

TEXAS

**Robert "Bob" Way
Commandant**



MARINE

**Department of TEXAS
Marine Corps League**

FALL

Edition



**November
2017**



The "Texas Marine" is a quarterly newsletter published by the Department of Texas Marine Corps League and posted to the Internet at website www.texasmcl.org

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Commandant's Corner

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I WANT TO COMMEND

all of

the Department of Texas members for supporting Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. From providing rescue service and delivering much-needed supplies to soliciting donations, everyone worked together to make things happen. Well done! It gives true

WELL DONE!



meaning to our motto, "SEMPER FIDELIS!"

It has definitely been a challenging past couple of months for the Department of Texas because of Hurricane Harvey, and we have several months ahead of us to continue providing recovery assistance to those in need. A special thanks goes to the Marine Corps League Foundation for its quick response in setting up a disaster relief fund for victims of Hurricane Harvey as well as future relief efforts.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Conference. We have a lot of information to pass on and would also like

to receive input from the membership. In spite of Hurricane Harvey, the Galveston Detachment has put a lot of work into making this conference a success.

Senior's Segment

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HELLO BROTHERS AND

Sisters...

Please pray for our Members and fellow Texans effected by Hurricane Harvey. Thanks and a big Semper Fi to those who helped and donated.

We have some big changes that are impacting every Member and Detachment. The deductibility status on your EIN paperwork should show a "1." If it does not, and you did not receive it, ask your

District Vice to send you the checklist on how to attain it. I sent the

District Vices a checklist that you need to follow. I received it from National Commandant

Webb - he is currently working on a fix that is going

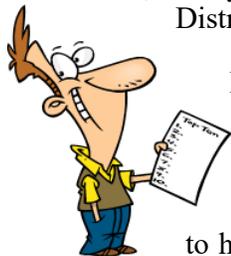
to help the entire League. To get the

Group exemption letter you have to follow that checklist.

Now we have a Dues Committee (Department Jr. Vice, Past Department Commandants, and myself) working on helping Detachments get their Roster in order. Some problems are National and some are Detachment level.

After the dues issue and contact information on your roster is fixed, the Department Jr. Vice and the Past Department Commandants Counsel will start to work on helping Detachments grow - starting with those Detachments that have under 15 Members.

If you missed the Fall Conference, you missed some very passionate discussions. In the Commandants Counsel, Steve Oeding gave a power point slide show and presentation about those affected by Harvey. I wish we had the time to allow everyone



to speak.

Brian Crews and Skip Thaw talked about their Marine Disaster Emergency Team. They used their 5 Ton to help save over 200 victims of the flood waters. There were many acts of kindness by many Members who unfortunately did not get their story to Steve in time for the Conference. I personally want to thank all of those Members who helped in some way.

I announced at the end of the business meeting that I am throwing my hat in the ring for Department Commandant.

Commandant Way announced he was not going to run again, and Polly announced she was not going to run again either.

Commandant

Way is a fine Commandant and has served Texas well; he will be missed. I am enjoying working as his XO.

Our Paymaster Polly has made the Department of Texas a force to be reckoned with. I know she and I have not always seen eye to eye, but I respect her and I'm a better League Member because of her. Thank you, Polly, for your many years of faithful service.

Going forward with the knowledge of those who have come before

Forward

us, we will continue to make the Department of Texas the greatest in the League.



Not everyone
 thinks the way you think,
 knows the things you know,
 believes the things you believe,
 nor acts the way you would act.
 Remember this
 and you will go a long way
 in getting along with people.
 - Arthur Forman -

Junior's Journal

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WHAT A GREAT TIME

we had in Overland Park at the National Convention. We got to visit with many old friends and made quite a few new ones. A lot was accomplished, but there are still things to be done. We'll be going over some of those areas at the Fall Conference so it's imperative that each Detachment has representation.

I was also privileged to attend and participate in the Modern Day Marine Expo at Quantico. Many of you have seen my photo with "The Gunny" - yep, R. Lee Army in the flesh. What a guy!



The weather was near perfect, with folks there from around the world.

And, if you ever make it to Quantico, be sure to

stop by for a visit with the Mickey Finn Detachment. For you cigar buffs, there's no place like the Glove and Laurels Restaurant and their Embassy Cigar Lounge.

With our Fall Conference just a few days away I want us all to be thinking about one question: Who is going to fill their shoes? I'm referring to those members who are no longer with us who performed outstanding service to the membership, their communities, our Country and our Veterans. It has to be you. It has to be me. The whole country needs to know that within a grateful nation resides an especially grateful Marine Corps League family. New members need to be found. There are over 18 million veterans who are eligible for membership. It's up to us to seek them out.



If you love our Marine Corps League as much as I do, please continue to renew, recruit and revitalize your Detachments. I urge you to welcome new faces, listen to fresh ideas and encourage today's veterans to start filling our shoes. The future of the Marine Corps League depends on us.



Judge Advocate Alerts

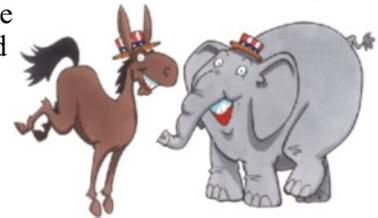
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A FEW QUESTIONS

have been brought up during the past couple of months:

• A Detachment asked for clarification regarding providing a Color Guard for a meeting at which a military war hero was to speak and be honored. The event was sponsored by a political party.

Recommendation: while we certainly support the Veteran and American hero, we are not to endorse



any political party or candidate. As such, providing a Color Guard as an official Marine Corps League entity could be regarded as an endorsement and therefore would be in violation of the Marine Corps League Bylaws and purpose.

• Are we, as members of the Marine Corps League, prohibited to contact National officers without "going through chain of command" or following SOP when those requirements have not been voted on by the membership? **Answer:** no one is prohibited from contacting officers at the National level; however, we have a structure and standard operating procedures to allow for the efficient function of the organization and conduction of business. Bylaws provide that the National officers and Department Commandant have the authority to create procedures for conducting business within the Department and National organization.



We do not have to vote on every procedure. If a member thinks a procedure needs to be codified and voted on by the membership, they are able to propose a bylaw change per current bylaws.

