

# TEXAS

**Robert "Bob" Way  
Commandant**



# MARINE

**Department of TEXAS  
Marine Corps League**

# WINTER

**Edition**



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2018**



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## **Commandant's Corner**

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**I WANT TO WISH**

everyone a Happy

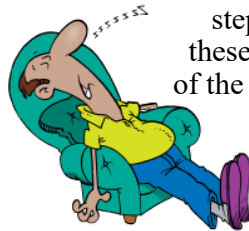
New Year. Welcome to 2018.

Last year, the Department had a lot of challenges to overcome and we have been successful in overcoming most of them. We still have a lot of challenges ahead of



us that everyone in the Department of Texas has the **responsibility** to help solve. It takes all the members working together to achieve a common goal, not just the elected Board of Trustees.

There are several Department Committee Chair positions that have been held by the same member for several years. They need a break. It is time for other members of the Department of Texas to step up and assume the responsibility for some of these positions. It is an excellent way to learn some of the inner workings of the Marine Corps League...



Americanism • Auditor • Auxiliary Liaison • Bernard Sheeler VAWS • Budget and Finance • Bylaws and Resolutions • Cam Posey Scholarships • Chapel of the Four Chaplains • Convention Chairperson • Convention Credentials • Convention Protocol • Homeless Veterans Committee •

Legislative Officer • Marine of the Year • Marine Rose Committee • Marines Helping Marines • Public Relations • Quartermaster • Toys for Tots • Training • VAVS Committee • Veterans Service Officer • Webmaster • Facebook Administrator • Youth Activities.

Another area of concern is membership and recruiting. As you can see by the letter from the National Commandant, the Marine Corps League has a major shortfall in membership. Yes, National had problems with keeping correct records, and yes there has been a lot of confusion when you must renew your membership and how much your dues are. Why we have this problem no longer matters, how we solve it is the important thing - **Recognize, Analyze and Solve.**



The Detachment is the key and basic element in maintaining membership. Yes, one of the responsibilities of the Jr. Vice Commandant is retention and recruiting. The Detachment Jr. Vice Commandant should be getting your copy of the National Detachment



roster to check it over and contact any delinquent members. If there are problems with the roster, then the Jr. Vice and Detachment Paymaster should make the corrections and forward a copy to the Department Adjutant/Paymaster and to the National membership section.

Also, the Jr. Vice arranges with the membership to hold recruiting events.

**Remember,** it is not only the Jr. Vice who can recruit new members. We are all recruiters! How many of you have taken the time to look at the recruiting video on the National website? It has some good information and ideas. Presently, the Department has a couple of Detachments that are in jeopardy of losing their Charter because they do not have enough members. **Remember that it is the Detachment Paymaster's responsibility to send out renewal notices to their members.**



You need to start getting your registrations and room reservations for the Department Convention as soon as possible. Also, you need to let the hosting



Detachment know if you will need transportation to and from the convention center. If there are not enough people requesting transportation the host Detachment will have to cancel the buses. Also, send your ads in for the Convention Program. Getting these things done early makes it a lot easier on the hosting Detachment and makes the Convention run smoother. Don't wait until the last minute.

## MEMBERSHIP AND BUDGET REPORT DECEMBER 2017

Date: 08 January 2018  
 Purpose: Report on membership and dues  
 Restrictions: This is not to be posted on any social media site of any type. This is Marine Corps internal information intended for the membership only.

DECEMBER 2017 MEMBERSHIP REPORT					
BASED ON 2018 FISCAL YEAR (1 JULY 2017 TO 30 JUNE 2018)					
DUES WERE DUE 1 SEPTEMBER 2017					
MEMBERS	PLM	PAID	TOTAL PD	UNPAID	UNPAID
Regular	31,647	10,981	42,628	13,765	45.6%
Associates	2,593	2,376	4,969	2,823	9.3%
Multiple	398	110	508	149	0.49%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>34,638</b>	<b>13,467</b>	<b>48,105</b>	<b>16,737</b>	<b>55.4%</b>
BUDGET & MEMBERSHIP AS OF 27 DEC 2017					
	MEMBER-SHIP	Dues Rec'd		Dues Delinquent	
Total	64,842				
FY2018		\$269,340		\$334,740	

This report is to show where we are after switching to everyone's dues being due on 1 September of each calendar year.

Membership delinquent dues are extremely high for this period of time. It is the responsibility of the Detachment to track location and collect dues of its membership. Fifty five percent (55.4%) of our membership (Regular, Associates, Multiple) has not renewed. This cash flow impacts our spending for ordering supplies to replenish our Ships Store (no

stock), paying the rent, electric, computer and phone systems, salaries of our staff and the insurance for the entire organization. This is called overhead of the non-profit corporation. We have monitored our cash flow and delayed paying of bills and placing orders to keep from establishing another Line of Credit causing the League to be in debt. I am very proud we are debt free in our operating funds and meeting our expenses to date. We need for everyone to pay or collect the unpaid dues to give us the operating funds required to provide the services required. We have submitted invoices to other businesses where we have contracts to gain unpaid funds and to establish a normal business invoice system to collect money owed to the organization. This has allowed us to operate in the black to date. As you can see, a void of **\$334,740** is nothing to neglect and that is why I am sending this to our National Vice Commandants for distribution to every member of the League. Thank you for your anticipated help on the delinquent dues and recruitment of existing members. New members are also a positive approach. **WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

Hope everyone had a Happy New Year; be prepared to come to Mid-Winter to work.

