

Michigan Marine News

The Magazine of the Department of Michigan Marine Corps League and Marine Corps League Auxiliary

Department of Michigan, Marine Corps League Foundation

Your Foundation At Work For You

Michigan MCL Foundation Announces new partnership with Chapter 9, Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

Winter Meeting Scheduled for
January 24– 25.
Jackson, Michigan
Details Inside

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF ONE FINE MARINE—Sgt Major Ken Rice

Twenty-One Scholarships Granted!



Department of Michigan
Marine Corps League



FROM THE EDITOR

Jerry McKeon



Marines:

Your Michigan Marine Newsletter took third place in the National Newsletter contest.

Department Commandant Jon VanTol must be standing on a chair as he presents me with the plaque representing third place.

You can help me make our newsletter even better by submitting your stories and photos of events in your town and your detachment.

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE March 1, 2020

Michigan Marine News

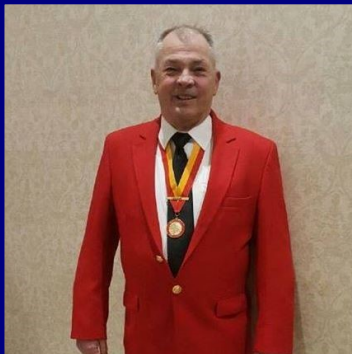
CONTENTS

Winter 2019/2020

Newsletter wins award	2
Message from the Dept. Commandant	3
Message from Sr Vice & Jr. Vice Comdt.	4
Paymaster/National Vice Commandant	5
Gerri Tuohy—Auxiliary President	6
Mary Brief steps in National Role	7
Once A Marine Always a Marine	8
Cascade Detachment #149	9
Registration—Winter Rally, Jackson, Mi	10-16
Foundation Information	17-22
Legion celebrates Marine's Birthday	23
Macomb Detachment Hosts 135 Marines	24
Ralph Rosas—Message from Web Master	25
Cpl. Stanley L. Moore 50th Anniversary	26
Sgt Major Ken Rice—Life and death	27
Marine of the Year Nominations	28
Kalamazoo Detachment #879	29
Ken Overby tells us about his membership	30
Jan VanTol –Honorable Pack Leader	31
Cascades Detachment #149	32
Upper Peninsula #444	33
Cpl. Stanley L. Moore Golf Outing	34
Flint Detachment Installs Flag Pole	35
Jim Tuohy takes us on history Tour	36
December 7, Remembering Pearl Harbor	37
Forward Planning	38
Frequently called numbers	39
Detachment #1225 Honors Marine	40
A Scholarship Thank You	41
Two Poems for your enjoyment	42

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Al Pearson, Sr. Vice Commandant



A phone call from Al Pearson seeking an update on our detachment's raffle ticket sales led to a long discussion on ways to raise money for the department's VA Programs. Al remembers In years past, standing in front of the Walmart store in Mt Pleasant and after several days, sometimes in inclement weather, \$1,000 would be raised. However, Walmart implemented a new policy where anyone wishing to use their store as a donation point, must be a local organization. Even though there is not a Marine Corps League in Mt. Pleasant, we could not convince them to allow us to continue. Our expected fundraising revenue dropped by \$1,000.00.

Our League is a drop in the ocean when it comes to charitable organizations seeking support. For the most part we have to plea for support in front of stores and other public places where people gather. If it seems like we always have to turn to our detachments, pounds and auxiliary. So, with the thankful face we always put on when collecting coins and dollars in front of a market, the same face is worn again. It would be absolutely wonderful if every detachment, pound and auxiliary unit would purchase or sell the sixty raffle tickets sent to you. That's only \$120.00; but times thirty or forty, that \$3,600.00-\$4,800 hundred dollars. Please note this money is for our veteran activities.

AL Pearson, Sr. Vice Commandant

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Art Menard, Jr. Vice Commandant



Marines, Associate Members, Auxiliary Members

Effective 01 September, all annual memberships expire. Those that have not paid their dues will become delinquent members losing the normal rights and privileges that members in good standing have. If you have not paid your annual dues you need to get in touch with your Detachment Paymaster and submit your payment. If anyone needs any questions or need help please contact me at: menardart@gmail.com

Detachment Commandants, Detachment Paymasters and Detachment Jr. Vice Commandants should be reaching out to delinquent members and find out why they have not renewed their membership. These delinquent members are the first members listed on the first page of all Detachment quarterly rosters.

As of 30 September 2019, the Department of Michigan has 1527 paid annual members and 408 unpaid or delinquent members. There's been a lot of activity in regard to paid members due to the annual deadline of 01 September so the numbers should be changing in a positive way soon.

There's excellent progress being done in the Manistique area of the Upper Peninsula as they have 23 members and are finalizing their charter application. The Fire Team has selected U.P. Devil Dogs as their future Detachment name and is really coming together as a group. There will be more news soon on when it will all come together.

Department of Michigan

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

The Commandants Page



Jonathan S. VanTol

Marines,

The Marine Corps Birthday celebrations are over, Veterans Day has passed and now detachments are gearing up for their Toys 4 Tots campaigns.

At the Fall Staff meeting it was decided to turn in the Department Ceremonial rifles. Currently they are stored at the Dearborn Detachment. On November 20th, weather permitting I and the Assistant Sgt at Arms Steve Kelley will meet with Phil Smith to pack up the rifles.

The Greater Michigan Detachment will turn in their charter as they cannot function with only two Marines in Rogers City. The Department has contacted those members and transferring them to other Detachments.

Going back to the subject of Veterans Day. Many have forgotten that it was originally called Armistice Day. It was a

national day of remembrance of the end of World War I. This was the war that was thought to end all wars. Unfortunately it did not and we continue to have conflicts that involve our military. After World War II it was changed to Remembrance Day in Europe and Veterans Day in the United States to honor Veterans that have served in other conflicts. Hopefully the day will come that war will not be needed to protect democracy and keep tyrants from harming their own citizens.

With Christmas approaching may we focus on peace and goodwill to all.

Remember to register for the 2020 Midwinter Rally hosted by the Red Knights Pound 138 and the Cascades Detachment. It will be held in Jackson at the Holiday Inn on January 24-25th. Information is on the Department webpage (michiganmarines.org). There will be a few modifications to the agenda that I hope will be beneficial.

Jonathan S. VanTol

Commandant

Dept of Michigan

Marine Corps League

***One day, you'll get out of the Marine Corps;
you'll put your uniform up, but you'll never
not be a Marine. General John F Kelly***

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

The Paymaster's Page

Commandants: National Jr. Vice Commandant Warren Griffin, recently requested that all detachments provide national with a complete list of the activities the detachment participates in. All known activities were listed and the detachment commandant needs to check off the ones the detachment works on. If you have not seen this request check with your Zone Commandant.

DON'T LOSE YOUR LIFE MEMBER PAYMENTS FROM NATIONAL

Recently each detachment received a list of Life members. The Paymaster and the commandant should review the list and note all life members that have passed away since the last report. After the review, both officers need to sign the list and forward on to the department paymaster prior to year end.



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Central Division National Vice Commandant

Past National Commandant Richard Gore passed away on November 29th. Services have been held but please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

SCAM ALERT

Jim Tuohy, brings this to our attention: Congressman Daniel Webster, provided the following SCAM ALERT. My office received word last week of a scam targeting our veterans. Using sophisticated technology, scammers are generating calls that appear as "Department of Veteran Affairs 800-827-1000" on individual caller ID systems. These scammers claim to be calling from "Veterans Services" and say they are calling to confirm personal information of the veteran for benefit purposes. They may also leave a voice mail saying something like this: "Your VA profile was flagged for two potential benefits due to a change in the VA program. These are time sensitive entitlements. Please call us back at your earliest convenience. DO NOT call these individuals back or provide ANY personal identifiable information over the phone. Instead HANG UP immediately, contact law enforcement at a non-emergency number to report the scam, and file a complain with the FCC at consumercomplaints.fcc.gov".

Marine Corps League Auxiliary

President Gerri Tuohy



Hello to all my Ladies of the Auxiliary, perspective members and all League members,

At our Department Convention in June, I was delighted and honored to be accepted as a member of Marine Corps League Foundation. As I navigate into the happenings of the Foundation, I hope to acquire much knowledge of what this is all about.

I am certain everyone enjoyed the festivities of the Marine Corps Birthday. Here in Flint, our Ball was enjoyed by approximately 130 guests. Now we are heading for the holidays and time just keeps on moving along. As my mother once told me, "the older you get, the faster time goes". I do believe every word of that – sometimes I would like to just stand still in time – just for a short while until I can catch up.

Our Mid Winter Rally is slowly approaching. Before you know it, January 24 will be here. Please be sure to get your hotel, registration and banquet reservations in on time.

Take time to read our Publicity Chair Elizabeth's message – it is very inspiring and encouraging. Come and see what we are all about – we do lots of fun things, always keeping our veterans in the forefront. The needs are great and we do our best to assist in all situations.

