



April 2026 — May 2026

LASKEY'S TELEGRAPH



Newsletter of The New England Division of The Marine Corps League Vol. 5 Issue 4



Message From The Division Commandant



Members,

Get ready for a great few days this June! We're excited to announce that the New England Division Conference will be in Springfield, Massachusetts from June 11th through June 14th. This year is a little different—in a good way. It's our first time not having a Quad State Convention, which means we get to focus on a true Division Conference. It's a great chance for all of us to come together, spend more time with each other, and build stronger connections across the division.

This conference isn't just about meetings—it's about catching up with friends, meeting new people, and enjoying time together. There will be plenty of chances to share ideas, learn from each other, and have some laughs along the way.

We've also got some great activities lined up. You can hit the golf course, check out the NBA Basketball Hall of Fame, take a tour of the Springfield Armory National Historic site, or spend some time at MGM Springfield. Whether you're looking to explore or just relax, there's something for everyone and members are encouraged to bring their significant others and families to enjoy it all. It will be at the Springfield Monarch Sheraton, and room rates are available through May 11th—so be sure to get your room reserved soon. Booking links will be available on the New

England Division website.

You'll also find the agenda and registration

form links on the New England Division website, making it easy to plan your trip and sign up. As has been done over the last few years, the division will also be

holding raffles to help members cover the cost of attending the conference. These may include assistance with transportation, hotel rooms, or banquet tickets.

Make your plans, reserve your room, and join us in Springfield for a great time together. In celebration of America 250, this will be the Conference logo. Shirts will be available.

Patrick Maguire
National Vice Commandant
New England Division
Marine Corps League





New England Division Contact Information 2024 – 2025



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**New England Division Contact Information
2024 – 2025**



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Div. Youth Physical Fitness

OPEN

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WHAT SHOULD I SUBMIT?

This is your Newsletter, so anything you think others might be interested in, please share it here. Look at the categories, Departments, Toy for Tots, Devil Dogs, Taps, Birthdays, Sick, Personal writings, Upcoming Events, Help Wanted, History, League and Marine Corps, Awards and Recognition. Community Events, Scholarships, Conventions, Meetings and Grand Growls, and ongoing projects. What are we doing for recruiting? What are we doing for Marines for Life? What can we do to bring back the Auxiliary? Think of some of the programs we have expanded and can you think of any others you want to create or expand? We expanded the Dogs to include donations to provide help to animal shelters, what about other groups? What about donations for women's shelters for women and children of these women? Toys For Tots expanded there program to allow year round help to children in distress. Someone had an idea and this grew from it, you could start your idea here. I am sure there are more topics but this is a good start.

Walt Benson

IMPORTANT

Laskey's Telegraph is published every two months in the first week of the following months.

FEBRUARY. APRIL, JUNE, AUGUST, OCTOBER AND DECEMBER.

The cut off date for submitting material is the last week of the following months. JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER.. If there is a special circumstance please call to make arrangements.

Send submissions to:

Walt.benson5@gmail.com

203-768-8435

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



FROM THE EDITOR



A STORY WORTH TELLING

Recently, a letter was sent out from our Commandant, National Marine Corps League, concerning uniforms and what is going on the safety of our members and it was the best of all concerned. Since then the letter was rescinded. This letter was and it was my hope that it would never in the seventies this issue came up then uniform as it could be unsafe. I as a man who knew he was invincible obeyed but it bothered me. Now to be asked to change heartening. No one besides me and how hard I worked to earn that uniform. There has never been one day, not one hour, not one minute, that I was ashamed of that uniform, at times I felt unworthy to wear it but never ashamed. I would never consider giving it up for any price, not even personal safety. This is not being disrespectful but honest to how I feel. Today, having realized that I am not immortal and I have physical limitations I still feel that it would not be in your best interest to get in my face about my uniform and my love for that uniform, being a Marine, and love of Country. You may be able to knock me down but I will always get back up. If my wearing my uniform bothers anyone, then it's their problem and not mine, and I don't fix problems anymore. Back during that time period we were spit on, chanted against, called baby killers, and more. The words were different but the attitude is the same as today where people target you angrily for serving your country and protecting them.



in the world today. The purpose was well intentioned and in the best interest. Inter-punchback has been so strong that the letter sent out with the noblest of intentions, become mandatory. Back in the early when we were asked not to travel in uniform I know it all eighteen year old Marine as I still was a yes sir, yes mam, PFC, to take that position again is really disheartening those around me at the time know uniform, and how proud I was to wear it. one hour, not one minute, that I was

They call those who fought in WWII the greatest generation, and I would never take that away from them because they earned it. But those of us from the Vietnam Era, I believe are The Toughest Generation. We were spit on, cursed, denied, ignored, but we kept marching forward. Through injuries seen and unseen. Though Cancer, drug addiction and psychological issues we kept moving forward even though we were targeted with hate. Now when people say thank you for your service, you kind of mumble the reply and I know I'm not the only one who has done that I have seen it. So yes we are the Toughest Generation. I read a few of the comments under the posted letter on Facebook, "I want to put up a bigger Marine Corps Flag" and more, this has been stated by many over the years, that if you go to a neighborhood where Marines live you would think you were on a base

As Marines we are openly proud of who we are. We decorate our cars, our homes, and even our bodies, how many Marines do you know who don't have a Tattoo? No one can ever take that away from us. So uniform or not we will not submit to those who feel threatened by what we represent.

Be safe but Be A Marine.

**Semper Fidelis
Walt Benson**





ARLINGTON HISTORY AND HONOR



Nestled between the monuments, museums, and historical markers of our History, lies a plot of 639 acres, where over 400,000 of our brothers and sisters lie in eternal rest. Where silence replaces the crack of rifle salutes and the music of Taps once filled the air. Now in the silence one can hear the words of Taps. There are no official words of Taps but there are many proposed verses, and these seem to hold meaning. "Sun has set, shadows come, Time has fled, Scouts must go to their beds, Always true to the promise that they made. While the light fades from sight, And the stars gleaming rays softly send, To thy hands we our souls, Lord, commend". This sacred ground holds our History, but more importantly it holds Honor. We honor all that rest here. There are no ranks, no titles, there common bond was that they served their country and for that we honor them. So on this day the Day after our Mid-winter conference, these Marines were honored to lay a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown. The first was postponed as it was to be presented in early February for the four chaplains



David Porter SR. Photographer, MCL Public Relations Dept., David Porter Jr. National JR. Vice Commandant, Howard Schaeffer, National Chaplain, President Marine Corps League Association, Liaison Four Chaplains, Michael Hinds Assistant New England Vice Commandant, Commandant Dept of Massachusetts.



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Tomb of The Unknown Guard



ARLINGTON HISTORY AND HONOR



The second wreath was laid by the Department of Rhode Island in the afternoon. Most people who have never served have never experienced the feelings we process as we take part in these ceremonies. What we feel as we read the markers walking by. This patch of land made sacred by those who rest here personify History and Honor. Instill respect and gratitude in all that walk upon it. The Flags though silent flutter in the breeze. The crack of the rifle volleys as another is laid to rest. The bugle as it whales its somber tune as it bids us fare thee well, that all is done. The tomb of the Unknown as the sentries walk their post smartly on duty in blistering heat, rain or freezing snow signifying we will never forget what you have done and the sacrifice you've made.



Wayne Salisbury Chief of Staff, Department of Rhode Island, Nick, Howard Schaeffer, National Chaplain, President Marine Corps League Association, Liaison Four Chaplains, Pat Maguire New England Vice Commandant.



The Kennedy Gravesite with the eternal Flame.



Gen Al Gray



Medal of Honor John Basilone



PENTAGON CITY MID-WINTER CONFERENCE



For those that attended this conference, may this serve as some great memories, for those who missed it you missed a really great time, but I hope this trip through the memories helps bring you closer to what you missed out on. There is always a lot of information but what you cannot get from the minutes or the pictures, is the camaraderie. In the years that I have been going I have made so many friends across the country. I look forward to seeing those people all year long. Some I talk to during the year and others I only see then but it doesn't matter because each year I make more. So enjoy this sampling and hopefully I can convince you to join us at a future event. Not every event is across the country some are drivable and just like with family, if you aren't there we talk about you. Not all of you just the ones we want to make fun of, or not.



Top: Presentation of The Colors

Above: Jon Hitesman, National Parliamentarian, **Bruce Rakfeldt**, Judge Advocate, **TJ Morgan**, National Commandant, **Rob Brooks**, National Director of Events, **Russ Miller** National SR. Vice Commandant, **David Porter**, National JR Vice Commandant, **Warren Griffin** PNC.



PENTAGON CITY MID-WINTER CONFERENCE



The Attendees



TJ Morgan National Commandant, Pat Maguire New England Vice Commandant



PCDD, PDD Don Garland, PCDD PDD Tom Hazlett



Col Bill Davis Young Marines, JR Vice Commandant David



PDD Don Kozerow



National Chaplain Howard Schaeffer, SgtMaj, Servant Leader Bo Durham Jr.



PCDD, PDD Don Garland, PCDD PDD Tom Hazlett



Sargeant At Arms Lisa Solarczyk & LT. General Charles Chiarotti USMC Ret.



PENTAGON CITY MID-WINTER CONFERENCE



Audio Visual Committee



The TUN Table



Sergeant At Arms Lisa Solarczyk & Tracy Colucci, Detachment Commandant NJ



The Young Marines Table



Lucky Dog and The Devil Dog Raffle Table



PENTAGON CITY MID-WINTER CONFERENCE



Pat Maguire, New England Vice Commandant, Joe Afonso, N E Chief of Staff, Larry Chretien NE Aide de Camp



Pat Maguire, New England Vice Commandant, Joe Afonso, N E Chief of Staff, Robert Zilch Vice Commandant



Sal Cenicacelaya, The 62nd Chief Devil Dog PDD Joe DeAngelo. SGTMAJ, Servant Leader Bo Durham JR.



National SR. Vice Commandant Russ Miller



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



Barb DeAngelo & National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter



PENTAGON CITY MID-WINTER CONFERENCE



PNC Warren Griffin &
Julianne Creedon



Tina Harvey & Jean Porter



National JR Vice Commandant David
Porter & NE Asst. Vice Commandant
Mike Hinds



New England Division Table



Victoria McCoy, Comm. PA, Lisa Solarczyk, National
Sargeant At Arms, Rick Thomason, Chairman
Awards Committee, Howar Schaeffer, National Chap-
lain, Mariano Meaux National Marine Of the Year
2025



Walt Benson, Chairman of The Newsletter Committee,
Teri Benson, Larry Chretien NE Aide de Camp



Cherie Monnell, Mike Hinds, N E Asst. Vice Com-
mandant, Iliana Hinds



PENTAGON CITY MID-WINTER CONFERENCE



National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter, Guest Speaker MajGen.



Iliana Hinds and NE Asst. Vice Commandant Mike Hinds



Walt Benson, Chairman of The Newsletter Committee, Teri Benson,

PDD Mike Francis, Honorable, SR. Vice Chief Devil Dog,

Mike, we really did miss you at Mid-Winter. I know you're hurting but hang in there, you have a lot of prayers coming your way. And we can't wait for you to get back.

As someone who has taken a few of these falls now I offer this advice, don't be thinking of the next cup when you're trying to get rid of the last.

Mike We Miss You,
How Long?

