



April 2025 — May 2025

LASKEY'S TELEGRAPH



Newsletter of The New England Division of The Marine Corps League Vol. 4 Issue 4



Message From The Division Commandant



Members,

I hope this message finds everyone in good health and spirits. As we approach April, I'm eagerly anticipating warmer weather, which will allow us to kick off our outdoor league activities.

This year's Quad State marks the final time we will refer to it as such before it officially transitions to the New England Division Conference. Beginning next year, the event will follow a rotating schedule among the six departments, with Massachusetts taking the lead. I truly believe this new structure, where each department plays an active role in planning and highlighting their unique contributions, will bring even greater value to our members and strengthen the bonds across our divisions.

But before we get ahead of ourselves and look toward next year, let's focus on this year's Quad State/New England Division Conference. We'll be gathering in Portland, Maine, from April 25th to 27th. I'm excited to see what the Department of Maine, under the leadership of Department Commandant Peter Lubas, has prepared for us. The business meeting will be packed with valuable information. COO Bob Borka will present an

informative session to ensure everyone is up to speed. We'll also have representatives from the

Marine for Life program, MODD, and our National Sr. Vice Commandant Russ Miller. We are fortunate to have Col. Dan O'Brien, USMC (Ret.), as our guest speaker, and he's looking forward to the opportunity to speak and spend the weekend with New England Marines.

In addition to the Division Conference, I'd like to note the following department conventions:

- Department of Massachusetts:

Burlington, MA – May 29th to June 1st

- Department of Connecticut: June 27th to 29th

These conventions are fantastic opportunities for our members to connect, share experiences, and build camaraderie. They also provide a chance for significant others to meet people from other departments. I hope to see many of you at these events.

Semper Fidelis!!

Patrick Maguire
National Vice Commandant
New England Division
Marine Corps League



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IMPORTANT

Laskey's Telegraph is published every two months in the first week of the following months.

FEBRUARY. APRIL, JUNE, AUGUST, OCTOBER AND DECEMBER.

The cut off date for submitting material is the last week of the following months. JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER.. If there is a special circumstance please call to make arrangements.

Send submissions to:

Walt.benson5@gmail.com
203-768-8435

Send pictures, please include names and what you and your detachment is doing.

WHAT SHOULD I SUBMIT?

This is your Newsletter, so anything you think others might be interested in. Look at the categories, Departments, Toy for Tots, Devil Dogs, Taps, Birthdays, Sick and I Need. Upcoming Events, Help Wanted, History, League and Marine Corps, Birthdays, Awards and Recognition. Community Events, Scholarships, Conventions, Meetings and Grand Growls, and ongoing projects. What are we doing for recruiting? What are we doing for Marines for Life? What can we do to bring back the Auxiliary? Think of some of the programs we have expanded and can you think of any others you want to create or expand? We expanded the Dogs to include donations to provide help to animal shelters, what about other groups? What about donations for women's shelters for women and children of these women? Toys For Tots expanded there program to allow year round help to children in distress. Someone had an idea and this grew from it, you could start your idea here. I am sure there is more but this is a good start

Walt Benson



MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



At the conclusion of any great event, as we revel in our celebration and enjoy the company and comradery we traveled to be here for. We look back to the several days of meetings where we exchanged ideas and knowledge, while we renewed our friendships while hopefully starting new ones, and realizing how far we have come since those yellow footprints in the cold dark night.

When we got home this year and we looked at the many pictures that flooded FaceBook of all that we experienced, I found a post by a brother, as he refers to himself as David Porter the Original, "I am Dave Porter Sr. aka The Original. I would like to say if you can, I would definitely advise you to attend either the Mid Winter Conference next year or the Convention in August which is in Texas this year. I have only attended a few myself but I cannot say how much I have enjoyed myself both meeting new Brothers and Sis-

ters and participating in different activities with them. It's the only time Marines from all parts of our great country get together to enjoy each other's company while raising funds to help people in need. I will guarantee you will have a great time. I would like to add you can see by the response the camaraderie the Marine Corps League has at the functions. The majority of those that liked or made a comment I never would have met if it wasn't for these events. So if you do come, even if by yourself, I will guarantee you will enjoy yourself, make new friends and you will help make the Marine Corps League a stronger better organization in helping those in need". I don't think I have ever heard it expressed better. The National Commandant TJ Morgan, The Guest of Honor SGT/MAJ Ruiz and his Wife and all the NVC's, and National Officers, welcome you. Semper Fidelis



MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



Introduction of Dignitaries
Color Guard from Quantico

As well as the
National Anthem by
LCpl Travia A. Jackson
Marine Base Quantico





MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



**WE ASK FOR GOD'S BLESSING AND REMEMBER
THOSE WE LOST SINCE LAST WE MET**





MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



We listened and learned from programs and reports. We awarded some special people for the work that they did in support of our League. And we in turn supported by both Division and Département.





MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



We played in GROWL Assembled, WHO LET THE DOGS OUT!! WOOF!! WOOF!!!
HAIL TO THE CHIEF !! WOOF WOOF



**POLICE DOGS LOOKING FOR BONES FOR THE
HOSITAL**



MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



As each of us at different times, for many reasons, stood in the cold, on our first night with some fear and uncertainty of the decision we made, little did we realize that from those yellow footprints we stood upon, as we stepped forward we took our place in History. We joined those who went before us and those still yet to come. If you remember that last night in the squad bay, "Today you are no longer maggots, today you are Marines". This is my fist of many of the celebrations of our 250th Birthday, as we stand shoulder to shoulder with our brothers and sisters. Semper Fidelis



The National Vice Commandants proceed the cake. The National Officers escort the cake along with the youngest Marine and The Sgt At Arms as the National Commandant T J Morgan and the guest of Honor, 20th SgtMaj of the Marine Corps SgtMaj Ruiz await



MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



The cake is delivered to the National Commandant and the Guest of Honor. The Sgt-at Arms reads the proclamation and the Commandant cuts the cake.



MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



As is our tradition the guest of Honor 20th SgtMaj of the Marine Corps is served first, followed by the oldest Marine, PNC Paul J. Seton and finally the youngest LCpl Travia L. Jackson





MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



The evening continued on with our guest speaker SgtMaj Ruiz delivering a very motivating speech to a very attentive audience. At the conclusion a token of the evening and something I wish we could switch to video for, delayed cadence.





MID WINTER CONFERENCE 2025



At the end of the Banquet SgtMaj Ruis stayed for an endless line of Photos, which he and his wife stood for and his aide graciously took the photos



AS WE BID FAREWELL TO
PENTAGON CITY

THE EYES OF TEXAS
ARE UPON US





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



MARINES

I've seen comments regarding those of us who saw combat and those Marines who didn't. I copied a piece written by Jason Mangone, a Lieutenant of Marines who didn't see combat that I think might be of interest to *** **ALL** *** of us: **How I Let Go Of The Embarrassment I Felt For Having Never Served in Combat.**

A few months ago, I read Phil Klay's book, "Redeployment" — a collection of a dozen short stories. One of its unifying themes was that young people, and young men in particular, seek validation through combat. There are myriad consequences to facing combat — some good, and others bad. Others who never face combat, but expected to, are often left with intermingled senses of regret and embarrassment. There's a selfishness in the sentiment: service is about "We." Validation, potential regret, and its attendant embarrassment are about "Me."

"From 2006–2010, I was a Marine infantry officer. I commanded platoons on three deployments. Most of my contemporaries — that is, Marine infantry officers serving in the late aughts — have been in combat. I've never been shot at, blown up, or been in contact with the enemy in any sense whatsoever. I am a veteran, but I am not a combat veteran."

Accepting this took some time: it went from a lived reality to a source of shame, to something I merely acknowledge today as a fact of my life. This simple reckoning has allowed me to recollect my service with straightforwardness and grow as a person.

While I was still in, other Marines knew the battalion I was in, and they'd know I'd been in Iraq when it was calm, then went on a MEU, then went to Haiti. I've seen a lot written about the pressure to get a Combat Action Ribbon — the unofficial sign that you'd really done something while you were deployed. And while I always revered my Marines and senior leaders who had one — perhaps too much so for a time — when I was around other Marines, it didn't matter too much that I never had one. If new Marines who joined my platoons were skeptical of my leadership because I'd never been in combat, I never felt it, and like to think I eventually gained their trust through competence.

I felt embarrassment most sharply after I'd gotten out. People expected that I'd been in combat, and I thought I would have been, too. I never lied about it, but as a brand-new civilian, I'm not proud to admit that I did offer ambiguous responses to questions like "What did you do?" I'd respond with: "I was a Marine, an infantry officer. I was in Iraq." I'd just let it linger as though I was a salty vet who just stayed mum about the experience because there were some things I just didn't want to talk about. I'd let people keep their assumptions about what my response meant, as though I might be less of a person if they knew the truth. At a certain point, I flipped entirely. Just about any time I talked about my experience as a Marine, I almost reflexively said — and, sometimes still do say — "Yeah, but I never really did anything. I was never in combat."⁴

I don't know what I'm supposed to say when people ask me what I did or where I served. I've just settled on being comfortable with some facts about what I did and who I am. I was not in a unit that got shot at. Many others in my line of work were, but I wasn't. I like to think I would have handled it just as well as all my buddies, but I have no idea.

I got out after four years while the war in Iraq was winding down, and Afghanistan was getting messier. I could have stayed in and sought a unit deploying to Afghanistan, and it's likely that I would have seen combat. But I didn't. So, there's some arbitrariness, and a little bit of personal choice — even if it was a choice of omission — in the fact that I'm not a combat veteran.

