



The Straight Scoop

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



Volume 5, Issue 3, March 2012

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Department Financial Report

Marine Corps League, Department of West Virginia Hershel "Woody" Williams Scholarship Foundation:
18 Jan 2012 beginning balance: \$19,158.36 Deposits: \$200.00 Interest: \$4.44

15 Feb 2012 ending balance: \$19,362.80

Please send all scholarship donations to John Nanny, P.O. Box 2121, Wheeling, WV 26003-0234.

Marine Corps League, Department of West Virginia General Account and Paymaster Report:

18 Jan 2012 statement beginning balance: \$5,257.98 Deposits: \$160.00 Debits: \$225.88

15 Feb 2012 statement ending balance: \$5,192.10

Annual Report for Corporations

Every detachment is required to file an Annual Report for Corporations prior to June 30. Some Detachments may have gotten a postcard mailed to them in regard to this filing from the WV Secretary of State's office. If detachments have previously filed on line at www.business4wv.com they have their "PIN" number listed on the front of their postcard, so they can log in and file after holding their annual elections and installation of officers. For those who file and mail in their report, they can call 1-877-826-2954 or 1-855-462-3886 to request a form to complete their report. You should call now and request a form. The annual fee is \$25 and \$125 if filed after June 30. When calling know your detachment tax ID number and organization number. It's listed on your previous copies.

Department Bylaws and Leadership Training

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, WV State Tax Department Business Registration Certificate and those items previously approved by the membership.

Donations to non-profit organizations or members in distress can be made by approval of Board of Trustees or during regular member meetings. 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.

All other disbursements will be approved during normal business meetings. The maximum amount of funds that the Commandant is authorized to disburse without getting general membership approval should be specified. The maximum amount for the Board of Trustees should be specified. The Paymaster will reimburse members for approved items upon paid receipts if funds are available.

The Detachment will maintain a checking account and all funds received will be deposited. The Paymaster will draw all checks and ensure proper signatures are obtained. This account will be audited with the monthly bank statement and a report will be given during the general membership meeting by the Paymaster. An annual audit will be conducted by the Audit Committee prior to the Officer Installation.

A motion should be made by the Paymaster to change bank signature cards during a regular meeting upon Installation of officers and this must be included in the minutes.

The annual per capita dues shall be provided for by the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures plus an additional Department per capita dues as determined by the Department Convention. The sum of these two accounts shall be forwarded with every membership application or renewal thereof by the Detachment Paymaster directly to the Department Paymaster who will remit the National per capita dues in each instance to the National Paymaster. The current annual per capita of \$5 is effective as of 1/1/2003. A member resigning from membership shall not be entitled to any refund of per capita paid.

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.

Detachment Audits and Reports - An annual audit of detachment finances will be conducted prior to the annual installation of officers. Monthly audits can be conducted and be combined to satisfy the annual audit required by this section.

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. I would highly suggest that each detachment file a copy of its 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.

Make posters listing your prizes and drawing dates, set up a small table at a mall entrance or large department store -- Wal-Mart, Kmart, Tractor Supply Company, etc. You might even have a donation jar for anyone who wants to make a donation to a local charity, such as Humane Society, Relay for Life, Make a Wish, or any other non-profit organization (ensure any funds collected this way go to that organization). When you collect these funds and then make the donation, be sure to get photo of event in local paper as it gets your detachment some visibility and further supports future events.

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 and 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 perhaps might want to suggest that some might consider paying the life member fee for their age group.

Every detachment is required to file a 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 National Adj/Paymaster Meg Thoburn and the Department Paymaster.

In the National membership listing for the second quarter ending June 30 yearly, each Detachment Paymaster and the Department Commandant receive a listing of all delinquent or inactive members who were previous members of their detachment. Detachments should take this list and establish contact with every member on it and try to get them to rejoin. Suggest sending them a form letter. If one member signs back up, that detachment will get a \$5 rebate check from National for each of them. Plus, if they save their postage and send the receipt to National, they will get paid back. All it takes is a little effort and can get a few of them to rejoin. Detachments should have a Membership Committee 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 states. Every Detachment is considered a non-profit social organization to provide service to Marine veterans as a 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.