Question regarding the qualifications for holding office and for running for office within the Department. The Bylaw requirements are that
 1) The person nominated must be a member in good standing. 2) The member is to be nominated from the floor at the election of officers and confirm that they are willing and able to fulfill the duties of the office. 3) The member must be present unless, under extenuating circumstances, they cannot attend and a letter is provided with explanation of their absence and their acceptance of the nomination. **No other requirements are necessary** and to require such is in violation of the Bylaws.

All other correspondence at this time is confidential in nature and the Department will be notified when appropriate.

Happy 242nd birthday to everyone!
Semper Fi!



Chaplain's Comments

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GREETINGS MARINES and Associate Members:

It has certainly been a rough summer for many of our fellow Marines in the Houston area and Florida... many prayers went out to everyone affected by the hurricanes, and my prayers continue. So many are still dealing with the damages and trying to rebuild their homes and lives. A huge "Thank You" to our Detachments in Texas, Florida, and other states who gave their time and hard work helping out with the hurricane victims, and another big Thank You to all who were able to make monetary donations. Marines have always stepped up when needed and as long as we have Marines, we

will be there when needed! Semper Fi!

I am looking forward to the Fall Conference coming up in October and hope to see a lot of you there.

I have received very few death notices since the State Convention. This is certainly a "good thing" if it's because our fellow Marines are not being called to guard the gates of Heaven. But, as a reminder, please send me your death notices when a Detachment member passes on. (Any MODD member who passes needs to have a death notice sent to me as well.) My mailing address is 704 Rancho Dr., Mesquite, TX 75149 or you can email me.



Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner! Wishing everyone a Joyous and Blessed holiday season! Happy Thanksgiving and Merry

Christmas!
 And Happy Birthday Marines!
 Until next time,
 Semper Fi and God Bless!



Blessings Surround You Every Day

By Joan Clayton

Daily you and I seem to be bombarded with bad news. One would think it's terrible to be alive. Seldom do we hear about the many good things in our lives. I declare that we have many more blessings than problems!



To realize and appreciate our many blessings let's follow the concepts listed here:

1. **Live one day at a time.** You can't relive yesterday. It's gone. Neither can you live tomorrow. It is not here yet. Today is the present. That is why it is called a "present."
2. **Count your many blessings.** The world is full of trials. Why count them? Besides, they detract and blind us of the many good things.
3. **Be a "giver," not a "getter."** The "givers" are the real winners in this world. Givers are happy people.

4. **Look for the good.** There is good in every situation. Look for it. You will find it will set your course on a straight path of appreciation while realizing many others are worse off than you.
5. **Do a good deed every day.** It is more fun if you do it anonymously. While driving down the highway one day we came upon a man removing a large bag of trash that had landed in the middle of the road by someone. It had scattered, yet he was picking up every piece. What a wonderful deed. "Thank you, whoever and wherever you are!"
6. **Let nothing bother you.** (If you do, that ruins a great day!)
7. **Practice being happy.** Every day we have a choice of our attitudes and that makes a big difference in the way we see our world.
8. **Learn to laugh.** Having a sense of humor is a great blessing.
9. **Change criticism to praise.** Build on the strengths, not weaknesses.
10. **Go the extra mile for a friend.**



Veteran's Voice

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HCAP (Health Care Advocacy Program) Advocate Visits with Tyler Veterans

August 2017 ...

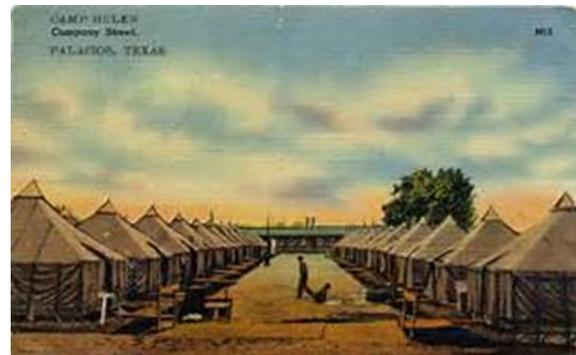


Toby Cross (L) visits with Ralph Brownell (R), WWII Army Veteran @ the Veterans Home in Tyler

TOBY CROSS, HCAP advocate for the Tyler Region, visits the Watkins-Logan Texas State Veterans Home in Tyler, TX, on a regular basis to reach out to veterans who may need assistance regarding health care issues.

During a visit at the state home, Mr. Ralph Brownell, World War II Army veteran born February 16th, 1919 (four months prior to the signing of the Treaty of Versailles ending WWI), expressed his appreciation to TVC's Health Care Advocacy Program and Toby Cross for traveling to the state veterans home and assisting him with his VA claim.

Serving in the Massachusetts Army National Guard, Staff Sergeant Brownell was called to active duty in September 1940 and ordered to Camp Edwards, Massachusetts. In December 1941 Brownell was assigned to Camp Hulen, Palacios, TX. (Camp Hulen was a military training camp that operated from 1925 until 1946, and at one time supported the largest concentration of troops for field training in the United States military. At its peak, the camp had facilities for 12,000 military personnel and continued as a training facility until early 1944. German prisoners of war were housed at Camp Hulen from 1943 to 1945. In 1946, the War Department returned Camp Hulen to the National Guard, for whom it had become too small. The camp was closed in 1946 and dismantled. The army air base became the Palacios Municipal Airport in 1965. A housing development company bought the land in 2005.)



Camp Hulen, Palacios, TX

"BARs (Browning Automatic Rifles) were being transported to our camp from West Texas and I was assigned to clean them," Brownell said. "After we got word that Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, we quickly shipped out via freight train cars to the West Coast."

In 1942, Brownell's artillery and anti-aircraft battalion was stationed near the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California, and though Mr. Brownell was not deployed overseas, he sustained a serious injury.

"While on active duty, I was injured on the left side of my face (eye and ear) due to a catastrophic rifle explosion," Brownell said. "I may have lost my eyesight and hearing in my left ear due to this injury."

Rifle or chamber explosions would sometimes occur due to old ammo or a squib round – bullet being lodged in the barrel.

