



**HANDBOOK  
(2006 Edition)**

As Marines, as members of both the League and the Order, as veterans of all wars of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, as well as service in peacetime; we subscribe to the Devil Dog's Creed.

## **DEVIL DOG'S CREED**

By PDD George E. Williams, August 1989  
(modified, August 2008)

*I am an American, I was born in France. I hold the title of United States Marine, and understand the commitment of holding the title, Devil Dog. It is a tradition born at Belleau Wood in the year 1918, of a force in readiness and the "First to Fight." As a Devil Dog, I ask no quarter and give no quarter. I will do everything in my power to uphold the objectives of the Military Order of Devil Dogs and to carry out my duties to a swift and satisfactory completion.*

## **HANDBOOK OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE DEVIL DOGS, INC.**

It was the intent of Chief Devil Dog Don Garland, to provide a “quick” reference guide to the membership of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs, Inc.

This guide is not intended to replace the By-Laws, the Ritual or the Dog Robber Manual. This is intended to help members of the Order to better participate in the affairs of the Order.

Introduced at the Kennel Staff Grawl, Quincy, MA, 6 August 2006, this Handbook was adopted in its entirety by a unanimous vote of the Kennel Staff.

PDD Don Garland  
Honorable 51st Chief Devil Dog

PDD Leanna L. Dietrich  
Honorable Smart Dog

PCDD Gary O. Chartrand  
44<sup>th</sup> Chief Devil Dog  
Executive Secretary

PCDD Bill Taylor  
45<sup>h</sup> Chief Devil Dog  
Editor

## **Woof-Woof Marines**

This instruction booklet was produced for the sole purpose of informing members of the Marine Corps League as to the purpose and mission of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs.

The information within these pages has been gleaned from the thoughts and ideas from a select group of the most dedicated and hard working Devil Dogs who, over the years through their voluntary efforts made the Military Order of the Devil Dogs second to none among the subsidiary organizations of our Veterans community.

Hopefully, after reading through this information booklet, you will come away with a better understanding of the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League and perhaps initiate the necessary steps to become a member of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs.

**IT IS AN HONOR TO BE A DEVIL DOG!**

PCDD Bill Taylor  
45<sup>h</sup> Chief Devil Dog

## **WELCOME TO THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE DEVIL DOGS**

We are the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League.

Unlike some other organizations, all members of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs are created equal. Only Regulars members in good standing in the Marine Corps League, with one continuous year may be “asked” to apply for membership. The success of the Pound is up to its membership and especially up to its leadership. The Kennel and the Pack will help, but they will not do the work for the Pound nor can they guarantee its success.

### **LEARNING ABOUT THE DEVIL DOGS**

The rules and regulations of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs are contained in the By-Laws and Ritual. Members should become familiar with each publication but should not try to absorb everything at once. The By-Laws contain the basic rules. The Ritual has further details and tells how to conduct Growls and other ceremonial functions of the Pound.

Keep in mind, we are here to have FUN! Keep business light and the enjoyment of the members heavy.

The official publication of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs is the *Woof-O-Gram*. This publication is sent out quarterly to the members.

## WHAT IS A DEVIL DOG?

The Marine Corps League, formed in 1923 by members of what had been the Marine Corps Veterans Association assimilated more than 40 existing Marine oriented organizations that sprang up following the end of World War 1. Comprised largely of veterans of the fierce fighting between the Fifth and Sixth Marine Regiments and the Germans, these returning veterans of the Great War (“the war to end all wars”) were called “Teufelhunde” by their German adversaries, literally meaning “Dogs of the Devil,” or as we now know, DEVIL DOGS. Legend has it that, because our Marines were so under-supplied during the battle of Belleau Wood; that, when they engaged the Germans in hand-to-hand combat, they bit them!

These battle-hardened Marines who, for all time, earned for ensuing generations the title “Devil Dog”, coined years ago on 6 June 1918, were a part of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) commanded by General John J. “Black Jack” Pershing. They had set sail on 14 June 1917 under orders from Major General Commandant George Barnett as a “Force in Readiness.” At the time, the total strength of the Marine Corps, worldwide, stood at 511 officers and 13,214 enlisted men. At the end of the battle for Belleau Wood, 1,062 Marines lay dead. The French General commanding the Sixth Army ordered that Belleau Wood (Bois de Belleau) be henceforth known as “Bois de la Brigade de Marine.” Seven Marines would ultimately be awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions during World War I.

Following the establishment of the Marine Corps League, the leadership of the League decided that the delegates assembling in convention needed some time during their serious deliberations to “blow off steam.” As a result, the Military Order of the Devil Dogs was organized and created in 1939, in Boston, MA and granted a charter as a subsidiary organization of the Marine Corps League on 19 March 1940. From those early years, the Military Order of the Devil Dogs (the Order) has grown to strength of over 6,000 members.

