



The Mountain High Marine

Colorado Department Marine Corps League Fall 2018 Quarterly Newsletter



<http://mclco.org>

Colorado Department Officers

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The next CO Dept. staff meeting will be hosted by the Broomfield Detachment

October 27, 2018

Location of the meeting

Spartan college
10851 west 120th Ave.
Broomfield, CO 80021



**2019
Rocky Mountain Division Convention
Colorado Department Convention
Hosted by the Union Colony Detachment
DoubleTree by Hilton Greeley at Lincoln Park**

919 7th St
Greeley, CO 80634

3 - 5 May 2019

The Union Colony Det. have signed the contract with the DoubleTree Hotel in Greeley for the 2019 Division / Department Convention which includes up to 40 rooms for Friday and Saturday. To access the exclusive rates available to the Marine Corps League for this event go to <http://group.doubletree.com/USMarineCorpsLeague>

Information is available at:
<http://mclco.org/2019-colorado-state-con>



Colorado Department Commandant Clem Schuette

Greeting Marines and Associate members,
The 2018 National Convention has gone into the books, and for all of you who shuffled off to Buffalo, I hope you had a good convention. Many sites to see and much to be updated on the affairs of the League. The League Continues to move away from the problems of the past, and I believe the leaders in place will continue to move us forward. As always many bylaw changes were proposed and many failed to pass.

The 2019 National Convention will be held in Billings MT, Aug 4th thru the 9th. Being this close to Colorado, I hope we will have a great turnout. If you plan to attend, get your reservations in soon. The main hotel is already sold out, but there are two hotels across the street from the convention center that are available

Our last quarterly meeting was held in Pueblo. Many thanks to the Home of Heroes Detachment. Well done Marines. The minutes from that meeting are posted in this newsletter. Looking forward to our next quarterly meeting October 27 hosted by the Broomfield detachment. Time and place to follow.

On November 10, 2018 the Union Colony Marines will celebrate the 243rd birthday of the Marine Corps with a Birthday Ball. Our guest of honor will be Lt Gen Carol Mutter USMC Ret. General Mutter is a native of Eaton Co. She will also be speaking at our Veterans Day program at Bittersweet Park in Greeley. General Mutter was the first female of any of the services to earn the rank of LT. General.

Our Ball will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Greeley. If you are interested contact me and I will make sure you get an invitation.

Semper Fi, Marines
Clem



Tom Krueger at the National Convention



2018-2019 MCL Executive Board and Officers



Senior Vice Commandant Phillip Price

Marines, associates, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains!

Marines of the League! Wow, it doesn't seem possible that the national convention is over already, it seemed to come and go extremely fast! One of the topics we discussed was USMC Trademarks. USMC allows us as Marines to use the EGA on pretty much anything for personal use, HOWEVER, they have a problem with us making money off them. This comes up periodically when our commandant is schmoozing with command staff, so it's more than an annoyance. It was made clear that we have full control of the EGA when it says "Marine Corps League" or "Marine Corps League Semper Fidelis". So we need to be mindful of the trademarks when we open our ship stores.

Also, we discussed Death Notices (they still seem to be an issue) and Eagle Scout awards paperwork. Death Notice processing is being worked on with the final resolution coming by mid-winter. It looks like they are reducing the paperwork and increasing the accuracy. Of the Life member reports, only 40 some percent are being returned, we should lead in this area since ours is a relatively small state. Eagle Scout awards need to be tracked better, we as a League are in the 10-12 percent of Eagle Scouts receiving an award. We also need to do better here...these are well deserving young men (and now ladies) that are earning something big. It's a worthy cause.

Of great interest to our JA is the fact we passed the new Bylaws and Admin Procedures. In fact, I think only a few of the bylaw changes were actually passed, I'm hoping our JA has access to the "Library" for the summary of what passed. These were very contentious this time due to the extent of the changes, however, we did get through it.

I would like to introduce a new Dept. Coin (within the new guidelines) for our Feb 28 staff meeting. I will be meeting with the commandant to discuss a design that will be available for our October Staff meeting. Be ready.

I'm looking forward to the next staff meeting in Broomfield on October 27, 2018. Hopefully we can get someone from ALL of the detachments to the rest of these this year, it would be beneficial to get the updates back to your folks so they can participate in all we do at the department. I will be working on this for February and May of next year as well. This should be the easy part.

