



# ***The Mountain High Marine***

## **Colorado Department Marine Corps League Summer 2018 Quarterly Newsletter**

<http://mclco.org>



### **Colorado Department Officers**

<b>Dept. Commandant</b>	<b>Clem Schuette</b>	<b>candeschuette@gmail.com</b>	<b>(970) 339-9706</b>
Dept. Senior Vice Commandant	Phillip Price	phillipmpriceinc@gmail.com	(303) 902-1583
Dept. Junior Vice Commandant	Russ Miller	rcmlr@msn.com	719-235-1058
Dept. Judge Advocate	David W. Owens	conestoga1951@aol.com	(303) 908-3881
Dept. Junior Past Commandant	Garry D. Gibson	gunny1@mindspring.com	(719) 337-2016
Dept. Adjutant	Joel Ploegstra	mm1bb64@gmail.com	(970) 396 0405
Web Sgt./Newsletter Editor	Terry Crum	colorado.crum@gmail.com	(719)432-7340
Dept. Paymaster	James Thomas	vth8971134@aol.com	(970) 471-2995
Dept. Chaplain	Steve Abeyta	chico_67msn.com	(719) 588-2843
Dept. Sergeant at Arms	Joel Meilinger	f14_mech@msn.com	(970) 539-0946
M.O.D.D Pack Keeper	Russ Miller	rcmlr@msn.com	719-235-1058

The next Colorado Department staff meeting will be hosted by the Home of Heroes Detachment in Pueblo on the 28th of July. More info coming. Hope to see all of our detachments represented.



**28 July 2018**  
**American Legion Post #2**  
 701 W 9th St.  
 Pueblo, CO 81003



### **Colorado Department Commandant Clem Schuette**

Greetings Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and Associates, The 2018 Department convention has come and gone, and a new slate of officers has been elected to serve you. As your newly elected Commandant, I can say that we are committed to you, to our League, and to our Corps. At the Division Conference in St George UT., thirteen Marines from Colorado were in attendance. We are strong and we will stay strong.

I joined the Union Colony Marines in 2003. We were just a bunch of "Recruits" trying to find our way in the League. We attended Department meetings and listened to what the other detachments were doing, and tried to implement their successes into our detachment. One of the first things we did was to work under the umbrella of the Northern Colorado Detachment to raise toys for Toys For Tots. We were struggling with our cash flow so we listened to what the Pikes Peak Detachment was doing with cash sales and decided to do our own cash sales. This has been a very good fund raiser as we move forward.

These are just two of the things we have picked up by attending the Department meetings. In the past Detachment Commandants gave a short report on what their detachments were doing. For the upcoming department meetings, I would like each detachment to give a report on your successes. What are you doing to keep your members active, raising funds, recruiting? If it's good for you, other detachments may also benefit. We're all in this together, and we all benefit when we work together.

Our next Department meeting will be hosted by the Home of Heroes in Pueblo on the 28th of July, more info coming soon. Hope to see all of our detachments represented.

Semper Fi,  
Clem



**Mr. and Mrs. Schuette**



**Department officers sworn in.**



### **Senior Vice Commandant Phillip Price**

Marines, associates, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains!

Because my job is to assist the commandant this year, and be there when he needs me, I'm looking forward to supporting Commandant Shuette in all his endeavors. Ooh Rah!

Now that this year's convention is over, and we are all back to our detachments, we need to be reminded that we are here to help Marines. This is our ultimate task. I know of several in the state that could use our help. I will be bringing them up at the Department staff meeting 28 July in Pueblo. I am hopeful we can provide some assistance, even in some small way.

I wanted to personally thank everyone who joined me at the convention this year, I met a LOT of new folks, and enjoyed talking with some old friends. If you missed it, you missed one of the greatest inspirational speeches by Gabe Martinez ever! Gabe is an asset to the Marine Corps League. Welcome him next time you see him, I'm sure he could use the encouragement!