Most importantly, any sense of regret I have for not getting shot at is laden with a deep, perhaps sinful, moral failing. I did three deployments, and there were around 120 Marines in the two platoons I led, none of whom were ever hurt or killed. Given the time I served, and the job I had, that's nothing but a blessing. If I'd been in combat on any of my deployments, I probably would have been fine — while many officers have been hurt and killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, the brunt of that burden sits with enlisted men. And so, the self-validation I might have gained in combat would have likely come at the cost of my Marines. Shame on me forever feeling embarrassed.

All that's proper is to shut up and count my blessings. I'm exceedingly proud that I served. I look back, and though I did nothing heroic, I smile widely, knowing that I loved my Marines deeply. I feel comfortable that my service honored a sacred covenant with them, even if that bond was never faced with nor forged in the ultimate crucible. I'll never know what sort of growth combat may have led to, but I'm okay with who I am today.

I matured, as I learned practical lessons from dozens of Marines, hundreds of mistakes, and a few major failures. I became a man of deeper integrity, if only from the fortunate contagion of befriending several people of the highest character; and having had a job in my early 20s where living one's values is the clearest path to success. Because I served, I'm a more complete husband, friend, brother, son, and citizen; and I know I'll love and guide the child we expect in July more wholly.

Semper Fil!

Sgt. Thomas M. Dunne, USMC
1967—1971

Vietnam Veteran
Detachment #1143
Eastern Panhandle Marine Corps League
Martinsburg, WV

*"Marines I see as two breeds, Rottweilers or Dobermans,
Because Marines come in two varieties, big and mean,
Or skinny and mean. They're aggressive on the attack
And tenacious on defense. They've got really short hair
And always go for the throat".
Rear Adm "Jay" R Rick Starkey*

Howard Boyd Sr. Detachment #1005 Shallotte NC shared this with our Detachment, Howard and myself are Vietnam Veterans and we believe this is so true. If you served that is what is honorable we are all brothers and sisters of the Marine Corps.



HAPPY EASTER NEW ENGLAND



MEMORIAL DAY

On this weekend where we honor those who died,
The heroes of our nation those we hold in pride.
They fell in many battles in several different wars,
Because of their sacrifice our freedom is secure.

Some battles were famous and remembered well,
Others never heard of but still were living hell.
It doesn't make a difference their sacrifice the same,
On this day we honor them for the life they gave.

We lay wreaths and flags be beside the honored
graves,

With each we say a prayer and remeber what they
gave.

Be thankful for their service and the sacrifice they
made,

Be thankful to God above for these men that he has
made.

Today we are a nation with freedom to enjoy,

Because another set of heroes are still actively de-
ployed.

So on this day remember all who gave so much,

Say a prayer or shed a tear for those who gave so
much.





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



Hello to all of our Marine Corps League members and their families. I wanted to let you know about a newer committee that was the creation of Past National Commandant Warren Griffin. Last year Warren wanted to do more for our Marines pertaining to their mental health and wellness. This is how HAMSAL was created. HAMSAL, which stands for “Help A Marine, Save A Life”, centers around taking care of yourself, as well as taking care of each other.

Last year I attended many Division Conferences upon request and presented a PowerPoint that included a little bit about my story, Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR), mental health and substance use disorder. QPR covers suicide awareness and prevention, and I know that we do not talk about this enough. What’s that you say, you don’t like talking about these uncomfortable topics? Well, I am here to tell you that those days are gone. We are our brothers and sisters keeper, whether you know or it like it. We cannot do this alone so we will do this together.

I was honored to speak at the New England/Quad States Conference and if you missed it, you are in luck. I am available to present to your Department and your membership to help spread the word. My HAMSAL presentation can also be found on the MCL Library under the member section. As a retired Police Officer and Marine Corps veteran in recovery, I understand about suffering in silence and fighting that stigma, especially within the First Responder and military/veteran community. But now I recover loudly and help others with their mental health and substance use. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time and contact me at shoremarines@gmail.com and 732-921-7411. Semper Fi!

Brian Gillespie



FROM THE EDITOR



A STORY WORTH TELLING

A few weeks ago while attending mid-winter my Commandant came across a cover patch in the ships store, "PAST EVERYTHING", and he actually bought me one. Now there are many people that could wear this patch, but what exactly is this patch answering, are we checking all the box- you can make a difference? I know that I could try that when I'm the Comman-



something and that was the response I starting with Marines and branching out say in the commercial, PRICELESS. In told many of us how great it is to come they are right. We recognize, we ap- It is a wonderful feeling to come to a friends are here to share laughter, do. It's not PAST EVERYTHING posi- als as you can. To touch as many people and their lives as you can while being part of this elite organization. If you or your detachment are not taking advantage of all the opportunities to tell others of what you are doing and how good you are. There are amazing people here looking to help, looking to build and grow, and looking to continue to serve the communities we are part of. We are coming into convention season. We have Quad State up first, and it's a good place to start a mini Convention. We learn, we play, we eat, we recognize, we remember, honor and celebrate. Let the comradery begin, meet new people, make stronger bonds with others. Then we have Massachusetts, and Connecticut leading up to National which is in Texas this year. If you don't have buy a Cowboy hat on your bucket list maybe you should. I bought an Oklahoma cowboy hat but Texas May be Better. Take that first step to becoming Past Everything I promise you will not regret it.

Walt Benson

**OPEN FOR ALL
MEMBERS OF THE MCL
& MCL AUXILIARY**

**MCL
SCUTTLEBUTT**

Have you joined any of these meetings? Well if you missed any of them, they are available on You Tube and there are a lot of good topics to choose from





CONNECTICUT



MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT

2025 is a big year for the United States Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League. We are celebrating 250 years of service, honor, and commitment exemplified by our illustrious history. Take pride in who we are and tell



your stories so that the younger generations of Americans learn the history of the Corps and our individual parts in that history. RE-MINDER: Our 2025 Department of Connecticut Convention and MODD Grand Growl will be held 27-28 June 2025 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Glastonbury. Rooms are available to reserve now. You can call 1-877-782- 9444 and claim the Department of CT MCL group rate or use

group rate MCL25.

You can also make your reservations at <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/deptofctmarinecorpsleague/>. The group rate is also available for 26 June, if you're so inclined. Tom Jackson of the Housatonic Detachment will lead the effort for the hospitality suite. Now is the time to begin picking up goodies for the hospitality suite. AND prizes for our MCL and MODD raffles.

From the 2025 Mid-Winter Conference. VSOs and other nonprofit military organizations must prove that their membership consists of 80-90% veterans in order to maintain their 501(c) status. Fortunately, the MCL is exempt from this requirement, at least for the time being,

because we are the only VSO chartered by Congress.

In order to be prepared, National is requiring that all Detachment rosters precede members' Profile IDs with a "V" in the Atlas system. Regular members, Marines, are easy to identify and mark appropriately. Associate members are a different story. Associate members may or may not have served in the military. To identify those who have, Detachment Commandants must mark-up their associates on their Atlas rosters and send them to me electronically. I will track them and forward them to National.

If you need an updated roster, let me or Walt Benson know. We can send you a new one but if there have been no changes within the last few months, the ones I sent out earlier should be adequate.

The Marine Corps League Foundation, a nonprofit agency, provides important financial assistance to Marines and their families, as well as other charitable causes. National is recommending that all Detachments donate to the MCLF annually. I will not be at our meeting on 6 April due to another commitment. I hope to see everyone at the Department

Convention.
Semper Fidelis.
Rich Daigle
Commandant
Department of
Connecticut





CONNECTICUT



IWO JIM FLAG RAISING 80TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

Two Iwo Jima survivors, Joe Caminiti, of Bristol, and Peter Senick, of New Haven, attended the 80th Anniversary Commemorative Ceremony. Members of the Marine Corp League from across the State were present to honor the two living Iwo Jima Survivors. It was also an honor to welcome 102-year-old WW2 Woman Marine veteran Corporal Dottie Dee.



The event took place in Davidson Hall at Central Connecticut State University. New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart served as the master of ceremonies for the event. The guest speakers included Ron Welch, Brigadier General, U.S. Army Retired, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, and Brigadier General Omar J. Randall from Headquarters Marine Corps. Special guest speakers included U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, the Mayor Jon Trister of Newington, CCSU President Zulma R. Toro.



The nephew of Dr. George Gentile, the man behind the creation of the Iwo Jima Survivor's Monument, Mark Gentile, spoke about his uncle and the founding of the Iwo Jima Association that built the Monument in New Britain. This monument is special in that it has volcanic rocks from the island of Iwo Jima imbedded into the base. The names of the 100 people from Connecticut who were killed in the Battle of Iwo Jima were read at the close of the ceremony. Marines Joe Caminiti and Peter Senick are the last known Iwo Jima Survivors in Connecticut. The raising of the flag on Mount Suribachi is one of the most iconic photographs of all time and emblematic of the courage, honor, and commitment of all U.S. Marines.

S/F Peter DePaola



CONNECTICUT



NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY CEREMONY IN COVENTRY

On Saturday, March 29, 2025, there was a brief wreath-laying ceremony at noon at the CT Vietnam War Veterans Memorial located at 234 Lake Street in Coventry to honor and remember all Vietnam War veterans. Keynote speaker was the CT Dept. of Veterans Affairs, BGen, U.S. Army (Retired), Ron Rubyfruit A Cappella National Anthem and the Natchaug Young Marines from Danielson will provide the Color Guard. There were a few other special participants who added to the ceremony the Vietnam Veterans, both past and present.



ans. Keynote
Commissioner of the
ans Affairs, Ron
Army
Rubyfruit A Cappella
National Anthem
Young Marines from
vide the Color
a few other special
added to the cere-
the Vietnam Veter-

On March 28, 2017, Congress passed a law designating March 29th as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Approximately 2.7 million American men and women served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975. The Vietnam War took the lives of 58,479 U.S. service members, including 614 from Connecticut whose names are on a monument located in Coventry. Today, there are still thousands of Vietnam veterans who feel the long-term effects of the War from Agent Orange.

