



# **The Mountain High Marine**

## **Colorado Department Marine Corps League Fall 2017 Quarterly Newsletter**



<http://mclco.org>

### **Colorado Department Officers**

Dept. Commandant	Garry D. Gibson	gunny1@mindspring.com	(719) 495-9640
Dept. Senior Vice Commandant	Clem Schuette	candeschuette@gmail.com	(970) 339-9706
Dept. Junior Vice Commandant	Phillip Price	phillipmpriceinc@gmail.com	(303) 902-1583
Dept. Judge Advocate	Russ Miller	rcmlr@msn.com	719-235-1058
Dept. Junior Past Commandant	Mark Kauffman	cmkauff@rtebb.net	(303) 961-3960
Dept. Adjutant, Web Sergeant, and Newsletter Editor	Terry Crum	colorado.crum@gmail.com	(719)432-7340
Dept. Paymaster	James Thomas	vth8971134@aol.com	(970) 471-2995
Dept. Chaplain	David W. Owens	conestoga1951@aol.com	(303) 908-3881
Dept. Sergeant at Arms	Paul Hinojosa	mclphinojosa@q.com	719-313-1752
M.O.D.D Pack Keeper	Garry D. Gibson	gunny1@mindspring.com	(719) 495-9640

### **Quarterly Staff Meeting 28 October 2017**

The next CO Dept. MCL Quarterly Staff meeting will be hosted by the Salida MCL Detachment.

**Elks Lodge  
148 E. 2nd St.  
Salida, CO 81201**



July Dept. Staff meeting pictures.

## Colorado Department Commandant Garry D. Gibson



Greetings to all Marines, Navy FMF Corpsman, Spouses & Members at Large. Hi Everyone; I would like to let you all know that many of our members have been involved in several important events since our 4-7 May Department Convention. The 1<sup>st</sup> event was our 29 July Department Staff meeting; I would like to congratulate the Union Colony Detachment in Greeley for doing an outstanding job in hosting this event. The (2nd) event was the Rocky Mountain Division Convention; it was held in Roswell, NM on 16 & 17 June. Past Department Commandant, Allen Brink, was elected as the new Division Vice Commandant, Rocky Mountain Division. Our current Department Judge Advocate, Russel O. Miller was appointed as the new Assistant Division Vice Commandant.

The 3rd event was this year's 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Marine Corps League National Convention, held in Overland Park, Kansas from 13-18 August. Both Allen & Russ were both sworn in during the swearing in ceremonies. Next year's National MCL Convention will be held from 12-17 August 2018 in Buffalo, NY. Since I could not make this year's National Convention I would like to thank our Judge Advocate; Russ Miller for collecting handouts, the Nation Convention Book, and the MODD Reports booklet; all of which will become part the Dept. Commandants, and the Pack Leaders files. I would also like to mention that an Anonymous Dog (Russ Miller) paid many bones to upgrade our MODD ¼ page ad to a full page ad in the Convention Booklet, for that Russ deserves a measly WOOF! WOOF!

The (4th) event that our members were involved in was the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the United States Marine Corps Memorial in Golden, CO on 26 August, for those of you that don't know; this Marine Memorial in the largest Memorial, west of the Mississippi that is dedicated to the United States Marine Corps. I would like to take this time recognize a few individuals who helped make this a very successful event, First we have Marine and Gold Star Wife Paula Sarlls, she is the President of USMC Memorial Foundation Board of Directors. Paula did an outstanding job running and coordinating all aspects this event huge event. I also want to recognize Marine Memorial Association President Tom Krueger, Dept. Chaplain David Owens, and I would like to thank our Assistant Div. Vice Commandant Russ Miller for emceeing this event.

