



December 2025 — January 2026

LASKEY'S TELEGRAPH



Newsletter of The New England Division of The Marine Corps League Vol. 5 Issue 2



Message From The Division Commandant



Dear Marines,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoyed time with family and friends!

November was an exceptionally special month as we celebrated the 250th birthday of our Marine Corps. It's a milestone that reminds us of the proud history, tradition, and sacrifice that define our Corps. I had the privilege of attending several celebrations throughout New England, and I was truly inspired by the energy, camaraderie, and dedication of our League members. During these events, I had the opportunity to meet so many of you—the heart and soul of our Detachments. I heard firsthand about the remarkable work being done in communities across the region. From supporting veterans and their families to running community programs and local events, you embody the Marine Corps League's mission in every sense of the word. It makes me proud to see our members stepping up, day after day, to serve and support others.

Many of our members are modest and don't seek recognition for their hard work—but the truth is, your contributions deserve to be celebrated. That's why Laskey's Telegraph exists: to give every Detachment a platform to share achievements, milestones, and stories that inspire others.

Whether it's a community service project, a fundraiser, or a local initiative, your efforts matter. Don't be afraid to brag a little—your accomplishments are worth sharing, and your peers will be inspired by

your example. So go ahead... BRAG!

As we move into December and the holiday season, it's a perfect time to reflect on what we've accomplished together and to appreciate the people around us. The League is more than an organization—it's a family. And like any family, the support, dedication, and pride we share make all the difference.

This Christmas season, I want to extend my warmest wishes to each of you and your families. May your holidays be filled with joy, laughter, and the spirit of giving. Take a moment to cherish the memories, the traditions, and the simple pleasures that make this

time of year so special. And as we close out this year, let's carry the same enthusiasm, camaraderie, and Marine Corps pride into 2026. There's no doubt that with your dedication and commitment, the League will continue to thrive and make an impact in every community we serve.

Thank you for all that you do—your efforts make a difference, and together we embody the Semper Fidelis spirit every single day.

Semper Fidelis

Patrick Maguire
National Vice Commandant
New England Division
Marine Corps League





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WHAT SHOULD I SUBMIT?

This is your Newsletter, so anything you think others might be interested in, please share it here. Look at the categories, Departments, Toy for Tots, Devil Dogs, Taps, Birthdays, Sick, Personal writings, Upcoming Events, Help Wanted, History, League and Marine Corps, 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 all 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 are more topics but this is a good start.

Walt Benson

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

When sending pictures, please include names and what you and your detachment are doing.



FROM THE EDITOR



A STORY WORTH TELLING

For quite a few years now the Commandants Birthday Message has been a well done and inspiring video message. This year was no exception; however, this being the 250th Birthday I feel they took the extra step. There is something in that message for everyone. It starts with the continental Marines and goes inspiring to look at the modern weapons and matter the battle, conflict or war, IT IS THE ENCE. The Marine, you, me, those who came those that step up today, tomorrow and 250 that makes the difference. We don't join the heard the quote, We stand on the shoulders of history realized this and made provisions be we take off the uniform. General John Lejeu-Marine Corps, created the Marine Corps our country could continue. But General Marine Corps, supplied the crown jewel in the



title "Marine" has value that lasts a lifetime. From our first day serving, we have experienced life differently than most, as the trust our Nation places in us—lives in us. We live each day committed to a common cause that fulfills a collective sense of purpose and belonging that is shared by all who have earned the right to fight in this uniform. Imbued by a calling many have heard, but ingrained with a fighting spirit few possess, we are Marines. And with those we fight with by our side, we lead our Nation forward—while defending the ideals promised long ago to all who call themselves Americans. We are able to enjoy the way of life we defend, as well as the pride that comes by doing it, as United States Marines". "Once A Marine Always A Marine", it is a commitment to all those who came before us the we will stand the watch. We will safeguard our communities and support our fellow Marines in any way that is needed

Our goal is to live a life worthy of the giants who came before us as their successors. From the day we earned the Eagle Globe and Anchor, we took on a responsibility that would withstand the test of time. We did not join the Marine Corps, we are the Marine Corps. We are part of a culture of greatness, a heritage of warrior ethos, and when we lose track of them we can find them in each other. As members of the League we are already meeting the challenges we face every day but our numbers are dwindling and the need is great. As a society we seem to be going in the wrong direction. Volunteerism is down, all the branches of the military face recruiting issues except the Marines, it says no one cares. However if you remember from the video as they fought through each era, the WWI marine crouching in the fox-hole under the shelling a hand from a WWII Marine reaches back and helps him up and brings him forward, because that is what we do, for our community and our brothers and sisters. As we celebrate this historic Birthday lets refocus and take those first steps into the next 250 years with the warrior ethos which we have lived by thus far, let us focus on what is ahead. What can we do to serve. As Marines we are challenged every day, by the history of our Corps, those giants who went before us, to uphold the standard that the title Marine demands. As a Marine we are probably the only branch of the Armed Forces, where if some one calls out Hey Marine!!, Every Marine will turn and respond from the

not just for todays Marines, in fact, the video through every era right up to present day. It is the various upgrades, but the message is no MARINE THAT WILL MAKE THE DIFFER-before us all the way back to Tun's Tavern, to years from today, it will always be the Marine Marines , we become Marines. Everyone has the giants who came before us. People in our cause they knew that this does not end when ne, in 1923, the 13th Commandant of The League where the comradery and service to James Amos, The 35th Commandant of the definition of what a Marine is. "Earning the

Commandant to the newest Private. So when the celebrations end let us get up brush ourselves off and go back to work embracing a pride that only we few have.

Semper Fidelis

Walt Benson





MARINE CORPS MARATHON



On a cool October morning, just days before our beloved Corps 250th Birthday, the fiftieth Marine Corps Marathon began with 40,000 runners, a new record. However, the most significant factor was that two of New England's own were First Time Participants in the race. Mike Hinds, Assistant National Vice Commandant and David Porter Jr., National Jr. Vice Commandant started and finished the race. Well done sirs, SEMPER FIDELIS MARINES.



On this National Running Day, I'd like to highlight a core element of the Marine Corps Marathon Organizations mission: promoting physical fitness as the foundation of a healthy, fulfilling life.

Research shows that a sedentary lifestyle can cause lasting cardiovascular damage as early as our late 30s. In contrast, regular aerobic activity—like running—not only protects heart health but also elevates mood, enhances creativity, and fosters a sense of well-being.

Running is more than just exercise; it's a long-term commitment to resilience, longevity, and improved quality of life. And when guided by a clear goal—like training for a race—it becomes a purposeful practice. That goal brings structure, motivation, and the consistency needed to fully realize the benefits running offers.

While running isn't only about crossing a finish line, preparing for one may be one of the most meaningful ways we can show up for ourselves—day after day.

Alex Hetherington, MCMO Race Director



MARINE CORPS MARATHON

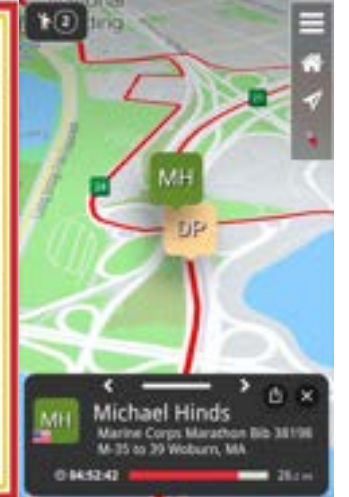


Far Left: NJR.Vice David Porter meditating for the race, or napping which-ever you are buying right now.
Left and Above: Gear issue for the big race.



Some photo ops: L. NJR.Vice David Porter, Center NJR.Vice David Porter, & Liz Anderson, R: NJR.Vice David Porter & Friends.

