



December 2023 — January 2024

LASKEY'S TELEGRAPH



Newsletter of The New England Division of The Marine Corps League Vol. 3 Issue 2



Message From The Division Commandant



New England Division,

I hope all is well with you and your families. Another year has passed where we celebrated the birthday of our Marine Corps. For 248 years we as Marines have been doing that, gathering with other Marines, Navy personnel and civilians. It's a tradition that some people just don't understand and those lucky enough to attend a birthday ball finally understand why. They see the opening ceremony, the cake cutting, they sit and listen to a high-ranking officer or senior staff NCO and realize that through it all we are an organization that is bonded by the Eagle, Globe and Anchor. They see that regardless of rank we are brothers and sisters that share something very sacred. We would do anything for the brother or sister to the left or right. Not everyone can be a Marine but those who are know how special it is, that's why we do what we do on November 10th each year. Happy Birthday again Marines!!!

We wake up the next day and honor and celebrate those veterans for their patriotism and willingness to serve their nation. A nation that is grateful that there are men and women who are willing to protect against all enemies foreign and domestic. I hope each one of you were able to do something to show your gratitude for their



service. I attended the Department of Connecticut's quarterly meeting and I learned that the public schools do not close on Veterans Day. Instead, they use that day to invite veterans into the schools so that they can talk to the students. I applaud Connecticut for doing that and letting Veterans talk about their experience, it's a win win for both the students and the Veteran. Happy Veterans Day!!

As we enter the holiday season and head into the new year, I ask that we pay attention to our fellow brothers and sisters.

Some may be struggling this time of year and they may need someone to talk to but have too much pride to ask for an ear to listen. Be that ear, it could be just what they need to get them through a difficult time. This goes for all Veterans, not just Marines. From my family to yours, wishing you a Happy Holiday season and a very happy and healthy new year.

Patrick Maguire
National Vice Commandant
New England Division



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even as we focus on the tasks at hand we still need to look at all we have achieved. We are in our third year of our newsletter, we have a new slate of Division Officers and with that we have several open positions that we anxiously look to fill. Just because a position is vacant does not mean the task does not get completed, it is just a little more difficult to accomplish. Our Division is vast and it is compiled of very talented people let's share some of that talent because when we share our talent and drive we are an unstoppable force and can accomplish great things.

Our Newsletter has grown in many ways. We are up to forty something pages mainly because we have a lot of people doing amazing things. It is a difficult task to chase down all of the pictures while putting names to the faces. I find these pictures on Facebook which means someone put them up there so there should be no problem sending them to me to make my life just a tiny bit easier. Also please if you have someone that is being recognized for something by either your detachment or department or and outside agency please send me the details so we can give that person the recognition they deserve. These things I am pointing out I only do so in an effort that I can do a better job with the newsletter. It is not to call anyone out but a simple request for help. If you have an idea that will make us better please share it and we will try to make it happen. There are a few things I would love to see happen on a regular basis and that is to include those who are sick or in distress so that we can reach out and send them cards or call to see how they are doing. These are more than buddy checks they are our brothers and sisters.

Walt Benson

From The Editor



Greeting Marines, The celebrations are over, our Marine Corps League Birthday, our Marine Corps 248th Birthday, Veterans Day 2023, and Thanksgiving. Now, we begin our work. Toy 4 Tots is in full swing, Roses, recruiting, and as we finalize the year we are focused on Quad State in New Hampshire and the individual Conventions for Massachusetts and Connecticut. However,



SATURDAY DEC. 9, 2023
GILLETTE STADIUM 3:00 PM

NAVY BEAT ARMY





HOUSEKEEPING



SOME THOUGHTS

I came across two signs on FaceBook and found them very compelling. You could say they are the glass half full comparison, but it really provokes thought and requires a decision on how you want to look at something. If you will, for the greater good. The first was:

How to Kill an Organization

1. Don't attend the meetings.
2. If you do, arrive late.
3. Find fault in the officers and members.
4. Never accept an office, it's easier to criticize than do this.
5. Never the less get annoyed if you are never appointed to a committee.
6. If appointed to a committee, don't attend the meetings.
7. If asked by the chairman to give your opinion, say nothing, but then afterwards tell everyone how things should have been done.
8. Do no more than necessary when others are rolling up their sleeves.
9. Hold back your dues for as long as possible or don't pay them at all.
10. Don't bother getting new members, but if you do, make sure they are grippers like yourself.

Now no one does any of this deliberately at least we don't have anyone that does but passive actions take their toll all the same. It's the little things that we do and don't realize it, but hurt us the most. It's cold out no one will miss me at the meeting but then we didn't have a quorum and couldn't do any business. It's not vindictive nor is it done with malice or anger but the effect is the same. Now, let me show you the other sign

Note to Self

"What is my purpose in life?" I asked the void, What if I told you that you fulfilled it when you took an extra hour to talk to that kid about is life?" said the voice.'

Or when you paid for that young couple in the restaurant? Or when you saved that dog in traffic? Or when you tied your father's shoes for him?

Your problem is that you equate our purpose with goal-based achievements. The universe isn't interested in your achievements just your heart. When you choose to act out of kindness, compassion and love, you are already aligned with your true purpose. No need to look any further!"

What does it all mean? It's not for me to say, you have the information the decision is yours but when I look at us as a group I see the note to self.