I wish warmth, comfort and peace to all at this most wonderful time of the year.

Gerri Tuohy



Gerri Tuohy, President, Department of Michigan, MCL Auxiliary.

Department President:	Ranea Lajewski
Gerri Tuohy	Treasurer-
Sr. Vice President	Sandy Van Tol
Marcy Oakley	Fundraising
Jr. Vice President	Peggy Tuohy
Sandy VanTol	Ways and Means Chair
Judge Advocate	Joanne Bressette
Kimberly Sawatzki	Publicity Chair
Chaplain	Elizabeth LaPouttre
Cathy Rayl	Historian
Secretary	Judy Flynn

National Officers 2019-2020

National President : Evelyn Joppa

Sr. Vice President: Linda Chamberlain

Jr. Vice President: Dotty Sanning

Judge Advocate: Mary Brief

Jr. Past President: Carol Smith

Central Division V.P. Renee McGuan

Marine Corps League Auxiliary

PDP Mary Brief Steps Up To National Role!



Mary Brief of Kingston, has recently been installed as a National Officer for the Marine Corps League Auxiliary. Brief, who was raised in Frankenmuth, has been a member of the MCLA for over 23 years. She is a charter member of both the Flint Unit, located in Mt. Morris, and the Edson Kline VanSlyke Unit, located in Bay City. Over the years, Mary has served various positions within the organization at the unit and state levels. Mary is the daughter of Keith R. Kuhne (1934-2005) Sergeant, United States Marine Corps, Korean War. Brief is actively serving our veterans and military personnel through volunteer work in various projects, fundraising efforts, and events. Mary's devotion to our veterans is strongly rooted because she is not only the daughter of a veteran, but also a wife and mother. Mary's husband and son both served in the US Army. The MCLA has become a family affair, as her mother, sister, and daughter are also members. Just a few of the events and service projects Mary has been involved with for the MCLA include assembling homeless wash kits, sending care boxes to our troops, providing items for the Anka House in Tuscola County, and sewing rice therapy bags for the VA Therapy Department. Mary

Mary Brief, National Judge Advocate

Marine Corps League Auxiliary

will be participating and organizing the following upcoming events: supporting the Lapeer County Young Marines Program through various avenues, hosting a free make and take pumpkin craft for children at the Frankenmuth Farmer's Market Harvest Festival October 12th, and handmade card workshops to send to VA patients. Mary has demonstrated dedication and leadership in the MCLA and she is proud to serve as the newly elected National Judge Advocate. If you would like more information about how you can help local veterans or active military personnel throughout the state, or more information on the Marine Corps League Auxiliary, please visit the Michigan Marine Corps League Auxiliary Facebook page, email publicitymimcla@gmail.com, or call Elizabeth at 989-545-8798.

Make joining the Marine Corps League a family affair!

A few of those that have done so.

John and Peggy Tuohy - Jim and Gerri Tuohy - Ann and Ted LeClair

Jon and Sandy VanTol - Mary Brief and her Daughter Elizabeth.

Michigan is a major contributor to the National Talent Pool.

Once a Marine... Always a.... Family Affair

By Elizabeth La Pouttre, PR Chair, Department of Michigan Marine Corps League Auxiliary



As we are nearing the New Year, I think it is worth considering how you can get your family and friends involved in supporting the League and Auxiliary. I became a member of the Auxiliary when I was 16 years old. I admittedly had taken some time away from the Auxiliary when my life threw me some fastballs; however, I came back and was welcomed with open arms and hearts from both our Marines and the Ladies in the Auxiliary. For that, I am forever grateful and I think it is worth your consideration to share this great comradeship on both the League and Auxiliary side with your own loved ones.

I am the granddaughter of a Marine and although my grandfather passed in 2005, I still can hear him proudly singing the Marine Hymn with his baritone voice and my eyes still well with tears at the memory. Marines, that is the type of impact being a family member of a Marine will leave on your heart. I not only feel honored, but proud to be able to serve you and our veterans.

As time surges forward and we slip into a New Year, look around at your friends and family members with whom you are sharing this Holiday Season. Is there any better person than one you love, who can continue to impact others in our communities, our veteran population, and our country? I think not. See in my family, as in most, being a Marine is truly a family affair. My mother, grandmother, and aunt are all Auxiliary members... and all because my grandfather invited us to many meetings, conventions, and events.

I urge you to bring your family along to see your volunteering in action, to witness the legacy your actions are leaving upon others, to help foster a love for country, and to make memories with your family and your members. Not every detachment has an Auxiliary attached to it, but if you do, please encourage the ladies in your life to join them on meeting night, slip into the MCLA meetings during conventions, to reach out to them when they are hosting a fundraising event or community service project and see how they can help. I hope the ladies in your life can witness how the Auxiliary ladies express their dedication and gratitude to our Marines, our Veterans, and our Country through various endeavors. We look forward to meeting and welcoming the ladies in your life in the coming New Year!

Cascades Detachment #149

On October 25th, Members of the Cascades Detachment attended a memorial dedication at the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 109. The adjacent lots next to their building was turned into a park by them. Accepting a Certificate of Appreciation for the Detachment is Raymond Rowley, the Detachment gave a large donation for the project. Marine Darryl Payne who is a member of both organizations and State Representative Julie Alexander was there. Julie is an associate member of the Cascades Detachment, her father is one of our life members. Also present at the ceremony was Marines Frank Smedley and Tom Fiero.



Marine Corps League ***2020 Department of Michigan***

Mid-Winter Rally

January 24-25, 2020

Holiday Inn,
Jackson, Michigan
Hosted By



MODD Pound #138 "Red Knights"

Assisted by: Cascades Detachment #149

**Department of Michigan
Marine Corps League and Auxiliary
Mid-Winter Rally
January 24 & 25, 2020**

Host: MODD Pound #138, The Red Knights assisted by the Cascades Detachment #149

Place: Holiday Inn Jackson NW
2696 Bob McClain Drive
Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 789-9600
Group Block: Devil Dogs
Hotel is behind Meijer just off of I-94

Rate: Double \$109.00
5% occupancy tax. 6% Sales Tax = 11% tax

Parking: Very Large parking lot at the hotel

Check in time: 3:00pm

Check out time: 11:00am

Meal: **Buffet** (Menu is in this packet) (In-House Restaurant)
Cut off for reservations at these rates: December 24, 2019

CHAIRMAN Wendy Zamora wleezamora@gmail.com (517) 541-6151	
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SCHEDULE WILL BE PUBLISHED BY COMMANDANT

Marine Corps League

Department of Michigan

Mid-Winter Rally 2020

January 24-25

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2020 Mid-Winter Rally

Name: _____ Title _____

Detachment or unit: _____

Phone # _____

Name: _____ Title _____

Detachment or unit: _____

Phone # _____

Strip Ticket: \$60.00 - Registration: \$5.00 #Attending _____ \$ _____

Hospitality: \$15 #Attending _____ \$ _____

Banquet: \$40.00 #Attending _____ \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please return this form to: PDD Wendy Zamora
 MODD Pound #138
 412 W. Harris St.
 Charlotte, Michigan 48813

Make checks payable to : **MODD Pound #138**

Deadline for Banquet – January 15, 2020

Hospitality & Registration will be accepted at door

By check or cash.

Marine Corps League

Department of Michigan

Mid-Winter Rally 2020

January 24-25

If attending Banquet please make sure you send form before January 3, 2020

Along with check for strip ticket to:

MODD Pound #138

Wendy Zamora – Chairman

412 W. Harris St.

Charlotte, MI 48813

BANQUET MENU IS A BUFFET MENU

The following will be in the buffet

Buffett Selection

- London Broil
- Grilled Chicken w/Hunter Style Sauce
- Vegetable Lasagna
- Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Fresh Vegetable Medley
- Tossed Field Greens w/assorted Dressings

Chef's selection of assorted desserts

Cash Bar will be open during meal

Number attending _____

Must be received by **January 15, 2020** in order to ensure your banquet attendance.

MARINE CORPS League



Military Order of the Devil Dogs, Pound #138 The "Red Knights"

Assisted by Cascades Detachment #149, Marine Corps League, Jackson, MI

The "Red Knights" Pound #138 are selling ads to our 2020 Mid-Winter Program Book, to help defray some of the expenses incurred with hosting the 2020 Mid-Winter Conference. All Detachments, Units and Pounds are invited to purchase an ad, as are all Department and Auxiliary Officers. Candidates seeking advancement in the Department line are also encouraged to purchase an ad.