It should be required that every detachment have a turn-over folder and they should create a folder for each year with corporate papers, 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. It's free for non-profit organizations and is issued as a permanent certificate. Make a copy of your permanent certificate and take it with you every time you conduct a league fund raising activity within your area. Every Detachment should file a copy of its bylaws at its county courthouse for reference along with its IRC 501 (c) 4 letter. If anyone has questions or concern about your non-profit status for fund raisers in the county, he/she can look it up in the records.

Every Detachment Commandant must ensure that every officer read the National Bylaws, Department Bylaws and his/her respective Detachment Bylaws and sign a form that they have read and have a working knowledge of each. This will ensure the officers understand the bylaws and can help reduce conflict and reduce friction.

Every Detachment is required to send a copy of its monthly meeting minutes to the Department Commandant. This ensures they hold meetings and lets the Department know what's going on in their detachments. Plus, as a non-profit corporation, Detachments are required to have elected officers, their own bylaws, and keep minutes of their meetings.

The Detachment Adjutant is required to keep membership meeting minutes for at least 3 years and also has the National, Department Bylaws and Detachment Bylaws at each meeting. If an issue comes up, the Judge Advocate can look it up and thus settle any arguments or dispute. That takes the burden off the Commandant and places it on the Bylaws. Having the JA read that section will usually settle the discussion, without any sea stories. National requires every Detachment to have an active web site and have a Web Sergeant assigned to keep their site updated.

Good Conduct Medal Award

Are you a Marine or Fleet Marine Force Corpsman, who during your first enlistment was severely wounded during combat duty in Vietnam, and then medically retired from the service as a result of the combat wounds? One usually has to complete their entire first enlistment to be eligible for either the Marine Corps (MCGCM) or Navy Good Conduct Medal (NGCM). For the first award only per the regulations in the Navy & Marine Corps Awards Manual, the MCGCM or NGCM is authorized for individuals who are separated from the naval service for physical disability as a result of wounds incurred in combat action against an opposing armed force, or in the line of duty where such wounds resulted directly from action against the enemy, provided conduct requirements are met. The specific authorization will be listed on your DD-214 and you must list it in your letter request. (Samples are used before, but be sure to use your authorization). If you are one of these wounded members who did not receive your Good Conduct Medal due to being separated due to combat injuries, write a letter and request your Good Conduct Medal. Additionally, you may have been awarded the Purple Heart Medal but never received a permanent Purple Heart Certificate. When the Good Conduct Medal is issued, you will get a DD-215 which is a form adding this award to your DD-214.

Here is a suggested letter you might use to submit your request for your Good Conduct Medal and a permanent Purple Heart Certificate. Be sure to enclose a copy of your DD-214 with your request.

(Navy Personnel)
National Personnel Records Center
Navy Liaison Office (N314), Room 3475
9700 Page Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63132-5200

(Marine Personnel)
Navy Liaison Office (PERS-313E)
Retired Records Section
9700 Page Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

RE: Request for Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal or Navy Good Conduct Medal and DD- 215 update and issuance of permanent Purple Heart Award Certificate

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am requesting that I be issued the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal or Navy Good Conduct Medal to reflect the military awards that I am entitled to as a result of my USMC or USN service. I am enclosing a copy of my DD-214 dated ----- . I entered service on -----My service number is ___ and my SSAN is _____.

I was retired on the

(for Marines), Permanent Physical Disability List as per 271 Paragraph 10001 MARCORSEPMAN and CMC msg 051922Z/Sep 69;

(for Navy Corpsmen) Naval Service as per 10 USC Chap 61-270,

due to service connected combat wounds while serving with----- on ----- . For first award only the Good Conduct Medal is authorized for individuals who are separated from the naval service for physical disability as a result of wounds incurred in combat action against an opposing armed force, or in the line of duty where such wounds resulted directly from action against the enemy, provided conduct requirements are met.

As per the regulation concerning the award of the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal or Navy Good Conduct Medal, I meet the criteria because I was separated from the Marine Corps or Navy as a result of wounds incurred during combat in Vietnam.

I was wounded while serving in Vietnam with _____. I request that I be issued a permanent Purple Heart Award Certificate for the combat wounds of _____ and a permanent PH Certificate with Gold Star in lieu of a Second Award of the PHM for the wounds of _____. I was never issued as permanent certificate for either PHM.

I request that I be issued a MCGCM or NGCM and that this award be reflected on DD- 215 and that I be issued the permanent PHM award certificate (s).