THINGS WE NEED

As I think of the many things we wish to accomplish in this newsletter, one thing I would like to see us take a more active role in is those who are sick or in distress. It should be more than just tell the Chaplain and they will send a card. We are all brothers and sisters and it should be something we all can get involved in. Send a card, pick up a phone ask how are you doing is there anything you need? If for nothing else to get rid of the cards and address labels that we are sent in the mail. If I live another 25 years and no one sends me anymore I still will have sheets of them when I die, and I actually send out a lot of mail. This would be a good use for these items. Especially this time of year we should make an attempt to reach out to all of these people.

There are some things we have gotten away from Birthdays, you will notice there are no names published in this issue. We have been using the same list form one detachment for the past two and a half years.

Another thing is Taps for those of us who have passed away. One would be to forward the information to me but even better would be for you to write something about the person who passed away. When we die there should be more than an obituary. How about the things we shared, the laughs, the sorrows and the things we did together. This has to be completed by someone who knew the person and shared those experiences.

Every time I do put an obituary into the newsletter I find myself thinking back to friends I have lost and the things we shared together. We all were born had parents, siblings, went into the Marine Corps and served somewhere but how did we live? What did we do for fun or what did we do that was funny, those are the things to remember. I will never forget I was outside a Walmart on Veterans day and it was freezing out. I was with my friend Leo and this woman was walking up to the store and said, How are you guys doing today? Leo said I'm friggin cold that's how I'm doing. The woman said I'll see you on the way out. When she came out she handed us each a blanket and put a 20 in the jar. That's how we lived and should be remembered.

Walt Benson



CONNECTICUT



WOW WHAT A MONTH !!

Greetings fellow CT MCLeaguers. I am hopeful that this newsletter finds you and yours well. I trust that by the time this Newsletter edition is published, we will all have fully recuperated from celebrating our beloved Corps' 248 th birthday. As your Commandant, I endeavor to attend as many detachment events as possible, and this November did not disappoint. I wish to thank the members of the Brass City Memorial Detachment, Greater Bridgeport Detachment, Hardware City Detachment, Peter P Monaco Detachment, Paul C Houghton Detachment and my very own Thames River Detachment for invitations to their respective Marine Corps Birthday celebrations. I was able to attend all but one.

November also brought us Veterans Day, and I am hopeful that many of you were able to participate in some way or another. This is especially true of our Vietnam Veterans who never received the homecoming they deserved upon returning from overseas. It seems only those serving in a "popular" war (Afgan/Iraq) are celebrated by the masses and those who served during the "unpopular" war (Vietnam) were shunned upon their return. Those were despicable times. It is uplifting when I hear stories of our very own

Vietnam Veteran CT MCLeaguers who are invited to classrooms to share their stories; who are chosen as parade marshals, and who are properly cherished as time continues to tick by.

On a personal note, November brings to me the first anniversary of my daughter's passing, which any parent who has lost a child knows, becomes one of the most difficult days of the year. I am however, blessed with a GREAT support system; one of my many blessings, for which I am eternally grateful. In closing, please remember that the Christmas/Chanukah holiday season will soon be upon us. Some of you are deeply involved with Toys for Tots programs; OUTSATNDING!

Please remember to keep in touch with your detachment brethren; Buddy Checks. From your entire Dept of CT Leadership team, we all wish you and yours a very happy and safe New Years.

Semper Fi
Patrick T. McMahon
Commandant
Department of Connecticut
Marine Corps League



CONNECTICUT



BRASS CITY BIRTHDAY BALL



Brass City Ball was held on November 4th in Waterbury, where a great time was had by all. Music, food, the traditional toast to Sam Beamon, raffles, 50/50 and a fantastic guest speaker, Col. Adele Hodges USMC retired.



Those attending were from Housatonic Detachment, Hardware City Detachment, Silver City Detachment, Greater Bridgeport Detachment, and Thames River Detachment. The youngest Marine was from no Detachment as of yet, Marine Krystal, Reid





CONNECTICUT



GREATER BRIDGEPORT CAKE CEREMONY



As is Tradition the first slices of cake go to the Guest speaker Brigadier General Ron Welch, The oldest Marine Don Pavia , and the youngest Marine Krystal Reid. Marine Reid is a free agent, who is not a member of any detachment as of yet. She lives in the Seymour area so if any of you local detachments are looking for a new member you may want to make your case to her as to why your detachment is the best to join. I did make a pitch on all of your behalf's , for Valley, Brass City, Greater BPT. And Housatonic. Below all of the Marines in attendance at the cake cutting ceremony. Happy Birthday All and Semper Paratus.





CONNECTICUT



VETERANS DAY CELEBRATIONS



Col. Tom Kanasky USMC Retired MC BPT. Veterans Day Ceremonies



Below the Milford Parade Col Adele Hodges USMC Retired looking exceptional in her Dress Blues with her perspective recruit The Gunny. He looks like he has the proper attitude we will save him a spot..Semper Fi Col. You do us proud Marine.





CT VETERANS DAY RACE

HONORS AND SALUTES OUR MILITARY VETERANS

Hundreds gathered at Patriots Park in Coventry on Saturday, November 4th, for the 8th annual CT Veterans Day Race organized by MCL Det 40 member, Peter DePaola. The Park was full of



excitement, energy and patriotism with nearly 300 participants registered for either the 4-mile race, 3-mile walk, or 3-mile rucksack on a perfect autumn day. One of the motivating participants was our MCL Department of CT Commandant, Pat McMahon.