The ceremony was open to the public to welcome our country. Additional parking was located across the street at Patriots Park, 172 Lake Street, Coventry. Day@gmail.com.



cut whose names are on
ument located in Coventry.
still thousands of Vietnam
the long-term effects of the
Orange.

mony was open to the pub-
home those who served
tional parking was located
Patriots Park, 172 Lake
[VietnamWarVeterans-](mailto:Day@gmail.com)



CONNECTICUT



2025 DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT CONVENTION & MODD GRAND GROWL

27-28 JUNE 2025

Hilton Garden Inn
85 Glastonbury CT
Glastonbury CT 06033
860-659-1025



REGISTRATION FORM (DEADLINE 29 MAY)

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____ STATE & ZIP® _____
 PHONE _____ EMAIL _____
 DETACHMENT _____ DEPARTMENT _____
 OFFICE/TITLE _____

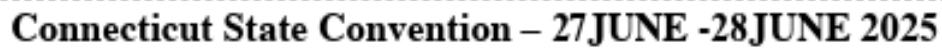
A LIGHT DINNER BUFFET WITH CASH BAR WILL BE SERVED ON FRIDAY IN THE MEETING ROOM FROM 1715-1830 FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT WANT TO GO OUT BEFORE THE GRAND GROWL AT 1900.

NOTE: Dress for the Saturday evening banquet is semi-formal, i.e., mess dress, red blazer, suit, or sports jacket, and tie.

FRIDAY DINNER BUFFET	ATTENDING	@ \$25pp	= TOTAL	\$
	_____			_____
CONVENTION REGISTRATION	ATTENDING	@ \$10pp	= TOTAL	\$
	_____			_____
SATURDAY BANQUET	ATTENDING	@ \$50pp	= TOTAL	\$
	_____			_____
GRAND TOTAL				\$

Make checks payable to **MCL Dept of CT**. Mail to:
MCL Dept of CT Convention, c/o SVC Walt Benson, 14 Luke Street, Prospect CT 06712.

For additional information, call 203-506-8786 or email: PopPop.Daigle@gmail.com



Hilton Garden Inn

85 Glastonbury Blvd • Glastonbury, CT 06340

(860) 659-1025

Ad Book Form

Date: _____ (AD MUST BE SUBMITTED BY May 29, 2025)

MCL Member: _____

Ad size: _____ **Full page \$100.00 B/W** _____ **1/2 page \$80.00**

 1/4 page \$60.00 **Business Card \$40.00**

____ Inside Cover \$125

Name: _____ **Street** _____

Town: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip code:** _____

PHONE# _____

Ad Description:

Webpage address to pull image from

Comments:

Submit ad electronically to:

Sue Tait Porcaro email: sue@2lipsartdesign.com cell:860-209-6063

Submit payment to:

Wal Benson 14 Luke St. Prospect CT 06712

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Dept of CT MCL



CONNECTICUT



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

LIVING THE MARINE CORPS VALUE OF HONOR

It is the Easter season. During this time, I like to reflect on the hope and joy it brings and to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of the resurrection and victory over death, the power of forgiveness, and of new beginnings.

For others, it is a time to celebrate Passover, which commemorates freedom from slavery, oppression, and reminds people to return to God's ways.

Both of these invoke the profound, spiritual and emotional forces drive us to our God, who made us and to whom we belong. Like our connection to the military community, we also belong to the heavenly community. We are often reminded that our time here is short. This is a real-life story that happened in mid- March of this year. A friend and a sister Ma-



rine veteran lost her husband, also a Marine veteran. His passing was sudden and shocking. Both were in their early 50's, with teenage daughters. He and his girls served with the local fire department. While doing a service project for a disabled Marine veteran, he dropped dead. No warning, and no underlying conditions.

The family and community are devastated. At the funeral Mass, the wife gave a powerful testimony to their 30 years together. It was a message of a full and beautiful life together. A life of love, and dedication and of hope for life to go on. In the hardest moment of her life, she said 'I will see you again, but I have to finish the work you started here with the girls.'

This is a beautiful Easter story. Through the tragedies of life, when our darkest days are upon us, our Lord is there for us. Let us be there for each other. Let us forgive and renew relationships. Let us care about others, be helpful to others, and let us reach out to those who don't always deserve our kindness but need it the most.

May you and your loved ones enjoy a beautiful Easter full of peace and joy.

Semper Fidelis

Peter DePaola

Department of CT Chaplain



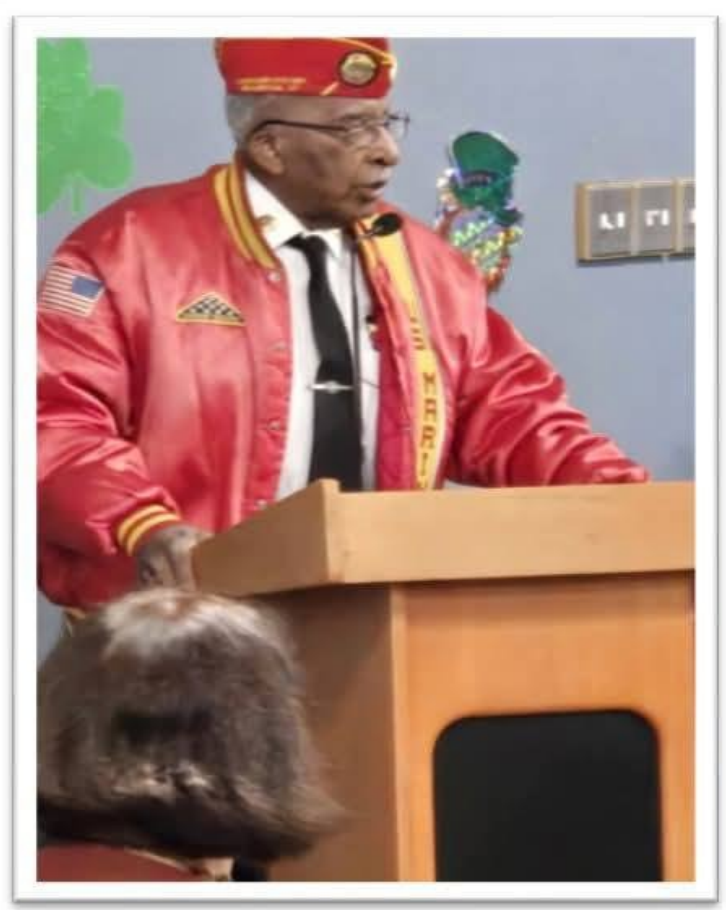


CONNECTICUT



QUILTS OF VALOR

Quilts of Valor are special quilts awarded to service members and veterans who have been touched by war. They are made to express gratitude for their service and sacrifice, with the mission of providing comfort and healing. Each quilt must meet specific criteria, including size and labeling, and must be awarded rather than given as a gift. The Quilts of Valor Foundation, founded in 2003, has awarded over 327,000 quilts to date, reflecting a commitment to honoring those who serve. These quilts are crafted with high-quality materials and are intended to be a civilian award.



ON March 21st 2025 at the senior center in Bristol, Rivers McCalop of the Hardware City Detachment was awarded a Quilt of Valor. Congratulations sir it is very well deserved. Now you can sit in the cold, doing roses with your detachment and still remain warm. You make us all proud of your dedication and commitment to the Marine Corps League. Semper Fi



MASSACHUSETTS



Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League
State House, Room 545
24 Beacon Street, Boston MA, 02331

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



Established 1 September 1937

Boston Marriot Burlington
One Burlington Mall Road, Burlington, MA 01803

2025 CONVENTION PACKAGE



MASSACHUSETTS



Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League
State House, Room 545
24 Beacon Street, Boston MA, 02331

A Message from the Department of Massachusetts Commandant:

Hello Marines and Associates,

As the Department Commandant, I would like to welcome you all to the 88th Department of Massachusetts Convention.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as your Commandant for the last two years, your faith and trust in me is very much appreciated.

We used Hemis Briscoe this year to negotiate and find us an affordable venue within the Department. Hemis Briscoe is the company National MCL uses to secure venues for the National Convention and the Mid-Winter Conference. Using Hemis Briscoe was at no cost to us, and we feel that the choice of hotel with its accommodations fits the needs of the Department.

As was the case last year, the Department is continuing to try to make things more affordable for the Detachments in the hopes this will increase attendance. Detachments that are in full compliance with the Department may submit their receipts for their first night of hotel accommodation to the Department Paymaster Bernie Heaney for reimbursement. Detachments that are not in Department Compliance will not be reimbursed.

As this is my final message as Department Commandant I wish we have a great election of officers and wish those new officers a successful term in their new roles. I will be there to assist and advise the new officers in their endeavors.

I would like to take this opportunity and thank all of you for everything you have done for your Detachments and the League. The Detachment is the backbone of the league; we do realize the amount of paperwork can be overwhelming and monotonous, but we very much appreciate all of you working your hardest to stay up with it.

In closing, I hope you all enjoy the convention, and I thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League Commandant.

Semper Fidelis Marines.