Sincerely,

Report of Detachment Officers and Officers Installation

Over the next couple months most of the detachments will have their annual nominations and elections of officers. Just a reminder that the Installing officer is responsible to ensure the submission of the Detachment Report of Officers and Installation is completed and sent to National via the chain of command. The Adjutant should fill out the report with the Detachment renewal dues amount marked and ensure it is signed by the installing officer. The Adjutant will keep the last copy and forward all other copies to the department Adjutant. this report must be mailed within 15 days of the installation and is required to be at National Headquarters prior to June 30 annually.

Vets Win Payouts over Agent Orange Use on Okinawa

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded two more former service members compensation for exposure to Agent Orange while serving on Okinawa during the 1960s and '70s. An Army truck driver who came into contact with the dioxin-tainted defoliant as he unloaded barrels at Naha Port in 1966 is receiving benefits for lung cancer attributed to his exposure. The second veteran, a former marine stationed on the island in the early 1970s, developed Hodgkin's lymphoma and type 2 diabetes mellitus as a result of his work with contaminated military equipment shipped to Okinawa from the war in Vietnam, the VA ruled. Prior to the discovery of these two successful claims, it was widely believed that only one U.S. veteran had ever won compensation for exposure to Agent Orange on Okinawa. That 1998 VA ruling, in the case of a soldier poisoned by the defoliant in the island's northern jungles, caused consternation among former U.S. service members and Okinawa residents when it was reported in 2007.

Despite Okinawa serving as a forward staging post for the Vietnam War, in which the U.S. utilized over 76 million liters of defoliants, the Pentagon has repeatedly denied that Agent Orange was ever transported via the island. The recently revealed VA award regarding the Army truck driver exposed at Naha Port was decided in July 2010. In his claim for compensation, the former soldier explained that he had served on the docks with the 44th Transportation Company between 1965 and 1966. According to his statement, "We provided logistical support for the Republic of Vietnam war effort. Our mission was to unload large transport ships. Such items as 55 gallon drums of herbicides, oils, solvents and other materials. We handled the drums with (sic) loading and unloading, and often these drums leaked which contaminated our hands and clothing."

The veteran's claim was supported by "buddy statements" from five fellow GIs corroborating his account of exposure to Agent Orange at Naha Port. In its judgment, the VA ruled that "Lung cancer associated with herbicide exposure was substantiated by the information and evidence in (the) VA's possession."

It is not known whether the five veterans who supplied supporting statements are also receiving compensation for exposure to Agent Orange. The case involving the former Marine was decided by the VA in September 2008. According to department documents, the service member "worked in Okinawa, Japan on the Marine Corps base as a warehouseman in 1972 and 1973. He alleges that his unit, the 3rd Service Battalion of the 3rd Marine Division, received equipment from the combat arms battalions operating in Vietnam for repair and decontamination." The sick veteran's claim was supported by two other marines who stated that it was common practice in the final stages of the Vietnam War to ship goods contaminated with Agent Orange to Okinawa for cleaning. While the VA documents do not mention the specific installation where the exposure occurred, at the time the headquarters of the 3rd Marine Division was at Camp Courtney in Uruma City.

In its ruling, the VA deemed that "the veteran was exposed to herbicides used in the Vietnam conflict while serving on Okinawa in 1972 and 1973" and granted him benefits for Hodgkin's lymphoma and type 2 diabetes mellitus. In addition to these two successful awards, VA records reveal that between 1996 and 2010 a further 132 veterans claimed that they had been exposed to Agent Orange while serving on Okinawa during the Vietnam War era. Their accounts suggest that the defoliant was widely stored and

used on the island — one alleges that surplus defoliants were dumped on Camp Zukeran (currently Camp Foster) in 1962, while another claims that hundreds of barrels of Agent Orange were stored at Kadena Air Base in the early 1970s.

The 132 veterans are all suffering from one or more of the "presumptive conditions" the U.S. government recognizes as being related to Agent Orange exposure. All U.S. service members who stepped foot in Vietnam from 1962 to 1975 — as well as those who served along the Korean DMZ or in Thailand at certain times — are eligible for compensation for these 14 illnesses. But since the Pentagon insists it has no records pertaining to the presence of these defoliants on Okinawa, the vast majority of the 132 claims were rejected. In roughly 10 percent of the cases, however, the VA postponed its decision until it received further information from the Department of Defense or VA regional offices. Michelle Gatz, a Minnesota-based veterans service officer and researcher on Agent Orange on Okinawa, worries that these 132 veterans may be just the tip of the iceberg.