I wanted to thank everyone for your support this past year, it's been hectic but the work is rewarding. It was my pleasure serving as your Jr Vice, now on to bigger and better things!

Take Care everyone!  
Semper Fi!



Time for prayer



Time for awards



## Junior Vice Commandant Russ Miller

Summer is upon us and Marines, FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplains are everywhere you turn. You just need to stick out your hand, open your soup sucker and say “Semper Fi”! I’m not sure if I have gotten better looking or maybe it’s the new deodorant that I’ve been using, but as I run around Colorado in my truck with the MCL and MODD stuff all over it and wearing Marine Corps t-shirts, hats, etc..., more and more Marines and Corpsmen seem to be approaching me with questions. Just today I was flagged down by a recently discharged Marine at an intersection asking when and where our detachment meets. At our first Ship’s Store event of the year, we were able to make contact with about 35 prospective members and associates over the course of the three-day event. Parents of Marines were asking if they could join us.

Another great opportunity to meet our long lost brothers and sisters is through volunteering at your nearest VA Clinic or Hospital, other veteran service organizations, and at community events. Don’t forget to keep your eyes peeled for those Marine Corps License plates too. Anybody can be a poser and wear a Marine Corps t-shirt, just wearing one automatically makes you 112% better looking, but you have to provide proof of service in our beloved Corps to get that license plate on a vehicle. Now I don’t espouse the idea of going around sticking a note in windshield wipers and driving away, hang around a bit and say hello. Just don’t sneak up from behind them, although, the nurse at the ER was a former Corpsmen, so it kind of worked out in the end anyway. Enough about recruiting for this time around.

Let’s talk a little bit about retention. Over the last couple years, in our detachment, we have seen a number of younger Marines that have come by to join us for SOS and check out our meetings. Sometimes they even become a member and make a couple monthly meetings. But then life gets in the way. They have that pesky thing called a job, and those even peskier things called children. One thing that I keep hearing from them is, “they want to be involved in something that from time to time includes the family”. Perhaps this summer hold a detachment bar-b-que or pancake breakfast that spouses and children can attend. Some detachments around the country have started working on finding teens to do a babysitting co-op at or nearby the meeting site so the parents have a place for the little ankle biters to be while they are involved with the League and Auxiliary.

Many of us are members of multiple VSO’s and are seeing the rapid decline in membership at each of them. Some of these other organizations are being forced to consolidate chapters, selling their buildings and meeting in another group’s location, or worse yet, losing their charters and closing their doors. The unfortunate fact of life is that as many of their members are getting “long in the tooth” or passing away, those organizations are not growing sufficiently to keep things moving forward. The thing I hear more and more from today’s veterans is “mission”. They still want to take and fortify an objective. Unfortunately, too many organizations are not working hard enough to be relevant to today’s young veterans. For many of these groups, the days of sitting in the bar getting plastered and lying about how great we were, has turned into sitting in the coffee shop and drinking enough coffee to hopefully stay awake long enough to remember who we were. The one thing that we have in the Marine Corps League, something that no other VSO has, is a bunch of **EXTREMELY PROUD, FUN LOVING, LOUD MOUTH, ALWAYS FAITHFUL, MARINES AND CORPSMEN**. Ready to pick up an e-tool, a k-bar, and a rifle and fight side by side for a worthy cause at a moment’s notice. It is that comradery that binds our League together when others are faltering. We are growing while others are shrinking. So, keep your head on a swivel and those peepers peeled for other Marines, Corpsmen and Chaplains.

“Always beside you, forever forward, never back!”

Semper Fi, Russ





## **Web Sergeant / Newsletter Editor Terry Crum**

Greetings, I hope you are enjoying this newsletter and perhaps learning a bit from the articles submitted by the officers of the Department. It is because the officers took the time to commit their thoughts and ideas to writing that this newsletter is possible. My mission to the Department is to produce this newsletter and the Department web site to the best of my ability. In order to make this happen I request the support of the officers of the Department and Auxiliary. Put simply, help me assist you in your Marine Corps League mission.