I would also like to recognize several Detachments who helped support this worthy event; we had the FOOTHILLS Det. from Lakewood, CO, we had Broomfield Det. from Broomfield, CO. we had Denver's very own Frank J. Carroll Det., they did a great job in bringing & setting up their "Iwo Jima", and the "Tomb of the Unknown Solider" floats; and up from Colorado Springs came (11) members of the Pikes Peak Det.; along with

their 16 foot inflatable DI balloon, they also set up their red stay out of the sun tent. We also had the Ladies Auxiliary President; Holly Price and her members there to help welcome & register VIP's as they arrived. I also want to thank Mike Sheppard & Patricia Griffith, and the Young Marines High Plains Regiment for their hard work in setting up/take down of chairs and their help in clean up; this was a truly a Team Effort. Till I see you all in Salida, CO on 28 October for the Quarterly Staff meeting, please remember that we may be separated by hundreds of miles; but **“we continue to be a Department of One”** Ooh-RAHHHHH.  
Semper Fi, The Gunny

Did you know that back in 1945 first lady of the United States Eleanor Roosevelt said “The Marines I have seen around the world have the cleanest bodies, the filthiest minds, the highest morale, and the lowest morals of any group of animals I have ever seen. Thank God for the United States Marine Corps!” I'll say Ooh-RAH to that!

### Senior Vice Commandant Clem Schuette



Greetings Marines,  
Another national election has come and gone, and a new slate of officers were selected to serve at the national level. Allen Brink of the Union Colony Marines was voted in as the National Vice Commandant of the Rocky Mountain Division and Russ Miller of the Pikes Peak Detachment was named aide de camp for Allen. Congratulations to both of them. The Department of Colorado continues to have excellent representation at the national level. If your detachment has an upcoming election and you are considering a run for office, I suggest you visit [mclnational.org](http://mclnational.org) and go to programs. Under this heading you will find the professional development program. There are nine lesson plans, one of which will help you understand the responsibilities of all of the officer positions.

I attended the national convention this year, and of particular interest to me was the Scouting Committee meeting. This committee is headed by Tom Minchin, from Pennsylvania. Eight departments were represented and discussions were held regarding the ongoing efforts to grow this program. The MCL National would like to present the Good Citizenship award to all scouts that have earned their Eagle Scout rank.

The scout council that Tom Minchin represents gave 250 new Eagle Scouts the Good Citizenship award this past year. For the Department of Colorado, I have confirmation of

17 awards, 15 of them presented by the Union Colony Marines in Greeley. I think Colorado can do much better than that. This award has been kept secret too long. We need to get this award out of the "closet" and into the hands of the Eagle Scouts where it belongs.

Commandants, does your detachment have a scouting chairman? If you do and you present this award, please get the numbers to me. If not, take a look at the program, it's good for the scout and it's good for the League. If there is anything I can do to help, please contact me at [candeschuetter@gmail.com](mailto:candeschuetter@gmail.com)

Semper Fi,  
Clem

### **Junior Vice Commandant Phillip Price**



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

As my focus this year will be recruiting new members in the League as well as in the MODD (woof woof!), I will be attempting to make it to all of the detachments meetings (at least once) to see where I can help! It would be awesome if you could let me know if your meetings are different in the next 3 – 4 months, so I can plan accordingly! I'm looking forward to the visits and will be glad to help however I can. Put me to work!

Since I was getting promoted to PDD this year at National, I didn't get to hear the recruiting report. I tried to get a copy from the back table and there were none. I contacted the former National Jr. Vice and received the Sr. Vice report...all a comedy of errors. Needless to say, I will try and update everyone once I get the information. I heard rumors of the event, but couldn't confirm any of it so I will wait until I get the national report to pass it on. If anyone in the department has the National Jr Vice report, please email me a copy! ([phillipmpriceinc@gmail.com](mailto:phillipmpriceinc@gmail.com))

National elections were held at the Convention, I encourage all of you to have a look at the National Web page ([www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org)) to see what happened! I would highly recommend if you haven't been to National Convention, or if you haven't been in a long time, please try to go. It's always been good to get the big picture! Next year will be in Buffalo NY and in 2019, Billings MT! Let me know if you need information and I'll see what I can find for you.

Drum roll please...Marine Tom Krueger, Frank J Carroll Detachment was elected the NEW Kennel Smart Dog! Congratulations Tom, it represents a lot of hard work. Allen Brink was elected our new RMDiv Vice Commandant and Russ Miller was elected his Assistant. Welcome these Marines to their new position, this also takes a lot of hard work and I'm sure they will appreciate all the support you can give them.

I continue to be optimistic about the coming year! 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 Salida on October 28<sup>th</sup>, otherwise, I'll see you when I can!