All donations are 100% tax deductible under IRS 501c4 with a special exemption code of 0955 with a deductibility of (1)

Program Advertising Rates
2020 Mid-Winter Conference
January 24-25, 2020 Jackson, Michigan
Holiday Inn Jackson NW

<i>Size of Ad</i>	<i>Customer Supplied Art Work</i>
Full Page - 8 ½" x 11"	\$100.00
Half Page - 8 ½" x 5 ½"	\$65.00
Quarter Page – 4 ¼" x 5 ½"	\$30.00
Business Card – 2" x 3 ½"	\$20.00
Patron – (1 Line) ¾" x 8 ½"	\$10.00
Back cover - 8 ½" x 11"	\$150.00
Inside Front & Back -8 ½" x 11"	\$125.00

~ IF WE DO YOUR ARTWORK, THERE WILL BE AN EXTRA \$20 CHARGE. ~

Name _____ Phone _____

Detachment or Business _____

Address _____

On the back add your email address and point of contact

Make checks payable to: MODD POUND #138 "Red Knights"

Mail to:

MODD Pound #138

Phil Zamora – Pound Dog Robber

412 W. Harris St

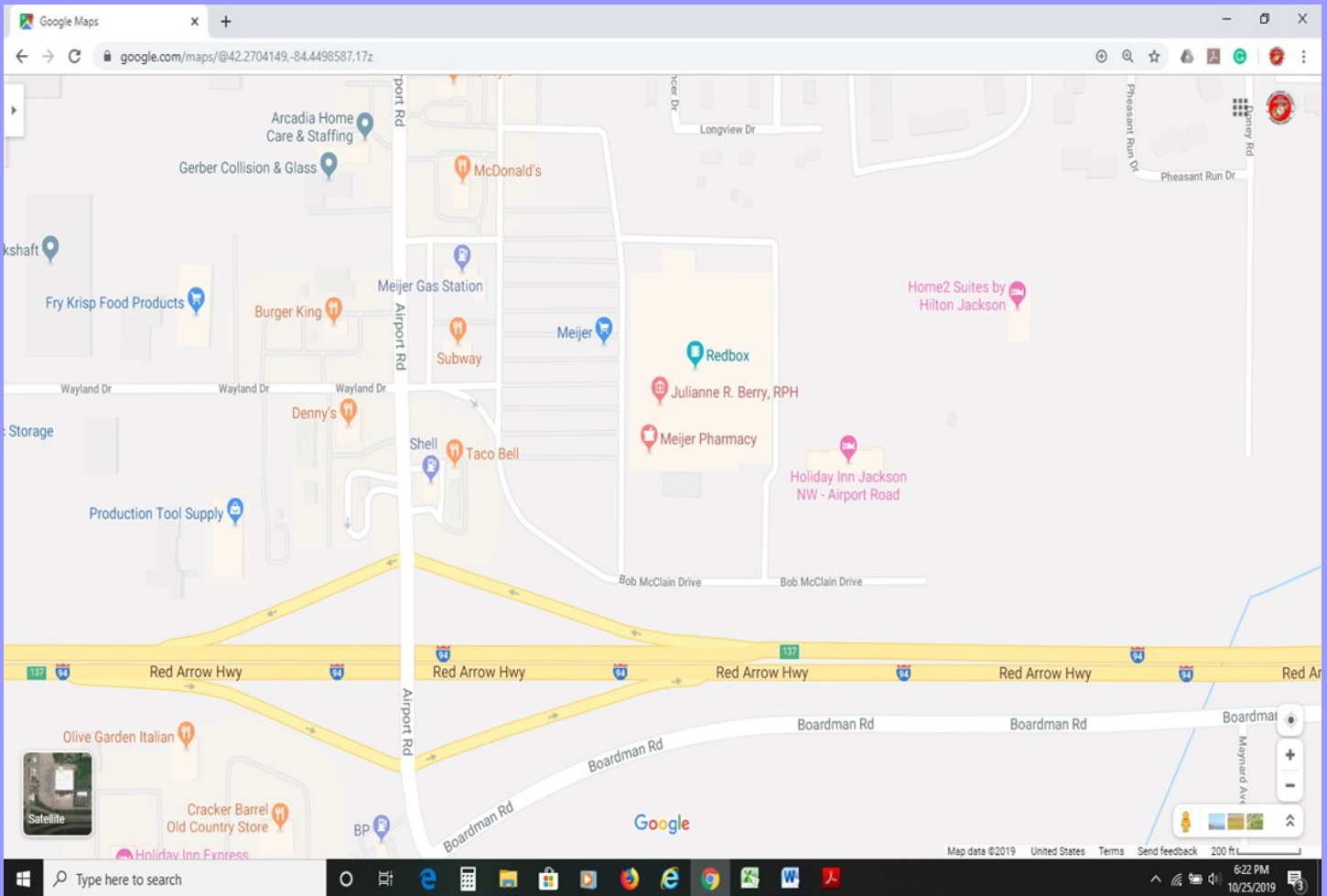
Charlotte, Michigan 48813

Circle size of ad and send check with this sheet

DEADLINE FOR ADS ~ JAN 08, 2020

IF YOU SEND AD BY EMAIL

PLEASE CALL US TO LET US KNOW



Directions:

From Detroit Area: Take I-94 West to exit 137. Turn right at exit onto Airport Road and turn right onto Wayland Drive (MEIJER). Turn right onto Bob McClain Drive. Hotel is located behind Meijer.

From Grand Rapids Area: Take US 131 South to I-94 East to exit 137 Turn Left at exit onto Airport Road and turn right onto Wayland Drive. Turn right onto Bob McClain Drive. Hotel is located behind Meijer.

From Lansing: Take I-69 South to exit 38 to I-94 East to exit 137 Turn Left at exit onto Airport Road then turn Right onto Wayland Drive. Turn right onto Bob McClain Drive. Hotel is located behind Meijer.

Semper Fidelis

If lost call (517) 204-4883, this is the Duty cell phone for the weekend

A NEW LOGO FOR THE FOUNDATION



FOUNDERS COIN SALES – We have twenty-nine coins left representing another \$2,900 dollars in income. Over \$11,000 will be raised when sold out. Don't miss out. If you've purchased a coin already, consider what Commandant Jon and Sandy VanTol did. When a family birthday or special occasion calls for recognition, they gift with a founder's coin. To date the VanTol's have recognized their children, grandparents and friends by placing their names on the Founders Board. Past Department Commandant Dave Masunas followed suit honoring a cousin on her birthday. It's a wonderful way to honor family and friends and support a worthy cause. Presently, at no charge, a foundation challenge coin is included.

Is there a detachment member you would like to honor? A Founders coin on a twenty-fifth or fiftieth membership anniversary could be the perfect way to convey congratulation. The gift will include a personally prepared certificate.

OVER \$75,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED OVER THE PAST SIX YEARS. – Michigan is one of a very few departments with a foundation. Shy of 2,000 members, our detachment has granted scholarships to well over one hundred students in recent years. Additionally, thousands of dollars have been dedicated to veteran activities; especially at holidays when the department hosts veterans in VA hospitals.

MATCHING DONATIONS - Have you recently purchased a Founders coin or made a personal donation to the foundation? Check with your HR department as many companies provide matching donations to 501(c)(3) organizations, like ours.

YOUR DONATIONS ARE NOW ACKNOWLEDGED ON OUR RECOGNITION BOARD – It's nice to be recognized for your generosity. Feel the pride as we display your gift. We will keep track of future donations and move you up the board accordingly.

JOIN THE 110% CLUB – There are plenty of worthy organizations seeking donations. Most detachments organize fundraisers to support donor activities. Please consider committing 10% of your fundraising income to the foundation. With a major source of income fading from the scene, we desperately need your support.

GRANTS AND CORPORATE DONATIONS – To date, we have received \$7,500.00 in grants and I am working on a few more at this time. If you know of a corporation or private foundation that would be prime for me to contact, please forward their name to me. If you have a relationship with an attorney, funeral director or CPA, they are often asked by a client or family member the name of an organization they could direct donations to.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FROM WILLS. Now is a good time to inform your family that at your death, should friends and family wish to make a donation to a charity in your name, a memorial gift to our Foundation would make a perfect gift of remembrance. We would be honored if you considered your Department of Michigan Marine Corps League Foundation as a suggested organization.

As we approach the end of the year, detachments and individuals might find this the best time to think about charitable donations. Although donor tax laws have changed, Tim McGee offers a unique way to save paying taxes on a required IRA withdrawal. By directing the withdrawal to a charity, the usual tax placed on an IRA withdrawal is waived.

