any Detachment can submit a bid to host a Department Quarterly Meeting or Convention. The membership of the Detachment must approve the bid and the Detachment Commandant must submit the bid during a regular Department meeting or at Convention. This bid can be oral or in writing to the Time and Place Committee.

When a Detachment considers a bid, it must ensure a site large enough to accommodate those members attending the event. For the convention, a suitable hotel with adequate rooms, meeting spaces for the MODD

Pack Growl, business meeting and banquet is available on site. In addition, when considering a hotel, visit 2-3 to compare prices per room and select one that provides free breakfast and parking with the room price. Get the hotel to donate space for the Hospitality Room and give them a free ad. Have a Hospitality Room on Friday night from 5 PM till 11 PM? Have a business donate items for this. Leverage one against the other for best price for those members attending. The lower the cost, the more members who attend. When considering a site, factor in the distance to travel, room rate plus tax, meals, banquet, and incidental costs to attend.

Wait until your bid has been approved before you do anything. Form a Convention Committee with a Chairman. The host detachment receives the advance registration fee at \$5 each member. An ad book is where your Detachment makes money as you keep everything after the print expense. Prices for various pages in the book have usually been: \$100 full page, \$50 half page and \$25 quarter page and a price for business card ads. You may also include Patriot Names/In Memory Of: to honor deceased members at \$5 for each name. The detachment can shop and get the best price for printing in black and white. Detachments will often purchase an ad in your book, but it is not mandatory. Detachments are also asked to donate funds toward the expense. In selling ads, use a previous ad book from a recent convention to sell suggested ads. Be sure to go to your local Visitors Center and any veterans organization.

Give free ads to businesses for donated food items for the Hospitality Room as well as for room decorations and or door prizes. Give a free full-page ad to the printer. Suggest ad to match cost of items. In selling ads, have members target selected businesses in your area. Brainstorm and write them down during one of your meetings as it saves time. Suggest those businesses that visitors might want to use. Don't waste your time trying to see fast food establishments if they are corporate because it takes too long to get the ad back. Accept free coupons from them to help promote your event. Have the business make checks out to your Detachment and give them a pre-printed receipt that you can write the business name on. There is no limit on the number of pages you can have in your ad book. Suggest making 150 copies and give a free copy to any business that purchases a half or full-page ad. Suggest inviting VIP's and dignitaries for the banquet that are longtime supporters of your Detachment. Be sure to coordinate with the Department staff thus ensuring smooth event.

Meetings

The Detachment will meet for regular meetings on a scheduled basis on the same day and same time once monthly or as necessary as ordered by the Commandant at a place to be designated. All members will be informed of the meeting date, time, and location. Special meetings may be called by the Commandant or by the Board of Trustees upon reasonable notice to the members thereof.

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

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

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

The Detachment is a corporate entity and must be run like a business entity with minutes taken to comply with corporate laws. Copies of minutes from all meetings will be kept in the Detachment's permanent files and copies will be sent to the Department Commandant. Members through their action and/or verbiage will not do

anything detrimental to the good order of a meeting. Committees will meet at time and place deemed necessary and nonmembers will be excluded from meetings when conducting official business.

Detachment Minutes - Sample

Marine Corps League, Department of West Virginia
_____ Detachment _____
Membership Meeting Minutes _____, 20__

Meeting held at the VFW building in _____. Commandant _____ called the meeting to order at 7 PM with proper ceremony.

Roll Call of Officers: Commandant; Sr Vice Cdt; Jr Vice Cdt; JA; Adj; Paymaster; Chaplain; Sgt-at-Arms; Jr Past Cdt; COS; Commandant excused absent members. Members ___ present: PLM members with associate members

EIN: 55-0662515 Charter date: Nov 10, 1975 Incorporate date: Jan 14, 2001
990N filed: Jul 1, 2021 PLM Audit: Jul 3, 2021 Installation date: Apr 22, 2021
Annual Corporate report date: Apr 22, 2021 Financial Audit date: Apr 22, 2021 Property inventory date: Apr 22, 2021 – (*Ceremonial rifle audit/inspection for detachments that have rifles, will be required to report every 3 years date: August 5, 2020*)
State of WV Business certificate date: December 10, 2010

Minutes of _____, 20 have been distributed for members to read. No Additions or corrections

Applications: Motion to accept, Second: Vote taken: Motion carried

Correspondence:

- *Thank you letter received from Wounded Warriors Project for donation at Applebee’s during Veterans Day.
- *Department Scholarship applications received.