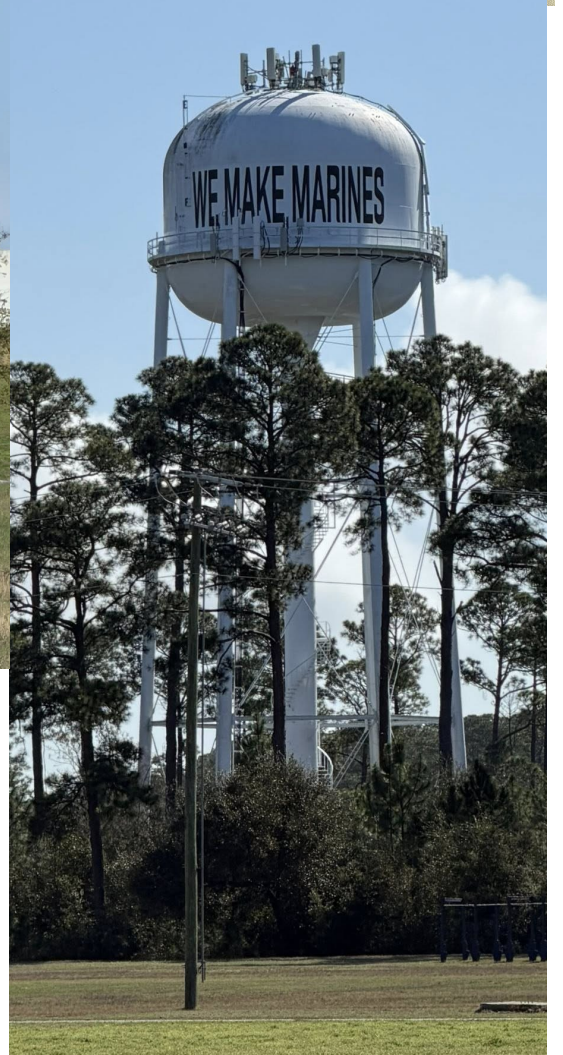




AROUND THE LEAGUE



I don't usually post trips that others take but when someone take a trip that I find interesting and I feel others may as well, I make an exception. Recently while attending the Southeast Division Conference, our Chief Devil Dog, PDD Joe DeAngelo and his wife PDD Barb DeAngelo took a side trip to Parris Island. Depending on the year you were there, depends on how many changes you will see. Now I know I will get a lot of pushback for this but if you graduated basic from that other place in California, your DD214 probably has INC next to basic training. I could be wrong but if I were you I would check.



Top: the main gate at Parris Island

Above: The Rifle Range, one of the few places you didn't get yelled at.

Right: The water Tower "We Make Marines" , yes you do indeed.



AROUND THE LEAGUE



PARRIS ISLAND



Parris Island Museum





AROUND THE LEAGUE



PARRIS ISLAND



Above "THROUGH THESE PORTALS PASS PROSPECTS FOR AMERICA'S FINEST FIGHTING FORCE
UNITED STATES MARINES

Below: THE FAMOUS YELLOW FOOTPRINTS. YOUR FIRST LESSON AS A RECRUIT STANDING IN
FORMATION AT ATTENTION





AROUND THE LEAGUE



PARRIS ISLAND



These photos bring back a lot of memories. I remember marching on the parade deck and thinking some day I would walk across here for graduation. When I was here basic was eight weeks as Vietnam was going on. The Iwo Jima monument was the highlight of the Motivation Platoon trip. I was never in Motivation but they always marched them by the platoons when the day ended and they were covered in mud carrying ammo cans.

The we make Marines sign I don't think it was there but if it was we never were anywhere near it. There are so many changes and I would love to go back and see them all. Some day maybe. I was second Battalion, wooden barracks. Do you think if I go back today I could give them some advice on how it all worked out for me? Just trying to be helpful.





AROUND THE LEAGUE



Attending the Southeast Division Conference National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter, Pictured with MOH Recipient Maj Gen. Livingston.



National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter & Liz Anderson



National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter, Liz Anderson, Becky & Sammy Marcel, Barb DeAngelo, 62, Chief Devil Dog Joe DeAngelo



Angie Pitts, Christy Ellis, National Assistant Chaplain & Bamma Belles President Liz Anderson, SE Div. Assistant Vice President Treasurer and past Presi-



Alison Norger, Cindy Borka, Trish Borka, Liz Anderson,





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION VSO WANTED



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

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

For more information click on the link below:

[Veteran Services – Marine Corps League](#)

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



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



FROM THE CHAPLAIN

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Notice to All New England Department Chaplains.

Our New England Division Conference will be held June 11th through 14th and in preparation for the Memorial Service honoring our MCL Fallen Comrades from 2025-May 2026 I would request that you start compiling your Department listing and get them to me by 31 May. You can send them via e-mail to (Janie.deptula@gmail.com) or snail mail to (Jane Deptula, 13-C Manchester Circle, Coventry, RI 02816).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Janie Deptula, New England Division Chaplain

THINGS TO CONSIDER

If you **fail** never give up

because **F.A.I.L.** means

First Attempt In Learning

END is not the **END**

In fact **E.N.D.** means

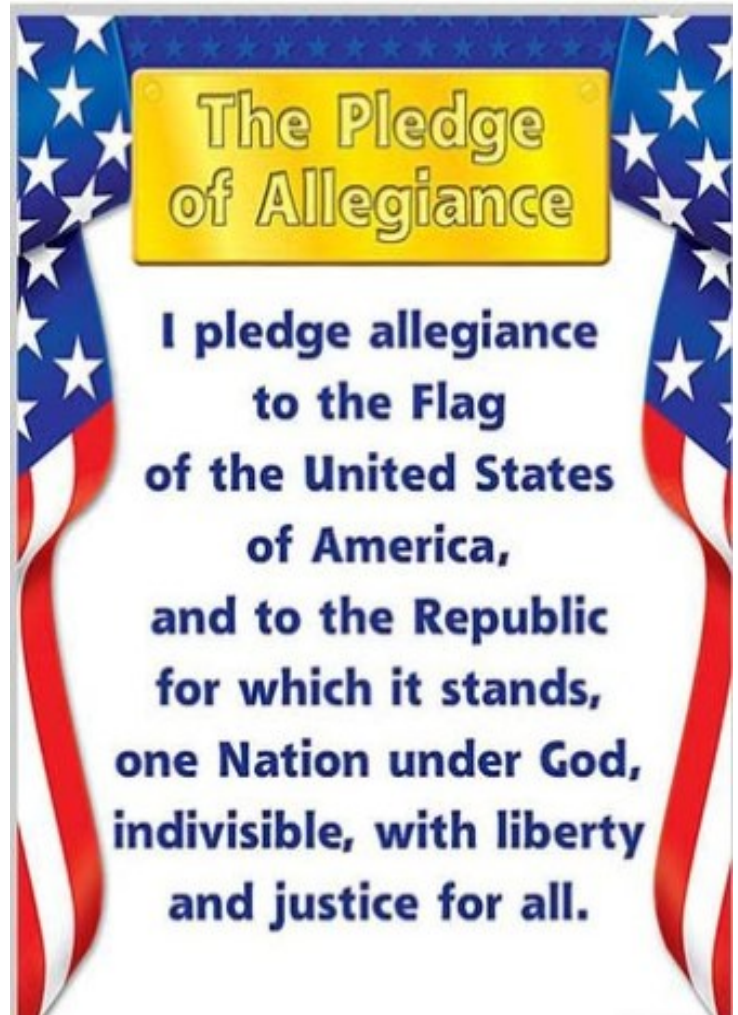
Effort Never Dies

If you get **NO** as an answer

Remember **N.O.** means

Next Opportunity

Change Your Mindset!





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



2026



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NEW ENGLAND DIVISION CONFERENCE

CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT



THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026 - SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026



HOTEL INFORMATION:

Sheraton Springfield
Monarch Place Hotel
1 Monarch Pl
Springfield, MA 01144

\$159.00 USD per night

Last day to book:
Thursday, May 14, 2026

Scan to book



Hotel Reservation

www.NewEnglandDivMCL.org





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



REGISTRATION

The link below will take you through the registration process from beginning to end.

- 1.) You will be able to register up to two people for the convention and Growl.
- 2.) Any outings you are interested in.
- 3.) Banquet
- 4.) Friday Night Buffet.
- 5.) Saturday Luncheon.
- 6.) Commemorative T- Shirt

When you complete the registration you will go to the Thank You Page and from there you will be directed to Purchasing an AD in the Ad Book. [2026 New England Division Conference](#)

If you wish to Purchase an Ad in the Ad Book and are not registering at this time you may use the following link to go directly to the Ad Book

<https://form.jotform.com/260878587383072>

Registration is also available at the Division Website.

[New England Division Marine Corps League](#)





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



2026 New England Division Conference June 11, 2026 – June 14, 2026

Welcome Marines, Members and Guests
Hosted by the Marine Corps League
Department of Massachusetts



Conference Schedule

Thursday, June 11th is for travel and to explore the City of Springfield

Friday, June 12, 2026

0800-1300	Golf-need to be registered	Veterans Golf Course, Springfield	
1200-1700	Registration/Raffles	Longford Room/3rd floor	
1600-1830	Hospitality Room Open		TBD
1630-1730	Department Commandant Meeting		
1700-1900	Dinner Buffet (must have ticket)	Ballroom North/3rd floor	
1800-1850	Passport Table Open	Outside of Ballroom Center/3rd floor	
1900-2030	Grand Growl Devil Dogs/MA Pack	Ballroom Center/3rd floor	
1900-2030	Bingo or something for those not attending the Growl	TBD	
1900-2130	Hospitality Room		TBD

Saturday, June 13, 2026

0630-0800	Breakfast (on your own)		
0800-0815	Muster for Memorial Service		3rd Floor
0830-0900	Memorial Service (Nat. Chaplain, Div Chaplain & Dept Chaplains) Attention All Marines – Uniform for the Morning Memorial: Opt. A – Long sleeve white MCL shirt, tie, black trousers, red blazer and cover (National/Department Officers); or Opt. B – Long sleeve white MCL shirt, tie, dress blue or black trousers, red satin jacket and cover; or Opt. C – Short sleeve white MCL shirt, dress blue or black trousers and cover; or (Business meeting) Opt. D – Dress shirt/polo, black trousers and cover (Business meeting) (Note: Cover is the minimum to attend)		Ballroom North
0915-1020	Opening Division Conference (NVC Patrick Maguire)		
1030-1200	MCL COO Bob Borka Presentation		
1200-1300	Lunch (must have ticket, open buffet 1130-1400 hrs)		Ballroom Center
1300-1320	National Senior/Junior Vice Commandant Message		
1330-1350	Marine For Life Program Dave Oassin & Major Brandon Tallon, M4L local rep		
1400-1445	H.A.M.S.A.L - Brian Gillispie		
1445-1515	MODD NVCDD McMahon - Chief Devil Dog PDD Joe DeAngelo		
1515-1530	Chapel of Four Chaplains (Howard Schaeffer, MCL National Chaplain)		
1600-1630	Local Veteran charities/VA reps		
1630-1730	Social/Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar)		Ballroom Center
1730-1800	Opening Ceremony for the Banquet		
1800-1930	Banquet Dinner (Cash Bar)		
1930-2230	Guest Speaker/Awards/Installation of Dept Officers/Raffle Drawing		
2230-2400	"At Ease" (Networking, Fellowship, Sea Stories)		

Sunday, June 14, 2025

1100 Departure

Thank you for coming.
We hope you enjoyed yourself.
Please have a safe trip home.
Semper Fidelis



NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



THE DIVISION IS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR DIVISION MARINE OF THE YEAR & DIVISION ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR

Do you know anyone who should be a Division Marine Of The Year Or a Division Associate member of The Year. Think about it. Who in your Department or Detachment steps up and takes the lead. What do they contribute to the Division?

If you would like to nominate someone for Marine of the Year or Associate Member of the Year for the Division, please submit a written statement explaining why you believe your nominee deserves the award and outlining their contributions and accomplishments within the Division. Due by May 1st .





CONNECTICUT



I recently received The 12 Seasons of New England in a text. I got a kick out of it and thought you might enjoy it, too.

