



The Mountain High Marine

Colorado Department Marine Corps League Summer 2017 Quarterly Newsletter



Colorado Department Officers

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U.S. Marine Corps Memorial Association
Department of Colorado
Marine Corps League
 40th Anniversary Celebration
 26 August 2017
 Ceremony starts at 1400 (2:00 P.M.)
 6TH and Colfax, Golden CO.

The 40th Anniversary of the Memorial will be celebrated on August 26th 2017. The official ceremony will be at 2 PM but lots going on most of the day. Marine Corps League members are asked to wear their red blazers and MCL covers.

The next CO Dept. Quarterly Staff meeting will be hosted by the Union Colony #1093 Detachment in Greeley, CO on 29 July 2017. This Staff meeting will be held in the VFW Post 2121.

VFW Post 2121
 2514 7th Ave
 Greeley, CO 80631
 (970) 352-9743.



Schedule of events

11:00 to 12:00 (noon): Welcome Hour
 12:00 to 13:00: Lunch is served
 13:00 to Adjournment Staff meeting begins
 Pack Growl will start 15 minutes after Staff meeting is adjourned.

Colorado Department Commandant Garry D. Gibson



Garry D. Gibson, Commandant; Department of Colorado; (719) 495-9640, gunny1@mindspring.com. Greetings to all Marines, Navy FMF Corpsman, Spouses and Members at large.

Our 46th Annual Department of Colorado Convention for 2017 has come & gone here in Colorado Springs, CO. As your newly elected Commandant I look forward to serving you during the next year.

I would like to remind everyone that we; your Elected & Appointed Officers are here to support you; our Detachment Commandants and your members; without you we would not have a Department of Colorado.

First off; I would like to thank our outgoing Commandant; Mark Kauffman, and all of our elected & appointed officers for the many sacrifices they have made during the past year; in order to help make our Department the finest in the Rocky Mountain Division

Secondly; I would like to take this time thank the members of Pikes Peak Detachment #29 for hosting this year's 4-7 May Convention; as well as hosting last year's 2016 Convention, I would also like to thank; Past Detachment Commandant & our current Judge Advocate; Russell "Russ" Miller for his hard work in running both of these Conventions; which if any of you have ever ran one; know that it is no easy task, much less running (2) conventions in (2) consecutive years. This is the 1st time in 37 years that any Detachment has done this since 1979/1980; when the Frank J. Carroll hosted (2) Department Conventions.

Thirdly; I would like to congratulate a very deserving Michael Davis on being this year's "Department Marine of the Year"; Michael is the current Commandant of the Robert L. Cites Detachment #624; this Detachment is located out in Grand Junction, CO; I would also like to congratulate Dee Nachtrieb as this year's "Associate of the Year", Dee is from the Lt. Harry T. Ostrum Detachment #1240, they are located in Salida, CO.

Fourthly; this year's "Department Recruiter of the Year"; please read our Department. Jr. Vice Commandant; Phillip Price article; he heads up our recruiting efforts in Colorado; introduce you to this year's "Department Recruiter of the Year" Phil.

Fifth; On behalf of the Department of Colorado. I was honored to present a \$100.00 check and a Plaque to Sgt/Maj Angle Luis Orozco; this young man is this year's "National Young Marine of the Year"; please read Pikes Peak Detachment Commandant Paul Hinojosa newsletter article for the rest of this great story.

Finely; I would like to thank everyone who attended his year's Division Conference in Roswell, New Mexico on 16 & 17 June 2017; I want to congratulate the outgoing Division Vice Commandant; Charles Davis for being awarded this year's "Division Marine of the Year"; I would also like to congratulate our past Department Commandant; Allen Brink as the newly elected Division Vice Commandant; and our Department Judge Advocate; Russell "Russ" Miller was elected as the Assistant Division Vice Commandant. Till I see you all in Greeley, CO at our 29 July 2017 Department Staff meeting...Have fun...laugh...and...help others not so fortunate than yourselves...and Continue to March. **S/F The Gunny**

Senior Vice Commandant Clem Schuette



Greeting Marines,
Another year has come and gone, and a new slate of department officers has been elected, and I am honored and looking forward to serving as your Senior Vice Commandant for the coming year. Many thanks to the Pikes Peak Detachment and Russ Miller for an OUTSTANDING job of hosting the conference. Our new Commandant Garry Gibson has put together a great staff to serve you. Many thanks to Past Commandant Mark Kauffman and his staff of officers for a great year.

During the conference, I had a conversation with Garry Gibson about fund raising opportunities, and one of the things his detachment has success with is the Marine Rose Program. The Marine Rose program is similar to the VFW Poppy program. If your detachment has cash sales events or other events where you would have lots of contact with the public you should consider purchasing the roses from the Semper Fi store (\$35.00 per 12 dozen). Tell those you make contact with what their donations will go to, (Marines Helping Marines, Toys for Tots), or any charity you support. Pike Peak Detachment has had great success with the Marine Rose.