Mr. Brownell has been a resident of the Veterans State Home since May 2016 and is just one of the 97 veterans living at the home. Toby Cross visits numerous locations across his region but visiting with veterans in the state home is a humbling reminder of the sacrifices our veterans made to keep our nation safe.

Division/District/ Detachment Digest

DISTRICT 6

Submitted by Robert Hurtado
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DURING THE LAST QUARTER

in District 6 I was aware of the following activity:

- On September 1st the Laredo Detachment (through Detachment Marines plus an anonymous donation) sent a total of \$1,800 to the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund.

- On September 26th at their regular meeting, the Coastal Bend Detachment received a donation of \$1,000 from LCpl. Robert J. Slattery Detachment #209 in Whippany, New Jersey, for any Detachment Marines who were in need due to the hurricane.



BIG D DETACHMENT DALLAS

Submitted by Melody Bronson, *Adjutant/Paymaster*
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HELLO FROM BIG D!!!

Continued prayers to our fellow Marines in the Houston area and Florida... it's been a rough hurricane season for so many!

I can't believe that Summer is gone and Fall is upon us. We recently had our annual Detachment picnic – great food, great weather and great fun!



We have been busy with our monthly fundraiser – Steak Night at the Elks Lodge.

We will be participating in the Dallas Veterans Day Parade again this year and are gearing up for Toys for Tots.

In October

we will be nominating our new officers; they will be elected in November and in December we will be having our annual Installation and Christmas Luncheon. We will be participating in Eagle Scout Courts of Honor and will have a booth at the Veterans Village at the upcoming Lockheed Armed Forces Bowl in December. In January, Big D will be hosting the Pound 268 Growl. So much going on. OOH! RAH! We are looking forward to the upcoming Fall Conference and seeing everyone.

Happy Birthday Marines from Big D.



**DEANE HAWKINS DETACHMENT
EL PASO**

Submitted by Robert Way
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DURING AUGUST

members of the Deane Hawkins Detachment conducted a four-day marksmanship training course for six AJROTC rifle teams. This was the third year that they have provided this training for the El Paso Independent School District JROTC.



3rd Place to Canutillo NJROTC



2nd Place to Austin AJROTC



1st Place to Santa Teresa NJROTC

During September the Unit hosted the Annual JROTC “No Skills Field Meet” at Socorro High School NJROTC. There were 15 JROTC units, approximately 400 cadets, that participated this year.



Coronado High School MCJROTC in stretcher relay.

Members attended the Ft. Bliss annual MIA/POW ceremony and volunteered to help with the yearly Homeless Veterans Stand Down that is held by the VA.

Pete Gomez and Bob Way also presented an Eagle Scout Certificate award to a new Eagle Scout Victor Pedraza.



Eagle Scout Certificate being presented to Victor Pedraza

The Honor Unit has had a busy schedule this quarter. It has provided firing details for 25 veterans. So far this year the Detail has provided 89 firing details for funeral and memorial events.



The combined Honor Detail of the Deane Hawkins Det. and the 19th Rifle Co. provided Honors at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery.

The Detachment has continued to provide coffee and snacks at the El Paso VA Clinic. We are now getting ready for Veterans Gala, Marine Corps Birthday, Veterans Day Parade and other holiday activities.



HILL COUNTRY DETACHMENT BOERNE

Submitted by Gene Davenport, *Web Sergeant*
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THE HILL COUNTRY

Young Marines of New Braunfels, TX, provided the Color Guard for the opening ceremonies of the Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) State Conference. The Hill Country Young Marines are sponsored by the Teufelshunde of Texas, Detachment #1392, New Braunfels, TX, under the command of Commandant Larry Nichols.



JACKSONVILLE DETACHMENT JACKSONVILLE

Submitted by Chuck Bones, Jr. *Past Commandant*
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Albert Wesley King
September 12, 1926 – July 27, 2017

On Sunday, July 30, 2017, funeral services were held for Albert Wesley King, 90, at Oakland Missionary Baptist Church in Oakland, TX.

Mr. King was a member of the Jacksonville Detachment. He wanted to be buried with his League cover and he was.

Mr. King, known as “Wesley” to friends and family, was born on September 23, 1926, in Oakland, TX. He passed away on July 27, 2017, in Frisco, TX, after a sudden illness. He is preceded in death by his parents John Mark and Zell Roark King, three siblings, and his wife of 62 years, Laverne Hassell King, and his wife of 10 years, Lillian “Pete” Sanders.

He is survived by his two sons and daughter-in-laws, Ronald and Anita King, and Bruce and Holly King, five grandchildren (Garret King, Tamara King Thompson, Brandon King, Ray King, and Kristen King Kipling, two step grandchildren (Danielle Schumann and Alex Cook), and 13 great grandchildren.

Albert grew up in Oakland, TX. He worked tomato fields as a child and played basketball in high school. He was a proud Marine, serving during World War II on a light cruiser in the Pacific. He was married to Laverne Hassell for 62 years. Wesley worked for General Motors for 60 years, most notably in dealerships in Alvin, Rusk, and Jacksonville, TX. He was distinguished with many awards and took great pride in his employment. He regularly attended Baptist churches throughout his life, often serving as a Deacon. Albert loved basketball, dominoes, hunting, fishing, and riding his lawn mower. In his older years, he enjoyed visiting with friends and family and eating catfish, peaches, and banana pudding. Most of all, Albert loved people and he thrived in the companionship of family and friends. He saw the best in other people and will be remembered for his energy, humor, and kindness.

A joint Honor Guard attended Mr. King’s funeral – Headquarters Marine Corps Burial Division, Shreveport, LA, (who played Taps and folded and presented the flag) and Jacksonville Detachment #1381 (who provided the seven rifle 3rd vollies).

(The 3rd vollies provided at funerals is always confused with a 21 gun salute. They are not the same. The 3rd vollies at funerals is from WWI. Both sides would cease fire to collect their dead. Once collected, each side would fire three vollies to let the other side know they had collected their dead and were ready to resume the fight. Most rifle teams use seven rifles with three vollies, because that totals 21

rounds; thus the confusion. The requirement is having an odd number of rifles, three or 103 makes no difference. A 21 gun salute is a Navy tradition when pulling into a port. Even active duty Marines say it, but we correct them.)