The 12 Seasons of New England

- Winter
- Fool's Spring <----- We are here.
- Second Winter
- Spring of Deception
- Third Winter
- The Pollening
- Actual Spring
- Summer
- Hell's Front Porch
- False Fall
- Second Summer
- Actual Fall

This winter has seemed longer than those in recent memory. It certainly was snowier! But as I write this, it really feels as though "Actual Spring" is right around the corner. I am really looking forward to it.

In my last message, I warned about the risks when shoveling snow. I don't think we have to concern ourselves with that at this point.

Spring lends itself to many other outdoor activities such as golf, gardening, golf, mowing, golf, walking, golf, jogging, golf, hiking, etc. The key to enjoying oneself, especially at the ages of most of us MCLeaguers, is to warm up thoroughly and begin slowly, gradually increasing the level of activity over several days and weeks. So, get out and bask in the warmth of spring, my friends.

How is the MCL Department of Connecticut doing?

Quite well actually. Several Detachments have added new members, which is one of our primary goals: to grow membership. The other half of that goal is to increase participation by current members. Everyone can do something to support the League.

Every Detachment and the Department needs officers. New members can serve in appointed position, even elected positions. I was elected as the Junior Vice Commandant for the Housatonic Detachment mere months after joining the League. I know that is not a path for everyone, but it indicates what positions a "newbie" can fill.

If you can get new members involved at any level, do it! But do not leave them hanging. They will need support, mentoring, as we all do. Being in leadership positions need not be drudgery. There absolutely should be some fun involved. The more you participate, the more you learn. The more you learn, the more value you bring to your meetings, to the whole organization.

What began here ... continues here.



Semper Fidelis.

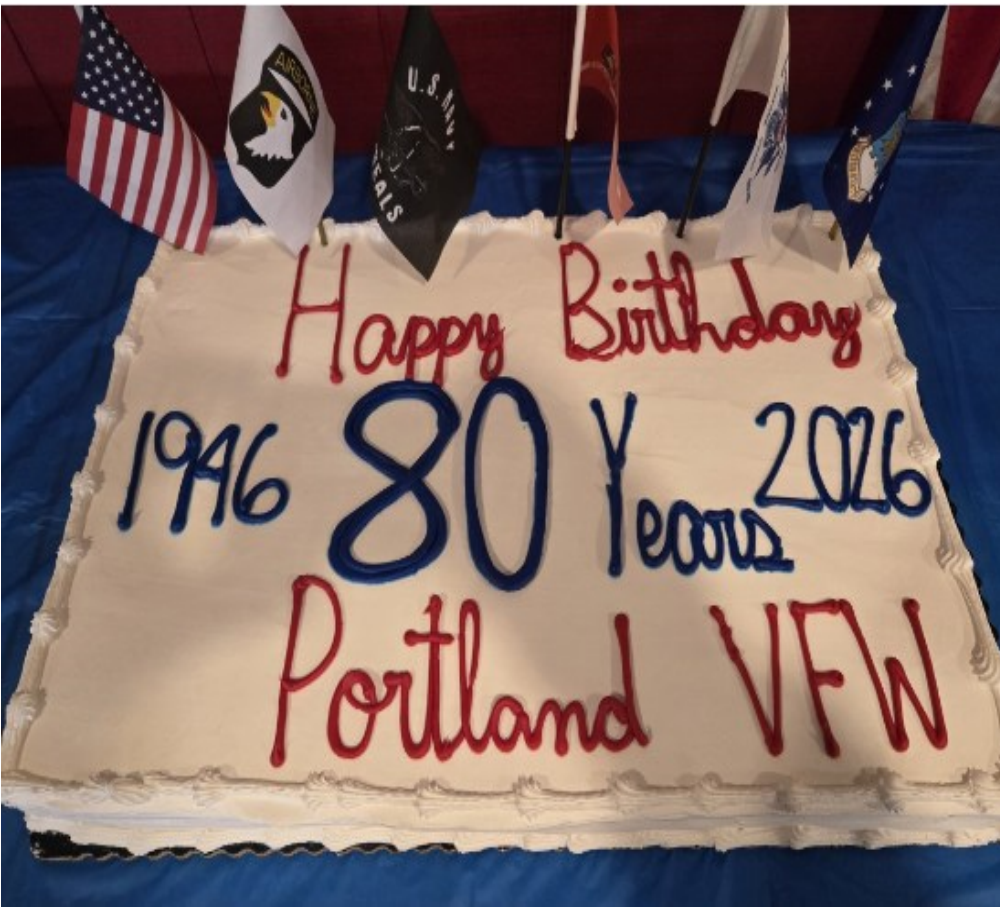
Rich Daigle
Commandant



CONNECTICUT



HARDWARE CITY DETACHMENT



On Saturday February 28 th , Marine Corps League, Department of CT was honored to help celebrate VFW, Portland CT, Post 6126, 80th birthday party. Congratulations Post 6126. A good time was had by all.

Members of the Hardware City Detachment 781 are: Squad Leader Jim Soder, Armorer Larry Sekscenski, and rifleman, Al Urso



CONNECTICUT



AUGUST 22, 2026



Join us for our Annual Benefit Ride

Meet up at **Hubbard Park** in Meriden, CT.

Registration is from 9:30 to 10:45 with kickstands up at 11:00.

Our ride will end at the **Svea Social Club**,

999 Kensington Rd, Kensington, CT 06037.

Come out rain or shine, with or without a bike. Enjoy food, music, and raffles.

All proceeds go toward scholarships and animals in need of medical attention.

\$20/Per Bike
Includes
Passenger

\$10/Person
not on Ride

For any questions, please call/text us!

Arnold 860-637-3834

Tina 860-637-3834

Sheri 203-848-7524





CONNECTICUT



DEPT. OF CT. RAFFLE

The Department of Connecticut is raffling off a Bird House to help with the cost of our one day convention. This Birdhouse was

built and donated by Rich Michaud of the Hard-Detachment. It is a real Blue Lodge it is in town New near a Bird



nated by Michaud of ware City There is a Peaks Queens Zealand Sanctuary.

We originally going to offer tickets online but due to issues beyond my control we could not but it will be

in the con-

vention Raffle. The raffle will be held during the convention, and it will be a combined raffle, Department and Pack. Both organizations will split the earnings. The schedule of the Convention will be tight as the goal is to get everything completed and get everyone out at a reasonable time which will include Convention and Growl.

I ask if you have any items to donate please bring them to the convention, or bring them to the April 12th Dept. meeting. I would ask the dogs to bring in their usual item below \$20 value to help make our raffle a success.



CONNECTICUT



Do You Ride?

Ride ^{for} a Reason

Come Meet us!

B.A.C.A.

Connecticut Chapter

Invites you to their Public Meeting
First Monday of Every Month
at 6:45pm

St. Joseph's Polish Society, Inc.
395 South Main Street Colchester, CT

BACAworld.org

BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE



YOUNG MARINES



On Sunday afternoon, March 29, 2026, the Young Marines from Natchaug River Unit. Provided a Color Guard at the CT State Vietnam War Memorial in Coventry, CT to honor and remember all the Vietnam War veterans and to salute their patriotism, and to remember the 613 Service Members who did not make it home from the battlefield. The Young Marines take part in many community service projects throughout the State and could serve as a vital part of some of the activities the Marine Corps League conducts. Please consider inviting them to help in those activities as well as inviting them to social events as well.

YM PFC Brosnan, C, YM PFC Stamper, W, YM PFC Mitchell, C, and YM SgtMaj Steele, M. and BGen Ron Welch DVA Commissioner.



YM PFC Brosnan, C, YM PFC Stamper, W, YM PFC Mitchell, C, and YM SgtMaj Steele, M. Thank you to Shanna Steele, for supplying the photos.



CONNECTICUT



HOUSATONIC DETACHMENT



Recently,
PDC, PWPL, David
Rosa was Wrapped
by the Quilts of Val-
or Foundation





CONNECTICUT



Coffee with Veterans

9 AM - 11 AM

1ST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

AMERICAN LEGION POST 68 HALL

**COME ENJOY FREE COFFEE, HOT BREAKFAST
& GOOD CONVERSATIONS!**



*Feel free to bring
ONE guest!*

IF YOU NEED A RIDE PLEASE CONTACT:

MO JORDAN

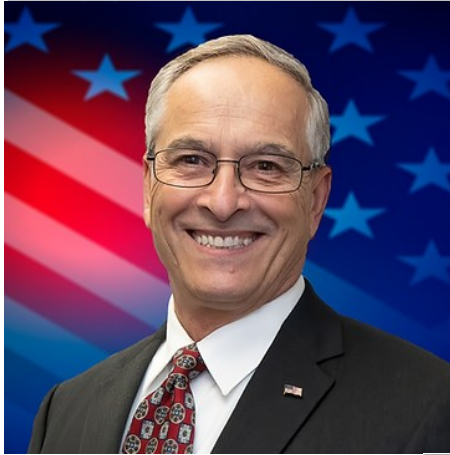
860-268-8969

AMERICANLEGIONAUXPOST68@GMAIL.COM

154 Porters Pass, Berlin CT 06037



CONNECTICUT



This April 22 nd, we pause to remember two Marines, Cpl. Jonathan Yale and Lance Cpl. Jordan Haerter, 22 and 20 years old respectively. They stood the watch at the entrance gate of an outpost that contained a makeshift barracks housing 50 Marines and 100 Iraqi police. In 2008, this area of Ramadi was known as ‘the most dangerous city on earth’ and owned by al-Qaeda.

As Marines on duty, the eleven General Orders served as

their guide to all possible on duty might encounter, and they de- conduct you must hold on duty. Within an hour of duty, their lives and the sleeping in the bar- changed forever.



scenarios a guard scribe the proper yourself to while assuming their lives of those racks would be

General Kelly delivered a speech, now called ‘Six Seconds to Live’, to the Semper Fi Society of St. Louis on Nov. 13, 2010, four days after his son, Marine 1st Lt. Robert Kelly, was killed in action in Afghanistan. These excerpts are from General Kellys speech. Please take a few minutes to read his entire speech. [Six Seconds to Live | The American Legion](#)

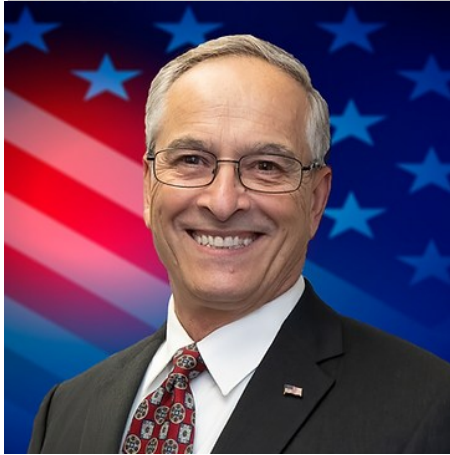
Semper Fi Marines!

Peter DePaola
 Chaplain
 Department of CT





CONNECTICUT



Notification to Department Chaplain on Deceased Members

The Notice of Death form (NOD) should be completed by the Chaplain and forwarded to the Department Chaplain for deceased members of the Detachment. This form should be completed and transmitted immediately upon notification. In addition to other administrative reasons, deceased members are honored with a memorial service at Department, Division, and National meetings.

Completing the Notice of Death is streamlined by using the fillable electronic version of the NOD. The completed form is easily sent via email to the Department Chaplain and may be stored electronically for Detachment records. Use this link to access the fillable NOD form: [7b36bc_18a2668aaf93411d8eeb639f2d16fc16.pdf](#). Once complete, the following is the sequence for submitting the NOD – using email simplifies the process.

- 1) Detachment Chaplain fills out the form then sends a copy to the Department Chaplain (pdepaolasr@gmail.com) retaining a copy for detachment records.
- 2) Department Chaplain sends a copy to the Marine Corps League National Headquarters and the MCL National Chaplain (MCLnationalchaplain@gmail.com) retaining a copy for department records.
- 3) Detachment Paymaster must attach this form when submitting a Notice of Death via Transmittal.