Jon Zwirblia

Commandant

Department of Massachusetts



MASSACHUSETTS



Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League

State House, Room 545
24 Beacon Street, Boston MA, 02331

A message from the Convention Committee,

Marines and Associates,

The Convention Committee would like to welcome you to Burlington Massachusetts for the 88th Department of Massachusetts Convention.

There are many attractions in the Burlington area for all to enjoy, as well as some amazing local eateries and breweries in the area. The convention committee will have a list of these local places to give to you when you check into the hotel. We do need to meet a food and beverage minimum at the hotel, so please purchase your breakfast, MODD Buffett and Banquet tickets with us.

The Hotel is the Boston Marriot Burlington and is located at One Burlington Mall Road, Burlington MA, 01803.

The number to call and book your room is 1-800-371-3625, **the group block ID is: MCLMCLA**. Please use that group block ID to reserve your room at \$179.00 + taxes a night. You can call and book now! The link to book your room online is posted on the Department Website under the convention tab.

The first activity Friday will be the Jim Laskey Memorial Golf Tournament, located at Unicorn Golf Course, 460 William Street, Stoneham MA; just a 15 minute drive from the hotel. This will kick off at 0800.

The Second Activity Friday will be the MODD Buffett and the Grand Growl.

The MODD Buffett will be at the hotel Friday evening at 1730. With the Grand Growl commencing at 1900.

Saturday will be busy with the entire business session, a Memorial Service for our fallen brothers and sisters, a presentation by the COO of the MCL Bob Borka and then to conclude the convention we will have our Grand Banquet.

The Convention Committee highly recommends booking your rooms early. We highly advise staying overnight Thursday and get your check in completed on Friday.

You may register and pay for meals on the website for meals on the Department website. There also will be a copy of this convention packet available on the website. The registration will be live on the Department Website on March 26th.

We look forward to seeing all of you and having a great convention.

Thank you,

The Department of Massachusetts Convention Committee

Please Register and book your room for the Convention
NLT May 8th



MASSACHUSETTS



Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League

State House, Room 545
24 Beacon Street, Boston MA, 02331

All American Breakfast Buffet May 30th to June 1st):

Sliced Fresh Fruits of the Season, Variety of Fresh Baked Muffins, Breakfast Pastries, and Deli Style Bagels

Plain and Vegetable Cream Cheese, Butter, and Preserves

Assorted Breakfast Cereals with 2% Milk, Skim Milk, and Bananas

Fluffy Scrambled Eggs with Cheddar Cheese

Smoked Bacon OR Country Sausage Links

Oven Roasted Breakfast Potatoes with Sweet Peppers and Onions

Cost: \$30.00 Per Person

Friday: How many attending.....

Saturday: How many attending.....

Sunday: How many attending.....

Total Breakfast Cost:.....

MODD Buffett (May 30th):

Buffett to include: New England Clam Chowder, Mixed Greens Salad (with Julienned Carrots, Shaved Red Cabbage, Cherry Tomatoes, Cucumbers, and Red Wine Vinaigrette)

Battered and Fried Cod with Fresh Lemon; Chicken Marsala with Mushroom Cream Sauce, Roasted Fingerling Potatoes, Asparagus and Roasted Sweet Peppers

Assorted Rolls and Butter, Sweet Treats

Cost: \$66.00

How many Attending:

Total MODD Banquet Cost:.....



MASSACHUSETTS



Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League

State House, Room 545
24 Beacon Street, Boston MA, 02331

Please Register for Convention NLT May 8th

Grand Banquet (May 31st):

-The Plated dinner starts with Rolls and Butter, and a Salad (Tossed Artisan Greens with Cucumbers, Cherry Tomatoes, Shredded Cabbage, Julienned Carrots, Balsamic Vinaigrette) Then is chicken, mixed vegetables and potatoes.

Cost: \$50.00

Total Cost of Banquet.....

Total Cost of all Breakfast, MODD Buffett and Grand Banquet Combined.....

-Golf Friday at Unicorn Golf Course

You Pay at Course!

Price still be negotiated and will be announced as soon as possible via email, and the Department Website.

How many Playing:

Please Register for Convention NLT May 8th



MASSACHUSETTS



Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League
State House, Room 545
24 Beacon Street, Boston MA, 02331

Payment instructions:

-Electronic payment and forms through our website
<https://mcldeptofmassachusetts.org> and selecting the
Convention Registration Link (*This will be available on
March 26th 2025*)

Or

-USPS-

Send completed forms, with checks made payable to
Department of Massachusetts MCL.

MAIL TO: Jon Zwirblia

70 Crestwood Drive

Southbridge, MA 01550

Established 1 September 1937



MASSACHUSETTS



Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League
State House, Room 545
24 Beacon Street, Boston MA, 02331

Members of the Department of Massachusetts Marine Corps League, Friends, Family, and Business Owners

We are putting together our convention Ad Book for this year's annual Department Convention.

All ad's must be sent to this address: **Jon Zwirblia**

**70 Crestwood Drive,
Southbridge, MA 01550**

You can also email your ad to: commandant@mcldeptofmassachusetts.org

ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO: DEPARMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

ALL ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: MAY 8th 2025

RATES FOR ADS:

BACK COVER:	\$200.00
FRONT PAGE:	\$125.00
HALF PAGE:	\$80.00
¼ PAGE:	\$50.00
BUSINESS CARD:	\$25.00

Semper Fi and Thank You!



MASSACHUSETTS



JOHN J VAN GYZEN DET 1285

The detachment Paymaster of 20 years (William (Bill) Murphy) was called home August 31, 2024. Bill's dedication of Community was 2nd to March 17, 2025 - a day for ored, the detachment rec-throwing a true Irish get engraved granite stone side our headquar- ing that family, friends, and how one person could im- per Fi Bill - you will be for- pictures of honoring Bill).



service to the Corps and none. In turn, On a true Irishman to be hon- ognized Bill's memory by together and by utilizing an that will forever stand out- ters. This will be an offer- future Marines a view of pact so many others. Sem- ever missed (see attached

After hearing of the devastation, Commandant Bruce Aldrich of the John J VanGyzen Detach- ment took it upon himself to reach out to Marine Corps League Detachment 1417 Asheville, NC to see if they needed any assistance. The Det 1417 Commandant - Randy Reynolds asked if we could help one of their own. Commandant Reynolds told the story of Taylor West who lost everything but fortunately Marine West was able to huddle his family together and keep them safe as the tides washed his home away. During the John J Van Gyzen detachment meeting in Dec 2024, it was motioned to provide Ma- rine West a \$1000.00 to help Marine West in rebuilding what the West family lost. The motion was se- conded and unanimously approved to send the donation to Marine West. Marine West received his do- nation just in time for the Christmas holiday. Attached is an image of Marine West receiving his oversized check!





NEW HAMPSHIRE



Wow it is hard to believe that we have already sailed through most of winter and are now enjoying warmer weather arriving and better yet longer days to enjoy.

I very much appreciate the support that the detachment members have given me with dealing with open heart surgery to replace an aortic valve and a portion of the ascending aorta attached to it, followed a week later with a pacemaker implant. If you may have thought that I was a beehive buzz saw previously, I assure you that since my heart engine rebuild you haven't seen the best yet....good for another million miles before the potential "rebuild".

Now that this has all been accomplished it is time for me and our detachment leadership team of officers and valuable appointed positions to buckle down hard to help make 2025 an even more year of accomplishments than 2024.

We have already established a number of fun filled days of FUNdraising at three local Market Basket supermarkets as well as the Hookset Bass Pro Shop. (sign up to volunteer in the SVC segment below) We will be adding again this year the annual Manchester Rotary Car show venue on Labor Day weekend Saturday to be linked up with the local Marine recruiting command. I expect to add to our venue a local rebuilt military vehicle, along with a dunk tank and mystery balloon artist to increase crowd participation. I hope that we will also be able to have a successful detachment and guest summer picnic at a location TBD that I feel will be a great delight.

The Marine ethos:

Alieni Semel, Saepius Exertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres et Sorores in Aeternum!

Strangers Once, Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers and Sisters Forever

Quidam Dedit Omnibus

All Gave Some, Some Gave All

Commandant - Gary Gahan



NEW HAMPSHIRE

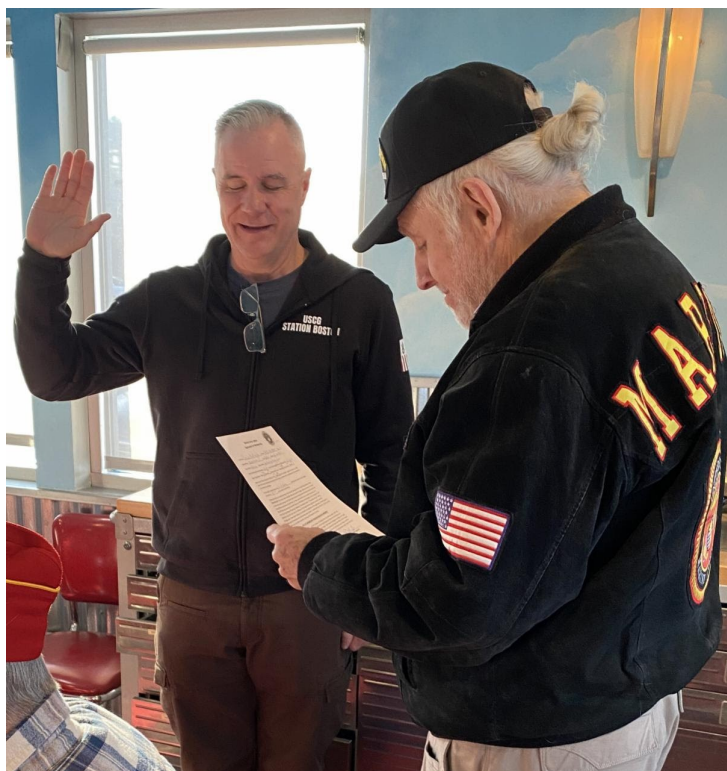


Above Swearing in of Denis Kearns at a FUN-day Breakfast.