“This is more than just a road race. The event honors the service and sacrifice of Connecticut’s many veterans. It’s an event to welcome them home and honor their service and sacrifice, as well as to share with the CT community some of the many services available to them through various Veteran Service Organizations.” said Peter DePaola, Race Director.

The opening ceremony was patriotic and motivating with the UConn Air Force ROTC providing the color guard followed by Rubyfruit A Cappella Choir, also from UConn performing the National Anthem. Colchester resident, James DePaola, Marine GWOT veteran, offered the invocation. Special remarks were provided by CT Dept. of Veterans Affairs Deputy Commissioner Joe Danao. A new addition to the ceremony this year was Tom Callinan, a MCL member and Vietnam era veteran, who sang a song he wrote, “Some Gave All, All Gave Some.”

Students from the UConn Crew Team, the Natchaug River Young Marines, and the Coventry High School National Honor Society all volunteered to make the day a huge success. Additionally, active-duty Marines and Soldiers proudly set up their static displays in the park and enjoyed sharing their stories and knowledge with over 500 guests in Patriots Park. The park was filled with esprit de corps throughout the morning.



MAINE

The Department of Maine has had some pretty busy times this fall. October 7, 2024, Dept of Maine, MCL held its first meeting of the year. We had an unexpected guest. Craig Reeling, Assistant National Vice Commandant Mideast Division & Vice Chief Devil Dog Mideast Division MODD graced us with his attendance. At that meeting we elevated two devil dogs, one from PUP to Devil Dog and one from Devil Dog to Pedigree Devil Dog (medical clearance). A medical clearance is available to dogs who wished to be advanced but because of a medical condition is unable to travel to a National Convention



Craig Reeling - Craig Reeling, Assistant National Vice Commandant Mideast Division & Vice Chief Devil Dog Mideast Division MODD & Maine Pack Dog Robber, Steve Fleming, presided over the advancement of DD Gary Bies to PDD Bies.



Craig Reeling, Vice Chief Devil Dog Mideast Division MODD swearing in Soon to be Pedigree Devil Dog Gary Bies.



Pedigree Devil Dog Gary Bies & Craig Reeling, Vice Chief Devil Dog Mideast Division MODD.

MAINE



At the same Growl Worthy Pack Leader Charlie Paul presided over the advancement of Pup Jeffrey Igoe to Devil Dog. Pictured above is Worthy Pack Leader Charlie Paul swearing in Devil Dog Jeffery Igoe . Woff woff Devil Dog.

Worthy Pack Leader Charlie Paul and Maine Pack newest Devil Dog Jeffery Igoe. In the background Craig Reeling, Assistant National Vice Commandant Mideast Division



MAINE



Donna Brookings, State Coordinator for QOV awarded John O'Leary, Air Force veteran a quilt.



248th Marine Corps Birthday Cake



Central Maine Det. 810 - Associate Member of the Year - Alice Paul presented by Commandant Charlie Paul



Maine Veteran's Home (South Paris) Brad Peck, Administrator - Joyce Richmond, Paymaster, Commandant Charlie Paul



Maine State Coordinator, Quilts of Valor Donna Brookings, Joyce Richmond, Paymaster, Commandant Charlie Paul



Honor Flight Maine chairperson Matthew Mank, Joyce Richmond, Paymaster, Commandant Charlie Paul

MASSACHUSETTS

BIRTHDAY BALL CAPE COD



The arrival of the Cake by four Marines



Happy 248th Birthday Marines



Dinner, Dancing and Comradery

MASSACHUSETTS

BIRTHDAY BALL CAPE COD



Guest Speaker



Cake Cutting and the Guest Speaker gets the first piece



The Oldest and The Youngest Marine



The Youngest marine Being fed symbolizing the nurturing of our future Marines



Dinner, Dancing and Comradery



VERMONT



The chair is empty because loved ones are still missing.



Commandant Daniel Bean and Maj. Gen Gregory Knight, Ad. Gen, VT Nat. Guard



Above :Maj. Gen Gregory Knight, Ad. Gen, VT Nat. Guard



To the right : Marine Kevin Hawley

VERMONT



Marine Jim (Jay) Miller, Chaplain and Commandant Daniel Bean being awarded Marine of The Year



L to R Commandant Daniel Bean, cutting the cake, Marine Jim (Jay) Miller, Chaplain, Gen Knight, Old-est Marine Present Jack Rouille (95), and the Young-est Marine Samuel Kehoe (23).

L to R Marine Jim (Jay) Miller, Chaplain, Gen Knight, Comman-dant Daniel Bean, cutting the cake, Oldest Marine Present Jack Rouille (95), and the Youngest Marine Samuel Kehoe (23).



Finally, as is tradition the oldest Marine Feeds the youngest Marine, just as for years our experi-enced Marines have nur-tured and led young Ma-rines that will fill our ranks and renew our Corps. The youngest Ma-rine present this evening is , who was born in 2000.

RHODE ISLAND

On November 4, Bucci-Atwood detachment 376 and the Department of Rhode Island held Toys For Tots fall concert at the Hillside

Country Club and Rehoboth Massachusetts.

To start the night, we had Heidi and Norman Legault lead everyone in the pledge of alle-



giance. Heidi's first husband, Lance corporal, Rick Crudale was killed in 1983 and the terrorist bombing of the Marine Barracks and Beirut Lebanon. Norman and Young were Marine escorts assigned to bring the body home. Heidi and Norman became friends, and eventually married. They are pictured with the Grinch.