Report of Paymaster: Balance last meeting statement \$; deposits \$ checks written \$; balance with bank statement; \$ Motion to accept; Second; Vote taken; Motion carried.

Report of Members or Family ill or in distress:

Department awards: Nominations: voted and approved by member vote
Dept Heart & Soul: Dept Commendation:
Community Service: Americanism Award:
Adj/Paymaster: Dept Marine of the Year:
Department Associate Member of the Year:

Motion that Detachment pay National Convention Registration fee for delegates - \$5.00 for those members in Charleston.

Donation request; EH School Athletic Program for football equipment bags 50 at \$30 each. Motion made; Second; Vote taken; Motion carried.

Fund Raising request made to sell raffle tickets @ \$5.00 each to generate \$1000 for EH School Athletic Program. Winner receives \$200. Motion; Second; Vote taken; motion carried

Commandant _____ encouraged members to seek potential new members and thanked them for supporting community projects and attending the meeting. Meeting adjourned per ritual. Next meeting is _____.

Finance

The Fiscal Year shall end at the close of business on June 30th of each year. The revenue of the Detachment shall be derived from membership dues and such other sources as may be properly established at regular meetings or by the Board of Trustees. Disbursement of Detachment funds shall be made as established for payment of National Membership per capita and Department per capita dues, annual Application to Change or Appoint Officers, Corporate Annual Report and those items previously approved by the membership and in accordance with the Detachment Bylaws.

Donations to non-profit organizations or members in distress can be made by approval of Board of Trustees or during regular member meetings. A letter should be received from any non-profit organization or school requesting a donation in support of a function. The letter should be read during a membership meeting and any donation must be approved or denied by the membership. A budget will be established as necessary. Each Detachment shall fix the amount of its annual membership dues. Annual dues shall include the Department and National per-capita dues and fees.

The Detachment Commandant and Detachment 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.

Checks drawn against Detachment funds shall be valid only if they cover disbursements authorized and jointly bear the signatures of the Commandant and Paymaster. The Detachment financial records will include the Detachment corporation name, address, telephone number and Employer Identification Number (EIN).

No Officer or member of the Detachment shall obligate the Detachment financially in any manner whatsoever without the prior consent of the membership or Board of Trustees.

To assure the financial integrity and credibility of the Detachment, any funds received for a charitable purpose or for a specific purpose will be deposited into the Detachment funds and will be reserved for that respective charity or specific purpose.

Fund Raising

Two of the most important tasks of every detachment are the recruiting and retention of members and raising funds to run the operation and support detachment programs and objectives. A detachment cannot make the mistake of continually relying on its own membership to fund operations and projects. Brainstorming on numerous methods and ideas to generate funds will benefit your detachment.

If you do a raffle to benefit a charity, then those funds must be dedicated toward that respective purpose. The net proceeds from a drawing need to be applied to that program or project for which the money was received. From the total revenue, the cost of merchandise, printing of tickets, and an amount for the reserve fund of the detachment may be deducted.

Don't forget, when your detachment is incorporated this is your authority to conduct fund raisers within your respective area and your general business license from the state of WV supports your activity. Make a copy of your business certificate and have it at all your fund-raising events. It is recommended that each detachment file a copy of their detachment Bylaws and corporate papers with its respective county clerk's office as this makes everything a matter of record in the event an issue on fund raising develops. All funds generated for an IRS registered charity can be dispersed indefinitely while those for a local event must be dispersed by the end of your fiscal year or the state will consider these as profit.

Wearing additional stars on MCL ribbons NOTE 1 from the Uniform code

A 5/16" gold star will be worn to indicate additional awards and a 5/16" silver star will be worn in place of five (5) gold stars for the below listed awards.

