



THE MICHIGAN MARINE NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Marine Corps League, Department of Michigan

HAPPY 246th BIRTHDAY MARINES!

From the National Commandant of the Marine Corps League 246th Marine Corps Birthday Message

Marines, 246 years ago, a Corps of Marines was founded at Tun Tavern, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Since 1921 we who are Marines, celebrate the birth of our Corps on 10 November. For the past 246 years, our citizens have called upon and counted on the Marines to do what we do best, to defend American soil and protect the American way of life and freedoms. It is a mission that we all swore an oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The Marine Corps League is a continuation of the esprit de corps that we all enjoyed while serving on active duty or the reserves. This common spirit and patriotism exist in all members of our League. We all share this inspiring enthusiasm, devotion, and strong honor of being a Marine. Within our Marine Corps League membership today, we have the greatest generation of Marines that served during World War II, Korean War, Vietnam, Beirut, Gulf War in Iraq and Afghanistan, and many other areas threatening our American way of life. Marines rose to the occasion then as they do now. America is proud of their Marines and rightfully so.

As Marines, we are extremely proud of our history and our legacy. The Marine Corps League also has its history and legacy and we are just as proud. As each of you celebrates the 246th year of the birth of the Marine Corps, I ask that you please remember our legacy and those that served before us. Think about and remember that esprit de corps that made us who we are today, United States Marines. Celebrate the bond that all Marines enjoy. Be proud of your Marine Corps and your Marine Corps League.

So, Happy Birthday Marines. Enjoy your celebrations throughout our country and continue to focus on each other and making our League stronger for all of us to enjoy! If you do not attend a formal celebration on the birth of our Marine Corps, please celebrate this day in your own way. Call a Marine that you haven't heard from in a while and just say, "Happy Birthday Marine!" Stay healthy and take care of one another.

Semper Fidelis,

Johnny Baker

National Commandant
Maine Corps League



Commandant Report

Art Menard

Department Commandant

menardart@gmail.com

(906) 280-7463

It is with great pride and pleasure that I report that The Michigan Commanders Group has selected marine Tracey Tippet of Lake Superior Detachment 764 as the "2021 Michigan Veteran of the Year."

Congratulations Tracey! On 02 October 2021, Tracey was also selected as the first female Marquette County Veteran of the Year. She currently serves on our Department Board of Trustees as the Upper Peninsula Zone Vice Commandant and our Department Adjutant. She volunteers as the Marquette County Toys for Tots Coordinator, serves as Secretary of Marquette County Veterans Alliance, and is a Board Trustee with the Alliance. She is active in American Legion Post 114, Tracey is the Jr. Vice Commandant in the Lake Superior Detachment 764, and Pound 174 Dog Robber.

Oorah Marine Tracey Tippet! Keep up the excellent work for a job well done!

Michigan MCL Foundation Scholarships



Tim McGee

Foundation President

(248) 705-9166—
tsmcgee1@hotmail.com

SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AWARDED

The Michigan Marine Corps League Foundation proudly announces the following 2021 Scholarship Grants of \$500.00 each to the following twenty recipients:

SSgt. Denial C. Spira Memorial Scholarship

Grant M. Parker - Muskegon Community College

Kendall A. Parker - Central Michigan University

The SSgt. Daniel C. Spira Memorial Scholarship is a partnership with Josef Johnson of Ultimate Athlete Concepts and the Foundation to a qualified scholarship recipient from Western Michigan.

VVA Chapter 9 & MI MCL Foundation Scholarship

Alyssa R. Donovan - University of Michigan

Jacob C. Donovan - Central Michigan University

Annabelle K. Gillman - Douglas J. Aveda Institute

Taylor E. Kinnunen - Mid-Michigan College

The VVA Chapter 9 & MI MCL Foundation Scholarship is a five (5) year partnership between the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 9 (Detroit) and the Foundation.