Thank you,

Semper Fi
Peter DePaola
Chaplain
Department of CT



VETERANS

3rd ANNUAL

PICNIC

SERVICE & SACRIFICE

SATURDAY | JULY 25th AT NOON

Join us for a day of
Celebration, Honor, & Fun!

 **WINDHAM** 
FISH & GAME CLUB

276 JERUSALEM ROAD, WINDHAM CENTER

RESERVATION REQUIRED:

Call Tom Curtin
860-655-0602



**DONATIONS
ACCEPTED**





FROM THE WORTHY PACK LEADER



Woof, Woof Dogs,

As we approach our Convention and our Grand Growl, we have some housekeeping issues to address. At the Grand Growl we will need to hold elections for next years officers. That being said all officers that plan to run for election, will need to announce their intention at the May Growl. There are 7 elected positions and we will need to have someone in place for all of them. I would urge you to think about taking one of the elected or appointed positions, what you gain is so much more than what you contribute. The knowledge alone is priceless, not counting the new contacts and friends you will make, and your contribution to the advancement of the Order is something you can be proud of.

We will have a raffle at our Grand Growl. It will be either run by the dogs or it will be combined with the league and we will share in a percentage of that raffle. So please bring an item for the raffle no more than 20 Big Bones.

We have been focused on trying to get back to making these Growls more fun and we have a few things we are discussing. First of all any ideas you have for an activity please share them. We have also discussed having a position for a fun dog, who would be in charge of dispensing fun and he would be called Fun Dog, or Happy Dog, or we will hold a naming contest to name him. I would like to thank PCDD Doug Fisk for providing the entertainment for the past few growls, and I will try yo catch up on the entertainment.

PDD Rich Michaud donated a Bird House to be raffled off and I am trying to set up an online raffle to increase the number of people bidding on it. The house is quite nice and if it were bigger I would move in, Thank you Rich.

Lastly, at the mid-winter Growl, The Kennel has determined we are behind in our efforts to recruit more Dogs to the order. Our new dogs have to come from the larger detachments because most of the smaller detachments do not have many if any new members and they are dogs all be it inactive. I will gladly speak at any detachment Meeting.

Semper Woof,
PDD Walt Benson
Worthy Pack Leader.





CONNECTICUT



MFC EAST CONN'S ANNUAL



★ Salute to ★

VETERANS RIDE



Saturday, August 1st

📍 RIDE DETAILS

Meet Up: 10:00 AM
Kickstands Up: 11:00 AM

📍 START LOCATION:
Vernon American Legion
114 West St.
Vernon, CT 

📍 END LOCATION:
Veterans Base Camp
108 England Rd. Chaplin, CT

💰 RIDE COST

★ \$20 Per Rider
★ \$10 Per Passenger
🍴 Walk-In Meal Tickets: \$20

🍖 AFTER THE RIDE

PIG ROAST

★
SUPPORTING
VETERANS BASE CAMP



CONNECTICUT



SUPPORT OUR IWO JIMA MONUMENT



*SPONSOR OUR ETERNAL FLAME
"IN MEMORY" OR "IN HONOR OF"*

\$15 FOR A DAY

\$100 FOR A WEEK

\$400 FOR A MONTH



Donate on our secure website at www.IwoJimaMemorial.org

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

P.O. Box 31516

Newington, CT 06131

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



CONNECTICUT



NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

On Sunday afternoon, March 29, 2026, veterans and friends gathered at the CT State Vi-

etnam War Memorial in Coventry, CT to honor and remember all the Vietnam War veterans and to salute their patriotism, and to remember the 613 who did not make it home from the battle-field. Coventry is the keeper of the CT Vietnam War Veterans Memorial where the 613 names are etched in black granite. Coventry has held a brief



**Invocation—John Waggoner,
VVA Chapter 270 Norwich**

wreath-laying ceremony each year since 2017 when Congress passed a law designating March 29th as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Members from the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 270, Norwich, CT, provided the flag detail and the invocation was given by VVA member John Waggoner. The Natchaug River Young Marines from Danielson, CT provided the Color Guard while UConn students from the Rubyfruit A Cappella Choir sang the National Anthem. Guest speaker, Ron Welch, CT Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner, Briga-





CONNECTICUT



NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

dier General, U.S. Army (Ret), spoke about our deep appreciation and respect we all have for our



Vietnam veterans and how their perseverance in their fight for their rights and benefits paved the way for today's veterans. Following his speech, Coventry High School Junior, Madison Tiberio, played Taps during the wreath laying by American Legion Post 52 members, Len Theroux and Carl Zetterstrom. The ceremony ended with The Vietnam War took the lives of 58,276 U.S. service members. 613 were from Connecticut. Today, there are still thousands of Vietnam veterans who feel the long-term effects of the War from Agent Orange, which exposed over 2 million veterans serving in Vietnam. "Amazing Grace" being performed by bagpiper, Matt Hickey.

Semper Fi,

Jamie DePaola



Tim Ackert, CT State Representative District *, Air Force Veteran, State Senator Jeff Gordon, Ranking Member on Veterans Affairs Committee, BGen Ron Welch, DVA Commissioner, Peter DePaola, Jamie DePaola and Tom Brown, USMC Veteran VVA Norwich Chapter 270



MASSACHUSETTS



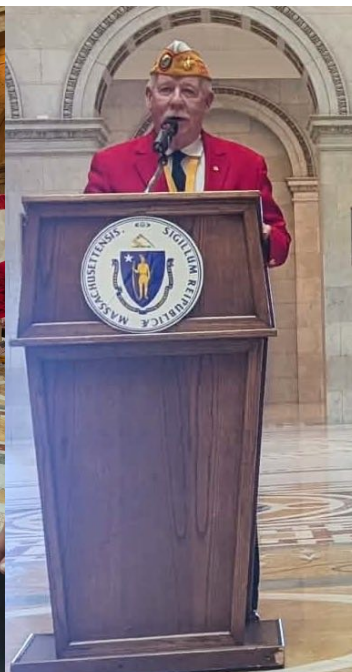
81ST ANNIVERSARY IWO JIMA

On 19th February 2026 the city of Boston held a ceremony commemorating the 81st anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima at the State House. The Battle of Iwo Jima was fought from February 19 to March 16, 1945, and it was a pivotal and grueling confrontation in the Pacific Theater of WWII. US Marines faced staunch, Japanese resistance, including ambushes and counterattacks from the islands tunnel network. On February 23, the iconic flag raising on Mount Suribachi symbolized a morale boost but it did not signify the battle's end, as fierce fighting continued for several weeks afterward.

During the span of 36 days, 6,821 Marines were killed and approximately 19,200 were wounded, making it one of the bloodiest battles in Marine Corps history. The operation showcased remarkable military coordination between the Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Coast Guard and supporting forces while highlighting the relentless sacrifice of those involved.



Lynn English MC ROTC
Led by SgtMaj Beato



PNC Warren Griffin



National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter



Left Dave Porter Receives Semper Fidelis Lifetime Achievement Award from Commandant Mike Hinds. Right State Representative Joe McGonagle, receives Semper Fidelis Public Servant Award from John MacGillvray Chair of the Iwo Jima Committee, also Mike Hinds Commandant Dept of MA and PNC Warren Griffin





MASSACHUSETTS



81ST ANNIVERSARY IWO JIMA



2026 Honorees, National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter, State Representative Joe McGonagle, SgtMaj Beato, Sarah Sweeney, Military Friends Foundation



Commandant Dept of MA, Asst NE V Division Vice Commandant Mike Hinds, National JR. Vice Commandant David Porter, State Representative Joe McGonagle, SgtMaj Beato, Sarah Sweeney, Military Friends Foundation Additional Members of the Marine Corps League



MASSACHUSETTS



SAINT PADDY'S DAY



**Top
The Thing
(The Parade)**

**1st Sgt. Grinstead
JROTC Haverhill
Iliana Hinds**

Boston





Commandant's Corner



Members and Associates of the Granite State Detachment,

It has been a busy and productive quarter for the detachment as we have attended events, visited the residents at the VA and Veterans Home in Franklin, disbursed major donations to local charities serving Marines and other veterans, (local homeless and suicide programs) as well as individual Marines in need. Our relatively new Disbursement Review Board ensures that our efforts and funds are

balanced and targeted in line with our mission which is primarily to serve other Marines and veterans. We also want to benefit the community in which we live by Toys for Tots, Scouts, Scholarships and school visitation.

I remember when I enlisted in 1967 and asked the recruiter, Sgt. Boatwright, what made the Marine Corps different? I don't recall his exact words, basically that Marines take care of other Marines: they retrieve their dead and wounded from the battlefield and depend on each other to get the mission accomplished. What he said really impressed me and little did I realize how profoundly and profusely it would play out in my life!

Always Faithful is a commitment to our brother and sister Marines that doesn't end with being discharged from the Corps. It requires people of differing backgrounds and viewpoints (some very stubborn and resolved as Marines may tend to be!) working together with patience, endurance, and ingenuity to unify by training, preparation and unified principles to accomplish a common goal. This is often challenging, sometimes fun, but always rewarding, as we see what the detachment can corporately do with the abundance of skills and talent we have.

--- Eric Anthony, Commandant, Granite State Detachment



NEW HAMPSHIRE



Sr. Vice Commandant's Message



Marines!

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Marine Corps League Mid-Winter Conference in Arlington, VA. Some highlights of this conference included a tour of the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, VA. If you ever get a chance to visit the museum, it is well worth the trip. The static displays are realistic and show the history of our Marine Corps from 1775 to 2026. The museum takes approximately 2 hours to see all the displays and videos.

During the conference, several awards were given out, and one of the awards that interested me, and possibly the detachment of members, was the marksmanship award, both pistol and rifle. During our last detachment meeting, I suggested going to the shooting range in Manchester, possibly after our Funday Breakfast, to practice shooting and possibly qualify for some of these awards, or just have some fun competing against each other. I hope to do this in May of this year. More information to come.

Also, during the conference it was announced that the building that the Marine Shop is currently located in Quantico, VA has been sold to the Marine Corps League and within the next 12 months the Marine Corps League Headquarters will be relocated to the that building and the Marine Shop will be relocating and all uniform sales will be handled by the Marine Corps Exchange in Quantico, Va. The question raised is how Marines without Marine Corps Exchange privileges will be able to purchase uniforms. They are currently working with the Marine Corps Exchange to determine whether there are exceptions.

If you ever have a chance to attend a Marine Corps League Conference, you'll find plenty of information and camaraderie.

Semper Fi.

Jesse L. Stufflebeam. SVC



NEW HAMPSHIRE



JVC's Message

Call for Leadership: **Junior Vice Commandant Needed**

Granite State Detachment 542 is seeking a dedicated member to step into the role of Junior Vice Commandant.

This position plays a vital part in strengthening our Detachment by:

- Creating membership incentives and programs that foster growth and enthusiasm
- Supporting leadership continuity by stepping in when needed



If you're passionate about serving veterans and building community, this is your chance to lead with purpose and make a lasting impact.

Whether you're a longtime member or newly active, your voice and energy matter. Let's shape the future of GSD 542 together.

Interested? Reach out to the Commandant to learn more or express your interest.

[Email Commandant](#)

Chaplain's Message



Snows Melting, Thinking of Spring

Spring, the season of renewal, breathes life back into the world after the long winter chill.

Long days of flowers blooming and warmer temperatures.

Spring represents a fresh start.

This joyful time encourages us to embrace nature & enjoy the beauty of new beginnings, with the help of Christ our Lord.