The Order is organized in nearly every state where there is a Marine Corps League presence. Now in its 66<sup>th</sup> year, the Order boasts a semi-permanent headquarters in Michigan, a full-time Kennel Dog Robber, National Executive Secretary and Bookkeeper.

The Order, the FUN and HONOR SOCIETY of the Marine Corps League, is comprised of only regular members of the League who have been recommended for membership by two members of the Order. Each member undergoes a series of initiations. First, as a Pup, in their Pound (the local organization, the basis of the Order); then, as a Devil Dog in their Pack (the State organization which meets during a Department Convention); and, finally, as a Pedigreed Devil Dog at the SUPREME GROWL held in conjunction with the National Convention of the League.

## **THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE DEVIL DOGS**

### **WHAT IS IT?**

The Military Order of the Devil Dogs is the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League.

### **WHAT IT DOES?**

It promotes good fellowship amongst the members of the Marine Corps League Detachments. The Order provides amusement and entertainment at all the gatherings of the League, when and where advisable, preserves and strengthens the principals and ideas of the League and maintains true allegiance to the United States of America and its Constitution and laws. It fosters and extends American institutions of freedom and defends America against all enemies. The Order is also very active in raising funds for different charities.

### **WHO BELONGS?**

You must be a paid-up member and in good standing in the Marine Corps League, Inc. The applicant must be active in his or her Detachment in the League, and must be invited to join the Order. He or she must be recommended by his or her Detachment Commandant and be sponsored by two DEVIL DOGS or PEDIGREED DEVIL DOGS. The applicant is then interviewed by the members of the Pound at a Pound Growl. (A meeting is called a Growl.) If accepted, the applicant must undergo an initiation and obligation ceremony. Then he or she becomes a Pup in the order.

### **ORGANIZATION**

The Pound is on the local level and is usually made up of members of different Marine Corps League Detachments. On the State level there is a Pack, and on the National level there is the Kennel.

There are three different degrees in the Order. The lowest degree is that of a Pup. The next highest level is that of a Devil Dog. The highest level is that of a Pedigreed Devil Dog.

All Dogs wear a dog collar (ribbon) around their neck with a Dog Tag attached. A Pup wears a black ribbon. A Devil Dog wears a red ribbon. A Pedigreed Devil Dog wears a gold ribbon.

The head of the Pound is called the "Pound Keeper". The head of the Pack is called e "Pack Leader" The head of the Kennel is called "Chief Devil Dog".

The Order's many charitable donations not only help people, but also build good public relations for the Order, the League and the United States Marine Corps.

It is an honor and a privilege to be a Devil Dog. We are the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League. We are only interested in quality membership, not quantity membership.

## SALUTE/SPEAK

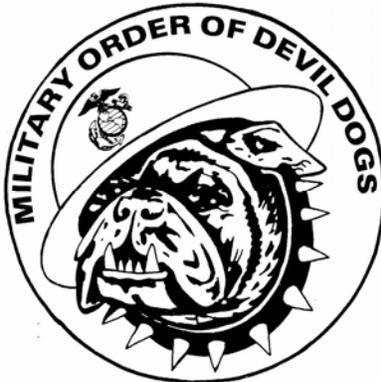
Addressing and being recognized:

Stand and salute by raising right paw (arm) bent at a 90 degree angle. with fist closed, saying “Woof-Woof” - remain standing until recognized. When recognized say - “Sir Pound Keeper”, “Worthy Pack Leader”, “Honorable Chief Devil Dog” or “Fellow Devil Dog: (respectively, depending on what level officer being addressed). Then state - Degree (Pup, DD, PDD), Your Name, Dog Tag Number, Pound Name, Pound Number, Pack Name, then reason for barking.

Example: (At a Growl of the Pound)

Woof Woof, Sir Pound Keeper, PCDD Bill Taylor, 81-24, Pound 2, Mass Pack, ....

**Please note that when saluting the National colors please use the approved Military Salute and not the closed fist salute.**



## THESAURUS

### MODD

Bark  
Barking Dog  
Big Bone  
Bone  
Chief Devil Dog  
Dog House  
Dog Robber  
Dog Trainer  
Front Paw  
Grand Growl  
  
Growl  
Grrrr  
Kennel  
Honorable @  
Hydrant Call  
Mad Dog  
Pack  
Pack Leader  
Police Dog  
Pound  
Pound Keeper  
Rear Paw  
Scratchings  
Sir @  
Smart Dog  
Supreme Growl  
Watch Dog  
Woof Woof  
Worthy @