The following is a letter I received from a civilian family member at Mr. King's funeral, and I was asked to pass it on.

Dear Marine Honor Guard:

I stepped out of the church and was speechless, my thoughts of grief were gone, all of a sudden I was overwhelmed with pride in my family and my country. There before me were Marines, young and old, standing like angels around our loved one.

As the hearse rolled near the cemetery I was jolted by Marines snapping to attention and saluting with rifles, a sword reflecting the sun in all of our eyes. We were afraid to walk past, afraid we would break some bond or rule. A young Marine very politely asked us to move on up (Smurf).

And then as if by telepathic orders two Marines in Blues walked up to the casket, saluted very slowly, picked up the flag and then I heard a very loud "port arms." I had no idea what that meant but I will never forget those words as long as I live because of what came next.

The guns sounded as one, the sound of the gun shots echoing in the cemetery giving goose bumps to all. The metal sound (M1 clips) the guns made on the last shot was bone chilling. The Taps; oh my God, I lost it.

Next I see the Marines fold the flag with great respect, as if that flag was the last one on earth. The respect to every corner, every fold was unbelievable. Once folded that Marine got down on one knee. I could not hear what the Marine was saying but he had tears rolling down his face as he was talking to our family member. It was as if our loved one was his Brother.

Some of us knew we had Marines in our family but had no idea of the level of pride and honor Marines have.

The Marines all marched out of the cemetery and I'm thinking that was the end of Honors. I was almost back to my car and I took one last look at the grave, and there once again Marines were standing around our loved one's grave like angels. I could not believe what I was seeing,

I walked back to the grave and as I approached I heard them carrying on conversations and having a good time as if our loved one was their long time friend.

As the casket began to lower into the grave all Marines there, even our family members that are Marines, started singing. That song was in harmony. Who knew Marines can cry and sing? Once more I had goose bumps. At the end of the song they threw something into the grave and said something about Chesty and that King was a real Marine. Then they all saluted, said a very loud "Semper Fi" and walked away.

The respect and dedication you few, you proud, you Marines, gave that day will forever stay in my heart and the heart of our family. Thank God for Marines. (Name not given)

The song was the Marine Corps Hymn and the something we tossed in the grave was EGAs and a cigar. EGAs we throw in the grave at all Marine funerals. The cigar? Well, Mr. King had told us the story of how he was busted to Pvt.

He was caught by the Admiral in the Admiral's office with his feet kicked up on the Admiral's desk smoking the Admiral's cigars. Lol Chesty once said "you're not a real Marine until you had a page twelve." Lol

Please note: Mr. King's Marine son, two Marine grandsons, and his great grandson (in Blues, having just graduated from boot camp) joined us at the grave paying final respects. A big *Semper Fi* to the King family.

LOST PINES LEATHERNECKS DETACHMENT BASTROP

Submitted by Chad Cohn, PR Officer
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AS WE ENTERED THE summer, the Detachment participated in several events, starting in Elgin where we had several members set up a booth/table to inform the public about our F.A.I.T.H. program and the "In Memory of" and "In Honor of" programs.



LPL members at Elgin Memorial Park

Following this again we had several members attend the Monthly Veterans Breakfast in Bastrop. We attend these breakfasts to share the LPL #1384 message of helping veterans of all branches and we also make time to network with others veterans and veteran organizations.



LPL members breaking bread with other veterans at the Monthly Veterans Breakfast

Keeping with summer tradition, LPL #1384 attended the following parades –

Elgin 4th of July Parade:



McDade Watermelon Festival – July 8th:



Once again, for the 4th year in a row, the Detachment won the award for Best Decorated Vehicle. Job well done Ladies and Gentlemen.



LPL #1384 was also able to continue with a rather fun summer tradition by getting together and having our Annual Family Bar B Que and Detachment monthly meeting.



Towards the end of July, LPL #1384 rallied the troops to support Commandant Tony Poletti as he made a presentation to Bastrop City Hall. The purpose of the presentation was to illustrate the reasons that LPL #1384 should receive Hotel Tax Grant Money in order to successfully host the Department of Texas State Convention in 2018. In the end the presentation was incredibly successful and we are proud to say that we won and received the grant!!



Detachment members support Commandant Tony Poletti at Bastrop City Hall

On July 30th at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Bastrop our own Don Fannin spoke about his time in Vietnam and particularly about the incident that became his life's "defining moment" that occurred on July 29, 1967. This was the first he had ever attempted to speak of this incident publicly.

Sunday, July 30th 2017
Invite your family, friends and veterans to attend.

Donald R. Fannin
United States Marine Corps
Viet Nam - 50 years later








July 29, 1967 - July 29, 2017

I will be sharing the incident that occurred 50 years ago that became a "defining event" in my life. This will be the first time I have ever attempted to publicly share the story of July 29, 1967.

The Detachment is very proud to have Don as one of our members and more importantly as our friend. Semper Fi Don!!!!

During this period LPL #1384 was continuing the planning and promoting of our 4th Battle Ball Golf Tournament. It is scheduled for October 7, 2017, and again is being held at the Colo Vista Golf Club in Bastrop, TX. Currently we are looking for sponsors; if you are interested please go to the webpage using the link below. If you're a golfer be sure to check out our webpage for more details. The webpage URL is www.lpl1384.org/Golf.html.



All net proceeds fund Project F.A.I.T.H. (Funding Assistance In Trying Hours)

(By the time you read this our tournament will have already been completed. All proceeds for this tourney are for helping out Veterans. We hope to see you all playing next year.)

Rolling along into August the Detachment was in full force promoting the Golf Tourney, our F.A.I.T.H. Program, selling raffle tickets, and continuing our partnership with **Home Source** to raise money and help the Veterans in Bastrop County.



As we all know, at the end of August Texas was hit pretty hard by Hurricane Harvey. Luckily those of us in Bastrop County survived the storm with little damage other than lots and lots of rain (the writer of this newsletter received over 20 inches of rain at his house and property). I know we all probably know someone who was affected by this hurricane and hopefully they are doing well now.

In regards to Hurricane Harvey, during the first week of September LPL #1384 didn't shy away from assisting those in need. We were able to help an Air Force Vietnam Veteran in Houston who experienced flooding due to the hurricane.