"Many other veterans are intimidated by the paperwork involved in filing a claim. Others may have died while waiting for their claims to be decided," said Gatz. "The true number of veterans sick due to their exposure to Agent Orange on Okinawa is likely much higher than these 132."

Meanwhile, veterans hoping that the two successful cases will open the floodgates to extensive compensation for those sickened by dioxins on Okinawa are likely to be disappointed. According to VA policy, its rulings are nonprecedential, meaning claims are decided on their own merits and not determined by prior cases.

Joe Sipala, leader of the Agent Orange Okinawa grassroots campaign, believes that the current economic climate is also guiding the VA's decisions. "The U.S. is trillions of dollars in debt, so there will never be full compensation like there is for Vietnam veterans. But, as with those who served along the Korean DMZ and Thailand, I hope the VA might start to compensate more Okinawa veterans who handled these defoliants on specific bases at certain times while serving on the island."

Last April, The Japan Times published three U.S. veterans' accounts of their exposure to Agent Orange on Okinawa. Since then, a further 30 former service members have spoken out about their experiences of transporting, storing, spraying and burying the defoliant at over a dozen bases on the island. These claims have alarmed residents of Okinawa, who are well aware of Agent Orange's toxic legacy in south Vietnam, where the Red Cross estimates around 3 million people have been sickened, and highly poisonous dioxin hot spots remain on former U.S. military installations. On Okinawa, concerns have focused on three locations: Higashi Village in the Yambaru jungle, Camp Schwab in Nago City and Chatan Town.

Department Willing to Give Assistance to Detachments

The Department officers are available and ready to assist any detachment as necessary. Every detachment will be visited by one or more of the Department officers. You will be called before any visit and are requested to have as many members attend so as to share information. Do not hesitate to call any one of them for assistance. It's a requirement that every Detachment Commandant and their elected staff officers read the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and have a working knowledge of them. This solves many of the problems that might occur within a detachment. An excellent guide for all detachments is the November 2007 Guidebook for Detachment Officers. It would be a wise decision to purchase copies of this guidebook from the National Ship's Store and give to every Detachment officer. The current price is \$7 each. You might even want to consider purchasing a copy of the MCL Ritual from the Ship's Store for \$5 each. This has the most current information for all the various rituals that might develop. Detachments need to ensure they make the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures changes that are approved yearly. The Department officers are your elected

slate to lead the Marine Corps League within West Virginia and to have a voice in the Mid Eastern Division. Respective detachments are expected to follow the chain of command and keep the Department Commandant informed of usual events or activities within their detachments. All reports or official correspondence involving MCL activities within every detachment that is necessary for administrative action at the Mid Eastern Division, National headquarters or any other activity out of the department will be forwarded to the responsible Department Officer or the Department Commandant for review prior to completion.

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 has to 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.

Training and acquiring knowledge on how to improve skills and capabilities to make the Detachment organization more effective should be an ongoing process. Marines go through Boot Camp and specialized training which is an indoctrination and basic skill learning process. As a Marine advances, his knowledge and capability skills are enhanced through training in an ongoing process designed to improve the capability of the organization. It is no different with a Detachment in the Marine Corps League.

Emphasis on training is generally subordinated to immediate issues at hand, or ignored, in hopes that individuals will figure out how to do their skills on the job. However, look at the most successful organization, whether businesses, volunteer and military, which are successful because of their continued training programs.