### MCL

Speak  
Public Relations  
Money (\$1.00)  
Gavel or Money (\$0.25)  
National Commandant  
Meeting Place  
Adjutant/Paymaster  
Chaplain  
Clenched fist/Hand salute  
Annual Pack Growl held in conjunction  
with the Department Convention  
Meeting  
No  
National  
National  
Recess or Head Call  
Initiation Officer  
Department  
Department Commandant  
Sgt-at-Arms  
Detachment  
Detachment Commandant  
Foot  
Minutes of a growl  
Detachment  
Judge Advocate  
National Convention  
Asst. Sgt-at-Arms  
Yes or proper address when requesting to speak  
Department

@ Used in titles, such as Sir Pound Keeper, Worthy Pack Police Dog or Honorable Kennel Dog Robber

## **PASSPORT**

The Passport is a vital document in the Military Order of the Devil Dogs. It is a record of your travels in the Kennel.

This document is required for entry into ANY growl. The passport must be stamped before the holder is allowed to enter the growl. The stamping fee has been set by the Kennel at One Big Bone.

One of Kennels charities is a children's hospital or other suitable charity in the host city of the Supreme Growl. The Kennel makes this donation yearly with the stipulation that the Order's contribution will be used for special equipment purchases only and for no other purpose. The funding of this donation comes from the Passport fund.

All the bones raised through the stamping fees and fines imposed on passport infraction at the Pound, Pack and Kennel are deposited in this fund. The Pound Dog Robbers and Pack Dog Robbers are to forward all stamping fees and fines to the Kennel Dog Robber by 31 January and 30 June of each year. The Kennel Dog Robber holds these funds in a special Passport account for distribution at the National Convention.

## **JOB DESCRIPTIONS**

### **PACK LEADER/POUND KEEPER**

Shall preside at all Pack (Pound) Growls and Pack (Pound) Initiations. He shall require the obedience of all laws, rules and regulations. He may appoint other officers and committees that he deems necessary. He shall be the custodian along with the Dog Robber of all monies, property, securities, and records of the Pack (Pound). He shall countersign all orders for the disbursement of monies when approved by the proper authority. He shall perform such other duties and issue such other orders as are necessary.

### **SENIOR VICE PACK LEADER/SENIOR VICE POUND KEEPER**

Shall assist the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper); shall preside at the Pack (Pound) Growls in the absence of the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) and, at his request, shall be responsible to the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) for the growth and expansion of the Pack and Pounds (Pound); shall perform such other duties as the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) may direct. They will help the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) supervise all other Pack (Pound) officers in the performance of their duties.

### **JUNIOR VICE PACK LEADER/JUNIOR VICE POUND KEEPER**

Shall assist the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) and the Senior Vice Pack Leader (Pound Keeper); shall be responsible for all activities seeking to increase the revenue of the Pack (Pound), and for the supervision of the entertainment and amusement provided at all Pack (Pound) Growls, and perform such duties as the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) may direct. They will work closely with the Pack (Pound) Dog Robber, be responsible for and supervise all Devil Dog roasts, registrations desk, sales of Devil Dog supplies and raffles.

### **DOG ROBBER**

Shall be responsible to the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) for all records and accounts of the order. Shall see that someone keeps the minutes at all Pack (Pound) Growls; shall be the custodian along with the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) of all monies, properties, securities, and records of the Pack (Pound). They shall keep on deposit in a reputable bank all monies and securities of the Order; shall perform such duties customarily executed by recording secretaries, financial secretaries, and treasurers. They shall make full and correct accounting and reports, including financial statements to the Pack (Pound) Growls; shall perform all duties assigned to him by the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) or any other competent authority. He is also to work with the Junior Vice Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) in preparing Pack (Pound) roasts, the registration desk and sales and ordering the Devil Dog and Ship's Store gear and raffles.

### **SMART DOG**

Shall interpret and explain the Constitution and By Laws of the Pack (Pound) and any and all rules and regulations set up by the Kennel or Pack (or Pound), the Kennel or Pack Staff (or Pound Staff) or the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper). They will be responsible to the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) and the Senior Vice Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) and perform any other duties, as the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) desires.

### **MAD DOG**

Shall be responsible for all initiations at the GRAND GROWL (Pound Growls). They will supervise all PUPS attending Pack Growls (initiates attending Pound Growls) and will closely monitor their behavior. They will inform the Pack (Pound) Staff prior to initiations just what the initiation will entail. They will perform any other duties assigned to him/her by the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper).

### **DOG TRAINER**

Shall act as chaplain at all Pack (Pound) Growls, memorial services, and ceremonies. They shall hold services (memorial) at all GRAND GROWLS (Pound Growls). They shall keep the Pack (Pound) and Kennel informed of any deceased Dogs and shall send sympathy cards to the next of kin. The Dog Trainer will also keep the Pack (Pound) informed of any Dogs that are sick or in distress. He shall also perform any other duties designated by the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper).