Amen

Joe Duquette, Chaplain



NEW HAMPSHIRE



Paymaster's Message

Financial Update: First Quarter 2026

During the first quarter of 2026, I am pleased to report that GSD #542's finances remain strong. This financial stability enables the GSD to continue making donations to Veterans' and community organizations as we progress into the second quarter of 2026.

Charitable Donations Presented at January Meeting

During the first membership meeting of the year, held in January, GSD #542 had the privilege of presenting donation checks totaling \$1,000 each to guest attendees representing Veterans organizations. The honored recipients included representatives from Harbor Care, Hometown Hero Outdoors and Hidden Battles. Additionally, a donation of \$1,500 was approved by members for "A Marine in Need," who underwent a serious cancer operation. These contributions underscore GSD #542's ongoing commitment to supporting organizations that serve Veterans, strengthen the community, and assist fellow Marines in times of need.



2026 Charity Gaming Partnership with Revo Casino

GSD #542 has scheduled its 2026 Charity Gaming partnership with Revo Casino in Lebanon, NH to take place from May 11 through May 20, 2026. During this ten-day period, specific dates will be identified when Detachment members are needed to volunteer and staff the welcome table at the casino venue. Participation from members is essential to the success of this charitable initiative. The proceeds raised from the gaming partnership will directly support GSD #542's ongoing mission: providing donations to a variety of Veterans' organizations and community charities in the greater Manchester, NH area. By engaging in this effort, GSD #542 continues its commitment to making a positive difference for local Veterans and the broader community.

Looking Ahead

As I reflect on the successes achieved by the Detachment in the first quarter and as I anticipate the opportunities ahead, I am enthusiastic about continuing to serve as Paymaster for the Detachment throughout the coming year. My ongoing commitment is to maintain the financial health of GSD #542, ensuring that our resources are managed responsibly and transparently. I am dedicated to supporting our charitable initiatives and to facilitating the important work we do for Veterans and our community. Together, I am confident that we will build upon our achievements and make a meaningful impact in 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Marge Romano



NEW HAMPSHIRE



GSD 542 Scholarship Program 2026

**Granite State Marine Corps League Detachment 542
is Proud to Announce Our
2026 Scholarship Program
Deadline to Apply: Post Marked April 15, 2026**

The Granite State Detachment 542, Marine Corps League, is pleased to announce that our 2026 Scholarship Program is now open for applications. All members of the Detachment, along with their children, step-children, grandchildren, step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and step-great-grandchildren, are eligible to apply. We encourage every qualified family to take advantage of this opportunity as we continue our commitment to supporting the educational goals of our Marine Corps League community.

As shown below we are offering two scholarships this year, one for students pursuing a college or university education, and the second is for those students that would like to pursue a trade school education.

Full details of the requirements for applying to our scholarships can be found with the attached document or by going to our website. [Granite State Marines](#)

We look forward to receiving this year's applications and supporting the educational goals of our Detachment families.

Sincerely,

Eric Anthony, Commandant

**Frank A. Diekmann
Scholarship - Fillable Form**

**Commandant's Trade School
Scholarship - Fillable Form**

Online Scholarship Applications



NEW HAMPSHIRE



This Year We Are Offering Two Different Scholarships

FRANK A. DIEKMANN GRANITE STATE DETACHMENT #542 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

GSD #542 member, Frank A. Diekmann, passed away on November 5, 2021. Frank was active in the Marine Corps League (Commandant of the Granite State Detachment for 2 years and Department of New Hampshire for 4 years). He was recognized as Marine of the Year for the Department of New Hampshire in 2016. It is from his dedication to veterans and the community in general that translates into why we have named our scholarship in his name.

This scholarship is open to college bound student with a current GPA of at least 2.5 of 4.0 scale, and resides in the coverage area listed on our website and documentation, and falls into one of the categories in our eligibility section.



Frank A. Diekmann Scholarship for 2026 will be awarded in an amount up to **\$2500.**



Commandant's Trade School Scholarship for 2026 will be awarded in an amount up to **\$2500.**

Granite State Marine Corps League #542 Commandant Trade School Scholarship In Recognition of 1st Lt. Rogers Blood

The Granite State Detachment (GSD) #542 – Marine Corps League has established the **Granite State Marine Corps League #542 Commandant Trade School Scholarship** in recognition of **1st Lt. Rogers Blood** to provide, to qualified applicants who are pursuing a certificate-state issued license in such fields as: electrician, plumber, barbering, cosmetology, hair styling, truck driving, or other trade schools, as a full-time student as defined by the accredited programming of training by the state where the student will be attending.

This scholarship is open to trade school bound student with a current GPA of at least a 2.5 of 4.0 scale, and resides in the coverage area listed on our website and documentation, and falls into one of the categories in our eligibility section.

For full details and to apply to either of these scholarships, via our website fillable form, please click the button below. The ability to print and mail in the application is available as well, we just ask that you be sure to mail it in time to reach us by the deadline list on the application.

[Scholarships Detail](#)

[Online Scholarship Applications](#)



NEW HAMPSHIRE



FUNday Breakfast

Our next FUNday Breakfast is scheduled for March 28th.

Please join us for our next FUNday breakfast at 0800 at the Airport Diner for the FUNday meet-n-greet breakfast @ 2280 Brown Avenue, Manchester to join in on all this fun! We gather the last Saturday of each month.



Hope to see you there!

Wednesday Ladies' Lunch



DEAR LADIES,

Our Marine Corps League monthly **WEDNESDAY LADIES' LUNCH** is coming to life again starting on April 15th at T-Bones Restaurant, Bedford, NH! Guests are invited. Everyone pays for their own food and drink. Be prepared to relax and enjoy yourself! Just remember Ladies ONLY! 😊

Also, I hope to schedule upcoming noon lunches for the **third Wednesday of the month of APRIL, MAY, JUNE**, and then for **SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER**, Lord willing. Your input is appreciated.

Please let me know if you will be able to attend in April, as that will affect seating arrangements.

All the best to each of you.

Love and Smiles in advance!

Pat Anthony, Associate Member
Manchester Marine Corps League #542
603-782-3077

Axe Throwing @ Rugged Axe



NEW HAMPSHIRE



Membership in Granite State Detachment 542

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

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



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

Monthly Meetings

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

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

Time: Meetings begin promptly and 1800

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

Visit our Website for More Info



NEW HAMPSHIRE



SAVE THE DATE



Finding Our Mission and Finding Our Hope in the Darkness of Our Mental Health Struggles

WHEN

June 6th, 2026

Check-in 9-9:45am, Step-off at 10am

WHERE

Camp Carpenter

300 Blondin Rd., Manchester, NH03109

WHAT

5K Hike/Walk/Ruck on the Dan Beard Trail at Camp Carpenter to bring awareness to veteran mental health and suicide, showing our veterans they do not have to fight this battle alone.

ALL AGES EVENT

This is a Family Friendly Community Event. Leashed Dogs Welcomed! Rain or Shine

FREE

Fundraising or payments of any kind is not permitted. This event is to bring awareness to veteran mental health and suicide and show our support for our veteran community.

ONSITE

Games for before and after
Post-Hike Food and Refreshments
Community Partners/Organizations

EVENT COORDINATOR

Mike Martioski

mjmartioski@yahoo.com

Reference 22 Until None

603-913-4959



Operation Mercury IV
2024



Operation Mercury V
2025



NEW HAMPSHIRE



Have You Served in the Military?

SERVICES PROVIDED LOCALLY | FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL | FOR ALL WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

Veterans Count

Easterseals New Hampshire's Veterans Count provides a safety net of critical case management and emergency financial assistance to meet the unexpected needs of service members, Veterans, and their families.

Veterans Count offers support and services around:

- Mental Health Counseling
- Housing Stabilization
- Substance Use Treatment Coordination
- Benefits and Resource Connection
- Emergency Financial Assistance

Available for all who have served in the military, regardless of service era, discharge status, or VA eligibility.

Please Contact Us to Learn More

Let's talk about how we can meet your needs.

To request Veterans Count Services, please contact our Program Coordinators at intake@vetscount.org or call 603.315.4354.

To learn more about Veterans Count, visit VetsCount.org.



Easterseals NH Veterans Count
 603.315.4354
intake@vetscount.org
VetsCount.org
 555 Auburn Street | Manchester, NH 03103



ADVANCEMENT TIME

Hello Dogs Woof Woof;

We are rapidly approaching the time to advance, are you ready? When I went through this there was a lot of stories that made me quite a bit apprehensive. When I completed it I was really grateful for the experience. I learned a lot about the dogs as well as the league. And no one in my group had to belly crawl through the sand in wet dress blues. The bones that you will save on reporting is well worth any inconvenience. So if you are ready see the dog robber now to register and if not next year we will be close as we are going to buffalo. Woof, Woof.

I hope everyone is looking for games or activities for the Growls. We have started having meetings instead of Growls which are fun versus boring. We have also come to the time of year when we will hold our Grand Growl and Supreme Growl. We will have elections at both events. If you are running for office you should be announcing at your next growl your intentions. At the Supreme Growl we will be voting on bylaw changes these proposed changes are listed on the Kennel web site so that you can read them before the Supreme Growl.

This year the Growl at The New England Division conference will be run by the Dept. of Massachusetts, bring a lot of bones, you



will need them. I have no details on the Conference or Growl as of yet so look for them coming soon.

Lastly, to our Honorable SR Vice Chief Devil Dog, Mike Francis, get well and come back soon.





NEW ENGLAND DIVISION



Hello to the members of the New England Division and their families. I am honored to have been asked to once again present HAMSAL (Help A Marine, Save A Life) to your membership at the Division Conference in June. I last presented to your Division 2 years ago and have since added more pertinent information as well as resources. For those of you who do not know about HAMSAL, it was created when New England Division member, Past National Commandant Warren Griffin wanted to do more for our membership and their families regarding mental health and wellness. So, this is when HAMSAL was created. HAMSAL centers around taking care of yourself, as well as taking care of each other, suicide awareness and prevention, mental health and substance use, as well as my journey.

I have attended many Division Conferences upon request and presented the HAMSAL PowerPoint to talk about the things that we don't talk about enough. What's that you say, you don't like talking about these uncomfortable topics? Well, I am here to tell you that those days are gone. We are our brothers and sisters keeper, whether you know it or it like it. As leaders in our communities, we must do this together, we cannot do this alone.

As a retired Police Officer and Marine Corps veteran in recovery, I understand about suffering in silence and fighting that stigma, especially within our community. Now I stand tall and recover loudly and help others with their mental health and substance use. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time and contact me at shoremarines@gmail.com and 732-921-7411. I hope to see you in June, make sure you come up and introduce yourself to me. Semper Fi!

Brian Gillespie



MARINE FOR LIFE

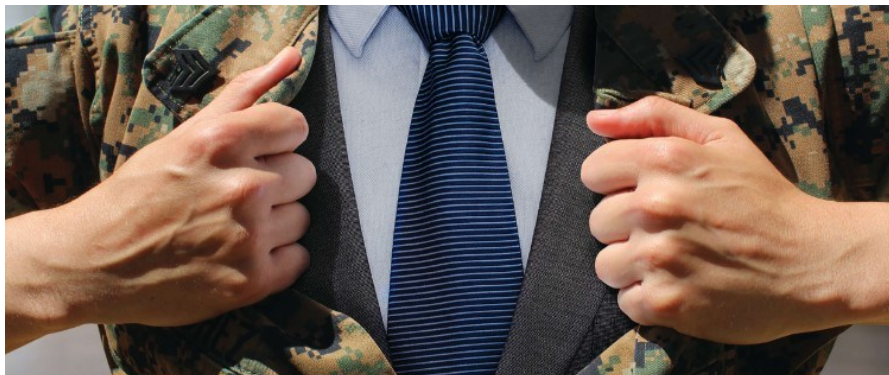


Connect to resources and opportunities:

Whether you're just starting the transition process, or you've already made the move to civilian life, the Marine for Life Network is here to help you grow your professional network and provide the support and guidance you need to succeed beyond the military.