LPL #1384 Commandant Tony Poletti and District 4 Vice Commandant Ken Steffek presenting a check to an Air Force Vietnam Vet who had flooding from Hurricane Harvey in Houston

The Detachment also provided support in removing and cleaning walls. This was a quick fix to

allow the family to remain in the house. Detachment members put in 56 man hours and are planning to return and install new drywall, paint, and floors in the near future.

Also during September members of our humble Detachment were able to serve others. One instance of this is our members who serve as escort for the Austin Veterans Honor Flight.



Ken Steffek participating in Honor Flight and escorting one of the Vets upon his return

On September 13th our Detachment was able to speak to the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce. During this meeting we were able to explain our mission and roles of what we do for Veterans in our community.



Detachment members listening to the guest speaker and spreading the mission and roles to the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce

In closing out September the Detachment received a check from Home Source President Bob Mason. These monies were raised by Home Source for our F.A.I.T.H. Program to help Veterans in Bastrop County and Texas areas.



Until next time, God Bless Texas, God Bless the United States Marine Corps, God Bless our Veterans and God Bless The United States of America and Her People.

Devil Dog Doings

Taylor Rice
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WOOF WOOF TEXAS PACK



All good dogs get with your Pounds and Dog Robbers and pay your annual dues. We will make a charity donation during the State Convention. Thanks for your support.

PDD Ron Tomonelli, *Pound Dog Robber*
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KUDLICKI POUND 199

held their most current Growl on October 14th, at the Dog-Friendly American Legion Hall in Deport. The Dogs elected new officers for the coming year with PDD Richard Smith taking the role of Pound Keeper.

All Dogs present gave outgoing Pound Keeper, PDD Dan Singletary, a big PAWS "High-Four," for a job well done for the past years' service.





Kudlicki Pound New Officers

They also voted on and approved a new Pound logo which will represent the Pound on banners, patches, and future correspondence. WOOF! WOOF!



Auxiliary Announcements

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GREETINGS EVERYONE...

A lot has happened since the State Convention. Because of Hurricane Harvey some of our League members and their families and friends have endured a lot. All of the Auxiliary members continue to keep all of you in our thoughts and prayers.

One of the most important goals for the Department of Texas Auxiliary is membership. We have to continue to work as hard as we can to find ways to increase the number of members we have.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the conference and hope everyone has a safe trip.



Viola Trevino
Marine Corps League Auxiliary
Southern Division Vice Pres.
(361) 960-0142 (H)
vtat47@yahoo.com

HAPPY FALL LADIES...

I've been somewhat busy these past three months. In August I attended the National Convention in Overland Park, KS (August 13th through the 18th). We discussed different topics and voted on Bylaw Proposals among things that I will discuss at our Department of Texas Fall Training Conference in October in Houston.

Thumbs up to our Southern Division ladies for volunteering in the different activities.

Americanism: Second place total hours to the River Valley/Claude Rogers Unit in Arkansas.

VAVS: Second Place total volunteers to the Department of Texas.

Girl Scouts: The River Valley/Claude Rogers Unit in Arkansas awarded the highest number (191) of certificates to the Girl Scouts.



In September I left town to avoid the landing of Hurricane Harvey. I would like to thank everyone for their prayers during this time. We were so fortunate we only had minor damages in Corpus Christi.



Have a great time at the Marine Corps Balls and a Very Happy Thanksgiving.

Thank you Veterans for all you do!

Flea Fiddlings

MODDF Texas Hide
Johnnie Lopez
DOT MODDF Hide Big Flea
(254) 405-9404 (H)
luizjohnnie@yahoo.com
Brenda Tomonelli
DOT MODDF Hide
Scratchy Flea
(903) 786-8243 (H)
besteptom@yahoo.com



SEVERAL DEPARTMENT OF

Texas Hide Fleas traveled North to Overland Park, Kansas, for the National Supreme Scratch in August. Texas Fleas attending were: Dorcas Simpson, Viola Trevino, Toni Hurtado, Marcia Ynman, Linda Rigg, and Linda Blair.



(L-R) Viola Trevino & Toni Hurtado at National Flea Scratch

Madame Big Flea Rogene Hackbarth was honored with a Red/White/Blue themed Scratch. Texas Flea, Dorcas, assisted in decorating the Flea Room. The Fleas proceeded to bite and harass several platoons of Dogs in their quest to become Pedigrees.

Fleas at National Flea Scratch



Texas Hide Flea, Dorcas Simpson, was installed as National Scrappy Flea serving under the new Big Flea, Donna Jean Peterson.

The Fall Training Conference will have been held by the time this article is published. But as of now, the Texas MODD Fleas are preparing for a fun-filled, Dog-pestering "Gilligan's Island" themed Scratch in Houston. There will be all sorts of "ship-wrecked island" related festivities presented for the Texas Fleas to enjoy.

We're gettin' ready for the "3 hour tour' Devil Dog bitin' and harassin' to begin!

We would like to take this opportunity to invite all Auxiliary members to visit our fun-filled

Scratches and join us in our celebrated-celebrating Flea Hide. We would, also, welcome any and all



Welcome

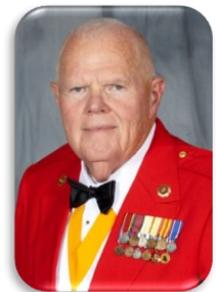
Marine related ladies to check out the Marine Corps League Auxiliary for extended ways to serve the League, Veterans, and your community, and thus be eligible to join the ranks of the M.O.D.D.F. (FYI ladies - you can be League Associate members **and** Auxiliary members - several current active Fleas are members of both and are holding appointed League Detachment positions and Auxiliary Unit/Department Flea elected positions). Our goals are the same – supporting our Marines, Veterans and children. Please come and join us in our worthy endeavors.

Please visit our state website: www.texasmcl.org, the national website: www.nationalmcla.org and www.nationalmoddf.org for information regarding membership and our charitable programs. Semper Mordendi !!

National News

**Commandant
Wendell W. Webb
(774) 239-6067**

Fall 2017
Semper Fi Magazine



MARINES!!!