### **POLICE DOG**

Shall maintain order and decorum in all Pack (Pound) Growls; shall expel from the Growl any Dog exceeding the bounds of decency, creating a disturbance or hindering the orderly conduct of the Growl; shall perform other duties as the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) may direct. They will be responsible for the setting up of the location where the Growl will be held, see that the Bible, Colors and charter are displayed correctly. The Watch Dog and the Barking Dog are to assist him in those duties.

### **WATCH DOG**

Shall guard the portals of the Pack(Pound) at all times, permitting no one to enter without authority. They shall be responsible to the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) for the worthiness and eligibility of every Dog at the Growl, and shall perform other duties as the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) may direct. They shall assist the Junior Vice Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) and Dog Robber at the registration desk, the sales of Devil Dog gear and raffles. They will assist the Police Dog in setting up the Growls.

### **BARKING DOG**

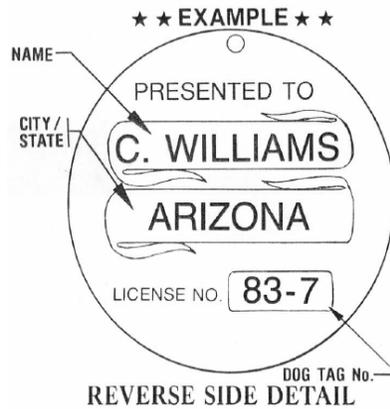
Shall supervise all publicity for the Pack (Pound). They will assist the Junior Vice Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) and Dog Robber in handling the registration desk, the sales of Devil Dog gear and raffles, and the Police Dog in setting up the Growl.

### **LIAISON OFFICER/LEAGUE**

Shall be responsible for the exchange of information that is of mutual benefit to the order and the League. They shall also perform any other duties assigned to him by the Pack Leader (Pound Keeper). They will assist the Junior Vice Pack Leader (Pound Keeper) and Dog Robber at all Growls.

# HOW TO ENGRAVE YOUR DOG TAG

## Basic Dog Tag



## HOW TO PLACE COVER PATCH



## HOW TO FILL IN YOUR PASSPORT INFORMATION

**IMPORTANT:** This passport must be signed by the bearer  
Unofficial changes are prohibited.

NAME <i>SMITH ALBERT E</i> <small>Last First Initial</small>		M.C.L. NO. <i>123456</i> M.C.L. P.L. NO. <i>12345</i> D.D.L.M. NO. <i>1234</i>
SEX (Check one) B <input type="checkbox"/> M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BIRTHPLACE <i>Boston, MA</i>	
BIRTHDATE <i>12 2 99</i> <small>Day / Month / Year</small>	ISSUE DOG TAG NO. <i>99-800</i>	
HOME POUND NAME <i>Mangy Mutts</i> NO. <i>999</i>	PACK OF <i>PA</i>	
Present Devil Dog Office Kennel <i>Dep Police Dog</i> Year <i>05-06</i> Pack <i>Mad Dog</i> Year <i>05-06</i> Pound <i>Smart Dog</i> Year <i>05-06</i>	<i>Albert E. Smith</i> SIGNATURE OF DOG	

<b>NAME</b>	your legal name
<b>MCL No.</b>	your League number
<b>MCL PLM No.</b>	your League Life number
<b>DDLM No.</b>	your MODD Life number
<b>SEX: B M</b>	
<b>BIRTHPLACE:</b>	Place you became a Devil Dog.
<b>BIRTHDATE:</b>	Date you became a Devil Dog.
<b>ISSUE DOG TAG No.</b>	00-000 (Issued by Kennel)
<b>HOME POUND NAME:</b>	your pound name
<b>NO.</b>	your pound number
<b>PACK OF:</b>	your pack name
<b>Present Devil Dog Office</b>	list those that apply
<b>SIGNATURE OF DOG:</b>	yours

## THE MARINE'S HYMN

From the Halls of Montezuma,  
To the shores of Tripoli,  
We fight our country's battles  
In the air, on land and sea.  
First to fight for right and freedom  
And to keep our honor clean;  
We are proud to claim the title of  
UNITED STATES MARINE.

Our flag's unfurled to every breeze  
From dawn to setting sun;  
We have fought in every clime and place  
Where we could take a gun;  
In the snow of far off northern lands  
And in sunny tropic scenes,  
You will find us always on the job —  
THE UNITED STATES MARINES.

Here's health to you and to our Corps  
Which we are proud to serve;  
In many a strife we've fought for life  
And never lost our nerve;  
If the Army and the Navy  
Ever look on heaven's scenes,  
They will find the streets are guarded by  
UNITED STATES MARINES