Hopefully many of you have had the time to visit the Department web site: <http://mclco.org>. The web site is updated often. 268 people have visited the site in the last month and I hope that one of them was you. Near the top of the home page is a button labeled "picture archive". Selecting this button will retrieve the Department's picture archive of over two hundred pictures. I have only been taking pictures for the Department for over a year now. If you have pictures that you would like include, please send them to me. Of importance is the page for the Department Detachments: <http://mclco.org/detachments>. Every Detachment that does not have its own web site has a page available from this page. Your assistance is needed to add useful information to your Detachment's page. This information can include but not limited to date and location of Detachment meetings, contact information, a paragraph of why your Detachment is the most outstanding veterans organization on the planet. Help me assist you in your Detachment's Marine Corps League mission.

Facebook is a free and accessible forum for advertising the mission of the Marine Corps League. The Department of Colorado is blessed with two groups for your pleasure and both have links to them on the Dept. web site header. The first is my group; I post information pertaining to the MCL Colorado and some light hearted material as well. Any group member can share a post; I ask the post be related to Marines/veterans. Do keep it clean and non political. I do reserve the right to remove offensive material; however, in the Facebook groups that I run I have only done this one time. Russ Miller regularly shares the good stuff. The second group is by Meg Krebs and has been around for a long time. Both sites are available for your edification and enjoyment.

In closing thank you for allowing me to be the Department Web Sergeant / newsletter editor for another year. To everyone that helped me do my job thus far - thanks. Hope everyone has an enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing many of you at the 28 July staff meeting in Pueblo.

Semper Fidelis,  
Terry



## **Marine Corps League Auxiliary Department President Holly Price**

Greetings all! I trust everyone is enjoying this beautiful summer weather! It's a wonderful time of year, these long summer days.

We just finished the Department of Utah Convention, and the Division Conference. It was a great time had by all. Good time visiting friends out there as well as experiencing Utah's hospitality. The new Rocky Mountain Division Vice President is Karen Bressler. Congratulations Karen! We know you'll do a wonderful job. I am her assistant. Thank you Debby Krueger and Cindy Stettler for your hard work these past several years!

We were honored to have our National President Karen Aune at our Colorado Convention. She shared her vision for our auxiliary, and shared great input. It was wonderful getting to know her better, and we appreciate all her hard work. She's really a wonderful lady, and it was an honor to have her join us.

I would like to remind everyone about the Staff meeting coming up July 28<sup>th</sup> in Pueblo, more info to be announced. Calling all Fleas: I'd like to announce our theme for our scratch is Patriotic. Come on out and help us pester those Dogs!

I also want to encourage everyone to come to our National Convention this year in Buffalo, NY! August 12<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. If you've never been, or even if you have...come on out! If there's anything I can do to help any of you, just ask. Thank you for all you do!

Let's continue to help our Marines, and let's make a difference!

Holly Price  
Department of CO President



National President Karen Aune



Smiles all around!



## 2018 Colorado Department Marine Corps League Scholarship

Marines, Associate Members, FMF Corpsmen, Auxiliary Members

The Scholarship Fund Committee met on Friday afternoon at the recent Department Convention, only 5 out of 13 detachments were represented along with one person representing the Department on the League side and only 1 out of 4 MCLA Units was represented and no representation from the Department Auxiliary side. I know we can do better.

The Scholarship Committee received applications from 3 students. They were Sydney Schuette, Jordyn Schuette, and Christina Bartalo. Each received a scholarship in the amount of \$500 each.

Congratulations to all the recipients of the scholarship.

Nominations and elections were held for the committee. The slate of officers for the 2018-2019 year is as follows:

Chairman: Mike Davis

Vice Chairman: Clem Schuette

Secretary: Meg Krebs

Treasurer: Bob Cowan

Time for a challenge for each Department, Detachment, Unit and subsidiary organization is to help raise funds for the Scholarship all year long not just at the department convention alone. Be creative, get creative on helping raise funds for the Department Scholarship Fund Committee. We know many of you have young kids and grandkids that can benefit from receiving a scholarship from your own department when it's time for them to attend college. We need you to accept this challenge.