Founders Club Members

DECEMBER, 2019

# 1. Jon and Sandy VanTol	#26. Dept of Michigan MCL	#51 - Cpt. Joseph Tomlinson	#76 - open
#2 Dave & Kendra Masunas	#27. Terry Dowhan	#52 - Marine Frank Rosinski	77 - open
#3 D. Jerry & Dianne M. McKeon	#28. Michael W. Miller	#53.- open	#78 - open
#4. Marine Al Pearson	#29. Michael V. Kell	#54 - open	#79 - open
#5. CWO4 Kevin D. Magin	#30 Michael V. Kell	#55. Steven Kelley	#80. Memory of Angela VanTol
#6. Marine Earl Allison	#31. MODD – Flint Dawgs	#56. Benjamin M. VanTol	#81. Honor of Justin & Amanda VanTol
#7 Muskegon Marine Corps Lea.	#32. Stephen Henes	#57. Gavin C. VanTol	#82 - open
#8. Marine Robert Larson	#33. MODD – Michigan Pack	#58. Montford Point Marines	#83 - open
#9. Timothy Eckstein	#34. Robert L. Hencken	#59. Marine Art Menard	#84 - open
#10. Edson Kline VanSlyke	#35. Olaf Kronneman	#60.– Chaplain Fred Green	#85 - open
#11. Marine Don L. Lumsden	#36. Petoskey Detachment #690	#61.- open	#86 - open
#12. North Oakland Detachment	#37. 37th CMC Robert Neller	#62.- open	#87 - open
#13. John C. Rock Detachment	#38. Kalamazoo Detach #879	#63.- open	#88. Memory of Helen Patterson
#14. Stephen B Fletcher	#39 William Fuller – Troy Honda	#64. -open	#89 - open
#15. George Dragisity	#40. The McKeon Family	#65 - open	#90 - open
#16. Michelle Dragisity	#41. MODD -DD Pound Six	#66. Cpl. Jack & Toni Rittenberg	#91. Marine Richard W. Donovan
#17. Bradley & Laura Gipson	#42. Alpena Detachment	#67 - open	#92 - open
#18. David Murnighan Detac.	#43, Matthew M. Hagaman	#68 - open	#93 - open
#19. Cpl. Stanley L. Moore #159	#44. Ann and Ted LeClair	#69 -Marine Gerald M. Hartwig	#94 - open
#20. St Joseph County Detach	#45. The Flint Detachment	#70 - Marine David Wojta	#95 - open
#21. Fred and Joan MacDonald	#46. Marine Robert McKeon	#71. Paul & Judy Smigowski	#96 - open
#22. Steven D. & Cheryl A. Kelley	#47 - Janice Erichsen—friend	#72. -open	#97 - open
#23. Marine Donald Roach	#48. –Marine Wm. Schaard	#73 - open	#98 - Reserved
#24. Michaël and Allison Honev	#49. Dee Becke (Masunas)	#74 - open	#99. Keweenaw Detachment
#25. Kalamazoo Detachment	#50. Upper Peninsula Detach	#75 – William LaMarch	#100.Lion Steven M VanTol

This month only. Free Foundation Challenge Coin when purchasing a Founders Club Coin.

There are 29 Founders Coins Left.



Running a Foundation requires meticulous bookkeeping and detailed record retention. All donated funds must be carefully outlined, and verifiable records must be retained for all incoming donations. It is not acceptable to the IRS that our past practice of giving a check to the Department of \$3,000 +/- to be used for scholarships. Even though the department may spend all on charitable activities, such as scholarships and veteran affairs, the IRS has no reasonable evidence they did so. Consequently, the only way to establish proof is for the Foundation to write checks to the designated charities and keep recipients of the transaction. Our bank records and cancelled checks will then be available to satisfy the IRS. We are only following IRS

rules and acceptable business practices.

As an individual or a detachment considering a donation, there are new procedures to follow: to make a donation, here are some options:

A donation sent directly to the Michigan Marine Corps League goes into the department's general account. The department budgets a set amount of this donated revenue for scholarships and veteran activities. A decision is then made how much the department will send to the Foundation and how much they will retain to fund veteran activities. The department will no longer mail checks to the scholarship receipts – instead one check will be written to the Foundation. Donations intended for the department should be mailed to our paymaster Phi Zamora.

The other option is to donate directly to the Foundation. Make your check payable to the Foundation and direct to John Tuohy. The money will be deposited into the Foundation bank account. Should you wish to designate how the funds must be used there are options: if you mark for veterans only, it will only be used for veteran activities. If you mark scholarships, the donation will be used for scholarships only. If you don't designate how the donation is to be used, 25% of donated funds will go into the Corpus Account and 75% will go into general funds to be used for any charitable activity.

Once the number of scholarship recipients has been established and the size of the grants determined, the Foundation will cover the entire distribution. This way the transfer of funds between entities will be clear and well documented.

In the future, applicants for scholarship grants, will make application through the Foundation, not the department. Changes need to be made to the scholarship material and the website to reflect this. However, the Department will still have a scholarship committee. They will receive all scholarship requests to verify the information and recommend the total grant money needed.

Tim McGee, the scholarship chair, includes a letter of congratulations indicating the scholarship was awarded by the Department of Michigan, the Marine Corps League Foundation and the Marine Corps League Auxiliary, all partners in our program.

A little about our Corpus account. We established a Corpus Fund soon after our reorganization. The purpose is to allow the fund to grow large enough to generate a significant amount of interest income; to be used to fund future scholarships and veteran activities. In a lean year, these earnings may be enough to continue to fund scholarships even if donations trail off.



Monies not designated "Corpus" are placed in the Foundation general account. Money in this account is intended for scholarship grants, VA activities and other charitable giving. Please be assured our assistant treasurer, John Tuohy, marks all incoming donations with the donor's request. If you wish the donations to go to scholarships, that's where it will go. The same with veteran donations.

Just like the corpus fund, we want the general account to build as well. Depleting it every year would not be practical as we would need to raise new funds every year – basically, starting with a blank sheet. Let's say that next year our donations are half of what they usually are. And our corpus account is still not large enough for a significant yield. The only alternative would be to decrease the scholarship amount and hold back on veteran activities. That's not the goal. We want the Scholarship Fund to continue through the years with unin-

interrupted student scholarships, and meaningful veteran support.

In some years our scholarship disbursements would be less than donated scholarship funds received in that year. That is not a bad thing. By building the general fund, we are following a very successful pattern to grow the general account and increase our corporate assets. The National Marine Corps League Foundation receives nearly two million dollars in donations most years. Most recently only about a one million in scholarships were approved. Assets of any mid-size to large foundation did not grow to multi-million-dollar operations by donating every donated dollar in a single year. I can assure you that every single dollar received designated for scholarships will be used for scholarships. However, promising we use it in the year received is not practical.

To illustrate: it appears our scholarship commitment to students this year will be about \$11,000. Let's further assume the department writes a check to the Foundation for \$3,000 and the auxiliary will do the same. In this same year we received \$8,000 in donations designated for scholarships; that's a total of \$14,000.00. We do not want to increase the scholarships award just to spend the money. As the general account grows, we can be assured that years forward we always have money to meet our established standard of giving.

These ideas are nothing new. They are established business practices used by leading Foundations. We no longer operate like a "kitty" with a funds in, funds out attitude - we are actually managing our donations and bank funds better, so we never have to cut back or turn away scholarship requests.

In directing my decisions, fifty plus years in business management guides me. Before retirement, I was the Chief Operating Officer of a mid-size company. building a solid business foundation for what is now a business with 3000 employees. I am hoping to do the same with our Foundation; to build so we never need to turn a student away or cancel a VA Holiday party. A few years from now, we will all be proud of what the Michigan Marines have established.

Respectfully,

D. Jerry McKeon

President

Department of Michigan, Marine Corps League Foundation

Checks to the Department

Payable to the MCL Department of Michigan
C/O PDC Phil Zamora
412 W. Harris St
Charlotte, Michigan 48813-1437

Checks to the Foundation

Payable to the Dept of Michigan Marine
Corps League Foundation
C/O PNC John Tuohy
3171 Ivy Lane Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439-8198

HONOR ROLL

Detachments

Department of Michigan Marine Corps League Foundation

1 January 2018 to Present

Detachment Donors

Detachments, as the end of the year is quickly approaching, I would urge your Detachment to consider purchasing one of our Founder's Coin. Its a donation to an IRS approved 501(c)(3) organization and provides a significant boost to our Corpus Fund. Selling out before the end of the year, would turn this into one of our best fundraisers. The Founder's coin is \$100.00, and your detachment's name will be prominently displayed on our Founder's Board. There are loads of worthy causes but supporting students and veterans within our reach is certainly one of the better investments.

Detachments Purchasing A Founder's Coin:

Muskegon Detachment
Edson Kline VanSlyke Detachment
North Oakland Detachment
John C. Rock Detachment
David Murnighan Detachment
Cpl. Stanley L. Moore Detachment
St. Joseph County Detachment
Kalamazoo Detachment
Department of Michigan
MODD Department of Michigan Pack
MODD – Pound Six
MODD Pound 244 – Flint Dawgs
Petoskey Detachment
Alpena Detachment
The Flint Detachment,
Upper Peninsula Detachment
Montford Point Detachments,
Keweenaw Detachment

29 Left!

Jerry McKeon

Department of Michigan Marine Corps League Foundation

JOIN THE 110% CLUB

At the summer convention, I presented the idea that all Michigan MCL Detachments earmark 10% of their fundraising income to our foundation. I emphasize “Our” because it belongs to you and me – it’s ours to build and ours to use. If you don’t have children or grandchildren that could benefit from receiving a scholarship grant, you have Marine brothers and sisters that could.