Please keep in mind that the department is here to help in any way we can.
Semper Fi,
Clem

Junior Vice Commandant Phillip Price



Marines, associates, FMF Corpsmen, Chaplains!

Allow me to take this opportunity to say thank you for electing me Jr Vice. I hope very much to be able to live up to your expectations, and as usual, it will be my pleasure to serve. It's a high honor indeed and not taken lightly. I prefer to have fun at whatever I do, and this is just something else to enjoy along the way.

Hope your summers are going as planned, and you are enjoying the fantastic Colorado weather. It's a short summer, so take advantage of it whenever you can!

Drum roll please...Marine Tom Krueger, Frank J Carroll Detachment and Division VCDD is our Department Recruiter of the year! Ta da! This requires a significant amount of effort as you all know, so congratulations on a job well done! This is well deserved.

Along those lines, national has recognition every year at convention for Recruiter awards. It's not like we live in Pennsylvania, so even recruiting 5 is a big deal. Detachment commandants should have these numbers, so please forward them to Mr. Tobin and get your guys recognized. It's a big deal and any recognition is well deserved. Don't delay, they need to be received by July 10.

Because my job is to assist the detachments in Recruitment and Retention, I would like to recommend you get a current roster and connect with the folks currently on it! I have a roster of Life members, some of whom I have never met. This sounds more typical than odd, so I'm guessing it's happening elsewhere. If I can be of any help in the matter, please let me know. And if you haven't been to a det. meeting recently, stop in and say hi to the new commandant! I know most of them would be thrilled to have you join them!

I'm looking for a good year this year, and I'm hopeful we can increase our membership. I'm doing my part. Thank you all once again for helping me to help you! Please let me know how I can be of assistance. Take Care everyone, and please come talk to me at the next Department staff meeting in Greeley on July 29, 2514 7th Ave, Greeley.

Semper Fi!
Phil Price

Judge Advocate Russ Miller



It amazes me that we are already half way through 2017, and with the upcoming national convention just around the corner, I thought it would be good to remind everyone of the pending bylaws changes that are being brought before our membership for a vote. If you have not had a chance to look them over yet I would encourage you to do so. They can be found on the MCLNational.org website by clicking the documents dropdown list and then selecting National Bylaws and then selecting **Proposed Changes – 2017**. Once there, you will see the three options to choose from. As members of our beloved Marine Corps League it is each of our individual responsibilities to ensure that the league continues to grow and prosper and that it is better for those that come behind us.

While opinions may vary regarding the two proposed bylaw changes, the rewrite is for once in my estimation, a good clarification of language and brings us in closer compliance with government agencies. Of the proposed administrative procedure changes, once again opinions will vary, but I am sure all of us in the Department of Colorado will agree that it is well past time to bring about Encl 4 MCL Awards, and give long overdue recognition to our incredible Associate Members of the Year by way of a Medallion/ribbon. It's easy to become myopic and focus strictly on what is going on down here at the Detachment and Department levels, and miss what is going on at HQ and how it will affect us locally down the road. I, myself have been guilty of going to Department or Division meetings and asking the question, "when did that happen", with the response being, "that change was voted on at the _____ convention". So just as we are all encouraged to be familiar with what is happening in your local, state and federal government and to let your elected officials know how you feel about "X", likewise, talk with your elected Detachment, Department and Division Commandants regarding upcoming recommended changes as they are your voice at National Convention.

Semper Gumby (Always Flexible)

Russ "Slim" Miller

Adjutant / Web Sergeant Terry Crum



Greetings,

I am honored to be a part of the outstanding group of Marines making up the MCL Colorado Department staff. Some of the members of the staff I have known for a few years and others I have met for the first time recently. For me personally I think this is going to be a motivating experience.

I am on my second year as the web Sgt. / Newsletter editor for the Pikes Peak Detachment and I learned a lot from my predecessor Roger Baty. The newsletter that you are currently reading is my first newsletter at the Dept. level. By design I kept the format straight forward and to the point. The end goal being to produce an easily read and understood document for the department. The title for the new newsletter is "The Mountain High Marine".

The Mountain High Marine is not the only thing new around here, allow me also to introduce to the new Colorado Department web site: <http://mclco.org/> . The site is still being fine-tuned but I hope you will find a visit or two to the site beneficial and enjoyable.

In closing I am humbled to be part of an outstanding team of Marines. And in the end, Marines train and fight as a team. That is a big part of why Marines are the best. Quoting Basketball legend Michael Jordan: "Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships"!

Semper Fi,
Terry Crum

Colorado Pack of the Military Order of the Devil Dog Pack Leader PDD Garry D. Gibson



WOOF! WOOF! Greetings to all Pups, Devil Dogs & all you Pedigrees Devil Dogs out there.