Hope everyone is doing well,

Take Care everyone!
Semper Fi!
Phil Price



Junior Vice Commandant Russ Miller

Two weeks ago, as my detachment was in Cripple Creek for the Salute to American Veterans & POW/MIA Motorcycle Rally, it became abundantly clear that summer is coming to an end soon. On Sunday morning of the event, we awoke to snow on the unpaved surfaces and a balmy high of 59 degrees with intermittent showers. As we prepare to step into fall, that means that the children, grand-children, and for some of you, great-grand-children are back in school. Which is also a reminder that Toys for Tots Campaigns in some of our detachments are starting up in about 4 to 5 weeks. If your detachment is in the AOR of a Marine I&I Staff, they are responsible for Toys for Tots in your area. They will be sending their new coordinator off to the national coordinator's training conference in DC, 13-16 Sept. When these "boots" to this new duty return to their commands, they will have just attempted to take a sip of water from a fire hose and may be a bit overwhelmed with the mission before them. They may not admit it right away, but they will need our help. The chore we have is convincing *them* of this fact.

I know we have all had some struggles in the past attempting to work with recruiters, reservists, and the reserve's active duty training staff. You may however, have a great working relationship with the current Marines on staff and they are not only receptive to your support of their mission, but are also willing and eager to engage with your detachment, Young Marine Unit, etc... The days of reserve Marines being activated for a day to do Toys for Tots fund raising events, toy drives, spend a day repairing "gently used toys and bicycles", or color-guard for a holiday parade are long past. The demands that today's recruiters are under as well are just mind boggling. Often times they are working the schools in their AOR during the day, working afterschool events in the evenings and running mini boot camps on the weekends for their pool-ees to prepare them mentally and physically for what lies ahead. Sprinkle in on top of all that the mandatory classroom time recruiters must undergo on the potential dangers both physically and morally that go along with the militant, entitled, sue happy society we live in today and it's no wonder the divorce rate is so high in this MOS.

Here is where our recruiting and retention efforts begin to tie into these active duty and reserve Marines. We are all aware that Active Duty Marines (ADM's) are eligible to be honorary (non-voting) members of our detachments as long as they are on active duty. Reserve Marines (RM's) must pay dues, but are therefore full voting members. I know that in the past we have all run across ADM's that asked, "what's in it for me if I join the League?" Remind them that they get to meet Russ Miller and that should shut them up for about .09 seconds, which gives you some time to think of a good reason. I mentioned in my last article that today's Marine is looking for "mission" and family time.

MISSION: Down in Albuquerque they have had success tying the ADM's from the reserve station into the training for the Young Marines (YM) Unit, and likewise the ADM's have received support from the League and YM side of the house to meet their Toys for Tots mission.

Just because a prior Denver Metro Area Toys for Tots coordinator "wanted to lone ranger things" and fail miserably, doesn't mean necessarily that the next one will. We need to keep offering as often as it takes to open the door just one time for a positive experience so that the

current coordinator will pass the word in their turn-over-folder to his/her successor how much help and fun it was to work with those crazy Marine Corps Leaguers.

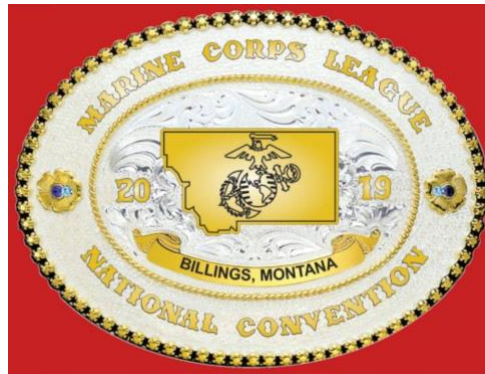
FAMILY TIME: During the recent 1st Marine Division Association Reunion here in Colorado Springs, I was able to talk to a couple of Marines from back east that have begun to build an incredible working relationship with their area recruiting staff by going to area hotels and restaurants and asking for free, if not at a greatly reduced price, one-two night stays and first class meals for a recruiter and their spouse. They worked it out with the SNCOIC to determine a recruiter of the year, which later became quarterly and now monthly, that would be awarded the hotel stay and meal. A family from the detachment could offer to watch their children for the night while they get some alone time and recharge.

Those of us that pulled recruiting duty well remember the stress it played on our relationships and the number of Marine's marriages that failed during that time. This has been a successful tool for them back in Pennsylvania and New Jersey at their detachments both in recruiting these ADM's to the League, and those ADM's are much more willing to support the League's missions because they have seen tangibly that they are being supported as well. The last thing any of us want when we meet an active duty Marine on the street is, to upon us saying we are in the League, for them to roll their eyes and walk away shaking their head. Happened to me twice over the years. We instead want to hear from a detachment across the country, the story like we had at our July monthly meeting in Colorado Springs, when, an ADM Gunny on terminal leave stood up and announced that the positive experience he had with the Marine Corps League when he was on I&I duty as the Toys for Tots Coordinator was what drove him to search out our website and show up to join our detachment so he could pay-it-forward.

"Always beside you, forever forward, never back!"