To The Right Course Map, and map for MA. Commandant Mike Hinds





MARINE CORPS MARATHON



Pre Race Assessment And when there are only 2 supporters for 2 runners you need to be creative



And so it begins





MARINE CORPS MARATHON



This is what it looks like when purpose meets action



2

Finished

Michael Hinds
Marine Corps Marathon Bib 38198 M-35 to 39 Woburn,...
Avg. Pace: 14:50 min/mile

David Porter
Marine Corps Marathon Bib 38690 M-50 to 54 Medf...
Avg. Pace: 15:07 min/mile



MARINE CORPS MARATHON

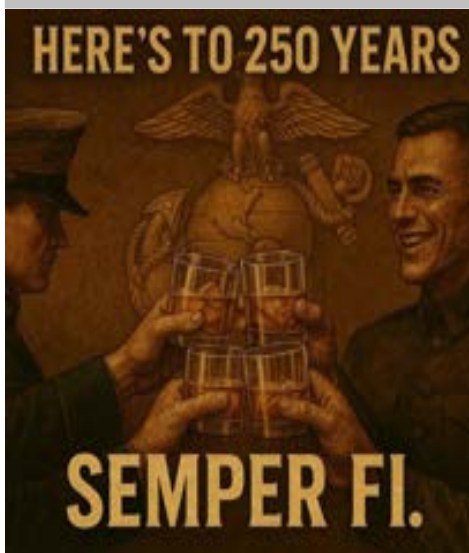


IN the end if you run and finish you are a winner and this is not a participation medal.

Great Job Guys!! So Proud!!



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER FI DINNER BOSTON



Seaport Hotel Boston



Gen John Kelly USMC Ret. & National JR Vice Commandant David Porter



National JR Vice Commandant David Porter & Maj Gen Austin "Sparky" Renforth, USMC Ret.



Dir. Todd Lyons, National JR Vice Commandant David Porter, Founder & Chairman of the Semper Fi Society Boston, Tom Lyons.



National JR Vice Commandant David Porter, Gen. John Jack Sheehan, USMC Ret. Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, NATO Commander and Chief

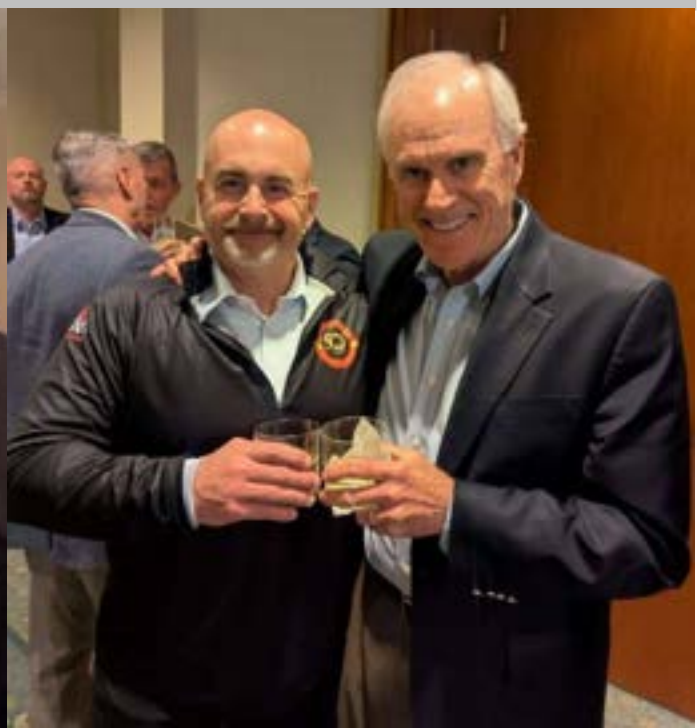




NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER FI DINNER BOSTON



National JR Vice Commandant David Porter & Galvin C. Murphy



National JR Vice Commandant David Porter & 76th Secretary of The Navy Richard Spencer



National JR Vice Commandant David Porter, Gen. Christopher J Mahoney Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Liz Anderson.



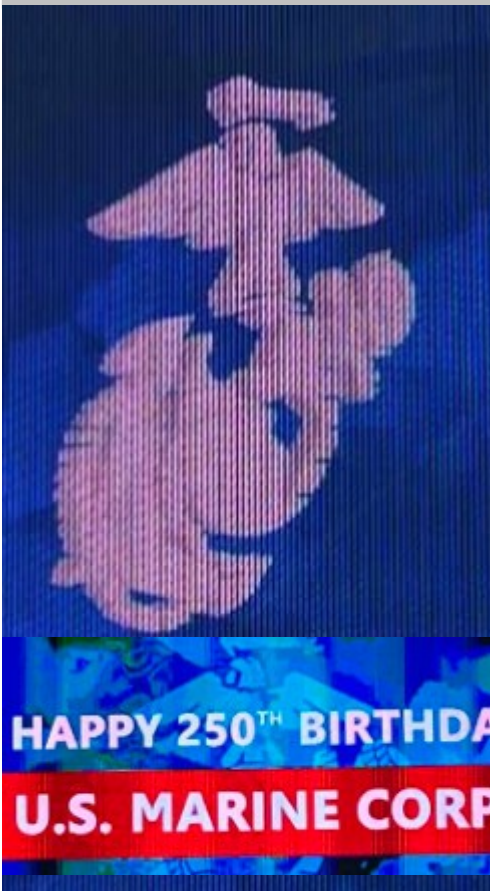
National JR Vice Commandant David Porter, MA. State Police Col. G. Noble, Sgt. Barret



Liz Anderson, & Bob Ticehurst



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER PARATI LUNCHEON BOSTON



Walt Benson Senior Vice Commandant Dept of CT. Rich Daigle Commandant Dept of CT.



The Pipes Starts us off and it is significant as the Band is not present due to the Government Shut down

Followed by the introduction of dignitaries, and the Cake. The Cake Ceremony begins. The First piece goes to the Guest of Honor, Gen. Christopher J Mahoney Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. The next piece to the The Oldest Marine present, Louis Tazner, who is 105 years old. The Oldest Marine feeds the youngest Marine to signify the passing of Knowledge. Far right Medal of Honor Recipient Harvey C Barnum Jr. Offered the toast for the 350 th Birthday.





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER FI LUNCHEON BOSTON



PNC Warren Griffin, NVCDD, New England Division Pat McMahon, Division Adjutant Walt Benson, Teri Benson, Dept of RI Chief of Staff Wayne Salisbury, Sr. Vice Commandant Dept of RI, Keitty Almonte, Rich Daigle, Commandant Dept of CT



Division Aide De Campe, Larry Chretien, Division Photographer Peter King, Young Marines board Member Terri Laskey.

James Wall New Hampshire

Tun Tavern : Where it all began





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER FI LUNCHEON BOSTON



Above Left: Gen. Christopher J Mahoney Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks to the Marines.

Top Right: National JR Vice Commandant David Porter with Gen. Christopher J Mahoney Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, discussing the medal from the Marine Corps Marathon.



Bottom Left: National JR Vice Commandant David Porter, with Gunny Claus, who also ran in the Marine Corps Marathon.



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER FI DINNER BOSTON



Congratulations, Tommy Lyons, presented with the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award, by the 76th Secretary of The Navy Richard Spencer, during the Semper Fidelis Luncheon in Boston. Tommy founded the Boston Semper Fidelis Society. He has organized the annual luncheons in honor of the Marine Corps birthday for decades. He was instrumental in the creation of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial. He has been active in many charitable organizations. God bless you, Tommy. Semper Fi



Left: National JR Vice Commandant David Porter with Medal of Honor Recipient, Harvey Curtiss "Barney" Barnum Jr. Col USMC Ret.

Right: Is his Challenge Coin





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER FI LUNCHEON BOSTON



Poolies, overcoming the hazing by 2100 Marines assemble to take the oath administered by Gen. Christopher J Mahoney Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.



2100 Marines were in attendance for the 250th Birthday of the Marine Corps In Boston, That many Marines could conquer the world.



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SEMPER FI LUNCHEON BOSTON



Steve Plouffe, NVC Pat Maguire, Christian Plouffe, Ed Clegg, Paul Campbell Jr. Scott Ward, Bill Maguire, Set Mansur, Jon Ouellette.