MI MCL Auxiliary & Foundation Scholarship

Bradley M. Gipson - Michigan Tech University

Elie O. Haney - ST. Mary's College of Notre Dame

Emma K. Johnson - Michigan State University

Michael D. McLean - Michigan State University

Meghan E. Moran - Bentley University

Grayson D. Plew - Purdue University

Jace T. Plew - Purdue University

Luke D. Rivard - Albion College

Rick Schafer - Kettering University

Aidan M. Sorensen - Western Michigan University

Korinne M. Trueman - University of Minnesota

Audrey S. Umstead - Northwest Michigan College

Rebecca E. Yates - Alma College

Thayer L. Yates - Northern Michigan University

Congratulations to all of these students and the Detachments and Auxiliary Units that sponsored them...and a special "Cab Do" to all of you that continue to donate every year to enable us to continue awarding these grants.





Junior Vice Commandant Report

Raymond Rowley
Jr. Vice Department
Commandant

Congratulations 100% Membership Detachments for 2021

Detachment 1337 Staff Sergeant Bryan k Burgess
Detachment 1327 Alpena
Detachment 879 Kalamazoo
Detachment 722 Wolverine
Detachment 684 Corporal Jack A Davenport
Detachment 165 Yagle Brothers
Detachment 162 Northwest
Detachment 161 David Murnighan
Detachment 158 Montford Point
Detachment 157 Monroe County
Detachment 152 Dearborn



Medal of Honor Recipient Duane E. Dewey, who passed away on Oct. 11, 2021

It is with much sadness that we share the passing of Medal of Honor Recipient Duane E. Dewey, who passed away on Oct. 11, 2021, in Saint Augustine, Florida, at the age of 89.

Recipient Dewey was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Korean War where he served as a Corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is survived by his children and numerous other family members.

Please join us in offering condolences to his family and friends.

His citation read:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Gunner in a Machine-Gun Platoon of Company E, Second Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces near Panmunjom, Korea, on April 16, 1952. When an enemy grenade landed close to this position while he and his assistant gunner were receiving medical attention for their wounds during a fierce night attack by numerically superior hostile forces, Corporal DEWEY, although suffering intense pain, immediately pulled the corpsman to the ground and, shouting a warning to the other Marines around him, bravely smothered the deadly missile with his body, personally absorbing the full force of the explosion to save his comrades from possible injury or death. His indomitable courage, outstanding initiative and valiant efforts in behalf of others in the face of almost certain death reflect the highest credit upon Corporal DEWEY and enhance the finest traditions of the United States Marine Corps.

**OCTOBER IS AGENT ORANGE
AWARENESS MONTH**

Support the Toxic Exposure Research Act
Sign the Petition Here: <https://chn.g.it/qzL9gdKN>

**BECAUSE, FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES,
SOME GHOSTS HAUNT
ALL YEAR ROUND...**

vva.org
8719 Colesville Road, Suite 100, Silver Spring, MD 20910 | 301-585-4000

avva.org

Message from National Headquarters - #2

Bob Borka
National Executive Director/COO
#EmbraceTheTribe

For distribution to Detachments.

The Database Committee met this week and part of the discussion was Member Numbers.

When a member is entered in the new database, a number generator assigns the next Profile ID automatically.

We do not have a number generator for the Member Number and Paid Life Member Number. These two items have been tracked manually on a spreadsheet since turning on the new database. The staff coordinates who has used what number internally.

To fix, automate, and reduce potential for error, we have determined the best long-term solution is to use the Profile ID as the Member Number (and PLM Number) moving forward.

We are not going backward and changing old numbers.

Our staff will use the Profile ID as the base for the number.

R123456 = Regular Member's Number

L123456 = Paid Life Member's Number

X123456 = Associate Member's Number

XL123456 = Associate Life Member's Number

This will help us tie in the Profile ID as the important number and should help separate any duplication.

Bob Borka: 128100

Potential other person: R128100

Cards started going out yesterday (9/29) with numbers like this.

New mailing address for MCL HQ

As you may know, we have had some struggles with mail at the national headquarters.

We now have a Post Office Box and urge you to use this new address for things going in the mail to Marine Corps League Headquarters.

Marine Corps League
P.O. Box 1990
Stafford, VA 22555-1990



Department Adjutant

Tracey Ann Tippet
Adjutant Department of Michigan

Marines:

It is that time of the year when Detachments start the election process for the coming year.