Next up was the colors being presented by the United States Marine Corps Color Guard. Singing the national anthem was Retired Massachusetts state trooper Daniel Clark, (he was previously a sergeant in the Marine Corps, and he is also known as the trooper). He performed an amazing rendition of the National Anthem, followed by the hymns of each branch of service.



RHODE ISLAND

Next up was Stevie Smith And The Naked, Piece Band out of Rhode Island. They entertained the 100 person crowd for three hours.



During the band intermission, The Grinch made

day was a couple of Marines in full uniform, who dragged the Grinch kicking from the room.

At the end of the night, the Marines took 1500 toys donated to the program. As of this date, we have collected 6600 toys that have been donated to the program. We still have a couple of big events, which we estimate will bring in another 1400 toys.

appearance, trying to steal some of the toys. Stepping up to save the

Semper Fi
Dave Creamer



RHODE ISLAND

248TH BIRTHDAY BALL



As with any Great Event , there is the arrival of Guests, The Young Marines for the Color Guard, The missing Man Table where we remember our missing Brothers and sisters, The Guest of Honor THE CAKE and it's escort.



RHODE ISLAND

248TH BIRTHDAY BALL



**Guest of Honor Colonel Gerry Leonard, and
SgtMaj. Tracy Lynch**



**Department of Rhode Island Commandant Joe
Afonso, and SgtMaj. Tracy Lynch.**



**New England National Vice Commandant Pat
Maguire , and SgtMaj. Tracy Lynch**



**New England National Vice Commandant Pat
Maguire, and National Judge Advocate David
Porter.**

RHODE ISLAND

248TH BIRTHDAY BALL



SgtMaj. Tracy Lynch and guest



Department of Rhode Island Commandant Joe Afonso and his wife Tami



**Above Left Bucci Atwood Commandant Dave Creamer, and his wife Denise.
Above Department of Rhode Island Chief of Staff Wayne Salisbury and his wife Carol.**



Left New England National Vice Commandant Pat Maguire and his wife Lynn.

RHODE ISLAND

248TH BIRTHDAY BALL



National Judge Advocate David Porter, Colonel Gerry Leonard, Department of Rhode Island Commandant Joe Afonso, New England National Vice Commandant Pat Maguire



Bucci Atwood Commandant Dave Creamer, Department of Rhode Island Commandant Joe Afonso, New England National Vice Commandant Pat Maguire, Department of Rhode Island Chief of Staff Wayne Salisbury



The Marines attending the Rhode Island Birthday Ball November 10th 2023

Happy Birthday Marines, Semper Fi

BIRTHDAY AT PARRIS ISLAND

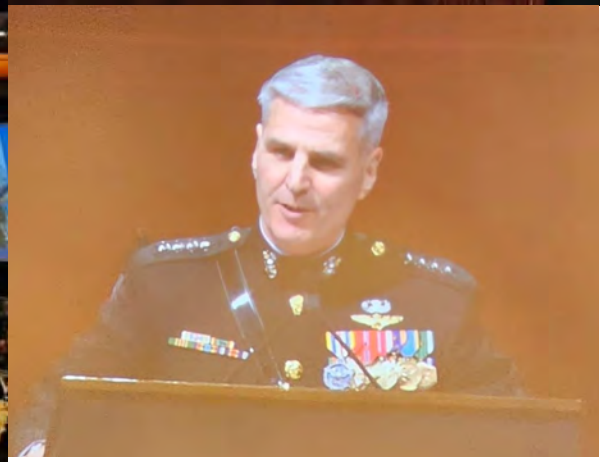
Of all the things on my bucket list, this is very near the top, to return back to where it all began. Some of our own went back this year National Judge Advocate David Porter, along with David Porter Senior, Liz Anderson and, Jean Porter attended this prestigious event.. Now taking photos at the monument is fine, but who gave permission for the after hours photo at the gate?



SEMPER FI LUNCHEON



If you have never been and have the opportunity to go this is one of the premiere events of the Marine Corps Birthday. It is held in the Convention Center in Boston and hosts about 1800 attendee's. From the pipe and drum corps playing the hymn , the Marine Corps Band playing the Star Spangled Banner, the dignitaries, awards, the guest speaker, this year the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, the swearing in of the poolies by the Assistant Commandant and of course a raffle. When you leave you will definitely be "Born Again Hard and ready to serve as a rifleman in my Marine Corps".



QUAD STATE 2024

SAVE this date 19 April 2024 to 21 April 2024

QUAD STATE CONVENTION & NEW ENGLAND DIVISION CONFERENCE 2024!

All information may be located on the DNHMCL website: www.NHMarines.org . From that page it will open to all documents. DNHMCL is also using Eventbrite for those who would like to pay online. As always the ability to pay by check is available.

Questions may be made by email or phone call to Cherie Monnell; marineamazon@comcast.net ; 207-752-0025

New information will be updated on website as it come available. All New England Division Department Commandants will receive the same info in emails to be shared with their detachments and all members.

Semper Fidelis

Cherie Monnell

DNHMCL Commandant

marineamazon@comcast.net

207-752-0025

QUAD STATE 2024



New England Division Conference & Quad State Convention April 19-21, 2024

Reservation notice

www.NHMarines.org (please check back often -FMI)

To: All members of the Departments of RI, CT, ME, VT, NH & MA

Reservations may now be made:

[Book your group rate for Quad State 2024 DNHMCL](#)

or

1-603 888-9970 Code: Quad State 2024 DNHMCL

[Sheraton Nashua \(marriott.com\)](http://marriott.com) 11 Tara Boulevard, Nashua NH 03062

Standard rm- 1 King or 2 Queens

Handicapped rooms available

***\$139 per night (2 -4p)**

***Pet Friendly**

*** tax not included- 8.5%**

Call now to reserve your room!!