Semper Fidelis,  
 W<sup>3</sup>  
 Wendell W. Webb  
 Commandant & CEO  
 Marine Corps League

**Junior's Journal**  
 John Grafflin  
 Department of Texas  
 Jr. Vice Commandant  
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 johng@jwmg.com



**REGARDING THE** changes to member dues, I am reminded of an article I read recently. It applies to both sides of the fence – Staff and the individual member. Resistance is a normal response to change. Our attitude towards resistance is the key to successful change. Overcoming resistance, personal or organizational,



depends on understanding. Benjamin Franklin valued this, telling us that questioning authority is the “first responsibility of every citizen.” It helps to understand that resistance is a normal response and that trying to avoid any resistance is ridiculous. The best laid plans and systems fail if the people side of change management is ignored. Resistance to change is a normal response, so plan for it, expect it and accept it. Resistance does not mean that the change is bad, or that the change process has failed. Nor does it mean that those resisting change are bad people who are getting in the way of change!



The clue to overcoming resistance is understanding that you cannot avoid resistance, but you can manage it. Remember that people experience change in personal ways. Addressing people’s needs and values when you encounter resistance to change can reduce any negative impact of resistance. Changing your attitude towards resistance is what’s needed to ensure successful change.



Threats of closing Detachments by Staff is not the answer, instead being counterproductive. It undermines the purpose for change. We must all do our part in making this transition as smooth as possible.



**Chaplain's Comments**

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 Department of Texas Chaplain  
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**GREETINGS MARINES** and Associate Members:

It has certainly been cold recently. I am ready for some warmer weather!! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Now that all those holidays are behind us, it’s time to get back on track with things like our upcoming





Marine Corps League conferences and other Marine Corps League activities.

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 remember to send me your death notices when a Detachment member passes on. (Any MODD member who passes on needs to

have a death notice sent to me as well. I just happen to be the Texas Pack Dog Trainer, too!) My mailing address is: 704 Rancho Dr., Mesquite, TX 75149, or you can email me at



[meadolarc@aol.com](mailto:meadolarc@aol.com).

Please continue to keep our “sick and distressed” Marines in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you to everyone throughout the Texas Detachments who keep us informed of Marines they find out about who are ill and if they are hospitalized, what hospital they are in. Thank you as well to those who get out and visit these Marines.

On a brighter note: **Attention All Detachment Commandants!** I need your Detachment Chaplain nominees. At the annual State Convention, we will award the Chaplain’s Award to one of our deserving and outstanding Chaplains. There is NO official form that is completed, but I do need an email or “snail mail” letter from the Detachment Commandant giving me your Chaplain’s name, how long he/she has been your Chaplain and a member of the Marine Corps League/your Detachment, and then let me know WHY your Chaplain is being nominated – What do they do or have they done that’s “over and above” the normal Chaplain duties? I must have all nominations to me by **May 31<sup>st</sup>**.

Until next time... Semper Fi and God Bless!



## Giving is Happy Living

By Joan Clayton



Go to any bookstore and you will find dozens of “how to” books on being happy. Enticements are everywhere. TV commercials are filled with “things” guaranteed to satisfy. You only need their products to make your life perfect. For some,

happiness is attained only when “this or that happens.” Yet, the bottom line is – after the possession of fortune or fame is achieved, reality comes into play and one has to ask, “Is this all there is?” Life is so difficult without kindness, unselfishness and most of all, having love for others. For many years I thought hate was the opposite of love. I have come to realize the opposite of love is selfishness. Pursuing happiness is vain without knowing the secret of life. Blessing someone else brings happiness to the giver. Giving without expecting in return brings joy to the receiver. Without givers there would be no harmony, success or peace. Givers bring a glimmer of positivity and warmth into a cold dark world. They bring hope for tomorrow that we desperately need to hear. You can be a giver today. Go ahead and try it. Before you know it you will have discovered the secret of a happy life. The upside is you have many days to fill with giving!

People who live one day at a time and are grateful to be alive find happiness. Real freedom concentrates on what one can do for others.

We all have something to give. Have you ever noticed when you smile at someone, they smile back? Have you ever received a card or a visit that cheered you up? Just a phone call can make a



difference to a lonely person. Being interested in the lives of others builds many friendships. Giving is a natural response of love. Whether it is time, talent or other resources, everyone can give something to help a hurting soul. Giving what you have brings blessings to you and the receiver.