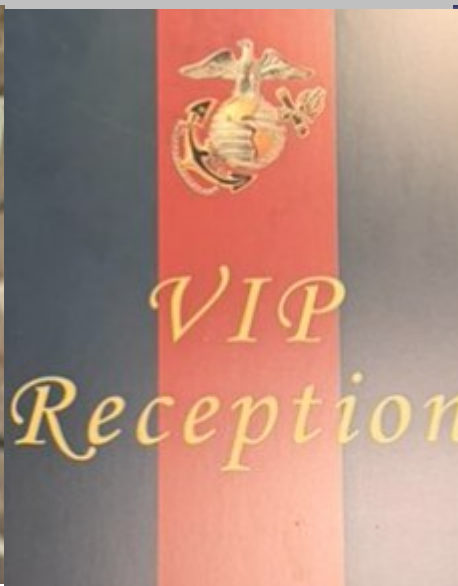
COMING SOON!
THE TUN TAVERN SIGN UNVEILING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH AT NOON
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WWW.TUNTAVERN.COM



COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Tickets to The Ball



VIP RECEPTION



IWO JIMA SURVIVOR &
Oldest Marine 99



The Honorable 62nd CDD,
PDD Joe DeAngelo, & Barb
DeAngelo



The National Commandant of the
Marine Corps League TJ Morgan,
& Nils Mockler, Iwo Jima Survivor
99 years old



The Honorable 62nd CDD, PDD
Joe DeAngelo, & Nils Mockler,
Iwo Jima Survivor 99 years old





COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



**SSGT Josh Minton & The Honorable
62nd CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo.**



**The National Commandant of the Ma-
rine Corps League TJ Morgan, &
Shane Morgan**



**The Vice Presi-
dents Challenge
Coin.**



**The 20th SGTMAJ of The Marine
Corps Carlos Ruiz & The Honora-
ble 62nd CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo.**



**Barb DeAngelo, The 20th
SGTMAJ of The Marine Corps
Carlos Ruiz & First Sgt. An-
drea Ruiz, USMC Ret.**



**Medal of Honor Recipient Dakota
Meyer & The Honorable 62nd
CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo**





COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



The Honorable 62nd CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo, National JR Vice Commandant David Porter, National Judge Advocate Bruce Rakfeldt, & Barb DeAngelo



The Honorable 62nd CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo, National JR Vice Commandant David Porter, National Judge Advocate Bruce Rakfeldt



National JR Vice Commandant David Porter The Honorable 62nd CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo



Barb DeAngelo, The Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen Eric Smith, & The Honorable 62nd CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo,



Barb DeAngelo & The Vice President of The United States JD Vance





COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Gen Eric Smith, Commandant of The Marine Corps & National JR Vice Commandant of The MCL David Porter



The Vice President of The United States JD Vance



Gen Eric Smith, Commandant of The Marine Corps



National Commandant of The Marine Corps League TJ Morgan, The 20th SGTMAJ of The Marine Corps Carlos, Ruiz, Medal of Honor Recipient Dakota Meyer, Shane Morgan.



Trinkets from the Commandants Ball.



COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



The Honorable 62nd CDD, PDD Joe DeAngelo, Barb DeAngelo, Carmella Miller, National SR Vice Commandant Russ Miller, National Commandant of MCL TJ Morgan, Shane Morgan, COO MCL, Bob Borka, National JR Vice Commandant David Porter< Missing Liz Anderson



National Commandant of MCL TJ Morgan & Chief of Staff for The Office of Legislative Affairs, Col. Randall Jones.



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION TOYS FOR TOTS



Austin Dillon races to #DriveHope!





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION VSO WANTED



New England Division Seeking a Veteran Services Officer (VSO) The New England Division is seeking a dedicated Veteran Services Officer (VSO). This vital role is focused on serving and advocating for U.S. Marine Corps Veterans, as well as Veterans of all U.S. Armed Forces, their families, and survivors. The VSO ensures that Veterans and their families receive the Department of Veterans Affairs, state, local government, and non-government benefits to which they are entitled.

Every other Division in the League currently has a VSO, providing essential support to Veterans in their regions. With the leadership of Director Philip Du and the accredited VSOs across the League, countless Veterans and their families are already benefiting from their guidance and expertise. The New England Division is eager to fill this important position and continue expanding the League's mission of service to Veterans. If you are committed to advocating for Veterans and have the dedication to make a meaningful impact in the New England community, we encourage you to begin the process of becoming a VSO.

For more information click on the link below:

[Veteran Services – Marine Corps League](#)

Please contact: NVC Patrick Maguire with any questions or if you're interested in the VSO position.



CONNECTICUT



The United States Marine Corps is now in its 251st year of dedicated and honorable service. And we, as Marine Corps League members, have been upholding the Corps' traditions for over 101 years. Take pride in your status as regular and associate members.

Many of us participated in celebrations of the Marine Corps' 250th birthday – from Boston to multiple cities in Connecticut. The Department was honored to host a ceremonial cake-cutting event in the rotunda of the state capitol building, part of the 50-state celebration coordinated by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. Departments all over the country held similar celebratory gatherings in their state capitals, mostly in their state capitol buildings.

Kudos to our organizational committee of Walt Benson, Peter DePaola, Skip Hamel, and Adele Hodges for putting on this wonderful event. Thank you all.

Attendance was sparse due to the federal shutdown, but those who attended were energetic. Present were representatives from:

- Brass City Detachment
- Greater Bridgeport Detachment
- Hardware City Detachment
- Housatonic Detachment
- Peter P Monaco Jr Detachment
- Thames River Detachment
- Valley Detachment

and one Member-at-Large.

Our emcee was Adele Hodges, Colonel, USMC (retired & Commandant, Greater Bridgeport Detachment) who introduced Renee Harvey, USMC veteran, who sang a rousing

rendition of our National Anthem. Thank you, Renee.

We had several guest speakers:

- Ron Welch, BGen, US Army (retired), Commissioner of the CT Department of Veterans Affairs
- Jaime Foster, CT General Assembly, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee Co-chair
- State Senator Cathy Osten, Member of the Veterans and Military Affairs Committee
- and Guest-of-Honor State Senator Paul Honig, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee Co-chair

Thank you to Marines Ulysses Carr and Jack Dougherty, in their dress blues, who escorted the cake.

Special thanks to Andres Lazo, 1stSgt USMC, I&I, F Company, 2/25 from Plainville, who took leave from his duties to participate. He narrated the cutting of the cake and spoke about the significance of the ceremony. Our oldest Marine was 101-year-old Iwo Jima survivor Joe Caminiti; the youngest was 40-year-old 1stSgt Lazo.

Extra-special thanks to the first Connecticut State Troubadour, Marine Tom Callinan, dressed in colonial Marine garb, who led us in the Marines' Hymn, *all three verses*, to close the event.

Cake was then served under the Capitol Rotunda by Jamie DePaola, SgtMaj, USMC (retired). Thanks, Jamie.

I sincerely appreciate everyone who attended and participated in this very special event.

COMMANDANTS, if you haven't submitted your Paid Life Member audit, the absolute is fast-approaching. The audit must be submitted absolutely, positively no later than 31 December 2025. Better git'er done or your Detachment will forfeit any chance for reimbursement from the PLM fund in 2026.

Semper Fidelis.

Rich Daigle
Commandant



CONNECTICUT



MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING AT THE CAPITAL

On November 10th Marines of The Department of Connecticut gathered at the State Capital to celebrate our 250th Birthday. Twenty five Marines plus families and friends gathered to celebrate this great event. Three representatives from the Veterans affair committee spoke and invited Marines to contact them with the needs of Veterans in the State. Speakers included Guest of Honor, Commissioner of Veterans Affairs, Brigadier General Ron Welch US Army Ret., Master of Ceremonies Col Adele Hodges, USMC Ret., Department of Connecticut Commandant Rich Daigle, Department of Connecticut Chaplain Peter DePaola. Gov. & Lt. Gov. were absent. The oldest Marine present was, Iwo Jima survivor,



Photo by Ben Jordan



Photo by Ben Jordan



Photo by Ben Jordan



CONNECTICUT



MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING AT THE CAPITAL



Photo by Ben Jordan



Photo by Ben Jordan



Photo by Ben Jordan

Col Adele Hodges USMC Ret., Brigadier gen Ron Welch US Army Ret. Commissioner CT Veterans Affairs,

Col Adele Hodges USMC Ret.,

Brigadier gen Ron Welch US Army Ret. Commissioner CT Veterans Affairs, Adele Hodges USMC Ret.