Semper Fi!  
Phil Price

### **Judge Advocate Russ Miller**



Semper Fi Marines, Navy FMF Corpsmen, Navy FMF Chaplains, and Associates of the League as well as our wonderful ladies of the Auxiliary. We have just returned from a very productive, so I assume, and extremely fun national convention in Overland Park Kansas. I say that I assume it was productive, because I was busy with the fun part (MODD) most of the time. To dispel the rumors, any photos of me circulating cannot be used for blackmail purposes as I was not at all bashful about posing for them. Just wanted to get that out of the way right up front. We had a great contingent from Colorado representing the Rocky Mountain Division at the convention to include many from Lt Harry T Ostrum Jr. Det., Home of Heroes Det., Frank J Carrol Det., Union Colony Det., Windsor Marines Det., Broomfield Det., Robert L. Crites Det., and Pikes Peak Det.

Congratulations to our own Allen Brink on being elected as the Rocky Mountain Division National Vice Commandant. I look forward to working with him the next two years as his Assistant NVC. We also are proud to have elected Tom Krueger as the new MODD Kennel Smart Dog (translated to human terminology = National Judge Advocate). Tom was also recognized at the Chapel of Four Chaplains and received a very prestigious national award for all the great works he has organized and done over the past few years for active duty and veteran service members of all branches. These include helping to raise over 1 million dollars to provide care packages to deployed troops, serving meals to family members of hospitalized service members and veterans at the Fischer House in Aurora, as well as his volunteer hours at the VA Hospital. Well done to a good and faithful servant Marine!

There were many committee meetings as well as the general Sessions during the convention. I would encourage you all to be patient and keep your eyes and ears open for more information regarding the Bylaws Changes as well as administrative procedures as they are published out to the League. As I mentioned I was “tied up” with the Devil Dogs so I was not present for the votes regarding the proposed changes, I therefore plan to have a more exhaustive report to give at the 28 Oct Department Staff Meeting in Salida. Until then, always continue to uphold the oath that you took both to our country and the Marine Corps League. OORAH!!

Russ “Slim” Miller

### **Adjutant / Web Sergeant Terry Crum**



Greetings, I hope everyone had an outstanding summer. Some of our members were quite busy jumping from one convention to another. Autumn approaches and our home of Colorado will live up to its reputation as the colorful state.

There are a number of changes to the web sites of the Marine Corps League. Starting at the top with a redesigned National MCL web site: <https://www.mclnational.org>. The sign looks sharp and appears to be easier to navigate. Even if you just visit the site one time, the motivating intro clip promoting the MCL makes the visit worth it. Meg Krebs is now officially the Web Sergeant for the Rocky Mountain Division: <http://www.mcleaguerckymntdiv.org/index.html>. Meg is an old pro in putting a web site together and the site was up and running in no time.

Semper Fi, Terry Crum

### **Chaplain Dave Owens**

What a beautiful Saturday for our 40th anniversary memorial services. All of us who were in attendance were awed at both the weather and our awesome guests. God provided for us all in a very spiritual manner and He let us know by the presence of such awesome men that we are truly men humbled by His presence.

Just an additional reminder that Death Notices are available online. You fill everything out then print 5 copies. You keep one and send me the other four. Please try to get them to me within 60 days of the death so that I may send out a sympathy card to the families.

Bless all of us and our Marine Corps, Dave Owens

## Association Department President Holly Price



Greetings everyone!

I just wanted to thank all of you for electing me as your Dept. President. I am truly honored, and am looking forward to serving you, and serving with you. That being said, if there is anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to let me know. I am open for any ideas and suggestions you might have; I can use all the help I can get! I welcome your ideas for fundraisers as well. Without funds, we are limited on what we can do to help others.

For those of you that came to our National Convention, I just want to say thank you! It was a wonderful time for all! We even got to witness the Wizard of OZ out there in Kansas! The men had their initiation for the Dogs with some very interesting characters to be sure! We had 7 new Flea initiates as well, with one from Colorado.

Congratulations Mitzy Abeyta! Mark your calendars, and make your reservations for next year's convention in Buffalo, NY. You won't want to miss it! Madam President Karen Aune was reelected. A more caring and humble president you could not find. Please keep her in your prayers as her husband Ken passed away in July. There were some changes to our by-laws, but too many to put here. We can cover those at our next staff meeting in Salida on Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>.

We had a great 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marine Corps Memorial out in Golden this past Saturday. For all the Auxiliary members who came out to help, I just want to say Thank You! Paula Sarlls did a fantastic job and sends her gratitude to all who helped!