The hotel will extend the room prices to Thursday & Sunday nights
18 April 2024 & 21 April 2024

Please share with all your members.

Questions, comments or problems please contact

Cherie Monnell-Commandant

Department of NH MCL

207-752-0025

Marineamazon@comcast.net

Semper Fi Marines!!

Deadline for reservations-March 28th 2024

QUAD STATE 2024



2024 NEW ENGLAND DIVISION CONFERENCE

&

QUAD STATE CONVENTION

APRIL 19-21, 2024

REGISTRATION & MEAL SELECTION

Deadline for registration March 28th 2024

Registration (MCL Members) -**\$30** before 1 Feb. 2024 -After 1 Feb 2024-**\$35**

Member of MCL ____ Yes ____ No * Dept ____ Detachment ____ Title ____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TOWN/CITY _____

STATE: _____ EMAIL _____ PHONE: _____

MODD- collar ____PUP ____DD ____PDD * Tag # ____ Title if any _____

GUEST/SPOUSE: _____

How many ____ Total ____ Check No: ____ Date: _____

If mailing please mail entire filled out form plus payment to address below

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET 2 CHOICES (20th April 2024)

All Plated Dinners comes with a Basket of Fresh Dinner Rolls & Creamery butter, Classic Ceasar Salad, creamy Ceasar Dressing, Chef's selection of Starch & Seasonal Vegetables, New York Cheesecake, Freshly brewed Starbucks coffee, decaffeinated coffee and Tazo Teas

1. New York Strip * \$56 *How Many? ____

2. Roasted Farm Chicken * \$54 *How Many? ____

Cost per person (includes tax & gratuity) * Total _____

WAYS TO PAY

Pay right on Eventbrite, tickets emailed

or

USPS: filed out form & make check payable to Dept of NH MCL Memo-R & B send to
Kim Benoit, DNHMCL paymaster

343 South St. #2

Milford NH 03055

QUAD STATE 2024



Department of New Hampshire Marine Corps League 2024 New England Division Conference & Quad State Convention

PROGRAM BOOK Ad Invitation

TO: MARINES & FRIENDS

Please use the form in triplicate, 1 -business, 1-will go to Chair (Jo), 1-Salesperson:
Preferred method of payment is via Eventbrite, see [link](#) below. But if paying by check please make copy of form to send with check to paymaster.

The form below may be used but copies would have to be made.

Tax ID # 02-0489531

*Full Page: **Prem \$325** ___ Color \$275 ___ Black/White \$200 ___

Half-Page (1/2): Color \$175 ___ Black/White \$125 ___

Quarter-Page (1/4): Black/White Only \$75 ___

Eighth-Page (1/8): Black/White Only \$25 ___

Name of BUSINESS _____

Salesperson's name _____

Email: _____ Phone # _____

Payment Date: _____ Check # _____

Ad form: PNG ___ JPEG ___ *Camera-Ready Photo ___

***Premium Placing-** inside front, inside back and back page - \$325

For availability call: Cherie 207-752-0025

Email: *Camera-Ready Photo + filled out form. Check made out to DNHMCL

Ad Copy: Quad 2024 Book to:
DNHMCL Program Book Ad Chair
Jo Zurwell
websgt@nhmarines.org

Check for Ad: Quad 2024 Book
DNHMCL Paymaster
Kim Benoit
343 South St. #2
Milford NH 03055

Preferred method for ad placement is with our event management system. Please go to
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-new-england-division-conference-quad-state-convention-tickets-723937997037?aff=oddttdcreator> and go to the Add-Ons page.

Questions may be addressed to Cherie Monnell-207-752-0025

Deadline for placing ads-March 1*, 2024.



SCRATCHING'S FROM THE DOGS



This is the Military Order of the Devil Dogs
2023 Multi-Raffle #1.

There are Three (3) prizes for this raffle that
can be won by up to three (3) different entrants.

1st Prize is a 3 night stay at Pentagon City for
Mid Winter and 2 banquet tickets OR \$500.
2nd Prize is a Flag-EGA, Concealment Cabinet.
(Shipping included)
3rd Prize is a Custom Made MODD Coin Rack.
(Shipping included)



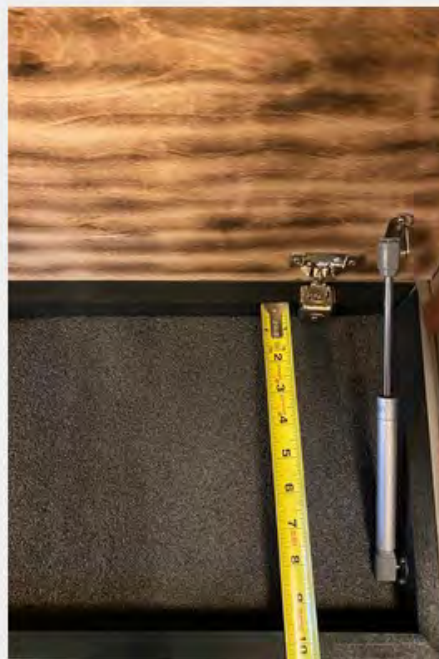
Proceeds from the raffle will go
to the operational funds of the
Military Order of the Devil
Dogs. So please consider help-
ing us out and purchasing your
tickets today!