Photo by Ben Jordan

Rich Daigle Commandant State of CT MCL



Photo by Ben Jordan

Tom Callinan CT Troubadour, plays the Marine Corps Hymn with Skip Hamel, Col Adele Hodges USMC Ret, Commandant Bridgeport Detachment And Rich Daigle Dept of CT Commandant



CONNECTICUT



MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING AT THE CAPITAL



Photo by Ben Jordan

State Senator Cathy Osten, Member of the Veterans and Military Affairs Committee



Photo by Ben Jordan

State Representative Jamie Foster, CT General Assembly Co-Chair of the Veterans and Military Affairs Committee and Co=Chair State Senator, Paul Honig.



Photo by Ben Jordan

Renee Harvey Sang The National Anthem.





CONNECTICUT



MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING AT THE CAPITAL



Photo by Ben Jordan

1st Sgt Andres Lazo, Reads Gen John Lejeune's Message for the Birthday



Photo by Ben Jordan

Marines from Brass City, Housatonic, Bridgeport, Peter P Monaco Jr., Valley, Hardware City, Thames River and one at Large Member attend the ceremony



Photo by Ben Jordan

The Birthday Cake, just as it has for 249 years before will be presented to the Marines present for this ceremony. The Mameluke Sword before the cake, Marine Corps history states that a Mameluke sword was presented to Marine First Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon by the Ottoman Empire viceroy, Prince Hamet, on December 8, 1805, during the First Barbary War, in Libya, as a gesture of respect and praise for the Marines' actions at the Battle of Derna (1805).



CONNECTICUT



MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING AT THE CAPITAL



Photo by Ben Jordan

CPL. Jack Dougherty and GNYSgt Ulysses Carr, Present the 250th Birthday Cake For The Official



Photo by Ben Jordan

Cutting The Cake CT State Commandant Rich Daigle, State Senator, Paul Honig. CPL. Jack Dougherty and GNYSgt Ulysses Carr.



Photo by Ben Jordan

The Guest of Honor not present, Rich Daigle Commandant CT MCL. Gives the first piece of cake to the oldest Marine, Joe Caminiti. In the background Tom Callinan, Peter DePaola, Renee Harvey.



Photo by Ben Jordan

The Oldest Marine Youngest Marine, Joe Caminiti. Passes the cake to the youngest Marine 1st Sgt Andres Lazo, As is our custom, thereby transferring the knowledge forward background Rich Daigle, Tom Callinan, Peter DePaola, Renee Harvey, Walt Benson



CONNECTICUT



MARINE CORPS 250TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING AT THE CAPITAL



Photo by Ben Jordan



Photo by Ben Jordan



Photo by Ben Jordan

Top: Birthday Cake and water awaiting to all the guests in attendance.

Below Marines from Greater Bridgeport, Valley and Housatonic Detachments for cake and comradery.



CONNECTICUT



BRASS CITY MEMORIAL 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Welcome To Our Ball Skip Hamel



250 Years of Sweet Success



Commandant and MC of Our Ball
Jim Lauber



Steve & Ashley Bozzuto, Karl Crum NW Detachment, Robert Bozzuto, Joan Bozzuto, Sara, Chris Bozzuto



Joe O'Neill, Peg O'Neill, Joe O'Neill Jr., Pat & Sissy Musco



CONNECTICUT



BRASS CITY MEMORIAL 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Connie Lauber,



Rich Daigle,



Gracie Parker, Renee Harvey, Family and friends



Gunny Ulysses Carr, Joe O'Neill, Dom Falcone, Pat Musco, Dancing to the music.

Since our first amphibious landing at Nasua to the black sands of Iwo Jima, to urban combat in Fallujah, our Corps has come a long way since Samuel Nichols took command of two battalions at Ton Taven



We will be called to fight again, and we will be ready, and we will win.



CONNECTICUT



BRASS CITY MEMORIAL 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Guest Speaker Peter DePaola,
Dept. of CT Chaplain



Detachment Commandant Jim Lauber ; Presents Memento to Peter.



Our second Speaker,
Spoke and presented exam-
ples of items from The Colonial
Marines



Traditional Cake Cutting Ceremony, First piece to our guest of Honor, Peter DePaola, Then to the oldest Marine Dom Falcone, Brass City Detachment, The youngest Marine Jake Phillips Silver City Detachment, Jack Dougherty, and Rose Taylor, Cake Escorts



Karl Crump NW Detachment, with the display of items from the colonial Marines. The table in front of his display is the space we reserved for you.



CONNECTICUT



BRASS CITY MEMORIAL 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Walt Benson, Jack Dougherty



Jamie DePaola, Walt Benson



Jake Phillips Silver City Detachment & youngest Marine



We did not have a Kissing Cam but we did have a Dancing Cam That caught Jack and Jane Dougherty, trying some new moves.



We also had a hugging Cam where Antonio Pina and Leatha Lipusz got close.



CONNECTICUT



BRASS CITY MEMORIAL 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Left: Raffles for Brass City Detachment
Right: Sissy and Pat Musco, Joe & Peg O'Neill, Joe O'Neill Jr.,
Walt Benson



Gunny Ulysses Carr, Jack Dougherty, Pat Musco, Joe O'Neill, Rich Daigle, Adele Hodges, Rose Taylor, Tony Pina & Skip Hamel Jr.



CONNECTICUT



BRIDGEPORT & HOUSATONIC CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY



Guest of Honor and Speaker Col Stephen Forand USMC Ret. Receiving a Quilt of Valor. Bottom left a full view of the Quilt held by Greater Bridgeport Commandant Col Adele Hodges USMC Ret. Top left table of Poolies, soon to be departing for PI



CONNECTICUT



BRIDGEPORT & HOUSATONIC CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY



Marine Corps Recruiters from Bridgeport



Marines from Brass City, Greater Bridgeport, and Housatonic Detachments, Marine Recruiters from Bridgeport, and Marines who just finished Boot Camp at PI at their First Birthday Celebration.



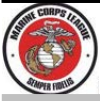
CONNECTICUT



GREATER BRIDGEPORT VETERANS DAY ROSE EVENT



Members of the Greater Bridgeport Detachment Collect funds for the Rose Program for Veterans Day at Bass Pro Shop In Bridgeport



CONNECTICUT



10 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CT VETERANS DAY RACE

On November 8 th , they celebrated their 10 th anniversary of honoring and saluting our CT veterans and the Veteran Service Organizations who support our veterans. The event was a huge success on a per-



fect autumn day in Coventry, the hometown of veteran Captain Nathan Hale! Nearly 600 patriotic friends filled Patriots Park and 358 registered to participate in either the 4-mile race, 3-mile walk, or 3-mile ruck ei-

ther live or virtual. The oldest runner was 82 years old and the youngest was 7! One CT participant, who is active duty and currently deployed overseas, ran the 4-mile race virtually.

From the proceeds of this year's race event, a total of \$33,000 was distributed to eight different Veteran Service Organizations who provide support for the underserved veteran community throughout Connecticut. Since they began in 2016, they have distributed over \$139,000 to 21 different veteran service organizations thanks to our sponsors and participants.

The race committee has pledged to continue to salute the brave men and women who hav served our great country and to remind them how grateful Connecticut is for their service and sacrifice. They are honored to continue this great event to bring awareness to the needs of those veterans less fortunate. This is not just a race, it's an event to raise funds, raise friends and raise awareness of the services for our brave military men and women. Marine Corps League member, Peter DePaola, of the Peter P. Monaco Jr. Detachment in Glastonbury, CT, is the founder and organizer of the CT Veterans Day Race.



Jamie DePaola USMC Ret.



CONNECTICUT



HARDWARE CITY DETACHMENT MISSION: TURKEY DROP

Mission: Pick up 12 frozen turkeys from Gnazzo's Supermarket in Plainville, CT and deliver to Veterans Inc. in New Britain, CT. This is a tradition originated by

John Lynch and Manafort Brothers many years ago, Manafort Brothers donates the turkeys and Marine Corps League, Hardware City Detachment 781 delivers them. This is our 2nd year delivering to Veterans Inc. Veterans Inc.