Please make sure you've paid your dues for this year. We all need to stay up to date! They are due Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>. Don't put it off! Questions- contact Debby Krueger 303-919-4911

I want to remind all of you ladies just how important you are to this Auxiliary, and to the Marine Corps League. We all have different talents that together, makes us a strong community of volunteers ready to change our world. We all need to share our love for the auxiliary, and our Marines, and recruit as much as we can! Let's get out there and share!

Semper Fi

Holly Price

303-902-1584

## 2018 Colorado MCL Convention Committee Chairmen Phillip Price



2018 Colorado MCL Convention Committee Chairman

Marines, Associates, FMF Corpsmen, Chaplains, Auxiliary!

Good news everyone! We are making great progress on next year's convention. The venue will be the Embassy Suites, Denver Tech Center (off I-25 and Arapahoe) May 3-6, 2018. The room rate is \$129. The average for the state of Colorado is \$135. The overflow hotel will be TBD, but just know that at the Embassy Suites, they host an evening reception for their guests every night, free drinks and snacks.

This year, we are working on some fun and interesting events for Friday, more details to follow once plans are finalized. But it's going to be BIG!

I would like to "Document" my journey hosting the convention, with input from Russ Miller, host of the previous 2 Department Conventions, and pass that on to everyone. I'm hopeful, that the process will not seem as scary in the future and more detachments would be willing to host it. Since we only have 13 detachments, it seems like we should only have to host it once every 13 years, twice in a row seems awesome, but we shouldn't need to get there in the future. Some departments rotate this so you have years to plan for when it's your turn. It's interesting...

I will be bringing an update with brochures to the staff meeting in October, if you have any questions, please let me know!

Semper Fi!

Phil Price



Here are a couple of pictures of our folks at the National MCL convention.



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



.A hardy WOOF! WOOF! to everyone. As I mentioned in my last newsletter article, (Spring Edition); we had twelve members from different Pounds around the state that planned on advancing to Pedigree Devil Dog at this year's 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Supreme Growl of the Kennel; it was held in Overland Park Kansas from 14-16 (Mon-Wed) August. I hope to introduce all of these junior flea bitten PDD mutts to you all at our 28 October Growl of the Pack. WOOF! WOOF!

I would also like to mention that long time PDD Tom Krueger; and our Past Rocky Mountain Division Vice Chief Devil Dog was elected as the new Kennel Smart Dog at this year's Supreme Growl of the Kennel. Newly sworn in PDD Phillip Price was appointed as the new Rocky Mountain Division Vice Chief Devil Dog.

Since I was unable to attend this year's Growl, I do appreciate newly sworn in PDD Russell O. Miller for providing me with all the handouts and other information that was provided at the Supreme Growl. This was important to me in my efforts of keeping our Pack files up to date, to include what goes on at the Supreme Growl of the kennel. I also want to thank PDD Russ "Slim/Tiny" Miller for being the "Anonymous Dog" that paid/donated many bones (\$\$\$\$) to upgrade our ¼ page ad to a full page ad.

Till I see you all in Salida, CO on 28 October for our next Growl of the Pack, Semper Fi, Ooh-RAH & WOOF! WOOF!..... The Gunny

### **From the Pack of Colorado Dog Robber.**

Woof Woof Devil Dogs! It's time for all your pound's hounds to renew their licenses, and make sure they have their rabies, parvo and dis-temper vaccinations up to date or risk being spayed or neutered. Pound Dog Robbers, please ensure that your Dogs are paying the correct number of Big Bones so you can forward dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones on to the Pack and Kennel. Also, please go through your Pound Roster and see if you have any Pups that have matured enough to move up to DD, fill out their papers, throw a chain on their collar and drag them before the Mad Dog at the Growl of the Pack in Salida on 28 Oct for initiation. Keep having fun chewing those Italian loafers. Woof WOOF!

PDD Russ "Slim" Miller

## Marine Corps Memorial 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The sun shone bright on the Marine Corps Memorial celebrants in Golden, Colorado as they observed the memorial's 40th anniversary, the largest memorial west of the Mississippi that's dedicated to the United States Marine Corps. Many people gathered together on the warm August day, some traveling quite a distance, to be part of the event and honor the finest warriors the world has ever produced.