First, I want to thank the membership for all the support and confidence at the 94th National Convention in Overland Park, KS. We have challenges facing us, but as Marines we are up and willing to meet them head on. This is a continuation of the plan started under my predecessor to establish and organize the League as a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) and set the corporate structure to operate and maintain the fiduciary responsibility for a non-profit organization. With our new Chief Operating Officer on board, we have already established goals and assessments of the everyday operations of Headquarters and Divisions. When we opened the



94th Convention the National Marine Corps League was a Gold Star Non-Profit organization. One of the goals is to proceed from Gold to Platinum.

We will be creating quarterly reports to the membership so you know how we are doing on our metrics established by the Board of Trustees (BOT). We will be establishing a mentoring program for the BOT to begin training in order to manage the organization as officers move up through the chairs. As Commandant of the VSO, I am also the Chief



Executive Officer (CEO) of the corporation. The Sr. Vice Commandant is the second in command of the VSO and the Corporate Secretary. The Jr. Vice Commandant is the third in command of the VSO and the Corporate Treasurer. All Division Vices will have their VSO responsibility and also a corporate equivalent position.

New media and tools will be on board for “meet me calls” to manage the organization, and we’re also looking at holding Townhall meetings across the Divisions. Communication and responsibility are required from all members who serve in the League. Yes, I said SERVE... we all have a job.



Our subordinate organizations feed into our corporate structure. The Auxiliary and Devil Dogs are similar to some wholly owned subsidiaries and will be required to maintain their records and report to the Corporate Office. We also have other societies within the League that will become fiduciarily responsible to corporate oversight. We have totally independent organizations outside our fiduciary oversight, but they carry the brand of the Marine Corps League. You will be seeing an organization chart of the Marine Corps League you have never seen before.

The new database contract was approved at the Convention and will be coming on board by the time you read this article.

The bottom line... it is time we former active duty warriors enlist those leaving active duty into new MCL membership and become a Marine



Alumni Organization that runs at high efficiency for our mission and corporate responsibility.

**National Chief Operating Officer
Bob Borka**



Fall 2017
Semper Fi Magazine



The Marine Corps League has such a strong leadership foundation, and the 94th National Convention brought together the best in our leadership traditions. What a remarkable group of people embracing our core values! The newly elected officers have taken their posts, and we look forward to seeing what the next year has in store.

The local and National Convention committees spent months planning, and we are all deeply appreciative. There is a great deal of work that occurs behind the scenes, and these volunteers really delivered. I hope each person enjoyed their stay.

The Convention provided significant motivation for the coming year. As your new Chief Operating Officer (formerly called Executive Director), I am honored to have been selected by our Board of Trustees. I will focus on leading with ethical leadership to demonstrate conduct that is acceptable, moral and appropriate - not just to set the example, but to be the example. Additionally, values such as servant leadership (Greenleaf, 1970) and failing forward (Maxwell, 2007) will be developed among our team.

We will foster individual productivity, team unity and organizational health. Professional best business practices will be developed in many different areas. The membership will be affected (in a positive way) by changes: better telephone connectivity, improved ship’s store online, easier insurance form submission and other business developments. Our focus, in coordination with our new Commandant Wendell Webb is



to develop a stronger Headquarters infrastructure, document and streamline processes and develop tools that will aid local Detachment growth.



The Detachments have showcased their volunteerism on social media. We will provide more

social media engagement with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn. Additionally, we will update the website and enhance the database.

Apple and Android applications will be created for greater mobile tools. While I am sure there are many other aspirations we could strive for, we must also consider our capabilities and adjust goals as we move forward.

The Mid-Winter Conference in Fredericksburg, VA, is developing into a great event, and we hope to see you there.



access to burial benefits for Veterans and eligible family members.

The six test sites are:

Fort Bliss National Cemetery
El Paso, Texas

Calverton National Cemetery
Calverton, New York

Fort Snelling National Cemetery
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery
St Louis, Missouri

Riverside National Cemetery
Riverside, California

Florida National Cemetery
Bushnell, Florida

A Holiday Schedule will be utilized starting at 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Burial services will be conducted every 30 minutes**, filled in consecutive order.

Listed below are the Saturday burial dates:

- November 4, 2017
- December 2, 2017
- January 6, 2018
- February 3, 2018
- March 3, 2018
- April 7, 2018
- May 5, 2018
- June 2, 2018
- July 7, 2018
- August 4, 2018
- September, 2018 (Non scheduled because of Federal Holiday)



VA Now Providing Saturday Burial Options (Cremation Only)

Submitted by Robert Way, *DOT Commandant*
(915) 593-9370 (H) • (915) 227-8617 (C)
rway@elp.rr.com



The VA National Cemetery Administration has announced Saturday burial options for eligible veterans and family members **starting on November 4, 2017**. Six

National Cemeteries have been selected as test sites for a year-long one Saturday a month testing program. The

Saturday burial schedule is available for **cremation only**, on a first-come first-serve basis. All services are scheduled through the National Scheduling Office at 1-800-535-1117. This program is a National Cemetery Administration initiative to increase

From the Front



3rd MAW Supports Puerto Rico: "Raiders" Soar to the Rescue

By *Cpl. Jake McClung, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing,*
www.marines.mil

October 16, 2017...



VMGR-352 returns from Hurricane Maria relief. A KC-130J Hercules with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352 arrives at Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar, CA, October 7th.

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, CA...

IN THE WAKE OF Hurricane Maria, the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing sent 12 Marines and two KC-130J Super Hercules from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron (VMGR) 352 to deliver 60,000 pounds of food and supplies to the community of Puerto Rico, September 29th to October 7th.

Maria made landfall September 20th as a category four hurricane, leaving over 3,000,000 residents without power or a way to evacuate, said Capt. Kellen Crawford, a KC-130J Super Hercules pilot with VMGR-352.

In times of crisis or disasters, it is important for every component of the Marine Corps to come together and assist with humanitarian relief efforts such as this, said Crawford.

“Working together is what the Marine Corps is all about,” said Sgt. Randon Navarro, a crew master with VMGR-352. “The tip of the spear is not always with the infantry because our mission sets are all different, but whatever it is we will all come together to help drive it.”

U.S. Marine Corps News

For the First Time, the Marine Corps Plans to Have a Female Infantry Officer Among Its Ranks

By Dan Lamothe, *The Washington Post*
September 21, 2017...