Veterans Inc. is the largest provider of support services to Veterans



Scott & Mia Veterans Inc., Al Urso, Commandant Hardware City Detachment, Rivers McCalop, Fred McGoldrick

and their families in New England. Since 1990, we have helped more than 100,000 Veterans . We delivered to 232 Arch St. New Britain, CT.

Mission accomplished: Friday, November 21st, 2025. See photos attached: Photo one left to right Al Urso, Mia, Veterans Inc, a Marine we met in the lobby (David), Rivers McCalop, and Fred McGoldrick.



Scott & Mia Veterans Inc., Al Urso, David (a Marine met in the lobby) Rivers McCalop, Fred McGoldrick

Al Urso



CONNECTICUT



Council of Italian-American Societies of Greater Bridgeport Presents

FREE HOLIDAY CONCERTS

with a *dash* of Italian Flair

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band

Monday, December 15

Tuesday, December 16

Klein Memorial Auditorium
910 Fairfield Ave, Bridgeport

7:00 PM • doors open 6:00 PM

TICKETS REQUIRED

FREE
Tickets
ONLINE



FREE Tickets IN PERSON

In Bridgeport: Nick's Diner • Port 5
Klein Memorial • North End Library

Musical Favorites

Holiday Hits • Patriotic • Traditional
Classical • Contemporary
Jazz • Radio Music • Instrumental

CIASGBPT.COM



Media Sponsor

Please bring non-perishable food items to benefit
City of Bridgeport Veterans Food Pantry (not required)



CONNECTICUT



PHOTO IMAGES

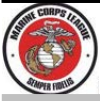
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CONNECTICUT



SUPPORT OUR IWO JIMA MONUMENT



***SPONSOR OUR ETERNAL FLAME
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\$15 FOR A DAY

\$100 FOR A WEEK

\$400 FOR A MONTH



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Or mail a check to: Iwo Jima Memorial Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 31516

Newington, CT 06131

Questions: Contact Elaine at IwoJimaMem.CT@gmail.com



MASSACHUSETTS



250 TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

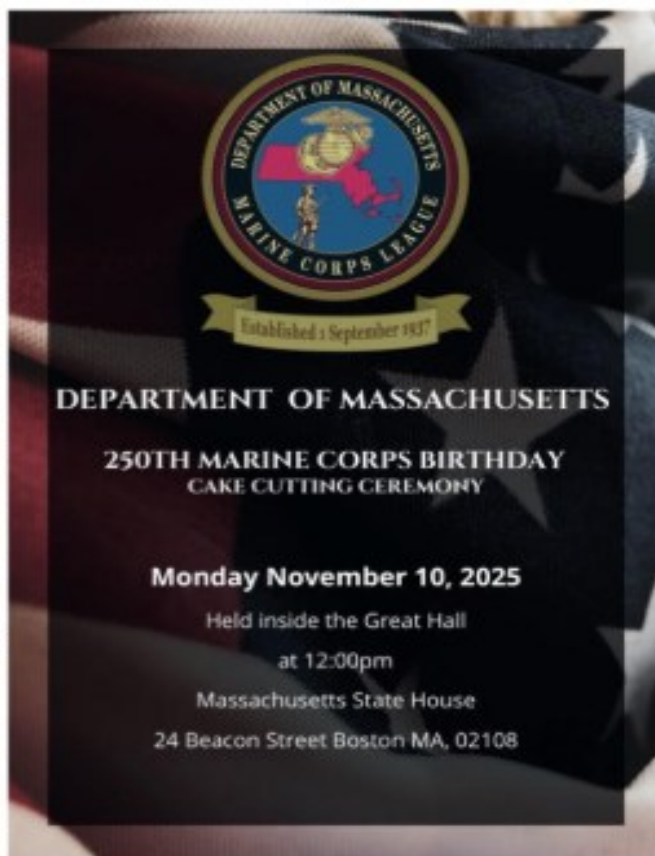




MASSACHUSETTS



250 TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS





MASSACHUSETTS



250 TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS





MASSACHUSETTS



250 TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS





MASSACHUSETTS



250 TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS





MAINE



DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL





MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



COLOR GUARD



Volunteer Jazz Band



**Joyce Richmond & Beverly Robbins
Present the MIA / POW Table**



MAINE



DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Quilt of Valor presentation to John Robbins, by Katie Cunningham & Donna Brookings



Southern Maine Young Marines



Commandant Charles Paul presenting Distinguished Service Awards to Joseph Masse & Clifford Plourde



Pictures of What We Do



NENVC Pat Maguire & Central Maine Det.810 Commandant Charles Paul



MAINE



DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



GROUP PHOTO



Presenting checks to 4 of our organizations we support.

**L - R
Quilts of Valor, Donna Brookings -
Maine Veterans Home (South Paris),
Lisa Pelletier, -
Wreaths Across America, Amber
Caron,
Honor Flight Maine, Elizabeth
Cormier**



MAINE



DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



**NENVC PAT MAGUIRE & WIFE LYNN
MAGUIRE**



**Jody Lubas, Dept of Maine Commandant Peter
Lubas**



**Janet Harvey, Commandant Charles Paul, Wife
Alice Paul.**



Jim Thibodeau playing Amazing Grace



MAINE



DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



Jim Thibodeau playing Amazing Grace





MAINE



DEPARTMENT OF MAINE 250TH BIRTHDAY BALL



**PRESENTATION OF
THE BIRTHDAY CAKE**



**Jr. Vice Benjamin Redmond cutting the cake,
Charles Paul presents cake to the oldest Marine
Ray Oullette 90,**



**Charles Paul presents cake to the youngest Marine
First Sgt Cody Ferrell,**



Right

**Commandant Charles Paul present Cake to the
Young Guests attending the Ball**



MAINE



9 October 2025: Member David F. Wick being sworn into Maine Det 1324 by Dept Commandant Dave Close

Photos Courtesy of Connie Harrison





MAINE



27 September 2025: Member Pat Larrabee received her Quilt of Honor from the Cumberland Fair Group. McKenzie Close, Connie Harrison, Jay McKenna, and Dave Close were at the Cumberland Fair to observe Pat in receiving her Quilt of Honor (Photos Courtesy of McKenzie Close)





MAINE



VETERANS DAY MAINE



Cameron and Hank, Surface formerly of the Southern Maine Detachment Celebrate The 250th Birthday in their New Home in Texas

Rifle Squad from MCL Maine Participate in the Veterans Day Parade and Ceremonies. Many ceremonies were cancelled due to the government shut down.





MAINE



DETACHMENT 1324 SOUTHERN MAINE CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY

The Southern Maine Detachment 1324 Celebrated the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps on 9 November 2025 at the Deering Memorial Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (Post 6859), Portland, Maine.

Attending our Celebration were, which we were honored to have attend were:

New England Division, Division Vice Commandant Patrick Maguire,

New England Division, Aid de Camp Laurent Chretien, and

Department of Maine, Commandant Peter Lubas.



9 November 2025: Detachment Membership along with family and friends gather to celebrate the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps.

Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)



9 November 2025: Detachment Membership along with family and friends gather to celebrate the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps

Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)



MAINE



DETACHMENT 1324 SOUTHERN MAINE CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY



9 November 2025: Detachment Membership along with family and friends gather to celebrate the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps. Also attending the Birthday Celebration were New England Division, Division Vice Commandant Patrick Maguire and Aid de Camp Laurent Chretien, and Department of Maine, Commandant Peter Luba

(Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)



9 November 2025: Detachment Membership along with family and friends gather to celebrate the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps. Each attendee received a Marine Corps League, Southern Maine Detachment 1324 Challenge Coin

(Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)





MAINE



DETACHMENT 1324 SOUTHERN MAINE CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY



9 November 2025: Each attendee received a Marine Corps League, Southern Maine Detachment 1324 Coffee Mug to commemorate the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps

Senior Vice Jay McKenna reads the missing man toast.