In the event of an early
drawing we will post the early
drawing date and time 24 hours
in advance both here and on
our Facebook page. If not, the
**raffle will be drawn on Face-
book live at 6:00 PM January
14th.**

This raffle is void where
prohibited by law.

Flag-EGA Concealment Cabinet

2nd Prize is a Custom made Flag-EGA,
Concealment Cabinet.



Custom MODD Coin Rack

3rd Prize is a Custom Made MODD Coin Rack.



3 Night stay and Banquet Tickets



1st Prize is a 3 night stay at Pentagon City for M
Winter and 2 banquet tickets, OR \$500



YOUNG MARINES



YOUNG MARINES ORGANIZE TOYS 4 TOTS

The Brass City Young Marines will be helping the Railroad Museum of New England again this year to collect new unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots.

Please consider coming out Sunday November 12th and meeting the Young Marines, the wonderful volunteers of the museum and donating a toy to help make the holidays brighter for a child.

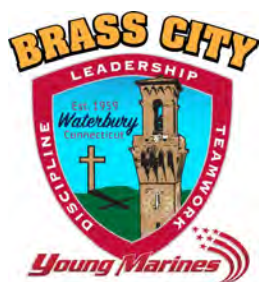
The train will be stopping at Fascias chocolate in Waterbury 12 to 1230pm Thomaston train station at 1 to 130pm, 70 East Litchfield Rd, Litchfield at 2 to 245pm, 170 Water St Torrington at 3 to 345pm



The Young Marines was founded in 1959, by the Brass City detachment of the Marine Corps League in Waterbury, Conn.

The Young Marines received its charter on October 17, 1965, and continued its affiliation with the Marine Corps League. The Young Marines, a national youth organization, provides a program for children age 8 through high school focused on leadership, citizenship through community service, self-discipline and living a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

For more information visit <https://youngmarines.org/unit/brasscity/page>



We are the Brass City Young Marines - the nation's first unit founded in 1959. We are proud to be a part of our nation's premiere, award-winning program for boys and girls between the ages of eight and eighteen. We drill on Monday's from 6:00-8:00pm at the Wheeler Young VFW Post 201 in Waterbury.

The Young Marines promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle, and we rely heavily upon teaching and instilling the values of discipline, teamwork, and leadership to youth participating in our program, setting a positive example that develops our members into responsible citizens.

Upon completion of recruit training, participants are instructed in rank structure and allowed to take part in numerous activities in our area and in combination with other units when possible. These include: community service projects; encampments; team-building activities; field trips; instruction about the dangers of drug abuse; and helpful instruction on dealing with peer pressure and other issues vital to our youth. It all begins when you contact us to request more information about our next recruit class. Won't you consider making these opportunities available to your son or daughter? Send us a message through our Facebook page **Brass City Young Marines**.

2024 MID WINTER NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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SHERATON PENTAGON CITY

900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204

Phone: 800-325-3535 Reference National Marine Corps League

HOTEL RESERVATION LINK

2/22/2024 – 2/24/2024 (check-in 2/21, check out 2/25)

- Hotel Rate: \$129 plus tax (currently 14.25%) (about \$148)
- Parking: Onsite garage parking is \$10 per day
- The reservation deadline is January 30, 2024.
- Any cancellations after February 10, 2024, 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. The hotel has 4 double ADA rooms with 1 with a roll-in shower, and 10 King ADA with 3 of them being roll-in-shower. If ADA room is needed, call the reservation number.

Wednesday arrivals begin

Thursday some committee and board meetings, stores open in the afternoon

Friday general session

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

Sunday departures

MERRY CHRISTMAS / HAPPY HOLIDAYS



During the winter months as the snow falls, it has always struck me as one of the most beautiful times of the year. The soft white snow covers the blemishes that life heaps upon us and it also brings a peace and silence to enjoy this beauty. As I look at our most precious monument, a symbol of one of the most ferocious battles that Marines have fought in. The new fallen snow at least for a moment, covers the blood and destruction and allows us to dwell on the peace and brotherhood, which is the essence of the season. The brotherhood, while raising our flag in the silence of the new fallen snow speaks volumes to our perseverance with a sense of hope and peace.

So as we celebrate this time of year and we enjoy these feelings of peace and prosperity, as we gather around our tables, sit by the tree or the fireplace, let us take pause. Remember our brothers and sisters serving in harms way. Let us remember our broth-

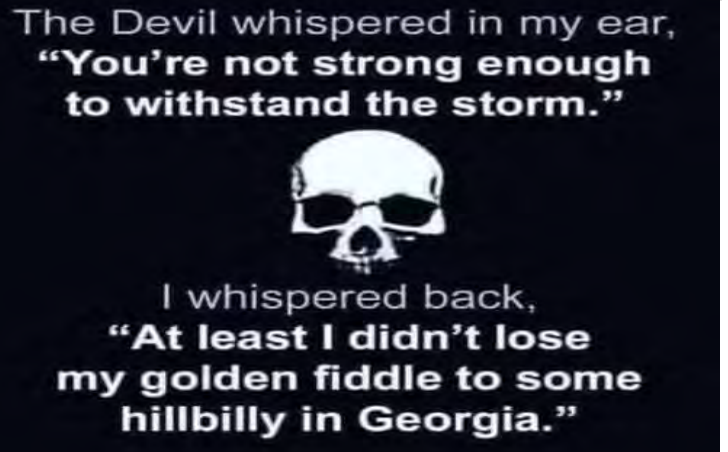
ers and sisters who are sick or in distress. Let's not just remember them, but let us pick up a phone and call them, write them a card or a note. Let them know someone cares. We as Marines are always aware of others because we consider each other brothers and sisters. We buddy check on others, it is part of our meetings, "are there any Marines or their families, sick or in distress"? We focus on Toys4Tots to make sure children in distress have a better Christmas. As we embrace the peace and comforts of the holiday season, let us spread that peace and joy to others. Let the few random acts of kindness act as the pure white snow and allow it to cover some of the ugliness of sickness and life. We personify our motto, Semper Fidelis, because it is a way of life to us. We are faithful to our Country, our Corps, our Brothers and Sisters and our families. We know that when all else fails, we have each other in the Corps, so with that in itself mandates that we do this for those Marines not as fortunate as we are. We say it, Semper Fidelis, we live it, we mean it.