National and Department By-laws and Administrative Procedures mandate that each Detachment must hold their annual elections between October 1 and May 15. Both National and Department have reporting requirements that must be followed. I have listed information below that will help your Detachment with the process.

Installing Officer — The Officers below are the only officers that can install your Detachment:

National Commandant
Elected National Officer
Past National Commandant
Department Commandant
Elected Department Officer
Past Department Commandant
Detachment Commandant
Past Detachment Commandant

Note: If you are requesting the Department Commandant or an Elected Department Officer, please ensure that you give at least two weeks notice to avoid scheduling conflicts with the requested officer. Don't wait until the last minute and be disappointed.

Required reports:

Report of Officer Installation — This form is available by going to the National Headquarters website, www.mclnational.org. Type in "forms" in the search box and then "click" on Officer Installation. This will bring up the Report of Officer Installation form. Type in all the appropriate information required. Then print the completed form for your files. Obtain the signature of the Installing Officer and the individual completing the form and mail or email the completed form to the Department Adjutant at the address listed below within 10 days of the installation.

Tracey Tippet
9687 US Highway 41
Champion, MI 49814
tracertuck@aol.com

On the Department level, there are two additional

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Kalamazoo Detachment Honors Heroism

The Kalamazoo Detachment took great pleasure in presenting the Marine Corps League's Heroism Medal to Star Scout Holly from Troop 244 in Portage, MI October 17th, recognizing her lifesaving actions from last December.

On December 28th, 2020, Holly, a member of ScoutsBSA Troop 244(G) in Portage, Michigan, and her mother had just left Subway and were pulling out of the parking space, when they noticed a man on the side of the parking lot yelling over an older woman who was laying prone on the sidewalk, apparently unconscious.

Once they realized he was calling for help, Holly's mom pulled the car over next to them, Holly asked her to call 911, exited the car, and approached the man asking what was happening. The man told Holly that his mother had collapsed. Making a quick assessment, both Holly and the woman's son checked for a pulse but neither one could feel one. Holly instructed the woman's son to tilt her head back to keep her airway open while she started chest compressions. She continued compressions until the ambulance arrived and the paramedics took over.

If it were not for Holly's quick actions and application of the life skills that she had recently learned in ScoutsBSA, it is very likely that the woman may not have had the successful recovery that she did.

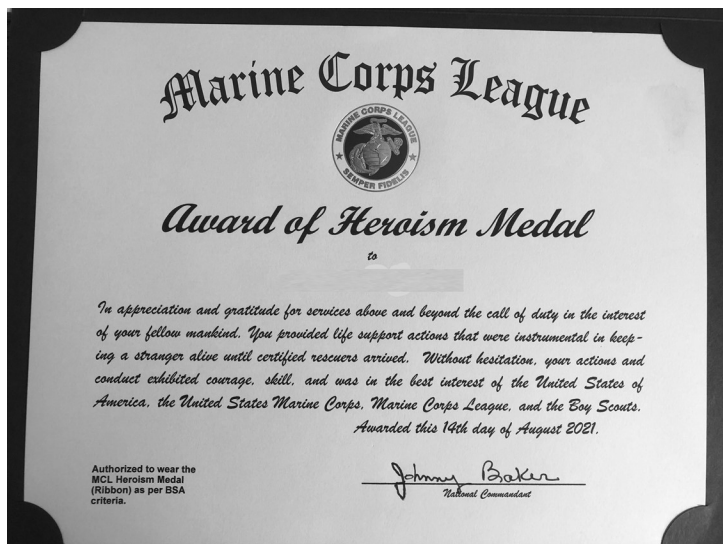
In Holly's words "I am so glad for having learned first aid. I definitely felt like I was able to help someone today."

In addition to what the MCL presented, Holly also received a Citizen Lifesaving Award from the City of Portage and the BSA Medal of Merit.

(l-r) Marine Bob Hencken, Commandant Sweerin, Star Scout Holly, Past Department Commandant Vantol, MSgt Mick Hornev USMC-Ret, — at Pathfinder Church.



