



# ***The Mountain High Marine***

**Colorado Department  
Marine Corps League**  
Winter 2018 Quarterly Newsletter  
<http://mclco.org>



## **Colorado Department Officers**

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The next CO Dept. staff meeting will be hosted by the Lt. Harry T. Ostrum Jr. Detachment #1420

February 23, 2019

Location of the meeting  
Elks Lodge #808  
148 E 2nd St, Salida, CO 81201



**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:  
<https://mclco.org/2019-colorado-state-con>



## Colorado Department Commandant Clem Schuette

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARINES

I hope all of you had the opportunity to attend a Birthday Ball. I attended the Union Colony Marines Detachment 1093 Birthday Ball in Greeley CO. Many thanks to the Northridge High School Marine JROTC for participating in our Ball. Many thanks to Major Kintzley and Master Gunnery Sgt Yarolem for the job that they do in providing a path to the future for these high school students. A recent graduate of their program recently graduated from Boot Camp at MCRD San Diego as the Company Honor Man, and was promoted to the rank of Lance Cpl.

The Guest of Honor at our ball was Lt. Gen. Carol A. Mutter USMC Ret. She was the first female to be nominated for the rank of Lt. Gen of any of the services. Gen. Mutter has a long list of accomplishments, including Past President of the Women Marines Association, and being inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. Also in attendance was another former Past President of the Women Marines Association Paula Sarlls.

Union Colony Marines uses the Birthday Ball to recognize their highest achievers. This year those awards went to Barbara LaBarbara as Associate of the Year, Jeremy Stover as Dog of the Year, and Frank Cribelli as Marine of the Year. Congratulation to all of you.

The Marine 4 Life program is becoming a very important part of the MCL. The Marine Corps and the MCL are partnering in an effort to help Marines that are transitioning into civilian life with help finding employment, education, housing and local resources as they make that transition. I have asked Russ Miller of the Pikes Peak Detachment for his help in naming a liaison for the Marine 4 Life in Colorado. I'm asking all of our detachments to get involved in this program, as it helps those transitioning Marines, and should help in our recruitment of new members. More to come at our Feb quarterly meeting in Salida.

### SEMPER FI MARINES

Clem



Dept. Commandant Clem Schuette



Marine Gary George and Dept. Chaplain Steve Abeyta



### Senior Vice Commandant Phillip Price

#### Marines, associates, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains!

Happy 243 Birthday Marines! It's late I know, but my heart is still in it! If you didn't get to see the commandant's birthday message, you missed a good one. I'm sure it's still online if you look for "Marine Corps Birthday 2018". I'd like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving! Coming early this year, please be safe. Take time to help those less fortunate, it's always rewarding.

I know a LOT of you skip meeting in December due to the Holidays and Toys4Tots, but I would like to visit your meetings to see if there is anything I can help with. I love helping as much as possible, and if you'll have me, I'd love to join you. Just let me know what is a good time and I'll try to be there!

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. We can resell "Authorized" gear for a profit, as long as it has the trademark logo somewhere on the gear.

I'm looking forward to the next staff meeting in Salida on February 23, 2019, put something in your calendar for work so you have the time. Holly and I will be heading down the day before so if you can make it, we will be hosting dinner for the out of town folks (and some locals), if you can make it, please let me know.

On a personal note, I had a PET scan recently and it is confirmed cancer. It's not as bad as it seems, it appears the "defect" I have has a specific version of chemo, which I am taking (pills and IV). It appears it's already working, the liquid on my lungs is decreasing (slowly) which is a good thing. I'm not limited in what I can do, I just do it slowly. Google: Zootopia Sloth Scene and you know how I feel. (Rabbit inside, sloth outside!). I'm not in pain and the oncologist is at least encouraging. Final outcome isn't determined, but by God, whom I'm placing all my faith in.

Hope everyone is doing well, take Care everyone!  
Semper Fi!  
Phil Price



Dept. Senior Vice Phillip Price



Marine Michael Buck



### **Junior Vice Commandant Russ Miller**

One way that we can begin to increase the reach of our detachments into our respective communities and better aid and assist our Marine, FMF Corpsman & Chaplain brothers and sisters, as well as their families, is through the implementation of the Marine For Life (M4L) program.

Marine For Life Network connects transitioning Marines and their family members to education resources, employment opportunities, and other Veteran's services that aid in their career and life goals outside of military service.

- 30,000 Marines leave active duty every year.
- The Majority are 1-term Marines.
- M4L has 4 Regional Network Coordinators and 50 Reserve Marines.
- MCL has approximately 65,000 members. "Boots on the ground".