The prime mover behind the memorial's 40th anniversary was the Memorial Foundation President Paula Sarlls. She worked tirelessly to orchestrate the various aspects of this event. Furthermore, Marine Corps League Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and Auxiliary members worked together to plan, organize an event worthy of a Marine Corps Memorial often referred to as the "The Jewel in Colorado's Golden Crown". And in the hearts of many, a fine jewel it is. A special "shout out" must be given to the Young Marines. It does the heart good to see the Young Marines with so much patriotism and motivation, and the color guard was outstanding. Sadly, the total number of worthy people are too numerous to list here, but each and every one who contributed to event is well appreciated.

The list of speakers is long and distinguished. Many outstanding Marines and predominate members of the community graced the event with their presence. We were honored to have the following people speak at the event: LtGen Rex C. McMillian, Congressman Mike Coffman, BGen Floyd "Sumo" Dunstan, LtCol Orson Swindle, and Mr. Bill Davis. Mr. Davis during his portion of the presentation introduced those present to the National Young Marine of the Year, Sergeant Major Angel Orozco. The highlight of the celebrations was a motivating speech by Congressional Medal of Honor recipient MajGen James E Livingston USMC (Ret). The Generals speech was crowned with a fly over by aircraft.

Never to rest on their laurels, the Marine Corps League Association and Foundation are planning a \$3.02 million remodel of the memorial bringing it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond. See the plans at [www.usmarinecorpsmemorial.org](http://www.usmarinecorpsmemorial.org). The best is yet to come!

Terry Crum  
Web Sgt.

### Marine Corps Memorial Association Article

Thank you to all that came out for the 40th Anniversary of the Marine Corps Memorial, in Golden, CO. It was a great time, the dignitaries were outstanding and were in a abundance. For the ones that missed or didn't make it out we all were humble to be in the presence of M.Gen Livingston (MOH recipient), Lt. Gen McMillian and Marine Col and Colorado Senator Mike Coffman, lastly Lt. Col Orson Swindle a Hanoi POW. Like to give a special shut out to Pikes Peak, Frank J. Carroll, Broomfield and Windsor Marine Detachments for coming out and showing their support. There is so many more that I like to say "Thank You" to for making this a memorable event however that list is very long. I am asking each Detachment to look and see if their Detachment is a member of the Marine Corps Memorial Association if not, Please join, there is also

memberships for individuals as well. The application can be down loaded from our web site or you may contact me and I will get you one. This is your Memorial and we have so much planned and we love to have you be a part of it. The next Memorial service will be conducted on Veterans Day 11 Nov, 2017 @ 1400 (2 PM). Please come out and show your support and be part of the ceremony.

Tom Krueger

President, Marine Memorial Association

## **Fund Committee**

Marines, Associate Members, Auxiliary Members:

Marines have always risen to any challenge presented to them. We are proposing a challenge to you that will have long range benefits to the Marine Corps League and Marine Corps League Auxiliary in Colorado and very possibly a member of your family sometime in the future. Many members have experienced the benefit of a grant from our MCL National Scholarship program for a child or grandchild. We hope to be able to add to this benefit and feel that someday one of your own children or grandchildren might enjoy these benefits.

Department of Colorado Scholarship Fund asks that each Detachment and Unit try to support the Scholarship Fund with a \$100.00 donation. Understanding that this might be difficult for smaller underfunded Detachments and Units we ask that those smaller Detachments and Units that cannot afford \$100.00 still try to meet the traditional \$2.00 per member challenge. On the other hand, Detachments and Units with more than fifty members that have the resources might also consider the \$2.00 per Capita challenge as their resources allow. If each Detachment and Unit would set a goal of honoring this donation request to the Department Scholarship fund when possible. Please note this is not an assessment, but a voluntary effort that each Detachment and Unit could chose to provide by whatever means would work best for them. This is a program that will pay dividends for our families' youth for many years to come.

If your Detachment and/or Unit could meet this challenge by passing the hat, conducting a fundraiser for this purpose, an in house per capita assessment, or an outright donation, it will be appreciated and very instrumental in the success of our program. Knowing that some Detachments and Units resources are considerably greater than others, those that can afford to exceed this suggested goal are encouraged to do so.

*“Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world. But, the Marines don't have that problem.”*

Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; 1985

Meg Krebs

Vice Chairman

Dept. of Colorado Scholarship Fund