Presentation of the award — (l-r) Past Department of Michigan Commandant Jon VanTol, Star Scout Holly, Kalamazoo Detachment Commandant Larry Sweerin



**Articles for February
Michigan Marine News due
January 5, 2022**

Cont- Department Adjutant

Tracey Ann Tippet

Adjutant Department of Michigan

reporting requirements. They are:

REPORT OF PERSON IN POSSESSION OF DETACHMENT CHARTER or where the charter resides and

REPORT OF LOCATION OF DETACHMENT BANK ACCOUNTS or banks and account numbers where your Detachment funds are on deposit. (not the dollar amount) Both of the above requirements may be sent to me with the Report of Officer Installation or the information may be sent to me via email or mail. There are two forms for these requirements attached.

For your information, the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures can be viewed at: www.mclnational.org and the Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures are located at: www_michiganmarines.org

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

**Department VAVS Representative**

Steven D. Kelley

Marine and Associates:

The Veterans and Volunteer Services of Michigan Marine Corps League is looking for a few Marines to be representatives at the following locations:

Ann Arbor VAMC, Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, and the new Chesterfield Home for Veterans in Macomb County. The reps will be responsible for the funds that are allocated to each facility. Twice a year a report of how those funds are being spent will have to be submitted to the Department of Michigan Marine Corps League Representative. If any Marine or associate is interested in being the VAVS representative, please let your Detachment Commandant know. The duties for the VAVS Rep and Deputy can be found on the National website under "Marine Corps League (VAVS) Representative and Deputy" guidelines. The Commandant will find the request for certification form at this site also. The Commandant will have to send the names of the Marine or Associate to Mike Miller at 1boa2020@gmail.com for certification.

I look forward to working with the Reps and Deputies in the future. If there are any questions, please contact me at: usmc7036@aol.com.

GREAT LAKES NATIONAL CEMETERY REPORT

Raymond Rayl, GLNC Liaison

Advisory Council Report for September 1, 2021

At the GLNCAC meeting held at the Holly VFW on 1 Sept, the Assistant Director Charles Reed reported that in August, there have been 590 internments and 4857 total YTD. Since opening in 2005, there are a total of 51,912 internments at the cemetery.

Phase II construction is underway. This will be a 20 acre expansion with 33,000 burial sites, with an additional Committal Shelter and two more Cortège Lanes.

The Flag Committee reported that because of the past storms with high winds, many flags on the Avenue of Flags had to be replaced due to damage.

The August 7th GLNC Golf Outing held at the Lapeer Country Club was a success. A total of \$13,190.76 was raised at the event. Next year's outing is scheduled for August 27th.

SCHEDULE OF GLNC EVENTS

Sept. 10 at 11:30 – Unaccompanied Veteran's Burial Service (Required event)

Sept. 11 at 10:00 – 20th Anniversary of 911 held at the Bell Tower

Sept. 17 – Remembering the POW/MIA

Oct. 2 at 11:00 – Honor Guard Appreciation Luncheon for HG members and spouses

Oct. 9 – Headstone Cleaning

Nov. 11- Veteran's Day Ceremony hosted by VFW and Auxiliary

Our Department Paymaster Marine Larry Sweerin has a new email address. Use mimclpaymaster@aol.com for all your correspondence in the future.



Historian Report

Dale K. Erion
Department Historian

As of this writing, I am looking for the home unit of two past Department presidents. They are VERDICE MILLER of WAYNE, MI, and CONSTANCE SMIGIELSKI of DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MI. If anyone can help me with this, I would appreciate it.

I went through old records and found these details. We have 38 current detachments; two are in weak condition and 63 defunct detachments. I know we have had Ironwood/Bessemer and Iron Mountain that we lost to the Department of Wisconsin. In Sault Saint Marie, we tried to maintain a charter but have failed in our three attempts. Over the years, the lower peninsula has had the same problem with a detachment going defunct in an area to reopen later with a similar name. Losing a detachment is due to a failure of the leadership at the time.

Currently, we have detachments from STEVENSON, MI (WOLVERINE DET), COLDWATER, MI (BRANCH AREA DET), MONROE, MI (MONROE DET) up to SOUTH RANGE, MI (KEWEENAW DET). That covers the whole state, and we can do better.