9 November 2025: (Top Photo) Southern Maine Detachment 1324, Adjutant/Paymaster Dona St. Pierre reads General John A. Lejeune, 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, Birthday Message. (Bottom Photo) Southern Maine Detachment 1324, Commandant Dave Close reads Commandant Eric Smith's Birthday Message

Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)





MAINE



DETACHMENT 1324 SOUTHERN MAINE CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY



9 November 2025: (Left Photo): Southern Maine Detachment 1324, Judge Advocate Richard Traiser and Member Marty Traiser escort the Birthday Cake into the gathering followed by the Youngest Marine (Member Sam Monsen). In the background observing is the Department of Maine, Commandant Peter Lubas. (Right Photo) Southern Maine Detachment 1324 Judge Advocate Richard Traiser and Member Marty Traiser present the Birthday Cake to Senior Vice Jay McKenna for the cutting ceremony

Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)



9 November 2025: (Left Photo) Southern Maine Detachment 1324 Senior Vice Jay McKenna Cuts the Birthday Cake with Judge Advocate Richard Traiser and Member Marty Traiser observing. (Right Photo) Oldest Marine present Jack Pelletier receives the first piece of cake

Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)



MAINE



DETACHMENT 1324 SOUTHERN MAINE CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY



9 November 2025: (Top Photo) Jack Pelletier, oldest Marine present, presents the piece of the Birthday Cake to the youngest Marine present, Member Sam Monsen. (Bottom Photo) Southern Maine Detachment 1324, Commandant Dave Close; Department of Maine, Commandant Peter Lubas; Southern Maine Detachment 1324, Judge Advocate Richard Traiser, Member Marty Traiser, and Adjutant/Paymaster Dona St. Pierre; New England Division, Division Vice Commandant Patrick Maguire and Aid de Camp Laurent Chretien; and Southern Maine Detachment 1324, Senior Vice Jay McKenna and Sergeant-At-Arms Fred Mons

(Photo Courtesy of Connie Harrison, Bottom Photo Courtesy of Dona St. Pierre)



NEW HAMPSHIRE



250TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE





NEW HAMPSHIRE



250TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



Tommy Beder



**Chaplain Yung offers the
opening prayer**



**Quilt of Valor presented to JR. Vice
Commandant Cheung**



**Mike and his Wife Michelle,
owners of W J Huey Tire Co.
Supplied the food**



**Amanda Mainville, from Union
Church in Hopedale, sang perfectly
for us, - America the beautiful, and
the closing song was our National
Anthem**



NEW HAMPSHIRE



250TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



**Paymaster Cheney
reading order 47**



Missing Man Table.



**Tony is the owner of The Mill @
185, they prepared a fantastic
feast for us, free of charge, de-
livered it hot and stayed till the
end to clean it all up. Not only
that, they're one of our loca-
tions that donate lots of toys
too Toys for Tots**



**Commandant passing cake to
oldest Marine and youngest Marine present .
90 year old dog, and a 25 year-old dog**





NEW HAMPSHIRE



250TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE





NEW HAMPSHIRE



Membership in Granite State Detachment 542

Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps.

Our **mission** is to voluntarily aid and render assistance to all Marines, FMF Chaplains, FMF Corpsmen and former Marines, FMF Chaplains and FMF Corpsmen and to their widows and orphans.



Our Membership **Coverage Area** is the greater Hillsborough County with some towns in Rockingham County. For the full list of towns we encompass, please check out our [membership](#) page on our website.

Monthly Meetings

When: Monthly Meetings of the Granite State Detachment are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month

Where: The American-Canadian Genealogical Society (ACGS), 1 Sundial Ave, Suite 317, Manchester, NH 03103

Time: Meetings begin promptly and 1800

Info: Membership is not a requirement for attendance and guests are always welcome to attend these events.

Visit our Website for More Info



RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



The Color Guard



Joe Afonso, Commandant Dept of Rhode Island



RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Corporal Mitchell Barstow



Father Thomas Woodhouse



Paul Campbell Jr., Michael Montigny, Janice Ferguson, David Ferguson, Keitty Armonte



Keitty Armonte & David Ferguson



James Salisbury, Nicholas Deluca, Theodore Blickwedel, David Ferguson, Keitty Armonte



Janice & David Ferguson



Keitty Armonte



Regina Roberts, Ed Roberts, Lynn Maguire



Joe Afonso, Tami Arrighi, Angelique Afonso



RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Regina Roberts Lynn Maguire



Mrs. Hubert and Tim Hubert



The Hubert Family



Carol & Wayne Salsbury



**Tim Hubert and
his prize possession**



**Lynn Maguire, Tami Arrighi,
Illiana Hinds**



Marie Carol , & Larry Chretien



**Wayne Hamilton &
Carol Salisbury**





RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Edward Ruzzano



Joel Fermin



Zach Burns



Brian, Stacey, Wayne, and Family



Carol Salisbury





RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



The Stacey Family



Tami Arrighi & Angelique Afonso



Tiffani and Nick Hubert s



Brian Stacey



Marine Keegan & Wife



Keitty Almonte &
Tracy Museruka





RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



**Lynn Maguire &
NENVC Pat Maguire**



**Christian Gomes &
Jessica Gomes**



The Gomes Family



Zach Burns, Dept of RI Commandant Joe Afonso, Alberto Diaz



Kent County Det MOY Mike Montigny and his entourage



**Above: Guest of Honor Colonel Christopher Landro
Left: Dept of RI Commandant Joe Afonso &
Col. Christopher Landro**



RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Dept of RI Commandant Joe Afonso, Col Christopher Landro,



Keitty Armonte, Wayne Salisbury, Paul Campbell Jr., Escort the Birthday Cake



Paul Campbell Jr., Keitty Armonte, Wayne Salisbury



The Cutting of The Cake





RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



The Guest of Honor Col Landro receives the first piece of cake



The oldest Marine then receives a piece of cake

The oldest Marine then passes a piece of cake to the Youngest Marine present Cpl Ruzzano



HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY
TO THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS





RHODE ISLAND



250TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION





RHODE ISLAND



COLOR GUARD, WATERFIRE EVENT PROVIDENCE



The Department of Rhode Island Marine Corps league had the honor to be the official Color Guard for the Veterans Day Waterfire event in Providence.





RHODE ISLAND





RHODE ISLAND



RHODE ISLAND MARINES INVITED TO THE CAPITAL FOR 250TH CAKE CUTTING

Department
rine Corps League
vited by Governor
House to partici-
ceremony honor-
of our beloved
Corps. Thank you
bers that attended,
his staff. Also, I
rector of Veteran
and RI National
eral, Major Gen-
lier for attending.



of Rhode Island Ma-
was honored to be in-
McKee to the State
pate in a cake cutting
ing the 250th birthday
United States Marine
to all the league mem-
Governor McKee and
would like to thank Di-
Services Kasim Yarn
Guard Adjutant Gen-
eral Andrew J. Cheva-
Semper Fi!





RHODE ISLAND



RHODE ISLAND MARINES INVITED TO THE CAPITAL FOR 250TH





VERMONT



**Left: Marine Corps League Detachment 798
Members SHERRY GARLAND & NORMAN
VAN COR ON THE HONOR FLIGHT TO DC.**

Below: Visit to the Vermont Veterans Home





SCRATCHING'S FROM THE DOGS



With hearts still sad and broken, we must still move forward and attend the needs of the Order and the needs of the Dogs. So with the approval of the Board, SR. VICE CIEF DEVIL DOG, Joe DeAngelo was sworn in as the 62nd Honorable Chief Devil Dog. The rest of the elected officers also moved up as well.