FIRST **IN A HISTORIC** first, the Marine Corps plans to assign a female officer to the infantry following her

anticipated graduation from its grueling training program, service officials said.

The woman is a lieutenant. She and her male colleagues in the Infantry Officer Course completed an intensive combat exercise on September 20th at the Marines’ rugged training facility in Twenty-nine Palms, CA, the final graded requirement of the 13-week program.

IOC, as it’s known among Marines, is considered some of the military’s toughest training. Typically, about 25% of students wash out.

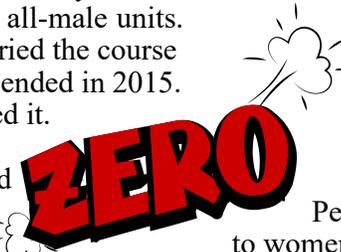
The woman, whose name has not been disclosed, is the first female officer to complete the course out of three dozen to have tried. She is expected to lead an infantry platoon of about 40 Marines, a trailblazing role within an organization that has been criticized for its resistance to such change and for fostering a culture of a hatred of women. The service was engulfed in scandal earlier this year when more than 1,000 current Marines and veterans were investigated as part of an online network that shared, critiqued and in many cases ridiculed photographs of nude female colleagues.

The class will mark its graduation on September 25th, holding a “warrior breakfast” 40 miles south of Washington at Quantico Marine Corps Base, said three officials with knowledge of the development. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because the graduation has not yet occurred. All that remains between now and then is returning equipment used during training, and a few administrative tasks, they said.

The historic moment arrives nearly two years after the Pentagon lifted the military’s last remaining restrictions for women, part of an effort by Barack Obama’s administration to make the armed forces fully inclusive. Officials shared few details about the lieutenant, saying it is unlikely she will agree to do any media interviews, preferring instead to be a “quiet professional” and just do her job.

The Marines first opened the Infantry Officer Course to women in 2012, on an experimental basis, allowing them to attempt the program as a part of military-wide research examining how to integrate all-male units. Thirty-two women tried the course before the research ended in 2015. None completed it.

Four others have attempted since the course was opened to women in December 2015, including the lieutenant expected to graduate.



At least one of those four women attempted the course twice, but did not complete it.

The course required both proficiency in the field, and the strength and stamina to carry equipment weighing up to 152 pounds. The school begins with a day-long combat endurance test that includes rigorous hikes through Quantico's rolling, wooded hills, an obstacle course and assessment of skills like weapons assembly and land navigation.

Historically, about 10% of students fail the first day.

The new infantry officer will join a part of the military long seen as being critical of serving alongside women.

When surveyed in 2012, three out of four active-duty Marine infantrymen said they were opposed to full gender integration. Of the 54,000 Marines who responded, 90% of men indicated they were concerned about problems arising from intimate relationships between personnel in the same combat unit, and more than 80% said they were concerned about the possibility of false sexual allegations, fraternization and women receiving preferential treatment.

Marine Corps officials say those sentiments have waned since then, but it's unclear how much - especially in light of the photo-sharing scandal - that emerged this year. Gen. Robert B. Neller, the service's top officer, has pleaded with Marines to be respectful toward women in the ranks, highlighting that some have died in combat. "I need you to ask yourselves," he said at the time, "How much more do the females of our Corps have to do to be accepted?"



Gen. Neller

Enlisted female Marines began joining the infantry in January. Senior leaders said last year that they were working to change the service's culture in advance.

"There's no doubt we're leading cultural change," Brig. Gen. James Glynn said then. "It's not the first time that's happened in the Marine Corps. We've been known to take challenges head-on."



Capt. Kristen Griest

Other parts of the military previously open only to men have begun to integrate over the last two years. For instance, Army Capt. Kristen Griest was assigned last year as her

service's first infantry officer. In 2015, she became one of three women who completed the Army's iconic Ranger School, a leadership course that focuses heavily on infantry tactics.

Women have not yet met the qualifications to take elite jobs in special operations, including that of Navy SEAL and Army Green Beret, though at least three have attempted the Army's Special Forces Assessment Selection test.

Kyleanne Hunter, a member of the Pentagon's Defense Advisory Committee for Women in the Services and former Marine Corps helicopter pilot, said that the Marines' first female infantry officer will deal with two major challenges once she is assigned to her battalion. One will be winning over those under her command, Hunter said, and the second will be coping with outside attention and critics who want her to fail.

"I think people are rightfully excited," she said. "She did something that is really hard, and it's hard physically and it's hard mentally. But at the same time, too much attention can take away from her operational requirements. Her first challenge is going to be to remain anonymous, for lack of a better term, and just do her job."



Marine Corps History

WHAT IS THE MARINE CORPS JARGON?

The **Marine Corps** culture is truly unique. It has its own way of dressing, acting, and talking. At times, the talk seems like code. Much of the jargon stems from Marine and Naval history, and acronyms are widely used. At first, it can be hard to understand.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| All Hands | All members of a command |
| As You Were | Resume former activity |
| Below | Downstairs |
| Bird | Any aircraft |
| Black Cadillacs | Combat boots |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Blouse | Cammie shirt |
| Brass | Officers |
| Brig | Military jail |
| Brown Bagger | Married Marine |
| Boot Lewy | 2nd Lieutenant |
| Bulkhead | Wall |
| Bunker | A protective shelter |
| Butt Can | Ashtray |
| Butter Bar | 2nd Lieutenant |
| BX | Base Exchange |
| Cammies | Camouflage uniform |
| Canon Cocker | aka gun bunny personnel in an artillery battery |
| Click | One kilometer or one notch of a rifle sight |
| Chopper | Helicopter |
| Chow Hall | Where a Marine eats, like a cafeteria |
| Cover | Marine Corps hat |
| Deck | Floor |
| Deuce & a Half | 2.5 ton truck |
| Devil Dog | Another name for a Marine |
| Dinky Dau | Crazy (Viet Nam era term) |
| Doggie | U.S. Army soldier |
| Field Day | Barracks or office cleanup |
| Float | Deployment by ship |
| Geedunk | Junk food, snacks |
| Go-Fasters | Running shoes |
| Good to go | Ready to move, agree with, situation ok |
| Gouge | Any information or instructions, written or verbal |
| Grunt | A Marine infantryman |
| Gung Ho | Very enthusiastic and committed |



It is the VETERAN, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the VETERAN, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the VETERAN, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the VETERAN, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.