I am still looking through old newsletters and convention books. One of our earliest zones records is the SOUTHEAST ZONE, which covered metro DETROIT, including FLINT, BELCHER LANE, BRIGHTON, and MONROE detachments. WESTERN ZONE covered U.S. 10 and south. NORTHERN ZONE covered U.S. 10 and north to include the upper peninsula. That was before the highway system we have now, so travel was more difficult and time-consuming.

At this time, I would like to encourage detachments without a historian to find one if possible. All detachments should scan their documents and pic-

tures into a computer. Or at least keep them in a water-tight plastic storage tub. Too often, I hear from a detachment saying their records have been damaged or destroyed by fire, water, or insect or rodent infestations. These are your records and need to be kept safe. An inventory of all records and who has possession of them needs to be done.

Yes, I have heard several stories about damaged records. These range from they are lost to we don't know who has them. These are your detachment records and are your responsibility to keep safe. These detachment records are not the department historians. As the department historian, my responsibility is to keep all department historical documents and property in my custody safe and secure. I also can answer questions about my office. In addition, I am required to submit a written inventory at the June convention of all department documents and property in my custody. This is under the authority of department bylaws and the department commandant. I have noticed that other department officers do not follow this department bylaw. The bylaws are not enforced, and too much department property has been lost, misplaced, or unaccounted for over the years.



At department meetings, some Marines have laughed at or had fun with me and my reports. I have shrugged it off. But pictures or items I brought to the meeting for display have come up missing. This is why I no longer do displays, and this is unsatisfactory. Remember: this is department property and department history. I am asking for detachments before submission of items or documents to me; make sure it is related to department history. If the items are more closely related to your detachment, keep them as part of your detachment history. This is one reason why each detachment needs a detachment historian.

If something should happen to your detachment records, I can assist you in the re-construction of your history from the records I have as a department historian. I do not have complete detachment histories, but I do have highlights and interesting facts. I can also guide detachments in how to organize and safeguard their records.



Proclamation 10292 of October 18, 2021 Death of General Colin Powell

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

General Colin Powell was a patriot of unmatched honor and dignity. The son of immigrants, born in New York City, raised in Harlem and the South Bronx, a graduate of the City College of New York, he rose to the highest ranks of the United States military and to advise four Presidents. He believed in the promise of America because he lived it. And he devoted much of his life to making that promise a reality for so many others. He embodied the highest ideals of both warrior and diplomat. He led with his personal commitment to the democratic values that make our country strong. He repeatedly broke racial barriers, blazing a trail for others to follow, and was committed throughout his life to investing in the next generation of leadership.

Colin Powell was a good man who I was proud to call my friend, and he will be remembered in history as one of our great Americans.

As a mark of respect for General Powell and his life of service to our Nation, I hereby order, by the authority vested in me as President of the United States by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff at the White House and upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions until sunset on October 22, 2021. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.

Letter from the Editor:

Mark Sutton

At the 2021 Fall Staff Meeting, I asked those present what their thoughts were on the Michigan Marine News in its current edition. The Marines present were satisfied with the new format. The Marines were also asked how many issues should be created each year, and the consensus was four, one per quarter.

Reviewing the Department Bylaws, I have determined that the following schedule will be adhered to as much as possible. This November issue is a little late due to unforeseen events in my personal life. I will strive to do better with future issues.

The Michigan Marine News will have issues for **February, May, August, and November**. Which means **deadlines for submission** will be as follows:

January 5, April 5, July 8, and October 5.

Please submit your articles to **mm12sutton@gmail.com**. Please add "**Michigan Marine News**" in the subject line so I can easily search my email. The name of your file should include your title and issue submitting for, for example, "Commandant Feb 2022.docx."

If you are submitting on behalf of your detachment, please use your detachment name or number in the file name.

The preferred file format is ".docx" (Microsoft word) or place the text of the article in the body of an email. Please avoid sending me a PDF file for articles.

Department officers should have an article for each issue.

Who may submit articles? Anyone may submit an article to me for consideration.

If you submit an event, please remember to include "Who, What, When, Where, and Why" the event is happening.

For photo submissions please include the name, title, and reason or event of the photo.

If you have any questions please email me.