But the Foundation charitable giving does not stop with student scholarships. As veterans, we believe all veterans are brothers and sisters and at the time of sickness, we need to be there. What better way to show our appreciation for another veteran’s service than to bring joy and comfort to their lives while spending time in a veteran’s medical facility. Throughout the year Michigan Marine Corps League Detachment volunteers spend thousands of hours in Veteran Medical facilities, doing what we can as volunteers. We participate in yearly hospital carnivals, hold a number of monthly bingo games, visit sick veterans, and hold holiday parties. We don’t have an unlimited budget, but we are able to be there for them at the holidays because we care. If you have never visited a veteran hospital beyond your own care, walk the floors where veterans are permanent residents and see for yourself the anguish they suffer. In spite of this the patients proudly wear the cap of their service and the American flag is permanently displayed at their bedside. You get the feeling they would be ready to accept the call to service battle should the occasion arise.

The detachments in Michigan raise well over \$100,00 in donations, please, please dedicate 10% to your foundation to continue the good we are noted for.

Semper Fidelis Marines!

The Veteran Crisis Line

800-273-8255- Press 1

if you know a Marine expressing a desire to end their life, from PTSD or other reasons, please urge them to call the Veteran’ Crisis Line. Veteran suicides are at a crisis mode.

DETACHMENT NEWS

YAGLE BROTHERS DETACHMENT #165, ANNOUNCE THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW COMMANDANT.

Tim Umstead, Yagle Brothers Det. #165 IS THE new Commandant. Tim follows Robert Scott who served the past 4 years as the detachment commandant.

Collaboratively, we have accomplished a lot and I know Tim will continue our journey in Northern Michigan with a strong presence in our community.

Please add Tim to Dept of Michigan email list for further communication. If you would like to meet Tim, our next meeting will be on March 11, with social hour commencing at 1800 with meeting at 1900.

Semper Fi,

Robert Scott

Former Commandant

MCL Yagle Brothers Det. #165

Starting Jan. 1, 2020, the Department of Defense is expanding access to military commissaries, exchanges, and morale, welfare and recreation facilities for certain Veterans and caregivers. Those eligible for access include all service-connected Veterans, Purple Heart recipients, former Prisoners of War (POW), and those approved and designated as the primary family caregivers of eligible Veterans. To acquire the in-person privileged access, all eligible Veterans must obtain a Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)



Marine Members of American Legion Post 439, located in Saginaw, Michigan, gather for a group photo. The Head Table, seen above, was as elegant as a State dinner at the White House.



Four members of the Cpl. Stanley L. Moore Detachment accepted the invitation to attend. They are from left, Jerry McKeon, Mark Donna, George Glinski and Paul Romanowski.

Macomb Detachment draws 134 Marines and family to their annual Marine Corps Birthday Celebration.

Among the many Marine Corps Birthday celebrations held throughout the state, the Macomb County Detachment hosted 134 Marines and family. For only a five dollar donation, all the food and beer your appetite could handle was available. Aply assisted by the Macomb Unit of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary, who handled the raffle featuring some mighty fine prizes. The Marine Corps Young Marines were impressive as they brought in the colors. A Pledge of Alliance followed by the Marine Corps hymn brought everyone to their feet. The 50/50 raffle winner shared over \$350.00 with the sponsor.

A 95 year old veteran, the holder of three Purple Hearts, cut the cake while a 29 year old active duty Marine assisted him.

For those that insist that a Marine Birthday celebration in not complete without a hearty helping of SOS, a tasty version was there for the brave.



Many Detachments throughout the state, gathered for the Marine Corp's 244th Birthday. From Tun's Tavern in the tradition has grown to immense proportion. Every year, the Dakota Inn in Detroit reserves a night to host Marines. There is a sing a long, accompanied by a piano. For the past few years, Major Joe Zane, The Marine Corps League Marine4Life program representative brings along a large number of Marines from his network. Here is Major Zane in uniform, handing off the cake cutting to Cpl. Stanley L Moore Detachment member Jon Haber the oldest Marine. On a personal note, my brother often attends these ceremonies working out of US Embassies throughout the world. This year he celebrated with the Marines in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Message From The Web Master

Ralph Rosas



For those you do not know me, I am Ralph Rosas the new Department Webmaster. I need help. I am putting together a document that shows the current Commandant information from each detachment within our department. Please if you know who that is for your detachment, send me his name, email and phone number. I have seen information from multiple areas, but I want to make sure I have a correct document.

I know there could be a new Commandant from the Installation of Officers Report (due soon), but give what you have. I need a starting document.

The website (www.michiganmarines.org) does have a list of the current detachments. If you know or see any changes it might need, please send me that as well.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



The David Murnighan Detachment spends a great deal of time every year raising donations. They have been very generous to the Department of Michigan Marine Corps League Foundation as well as other charities seeking funds. Members of the David Murnighan Detachment #161, in Howell, Michigan are pictured presenting Elizabeth Cooke, General Manager of the Panera in Howell, with a certificate of appreciation. Panera Bread supplied sandwiches, rolls and coffee during the detachments June, 3 day fundraising event at Walmart store. Pictured from left to right are Steve Sheldon, Stanley Cooke, Elizabeth Cooke, Raymond Rayl and Jim Thompson.

Upper Peninsula Detachment # 444, takes the Toys for Tots program very seriously, collecting thousands of toys for kids at the Holidays. Here members of the detachment are kicking off this year's collection efforts.



Marine Corps League, Department of Michigan
Cpl. Stanley L. Moore Detachment #159
50th Anniversary 1970-2020

Service to our Community in the Marine Corps Tradition!
Semper Fi

CPL. STANLEY L. MOORE CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Carrying the name of one of the first Oakland County Marines killed in action in Vietnam, Cpl. Stanley L. Moore is laid to rest in Oakview Cemetery in Royal Oak. The gravesite is meticulously maintained by the detachment and the Young Marines attached to the detachment. To assure this continues, the detachment bylaws requires a yearly visit to the site, where a moment of silence is observed, and an appropriate reading is read. Taps are played in a final salute. It seems almost impossible that the lips pursed on the horn's mouthpiece are the lips of one of the original detachment founders. Yes, Don Lumsden, a founding member of the detachment is behind the sound coming from the trumpet, making it appear like it's not a recording.

Never in ownership of its own building, meetings have been held at a number of different places in the Berkley, Troy, and the Royal Oak area; they are thankful for other Military organizations allowing them to use their facilities. For the past ten years, the detachment has met at the VFW post in Berkley.

Several detachment members have groomed their skills, first as our commandant, before taking on larger roles as the Department Commandant and/or national responsibilities.

The membership count stays in the 35 +/- range, with members traveling from most cities in Oakland and Macomb County to our meeting place.

They welcome new members for fellowship and hands-on fundraising work. For additional information contact Commandant Jerry McKeon at 248-866-5653 or e-mail to: michre@aol.com

GREAT LAKES NATIONAL CEMETERY -Current Status

To think southeastern Michigan was without a regional National Veterans Cemetery before 2005; the first veteran burial occurred in October of the same year. You can certainly tell it's a welcome addition as over 43,500 veterans and spouses have been laid to rest in these hallowed grounds since then.

As this is a benefit many Marine Veterans are planning as their final resting place, we will try to keep you up to date with interesting information. "We" refers to Kevin Overely, and me. Kevin is the Great Lakes National Cemetery representative for the Marine Corps League and also a member of their advisory committee. Great Lakes National Cemetery is the second national cemetery built in Michigan and the 122nd in the National Cemetery system.

The cemetery is located approximately 50 miles northwest of downtown Detroit., in Holly Township, Oakland County. In the future we will cover the National cemetery in Battle Creek.

As mentioned above there are 43,547 burials in the cemetery. This includes casket remains, in-ground cremated remains, columbarium remains and scattered remains. In the month ending September 30th, there were 121 casketed remains, 90 inground cremated remains and 185 cremated remains in the columbarium for total of 397 burials during the month. Year to date there have been 4,353 burials in the cemetery. This averages over 400 burials every month.



A standing ovation was given at the Michigan Senate for a 98-year-old Mid-Michigan veteran who has survived some of the worst things humanity has seen.

Sgt. Major Ken Rice, a World War II Marine veteran from Bad Axe, was honored Thursday for the 25th annual Senate Memorial Day Service.

Sargent Major Ken Rice photographed with State Senator Ken Horn.

Michigan Senator Ken Horn read about Rice's time in World War II and the Korean War to the Senate. "He has had just an amazing, extraordinary story," Horn said. Rice entered the Marines after graduating high school in 1939 and enlisted as an aviator. He was sent to China in the mid-1940s and then on to Bataan in the Philippines. He was there when Bataan fell, was captured by the Japanese, and survived the infamous Bataan Death March.

Rice was aboard the Japanese "Hell Ship" as a prisoner of war when it was sunk by an American submarine. He was sent to a prison camp outside Nagasaki. Rice was there when the second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki on Aug. 9, 1945.