## Webmaster Writings

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## WE HAVE MADE

every effort to make the web site as friendly as we possibly can and have always been open to suggestions on its improvement. The web site



belongs to the Red Hats and the information is there for their benefit. Please send me any suggestions that you might have for the web site and with the approval of the Department Commandant I will make sure it's updated.

If you see an error on the site, let me know. I will correct it while I speak to you or by the next day if it's an email. The web site is a reflection of us all and we are all responsible for the upkeep.



Over the last six months we have had a total of 2,218 visitors to our site, 91 unique visitors, with 249 page views. We have only had 16 views by a mobile device. In accordance with the national average, we are at 94%.

Thanks for visiting our web site.

*Thanks*



## Convention Chair

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Department of Texas  
Convention Chair  
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**MARINES WE** are coming up to the June Convention and if you have not responded to the Detachment to help them out, please do. Send in your delegates as well as your program ads as soon as possible. The 2018 Convention will consist of lots of staff changes and will need your vote to put the right people in place. All the top positions will shift or be open for nominations and elections.



Our next event after the Convention is the Staff Conference in October 2018 and we do not have a Detachment that has come forward to host it. If there is interest in hosting the Staff Conference, send me an email with a request for information and I will be glad to provide you the guidelines.

**2019 is the 50th Anniversary of the Department of Texas State Convention.** Yep, it's been 50 years and we must celebrate our anniversary with style. It's a big event and we do not have a Detachment that has indicated that they are interested. Please send me an email with your interest so that

we can announce the details at the state convention this year. I will set a deadline of 1 March for

# 1 March

submission of intent to host the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in June 2019. So far there has been an inkling that El Paso and Dallas are thinking about it. I need confirmation.

## Division/District/ Detachment Digest

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

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## GREETINGS MARINES

Auxiliary and Associates...

There are a couple of points that I would like to inform the membership about:

▶ One is that those who are members of a web group called *Together We Served* (TWS) (a contact group of Marines and Veteran Marines who can get together and contact old friends, the Marine Corps League and the Admin for TWS) have entered into a partnership. Many of you will be receiving an email from them asking you to join the Marine



Corps League, and the Marine Corps League will publish an ad in the "*Semper Fi*" magazine asking you to join the TWS. They will be offering discounts on life memberships in the TWS and reduced fees for joining. It may very well be a great thing for both organizations as they have a membership of over 400,000 members that the League can offer membership to - active and Veteran Marines, Navy Corpsmen and Navy Chaplains - and the MCL can promote the TWS. It is a Win Win opportunity for both.

▶ Second is the membership in the Division has slipped dramatically from last year. But I have to say we have done slightly better than the National average of 50% unpaid as of the December 31st report. Division had 762 unpaid members of 821 paid and 1,467 life members, a total of 2,288. What this means is we have to contact these unpaid members at the Detachment level and find out if they wish to renew and if not why, so we can correct the problem. I feel that a lot of them were not reminded their dues were due and some may be confused by the new due dates. Whatever the cause, it needs work at all levels to correct the problem, because if this continues the League itself may be in serious trouble going forward. But overall the Division is doing much better in other areas, such as timely Officer Installation Reports, P.L.M. reports, and IRS issues. Good work by all in these areas!



when the tickets were drawn, the name on both tickets was Bonner Green. Lucky Fella.



*Here is Mr. Green receiving his 2 rifles from Dennis Thomas, Commandant of Hawthorne Detachment.*

The South Plains Detachment #519 out of Lubbock, Texas, worked with the Marines from the Lubbock Texas Marine Corps Reserve Center in collecting and distributing toys for Toys for Tots.



## DISTRICT 1

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## HAWTHORNE DETACHMENT

#1349 of Stinnett, Texas, held their annual Pancake Breakfast to raise funds for their Scholarship and also for the Hutchinson County Toys for Tots.



*Detachment members (L-R) Marcus Anderson, Denice Thomas, Dennis Thomas, Shannon Patrick and Buster Newberry.*

The Hawthorne Detachment held a Rifle Raffle for two 22 caliber Henry Repeating Arms Rifles. It just so happened that out of the 350 tickets sold, Mr. Bonner Green had purchased five tickets and

The North Texas Detachment completed its 23rd Young County Toys for Tots Campaign on December 17, 2017. They had a lot of help from their community, both young and old.

Pictured here are two junior high school students presenting their winnings from the Hot Choccolicious Competition to Bernie O'Dell, Young County Toys for Tots Coordinator.



*(L-R) Bernie O'Dell, Ryder Burgess & Presley Leach*

Ryder Burgess and Presley Leach created a business plan and created a small business selling their hot chocolate at the Christmas Parade. They



raised \$271 and also won the best packaging award for \$250, all of which they donated to Toys for Tots. They were not the only ones who helped with donations, but they were the youngest. They were just one of the teams who participated in raising over \$4,000 for nonprofits in Graham, Texas.