Strengthen your professional relationships and expand your network.: Networking is crucial in today's professional world. The Marine for Life Network facilitates your networking capabilities through two lines of effort: virtual and face-to-face communication.

Virtual: Join the [Marine for Life Network's](#) growing community of Marines, Veterans, and military community members on LinkedIn. This premier professional networking site is an excellent resource for accessing career tools, staying connected with peers, and developing your professional brand. To connect, start by setting up a profile and joining a Marine for Life regional net-



work group.

Face-to-Face: More than 70 Marine for Life Representatives serves our program as

hometown links. These representatives create a bridge between the military and civilian communities across the nation, connecting you to military-friendly job op-

portunities, career resources, and networking events. Your local representative will help you build relationships and explore employment, education, and community resources in your current area or the area where you plan to move.

Military Spouses too! The Marine for Life Network is committed to helping military spouses build relationships and connections that can benefit them in both their personal and professional lives. By leveraging the power of the Marine for Life Network, military spouses can tap into a wider network of employers, academic institutions, entrepreneurship resources, and more!



MARINE 4 LIFE



MARINE FOR LIFE NETWORK

MARINE FOR LIFE NETWORK

Connecting transitioning Marines and their family members to education resources, employment opportunities, and other Veterans services that aid in their career and life goals outside of military service.

ONCE A MARINE,
ALWAYS A MARINE!

Marine for Life Network can guide your search for:



Career & Technical Opportunities



Educational Opportunities



Entrepreneurial Endeavors

NETWORKING IS KEY

Linked in



Our online network utilizes LinkedIn to help Marines network with one another and connect with employers who want to hire Marines.

Face to Face Network



We focus on connecting Marine Veterans to local and national resources, as well as encouraging networking through Marine For Life events and meet ups.

[company/marine-for-life-network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/marine-for-life-network)

marineforlife.org

866-645-8762

[/MarineForLifeNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/MarineForLifeNetwork)

WOUNDED WARRIOR REGIMENT

WWR Fact Sheet

District Injured Support Coordinators & Field Support Representatives

District Injured Support Coordinators (DISCs) and Field Support Representatives (FSRs) are an integral part of the Wounded Warrior Regiment's (WWR) support structure. They act as a conduit to Marine Corps, Veterans Affairs (VA), and civilian resources for Marines recovering away from a military installation or transitioning to veteran status. DISCs are Marine reservists and FSRs are contract support geographically dispersed to provide assistance and community liaison where needed.

The goal of DISCs and FSRs is to return well adjusted wounded, ill, or injured (WII) Marine veterans to their communities with the knowledge and skills to self-advocate and assist other WII Marines.

What Services do DISCs and FSRs offer?

- Outreach through calls or face-to-face contact with WII Marines and their families requiring assistance.
- Assistance with accessing VA and community resources.
- Facilitate veteran medical care through VA patient advocates or OIF/OEF Coordinators.
- Information on family and caregiver support services (i.e. respite care, scholarship opportunities, counseling support).
- Access to education and employment resources in their local communities (i.e. resume development, interview skills, network/employment opportunities, and application completion).
- Support in working with representatives from medical facilities, the VA, legal authorities, businesses, and non-profit organizations.
- Immediate access to the WWR's medical section and VA for psychological health resources and support, including referrals to local resources to ensure WII Marines receive timely and appropriate care.

Who They Support

- Marines transitioning to veteran status
- Reserve Marines
- Marines recovering in remote locations away from military or federal resources
- TDRL/PDRL Marines

Where They are Located

DISCs and FSRs are geographically dispersed across the country and are generally collocated with VA-operated medical centers, vet centers, and outpatient clinics offering primary and specialized care.

Related Fact Sheets

- Wounded Warrior Regiment Call Center
- Medical Section
- Transition
- Recovery Care Coordinator

MSgt Charles You
District Injured Support
Coordinator (DSC)

508-740-4331

Charles.you.mil@usmc.mil



Fact Sheet: Transition
Released: 03012018v2



YOUNG MARINES



Pictured above are the 2026 Young Marines of The Year: Division 1: Mason Steele- [Natchaug River Young Marines](#), Danielson, CT, Division 2: Francis (Quinn) Lawton- [Upstate Young Marines](#), Greenville, SC, Division 3: Sydney Oke- [Lapeer County Young Marines](#), Lapeer, MI, Division 4: Valerie Huete- [JPSO Young Marines](#), Harvey, LA, Division 5: Charlotte Bisila- [Lewis & Clark Young Marines](#), Ridgefield, WA, Division 6: Philip Zajac- San Diego Young Marines, San Diego, CA



Farewell Address

2025—2026

National Young Marine Of The Year

YM SGTMAJ Chingiz Bahadur





YOUNG MARINES



National TM of The Year Francis (Quinn) Lawton

Adult Volunteer of the Year: Shaun Betton with [Nations Capitol Young Marines](#)- Washington, D.C., National TM of The Year Francis (Quinn) Lawton- [Upstate Young Marines](#), Greenville, SC, Unit of the Year: [Upstate Young Marines](#)- Greenville, SC



Above: National JR Vice Comm David Porter, Liz Anderson, Right Up 1, Christy Elis, Right: Liz Anderson, Mason Steele, David Porter

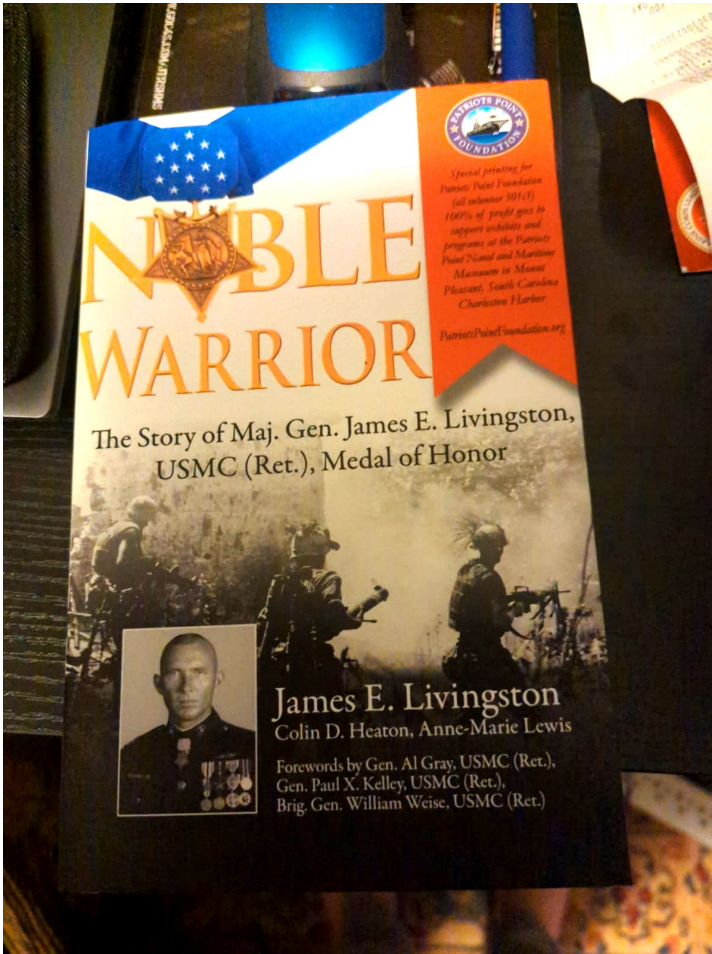




“I cast my words upon the wind, of things I wish to tell my friends”



On this page we will publish the works of Marines who have written novels or poetry that they wish to share either in segments here or a short description and information to purchase the book. We welcome the works of all members. Not all work will appeal to all members but your work will appeal to a member.



Major General James E. Livingston received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his role as an infantry company commander at Dai Do, Vietnam, during a three-day grinding battle of attrition in which the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, numbering only 800 men, victoriously battled 10,000 or more NVA. His remarkable life and career is recounted in a book that has it all: exciting first-person eyewitness account of historic battle; the history of the development of tactics and strategies used in today's war on terror; and a compelling story of leadership in action and individual courage in combat.

Walk With Me

Walk with me my brother and see the land we served,
 The Stars and Stripes fly high above but not for all
 deserved.
 We fail our veterans everyday not giving what there due,
 And seniors shortchanged every year so others get what's
 due.
 We are a land of immigrants who came here from afar,
 And as each group did settle here, they learned and fol
 lowed law.
 They learned and spoke our language and worked for all
 their needs,
 Unlike those who come today, and expect for all their
 needs.

They stood for our Flag each day and pledged allegiance
 too,
 They fought and died, side by side, Irish, German, Jew.
 The only color or race we saw was the one of red white
 and blue,
 Today they come and do not stand nor give our flag it's
 due.
 Instead they burn our flag in hate, of everything we are,
 They stand on it, bringing us to tears as they desecrate
 our soul.
 With no respect, but just contempt, they demand what
 isn't there's,
 To this I say go far from here we defend our flag from
 you.



HUMOR AROUND THE DIVISION



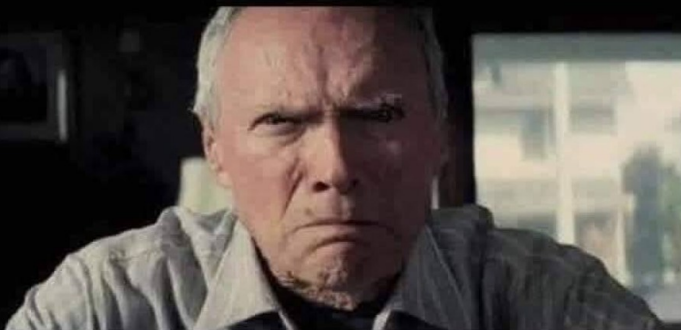
Recently a female friend asked me who did I think was stronger a man or a woman. I said definitely a woman, She asked why do you say that? I said it takes 6 men to carry a man to his grave but only one woman to put him there.

I GOT ZERO WHAT DID YOU GET

Give yourself 1 point for each thing you've NEVER done:

1. Used a rotary phone
2. Used a floppy disc
3. Used a typewriter
4. Taken photos with a film camera
5. Listened to music on a CD
6. Listened to a cassette tape
7. Listened to a vinyl record
8. Listened to music on a a Walkman
9. Listened to music on a boombox outside
10. Watched a video from a VHS tape
11. Accessed the internet by dial-up
12. Used a phone book
13. Sent a postcard
17. Used a paper map to get somewhere
18. Owned a dictionary
19. Owned an encyclopaedia
20. Paid with a paper cheque/chick

I LOVE SOCIAL MEDIA.



BACK IN MY DAY, I HAD TO INSULT PEOPLE ONE AT A TIME.

I HAVE ONE CUP OF COFFEE EACH MORNING JUST TO START THE DAY OFF RIGHT.

THE OTHERS ARE TO KEEP ME OUT OF JAIL, HELP ME FORM SENTENCES, AND FUEL MY RAZOR SHARP WIT.



MORNING, MARINES. NEW DAY, SAME MISSION: SHOW UP, STAND TALL, SERVE WELL.

LEND A HAND, LIFT SOMEONE UP AND LEAVE EVERY PLACE BETTER THAN YOU FOUND IT.





Building a strong relationship to secure the future

As a member of the Marine Corps Association, you will be well-connected with the Corps with MCA's membership benefits:

Resources:

[Leatherneck – Magazine of the Marines and The Marine Corps Gazette](#) are our monthly flagship publications that feature valuable information from the Corps. Members can select print and/or digital issues and can access more than one hundred years of issues of both magazines online for free. Non-members do not have access to our Magazine archives. [Click here](#) to see sample issues.