"The American POWs that were working underground in the mines survived and knew something big had happened up above because the guards never came back for them," Horn said. Rice and another POW made it to Camp 17 in Fukuoka, Japan where they were put aboard a cargo plane, and taken to a hospital in Guam. He eventually made it home to Bad Axe. Rice remained in the Marines after the war and was sent to Korea in 1951 as an air observer on the front lines. Rice retired from the Marines in 1960 and now lives in Saginaw. Daniels wants everyone to remember the meaning behind Memorial Day. "It's not about the golf games and cookouts, the red, white and blue tablecloths, or beer bottles. It's about the fathers, brothers and sons, mothers, sisters and daughters who can't be there," Daniels said. It is something Horn and other state lawmakers acknowledged. "A nation that fails to honor its heroes soon will have no heroes to honor," Horn said.

On November, soon after the Michigan Senate honored Marine Ken Rice, he died at Ninety-Eight years old. God Bless this fine Marine!

SUBMIT A NOMINATION FOR THE MARINE COPRS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN MARINE OF THE YEAR

Fellow Marines, Navy Corpsmen, Navy Chaplains

Every year at the Department Convention in June one League member is honored as the Department Marine of The Year. Please consider nominating one of your fellow members for this high honor. The winner receives a Department of Michigan Marine of the Year Medallion, a beautiful wall plaque and his/her name will be added to the large and impressive trophy, it's over three feet tall. It's our very version of the Stanley Cup and the winner gets to keep it for one year. The winner also becomes a member of the Department of Michigan Marine of the Year Society with the right to participate in choosing the Marine of the Year every year thereafter.

Any member of the League, or a Detachment, can submit a nomination. What we are looking for are qualities and performance that exemplify the best ideals of the League. Participation in the Marine Corps League at the Department level is the most heavily weighted criteria. He or she should have performed outstanding service to the Department and to the League (at any other level.) We also consider service to his or her community and the veterans 'community. Examples include being a Department and/or Detachment officer or committee member; working on Department and Detachment projects; volunteering at a V.A. Medical Center or other V.A. or non-V.A. medical facilities; participating in Veterans Day, Memorial Day and other patriotic events; organizing and/or participating in charitable activities, especially those that aid veterans or our Marines and other forces on active or reserve duty; participation in civic activities, both state and local, and in other service organizations; advocating for veteran's rights and programs. These are examples only. You may know of additional reasons to nominate a member.

To make a nomination we need a written description of the nominee's activities and an explanation of why it is worthy of recognition. Think of it as a writing a resume. It is not limited to this year and the description should cover as many years as possible. You can include newspaper clippings, copies of awards, on-line links showing the nominee, etc. A brief description of the nominee's United States Marine Corps service is also welcome, but not a consideration unless it involved the League.

You can submit by email (this is the preferred method) as well as through the U.S. mail. The addresses are:

For email: mimclmoy@gmail.com Put "Department of Michigan MOY" in the subject line.

By U.S. mail send to: PDC David Masunas, Marine of the Year Chairman

214 West Jackson Rd., Hart, Michigan 49420

The award is presented at the Department Convention banquet and the winner is not notified in advance. It is hoped and expected (but not mandatory) that he/she will be present and surprised. If your nominee wins you will be contacted in secrecy and encouraged to try to have the winner attend the Department convention and banquet. Be sure to put your name, address, phone number(s) and email address in the nomination.

THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS APRIL 30, 2020. THE NOMINATION MUST BE RECEIVED IN OUR HANDS BY THAT DATE AT MIDNIGHT. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES CHAPTER TEN DEPARTMENT MARINE OF THE YEAR SOCIETY

SECTION 1000: Department Marine of the Year Society

(2) Nominations — A letter of nomination for the Department of Michigan, Marine Corps League Marine of the Year Award must be submitted in the following manner:

- a. Only regular members in good standing are eligible for this award.
- b. Letters of Nominations will only be accepted from members in good standing in the Department of Michigan, Marine Corps League.
- c. Letters of Nomination must be sent via U. S. Mail to the Chairman of the Department of Michigan, Marine Corps League, Marine of the Year Society, or delivered by email or other means allowed by the chairman, and must be postmarked or delivered no later than 30 April of each year. The chairman may also allow letters of nomination to be delivered by other forms of communication.
- d. The Society will not accept any nomination which was not submitted and/or received as required.

Kalamazoo Detachment #879 worked with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Camp 20 and Boy Scout Troop 244 on three recent Eagle Scout Projects that involved cleaning and maintaining various veteran grave sites at Riverside Cemetery in Kalamazoo Michigan.



On Labor Day weekend, Eagle Scout candidate Josh DeVries cleaned 170 veteran gravestones. Josh recruited over 20 Scouts, Scouters, and other volunteers to provide the labor for this project. The scouts and volunteers worked diligently and did an outstanding job of cleaning and helping to preserve the veteran gravestones as well as remove excess dirt and weeds from around the headstones.

Left: Eagle Scout Candidate Josh DeVries overseeing his efforts.
Right: Josh and others at work.



Pictured above: Eagle Scout Candidate Matt K. checking the progress.

The third Eagle Scout project of the year was held on Saturday, October 19, 2019. Matt Walsh was the Eagle Scout candidate and the supervisor of the gravestone cleaning project. His efforts were focused in the Spanish American War (the original Sons of Union Veterans) section of the GAR lot.



Several weeks later, on September 28th, 2019, Eagle Scout candidate Matt K. (his older brother is currently in the Marine Corps) recruited another dedicated work force of volunteers to continue our large project in Section HH of Riverside Cemetery

If your detachment is not taking advantage of the Eagle Scout program recognizing new Eagle Scouts with a certificate, you are missing a great opportunity to meet some fine young men who would be ideal recruits for a Marine Corps career.

Detachment Scout Coordinator - Rich Walsh, Eagle Scout Candidate - Matt Walsh, and SUVCW Representative - Brother Gary Swain take great pride in the scope of the project and the hard work put in by all volunteers.

A MEMBER SHARES HIS STORY and asks: Why is membership applications down?

I once read a poster that had the following:

"I am a United States Marine Veteran, I once took a Solemn Oath to defend the U.S. Constitution against ALL enemies, foreign & domestic! Be advised, NO ONE has ever relieved me of my duties under this Oath!" I repeated that same Oath when I was hired as a Michigan law enforcement officer and maintained that Oath until I retired 39 years later, from 1976 until 2015.

I have a real passion for life, family, Country, and the U.S. Marine Corps. Some folks might think that this passion is a way of showing off and/or how better I am over them? Marine, my passion and your passion are not for "showing off", to anyone. If

anything, we Marines, at least most of, have a deep-rooted conviction of duty, honor & love that our passion focuses on, that drives us to continue training, volunteering, helping others and family.

In 2014, I had a stroke while on duty at the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, while in uniform. A year later the County and doctors retired me from law enforcement. That medical condition did not retire my passion for that Solemn Oath I first took in 1972 and again in 1976. If anything, my values and ethics remained higher than ever. I refused to give up and feel sorry for myself and toss in the towel and just sit around playing golf, watching TV, or rocking in my recliner all day. Not that any of those things are bad occasionally.

When I put a biography together of my past law enforcement background and community service as an ordained chaplain and showed it to a friend, that Marine friend responded that it looks like I was "showing off". Well, I guess that's how other military services look at us as "Showing Off" because of our uniforms, boot camp program, training, pride and the "First To Fight" motto, and importantly our title "MARINE", even after being released from active duty. I choose to continue with my values and character installed within me and not give up like so many do. How about you?

If you google my name you will find how I was involved with foreign nationals and domestic born Americans committing crimes at the local level, and the many organizations I have decided to excel with after my stroke and retirement. I have even survived many incidents of bad guys shooting at me with the youngest being 10 years repeatedly pulling the trigger of his shotgun. That's what our Marine Corps did for me. I never gave up, nor will I even if politics are part of my MCL.

Let me ask you this. When was the last time you talked with and/or engaged in a conversation about our Marine Corps League with anyone? Does the Army, Navy or Air Force have a special group like we do? Do they link themselves to another military veteran group over the Marine Corps League first?

No, I have not been able to get some one to join my Marine Corps League yet, but I am like a missionary spreading the program of the Marine Corps League and living my life by attending MCL meetings. I will continue to be my best of what was instilled within me just as missionaries do when they spread the Word of God.

I'll end my article with this: "It cannot be inherited, nor can it be purchased, I earned it with my blood, sweat, and tears, I own it forever, the title "MARINE". I will keep trying to recruit new members into the MCL, how about you?

Semper FI—

Keith Overby—Ken is a life member and Jr. Vice of Flint Detachment #155. He is a retired law enforcement officer and the Marine Corps League representative's to the Great Lakes National Cemetery and Advisory Council. Keith is a spiritual paramedic and Chaplain.