Above Swearing in of Rich Andrus at a membership meeting.



Above Swearing in of Chris and Esther Sawyer at a FUN-day Breakfast.



Above Swearing in of Patrick McMonigle at a FUN-day Breakfast.



NEW HAMPSHIRE



GSD #542 Scholarships 2025

Scholarship Program 2025

**This Year We Are Offering Two Different
Scholarships**



**FRANK A. DIEKMANN
GRANITE STATE DETACHMENT #542
ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP**

GSD #542 member, Frank A. Diekmann, passed away on November 5, 2021. Frank was active in the Marine Corps League (Commandant of the Granite State Detachment for 2 years and Department of New Hampshire for 4 years). He was recognized as Marine of the Year for the Department of New Hampshire in 2016. It is from his dedication to veterans and the community in general that translates into why we have named our scholarship in his name.

**Frank A.
Diekmann
Scholarship**
for 2025 will
have two award
winners each
for **\$3500.**

This scholarship is open to any college bound student with a current GPA of at least 2.5 of 4.0 scale, and resides in the coverage area listed on our website and documentation, or falls into one of the other categories in our eligibility section.



NEW HAMPSHIRE



Commandant's Trade School Scholarship for 2025 will have two award winners each for **\$1000**.

Granite State Marine Corps League #542 Commandant Trade School Scholarship In Recognition of 1st Lt. Rogers Blood

The Granite State Detachment (GSD) #542 – Marine Corps League has established the **Granite State Marine Corps League #542 Commandant Trade School Scholarship** in recognition of **1st Lt. Rogers Blood** to provide, to qualified applicants who are pursuing a certificate-state issued license in such fields as: electrician, plumber, barbering, cosmetology, hair styling, truck driving, or other trade schools, as a full-time student as defined by the accredited programming of training by the state where the student will be attending.

This scholarship is open to any trade school bound student with a current GPA of at least a 2.5 of 4.0 scale, and resides in the coverage area listed on our website and documentation, or falls into one of the other categories in our eligibility section.



NEW HAMPSHIRE



COMMUNITY REPS NEEDED!!

On June 21 2025 we will be gathering at Camp Carpenter in Manchester NH for a 5K family friendly hike following the Dan Beard Trail to bring awareness to Veteran Mental Health and Suicide. We would like our community leaders and our Veteran Supporters to come together to support this awesome cause!

Put up a tent, table, or booth and show some love to our Veteran Community while also establishing contacts! Fundraising is not permitted as this is strictly an awareness event!

A huge thank you to Scouting America New Hampshire for allowing us to use their location! For more information please contact the event coordinator, Mike Martioski!



Camp Carpenter is
located at 300 Blondin
Road, Manchester NH

This is a Community Event
and Family Friendly!!
Leashed Dogs Welcome!

This is not a fundraiser.
We are coming together
to rally around our
heroes!

Free Food, Drinks and
Activities!!!

SCAN
TO
JOIN!



EVENT COORDINATOR

MIKE MARTIOSKI

mimartioski@yahoo.com

Reference 22 Until None

603.913.4959



NEW HAMPSHIRE



*** Volunteers Needed*** Fundraising Weekend

Hello GSD #542 Members,

Let's make 2025 a record-breaking year for fundraising! If each member volunteers for just two of our five upcoming events (and feel free to take on more!), we'll be on track to surpass our 2024 numbers. Your dedication has always been the backbone of our efforts, and I know Marines are ready to step up and make it happen.

Each event is just six hours long (two shifts of three hours), and time really flies when we're working together. These fundraisers are a fantastic way to connect with our community, share our mission, and attract new potential members to our cause.

Check your calendars, and use the SignUp Genius link below to secure your time slots for this important fundraising event. Let's rally together and make an impact! Can't do a three hour shift, no problem, we also need people to collect materials from the storage unit and deliver to the fundraising sites, and/or return the materials at the end of the day to the storage unit.

Do you want to volunteer, but you are not comfortable using the sign up form? No problem, have a look at the link below and email [Gary Gahan](#) what location, time, and day you want to help and we will get you added to the system.

Our first event kicks off Memorial Day Weekend at **Market Basket** and **Bass Pro Shops**, **May 24th** and **May 25th**. Mark your calendars and join the team!

Volunteers Sign Up Here

Alieni Semel, Saepius Exertus, Semper Fidelis, Fratres et Sorores in Aeternum!
Strangers Once, Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers and Sisters Forever
Quidam Dedit Omnibus
All Gave Some, Some Gave All
Commandant - Gary Gahan

You have received this email because you have subscribed for a newsletter at <https://www.granitestatemarines.com>. We will never sell or share your information, and will be used for informational purposes only. You can always unsubscribe from our mailing list, by clicking on Unsubscribe.



RHODE ISLAND



Marines and Associates,

Hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season, as we begin an exciting new year for the Marine Corps League Department of Rhode Island. I am excited to share some wonderful news about the growth of our organization and the expanding opportunities to serve our veteran community.

It is my great pleasure to announce that we have welcomed a new pound to the Military Order of the Devil Dogs (MODD) in Rhode Island – Rhode Dogs Pound 416. This expansion of our "fun and honor society" represents another step forward in our mission to foster camaraderie and provide support to our veterans throughout the state.

As we celebrate this milestone, we are also focusing on growing our membership to enhance our ability to serve. The Marine Corps League has long stood as a beacon of support for veterans, providing crucial services and maintaining the brotherhood that is so fundamental to our Marine Corps heritage. We invite you to join us in our recruitment efforts by reaching out to fellow Marines and FMF Corpsmen who might benefit from becoming part of our organization.

Your active participation in the League makes a real difference in the lives of veterans across Rhode Island. Whether through our service programs, social events, or ceremonial activities, each member contributes to our mission of serving those who have served our nation.

If you know of any potential new members or would like to become more involved in our activities, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can continue to build and strengthen our Marine Corps League community.

Semper Fidelis,



Joe Afonso, Commandant
Department of Rhode Island
New England Division
Chief of Staff
bucciatwood@rimcl.org



RHODE ISLAND



Marine Corps League Kent County Detachment

- BENEFIT COMEDY SHOW -

Presented by John Perrotta's Comedy Factory

FRIDAY, MAY 9 2025

Doors open at 6:30pm - Showtime: 7:30pm

with appearances by...



John
Perrotta



Brian
Vincent



Stephen
DeNuccio



Anthony
Brooks



Aimee
Schwab



Russ
Gelfuso

Knights of Columbus

475 Sandy Lane - Warwick, Rhode Island

Bring your own pizza, snacks • Cash bar • Raffles & 50/50

Tickets \$20pp - For tickets call 401-265-1406
visit rimcl.org, or scan the QR code

Only 175 seats available





SCRATCHING'S FROM THE DOGS



MILITARY ORDER OF DEVIL DOGS NEW ENGLAND DIVISION

VICE CHIEF DEVIL DOG

PDD Patrick T. McMahon 14-365

E: vcddmcmahon@gmail.com C: 860.222.5024



Vice Chief Devil Dog

New England Division

PDD Pat McMahon

**Attends a Boy Scout event in
New England**

**At the right the appropriate
Growl attire for a dog from the
Glawackus Pound
Woof Woof !!**





MAINE



As this year's hosting Department, the Department of Maine, has been working closely with the Division in planning the annual Quad State (New England Division) Convention. We are excited to be the hosting Department and are looking forward to both the convention, and the opportunity to meet to share ideas and fellowship with members from across our Division and beyond.

This year's convention will be held at the in the Great State of Maine at the Double Tree by Hilton Portland, located in South Portland Maine, 04106. The convention dates are Friday April 25-April 27, 2025. Assisted by our Division NVC Pat Maguire, presenters and our guest speaker have been secured. We are grateful for his assistance and are working to finalize the event schedule. Attendees are welcome to attend the full convention, or can attend as their circumstances permit. There will be a Saturday night banquet at a cost of \$65.00 per person. Registration forms for the convention, to include the hotel information, the banquet overview, the convention and banquet registration form and a form to purchase an advertisement in the convention program book can be found on the Division webpage, copies have been forwarded to MCL New England Department Commandants to disburse to their respective Detachments. Additionally, forms can be downloaded from the newly created Department of Maine website, www.marinecorpsleaguemaine.org. It is our hope that each Department, Detachments, and individual supporters and businesses in your area will purchase an advertisement in the program book. As you know the advertisement book is a big help covering the convention expenses, and we look forward to your support in this endeavor.

As mentioned above, the Department of Maine has created a new webpage, with a new web address. Our Department's new web address is www.marinecorpsleaguemaine.org. I ask that you take a moment and log into our webpage. Your visits will help us further promote the new page in the google world. The new webpage has been revised to not only highlight our Department but also all seven of our Maine local Detachments. It was designed to be an initial "one-stop" webpage for the state of Maine, and includes direct links to our local Detachments, the New England Division and our MCL National webpage. As with any new web page, please recognize that we will be making some modifications and adding more information into the future. Please feel free to link your page, to our page, in the spirit of "Gung Ho" we can have information readily available to all our members, as well as both potential future members, or those businesses and individuals that support our community programs and events (donors).