Semper Fi,

Russ



Pictures from the July 2018 Staff meeting.



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

Greetings to all! I hope everyone is enjoying these last days of summer. It's a busy time of year with school starting, and fall just around the corner.

We attended our National Convention in the beautiful state of NY. We enjoyed our time in Buffalo. And Niagara Falls was spectacular! I'd like to encourage everyone to attend. Our next National convention will be in Billings, MT. Plan now to attend, and make your reservations now. I hope to see an even bigger turnout in Billings!

I would like to remind everyone about the Staff meeting coming up Sat. Oct. 27th, 2018, in Broomfield.

Calling all Fleas! I'd like to announce our theme for our scratch at the next staff meeting is going to be Halloween Costumes. Get creative. Come on out and help us pester those Dogs!

I want to thank our Jr Past National President Karen Aune for all the hard work she's done. She will be missed. I'm looking forward to serving with our new National Madame President Carol Smith.

I'd also like to thank all you ladies for everything you do for our veterans and their families. If there is any way I can help any of you, please let me know.

Together we can make a difference!

Let's continue to help our Marines!

Holly Price
Marine Corps League Auxiliary
Department of CO President



Marine Corps Memorial Association and Foundation Golden, Colorado

For the Marine Corps Memorial Association

The November ceremony at the Memorial will be led by Department Commandant Clem Schutte on November 10th at 2:00 PM

The guest speaker is yet to be determined but we are working on someone from NORAD so a good show of Red Coats is appreciated.

There is a good possibility we will have poolees inducted just prior to the ceremony!

The Memorial Association status is well and donations are appreciated as is membership by each detachment, auxiliary unit, and members.

Elections will be held at the January meeting – third Saturday of January at the Golden City Council Chambers at 9 AM

For the USMC Memorial Foundation

The Foundation is gathering marketing information to begin the major fundraising for the remodel project.

A presentation will be made at the 1st Staff meeting in 2019. Groundwork has been slow as everyone on the board is busy with other things and plans to hire a fundraising company proved not a viable solution.

Expertise in the areas of brochure development, business plan writing, on line fundraising, design ideas for donor give away and any other ideas you have are appreciated.

Our meeting for Aug 18th was postponed due to the absence of so many and will be rescheduled – Detachment Cmdt's and Dept Leadership will be notified...

Paula Sarlls 303-766-9023

USMC '67-'71 Gold Star Wife '09

President, USMC Memorial Foundation

President, Women Marines Association CO-1

Secretary Colorado Freedom Memorial

Past National President, Women Marines Association '05-'08

Honorary Commander 140th Wing – Colorado Air National Guard '15-'16

US Marine Corps League Auxiliary Member of the year '17-'18 for Colorado

Department of Colorado Marine Corps League Department Staff Meeting Minutes

Saturday, July 28, 2018

Opening Ceremony:

The Department of Colorado Staff Meeting was called to order on 7/28/2018 at the American Legion Post #2 Pueblo, CO by Commandant Clem Schuette with appropriate ceremony at 1300. 8 of 13 Detachments present.

- Roll call of Officers:

Title:	Name:	Status:
Commandant:	Clem Schuette	Present
Sr. Vice Commandant:	Phillip Price	Present
Jr. Vice Commandant:	Russ Miller	Present
Judge Advocate:	Dave Owens	Present
Adjutant:	Joel Ploegstra	Present
Paymaster:	Jim Thomas	Excused
Chaplain:	Stephen Abeyta	Present
Sgt at Arms:	Joe Meilinger	Present
Web Sgt:	Terry Crum	Present
Jr. Past Dept Commandant	Gary Gibson	Excused

Detachment:	Status:
Frank J Carroll	Present – 7
RL Crites Jr.	Present – 1
Foothills	Absent
Home of Heroes	Present – 3
Loveland	Absent
Northern Colorado	Absent
Pikes Peak	Present – 6
Royal Gorge	Absent
San Juan Mountain	Absent
Lt. Harry T Ostrum	Present – 6
Union Colony	Present – 5
Windsor	Present – 1
Broomfield (1441)	Present – 3
Total:	(8) 32

*Members signed up for more than one detachment, I counted the one indicated first.

Recognition of VIP's:

- Division Asst Vice Commandant
MODD Division Vice Chief Devil Dog
MODD Kennel Smart Dog
- Past Department Commandants

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

- Published (Emailed) – No noted corrections, passed as published

Correspondence: None

Paymasters Report:

- Published and read: Motion to accept: Barry Georgopulos, 2nd Tom Krueger (Passed)
 - Checking: \$2914.35 (May '18) \$3116.95 (July '18)
- Discussion: Check written to Marine Corps League Foundation for \$300.00 last year never cashed, no reason given, check for Marine Corps League Foundation for this year shall include last year's amount.
Motion for \$600.00 for Marine Corps League Foundation for Dept Commandant to hand carry to National Convention made by Barry Georgopulos, 2nd by Russ Miller, (Passed)
Requested motion for Marines helping Marines for contribution, deferred to Adjutant to research minutes of Dept Convention.
 - Renewals will be due Sept 1, 2018.
 - New members between now and Aug. 31st pay \$15 and expire Aug. 31st, Dues of Dept of Colorado remain at \$10.
 - Any questions please refer to the National instructions emailed on March 15, 2018.