And to all of you that I deal with all the time and those I only deal with occasionally or those I don't deal with at all, I wish you and your families a fantastic happy holiday and the healthiest of New Years.

Walt Benson



HUMOR AROUND THE DIVISION





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!



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

It's time for our monthly talk on recruiting. It's been a topic at National and at Division and at some Detachments as well and with idea after idea coming forth maybe we should look to put some of these ideas into reality.

Recently I have heard some that were proposed that sounded like a good idea, and I think they have a lot of merit. This first one really has gotten me motivated since it involves food. Schedule a Saturday or Sunday event at a local Pizza shop. If you know someone and could work out a deal great if not Pizza should be in our budget range. Call it what you may, I saw Peter P Monaco call it a Past Commandants Pizza Party. It's not a meeting nor should any League business be discussed, just some Comradery with other Marines or Perspective league members. I think our biggest problem is our identity, Who are we? Hand out information collect e-mail addresses that we can communicate with them. Just because our lives are too busy today doesn't mean it will stay that way, besides we get to send them the newsletters which tell the stories of what we are doing. Make it all about stories and comradery and fun. Ask if you can remind them of when the next meeting is. Give out your phone number, and ask if there is anything that you can help them with, not just league business but anything, Marine to Marine.



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)



Another thing we can do to boost recognition and awareness is advertise. Now not pay for ads but free ads. Just about every town in the US has an online news source The Patch.com. Most towns have there own version and you can post events such as meetings in there for free. It allows for a picture or a logo in the announcement and that will help bring attention to our announcement. Advertise the meeting for your detachment and include some other information maybe an agenda for the meeting, or include a number for anyone who needs a ride. If you have an event or you are doing a color guard, you can advertise it in there. By using this you keep the league and what you are doing in the forefront so everyone can see. The patch is sent out to anyone who subscribes to it. It gives them local news, weather, and events that are coming up locally. Are these two tasks guaranteed to get us 100 new members? No. But recruiting like anything else is hard work and it is something we have to take on every day. It may get easier as our number grow and the amount of events we do also grow but it is work. One step at a time, but one step is how we start the most important journeys.

Are You Ready?



Mike & Kay Ross
Albert E. Shockey Detachment #990
Kokomo, Indiana



Trbe@MCLLeague.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.

WAYNE SALISBURY



Wayne Salisbury was recently honored by the Elks Loge of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Senate in appreciation for his honorable service in our beloved Marine Corps League. Nothing could have made me happier when I saw this announcement on Facebook. In the past few years I have gotten used to seeing Wayne at all the events I have attended. He attends just about everything, National, Mid Winter, Quad State. If you need help Wayne is always there to offer whatever assistance that may be needed. Wayne serves as the Chief of Staff in the Department of Rhode Island and al-

so a member of the Bucci Atwood Detachment. Everywhere I go Wayne is there and in the heart of the action. I am privileged to know him. When you see him please congratulate him on these honors that have been bestowed on him, and we should all follow his examples of dedication and leadership that he brings to the table. Wayne, brother you do us proud sir, you make us all look a little better by the work and effort you put forth. You are definitely in the spotlight.

SEMPER FI Wayne Salisbury



2023

DECEMBER

2023



SUNDAY

MONDAY













TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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31						
						



2024

JANUARY

2024



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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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			



December

January



Marine Corps History

DECEMBER

4 December 1950: LtCol Raymond G. Davis led his battalion into Hagaru-Ri, Korea after four days of intense fighting in the mountain passes against a numerically superior hostile force. His battalion, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, helped clear the way for the 5th and 7th Marines, and LtCol Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism.

6 December 1928: A small detail of Marines under Captain Maurice G. Holmes defeated Nicaraguan bandits near Chuyelite. GySgt Charles Williams was mortally wounded during the fighting. Capt Holmes was later awarded the Navy Cross for gallantry, and a posthumous award was given to GySgt Williams.

8 December 1941: Japanese aircraft attacked Wake Island within hours of the fateful attack on Pearl Harbor. Marines of the 1st Defense Battalion and Marine Fighting Squadron 211 resisted Japanese invasion attempts for over two weeks before finally succumbing to an overwhelming force.

9 December 1992: Marines of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations capable) landed in Somalia kicking off Operation Restore Hope, the largest humanitarian relief operation of its kind.

10 December 1995: In Bosnia, 22 Marines from Marine Corps Security Force Company, Naples, Italy were among the first American troops to arrive. They provided the security for Allied Forces Southern Europe headquartered at Sarajevo. About 2,500 NATO troops would be in place by 19 December taking on the task of peace enforcement in former Yugoslavia from the U.N.