Finally, we recently installed a new Commandant in our Greater Bangor Detachment, Detachment #1151. Commandant Don Kozerow, a former Commandant for the Detachment, has returned to that role. Additionally, Commandant Kozerow, as a Pedigreed Devil Dog (PDD) is currently our Department Devil Dogs Senior Vice. Finally, Commandant Kozerow serves our Department as Judge Advocate. I congratulate Commandant Kozerow and am certain he will work to both grow and lead his Detachment with honor.

See you all in April at the Convention.



Semper Fidelis,
Peter Lubas
Commandant
Department of Maine
Phone- (908) 963-2610

Email- Flyfisherman@verizon.net
www.Marinecorpsleaguemaine.org



2025 NEW ENGLAND DIVISION QUAD STATE CONFERENCE



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

2025 NE DIVISION CONFERENCE & QUAD CONVENTION

APRIL 24, 25, & 26TH

HOTEL REGISTRATION

THE 2025 QUAD STATE CONVENTION WILL BE HELD AT THE
DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON, SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE

ADDRESS: DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON PORTLAND
363 MAINE MALL ROAD
SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE 04106

ROOM RATES: FRIDAY - \$ 129.00 + TAX
SATURDAY - \$ 129.00 + TAX
MENTION QUAD STATE CONVENTION WHEN CALLING FOR
RESERVATIONS

PHONE: TOLL FREE - 833-372-9736 (1-207-756-6510)

THE DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON PORTLAND OFFERS FULL-SERVICE ACCOMMODATIONS IN A CONVENIENT LOCATION JUST OFF I-95 DIRECTLY ACROSS MAINE'S LARGEST MALL. JUST MINUTES FROM THE WATERFRONT DISTRICT AND DOWNTOWN PORTLAND, HISTORIC OLD PORT DINING AND SHOPPING, AND PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL JETPORT(PWM), WE OFFER COMPLIMENTARY AIRPORT SHUTTLE. OUR GUEST ROOMS AND SUITES FEATURE REFRIGERATOR, MICROWAVE AND SAFES, FLAT PANEL TVS, COMPLIMENTARY WIFI AND OUR LUXURIOUS SWEET DREAMS BEDDING. HOTEL AMENITIES INCLUDE A WELL-EQUIPPED FITNESS CENTER, HEATED INDOOR POOL AND WHIRLPOOL, PET-FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATIONS AND ROOM SERVICE. OUR LOCATION MEANS PLENTY OF EATERIES, CAFES AND RESTAURANTS ARE NEARBY. FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, WE ALSO OFFER ONSITE HOTEL DINING AT NOURISH, SERVING FRESHLY PREPARED AMERICAN CUISINE AND REGIONAL FAVORITES FOR BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER. OUR GUESTS ENJOY EASY ACCESS TO DOZENS OF ATTRACTIONS, INCLUDING THE SHORES OF CASCO BAY AND OLD ORCHARD BEACH ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT, WORLD- FAMOUS L.L. BEAN AND FREEPORT OUTLET STORES, PORTLAND'S ARTS DISTRICT, HISTORIC PORTLAND HEAD LIGHT LIGHTHOUSE, VICTORIA MANSION, THE MAINE NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD CO. MUSEUM AND PORTLAND'S SHIPYARD BREWING COMPANY TOURS. WHETHER YOU TRAVEL HERE FOR BUSINESS OR LEISURE, OUR CARING HOTEL STAFF LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO PORTLAND WITH OUR SIGNATURE, WARM DOUBLETREE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE AT CHECK-IN.

SEMPER FI MARINES
FROM THE DEPT. OF MAINE MCL



2025 NEW ENGLAND DIVISION QUAD STATE CONFERENCE



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

2025 NE DIVISION CONFERENCE & QUAD STATE CONVENTION

APRIL 24, 25, & 26

ADVERTISEMENT PRICES

TO: ALL DEPARTMENTS, DETACHMENTS, POUNDS AND PACKS

THE 2025 MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NEW ENGLAND DIVISION CONFERENCE AND QUAD STATE CONVENTION WILL BE HELD APRIL 24, 25, & 26th AT DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON 365 MAINE MALL ROAD IN SOUTH PORTLAND, MAINE 04106. YOUR SUPPORT OF THE CONVENTION BY PLACING ADS IN THE PROGRAM BOOK WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

PRICE LIST

FULL PAGE-----COLOR	\$275.00	B/W	\$200.00
HALF PAGE-----COLOR	\$175.00	B/W	\$125.00
BLACK/WHITE ONLY:			
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 75.00		
BUSINESS CARD	\$ 25.00		
NAME ONLY	\$ 5.00		

SUBMIT A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH ADVERTISEMENT. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE MCL

MAIL AD W/CHECK OR EMAIL TO WACARO1@YAHOO.COM AND SEND CHECK SEPARATE

TO:

WAYNE CARON

1334 ST. JOHN ROAD

ST. JOHN PLT. MAINE 04743

PERSON SUBMITTING AD: _____ SIZE OF AD _____

ADDRESS: _____ CHECK AMOUNT _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE NO> _____

DEADLINE FOR ADS: MARCH 12, 2025----SEMPER FI



2025 NEW ENGLAND DIVISION QUAD STATE CONFERENCE



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

2025 NE DIVISION CONFERENCE & QUAD STATE CONVENTION

APRIL 24, 25, & 26

SATURDAY – 26TH APRIL 2025

SATURDAY NIGHT MEAL \$65.00 PER PERSON

MEALS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

PAID TO DEPT. OF MAINE PAYMASTER

MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 24, 2025

ENTRÉE: CHICKEN OR BEEF – VEGETABLE AND MASHED POTATOES
SERVED WITH DINNER ROLLS, COFFEE SERVICE & CHEF'S CHOICE OF DESSERT
SIDES: GARDEN SALAD (CHOICE OF DRESSING)

ENJOY YOUR MEAL

MCL DEPT. OF MAINE DETACHMENTS

KENNEBEC VALLEY DETACHMENT #599

CENTRAL MAINE DETACHMENT #810

GREATER LINCOLN DETACHMENT #976

GREATER BANGOR DETACHMENT #1151

SOUTHERN MAINE DETACHMENT #1324

MAINE LEATHERNECKS DETACHMENT #1361

MEO-BOSSE DETACHMENT #1414



2025 NEW ENGLAND DIVISION QUAD STATE CONFERENCE



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE

2025 NE DIVISION CONFERENCE & QUAD STATE CONVENTION
APRIL 24, 25, & 26

REGISTRATION & BANQUET FORMS

ALL MARINE CORPS LEAGUERS: REGISTRATION IS \$30.00/\$35.00 AFTER MARCH 1st
PAYABLE IN ADVANCE:

➤ NAME: _____

➤ ADDRESS: _____

➤ CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

➤ PHONE: _____

➤ EMAIL: _____

➤ REGISTRATION: HOW MANY? _____ @ \$30.00 = \$ _____

➤ DEVIL DOG: DOG TAG # _____ POUND: _____ PACK: _____

CHECK NO. _____ MAKE OUT TO MCL DEPT. OF MAINE AND SEND TO

DEPT. OF MAINE PAYMASTER
WAYNE CARON
1334 ST. JOHN ROAD
ST. JOHN PLT. MAINE 04743



MARINE FOR LIFE



Connect to resources and opportunities:

Whether you're just starting the transition process, or you've already made the move to civilian life, the Marine for Life Network is here to help you grow your professional network and provide the support and guidance you need to succeed beyond the military.

Strengthen your professional relationships and expand your network.: Networking is crucial in today's professional world. The Marine for Life Network facilitates your networking capabilities through two lines of effort: virtual and face-to-face communication.

Virtual: Join the [Marine for Life Network's](#) growing community of Marines, Veterans, and military community members on LinkedIn. This premier professional networking site is an excellent resource for accessing career tools, staying connected with peers, and developing your professional brand. To connect, start by setting up a profile and joining a Marine for Life regional net-

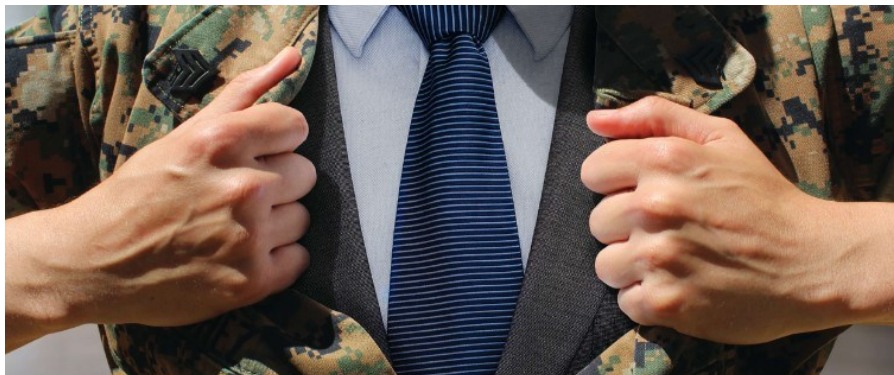
work group.

Face-to-Face: More than 70 Marine for Life Representatives serves our program as

hometown links. These representatives create a bridge between the military and civilian communities across the nation, connecting you to military-friendly job op-

portunities, career resources, and networking events. Your local representative will help you build relationships and explore employment, education, and community resources in your current area or the area where you plan to move.

Military Spouses too! The Marine for Life Network is committed to helping military spouses build relationships and connections that can benefit them in both their personal and professional lives. By leveraging the power of the Marine for Life Network, military spouses can tap into a wider network of employers, academic institutions, entrepreneurship resources, and more!