Honorable 37th Past Chief Devil Dog PDD Paul Sutton, swears in The Honorable 62nd Chief Devil Dog PDD Joe DeAngelo



Past to Present Honorable 37th Past Chief Devil Dog PDD Paul Sutton, The Honorable 62nd Chief Devil Dog PDD Joe DeAngelo

Attending The Ceremony: Ray Ference, Chris "tool" Soldano, Dept of NJ Commandant Brian Gillespie, The Honorable 62nd Chief Devil Dog Joe DeAngelo, Barb DeAngelo, Worthy NJ Pack Leader Jay Hauck



SCRATCHING'S FROM THE DOGS



HONORABLE
62ND CHIEF DEVIL DOG JOE DeANGELO



Woof Woof



The 62nd Chief Devil Dog
PDD Joe DeAngelo &
Barb DeAngelo





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



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

TAPS / MEMORIES / FAREWELL

It is always my hope that we have something from a friend to write about here because an Obituary does not do justice to why we gather to celebrate this life, Why we feel our deep sorrow and why we will miss our Brother tells of when you were born and many boxes you checked as you both but, it misses your contributed each life. The lives you are why the pain and the sadness enough to find just what we are Dave Porter Sr.

Today we celebrated the Jones. Today, those memories honor the 61st Chief Devil Dog,

On this solemn day, the Military Order of the Devil Dogs jackets from across the nation—do—stood on one accord, a sea of scarlet, honor and remembrance. In a moment etched into legacy, the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor were presented in solidarity to the remains of Chief Jones.

His life was a living testament to Esprit de Corps, loyalty, Semper Fidelis, and the joyful cry of Woof Woof. As Psalm 15 reminds us: “He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart... He who does these things shall never be moved.”

Jeffrey D. Jones did not merely serve—he led with conviction, loved with courage, and lived the warrior ethos. His final salute was not a farewell, but a commissioning: a call to those who remain to walk in righteousness, to speak truth, and to honor the Lord.



life of this special person. Jeff D rose within me as we began to Jeffrey D. Jones.

Marine Corps League and the assembled in sacred unity. Red from North Carolina to Colorado of scarlet, honor and remembrance.



TAPS / MEMORIES / FAREWELL

On Saturday morning of November 1, 2025, 61st Chief Devil Dog, Jeffrey D Jones, reported to his final duty station on the Golden Streets of Heaven. He was born on October 28, 1965, in Waco, Texas to his loving parents, Johnnie Ki Jones of Texas and Patricia W. Darkow of Ohio.

Jeff was an extremely active member of the Marine Corps League on the State and National levels. His tour of duty began on November 10, 2006, when he discovered the Marine Corps League at the opening ceremony of the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Ever since then he has been very active holding many positions. Just to mention a few, Commandant of his Local Detachment, Commandant of the Department of North Carolina, Sergeant of Arms on several levels and other various positions.

Jeff was also very active in the Military Order of the Devil Dogs, Mood. He also held many positions in the organization as well such as Pound Keeper, Smart Dog, on various levels, Pack Leader, and his ultimate goal of 61st Chief Devil Dog. A high accomplishment that he worked very hard to achieve while always trying to make the order the best it could be.

Jeff received many awards and medals over the years. Some of his most treasured medals are Detachment Marine of the Year, Department Marine of the Year, Division Marine of the Year, and National Marine of the year for the Marine Corps League. On the Military Order of the Devil Dog platform, he was awarded Year, Pack Marine of the the Year. There are many cates that it's impossible to appreciated and cherished

Jeff was also known month of December. He "paint" it white for the full ef-sands of small children and his wife, "Elf" would travel to up and down the eastern mas joy. He also was Toys son County for several

One final project he menting was Operation collects dog food or money ters in local areas. He start-is now nationwide.

Jeff was a wonderful husband to Leigh Ann for thirty-four years. He was a good brother, brother-in-law, uncle, son, and patriot. He had a tremendous love for God, family, country, and the Marine Corps. He will be greatly missed by so many for many reasons.

Jeff is survived by his wife, Leigh Ann Corbett; father, Johnnie Ki Jones (Judy) of Texas; mother, Patricia W. Darkow of Ohio; sisters, Kristin Kameron (David) of Ohio, and Kiann Battencourt (Paul) of Texas; brother, Jonathyn Whitely (Lisa) of Ohio and many nieces and nephews and of course his beloved dog, Pappy.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Middlesex Baptist Church, P.O. Box 369, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557 or to Zebulon Baptist church, PO Box 366 Zebulon, North Carolina 27597. Donations may also be sent to MOOD, c/o Helen Breen, 404 Mountain Laurel Circle, Goose Creek, South Carolina 29445 with the memo line as Jeff Jones.

The family will receive friends at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 15, 2025, at Zebulon Baptist Church, 400 N Arendell Avenue, Zebulon with a memorial service to follow at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Your watch is over Marine.



the Pound Marine of the Year, and Kennel Marine of awards, gifts, and certification all, but he greatly them.

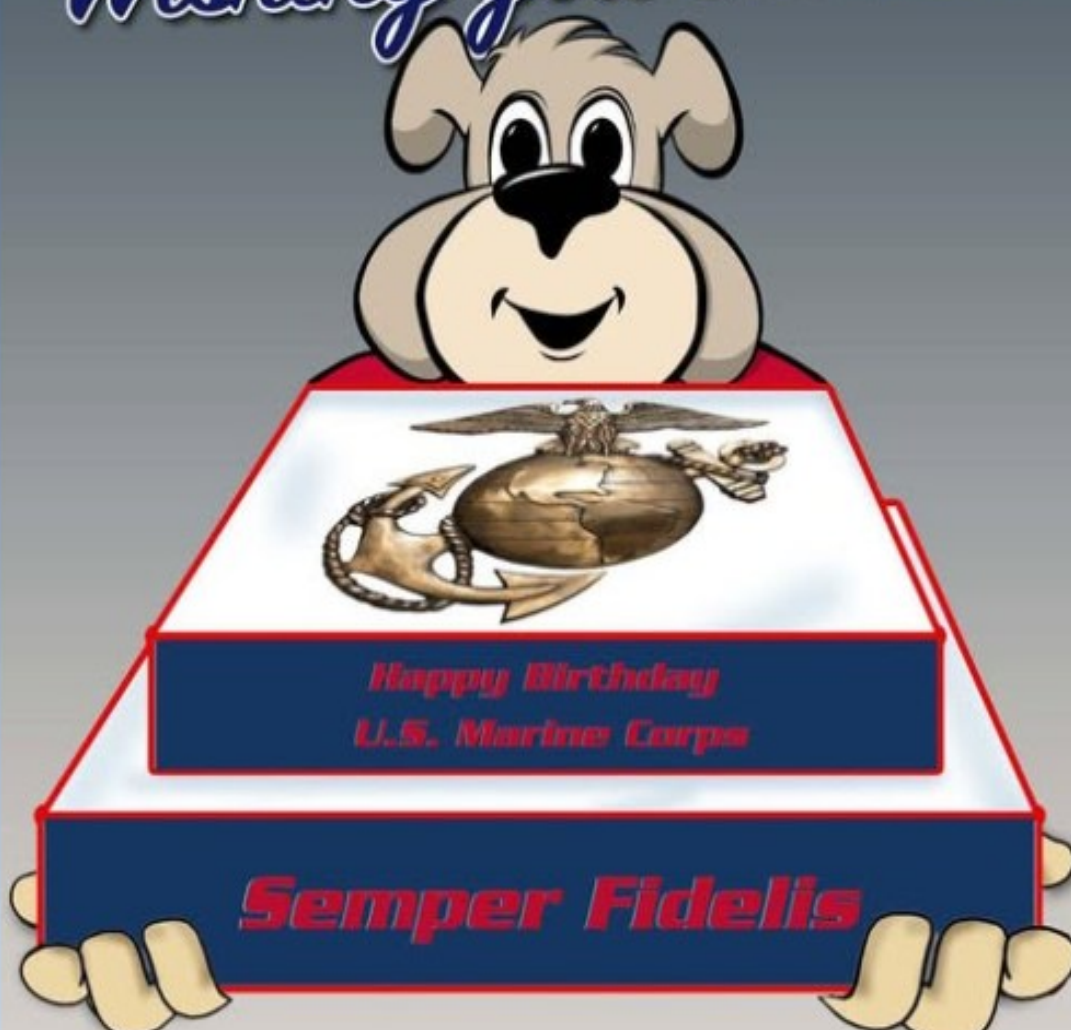
as Gunny Claus during the would grow a beard and fect. He brought joy to thou-full-grown marines. He and various Marine Corps bases seaboard spreading Christ-for Tots coordinator for Wil-years.

was instrumental in imple-Chow Hound. This program to buy food for no-kill shel-ed it in North Carolina, and it

Semper Fidelis



Young Marines
Wishing you the best



All information and manuals will be available to you once the application is started.