With everyone's help, Young County Toys for Tots was able to provide Christmas to 1,000 needy children.

## DISTRICT 5

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## THE DETACHMENTS

of District 5 have faced difficult challenges the past several months. On August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Hurricane Harvey with 130 mph winds made landfall near Rockport, Texas, and travelled inland to Houston leaving tremendous flooding in its path. Houston received over 50 inches of rain and some Detachment members in Brazoria, Harris and Galveston Counties were in the direct path of the flooding. Hurricane Harvey was downgraded to a Tropical Storm and receded back into the Gulf of Mexico and made landfall three separate times. After causing tremendous damage in the above counties, the storm moved east to Beaumont where rescue efforts were conducted by amphibious vehicles from Charlie Company, 4th Amtrac Bn., in Galveston.



The devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey had a catastrophic impact on the lives of many of our league and non-league members. Assistance came in from Detachments (too many to mention) from across the nation and the recovery continues to be an ongoing process. The Detachments in the District continued to support the recovery efforts and have been instrumental in providing clothing, meals, water, building materials and financial assistance to league and non-league members. The Detachments in District 5 deserve a special shout out for their efforts during the rescue and recovery in assisting Marines and Marine families during this

difficult time.

I would like to also mention that the District sponsored the 2017 Department Convention and the Fall Conference. In June the 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Joyce Venable Detachment in Beaumont/Port Arthur sponsored the State Convention and in October the Galveston County Detachment sponsored the Fall Conference. I would like to give a special thanks to those Detachment members for a job well done and for going above and beyond in sponsoring these Department meetings.

2017 was a challenging year for the members in District 5; we look forward to 2018.



## DEANE HAWKINS DETACHMENT EL PASO

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**ANOTHER BUSY QUARTER** for the Deane Hawkins Detachment...

The Honor Detail provided firing details for 14 funerals and a Pearl Harbor Day Memorial Ceremony as well as our annual Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony at the Guillian Nursing Home.



*Firing Detail for Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony at Guillian Veterans Nursing Home*

The Detachment also provided a range safety officer for two days at the JROTC Air Rifle Match held at the New Mexico Military Institute. We also put up and took down the Avenue of Flags at the Ft. Bliss National Cemetery.



*New Mexico Military Institute  
JROTC Air Rifle Match*



*Ruben, Pete, and George after putting up  
Avenue of Flags*

Tom Smith was asked to be the oldest Marine at the Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony held by the Marines attending the Army Sergeants Major Academy. All the Army Sergeants Major students were in attendance for the ceremony.



*Tom Smith at Sergeant Major Academy*

The Detachment also held its second annual dinner and Marine Corps Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony.

Members of the Detachment also attended the Awards Ceremony for LCpl Benjamin Gonzalez where he was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions in Al Anbar Province, Iraq, on 18 June 2004.



*Members of the Detachment with  
LCpl Gonzalez*

Members of the Detachment were the key organizers and parade officials for the El Paso Veterans Day Parade.

The Detachment annual Christmas Party was held on December 16 and everyone had a great time.



*Detachment Christmas Party*



We still provide snacks and coffee service at the VA clinic as well as help support the Young Marine Units.

**HEART OF TEXAS DETACHMENT  
WACO**

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Detachment Sr. Vice Commandant  
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**THE DETACHMENT HAD** a busy November, as we hosted our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Leather-neck Run.





The Detachment also volunteered from November to December to the Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign.



That same evening, we helped our reserve unit celebrate our Birthday.



Detachment members helped collect toys for Toys for Tots at local stores and events.



The Detachment also helped serve breakfast to fellow service members in the McLennan County area.



The Detachment helped with the final collection in conjunction with KWTX Channel 10 and the Marine Corps Reserves.

For Thanksgiving members of the Heart of Texas Detachment helped volunteer for the Salvation Army Thanksgiving feast.



**HOPKINS COUNTY DETACHMENT  
SULPHUR SPRINGS**

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**DETACHMENT MEMBERS** participated in a Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11, 2017, at the Hopkins County Veterans Memorial. Before 1100 hours on that day, the members accomplished the following:



*Detachment members placing 345 crosses built by students of Sulphur Springs High School. The crosses go from the Civil War to the present, and were for the men and women who gave all.*



*The outcome of the cross placement.*



*Detachment members who participated.*



*The Detachment also dedicated a bench to the men and women who served in the War on Terrorism.*

The names of the deceased representing the crosses were read by Sulphur Springs High School students. The high school had their Veterans Day Ceremony on November 10<sup>th</sup> and invited all Veterans from the area.