MARINE 4 LIFE



MARINE FOR LIFE NETWORK

Connecting transitioning Marines and their family members to education resources, employment opportunities, and other Veterans services that aid in their career and life goals outside of military service.

ONCE A MARINE,
ALWAYS A MARINE!

Marine for Life Network can guide your search for:



**Career & Technical
Opportunities**



**Educational
Opportunities**



**Entrepreneurial
Endeavors**

NETWORKING IS KEY

Linked in





Our online network utilizes LinkedIn to help Marines network with one another and connect with employers who want to hire Marines.


Face to Face Network



We focus on connecting Marine Veterans to local and national resources, as well as encouraging networking through Marine For Life events and meet ups.

 [company/marine-for-life-network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/marine-for-life-network)

 marineforlife.org

 866-645-8762

 [/MarineForLifeNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/MarineForLifeNetwork)

WOUNDED WARRIOR REGIMENT

WWR Fact Sheet

District Injured Support Coordinators & Field Support Representatives

District Injured Support Coordinators (DISCs) and Field Support Representatives (FSRs) are an integral part of the Wounded Warrior Regiment's (WWR) support structure. They act as a conduit to Marine Corps, Veterans Affairs (VA), and civilian resources for Marines recovering away from a military installation or transitioning to veteran status. DISCs are Marine reservists and FSRs are contract support geographically dispersed to provide assistance and community liaison where needed.

The goal of DISCs and FSRs is to return well adjusted wounded, ill, or injured (WII) Marine veterans to their communities with the knowledge and skills to self-advocate and assist other WII Marines.

What Services do DISCs and FSRs offer?

- Outreach through calls or face-to-face contact with WII Marines and their families requiring assistance.
- Assistance with accessing VA and community resources.
- Facilitate veteran medical care through VA patient advocates or OIF/OEF Coordinators.
- Information on family and caregiver support services (i.e. respite care, scholarship opportunities, counseling support).
- Access to education and employment resources in their local communities (i.e. resume development, interview skills, network/employment opportunities, and application completion).
- Support in working with representatives from medical facilities, the VA, legal authorities, businesses, and non-profit organizations.
- Immediate access to the WWR's medical section and VA for psychological health resources and support, including referrals to local resources to ensure WII Marines receive timely and appropriate care.

Who They Support

- Marines transitioning to veteran status
- Reserve Marines
- Marines recovering in remote locations away from military or federal resources
- TDRL/PDRL Marines

Where They are Located

DISCs and FSRs are geographically dispersed across the country and are generally collocated with VA-operated medical centers, vet centers, and outpatient clinics offering primary and specialized care.

Related Fact Sheets

- Wounded Warrior Regiment Call Center
- Medical Section
- Transition
- Recovery Care Coordinator

MSgt Charles You
District Injured Support
Coordinator (DSC)

508-740-4331

Charles.you.mil@usmc.mil



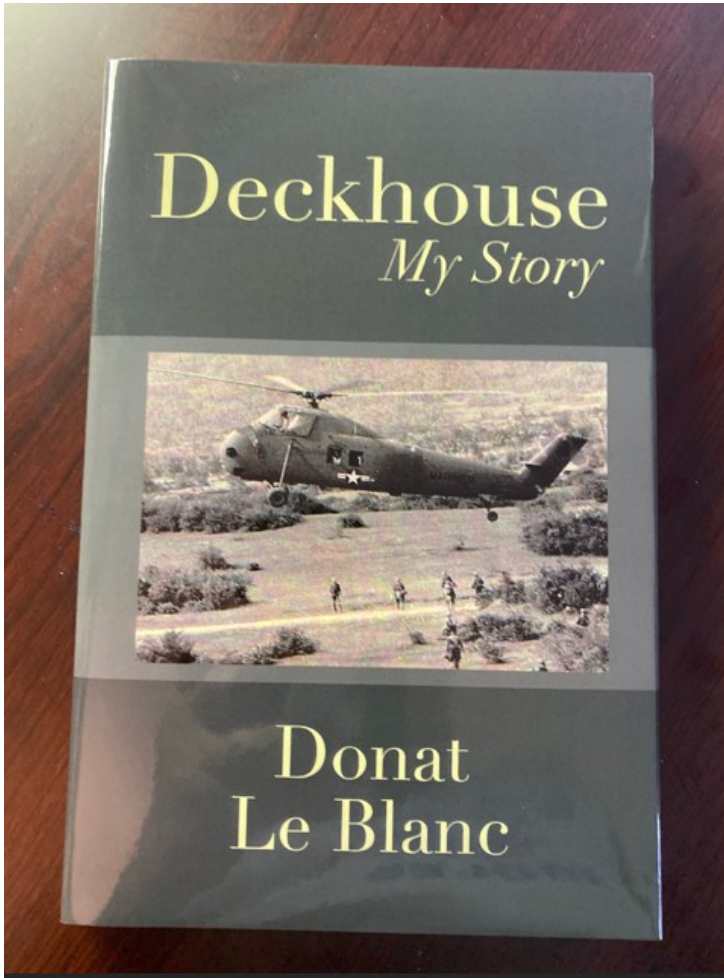
Fact Sheet: Transition
Released: 03012018v2



"I cast my words upon the wind, of things I wish to tell my friends"



On this page we will publish the works of Marines who have written novels or poetry that they wish to share either in segments here or a short description and information to purchase the book. We welcome the works of all members. Not all work will appeal to all members but your work will appeal to a member.



I published my life story in 2022 it was reviewed in th Semper Fi magazine as well as the VFW Magazine in 2022. Also, recorded in the Library of Congress on August 3, 2022.

A true story of hardship and and overcoming disability. A life member of the Marine Corps League former Adjutant and current Paymaster of Detachment #1399.

Donat J. "Dan" Le Blanc

CPTHOOK@COMCAST.NET

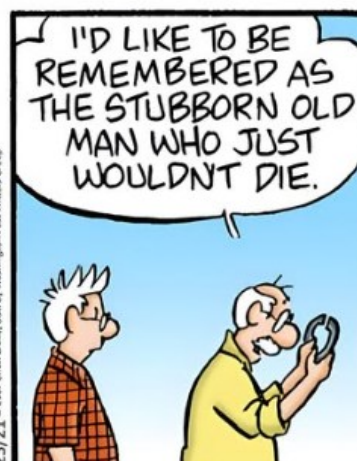
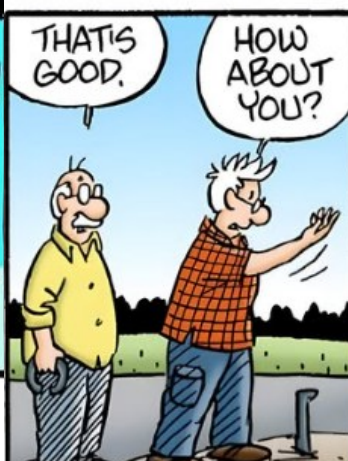
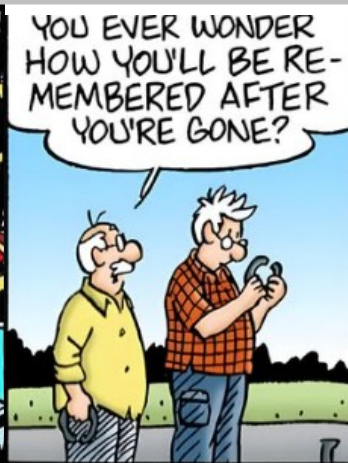
This space is here to promote what you have written, to show your friends and foes as well the strengths that you are made of. As you publish here or there you expose yourself to judgement. But this is what its all about to test your inner talents. As you read this you should discover that this is but another poem. To show to all that are afraid that all your fears are quite unfounded. Because as you put each letter on the page you leave your fear behind you. So write your words and share your thoughts but you always must remember, words and thoughts come from the heart that's what your readers crave for.



HUMOR AROUND THE DIVISION



"ALL THIS DIDN'T COST A CENT, DAD... MOM USED YOUR CREDIT CARD."



I DRINK COFFEE



SO THAT I CAN DO
STUPID THINGS
FASTER WITH MORE
ENERGY



SAD NEWS

Please join me in remembering YET ANOTHER great icon of the entertainment community. The Pillsbury Dough Boy died yesterday of a yeast infection and traumatic complications from repeated pokes to the belly. He was 71. Dough Boy is survived by his wife, Play Dough three children, John Dough, Jane Dough and Dill Dough, plus they had one in the oven. Service were held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes



Building a strong relationship to secure the future

As a member of the Marine Corps Association, you will be well-connected with the Corps with MCA's membership benefits:

Resources:

[Leatherneck – Magazine of the Marines and The Marine Corps Gazette](#) are our monthly flagship publications that feature valuable information from the Corps. Members can select print and/or digital issues and can access more than one hundred years of issues of both magazines online for free. Non-members do not have access to our Magazine archives. [Click here](#) to see sample issues.

- [The MARINE Shop](#) is our retail store that assists Marines with their uniform requirements regardless of rank and offers many Marine Corps themed gifts and apparel.

MCA Group Insurance Program features valuable insurance products with your needs in mind – all backed by an association you can trust. We leverage the buying power of our MCA members to bring you competitive group rates and offer one convenient source for the following products:

[Term Life Insurance](#)

[TRICARE Supplement](#)

[Dental Insurance](#)

[Vision Insurance](#)

[Pet Insurance](#)

[Long-Term Care Insurance](#)

[Medicare Insurance Plans](#)

[Individual and Family Health Insurance Plans](#)



To learn more about the benefits of the Marine Corps Association Group Insurance Program, [Click Here](#) or call (800) 845-4685.

