

Department of New Hampshire

Marine Corps League

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PRESS RELEASE (Oct. 28, 2019)

Concord, N.H. -- The Department of New Hampshire Marine Corps League will conduct a Marine Corps birthday ceremony Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019 at 8 a.m. at the State House in celebration of the Corps' 244th birthday.

The ceremony will include the raising of the Marine Corps flag over the State House, the reading of the Commandant of the Marine Corps' birthday message and a proclamation from Governor Chris Sununu declaring the day as "Marine Corps Heritage Day" in the state. The event is open to the public and all Marines, past and present, are encouraged to attend.

During the American Revolution, the Continental Congress passed a resolution stating that "two Battalions of Marines be raised" for service as landing forces for the recently formed Continental Navy. The resolution, drafted by future U.S. president, John Adams of Massachusetts, created the Continental Marines and began the enlistment of the nation's first soldiers of the sea. Tun Tavern, a local brewery and meeting house in Philadelphia, is recognized as the birthplace of the Corps, having been the site of the first recruiting campaign of United States Marines.

The tradition of celebrating the Marine Corps birthday was formalized and enacted by Commandant of the Marine Corps, Major General John A. Lejeune on Nov. 1, 1921 when he issued Marine Corps Order 47.

The Marine Corps League is a national fraternal organization comprised of individuals who served, or who are presently serving, the country as U.S. Marines. Additionally, Navy corpsmen and chaplains who have served with Marines are also eligible for regular membership in the organization along with qualified associate members.

More information on the event can be found on the Dept. of NH MCL website, www.NHMarines.org.