**LONGHORN DETACHMENT  
CROWLEY**



Submitted by Jack Mattson  
*Commandant*  
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**THE LONGHORN** Detachment is blessed with several fund-raising opportunities, not the least of which is our Annual Golf Tournament, City Market monthly booth, Rifle Raffle, and hot dog sales. During this year the Detachment made contributions to the following charities: Wheelchairs 4 kids - \$4,500; Cuisine for Healing - \$4,500; Brothers Keepers - \$2,500; Navy Marine Corps Relief - \$500; MCL Auxiliary - \$200; and sent \$1,000 to the Lufkin Detachment in support of their efforts to help the hurricane victims in Houston.





*Brother's Keeper Donation - \$2,500*

Longhorn has been a fervent supporter of the Toys for Tots program. This year we facilitated processing the following toys and funds to Dan Varne-dore, Toys for Tots DFW District Manager: VFW 9299 - \$2,400 and 312 toys; Mansfield Performing Arts Center - \$7,005 and 30,000 toys; and Steve Barnes's Turn-Key Mafia Car Show - \$1,300 and 604 toys.



*Mansfield Performing Arts Toys for Tots - \$7,005 and 30,000 toys.*



*Steve Barnes Turn-Key Mafia Car Show Toys for Tots - \$3,00 and 600 toys*

Celebrating our Associate Member of the Year, we honored Alisha Draper for her diligent support of the Detachment and she was instrumental in helping coordinate helpers for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament.



*Alisha Draper awarded Associate of the Year 2017*

While enjoying the celebration and ceremony of the Marine Corps Ball with the 8<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps District, we began discussions on how the Longhorn Detachment can support the "Poolies" program in the Crowley and Burleson area.

We welcomed Johnnie Abbott to our Detachment as our newest member during our quarterly Family Night where we enjoyed playing games, swapping war stories and partaking in the many pot-luck servings.



*Our November 2017 Family Night Potluck*

To support our recruiting efforts, we set up a booth at the Burleson Founder's Day celebration, passed out literature at the City of Burleson Veteran's Day recognition event, and manned our monthly booth at the City Market. We are communicating with five prospects.

Commandant Jack Mattson gave a speech as the Guest of Honor at the Young Marines Birthday Celebration, and a business owner's speech at the Texas Veterans Business Summit in Fort Worth.

Watch for our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament announcement coming soon.





## Devil Dog Doings

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Pack Leader, Pack of Texas  
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### WOOF WOOF...

All dogs of the Order need to get those lazy dogs off the porch to attend the Growls. If you're a Pup and want to advance to Devil Dog and get your Red Collar at the Department Convention in June, you must have been a Pup for one year. Get your advance form to your Pound Dog Robber sooner rather than later. The form is online at the MODD web site. For more information contact your Pound Keeper.

## Auxiliary Announcements

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Southern Division Vice President  
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### GREETINGS LADIES...

I hope everyone is doing good and had a great Holiday Season. I want to thank the ladies for being so supportive this past five years that I've been a National officer. I have learned so much, met so many wonderful people and made so many friends.

I would like to invite everyone to the Southern Division Conference in Arkansas in April. We will be holding elections for Division Vice President at that time. I hope to see you all there.

Southern Division Conference dates have been changed to April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at the Northwest Arkansas Holiday Inn and Convention Center, 1500 S. 48<sup>th</sup> St., Springdale, AR 72761. Phone: (479) 751-8300. For more information on registration and ad book please contact the 2018 Southern Division Committee at [nwarkansasmcl1854@gmail.com](mailto:nwarkansasmcl1854@gmail.com).



## Announcing for Department Office

The following Department of Texas members have stated their intention to run for office at the Department State Convention in June, 2018:

Commandant ..... Charles "Chuck" Bones  
Sr. Vice Commandant ..... John Grafflin  
Jr. Vice Commandant ..... Melody Bronson  
Judge Advocate ..... Paula Land  
Adjutant/Paymaster ..... Mark Oldmixon

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

Submitted by Juanita O'Dell, Editor  
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### NOMINATIONS NEEDED!

Your nomination(s) for **Southern Division Marine of the Year** is due **March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**.

## MARCH 15

There are Marines out there in our Division worthy of this award.

Please send the nominations to the Marine of the Year Chairman, **John Mashunkashey**, via email ([johnawake65@windstream.net](mailto:johnawake65@windstream.net)) or mail to 416 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Barnsdall, OK 74002. *The nomination procedure is shown below.*

This award shall be presented to a regular member of the Southern Division who has rendered service that distinguishes themselves above and beyond the duties and obligations normally expected to membership in the Marine Corps League. **Any member of the Southern Division may originate the nomination of a candidate for this award.** The nomination of a candidate shall be made in letter form, either typed or legibly hand written, and shall be signed by at least four members in good standing. The nomination letter must indicate the nominee's Detachment name and all signers of the nomination letter must indicate the name of their Detachment. The letter of nomination should clearly describe the candidate's achievements and contributions that have served to bring acclaim and prestige to the Marine Corps League or United States Marine Corps and/or have enhanced or furthered the concepts of duty as a citizen of the United States of America. The letter of nomination should stress and emphasize the nominee's achievements and contributions for the most recent year but may also include supplemental information about the nominee's merits beyond that period. The letter may be augmented by attached endorsements or affidavits, such as newspaper accounts of a deed or deeds, but such endorsements are not required. Nominations may be submitted to any member of the Marine of the Year Society but must be received by a member of the society no later than **March 15** of the current year.