15 December 1948: The Secretary of the Navy signed a "Memorandum of Agreement" with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

19 December 1972: The Marine detachment of the USS TI-CONDEROGA provided shipboard security for three U.S. astronauts, Eugene Cernan, Ronald Evans, Harrison Schmitt, and their Apollo-17 space capsule. The astronauts had successfully completed a (then) record lunar stay of more than 75 hours.

20 December 1989: Operation Just Cause was launched in Panama to protect American lives, restore the democratic process, preserve the integrity of the Panama Canal Treaty, and apprehend dictator General Manuel Antonio Noriega. One Marine, Corporal Garreth C. Isaak, was killed and three other were wounded during the operation.

23 December 1941: Japanese forces launched a predawn landing on Wake Island and Wilkes Island, while their carriers launched air strikes against Wilkes, Wake, and Peale islands in support of the landing force. After nearly 12 hours of desperate fighting, the three islands were surrendered.

26 December 1957: Twenty helicopters from Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 162, were rushed to Ceylon onboard the USS PRINCETON where Marines participated in the rescue and

11 January 1945: The first elements of Marine Aircraft Group 24, commanded by Colonel Lyle H. Meyer, landed at Lingayen, Luzon, Philippine Islands, to provide close air support for Army forces. Over the next three months, MAG-24 and MAG-32 would fly a total of 8,842 combat sorties and drop more than 19,000 bombs as part of the Fifth Air Force in support of the Sixth Army.

16 January 1991: Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm as forces of the allied coalition launched an all-out air campaign against targets in Iraq and occupied Kuwait in an effort to liberate Kuwait and enforce the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council. Overall, in the theater of operations, the coalition forces included more than 415,000 U.S. troops.

18 January 1951: Marines of the 1st Marine Division began mopping-up operations against guerrillas in the Pohang area, South Korea, following the Division's return from its epic battle with Communist Chinese troops at the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir.

20 January 1968: The second battle for Khe Sanh began when Marines from the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines attacked a North Vietnamese battalion between Hill 881 South and Hill 881 North. More than 100 of the enemy were killed.

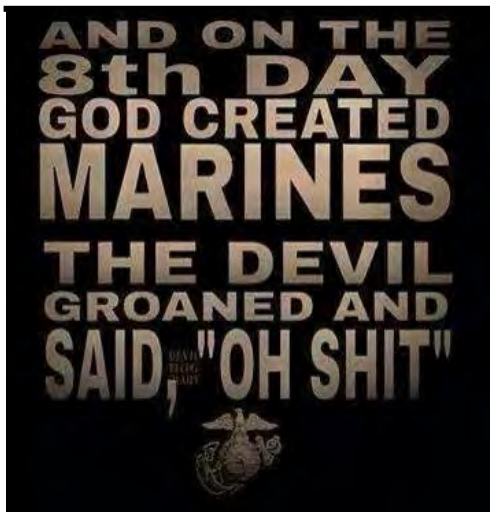
21 January 1918: The 1st Aeronautical Company arrived at Ponta Delgada, Azores, for anti-submarine duty. That unit was one of the first completely equipped American aviation units to serve overseas in World War I.

22 January 1969: Operation Dewey Canyon, perhaps the most successful high-mobility regimental-size action of the Vietnam War, began in the A Shau/Da Krong Valleys when the 9th Marines, commanded by Colonel Robert H. Barrow, and supporting artillery were lifted from Quang Tri. By 18 March the enemy's base area had been cleared out, 1617 enemy dead had been counted, and more than 500 tons of weapons and ammunition unearthed.

25 January 1856: Marines and seamen from the U.S. sloop DECATUR went ashore at the village of Seattle, Washington, to protect settlers from Indian raids. The Indians launched a seven-hour attack but were driven off later that day after suffering severe losses. Incredibly, only two civilian volunteers were killed and no Marines or sailors were lost.

27 January 1988: About 400 Marines and sailors from the 2d Marine Division, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, and 2d Force Service Support Group deployed for the Persian Gulf. The Contingency Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) CM 2-88 would relieve Contingency MAGTF 1-88 in the volatile Persian Gulf and provide the effective landing force capability to Joint Task Force Middle East.

29 January 1991: The first serious ground fighting of Operation Desert Storm broke out when Iraqi troops mounted an attack into Saudi Arabia along a 40-mile front. Iraqi units centered their efforts on Khafji, a port city six miles south of the border. Saudi and Qatari troops, supported by artillery from the 1st Marine Division and attack helicopters and other allied coalition aircraft, recaptured the town two days later.



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



Marine Corps League National Convention 2024

**Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort and Spa
71333 Dinah Shore Drive,
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270**

August 12th through August 16th
Banquet is Friday August 16th

On Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve in a land far away,
A squad of Marines in shifting sands lay.
There is no Christmas Star to guide them,
There are no stockings hung with care.

The only semblance of Christmas is,
The freezing cold wind that chills the air.
As we sit down to dinner, family and friends,
I can't help but think of them, eating food in tins.

We gather in churches to celebrate mass,
Our brothers and sisters, freezing their ass.
As I kneel in Gods building I humbly pray,
Please help my Marines out of harms way.

Send your breath down to warm them,
And keep watch over them as they sleep.
If you're speaking to Santa there is one gift I seek,
May the spirit of Christmas give each Marine Peace

Walt Benson