- [The MARINE Shop](#) is our retail store that assists Marines with their uniform requirements regardless of rank and offers many Marine Corps themed gifts and apparel.

MCA Group Insurance Program features valuable insurance products with your needs in mind – all backed by an association you can trust. We leverage the buying power of our MCA members to bring you competitive group rates and offer one convenient source for the following products:

[Term Life Insurance](#)

[TRICARE Supplement](#)

[Dental Insurance](#)

[Vision Insurance](#)

[Pet Insurance](#)

[Long-Term Care Insurance](#)

[Medicare Insurance Plans](#)

[Individual and Family Health Insurance Plans](#)



To learn more about the benefits of the Marine Corps Association Group Insurance Program, [Click Here](#) or call (800) 845-4685.

Networking Opportunities:

Discounted [Professional Events](#): Our members receive discounted rates for our MCA professional dinners and events held annually throughout the Corps. Our dinners provide members with access to senior leaders of the Marine Corps, Department of Defense, and industry. Active-duty members can attend for free.

Professional Development:

[MCA Battle Study Packages](#): Members will have access to all of our Battle Study Packages and learn from the lessons of the battles of the past to excel in the Corps battlefields of the future.

[MCA Decision-Making Exercises](#): Members can practice solving issues to increase their ability to make decisions through dozens of tactical and ethical decision games

[MCA Corps Voices](#): Hear the Corps' icons from Chesty Puller to Alexander Vandegrift to Al Gray discuss issues, challenges, and battlefield tactics in these audio excerpts recorded over the last one hundred years.





Dear Members of the Marine Corps Association and Valued Customers of The Marine Shop,

I am writing to share an important update regarding the future of The Marine Shop, the retail arm of our association, and to do so directly and with the respect you deserve. After careful deliberation, MCA has made the decision to transition The Marine Shop's uniform business to Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS). This transition will occur deliberately, with continuity, quality and customer service as our guiding principles. This decision was not made lightly.

The retail operating environment has changed. Ensuring a secure and reliable uniform supply—one that meets the needs of Marines today and into the future—has become increasingly complex for retailers. Manufacturing pressures and the continued decline of domestic production now require scale, infrastructure and logistics depth to manage effectively. MCCS is uniquely positioned to meet those demands.

As the Marine Corps' enterprise retail and services organization, MCCS brings the sourcing capability, systems and retail knowledge necessary to sustain uniform availability, quality control and pricing stability over time. In my judgment, this transition is the most responsible way to ensure Marines continue to receive the uniforms they require—when and where they need them—without disruption.

The Marine Shop team has earned its reputation through professionalism, attention to detail and a deep understanding of what Marines expect. We are working closely with MCCS to ensure those standards carry forward. The experience customers associate with The Marine Shop—knowledgeable support, quality of our products, and respect for the customer—will

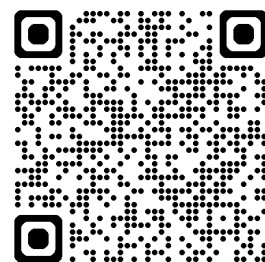
As we are transitioning our uniform products and services to MCCS, I am pleased to announce that we will continue to offer mission-aligned retail products that focus on preserving our heritage, professional development and Marine Corps lifestyle. In the coming month, MCA is launching The Marine Corps Association—**The Book Store**, as an **e-commerce-only platform**.

Through this online store, MCA will continue to offer carefully curated non-uniform apparel, books, historical works and heritage-focused merchandise that reflect the legacy and values of the Marine Corps. You can view the website at www.thebookstore1775.com or the button below.

As CEO, it is my responsibility to ensure decisions remain sound not only today, but years from now. I firmly believe this transition does exactly that. Thank you for your trust and continued support of the Marine Corps Association. We will continue to communicate as this transition progresses.
Semper Fidelis

Charles G. Chiarotti
Lieutenant General, USMC (Ret)
President & CEO, Marine Corps Association

Welcome to the Bookstore





DIVISION SPOTLIGHT



In each Issue I would like to focus on Marines that are bringing their A GAME to the Division and our mission. I would ask that Detachment and Department Commandants, as well as Pack Leaders send in their choices of Members and Dogs who deserve recognition for the work they do and the contributions they make to our success. You should describe their contributions and why they are being recognized , since you know them the best.

This definitely a story worth a spotlight and probably a lot more. On April 11th, the Navy will commission USS Harvey C. Barnum Jr., DDG 124. Named after, Medal Of Honor Recipient Marine Corps Col. Harvey Curtiss “Barney” Barnum Jr, Retired. Barney Barnum is a member of the Marine Corps League, Silver City Detachment. If you attend the Semper Fi luncheon in Boston on our Birthday he is usually in attendance.

The ship will be called the USS Harvey C. Barnum Jr., named after, U.S. Marine Corps Col. Harvey Curtiss “Barney” Barnum Jr, according to a statement, honoring “Barnum’s gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life beyond the call of duty during the Vietnam War.” The ship will be commissioned in April. “On Dec. 18, 1965, then-1st Lt. Barnum assumed command of his company after the commander was mortally wounded,” according to a statement. “With two armed helicopters under his control, he moved fearlessly through deadly fire to lead air attacks against the enemy’s well-entrenched positions while directing one platoon in a successful counterattack on key positions. Having cleared a small area, he requested and directed the landing of two transport helicopters to evacuate the deceased and wounded. He then assisted in seizing the battalion’s objective. He is among the few living namesakes to witness his ship’s commissioning.”

“The sponsor of DDG 124 is Barnum’s wife, Martha Hill,” the statement went on to say. “Since the ship’s keel laying ceremony in 2021, Barnum and Hill have maintained a close relationship with the crew. In keeping with Navy tradition, she will give the order during the commissioning to and bring her moment, the the commissionant, and C. Barnum Jr. warship and fleet.”



**Semper Fi
Colonel**



RECRUITING "IT'S JOB ONE"!!



Thames River Detachment
MCL #1334

Welcome to GNACC!



The Marine Corps League is more than just an organization—it's a family of Marines and Marine supporters dedicated to giving back.

- ✓ Veteran Advocacy & Assistance
- ✓ Community Service & Outreach
- ✓ Youth Programs & Leadership Development
- ✓ Preserving Marine Corps History & Traditions
- ✓ Camaraderie & Brotherhood

Learn More! Contact Pat McMahon (860) 222-5024 www.mcltrd1334.org

Proud Member of the Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce

and the be able to participate in those events. These events could line up with many of the projects we are involved in such as Toys For Tots, and Holiday parades and events. You may be able to participate in many of them. It is a way to promote the league secure new members . I have used the Chamber before and it was very beneficial to the business I was in.

A while back I came across a department that was using their interaction with the schools in the area this could help you gain access to that venue. What they did was supply a color guard for the school and would be involved in the coin toss using a challenge coin. The two coaches and referees would get a coin and a MCL representative would talk over the loudspeaker that the MCL was sponsoring the Game with its color guard and some information on the league. Good Job Thames River !! Semper Fi

Walt Benson

Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce - Norwich, CT · Follow
February 17 at 6:58 PM

LET'S GIVE A WARM GNACC WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER!! THAMES RIVER DETACHMENT MCL #1334
#GNACCSupports #marinecorps #bettertogether

The Marine Corps League is more than just an organization—it's a family of Marines and Marine supporters dedicated to giving back.

Our purpose is far-reaching and includes a variety of initiatives designed to support those who served, their loved ones, and the communities that help shape our nation.

The Marine Corps League's presence is felt in local communities through numerous service projects. From organizing patriotic events like parades and flag ceremonies to leading charity efforts such as food drives, toy collections, and disaster relief programs, MCL members are committed to making a positive impact on society. These activities help preserve the bond between Marines and the communities they serve, while also instilling a sense of pride and unity in the next generation of Americans.

To Learn More, please visit <https://mcltrd1334.org/go/> Montville/Uncasville, CT.

Congratulations to the Thames Rivier Detachment

This is a great idea. If you read the announcement Thames River has become a member of The Chamber of Commerce. Each town has there own charges and fees to become a member but it comes with many benefits. If you attend the meetings you get access to all the business members of the town. You will know all of the activities that the town is putting on



DO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

JOIN THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

MARINES WANTED

FIND A DETACHMENT [HTTPS://WWW.MCLNATIONAL.ORG/FIND-A-DETACHMENT.HTML](https://www.mclnational.org/find-a-detachment.html)





2026

April

2026



SUNDAY

MONDAY


TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1	2	3	4
5 HAPPY EASTER 	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 TAX DAY	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



2026

May

2026



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
							
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
							
31							



CLASSIFIED SECTION



HELP WANTED

Each edition I will list any job a Department has that is open. We need to encourage Marines to step up and fill these positions. Many people think that those of us that hold positions have some special skills that allow us to do these things we do but that is not true. We are all here because we feel we have more to offer and more to do. We appreciate that you come to the meetings but think how much more you could help by stepping up. I think by now I have heard just about every excuse to why people can't do things but you can and that is a conversation you need to have with yourself. No one ever joined the Marine Corps because they thought there were easy no stress jobs here. There are jobs listed here that if not filled would prevent a Department from functioning.

Department of CT– Is seeking an Americanism Chair. Your duties would include overseeing the Departments participation and entries into the Americanism program.

Department of CT– Is seeking a VAVS NORTH and VAVS SOUTH. These position have been open for a while there are training videos available on the National Website.

Department of CT– Is seeking a Boy Scout Liaison

Department of CT– Is seeking a Youth Physical Fitness liaison to make contact with schools to set up the program and help out wherever needed.

Department of CT– Is seeking a Historian

New England Division– is seeking a Historian, who will take over keeping the history and accomplishments of the Division.

New England Division– is seeking a Legal Advisor and for this position you would need skills to advise the Division on all legal matters.

New England Division– is seeking a Auxiliary Liaison . This position needs to be filled by a strong individual who would basically bring the Auxiliary back to life. You would need good communication skills as well as drive and ambition.

New England Division– is seeking a seeking a Youth Physical Fitness liaison to make contact with schools to set up the program and help out wherever needed.



The pain you hide
becomes the power
you rise with.

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

Turn it into something unstoppable.

Turn it into the version of you that refuses to die



INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



HELP 'STUFF A BUS' FOR THE V.A. HOSPITAL IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA!



WE NEED YOUR
DONATIONS OF:

- BLANKETS
- TOILETRIES
- SOCKS
- MONETARY GIFTS

Online Needs List



**THE YOUNG MARINES
AND THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

To donate online QR code -



Let's honor these Veterans for their service to our country by supporting them in their time of need!

**RICHARD L. ROUDEBUSH VA MEDICAL CENTER
1481 WEST TENTH STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46202-2884**

Items may be sent directly to the VA USE MCL—INDY





INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



**THE CHECKERED
FLAG CIRCUIT**

Indianapolis
500

START YOUR



ENGINES

**See Liz for
details/orders**
All proceeds go to
the Young Marines

SEE YOU AT THE WINNERS CIRCLE! ✦

Shirts are \$35.00 Contact Liz Anderson

Email: mseanderson515@gmail.com FaceBook- Elizabeth Anderson—Hunter

Text 781-552-9470



INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



THE CHECKERED FLAG CIRCUIT



See Liz for details/orders

All proceeds go to the Young Marines!