Distinguished Citizen Ribbon – Gold – with 5/16" Gold Star

Distinguished Citizen Ribbon – Silver – with 5/16” Gold Star
Distinguished Citizen Ribbon – Bronze – with 5/16” Gold Star
Distinguished Service Ribbon – 5/16” Gold Star

National Marine of the Year Ribbon – White with FMF device
National Associate Member of the Year – White with Bronze A
Division Marine of the Year Ribbon - Gold – with FMF Device
Division Associate Member of the Year- Gold – with Bronze A
Department Marine of the Year Ribbon - Scarlet and Gold – with FMF device
Department Associate Member of the Year -Scarlet and Gold – with Bronze A
Detachment Marine of the Year Ribbon – Scarlet – with FMF device
Detachment Associate Member of the Year-Scarlet – with Bronze A

For each additional medal award, a bronze star will be worn. A silver star will be worn in place of five (5) bronze stars and a gold star will be worn in place of five (5) silver stars unless otherwise noted.

National Staff Ribbon Elected – Bronze Star
National Staff Ribbon Appointed – Bronze Star
Department Commandant Ribbon – Bronze Star
Department Staff Ribbon Elected – Bronze Star
Department Staff Ribbon Appointed – Bronze Star
Department Recruiter – Silver – Bronze Star
Detachment Commandant Ribbon – Bronze Star
Detachment Staff Ribbon Elected – Bronze Star
Detachment Staff Ribbon Appointed – Bronze Star
Detachment Recruiter – Bronze – Bronze Star
Marine Corps League Community Service Ribbon – Bronze Star
Board of Trustees Commendation (Victor T. Fisher Award) – Bronze Star
Meritorious Unit Commendation – National – Bronze Star
Meritorious Unit Commendation – Department – Bronze Star
Meritorious Individual Commendation – Bronze Star
Ceremonial Guard Ribbon – Bronze Star
Kennel Dog of the Year
Chief Devil Dogs Meritorious Commendation (Individual) – Bronze Star
Pack Dog of the Year
Pack Leaders Meritorious Commendation (Individual) – Bronze Star
Pound Dog of the Year
Pound Keepers Meritorious Commendation (Individual) – Bronze Star
Past Pack Leader Ribbon – Bronze Star
Past Pound Keeper Ribbon – Bronze Star
Marine Corps League Ribbon (Membership – Bronze Star for every 5 years served

Department Officer Nominations

Department Sr Vice Commandant Mike McLain is Chairman of the Department Nominating Committee. The following Department Officers will be elected during the Department Convention in Gallipolis, OH on May 21, 2022. Commandant, Sr Vice Commandant, Jr Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate. Nominations for these positions can be submitted to Sr Vice Commandant McLain commencing January 2022. Floor nominations will be taken at the Department Convention.

Hershel “Woody” Williams Scholarship Foundation Applications

Foundation Chairman George Gill has mailed out applications to every detachment Commandant in the Department. The applications may be reproduced as needed. The Foundation normally awards four 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, 2022. 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 packet includes additional information required to complete and submit the application properly. Paying attention to detail is necessary in submission of an application. In the twenty-one years since the Scholarship Foundation was instituted, 150 scholarships totaling \$132,000 have been awarded.

Department Awards

Department Awards Chairman Rick Shank has mailed out nomination forms for the following department awards. 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, 2022 to be considered and every nominee must be approved by the members at a regular detachment membership meeting and be included in your Minutes.

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 2021 to March 2022

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 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY AWARD is presented in recognition of this Detachment's outstanding public relations contributions and community involvement from May 2021 to March 2022

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 2021 to March 2022

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 2021 to March 2022

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 2021 to March 2022

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER AWARD is presented to Detachment_____ in recognition for publishing an outstanding newsletter that conforms to the National Newsletter guidelines from May 2021 to March 2022

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 2021 to March 2022

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 2021 to March 2022

Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year, Associate Member of the Year Awards

Greg Irwin President, Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year Society has mailed out an announcement for the 2022 Department of West Virginia Marine of the Year and Associate Member of the Year. 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, 2022 to be considered and every nominee must be approved by the members at a regular detachment membership meeting and be included in your Minutes.

Associate Member of the Year

Associate Member of the Year Award Ribbon has been approved at the National, Division, Department and Detachment levels. This change/addition would be for a RIBBON ONLY. **APPROVED WITH "A" IN RIBBON VICE EGA.** Department Chief of Staff Roger Ware has the letter "A" for the Associate Member of the Year and the Eagle/Globe/Anchor for the Member of the Year awards.