The responsibility is on the Detachment to see that Officers and members are trained. The Detachment should be committed to training by conducting its own training sessions. The Detachment should call on other Detachments and their Department to assist and support the training effort. Departments and National HQ also conduct officer and administrative training, but generally, this is once a year at their conventions. Detachment Commandants should insure personnel are advised of this additional training, in addition to their local Detachment Training. Currently the Department of West Virginia Bylaws 2007 Edition, revised May 2010, has not been read in its entirety by all Commandants and officers of the Department and Detachments of the Department of West Virginia. This has placed a burden on the enforcement of and/or the adherence to the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. The National Guidelines for Officers, Marine Corps League Detachment Officer training states, "It is strongly recommended that training sessions be scheduled within sixty (60) days of the annual installation of the Detachment officers." This training would help train Officers on the Bylaws and adherence to the same to ensure the survivability and growth of the Marine Corps League. Administrative Procedures, Chapter Three, Section 301 (10) of the Department Bylaws requires all members that have ambitions on becoming an officer on the Detachment level and Department level to attend a mandatory bylaws training class prior to installation into office. This will be accomplished by the Department Bylaws Training Committee who have the duty to prepare and conduct one bylaws training class no later than 65 days prior to the annual Department Convention. This training session will be conducted at a site that is convenient to members attending that session. Attendees shall be any current officers or a member that is seeking an office with the detachments and in the Department of West Virginia for that current year.

Membership Information

According to the National Adjutant/Paymaster, there appears to be several instances where Detachments are sending in the wrong amount for Life Membership or submitting members who are not eligible. National Bylaws Section 645 - Life Members states, "Regular or Associate members of the Marine Corps League who are in good standing may become a Life Member upon proper payment of the fee as is required herein."

Anyone applying for Life membership must already be a member of the League, whether Regular or Associate member with dues paid is shown "current" on the roles at National Headquarters. The "life member join date" is the date the transmittal is received at National Headquarters. It is very important that all Paymasters send their transmittals to Department Paymaster Gill in time for submission to National Headquarters because if a member pays his dues before his membership expires and the transmittal isn't received at national Headquarters until after the membership expired, then the Detachment will be billed for the member's renewal fee.

Additionally, if a Detachment submits a person who is not currently in the National database or has been delinquent for over a year, he must submit the new member's dues or National will bill them for those dues. Please allow enough lead time for your transmittals to be received by the Department Paymaster and then for forwarding to national. MAPS1 program was a program to entice members who were out of the League or who had been dropped from the National roles, and usually meant their membership expired more than one full year. When each of these eligible members are signed back up with the new member fee paid, the code "R/I" is put in the code box of the transmittal to receive a \$5 rebate from National. Life member fees are: age 0 to 35, \$500; Age 36-50, \$400; age 51-60, \$300; and over age 61, \$150. Mail to Department of West Virginia MCL, Attn: Paymaster Gill, P.O. Box 522, Ravenswood, WV 26164.

THE FINAL INSPECTION

The Marine stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.

And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God, forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.

"Step forward now, Marine,
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My Church have you been true?"

I know I don't deserve a place,
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears.

The Marine squared his shoulders and said,
"No, Lord, I guess I ain't.
Because those of us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand."

I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough.
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.

There was a silence all around the throne
Where the saints had often trod.
As the Marine waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

But, I never took a penny,
That wasn't mine to keep.
Though I worked a lot of overtime,
When the bills got just too steep.

"Step forward now, you Marine,
You've borne your burdens well.
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell."

Calendar of Events

1st Annual Veterans Bluegrass Show at Chief Logan Park in the Picking Park Building. Sponsored by Danny M. Green Detachment 577 Marine Corps League. The show will be from 1800 to 2300 on Saturday 3 March 2012. Music by local musicians. No cover charge but donations will be accepted to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project and Detachment 577.

Marine South Expo will be held April 11-12, 2012 at Camp Lejeune MCB.

2012 Department Convention will be May 11-12 and hosted by Herbert J. Thomas Memorial Detachment 947 in Charleston, WV, at Charleston Marriott, 200 Lee St. E, Charleston, WV. Rooms reservations: 304-353-3600. Price is \$99 per night plus room tax. Banquet is \$30.00.

2012 Mideast Division, Marine Corps League Annual Convention will be held June 15 – 17, 2012 at the Hilton Raleigh-Durham Airport Hotel, 4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, NC 27703. The room rate is \$99 per night plus room tax, king or double room, plus every registered hotel guest receives a free hot breakfast buffet daily. Please make your room reservation direct with the hotel no later than June 4, 2012, by calling 919-941-6000.

2012 MCL National Convention Aug 12-18 at Renaissance in Mobile, Alabama in the Battle House Hotel & Spa Mobile and Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel. Tel: 1-800-922-3298 or 251-438-4000. Room rates \$107.00 plus 14% tax. Hosted by P.L. Wilson Detachment 447.

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Department of West Virginia
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