#### **The Southern Division Marine of the Year Society**

Marines who have been formerly honored as Southern Division Marine of the Year shall assume the privilege of membership in the Southern Division Marine of the Year Society. The Society is charged with receiving and reviewing recurrent nominations for the Marine of the Year award and selects a spokesperson from among their membership to name their selection for the Southern Division Marine of the Year at the Southern Division Conference.

#### **The Past Southern Division Marines of the Year:**

Tom Miller, Helen Hicks, Clif Williams, Ken Henry, Ken Watterson, Polly Weidenkopf, Johnny Gothard, Bernie O'Dell, Randy Rigg, Marty McKnight, John Henry Mashunkashey, Alex Azar, Dwight Witcher. and Ron Tomonelli.

\* Harry Bruce

#### **Procedure for Handling Nominations Southern Division Marine of the Year**

Nominations shall be sent to the Chairman of the Society and shall be opened and copied or scanned and sent to the members of the Society for review.

Voting and selection of the Southern Division Marine of the Year shall be accomplished at the Southern Division Conference. The time and place of the Society meeting shall be published to the members of the Society prior to the Conference by the Chairman of the Society.

A Certificate and Medallion shall be presented to the selected Southern Division Marine of the Year.

## **DEADLINES FOR STATE CONVENTION AWARDS**

### **AMERICANISM SCRAPBOOKS**



Juanita O'Dell, *Americanism Chairman*  
(940) 549-3944 (H)  
[juanitaodell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juanitaodell@sbcglobal.net)

Detachment Americanism scrapbooks should be turned in at the MCL Registration Desk

## **NO LATER THAN NOON ON FRIDAY, JUNE 22ND** at the Convention.

Books should include all activities (**from June 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup> ONLY**) that the Detachment participated in or supported to further patriotism in their local, state, or national communities.

The "Americanism Questionnaire Criteria" form (**that must be in the front of the scrapbook and signed by the Detachment Commandant AND Detachment Americanism Chairman**), the "Coversheets" (**that must appear in front of each section**), as well as the instruction sheet can be downloaded from the Department web site.

Any questions can be directed to me via phone or e-mail.

## CAM POSEY SCHOLARSHIPS

Bernie O'Dell, *Chairman*  
Cam Posey Scholarship Committee  
(940) 549-3944 (H)  
[bernieodell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bernieodell@sbcglobal.net)



# MAY 1ST

is the **DEADLINE** for applications for the Cam Posey Scholarships to **be in the hands of the committee chairman.**

Applications are available on the Department web site. They must be filled out completely and must be accompanied with all relevant documentation.

Please mail the applications to Bernie at 515 Hall St., Graham, TX 76450.

## DETACHMENT ACTIVITY REPORTS



Charles "Chuck" Bones, *Chairman*  
Awards & Activities Committee  
(903) 721-1277 (H)  
[bonesharley64@gmail.com](mailto:bonesharley64@gmail.com)

# APRIL 30TH

is the **DEADLINE** for submission of your Activity Reports. Mail those to me at 1938 CR 1513, Jacksonville, TX 75766 or e-mail them to me at [bonesharley64@gmail.com](mailto:bonesharley64@gmail.com).

## JUDGE ADVOCATE

Paula Land, *Judge Advocate*  
(214) 616-2764 (H)  
[usmc2aud@gmail.com](mailto:usmc2aud@gmail.com)



# APRIL 23RD

 is the

**DEADLINE** for submitting a **Bylaw Amendment** or **Change in Administrative Procedure** to the Department Adjutant/Paymaster.

All **Resolutions** must be submitted to the Adjutant/Paymaster to be considered at the Convention by

# MAY 23RD

Proper forms are found in the Department of Texas Administrative Procedures.

## MARINE OF THE YEAR

Bernie O'Dell, *Chairman*  
Marine of the Year Society  
(940) 549-3944 (H)  
[bernieodell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bernieodell@sbcglobal.net)



Texas MCL members are reminded that nominations for Department Marine of the Year **must be received no later than**

# MAY 1ST

There are many Marines within the Department who should be nominated for the award, and it is an honor to every individual nominated that they are so well regarded. Although only one nominee will be selected for the MOY award, all those who are nominated will be recognized at the awards ceremony.

Letters of nomination may be submitted to any member of the Society or sent directly to the Marine of the Year Chairman, Bernie O'Dell, at 515 Hall St., Graham, TX 76450.