The 5 May 2017 “Grand Growl of the Pack” has come & gone here in Colorado Springs, CO. If you weren’t able to attend; let me WOOF! WOOF! You all on what took place at this Growl. 1st off; we had 36 Howling, drooling, tail wagging; leg lifting, mangy flea infested members in attendance.

2nd; our Rocky Mountain Division Vice Chief Devil Dog PDD Tom Krueger swore in (4) new Devil Dogs (DD during the Growl), from Pueblo, CO we had DD Frank Grine & DD Manuel Armijo ; and from Northglenn, CO, we had DD Phil Yott; they are all members of “Mile High”, Pound #128; and from Colorado Springs, CO, we have DD Melvin Postlewait; this Santa Clause looking mutt is from the “Karnivorous Kanines of Pikes Peak”, Pound #150.

3rdly; Ya - I was re-elected & sworn in again as your Pack Leader for 2017/2018; of course it helped that I ran unopposed (no other ugly mutt out there want this job); WOOF! WOOF!

I want to thank the “Pack Dog of the Year” Committee for voting me in as this year’s “Pack Dog of the Year” for 2017. I’ll try to live up to those high standards expected of this mutt during my tour of duty.

The “**Order of the Purple Bone**” I was really surprised & honored when I receive this award; I was not only surprised but I had never even heard of this award; this award was created back in 2002; during this 15 year period only (6) other Pedigree Devil Dogs have been recognized for this award; this award was created to recognize the achievements & dedications to the Military Order of the Devil Dogs of an individual that has gone “Above and Beyond” the criteria required for regular Pound and Pack Awards. I will try my best to live up to the high standards set forth by my predecessors.

The upcoming Supreme Growl is held every year in conjunction with the National MCL Convention; our Dog Robber; DD Russel “Russ” Miller informs me that we will have (12) Devil Dogs from Colorado Pack that will be advancing to Pedigree Devil Dog at this Supreme Growl; If that’s not a record number advancing to Pedigree; it’s got to be close.

The next “Growl of the Pack” will be held in Greeley, CO on Saturday, 29 July 2017. A separate notice will be sent out giving the exact location, start times, etc. See ya all there. Ooh-RAH!

**Semper Fi & WOOF! WOOF!
The Gunny**

Sergeant at Arms Paul Hinojosa



On June 10, 2017, the Department Commandant Garry G. Gibson, the Pikes Peak Detachment Commandant Paul Hinojosa, and past Commandant Russ Miller had the pleasure of presenting a Plaque and a check for \$100.00 from the Marine Corps League Department of Colorado to the National Young Marine of the Year, Sgt/Maj Angel Luiz Orozco of the Pikes Peak Unit in Colorado Springs in recognition of his hard work and dedication to the cause of the Young Marines as a national youth organization.

Young Marine Sgt/Maj Orozco was announced the National Young Marine of the Year for 2017. He first joined the Pikes Peak unit in 2008 at the age of eight and is currently on his ninth year in the program. As the national Young Marine of the Year, YM Sgt/Maj Orozco's goal is to have a tangible impact within the organization and to increase the organizations presence thru social media, increase community involvement and to create videos to help other Young Marines in their training and development.

We wish him well in his endeavors and also wish to thank his parents, all the registered adults within the organization, and Young Marines who helped and encouraged YM Sgt/Maj Orozco to reach this prestige's position as National Young Marine of the Year.

Semper Fi!

Paul Hinojosa

Colorado Freedom Memorial Foundation Secretary Paula Sarlls

The Marines have a long history with the Colorado Freedom Memorial. **1st Mar Div, 4th Mar Div, and the Women Marines** held the first formal event to raise money for the Memorial in 2001 in my back yard! I was blessed to represent the USMC and raise the first Marine flag at the opening! **The Gold Star Wives of America** held the first formal event after the opening of the Memorial when our National Convention visited the Memorial and has donated to it over the years.

You probably saw the news about the blank panel that was broken a few days ago by vandals. The Memorial has an informal event today to help raise funds to fix the panel and make some other repairs necessary as well as buy security cameras. As I was leaving a few minutes ago the Bronco Cheer leaders and Dan Daru of Fox31 had just arrived! Various companies had food out for everyone for a simple donation-like great breakfast burritos and green chili for \$1 – all funds go to Memorial.

This Memorial is very special – extremely unique and important to the state of Colorado. I encourage you to support with as much as you can. The first \$200 donation will be matched by me so think about it. Rick Crandall and his wife Diane have been good friends to veterans and our families over the years and he is truly grateful for any support! Step up today and show what Marines and Gold Star Wives can do! Visit <http://www.cfmf.net/> to donate or see what's happening!

Semper Fidelis!
Paula Sarlls
303-766-9023