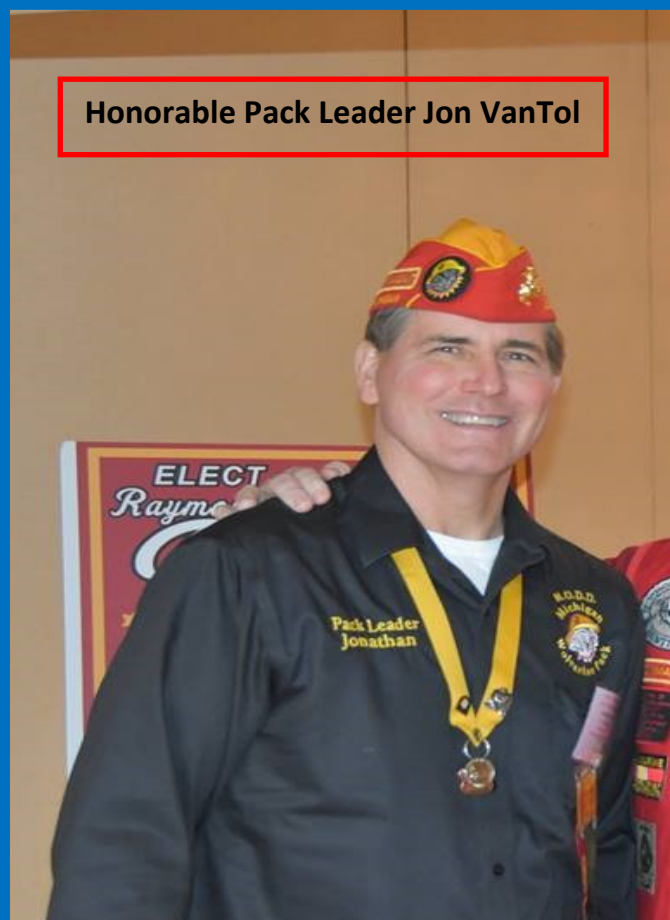
Keith Overby



Marine Corps League

Honorable Pack Leader's Page

Honorable Pack Leader Jon VanTol



WOOF WOOF DOGS!

The Pack and most Pounds are in good shape with their Bylaw requirements. I am looking forward to a HOWLING good time at the 2020 Midwinter Rally. It will be hosted by the Red Knights Pound and the Cascades Detachment. It will be held at the Holiday Inn in Jackson January 24-25th.

At the Northern Wolves Growl in September they decided to submit a bylaw proposal allowing Pounds to have only two Growls per year. Their Pound consists of the ENTIRE Upper Peninsula and involves great driving distances, which can be very hazardous in their "Short" Winter Season. They are not the only Pounds with these conditions. Hopefully the proposal will pass.

A number of Dogs have asked about Pack challenge coins. Midwinter we will have the opportunity to decide to order them. Please remind me.

Hope everyone has a MERRY CHRISTMAS and see you at Midwinter.

Jonathan S. VanTol, Pack leader



Left: Pack Leader Jon VanTol installs new officers for the Northern Wolves, Pound 174.

Let's hear more from the Pounds. From my own experience as a Devil Dog, I know a lot is going on. Fundraisers, elections, fun growls, and more. Pictures are worth a thousand words—see send me more

Pound 6, just amended their bylaws to cut back from 12 Growls to six per year.

Cascades Detachment #149 News

The Cascades Detachment had a Thanksgiving meal before their meeting on November 21st. According to the department Judge Advocate Ray Rowley, families were invited and a great time was enjoyed by all.



Detachment Commandant David Schmidt presents Darryl Payne with a certificate and medal for his selection as being the Marine of the Year.

Lake Superior Detachment #764 Kicking off their Toys 4 Tots Program



Upper Peninsula Detachment #444



This is the first pic of a new Manistique Fire Team Marine for MMN. Member at Large transfer new Pup Mike Drayer takes the oath joining Northern Wolves Pound #174.



Keweenaw Detachment Commandant Ken McKay, receives a National Membership 100% award from Depart. Commandant Jon VanTol at the U.P. Zone Meeting .



Department Jr. Vice Commandant, Art Menard awarding a Detachment Commandant Distinguished Service award to Detachment Paymaster & Candy Sale Chairman, to UP Detachment 444 associate member Joe Menard



Far Left: Michigan Pack, worthy Pack Leader and Department Commandant Jon VanTol installs duly elected Pound officers of Northern Wolves Pound #174 in Marquette on 21 September 2019

Left: National VAVS Rep Mike Miller/ Iron Mtn Detachment Commandant, Presenting 2 VAVS National Auxiliary President awards to U.P. Unit members Gail Johnson and Sue Rivard.

Cpl. Stanley L. Moore Detach #159



Cpl. Stanley L. Moore closed out a golfing season with their annual golf outing at Selfridge Air Base in Harrison Township, Michigan. Tim McGee and his teammates took first place in the scramble event. Tim also chaired another successful event enabling the detachment to write a check to the scholarship fund for \$500.00. The detachment holds these fundraisers to raise money and shares the profits with the scholarship fund.

Gil Dysarczyk and his team from the North Oakland Detachment always join the golfers as well as make a generous donations to the cause.



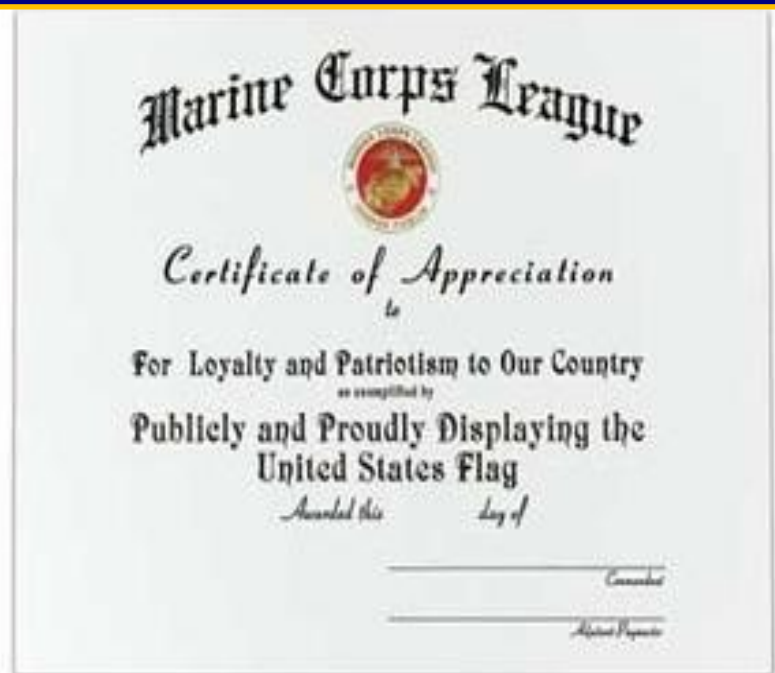
Cpl. Stanley L. Moore Detachment #159, gather in front of Hollywood Market in Troy handed out roses on Sweetest Day. From left: Keith Unternhafer, Terry Dowhan and Jerry McKeon. Tim McGee is behind the camera



The Detachment is proud to announce that our fundraising activities brought in over \$6,000.00 this year. In keeping with the Foundations suggestions, the Detachment donated 10% of it's total donations received to the Foundation Scholarship Fund. We encourage others to follow suit.



Flint Detachment at Work



Dick Monroe and Jim Tuohy install a new flag pole at Former Detachment member Russ Rappley and his wife, Kathy's home. They recently returned from California after a ten year stay. A new flag pole with the Marine Corps League Flag seems like a nice welcome back gift. By the way, certificates are available to give to businesses displaying our flag. It's a good way to meet people and possible find a new members.

FOR OUR HISTROY BUFFS PROVIDED BY Jim Tuohy



A Visit To Little Big Horn Battlefield

Jim Tuohy took a side trip while in Billings and visited the Little Big Horn Battlefield, site of General Custer's last stand with his 267 men against the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians. The marker shown in the picture is the spot where he fell mortally wounded. The picture with the other markers are the spots each of his men fell. How do we know this? Very interesting. Scientific investigations determined by the markings on the firing pin (no two weapons hit the firing pin in the same spot) so they were able to track each soldier from where he started coming up the bluff to where he fell by the empty shell casings. There are also two Indian markers which are red in color to show where some Indians fell.



(Note) these are not the final resting places of the fallen, as their remains were removed from the Battlefield and buried in a mass grave on the site at the top of the Bluff where a large white marker lays atop the gravesite. Gen George Custer's remains were disinterred a year later and reinterred at West Point where he graduated from in 1861. His wife Elizabeth is interred beside him as she passed away in 1933.



Dave Masunas Accepts Important National Post.

A little over a month ago, the Marine Corps League suffered an unexpected loss with the passing of PDD Tom Minchin, Tom has served over the years as the National Scout Committee Chairman. Tom took great pride in promoting the Scouting program being an Eagle Scout himself. Tom was a great friend, mentor and Marine brother. He will be missed.