Semper Fidelis

Meg Krebs

Secretary

Below is one example of why we have the scholarship.

Graduate Halie Doty received her bachelor's Degree in Rehabilitation Studies (Physical Therapy) from College of Saint Mary in Omaha, Nebraska in May and is now working towards her Master's Degree. Halie Doty has received 2 scholarships from the Department of Colorado, MCL Scholarship Fund. We are very proud of her.

Halie is a charter member of the Thunder Mountain Unit, MCLA located in Loveland, Colorado along with her mother Kimberly Krebs and Step Aunt Meg Krebs.



Halie Doty along with her Step Grandfather Fred Krebs, member of the Frank J. Carroll Detachment.

## Department of Colorado Marine Corps League Department Staff Meeting Minutes 5 May 2018

**Opening Ceremony:**

Commandant Garry Gibson opened the 5 May 2018 at 0900 meeting of the Marine Corps League Department of Colorado State convention for official business at the Hilton embassy Suites with Salute to Colors and opening prayer. All officers were present. All Detachments were present except for: Northern Colorado, Royal Gorge, and San Juan Mountain.

In attendance: 46

List of Marines in attendance at the 2018 CO Dept. MCL convention meeting. Sign in was conducted at the meeting beginning.

Name	Detachment	Name	Detachment
1 ALLEN BRINK	1093 Union Colony	23 STEVE SHAMPTON	PIKES PEAK
2 Mark Buehler	1093 Union Colony	24 PAT CARTY	PPD 29
3 Karen Jacobsen	1093 Union Colony	5 Russ Miller	PPD 29
4 JOE MEILINGER	Union Colony 1093	6 David Bernard	FOOTHILLS
5 Don Howard	#904 Windsor Marines	7 JOEL PLEGESTRA	Union Colony Marine
6 BARRY GEORGOPOLOS	WINDSOR MARINES	8 PAULA SARLLS	FRANK J CARROLL
7 Stephen A. Abeyta	LT Harry T. Ostrom 1420	9 DON DAVIS	FRANK J CARROLL
8 RON CARPENTER	LT Harry T. Ostrom 1420	30 Jeffrey Backus	Loveland 1250
9 Dana Nachtrieb	" "	1 ROBERT TOWLES	LOVELAND 1250
10 DEE NACHTRIEB	LT Harry T. Ostrom #1420	2 Fred Schmitt	Harry Ostrom 1420
11 Tom Krueger	Broomfield Det	3 BARB COURAN	FRANK J
12 Dave Owens	Windsor Marines	4 MICHAEL R. DAVIS	RL CRITES JR.
13 Warren A. Miller	Frank J. Carroll Broomfield Det	5 FRED KREBS	FT CARROLL
14 John W. Norman	Broomfield Det	6 Paul Hingoria	Pikes Peak
15 James Crowe	Broomfield Det	7 Carmella Wilder	Pikes Peak
16 Billy Lamar	Broomfield Det	8 RON ICE	FRANK J CARROLL
17 Jim Thomas	Union Colony	9 DON STINE	FRANK J CARROLL
18 Lisa Schaeffe	Union Colony	40 Paul Yott	Broomfield
19 Phil Price	FJC #28	1 Dave James	Broomfield
20 Garry Gibson	Pikes Peak	2 Jeff Jessup	Broomfield
21 Royce Roland	Associate member Broomfield	3 Mark Crowe	Broomfield
22 JONATHAN BRIST	Broomfield	4 Dillon Lucero	Frank J. Carroll
		5 Terry Crum	PPD 29
		46 Tami Talbot	Broomfield

**Recognition of VIP's:**

DIV NVC Allen Brink

ASST NVC Russ Miller

National Aux President Karen Aune

Past Department Commandants: Fred Krebs, Allen Brink, Tom Krueger.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Published – Motion to accept by Paula Sarlls. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Russ Miller. The motion passed.