If you need more information or assistance,

contact us at resources@youngmarines.org or 800-7170060 x215



"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.



Last spring, I had the honor to be interviewed by a couple high school students from Loomis Chaffee High School, as did 8 other women warriors. They wrote a book about us and on Nov. 15th at the Dept. of Veterans Affairs in Rocky Hill, they hosted a book reveal.

These students proved to be extraordinary in their project. They not only interviewed us all last spring, but they did the artwork throughout the summer too. My good friend, Cpl Dottie Dee, 103 year old WWII Marine Corps veteran, enjoyed being part of the book too. We agreed that we both are looking forward to reading more about our other sister warriors.

Thank you [Gladys Silva](#) for working with the students and coordinating a beautiful ceremony.

Thank you [Reneé Harvey](#) for your beautiful voice in singing our National Anthem and God Bless America. And thank you both for your service to our country and your heart to continue to serve on the Homefront.

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0G1DFP591...>



Above: Jamie DePaola USMC Retired & CPL, Dottie Dee USMC Vet 103 years old.
Right: Students and Advisors for the project.



HUMOR AROUND THE DIVISION



Do you know that awesome feeling when you get into bed, fall right asleep, stay asleep all night and wake up feeling refreshed and ready to take on the day?
Yeah, me neither!

I'M NO LONGER ALLOWED TO GO CAROLING AT THE PSYCH HOSPITAL.

I GUESS "DO U HEAR WHAT I HEAR" WAS A BAD SONG CHOICE.

Have you been exposed to Marine Corps birthday memes? You may be entitled to compensation.



Thanksgiving Essentials





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"!!



Since the last issue and I wrote about the new FaceBook, or TikTok, clips detachments and departments are using, I have had discussions in my own department about recruiting. In every meeting or Growl we ask for new members. We had some company at this particular Growl someone asked our guest what they found about recruiting and the response was basically that we all were facing the same problem. At the next Growl I asked for new members again and this response was brought up again, in that if everyone is having this problem why are we harping on it? First, if someone feels we are too focused on this I'm sorry but its not because I think no one is trying, I know that you are. But if you don't ask you don't get. Also, the way I see it is like this. Seven years ago we had, and these numbers are approximate, 800 members, and this year we have 530, that's 270 members we lost. When we want to do Roses in the community it is more difficult. When you want put on a Birthday Ball it is more difficult. Basically everything you do become more difficult. Less members less dues which means we have no money to donate or spend on needs or creating events for our members. We are not doing it to get a certificate or plaque, but to grow and be productive in the community. I know it gets frustrating and there is a lot of push back when you ask I get the same when I ask but our numbers are going in the wrong direction. As much as I recruit and ask people to join my wife does more. She has my business cards and if she sees a MC Hat or shirt or we are at an event she is off and running. A few weeks ago we sat at the table with the guest of Honor and yes both he and his wife got Cards, she gave me their information, e-mail and phone numbers and she promised them a Newsletter. They were from Rhode Island so I gave them Pat and Joe's number. Please use any tool in your belt to achieve your goal and just do the best you can, if you don't ask the answer is always no.

To use these video clips to draw attention to the League there are some very easy methods and some of you will know many more that I do. In FaceBook you can create Reels. You click on create reel and then it allows you to select music, then select pictures from your Camera Roll and it will create it for you. Create one that shows what



your Department or Detachment is working on. Create one that shows you having fun at a Birthday Ball or Rose event. Film one of an award dinner or meeting. Once you create it you can share it over and over again. If you are friends with the person you want to view it you can send it direct. Make one of the slides in the reel a schedule of days and times for meetings, or contact information.

Whatever you decide to do, make it fun rather than work. Make another Friend with a new Marine even if he doesn't Join the League, You can never have enough Marines.

Semper Fidelis
Walt Benson



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)





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.

Since the founding of November 1775 by Samuel ship fighting, provide shipboard enforcement, and assist in land- with changing military doctrine ed States.

Since that time there have served with distinction Basilone, "Pappy" Boyington – Sheep Squadron", Smedley

of Honor, Daniel Daly – awarded two Medals of Honor , John F. Mackie – first Marine awarded the Medal of Honor, David M. Shoup – was a general of the United States Marine Corps who was awarded the Medal of Honor in World War II, served as the 22nd Commandant of the Marine Corps. Vernice Armour – first female African-American combat pilot in United States military, Frederick C. Branch – first African-American Marine officer, John L. Estrada – first Hispanic Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, John Glenn – first Marine astronaut, Opha May Johnson – first woman Marine, Samuel Nicholas – first Commandant of the Marine Corps, Presley O'Bannon – first to raise the U.S. Flag over foreign soil as a result of combat, "Hero of Derna" which are the "shores of Tripoli" in the Marine hymn, Staff Sergeant Reckless – first horse to hold an official rank in the United States Marines Angela Salinas – first Hispanic female to obtain a general rank in the Marines. Since 1862 The Marines have been awarded 297 Medals of Honor.

There are many more greats and Giants who have gone before us but on this 250th Birthday of our Beloved Corps the spotlight shines on you. Every Marine that stands today, carries forward the legacy and tradition of all the Giants who went before us. Among us may be the Giants we speak of tomorrow. Once a Marine Always a Marine, we do not retire, we do not become former Marines, we change uniforms and the mission changes but we go on. We serve the communities we live in, we serve our fellow veterans, and we serve the brother or sister to the left or right of us. The operative word is we serve. On November 11th, Veterans Day, we start the journey into the next 250 years. I don't say it will be easy, or that there isn't much to do. In Fact, there is a lot to do and we will need everyone to participate as the need is great and though our enthusiasm may be great our abilities do not always match. There are Marines in this Division who pass out information on the league an cars and in mail boxes. We have Marines who do hundreds of funerals each year. We have Marines who serve as Detachment, Department, or Division Officers, well beyond their required time. They all need help and support. Of all those Marines listed above I can tell you without doubt that they got tired, they had aches and pains and on some days they weren't in the mood but they said F#!*K IT, and showed up anyway. I know it sounds like a lot but we are Marines and a lot is expected. We Are The Few, smaller than any other branch of service, The Proud, pride like ours is second to none. If you go to a Marines house it's like being on a Marine Base with all the Flags and decal. The United States Marines, Devil Dog, Leatherneck, Grunt, no better friend, no worse or feared enemy. To find us you must be good, to catch us you must be fast, to beat us you must be kidding. You are center stage in the spotlight and we are planning the next 250, whose with us?



the Continental Marines on 10 Nicholas to conduct ship-to-security and discipline en- ing forces. Its mission evolved and foreign policy of the Unit-

have been many Marines who and achieved greatness, John commanded the "Black Butler – awarded two Medals

Walt Benson



2025

December

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			





2026

January

2026



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



CLASSIFIED SECTION



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.

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 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

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.



Every scar on your body and every weight on your soul is proof you kept going. Pain can drown a weak man, but it forges a strong one. The world never sees your silent battles — only the strength you walk out with. Rise with the very pain that tried to break you.

Turn it into something unstoppable.

Turn it into the version of you that refuses to die



MID WINTER CONFERENCE



FEBRUARY 2026



SHERATON PENTAGON CITY HOTEL

- 900 South Orme Street Arlington, Virginia, USA, 22204

Hotel rate is \$131 per night plus tax

- Parking: On-site garage parking is \$10 per day
- Any cancellations after February 10, 2026, will forfeit the one-night deposit
- Free shuttle to/from Reagan Airport (DCA)

The hotel overlooks Arlington National Cemetery and is right near Henderson Hall and the Fort Myer Exchange.

Wednesday arrivals begin

Thursday some committee and board meetings

Friday general session

Saturday general session, evening banquet (black tie or coat and tie appropriate)

Sunday departures



SCHEDULE





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

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:

barrykubrick.files.wordpress.com