It is the VETERAN, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the VETERAN, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

Upcoming Events



Marine Corps Birthday
November 10, 2017



Veteran's Day
November 11, 2017



Thanksgiving Day
November 23, 2017



Christmas Day
December 25, 2017



New Year's Day
January 1, 2018



Marine Military Expo
Marine West Exhibition
 Marine Corps Base
 Camp Pendleton, CA
February 7th - 8th, 2018
(tentative)



Marine Military Expo
Modern Day Marine
 Marine Corps Base • Quantico, VA
September 25th - 27th, 2018
(tentative)

MCL National Mid-Winter Conference
 Fredericksburg, VA
March 1st - 4th, 2018



Southern Division Conference
 Holiday Inn & Convention Center
 1500 S. 48th St., Springdale, AR 72762
 (479) 751-8300
March 30th - 31st, 2018



Marine Military Expo
Marine South Exhibition
 Marine Corps Base
 Camp Lejeune, NC
April 11th - 12th, 2018



Department of Texas State Convention
 Hampton Inn & Suites
 240 S. Hasler Blvd., Bastrop, TX
June 28th - 30th, 2018

MCL National Convention
 Buffalo, NY
August 12th - 17th, 2018

DEADLINE



**for the
 Texas
 Marine
 WINTER Edition
 will be
 January 15th**

Please submit articles/photos to
Juanita O'Dell
@ 515 Hall St., Graham, TX 76450
OR
juanitaodell@sbcglobal.net

USMC Commandant's Birthday Message



SEVENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

today, after months of fighting at Henderson Field and along Edson's Ridge, Marines on Guadalcanal spent the night of 10 November 1942 planning and preparing. Although the Battle of Guadalcanal would continue for three more months, the plans laid on our Corps' most sacred day became integral to the amphibious campaigns that followed. Success at Guadalcanal proved to be the turning point that ultimately paved the way for Allied victory in the Pacific. Those warriors defended their positions in brutal conditions against a formidable enemy – and triumphed. Through every major conflict our nation has seen since the Revolution, Marines performed their duty with utmost courage, devotion, and raw determination. Their valiant deeds in the face of overwhelming challenges give us confidence and inspire us to meet the trials of today. As we pause to celebrate the birth of our Corps this year, we honor the legacy that was passed down to us and recommit ourselves to carrying those traditions into the future.

This November 10th marks 242 years of war fighting excellence. At places like Trenton, Tripoli, Chapultepec, Belleau Wood, Guadalcanal, Chosin, Khe Sahn, Fallujah, Sangin, and so many others, Marines have fought with an inner spirit – a spirit that bonds us, binds us together as a cohesive team. It's that intangible spirit that has formed the foundation of our war fighting reputation for the past 242 years. Now it's our responsibility to ensure we honor and carry on that legacy. The American people expect a Corps of men and women who are committed, selfless, willing to sacrifice, who epitomize honor, courage, commitment, virtue, and character. We owe our Nation and our predecessors no less.

Today, as we celebrate our 242nd birthday, we must remember who we are, where we came from, and why we're here. We must remember the past, honor those who are no longer with us, focus on today's battles, and get ready for tomorrow. We can and will prevail as we always have, in any clime and place. But we must prevail together, united by the unyielding spirit in each of us that makes our Corps unique – that willingness to put our Corp and fellow Marines ahead of ourselves. Victory in battle comes through the integrated efforts of many – teamwork. We value

the sacrifices and contributions of every Marine and Sailor, as well as our family members without whose support we would not be able to accomplish our mission. And we remain committed to being our Nation's Expeditionary Force in Readiness that sets the standard for honor, discipline, and courage. I am proud of each and every one of you.

Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,
Robert B. Neller, General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

MCL National Commandant's Birthday Message



MARINES!!!

The U.S. Marine Corps is celebrating the 242nd Birthday of our beloved Corps in locations all over the world. The Marine Corps League entered the scene in 1923, with our charter approved by Congress in 1937.

Why is this relationship important? We have the fireteams, Detachments, Departments and Divisions deployed across our Nation where those Marines have come from over the 242-year history of our Corps. We are being asked to increase our support of the active components of the Marine Corps.

Modern Day Marine 2017 was a place of camaraderie, forward thinking, networking and commitments for the future. General Neller and his staff held many lectures and meetings during that week on where the Marine Corps is going as they develop the requirements and execution plans for the fifth generation Marine Corps. Their plans also impact our organization as we also are working to create a fifth generation Marine Corps League. The transition and synergy on how we accomplish this is key to keeping the Marine Corps and Marine Corps League as a working team to accomplish our missions for today and the future.

We have Marines all over the world doing their job to protect and safeguard the free world from harm as Marines have always done. We need to take the time to celebrate the history of our Corps and League as we move forward in a new relationship.

Happy Birthday, Marines, from Headquarters Marine Corps League and the staff.

Semper Fidelis,
Wendell W. Webb, National Commandant and CEO
Marine Corps League



SOUTHERN DIVISION CONFERENCE

SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS • MARCH 30TH & 31ST, 2018

HOTEL: Holiday Inn & Convention Center, 1500 S. 48th St.
(479) 751-8300

Double or King : \$104 plus tax/night (wo breakfast)
\$114 plus tax/night (breakfast included)

Use group code MCL when making reservations



DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: March 9, 2018



ADS FOR PROGRAM:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Inside Front & Back Cover (COLOR) | \$150 |
| Full Page | 100 |
| Half Page | 50 |
| Quarter Page | 25 |
| Business Card | 15 |



*Make checks payable to "Northwest Arkansas Detachment #1854"
Mail to: 2018 Southern Division Conference Committee
PO Box 8345, Springdale, AR 72766*

Camera ready artwork or ad may be emailed to: nwarkansasmcl854@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR ADS: FEBRUARY 14th, 2018

**CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS: David Nieman, (479) 531-5262,
thegunny95@gmail.com**