Correspondence: none

**Paymasters Report:**

Read by Paymaster Jim Thomas : Motion to accept: Pass

Copies of the report are available. Contact Paymaster Jim Thompson



Report of any member or family members, sick or in distress:

Cathy Swartz recovering from cancer.

Barry Georgopoulos is regaining his health and strength.

Mark Kaufman suffered a heart attack recently.

Report of Officers:

Commandant: Meritorious commendation award: Frank J. Carrol Detachment

Sr. Vice: NSTR

Jr. Vice: Offered his aide in recruiting and retention.

Jr. Past Commandant

Judge Advocate:

Chaplain: Reminded the Dept. of the importance of timely submission of death notices. They are available on the Dept. or national web site. Five copies needed.

Web Sgt.: Talked about the Dept. website and the importance of social media.

Special Committee Reports:

Mark Davis informed that the scholarship committee had received 3 applications.

Paula Sarlls announced that she donated \$50.00 to the scholarship fund and challenged all to do the same.

New Business:

Nominations for Dept. elected officers were accepted. The nominees are

Commandant: Clem Schuette

Senior vice Commandant: Phil Price

Junior Vice Commandant: Russ Miller and Paul Hinojosa

Judge Advocate: David Owens and Joel Ploegtra

Elections were held and the results are:

Commandant: Clem Schuette

Senior vice Commandant: Phil Price

Junior Vice Commandant: Russ Miller

Judge Advocate: David Owens

The following will serve as appointed officers:

Paymaster: Jim Thomas

Adjutant: Joel Ploegtra

Chaplain: Stephen Abeyta

Web Sgt.: Terry Crum

Sgt. at Arms: Joe Meilinger

All officers, elected and appointed, were sworn in during the meeting by Barry Georgopoulos.

Detachment flag pendant were awarded to all Colorado Detachments.

Allen Brink discussed proposed revisions of the national bylaws that will be worked on at the 2018 national convention. The proposed changes are online at <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/convention/> (middle of the web page).

Allen Brink asked who is attending the Division convention in Utah. He has volunteered to pay the \$15.00 admission fee for all attending.

Russ Miller talked about the sale of urns and coffee cups. A portion of the sales money for the cups will be donated to the Detachment that purchased the cups.

2018 Wounded Warrior Games will be held at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs in June.

Tom Krueger made a motion and 2nd by Warren Miller to accept Convention hosting two years in advance. The motion passed.

Northern Colorado "Honor Flight will be leaving tomorrow.

Colonel Davis is working on getting approval of the wear of a Marine Corps League ribbon on Marine Corps JROTC uniforms.

The Memorial Day observance at the Marine Memorial in Golden, CO will be held at 1400.

Tom Kruger spoke about the Marine Memorial Foundation. Two additional Detachments stepped up and joined.

Paula Sarlls discussed about the renovation of the memorial.

Tom Kruger made a motion for the Dept. to donate \$100.00 to the Vet4Warriors program. Seconded by Russ Miller. The motion carried.

A discussion was held to have a committee appointed by the Dept. Commandant to plan for the next two years of state conventions. Union Colony Detachment volunteered to host the 2019 convention and the Broomfield Detachment volunteered to host the 2020 convention.

Good of the League:

Barry Georgopolos discussed the recent audit report (1 April 2017-1 April 2018) Allen Brink motioned to accept the audit and was seconded by Paula Sarlls. The motion carried.

Awards were presented to many members to include:

### Department Commandant Award Recommendations for 2018

As the Commandant for the Department of Colorado, I do hereby recommend the following members in Good Standing for the following Awards. It must be noted that some Officers & individuals may get (2) of the same awards for their additional duties.