**★ PACK DOG OF THE YEAR**



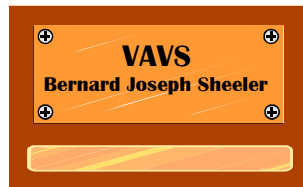
Taylor Rice, *Pack Leader*  
**(817) 466-2295 (C)**  
*trice366@aol.com*

Nominations for Pack Dog of the Year should be sent to Taylor Rice by

**MAY 1ST**

**★ VAVS BERNARD JOSEPH SHEELER AWARD**

George Simpson,  
*Chairman*  
*VAVS Committee*  
**(254) 666-4081 (H)**  
*georsimp2@aol.com*



The Bernard Joseph Sheeler Award was created in the year 2000 to recognize our members for their devotion to our veterans. The deadline for nominations **in the form of a letter** need to be sent in no later than

**APRIL 30TH**

to George Simpson, VAVS Committee Chairman, to 11474 Chapel Rd., Lorena, TX 76655.

**National News**

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

Winter 2018  
*Semper Fi Magazine*



**MARINES!!!**

Of all the jobs I have had in my long career, being your Commandant and Chief Executive Officer has been a real eye opener in everything I have touched. There have been some very positive and proud moments and some less than positive



situations. Within a week I'll get emails and phone calls on what an awesome job our League members have done in our community, and in the same week

I'll get email about a non-flattering situation where Leaguers have not lived up to the standard expected when you are a U.S. Marine. Both Commandant Neller and I worry about this every time the phone rings or a news flash has a Marine involved in whatever. We need to overcome a lot of things going on across the League and get back to the mission and purpose of why we exist.

The Marine Corps League has laid back and become a complacent organization in many areas. It will require better training, education and knowledge of what skills your support structure needs to execute its tasks. We must also always look at the organization as a whole unit, the Marine Corps League. You look at the Marine Corps as a Force that brings everything to the fight, but it is made up of many cohesive units that bring a capability to the mission. We, the Marine Corps League, must follow that same example and bring capability to the mission.

In the past I have written articles on the leadership traits and principles of the Marine Corps.



The traits are as follows:

- Integrity • Knowledge •
- Courage • Decisiveness • Dependability •
- Initiative • Tact • Justice • Enthusiasm •
- Unselfishness • Loyalty • Judgment.

The principles are as follows:

- Take responsibility for your actions and the actions of your Marines
- Know yourself and seek self-improvement
- Set the example
- Develop your subordinates
- Ensure the job is understood; supervise and execute
- Know your Marines and look after their welfare

- Everyone should be informed
- Set goals you can reach
- Make sound and timely decisions
- Know your job
- Teamwork

Some people acquire these through childhood experiences, others through the workplace, corporate training, and some through military training. We all have different exposure, but the Corps was the connection to bring it all together.



When you hold that Eagle, Globe and Anchor in the palm of your hand, you see tradition, reputation and integrity of a title never given but earned.

Do we as Marine Corps Leaguers holding that Eagle,

Globe and Anchor still meet the same criteria? Are we ready to change and move forward or stay on the old path? I know which way I am going...

**Bob Borka**  
National Chief Operating  
Officer

Winter 2018  
*Semper Fi Magazine*



## MARINES...

Do you remember hearing the first notes of the Marine's Hymn? Remember how it made you not only stand up without thinking, but stand at attention just a little taller? Our sense of pride and belonging to something greater than ourselves has been a powerful force on the battlefield and in our own lives. Our brother and sister Marines may be scattered across the globe, but we are "One Marine Corps." We may belong to any number of Marine-related organizations, but we are "One Marine Corps" and need to build upon that.

As a team, we should focus on the needs of Marines in uniform. Programs like Marine4Life and Transition Assistance Program (TAP) are directly helping Marines as they exit the military.

We need to "be there" for our Marines, FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplains as they begin the transitional journey.

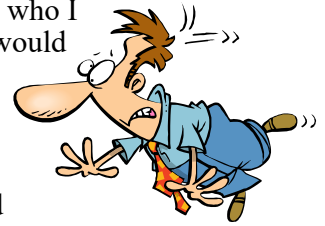


This does not relieve us from our duty to all veterans regardless of branch of service. It took me several years to mentally transition out of the military, and I leaned on the shoulders of a Vietnam United States Navy Veteran, Mike Kezer. He was that person who I could sit and talk with or would smack me on the back of the head when I needed it.



Call a Marine today and ask how

they are doing. Making time for someone else can make all the difference.



## From the Front

### Marine Corps Task Force Wraps Up Mission in Afghanistan

By Carlo Muñoz - *The Washington Times*  
January 15, 2018...



*U.S. Marines and an Afghan soldier hold flags during a change of command ceremony at Task Force Southwest at Shorab Military Camp of Helmand Province, Afghanistan, Monday January 15, 2018*

The first Marine Corps task force to deploy to southern Afghanistan's violent Helmand province since the Corps pulled out of the region in 2014 officially ended their nearly yearlong mission on Monday.

Top brass from Marine Corps Task Force Southwest handed over command of U.S. military adviser operations in Helmand Province to a new division of Marines, which will continue

training and advising Afghan security forces in Helmand and elsewhere in southern Afghanistan, during a ceremony at Camp Shorab.