About a month after Tom's passing, I received a call from our National Commandant Dennis Tobin. Commandant Tobin asked me if I would be willing to take over the National Scouting Chairman, replacing Tom. I accepted the position knowing I would have big shoes to fill taking over where Tom left off. I hope when Tom looks down from the Heavens, he sees that I am representing the National Scout Committee as well as he did. My responsibilities as the National Scout Committee Chairman, will be, being a liaison between National, Division, Department and Detachment promoting the Marine Corps League Eagle Scout Good Citizens Award. I will be giving reports at the National Mid- Winter Conference and the National Summer Convention on the number of certificates awarded.

One of the projects that Tom, Richard Walsh and myself have been working on is the Boy Scout Square Knot award. This is an award that is worn on the troop leaders uniform and the Troop leader is Marine Corps League Member and meets all of the requirements set forth. Once we received approval from National we will be added to the list of National chartered organizations partnered for Scout service.



I was seventeen months old on December 6, 1941 when President Roosevelt addressed the nation. Most Americans listening had their ears glued to a floor model radio carrying his frightening words. That Japanese airplanes had surprisingly bombed the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in Honolulu.

I can only imagine my parents feeling as they were more worried about me and my future than they were about themselves. What does this mean for our children's future? Will they grow up under Japanese control?

During the almost five years of war, auto plants were building airplanes and tanks and many foods and building products were rationed. There were no 1943, 1944, or 1945 cars built during this period of war. I can remember tanks parked in front of the General Motors facility in Grand Blanc, that was referred to as the "Tank Plant" long after the war ended.

On that horrible day, the Navy lost 2008 service members, the Army 218 and 109 Marines lost their lives. On that day the US Arizona slipped to the sea bottom, where it remains today as a commissioned ship. Oil still drips into the waters around it

Fifteen Medals of Honor were awarded and 51 Navy Cross awards were earned by those performing heroics deeds.

This all had the same impact on the nation as 9/11 did seventy years later. Now a great grandparent I can only think of my offspring's future as events of war fill our newspapers daily.

Times change little. But we must always remember those that fought and died for our freedom.

Marine Corps League

Forward Planning!

Department of Michigan Marine Corps League

WINTER RALLY- JANUARY 24-25

Hosted By The Red Knights Devil Dogs with assistance from

Cascade Detachment #149

Registration Information else where in Newsletter

Department of Michigan Marine Corps League

SUMMER CONVENTION 2020

To be Held in Flint

Hosted by the Flint Devil Dogs Pound

2020—National Marine Corps League Winter Meeting

MID-WINTER NATIONAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION February 27 - 29, 2020

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel 777 Waterside Drive, Norfolk, VA 23510

Phone: (757) 622-6664 \$129.00 per night (Includes Breakfast)

National Marine Corps League Annual Convention

August 4-10-2020

Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort

2020 in Daytona Beach, Florida

CODE: MCL20

RESERVATION NUMBER: 866-536-8477

for activities and information!

Frequently Called Numbers and E-Mail

Jon VanTol – Commandant - 989-225-5047

jvantol@svsu.edu

AL Pearson –Sr. Vice Commandant - 614-581-9196

al.pearson@frontier.com

Art Menard—Jr. Vice Commandant –906– 280-7463

artmenard@charter.net

Phil Zamora -Paymaster - 517-541-1501

412 W. Harris St, Charlotte, Mi 48813-1437

mimclpaymaster@gmail.com (**SEND MEMBERSHIP TRANSMITTALS**)

Ray Rayl—Adjutant - 517-262-4092

Jarhead1946@gmail.com -(**SEND INSTALLATION TRANSMITTALS**)

4767 Hidden Hills, Circle, Howell, Mi 48855

Ray Rowley - Judge Advocate - (517)917 3441

happyhunter1964@yahoo.com

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Al Anbar Providence, Iraq, Combat Causality Honored By Local Detachment

Memorial Highway planned to honor fallen Oceana County Marine

By: Amanda Dodge, OHJ Editorial Assistant

With Monday, November 11 marking our annual salute to our servicemen and women in the form of Veteran's Day, it also calls to mind a fallen soldier, who was born on that very day 33 years ago.

Brett Witteveen grew up and lived in Shelby, graduating from Hart High School in 2005 before entering the Marines. He obtained the rank of Private First Class and bravely served his country in the Iraq war. During his tour of duty, he paid the ultimate price, and passed away in February of 2007.

Since that time, the Veterans and community members of Oceana County have sought to honor his service and memory in multiple ways. The Marine Corps League in Pentwater has been named after him (Brett Witteveen Marine Corps League Detachment 1225), and a scholarship fund in his name has been established by his father, Rick, with the Community Foundation for Oceana County. Now a new memorial highway proposal is in the works to rightfully honor Witteveen once again.

Senate Bill 585 has been introduced in the Michigan State Legislature by Senator Jon Bumstead to rename the portion of US 31 from exit 144 at the west Shelby Road to exit 149 at Polk Road in Hart as the PFC Brett Witteveen Memorial Highway.

The Bill is in the Senate Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Sen. Bumstead's team is just waiting on the date with committee chair to get it approved for a vote. According to the team, no objections are expected.

Marine Corps League member and Veteran Dave Masunas said that the League needs to raise \$4700 for the new signs and their lifetime upkeep once the bill passes. He added that a Facebook fundraiser was started for this cause on Nov. 1. "We are hoping to have the necessary funds raised by April, so we can plan a dedication service in May." Masunas said. "Any extra money that is raised over our goal will be given to the scholarship fund in Brett's name with the Community Foundation. The scholarship is open to athletes at the Hart High School."

How fitting, with Witteveen being a standout on the football field, and his father the current Hart High School football coach.

Those that would like to donate to the memorial highway fundraiser can do so directly by visiting the PFC Brett Witteveen Memorial Highway page at <https://www.facebook.com/donate/528137648038657/1248002615387568/> or click on the fundraiser link on the Marine Corps League's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MarineCorpsLeague1225/>. ; Checks can be made out to the Marine Corps League and sent to the Pentwater VFW Post at 8440 N. Business 31 in Pentwater.

Along with the Facebook effort, on April 18, 2020 the Marine Corps League is planning to have a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for this very cause at the Pentwater VFW from 4-7.

This is not in the article, I am happy to say that it only took one week to raise the \$4,700 using the Facebook fundraiser and we have exceeded the \$4,700 by \$1,100 and it continues to grow. As soon as the bill is passed at the State level we will have the money in hand to give them so they can get started on making the sign right away. As it says in the article the money above the \$4,700 will be donated to the Brett Witteveen scholarship that his father Rick Witteveen started.

David Masunas, Commandant, Oceana Brett Witteveen, Detachment 1225, Marine Corps League

Marine Corps League Foundation

Student Kailey Mac Donald



FOUNDATION - A Thank You!

I'd like you to meet Kailey MacDonald, a student who received a Foundation scholarship grant this year. Her grant was one of five funded this year in partnership with Chapter 9, of the Vietnam Veterans of America. Kailey is the granddaughter of Marine Corps League member Fred MacDonald of the Cpl. Stanley L. Moore Detachment. She is attending Saginaw Valley State University. Like all receiving a scholarship grant, Kailey carries better than a 3.0 grade average in her studies. We wish Kailey well and welcome her return next year if she is still in undergraduate school.

In her note attached to the picture, she offer's her heartfelt thank you. You are welcome Kailey. I'm glad we can help students in Marine families.

Organized in 2008, the Foundation's bank account carried little more than a few thousand dollars over those years, and often was drained to almost zero after scholarships and veteran's expenses were approved.

Over the past two years, new life has emerged and in addition to a five figure Corpus Fund", there is enough in the bank to sustain us for a few years. The goal is to build both the Corpus account and General account into sizable balances to sustain the foundation in the lean years when donations might be down.

Over the past few years, the Department of Michigan and its subsidiaries have approved well over 100 scholarships totaling more than \$75,000.00.

Pat yourselves on the back as for the most part, it was individual Marine members, Detachments, Auxiliaries and Pounds that helped us accomplish this.



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I have only one minute
Only sixty seconds in it
Forced upon me, can't refuse it

Didn't seek it, didn't choose it
But it's up to me
To use it
I must suffer if I lose it

Give account if I abuse it
Just a tiny little minute
But eternity is in it
By Benjamin E. Mays

They said it was forever when earning my E/G/A
I cherished it then and continue to cherish it today
I was filled with pride when placed in my hand
More important today for the respect it commands
Once a Marine always a Marine places me with a few
I must respect this honor in whatever I choose to
My uniform still in the closet ready to be recalled
I am old and gray but still waiting the call
I signed a blank check to stand in our enemies way
I stand and salute when the National Anthem is played
Our flag should not be a symbol to belabor a cause
We should stand to unite and not for applause
I still march in parades with a rifle firmly in my hand
Wearing the finest uniform found in any of all lands
There's always a Semper Fi to any Marine I meet
Brothers in combat or on a neighborhood street

By Jerry McKeon —2019