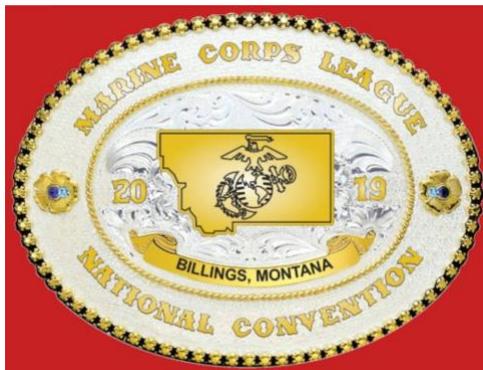
We need to be the mentor to a transitioning Marine or Marine family member that you wish you had when you left the Corps. What does a MCL Department or Detachment M4L Liaison do you ask?

1. Be an enthusiastic and supportive Member who wants to help Marines and their families during their transition period.
2. Get familiar with area resources and communicate via the Rocky Mountain Division M4L Liaison to the Colorado Active Duty Marine M4L Representative information regarding:
  - a. Veteran networking opportunities,
  - b. VA locations and services
  - c. County VA Veteran Service Officer information
  - d. Area college/university military liaison contact info
  - e. Local veteran hiring events
3. Become capable of communicating via social media, text and email.
4. Support and/or host networking events in conjunction with the M4L representative and M4L guidelines.

For more information and training please contact me.

Always Forward---

Russ



## **Marine Corps League 96<sup>th</sup> Annual National convention 2019**

**Billings, Montana  
August 4<sup>th</sup> – August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

See the link below for details.

<https://www.mclnationalconvention2019.com>

## **Judge Advocate Dave Owens**

As we finally move towards the end of 2018 I would like to remind all judge advocates in all detachments that new bylaws were passed at the national convention this year and I do need a rewrite of all of your bylaws as soon as possible.

All bylaws must be submitted to the Department Judge Advocate for approval.

Thank you  
Semper Fidelis  
Dave Owens



## **Web Sergeant Terry Crum**

Thanks to all who submitted articles for this newsletter. It is only with these articles that we benefit from this newsletter. The goal of this newsletter is to serve as an effective forum for the business of the Marine Corps League. Timely and accurate information make the goal achievable. The Department newsletter is published quarterly and I thank all of you in advance your articles in the future.

As always I invite you to visit the Department web site at: <https://mclco.org> . My goal with this web site is to present information about the Department of Colorado Marine Corps League in a logical, easily accessible, and entertaining manner. Please help me help the Department my letting me know if you spot any inaccurate information on one of the Department's pages. Unfortunately some of the website browsers do not update websites very often; therefore, try "refreshing" the page and see if the information does not update. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused anyone. My intent is to look into upgrading the Dept. website perhaps when this contract runs out... Also my goal is to do some updates to the website over the upcoming Thanksgiving break. In most need is information regarding the individual Detachments of the Department. If you notice that there is any inaccurate information regarding your Detachment on the Dept. website, please feel free to send me an email.

Lastly a few of the Dept. officers have pictures of themselves as they were when young in uniform. I decided to add mine as well. I joined the Navy shortly after graduating from high school and served from 1981-1988. It was later that I joined the Marine corps and served from 1991-2005. And for Russ Miller, the white thing on my head is a "Dixie cup" not an "upside down dog dish"!

From my home to yours, have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving.  
Terry

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

Happy Thanksgiving everyone! Isn't it a beautiful time of year? Time to really count all our blessings! I have many! I am so thankful for all of you wonderful ladies of the Auxiliary, all my friends, and family, and all our Veterans! Without all of you, we couldn't make such a difference in so many lives. Thank you!

We attended our Department staff meeting in October, with several strange and fun characters in attendance. Thank you Ladies for coming and participating! I loved seeing all you ladies, and thought it was great fun to "let our hair down" and dress up for Halloween. We had quite a few ladies in attendance. Thank you all for all your hard work making and serving the wonderful lunch. I hope you had as much fun as I did.

I've had the wonderful pleasure of helping stuff stockings for the troops this year. We had a great turnout this past Sat. I don't recall ever seeing so many people, and so many donations. It was awesome! Thank you all for all your hard work! Just thinking about how many we can bless this year is exciting! I was out celebrating the Marine Corps Birthday with a cake cutting ceremony and Stockings at Windsor Gardens this past Tues. The young Marines, and everyone involved, did an excellent job!

How many of you have attended a Marine Corps Ball as a League, or Auxiliary member? We attended last Sat. and had a wonderful time! I'd highly recommend going if you're able.

Our next Staff meeting will be in Salida Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019. And the Midwinter conference is Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>-March 3<sup>rd</sup>. You are all invited to attend. I hope many of you will join us! The theme for the Flea Scratch is Mardi Gras.