(see example ribbon bar and device on next page)

Bronze A Device



Department Ribbon with A Device



**Detachment
ribbon
with A device**



Mideast Division Marine of the Year and Associate Member 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 2022 Mideast Division Marine of the Year. And the Associate Member of the Year. The Chairman is Frank Mathers - Department of Delaware. The other committee members are Richard Tanner - Department of Delaware, Roger Ware, Mike McLain, Rick Shank and Scott Kirby - 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 2022 Mideast Division Conference. Any Associate member from the Mideast Division can be nominated and the Mideast Division Associate MOY will be presented at the 2022 Mideast Division Conference. Each letter of nomination must be mailed to the above chairman, registered return receipt, post marked not later than May 15, 2022. Mail to Frank Mathers, Mideast Division Chairperson Marine of the Year or Associate Member 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 or Associate Member 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 2022 recipient during the Mideast Division Conference. The above provisions are for 2022 Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year selection only.

Division Marine of the Year (MOY) and Associate Member of the Year (AMOY) Criteria

These awards shall be presented to a REGULAR MEMBER or Associate 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 or Associate Member 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 or Associate Member 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 for Associates 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 or Associate Member 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 or AMOY 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.

Recruiting Points 2022

Membership is the life blood of the League, and every member must do their best to recruit new members and help retain the current ones. We should all carry a membership application with us as we never know when we

might encounter a potential new member. Acquire and carry a MCL Business card including your contact information and the Date, Time, and location of your detachment meetings on the back and invite them to your meeting as your personal guest and let them come and see for themselves on what your detachment is all about.

Detachments may consider fabricating their own Detachment brochure about the detachment meeting dates, time and location, names and phone number of detachment officers and project officers, a breakdown of dues and other pertinent information. Be sure to get the phone number, address, and email of any potential new member so you have information to contact them.

Collect copies of the Semper Fi magazine from your detachment members and take them when you do fund raisers. Insert one of the departments MCL trifold brochures and a little history of your detachment and what projects and civic events they perform as well as military theme activities. Staple a membership form in the magazine and phone number for them to have a point of contact. Take copies to the nearest Marine Corps recruiting office and give to the recruiters to pass out to any visitors. Take copies to the nearest VA medical center, veterans nursing home, local hospitals, dental offices, and local libraries. Any high traffic area where people shop or visit.

Any time your detachment performs an event in their area, someone should take a photo, add a cut line, and submit to the local newspaper. This type of visibility enhances the Marine Corps presence in the community. Remember you can also submit photos to your Dept. newsletter editor, and your Semper Fi magazine.

Decorate a float or car and participate in every parade in your area as this gets your image in the eyes of the public. Be sure to take the trifold brochures with you to pass out to any Marine you might encounter and a detachment information sheet with full contact information.

When recruiting in public for your detachment, look sharp in your personal appearance, be courteous, polite, informative, and always stay positive when you engage in your conversations about League affairs.

If someone from your detachment was recommended and awarded a department scholarship, a photo and cut line should be submitted to your local newspapers as this has immediate impact and is a great way to help promote the League. If you need assistance contact our department public affairs officer Jean Lamb.

Leadership

We were taught how to do things in the military. We had fire team leaders, squad leaders, platoon leaders, section leaders, sergeants, and officers at different levels. They taught us how to do things right and they constantly observed and groomed us ensuring we had things locked in. If not, they gave us additional training and guidance. Imagine going into combat without the proper training. We would either get killed or cause others to get killed. More often than not, we welcomed that training since we wanted to survive. As we mastered these skills, we passed on our knowledge to others and watched to ensure they were performing what we taught them. As we left the military and gained employment in the civilian sector, we were also taught how to do things and then passed on what we knew to others.

After we joined the League, we were again taught how to do things. In addition, as we progressed through the various chairs in our Detachments and Department, we undertook the responsibilities and obligation required to fulfill our duties. We developed leadership skills and gained a working knowledge of the duties involved for each position. We then taught those that followed us ensuring they performed these duties. We mentored them. When you serve as a Detachment or Department Commandant you are expected to know your duties and responsibilities and pass these on to all who serve afterwards. It is your duty to offer advice and suggestions as you mentor them. If you observe a trait that is potentially detrimental to the Membership, then you must offer suggestions or ideas so that trait can be corrected.