Networking Opportunities:

Discounted [Professional Events](#): Our members receive discounted rates for our MCA professional dinners and events held annually throughout the Corps. Our dinners provide members with access to senior leaders of the Marine Corps, Department of Defense, and industry. Active-duty members can attend for free.

Professional Development:

[MCA Battle Study Packages](#): Members will have access to all of our Battle Study Packages and learn from the lessons of the battles of the past to excel in the Corps battlefields of the future.

[MCA Decision-Making Exercises](#): Members can practice solving issues to increase their ability to make decisions through dozens of tactical and ethical decision games

[MCA Corps Voices](#): Hear the Corps' icons from Chesty Puller to Alexander Vandegrift to Al Gray discuss issues, challenges, and battlefield tactics in these audio excerpts recorded over the last one hundred years.





RECRUITING "IT'S JOB ONE"!!

Walt Benson



The Marine Corps League is Looking for a Few Good Marines

Hello Marines , the warm weather is rapidly approaching and so are the opportunities for recruiting. What is the one thing you hear over and over when you try to get new Marines to join us? I have no time I have to spend time with the kids and family. Then lets do that. Let's take a break for the Good of the League. Let's have fun. This will not be a fundraiser but rather a FUN RAISER. Make the price minimal or free. I have been to a few Family Fun Days and guess what they are fun and have something for everyone. Supply the hotdogs and hamburgers, some drinks and let people bring other dishes if they so desire. Maybe some wiffle ball games and definitely a bouncy, every Marine Loves a bouncy.

We can invite any Marine or Veteran interested in being a member and their families. Run an ad on the social media outlets and maybe a local paper. Show people we are not just all work that there is a fun side to what we do and family is a big part of it. We can also purchase a cake and have the 250th Birthday be a big part of our summer festivities as well. This way your family



DO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

JOIN THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

**MARINES
WANTED**

FIND A DETACHMENT
[HTTPS://WWW.MCLNATIONAL.ORG/FIND-A-DETACHMENT.HTML](https://www.mclnational.org/find-a-detachment.html)



will get to join in the celebration.

When these new Marines attend please spend some time welcoming them to our League and asking them what they would like to see happen in the league as far as activities that we will focus on and take part in. Take lots of pictures so that when we put out the next newsletter their family is part of that newsletter taking part in all the activities.

Lastly, please exchange contact information so that we can continue to communicate to our perspective members through contact and the newsletter.

Walt Benson



Are You Ready?



Mike & Kay Ross
Albert E. Shockey Detachment #960
Kokomo, Indiana



Tribe@MCLeague.org
www.mclnational.org

Toys For Tots • Color Guard • Young Marines
Funeral Honors • Preserve Traditions



DIVISION SPOTLIGHT



In each Issue I would like to focus on Marines that are bringing their A GAME to the Division and our mission. I would ask that Detachment and Department Commandants, as well as Pack Leaders send in their choices of Members and Dogs who deserve recognition for the work they do and the contributions they make to our success. You should describe their contributions and why they are being recognized , since you know them the best.

Before I start let me apologize for not knowing more of the women who have served as Marines and that noting their service here I am really not qualified to tell their story. But, be that as it may, I feel it is past time that someone tries and I will make an effort to at least open the door. When we have banquets we hear from many General and although they speak well and entertain us with their stories they do not do justice to the women who have made this journey with us since the 1940's. What an amazing story it must be to know all the details and growth these women have experienced. The recent story of SgtMaj Maness, gave me the push I needed to explore this topic.



But we have our own heroes in our division and they are all women that it is my honor to know. All of these women who served gallantly in our beloved Corps now serve with honor and distinction in our Marine Corps League. Each Marine embraces her own values and desire to promote the ac-



complishments of the Women of the Corps. Maybe in a banquet yet to come we can convince our very own Marines, who have accomplished so much can be persuaded to share their stories and define women in the Marine Corps. I think back to the time I was in and look at where we have come since then. I think about going from secretaries marching in dresses and shoes to Marines filling many post and leadership roles beyond what ever could have

Adele Hodges current commandant Since the Corps is a Family her sis- Jamie Depaola who works tireless-jects including Backpacks for Life. Jane Deptula who serves in many the yearly service for the four chap-



be expected. We have Col. Bridgeport Detachment . ter Rosena Taylor. SgtMaj ly on many veterans pro- And bringing up the rear our Division Chaplain ways including lains celebration.



Like I said in the beginning I could not begin to do these women Jus- going forward from today it is my hope that their story will be told to note the tion that their service has provided Marines Semper Fidelis it is my honor to acknowledge you in the Spotlight.

Walt Benson



doing tice but distinc-



2025

APRIL

2025



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18	19
20 Easter	21	22	23	24 Quad State Division Conference	25	26
27	28	29	30			



2025

MAY

2025



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Memorial Day Weekend						



NATIONAL CONVENTION



2025 MCL Convention

Hyatt Regency DFW International Airport

**WE ARE SAVING
A SEAT
FOR YOU**

HYATT REGENCY DFW AIRPORT

2334 N. INTERNATIONAL PKWY

DFW AIRPORT TX 75261

PHONE FOR RESERVATIONS

1-800-233-1234 Group CODE G=MCL5

MONDAY AUG 11 TO FRIDAY AUG 15

RATES ARE \$159,

PARKING IS FREE

SCHEDULE





CLASSIFIED SECTION



HELP WANTED

Department of CT— Is seeking a Paymaster. The Paymaster is one of most important positions in the Department. No Department can function or conduct any business without a paymaster. One need not be

FILLED

able to function as an accountant you need only to be able to balance a check-book and care. It is an opportunity to move up in the league and serve at a higher level. You will learn more about how things work in the league than in any other job

Department of CT— Is seeking an Americanism Chair. Your duties would include overseeing the Departments participation and entries into the Americanism program.

Department of CT— Is seeking a VAVS NORTH and VAVS SOUTH. These position have been open for a while there are training videos available on the National Website.

Department of CT— Is seeking a Sergeant-at-Arms.

Department of CT— Is seeking a Boy scout Liaison

Department of CT— Is seeking a Youth Physical Fitness liaison to make contact with schools to set up the program and help out wherever needed.

Department of CT— Is seeking a Historian

Department of CT— Is seeking a Legislative Officer

Department of CT— Is seeking a Scholarship Chair

New England Division— is seeking a Historian, who will take over keeping the history and accomplishments of the Division.

New England Division— is seeking a Legal Advisor and for this position you would need skills to advise the Division on all legal matters.

New England Division— is seeking a Auxiliary Liaison . This position needs to be filled by a strong individual who would basically bring the Auxiliary back to life. You would need good communication skills as well as drive and ambition.

New England Division— is seeking a seeking a Youth Physical Fitness liaison to make contact with schools to set up the program and help out wherever needed.

New England Division— is seeking a seeking a Compliance Officer. To follow up on Department and Detachment. IRS 990's and Incorporation reports

HELP WANTED

Each edition I will list any job a Department has that is open. We need to encourage Marines to step up and fill these positions. Many people think that those of us that hold positions have some special skills that allow us to do these things we do but that is not true. WE are all here because we feel we have more to offer and more to do. We appreciate that you come to the meetings but think how much more you could help by stepping up. I think by now I have heard just about every excuse to why people can't do things but you can and that is a conversation you need to have with yourself. No one ever joined the Marine Corps because they thought there were easy no stress jobs here. There are jobs listed here that if not filled would prevent a Department from functioning. There are only two people authorized to handle money in the Department one is the Commandant the other is the Paymaster. These are the only two people that can sign checks, the only two people listed on the accounts for banking and scholarship. What are your special skills? Ou Can deposit money in the bank write checks and keep the checkbook balanced. There are other jobs that are just as important but this is the one I know the best right now. When I took it I did so in a situation similar to this there was a new commandant coming in and I did not want them to struggle or be limited. We need someone to do this again.

Youth Physical Fitness liaison is another position that we are desperately seeking to fill. If you were a teacher or a coach you may have the connections we need to get this program off the ground. I have some ideas that are being used in other states by people, we need people here with connections to help implement them. I am sorry that I didn't give more notice but this was a last minute idea by someone who is desperate to bring us back to where we were. It is time to come off the sidelines your brothers and sisters need you now more than ever. I'm pretty sure I learned this in bootcamp when I was tired the DI said sleep when your dead. So in the future send us your open jobs better yet send us your Marines.

Walt Benson

AND ON THE
8th DAY
GOD CREATED
MARINES
THE DEVIL
GROANED AND
SAID, "OH SHIT"



Regardless of the situation, the Marine Corps has an answer for almost everything.

A Marines Prayer

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer.
Amen

2025 MCL Convention

Hyatt Regency DFW International Airport

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DFW AIRPORT TX 75261

PHONE FOR RESERVATIONS

1-800-233-1234 Group CODE G=MCL5

MONDAY AUG 11 TO FRIDAY AUG 15

RATES ARE \$159,

PARKING IS FREE

WORD OF THE DAY

Over the centuries, certain Latin phrases have been used widely enough in English to get included in the dictionary. This is one of the favorites:

Semper Fidelis

sem-per fi-dey-lis;

"Always faithful"

These two words have long served as motto for families, schools, and organizations – most famously, since 1883, for the United States Marine Corps.

EXAMPLE:

He will receive the Semper Fidelis Award for his support of the Marine Corps University Foundation.

Source:
Merriam-Webster Dictionary - <http://bit.ly/1evC7oa>

Image Source:
barrykibrick.files.wordpress.com