Again, thank you all for all you do! If you need anything, please let me know. If you have ideas for fundraisers etc. let me know. I can use all the help I can get!

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

Holly Price



### **From the Scholarship Committee**

To all MCL Detachments and MCLA Units

Without you there would be no scholarships to be given out at every Department Convention! We need you to help raise funds all year long for the Department Scholarship fund. Your Children and grand kids can and do benefit receiving funds from the committee for their higher education. The more we can bring in the more we are able to give to each student who applies for a scholarship. Here are some suggestions to raise funds:

- Donation jar/can set out at every det. and Unit meeting and have members donate what they can.
- For those detachments that have "hat" sales at various locations throughout the state, again have a jar/can out for the public to make donations.
- Host a potluck fundraiser night for the scholarship. (or it could be a spaghetti night dinner, hamburger night, you get the idea)
- Poker Night/Poker Run
- Have a 50/50 drawing

This bears repeating, every Detachment, every Unit as well as the Department MCL and Department MCLA is entitled to have representation at every scholarship meeting.

Semper Fi,

Meg Krebs

Secretary

Dept Colorado, Scholarship Fund Committee

## **Marine Corps Memorial Association and Foundation Golden, Colorado**

The US Marine Corps Memorial Association will meet on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 at Golden City Hall – 911 10<sup>th</sup> St.

This meeting will be for elections, approval of expenditures and planning review for Memorial Day and Veterans' Day.

The USMC Memorial Foundation will be meeting Nov 29<sup>th</sup> at the same place at 6PM to discuss the remodel.

We are working on marketing plan which includes brochure and video along with challenge coin. Full fundraising will begin in the summer of 2019,

All are welcome to attend both meetings.

The Veterans' Day/MC Birthday ceremony was excellent. We witnessed about 40 new recruits being sworn in and the guest speaker was Major Mark Saville of RS Denver. The RS Station is fully behind our ceremonies and efforts.

These ceremonies will be a good place to introduce new recruits to the League and tell them about all we do!

Maybe one day one of them will be Commandant! You never know!

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula Sarlls, President USMC Memorial Foundation



Marine Pat Mesa of the Pikes Peak Detachment was recognized at the USAF Football vs UNM November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Air Force Academy Stadium. One Vietnam veteran from each branch was being recognized during the half time event.

### **Pat Mesa Biography**

Pat Mesa is a native of Pueblo Colorado where upon graduation from high school in 1966 he promptly followed his uncles and cousins into the United States Marine Corps. Following boot camp and Infantry Training School in San Diego California he received immediate orders to Vietnam where he was selected to become a Marine Scout Sniper. Pat was trained by the infamous "White Feather", aka, Gunnery Sergeant Carlos Hathcock, and Major Jim Land. Following Pat's tour in Vietnam he was returned to Camp Pendleton where he served as an Instructor at the prestigious Marine Corps Scout Sniper School for the remainder of his enlistment. After discharge from the Marines, Mr. Mesa returned to Colorado where he served 40 years with the United States Postal Service. Today Pat is an active member of the Marine Corps League and continues to serve the community through Toys for Tots, and with the Volunteers for Hospitalized Veterans at the VA clinic in Colorado Springs and VA hospital in Denver.

## Department of Colorado Marine Corps League 27 October 2018 Department Staff Meeting Minutes

Saturday, Oct 27, 2018

### Opening Ceremony:

The Department of Colorado Staff Meeting was called to order on 10/27/2018 at Spartan College, Broomfield, 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 #28	Present – 7
Pikes Peak #29	Present – 6
Foothills #469	Absent
Robert L. Crites Jr. #624	Present – 1
Northern Colorado #785	Absent
Windsor #904	Present – 2
Union Colony #1093	Present – 5
San Juan Mountain #1104	Absent
Loveland #1250	Absent
Royal Gorge #1318	Absent
Home of Heroes #1376	Present – 1
Lt. Harry T. Ostrum #1420	Present – 5
Broomfield #1441	Present – 5
<b>Total:</b>	(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 and printed for mtg) – No noted corrections, motion to pass: Tom Krueger, 2nd: Allen Brink, vote passed

### Correspondence: None

### Paymasters Report:

- Read by Commandant: Motion to accept: Russ Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> Allen Brink ( Passed )
  - Checking: (July '18) \$3116.95 (Sept '18) \$2823.06
  - 990's needed
  - Secretary of State reports.
  - Life member lists needed

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

- Four Death notices were received by Dept Chaplain in past quarter.
- Vito LaBarbara remembered.
- Joe Meilinger awaiting heart surgery
- Jim Thomas recovering from surgery
- Jerry Pinot recovering