**The Distinguished Citizen "Silver" Award to all Department elected & appointed Officers for their efforts in supporting the Department during 2017/2018**

1. Sr. Vice Commandant; Clem Schuette
2. Jr. Vice Commandant; Phillip Price
3. Judge Advocate; Russel O. Miller
4. Adjutant; Terry Crum
5. Pay Master; James Thomas
6. Sgt at Arms; Paul Hinojosa
7. Chaplain; David Owens
8. Web Sgt; Terry Crum (a 2nd "Silver" Award certificate for his additional duties as Adjutant)

**I also recommend the Distinguished Citizen "Silver" Award to all Detachment Commandants who attended all Staff meeting, submitted all their Quarterly Reports as I had requested, and they must have attended the 2018 Dept. Convention. Those who have submitted Quarterly Reports, but do not attend the Convention will not receive this award. The awardees are as follows:**

1. Phillip Price; Frank J. Carrol Detachment (2<sup>nd</sup> "Silver" Award.
2. Paul Hinojosa; Pikes Peak Detachment (2<sup>nd</sup> "Silver" Award
3. Michael Davis; R. I Crites Detachment
4. Donald Howell; Windsor Marines Detachment
5. Michael Buck; Union Colony Detachment
6. Gerry Oyen; Home of Hero's Detachment.

**I am also recommending the Distinguished Citizen "Silver" Award to the following Marine.**

1. Paula Sarlls; for her duties organizing & running the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, of the Marine Monument, Golden, Colorado in August of 2017.

**I would also like to recognize the following Committees for their many years of support with the Distinguished Citizen "Silver" Award.**

#### Legislative Lou Entz

#### Budget & Finance Committee 1. James Thomas (2<sup>nd</sup> "Silver" Award) 2. Barry Georgopolos

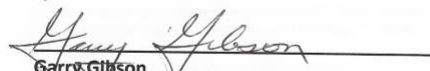
#### Awards Committee 1. Fred Krebs 2. Meg Krebs

#### VAUS 1. Allen Brink 2. Mark Kauffman

#### Youth Activities/Young Marines 1. John Fitzgerald

The **Meritorious Unit Commendation Award** is presented to the members of Frank J. Carrol Detachment#28; this is for their hard work in hosting this year's Department Convention.

S/F

  
Garry Gibson  
Commandant  
Dept. of Colorado

**Annual Banquet:**

Guest Speakers: Gabe Martinez and Jay Cimino

Barry Georgopulos conducted the change of command ceremony.

Dept. Marine of the Year: Clem Schuette

Associate Member of the Year: Royce G Roland

Recruiter of the Year: Jeremy Stover

Pack Dog of the Year: Russ Miller

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Crum

Dept. Adjutant

<b>Office:</b>	<b>Officer:</b>	<b>Detachment:</b>
<b>Awards Chair</b>	Meg Krebs	Frank J. Carroll
Boy Scouts Chair	Clem Schuette	Union Colony
<b>Budget &amp; Finance Chair</b>	Barry Georgopulos	Frank J. Carroll
<b>Bylaws Chair</b>		
Credentials Chair		
Historian		
<b>Legislative Committee</b>		
<b>Marine of the Year Chair</b>	Clem Schuette	Union Colony
<b>Pack Dog of the Year Chair</b>	Russ Miller	Pikes Peak
Associate Member of the Year Chair	Royce G Roland	Broomfield
<b>Marine Memorial Association</b>	Tom Krueger	Frank J. Carroll
Protocol Chair		
<b>POW/MIA Chairman</b>	Tom Krueger	Frank J. Carroll
<b>Resolutions Committee</b>		
<b>Rules of Order Committee</b>		
<b>Scholarship Fund Chairman</b>	Mike Davis	Robert L. Crites Jr.
<b>Time and Place Committee</b>		
<b>Young Marines</b>		
VAVS	Mark Kaufman	
Veteran Service Officer (VSO)		
Quartermaster		
<b>Web Master</b>	Terry Crum	Pikes Peak
2019 CO MCL Convention Committee Chair		
2019 CO MCL Auxiliary Convention Liaison	TBD	