Detachments and the Department are required to incorporate as a nonprofit entity in WV. They must function and be managed just like running any business. Things have to be done right and in an orderly fashion or you can lose your nonprofit status. Once you lose this status you cannot conduct fund raisers or accept donations as it is illegal, and you can be fined. That's why it is so important to file your Annual Corporate Report and your

IRS 990 N efile. Minutes and Reports must be filed as well as other administrative functions. If these are not done, this places your Detachment or Department in peril.

The Board of Trustees are accountable to the Membership and can be held liable for any harm done to a Detachment or Department. They must know the MCL Bylaws and Administrative Procedures as well as the State Corporate requirements.

Past Detachment and Department Commandants often remain on the Board of Trustees for at least a one-year term to support the newly elected Officers. They also carry the fundamental duty for their remaining time in the League to speak up when they see or hear anything that negatively affects the League or the welfare of our Membership. Mutual respect of all parties involved is crucial when recommendations or guidance is suggested and when questions are sought and considered.

Mentoring Program

The Mentoring Program was devised so that all Detachments can use it for their ongoing recruiting and retention efforts. It is cost-free and it works! The following steps are easy to follow and in a short time you should see measured results.

1. Create a strong bond between the OLD and the NEW.
2. Develop in new members a feeling that they too are a part of the Detachment.
3. Encourage and increase open communication among the members.
4. The member that brings a new member into the Detachment should be that member's "mentor" until the new member feels comfortable.
5. The Commandant of the Detachment shall assign the duties to the Junior Vice Commandant to administer this program and keep close watch on the progress of the program.

All members should take part in the mentoring process. Do not forget the members that are incapacitated for one reason or another. Show them that they are still part of the Detachment.

Among the basic tasks of every Detachment in the Marine Corps League is recruitment and induction of new members. The purpose is to promote growth of the league and its subsidiary units. Only in this manner can the organization prosper.

Until recently, the league struggled to increase its overall members on a sustainable track. We lost members as fast as they were sworn in. There are and are reasons for this. A member of our marines passed on, some became less active due to health or medical issues, and many left because of inactivity within their Detachments.

These are all viable reasons, but they can all be countered with good reasons why the membership should and could sustain their numbers even with the scenarios suggested above. We lose more members for one reason and one reason only -- they don't feel included in the social fiber or culture of the detachment. This is where the Mentoring Program enters into the equation.

If you examine this closely you will find two major concerns. First is the "fading away" of many older members. The second is the loss of new members. Both situations must be addressed. Following are suggestions aimed at improving the "communication gap" we seem to have.

The fact that we are vigorously building a Detachment we can be proud of should stimulate greater interest among area Marines to want to belong. This is good! To build upon this renewed interest it is proposed here that the Detachment develop a "proactive approach" to the induction of its new members and in an effort to reach out to our members who are either temporarily or chronically unable to take an active role in the Detachment's programs.

To grease the wheels, so to speak, it is proposed that the Detachment initiate the Mentoring Program that will match up “old salts” with our new recruits as a way to ease them into full membership in the Detachment. At the same time, it is also proposed that we initiate programs within the Detachment to reach out to our brother and sister Marines whose ability to get around is restricted.

GOALS

- A. Create a bond between old and new members so new members will feel more accepted into the mainstream of the detachment.
- B. Develop in new members a stronger feeling that they, too, are a part of the team that is your detachment.
- C. Increase the retention rate and active participation of old and new members in the activities of the detachment.
- D. Encourage and increase open communication among the membership.

PROGRAMS

A Mentoring Program can be for the induction and integration of new regular and associate members into a detachment.

1. All prospective regular members of the detachment shall be assigned a “mentor” prior to their induction. All prospective associates should be assigned two “mentors.”
2. Once the inductee has been accepted and sworn into the Detachment, his or her sponsor should immediately assume an active role in assisting the new member in his or her introduction into the formal and informal programs of the Detachment.
3. If possible, the sponsor of the new member should be the mentor. No member shall be required to mentor more than two new members at a time.
4. If possible, the mentor and new member should live in a relatively close Proximity geographically.
5. The mentor relationship should continue until the new member feels it is no longer needed.
6. The Mentoring Program shall fall under the jurisdiction of the Junior Vice Commandant.