“Our partners really... stole the initiative from the enemy. They stole the initiative, and they never relinquished it,” Task Force Commander Brig. Gen. Roger Turner said shortly after the handover ceremony.

“Doing operation after operation in Nad’Ali, Marjah, Nawa, Sangin, and Garmser, they have continued nearly continuous operations since last April,” the one-star general added in a task force statement.

The incoming Marine Corps task force, led by Brig. Gen. Benjamin Watson, will take over responsibility for U.S. adviser teams assigned to Afghan National Army 215th Corps and 505th Zone National Police.

“We’re grateful for this opportunity — the opportunity to come to a place where we have history as a service, and as individuals,” Gen. Watson said.

The Marines’ continued presence in Helmand is yet another chapter in the Corps’ difficult and bloody history in an area long known as the Taliban’s spiritual heartland.



## 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.

**Hat** - Drill Instructor  
**Hatch** - Door/doorway  
**Head** - Bathroom

**Horn** - Radio  
**Hump** - Field March

**Ink Stick** - Black Pen

**Jarhead** - Another name for a Marine  
**John Wayne** - A grandstander, or descriptive of a bold act, or any act which is typical in the movies but not sound Marine procedure, such as firing a machine gun from the hip. Also, a simple can opener that can be carried on the dog tag chain.

**K-BAR** - Marine fighting knife  
**Klick** - A kilometer

**LPC’s** - Leather personnel carriers... boots

**Ladderwell** - Stairwell

**Leave** - Vacation time

**Liberty** - Rest and relaxation – Authorized absence up to 96 hours

**Lifer** - Career Marine

**Light Up** - To fire on the enemy

**Lipstick Lieutenant** - Chief Warrant Officer 5

**Lock and Load** - Put ammunition in a weapon and prepare to fire

**Maggie’s Drawers** - A red flag on the range connoting a miss

**Maggot** - DI’s affectionate name for a recruit

**Mess Hall** - Cafeteria where a Marine eats

**MOS** - Military occupational specialty (job)

**Moon Beam** - Flashlight

**Moon Floss** - Toilet paper

**Most Ricky Tick** - In a hurry; with a purpose; move fast

**NCO** - Non-Commissioned Officer

**Nonhacker** - A man who can’t perform under pressure

## Upcoming Events



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





**MCL National Mid-Winter Conference**  
 Fredericksburg Hospitality House Hotel  
 & Conference Center  
 2801 Plank Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22401  
 (540) 786-8321  
**March 1st - 3rd, 2018**



**Southern Division Conference**  
 Holiday Inn & Convention Center  
 1500 S. 48th St., Springdale, AR 72762  
 (479) 751-8300  
**April 6th - 7th, 2018**



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



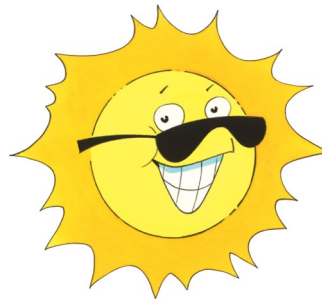
**Department of Texas State Convention**  
 Hampton Inn & Suites  
 240 S. Hasler Blvd., Bastrop, TX  
 (512) 321-2898  
**June 22nd - 24th, 2018**

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



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

**DEADLINE**



**for the  
 Texas  
 Marine**

**SPRING Edition  
 will be  
 April 15th**

Please submit articles/photos to  
**Juanita O Dell**  
 at  
**515 Hall St., Graham, TX 76450**  
 OR  
**[juanitaodell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juanitaodell@sbcglobal.net)**



# SOUTHERN DIVISION CONFERENCE

SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS • APRIL 7TH & 8TH, 2018

**HOTEL:** Holiday Inn & Convention Center, 1500 S. 48th St.  
(479) 751-8300 • Use group code MCL for reservations  
Double or King : \$104 plus tax/night (wo breakfast)  
\$114 plus tax/night (breakfast included)



**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: March 19, 2018**



**REGISTRATION FEES:** MCL/MCLA Member, Spouse - \$5/person

**FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL:** \$5/person

**SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET:** \$35/person - Chicken/Beef/Veggie



**NO DEADLINE**

*Make checks payable to "Northwest Arkansas Detachment #854"*

MAIL TO: 2018 Southern Division Conference Committee, PO Box 8345, Springdale, AR 72766



## ADS FOR PROGRAM:

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



**DEADLINE FOR ADS: FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

*Make checks payable to "Northwest Arkansas Detachment #854"*

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](mailto:nwarkansasmcl854@gmail.com)*

**CONTACT — QUESTIONS:** David Niemann, (479) 531-5262, [thegunny95@gmail.com](mailto:thegunny95@gmail.com)

*Go to the Department web site (<http://www.texasmcl.org/>) for forms and more information*