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

- Wm Hilliard (Associate of Union Colony) passed away in June, Jerry Pinot (Past Commandant of Home of Heroes Detachment) has been ill for several months.

Roll Call of Detachments:

- 8 of 13 Detachments present
- Commandant commented that officers who accept the office should attend meetings to represent their perspective detachments.

Report of Officers:

- Sr. Vice Commandant: Health is improving, nothing else to report.
- Jr. Vice Commandant: Advised about recruiting, license plates, t-shirts, etc.; he is currently working with San Louis Valley to restore the detachment(suggestion from Fred Krebs to re-name the detachment if it becomes reactivated)
- Adjutant: Brought to attention the presence of Service Officers in the Dept, needed to be certified by National to be used by all of Colorado.
- Jr. Past Commandant: Not present
- Judge Advocate: New Bylaw changes coming - all Detachments and Departments must revise bylaws accordingly.
- Chaplain: Be sure to send Death notices to new Chaplain, not Dave Owens.
- Web Sgt: Get on the Dept website and check it out, let me know if your detachment has a website that needs to have a link on the website.

Report of Detachments:

- Frank J. Carroll - 6 new members in last 2 months, working on new activity
- Pikes Peak - Very active in community work, Golf Tourney, 2018 Warrior Games, Honors at 7 Funerals, 2nd Tuesday WWII and Korean War luncheon, VA Clinic program, 1st Marine Division reunion (Aug 5-12), 3rd Marine Division reunion (Sept 11-16), Toys 4 Tots at Sky Sox, Bowl-a-thon in Oct.
- Robert L. Crites, Jr. - Veterans Day Parade and Toys 4 Tots
- Windsor Marines - Picnic in September
- Union Colony Marines - Rendered honors for 27 Funerals, \$4,000.00 for Honor Bell and Helping Heroes Fly, \$10,000.00 total in Ball cap sales to date, Members are in Cheyenne today for parade at Cheyenne Frontier Days, Lt Gen Carol Mutter will be Guest Speaker at Marine Corps Ball,

Dept/Div Convention/Conference at Double Tree Inn in Greeley, 9 members attending National Convention.

- Home of Heroes - Gulf Tourney coming up, Scholarship to Pueblo Comm College, State Fair Parade and Veterans Day
- Lt. Harry T. Ostrum - Donated \$350.00 to Marine Corps League Fund, \$1000.00 from Ball cap sales to High School student for college, Presented colors at Buena Vista Rodeo, 1 new member/1 reinstatement, \$400 to County Youth shooting, \$221 to Wreaths across America, Honors at 4 Funerals, 4 delegates to Nation Convention, \$1000.00 to Search and Rescue to help save lives.
- Broomfield - Growing steadily, involved in parades and fundraisers, food drives for the troops at Buckley, Adams County fair 1-5 August.

Standing Committee Reports:

- Scouting Committee - no awards this year, 18 last year; Union Colony Marines awarded 9 in one ceremony.
- Scholarship - \$520.36 in checking acct, \$150.02 in savings, \$48K in vestments, read correspondence from recipients.
- MMA Committee - Veterans Day at Memorial, Considering a coil for Marine Corps Memorial, MC Memorial needs \$3.2 M for renovation, proclamation from Golden for Veterans Day, February meeting is elections
 - Foundation is responsible for \$ for remodel/renovation.

Unfinished Business:

- Streamers from CO Department Convention, and Rocky Mountain Division and other awards from the convention.
- Broomfield Detachment will hold Department staff meeting in October

New Business:

- Proposals for bylaws, be prepared for National for voting on resolutions
- Motion to approve all reports made by Barry Georgopolos, 2nd by Tom Krueger, Vote passed

Good of the League:

- Updates from RMDAVC
- Updates from Colorado Spings National Cemetery

Announcements:

- Adjutant reiterated the presence of VSO's in the MCL, will research appointments for such with National Headquarters.

Closing Ceremony:

There being no further business, the Department of Colorado staff meeting was closed at 14:35.

The next meeting will be the Department Staff Meeting held on September 29, 2018, hosted by: Broomfield Detachment.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel E. Ploegstra

Joel E. Ploegstra

Adjutant, MCL Dept of CO