SEE YOU AT THE WINNERS CIRCLE! ✨

Shirts are \$35.00 Contact Liz Anderson

Email: mseanderson515@gmail.com FaceBook– Elizabet Anderson—Hunter

Text 781-552-9470



INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



Sunday, August 09, 2026

Event Time	Event	Location
0730 - 1630	M.O.D.D. Initiates	Quincey's
0800 - 1100	MCL Bylaws Committee Meeting	International Boardroom
0900 - 1300	MCLA Budget Committee Meeting	Director's Row 2
1000 - 1200	MODD Staff Growl	Golden Ballroom 6-7
1000 - 1300	MCLA Bylaws Committee Meeting	Director's Row 1
1100 - 1230	MCL Foundation Meeting	International Boardroom
1300 - 1700	MCL Ship's Store	Golden Ballroom 1-2
1300 - 1700	MCLA Ship's Store	Director's Row 3
1300 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Golden Ballroom 3
1300 - 1600	Indianapolis Room - Local Ship's Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Fortune Square D
1300 - 1600	*MCL National Board of Trustees Meeting	International Boardroom
1300 - 1600	*MCLA National Board of Trustees Meeting	Director's Row 2
1300 - 1700	MCL Registrations	Director's Row 4
1300 - 1700	MCLA Registrations	Convention Hall Lobby
1300 - 1700	M.O.D.D. PDD Registration	Golden Ballroom 4-5
1300 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Registration (Dog House)	Golden Ballroom 4-5
1530 - 1700	Scholarship Committee Meeting	Director's Row 1
1600 - 1700	First Timers Welcome - MCL Commandant, MCLA President & MODD Chief Devil Dog	Hall of Champions
1700 - 2100	Early Bird -	

*At Call of Commandant. MCL: President. MCLA: Chief Devil Dog. MODD



INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



Monday, August 10, 2026

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Golden Preconvence
0730 - 1630	M.O.D.D. Initiates	Quincey's
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Flag Pole
0800 - 1600	MCL Registration	Director's Row 4
0800 - 1600	MCLA Registration	Convention Hall Lobby
0800 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Registration (Dog House)	Golden Ballroom 4-5
0800 - 1600	MCL Ships Stores	Golden Ballroom 1-2
0800 - 1600	MCLA Ships Stores	Director's Row 3
0800 - 1600	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Golden Ballroom 3
0800 - 1600	Indianapolis Room - Local Ship's Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Fortune Square D
0900 - 1700	VA Benefits Claims Clinic	International Boardroom
0900 - 1700	VA Mobile Clinic for Comp & Pen Exams	Parking Lot
0900 - 1200	Joint Opening Session (MCL&MCLA) Guest: VA Secretary Collins	Hall of Champions
	flow	MCL & MCLA Chaplains
	Transitional 5 Minute Recess	
	Chapel of Four Chaplains	
1100 - 1200	Past Chief Devil Dog Society Meeting	Golden Ballroom 6-7
1200 - 1300	Break for Lunch - Grab and Go	Convention Lobby
1300 - 1600	MCL Business Session	Hall of Champions
1300 - 1600	MCLA Business Session	Fortune Square A/B/C
1300 -	MCL Opening Session	Hall of Champions
	Rules of Convention	Bruce Rakfeldt
	Dedication	TJ Morgan
	Newsletter Awards	Walt Benson
	Public Relations	John Taylor
	Closing Ceremony	TJ Morgan
Right after	Department Commandant's Council Meeting	Hall of Champions
1700 - 2000	Comedy Show	Quincey's

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Golden Preconvence
0730 - 1630	M.O.D.D. Initiates	Quincey's
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Flag Pole
0800 - 1600	MCL Registration	Director's Row 4
0800 - 1600	MCLA Registration	Convention Hall Lobby
0800 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Registration (Dog House)	Golden Ballroom 4-5
0800 - 1600	MCL Ship's Store	Golden Ballroom 1-2
0800 - 1600	MCLA Ship's Store	Director's Row 3
0800 - 1600	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Golden Ballroom 3
0800 - 1600	Indianapolis Room - Local Ship's Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Fortune Square D
0900 - 1700	VA Benefits Claims Clinic	International Boardroom
0900 - 1700	VA Mobile Clinic for Comp & Pen Exams	Parking Lot



INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Event Time	Event	Location
0900 - 1200	MCLA Business Session	Fortune Square A/B/C
0900 - 1200	MCL Business Session	Hall of Champions
0900 -	Call Convention to Order	TJ Morgan
	Credentials Committee Report	Teresa Terry
	National Commandant	TJ Morgan
	National Senior Vice Cmdt & Dept Cmdt Council Rpt	Russ Miller
	National Junior Vice Commandant	David Porter
	National Judge Advocate & Resolutions	Bruce Rakfeldt
	Conventions/Conferences Committee	Jim Ransom
	2028 Presentations	Jim Ransom
	Vote on 2028 National Convention Proposals	Jim Ransom
1130 - 1230	MCLA President's Council Meeting	Director's Row 2
1200 - 1300	MCLA Past National President Luncheon	Private Dining Room
1200 - 1300	Break for Lunch - Grab and Go	Convention Lobby
1300 - 1500	MCLA Business Session continues	Fortune Square A/B/C
1300 - 1600	MCL Business Session continues	Hall of Champions
1305 - 1320	Young Marines - Presenting James Laskey Award to NYMOY	Bill Davis
1600	Closing Ceremony	TJ Morgan
1600 - 1700	Americanism Committee	Director's row 1
1800 - 2000		

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Golden Preconvene
0730 - 1330		
0730 - 1630	M.O.D.D. Initiates	Quincey's
0745 - 1345	MODDF Scratch	Fortune Square A/B/C
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Flag Pole
0800 - 1200	MCL Registration	Director's Row 4
0800 - 1200	MCLA Registration	Convention Hall Lobby
Closed	MCL Ship's Store	Golden Ballroom 1-2
Closed	MCLA Ship's Store	Director's Row 3
0800 - 1300	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Golden Ballroom 3
0800 - 1600	Indianapolis Room - Local Ship's Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Fortune Square D
0800 - 1300	M.O.D.D. Dog House	Golden Ballroom 4-5
0800 - 1000	Marine of the Year Society Meeting	Director's Row 1
0900 - 1700	VA Benefits Claims Clinic	International Boardroom
0900 - 1700	VA Mobile Clinic for Comp & Pen Exams	Parking Lot
0900 - 1200	M.O.D.D. Initiation	Hall of Champions
1300 - 1500	National Convention Committee Meeting	Director's Row 1
1200 - 1630	M.O.D.D. Supreme Growl	Hall of Champions
1600 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Dog of the Year Society Growl	Golden Ballroom 6-7
1900 - 1930	Hospitality Cash Bar	Preconvene Hall
1930 - 2130	Mischief & Merriment Dinner hosted by the MODD and Fleas	Hall of Champions



INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



Thursday, August 13, 2026

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Golden Preconvene
0700 - 0900	PNC Society	Private Dining Room
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Flag Pole
0800 - 0900	MCLA Div Vice President's Workshop	Fortune Square A/B/C
0800 - 0900	PNP Society Board Meeting	Director's Row 1
0800 - 0900	PCDD Board Meeting	Director's Row 2
0800 - 1600	MCL Registration	Director's Row 4
0800 - 1600	MCLA Registration	Convention Hall Lobby
0800 - 1600	MCL Ship's Store	Golden Ballroom 1-2
0800 - 1600	MCLA Ship's Store	Director's Row 3
0800 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Golden Ballroom 3
0800 - 1600	Indianapolis Room - Local Ship's Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Fortune Square D
0800 - 1700	M.O.D.D. Dog House	Golden Ballroom 4-5
0900 - 1700	VA Benefits Claims Clinic	International Boardroom
0900 - 1700	VA Mobile Clinic for Comp & Pen Exams	Parking Lot
0900 - 1200	MCLA Business Session	Fortune Square A/B/C
0900 - 1200	MCL Business Session	Hall of Champions
0900-	Opening Ceremony	TJ Morgan
	Credentials Committee Report	Teresa Terry
	Budget Committee Report	Budget Committee
	Bylaws Committee Presents Proposed Changes	Bruce Rakfeldt
	Marine for Life	David Ossian
1000 - 1200	MODD Staff Meeting	Golden Ballroom 6/7
	Youth Physical Fitness / US Marines Youth Foundation	Sean Patton
	Marine Corps League Foundation	Jerry Holt
1200 - 1330	Break for Lunch - Grab and Go	Convention Lobby
1330 - 1530	MCLA Business Session continues	Fortune Square A/B/C
1330 - 1530	MCL Business Session continues	Hall of Champions
1330	Call Convention to Order	TJ Morgan
	PNC Council Report	Warren Griffin
	Nomination of Officers	TJ Morgan
1530	Closing Ceremony	TJ Morgan
1700 - 2000		



INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION



Friday, August 14, 2026

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Golden Preconvene
0745 - 0845	MCLA Past President's Club	Director's Row 1
0800 - 0815	Morning Colors	Flag Pole
0800 - 1200	MCL Registration	Director's Row 4
0800 - 1200	MCLA Registration	Convention Hall Lobby
0800 - 1200	MCL Ship's Store	Golden Ballroom 1-2
0800 - 1200	MCLA Ship's Store	Director's Row 3
0800 - 1200	M.O.D.D. Quartermaster	Golden Ballroom 3
0800 - 1200	Indianapolis Room - Local Ship's Stores (MCL & MCLA)	Fortune Square D
0800 - 1200	M.O.D.D. Dog House	Golden Ballroom 4-5
0900 - 1700	VA Benefits Claims Clinic	International Boardroom
0900 - 1700	VA Mobile Clinic for Comp & Pen Exams	Parking Lot
0900 - 1200	MCLA Business Session	Fortune Square A/B/C
0900 - 1200	MCL Business Session	Hall of Champions
0900 -	Call Convention to Order	TJ Morgan
0900 - 0905	Credentials Committee Report	Teresa Terry
0905 - 0915	Chief Devil Dog Report for MODD	Joe Deangelo
0915 - 0925	President MCLA Report	Dotty Sanning
0930 - 0940	Marksmanship Awards	Mike Sturch
0940 - 0950	Americanism Awards	Jon Zwirblia
0950 - 1000	10 minute Break	
1000 - 1030	VA Volunteer Service and Veteran Service Officer Awards	Philip Du
1030 - 1130	Moderated Panel Discussion - Dept of VA Under Secretaries of NCA (Cemetery), VHA (Health), and VBA (Benefits)	Philip Du
1130-1300	Break for Lunch - Grab and Go	Convention Lobby
1300 - 1500	MCLA Business Session continues	Fortune Square A/B/C
1300 - 1500	MCL Business Session continues	Hall of Champions
	Call Convention to Order	TJ Morgan
	Toys for Tots	David Cooper/Russ Miller
	Remaining Reports Not Given	TJ Morgan
	Motion to Accept All Reports	TJ Morgan
	Unfinished Business/New Business/Good of the League	TJ Morgan
	Credentials Committee Final Report	Teresa Terry
	Election and Installation of Officers	TJ Morgan
1500	Closing Ceremony	TJ Morgan
1800 - 1900	Formal Reception (Cash Bar)	Preconvene Hall
1900 - 2200	Grand Banquet - Close the Convention	Hall of Champions

Event Time	Event	Location
0630 - 0800	Breakfast	Golden Preconvene
0800 - 1200	*MCL National Board of Trustees Meeting	International Boardroom

AND ON THE
8th DAY
GOD CREATED
MARINES
THE DEVIL
GROANED AND
SAID, "OH SHIT"



Regardless of the situation, the Marine Corps has an answer for almost everything.

A Marines Prayer

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and

WORD OF THE DAY

Over the centuries, certain Latin phrases have been used widely enough in English to get included in the dictionary. This is one of the favorites:

Semper Fidelis

sem-per fi-dey-lis;

"Always faithful"

These two words have long served as motto for families, schools, and organizations – most famously, since 1883, for the United States Marine Corps.

EXAMPLE:

He will receive the Semper Fidelis Award for his support of the Marine Corps University Foundation.

Source:
Merriam-Webster Dictionary - <http://bit.ly/1evC7oa>

Image Source:
barrykibrick.files.wordpress.com

the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer. Amen