**Roll Call of Detachments:** 8 of 13 Detachments present

#### Report of Officers:

- Sr. Vice Commandant: Please inform Dept Commandant or Dept Sr Vice of Detachment meetings so visits can be made accordingly.
- Jr. Vice Commandant: Fliers for recruiting passed out, can be custom made for each detachment by contacting Russ Miller with details.
- Adjutant: Reminder that Adjutant has special email address, please forward all correspondence for Department, particularly Detachment Quarterly reports: [comcladjutant@gmail.com](mailto:comcladjutant@gmail.com)  
Reminders for future quarterly Department Staff meetings will be sent via email.
- 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 Stephen Abeyta: [chico\\_67@msn.com](mailto:chico_67@msn.com)
- Web Sgt: Winter newsletter has 15 November deadline, send to: [colorado.crum@gmail.com](mailto:colorado.crum@gmail.com)

#### Reports of Standing Committees:

- Scouting Committee - Program drying out, very few Scouting awards thus far this year.
- MMA Committee - November 10, 1400 at Memorial, Conducted by RMDVC Allen Brink
- **Reports of Special Committees:** Convention Committee - Reservation for Double Tree Inn for Dept Convention and Division Conference.

#### Report of Detachments:

- Frank J. Carroll - Continuously working on recruiting, new events scheduled.
- Pikes Peak - Assisted with reunions for the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine and 3<sup>rd</sup> Div. Reunions providing registration, drivers, hospitality room, and cash sales. Promoted Toys for Tots at two Sky Sox games assisted with the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Toy Run. Cash sales events at Lamar at their Tri-State 9/11 Tribute, and Pro-Rodeo event. The Det. took part in the Labor Day Parade in Fountain, Sept 3. The Det. took part in the Homeless VA Stand down Oct. 16th. The Det. bereavement team attended funerals this past quarter for: David Dagnall 11 July, Michael T. Miller 23 Aug., Byron Allen Spenser 17 Aug (FMF Corpsman). The Pikes Peak Det. has many events coming up including: Annual Bowl-A-Thon, Veterans' Day Parade. Marine Corps Ball Nov. 9 @ Cheyenne Mountain Resort, Toys for Tots Charity Football Game, Pearl Harbor Day Wreath Laying ceremony on 7 Dec., Pikes Peak Young Marines Christmas Party, Wreaths Across America.
- Robert L. Crites, Jr. - No report given
- Windsor Marines - Rifle/Pistol competitions, \$360 donated, Honor Guards for All Veterans Honor Guards at Ft Logan, selling MC Urns as fund raisers, actively supporting Buckley Field Young Marines (MC Birthday Ball on November 13th)
- Union Colony Marines - Participated in 5 Parades, Rendered honors for 35 Funerals (Most at Ft Logan), Marine Corps Birthday Ball November 10th, Lt Gen Carol Mutter will be Guest Speaker.
- Home of Heroes - No report
- Lt. Harry T. Ostrum - Donated \$405.00 to Wreaths Across America, caps sales going well for the detachment, presenting colors to MCL at rodeo, gun shoots monthly, donuts to Elks.
- Broomfield - Continuing recruiting, Christmas stocking project with goal of 2000 stockings to Afghanistan and Iraq, 9 parades, popcorn at new VA hospital, building flag boxes for fund raisers,

Adams county fair, Air show at Air field

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

- Marine for Life program
- Recognition for Associate member, ribbon to be established, vote failed due to no existing program for associate recognition. Program from Detachments and Department need to be forwarded to Division for program at National. Motion to forward program to Division made by Dana Nachtrieb, 2nd by Russ Miller, Vote passed unanimously.

**Good of the League:**

- Paula Sarlls - WWII Female Marine recently died, honors were rendered for her.
- Allen Brink - Marine for Life program, Job opportunities for Marines leaving active duty, Shooting programs. There is no longer a “Marines Helping Marines” at National level, Marine Corps League foundation has taken it over. Data base updates are in progress at National, all transmittals are being individually entered.
- Russ Miller - New Toys for Tots coordinator at Buckley, Toys for Tots going in 7-11 stores with many details to be completed, USMCR will be getting more involved again in Toys for Tots.

**Announcements:**

The next meeting will be the Department Staff Meeting held on February 23, 2019, hosted by: Harry T. Ostrum Detachment, Salida, CO at Elks Lodge, 148 E 2nd St.

**Closing Ceremony:** There being no further business, the Department of Colorado staff meeting was closed at 14:28.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joel E. Ploegstra*

Joel E. Ploegstra

Adjutant, MCL Dept of CO