Pending Calendar

.2022 MCL Midwinter Staff Conference will be February 23– 27 2022 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. 2/24/2022 – 2/26/2022 (check in 2/23, check out 2/26) Thursday arrivals & stores are open in the afternoon, Friday opening session & agenda items, Saturday sessions continue

2022 Marine South has been canceled March 30-31, 2022 at Camp LeJeune, NC -

2022 Department of Maryland Convention will be 6-8 May 2022 at the Fenwick Inn 13801 Coastal Hwy Ocean City MD 1-800-641- 0011 (Code MCL) \$125.00/room. <https://www.fenwickinn.com>

2022 Department of Delaware Convention will be 7 May 2022 at the Heritage Shores Golf Club One Heritage Shores Cir, Bridgeville, DE 19933. Coffee Mess 0930, Business meeting 1000 hours, lunch will be served after the close of the business meeting.

2022 Modern Day Marine Expo will be 10 – 12 May, 2022 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC.

2022 Department of North Carolina Convention will be May 13-14, 2022 It will be hosted by RDU Det #1482 in Durham, NC.

2022 Department of West Virginia Convention will be May 20-21, 2022 at The Quality Inn Gallipolis, 577 State Route 7 North, Gallipolis, OH 45769. Phone: (740) 446-0090. MGM Detachment 1180 will be the host detachment. Rooms rate: \$85.00 plus tax Banquet includes choice of: Prime Rib \$30, Chicken \$30 Dinners Vegetarian option \$25; includes salad, 2 vegetables, rolls, beverage, and dessert. Amenities: Group Rate includes free WiFi, free parking, free cable, free in-room coffee, free breakfast for two guests per room (each additional guest in a room pays \$6) Breakfast is 6 a.m. – 10 a.m. Pre-registration due by April 30, 2022. For information call Jim Doss - 740-441-5638, Jerry Bain - 304-593-9519, Patti Leib 740-591-8611
(See attached Registration Form)

2022 Department of Virginia Convention will be May 13-14, 2022 in Virginia Beach, Va.

2022 MCL Mideast Division Conference hosted by the Department of North Carolina in 17-18 June 2022. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park, 4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, North Carolina 27703, phone 855-605-0318 or 919-941-6000 The host Detachment is Cpl Alan D Lamm from Burlington. Costs TBD

2022 MCL National Convention Will be August 15-19, 2022 at Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, 100 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL, 32118 Phone: 800-774-1500 code MCL22 Room rate: \$127.00 plus 12.5% Room reservation open 0800 August 16, 2021. Rates good 4 days prior and 4 days after convention. Self-Parking: \$21.30 per car per night (includes 6.5% sales tax) Valet Parking: \$31.95 per car per night (includes 6.5% sales tax) This hotel is nearly full. ALTERNATE HOTEL INFORMATION: The Plaza Resort & Spa Daytona Beach's Grand Resort. 600 North Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118, Phone: (866) 500-5630 and as for MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, All-in Rate is \$142.88 per night includes 2 breakfasts per room per night. Self (\$15) and Valet (\$25) Parking is separate per day cost.

2023 MCL Midwinter Staff Conference will be 2/23/2023 – 2/25/2023 (check in 2/22, check out 2/26) Sheraton Norfolk Waterside, 777 Waterside Drive Norfolk, VA <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfsi-sheraton-norfolkwaterside-hotel/> Group Code: MCL Phone: (757-622-6664) Room rate includes up to four breakfast vouchers per occupancy. \$129.00 per night + prevailing tax (currently 14%) Please make your room reservation directly to the hotel.

2023 MCL National Convention will be August 14-18, 2023 in Oklahoma City, OK. At Omni Oklahoma City Hotel, 100 W Oklahoma City Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73109, (405) 438-6500 Room rate \$165.48 includes tax. Parking not included but is \$10 per day. Pet friendly with service animals no charge but others is \$165.00 per week. Rate good for 3 days prior and afterwards.