



December 2021 — January 2022

# LASKEY'S TELEGRAPH



Newsletter of The New England Division of The Marine Corps League Vol. 1 Issue 2



## Message From The Commandant



Welcome back to Volume Two of the Laskey's Telegraph where you can find out what is going on throughout the New England Division! I am excited to say, I really enjoyed reading everything in this newsletter and you will too!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Marine Corps Birthday celebrations and had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Commandants, as the holidays are coming and going, please check on your members. The Holidays can be a tough time for some, and now more than ever we need to be there to assist our members and their families. Commandant's if any member needs assistance in this time of need, please reach out!

Everyone that was involved with the awesome program of Toys 4 Tots, please remember to fill out your after action report. Documenting your hard work, which needs to be recorded, so the



National Commandant can pass it on to the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Documenting all your hard work will help the Marine Corps League prove to the Marine Corps how vital we are.

2022 Midwinter is coming upon us quickly, please check out the national website: <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/conference/>

And a little on the personal note, it was quite an honor and humbling to be able to make it down to Parris Island with my father, David Porter Sr, and see my niece graduate. She is the third generation to graduate and become a Marine. Aug 1968, Aug 1991, and Nov 2021.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year.

Semper Fi  
David Porter  
National Vice Commandant  
New England Division  
Marine Corps League





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<p><b>Div. Web Sergeant</b></p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>everyone it is not mine, nor the Commandants, or even Nationals, it's everyone's. It will help us communicate better, become stronger and even attract more members. If you meet someone and talk to them about the league, get their email address and you can forward them the newsletter when it comes out. You don't have to forward the email address, you do it, because recruiting is all of our jobs. I don't remember the Company who coined the advertising phrase about Job One! But at the Marine Corps League, "Recruiting Is Job 1" !!</p> <p><b>Taps</b>– if a member passes away then a member who knew him the best should send some information here. We want to know and remember that member the way you did. The experiences you shared together whether just the two of you or in the League. I wrote one for a friend that passed and I included something that happened to us when we were doing the Rose Program. It was on Veterans Day and it was freezing out. We were just trying to keep warm as the wind was blowing and our hands were pulled up in our red jackets, it was even too cold to sit, This woman came up to us and said "how are you guys doing today"? To which Leo replied, "I'm friggen Cold". The woman said she would see us on the way out. When she did she put a twenty in the jar and handed us each a blanket she bought in the store. We want to know the Marine. I miss you Leo.</p>
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## From The Editor

The first issue is in the books as they say and this is Issue 2. In this issue you should find:

1. What is happening in your Detachment
2. What is happening in the Division
3. Some History, Entertainment, Birthdays, Taps, Some Goals, What the Dogs are doing, and more.
4. Are your events listed in here? Why not? You may achieve greater success by telling more people about it.
5. Do you have an idea we can use to recruit new members?
6. Probably should have been my first question but what did you think of the First Issue? The Newsletter belongs to

Walt Benson





# CONNECTICUT

## BRASS CITY CELEBRATED THE 246TH

With so many Balls limited or cancelled it was hard to find a place to celebrate The Birthday but Brass City Came through. Members from Brass City, Housatonic, Southington Memorial, Silver City and Hardware City made their way to Waterbury to celebrate in the manner befitting our Corps. As is the tradition in



Brass City at the beginning of the evening all Marines gather at the bar where a shot of Southern Comfort 100 Proof is poured for every Marine so they may toast to Sam Beamon, this was Sam's favorite drink and we honor him and his memory in this manner, Semper Fi Sam.

The Young Marines Provided the Color Guard and the food and the comradery were excellent. There is still one question that haunts me, How did we wind up with a Navy Officer as the guest speaker? In all fairness he was a JAG officer with 30 years of service, but I really wanted to ask him, who or how many of those Marines he represented when they were on active duty. Come on what would life be like if we couldn't make fun of the Navy? After all, our Uber drivers took us to some of the worst places in the world.

The raffle was good even though I didn't win the K-bar again and they also told me I was not the youngest Marine so I could not cut the cake. All in all it was a fantastic night for our celebration.

Beside the celebrations, Connecticut is working Hard to get back into the swing of things. We are focusing on building attendance numbers at our meetings and growls and we are focused on gaining new members in both the League and the Dogs. We are also looking to make sure all of our members are current with their dues and that detachments are forwarding all of their reports on

to the Department, which in turn will forward the information to National. One theme that was predominant in all the Celebrations I attended was asking people to meet someone you didn't know before. This may seem insignificant but its not. I met some people from other detachments that I didn't know before and not only got to know

them but got invited to attend other events in their detachment. It's the little things that binds us together and that makes us stronger. The bonding that occurs between us will be contagious and spread to others and that is a good thing, because we in turn can spread it to the others we are trying to recruit and bring into our organization.

This year has been a growing experience, where I learned about teamwork and support and it seems there is always a Marine with something else to share and I found it in a strange place the other day. I was reading the news on my phone and I came across an article that said, Win-some Sears the new LT. Gov. of VA, gave a Veterans day speech with the Message The Marine Corps Gave me a reason to live. She was getting ready to go to college and her Grandmother died and her world collapsed. She was floundering and lost focus so she enlisted in the Marine Corps, where she said she learned about duty, honor, discipline and leadership. The thing that stood out the most was when she said you can have the rank, But unless people are following you, you're just taking a walk. You can't put it any simpler than that. So just because you have the title that doesn't make you a leader, it may put you in charge but leadership is so much more. It's kind like integrity, integrity is when you do the right thing no matter if someone knows it or not, it's a way of life. So is leadership, when you lead it's a 24 / 7 job. It's something to think about.

**Walt Benson**



# MAINE

**October 12, 2021:** It was well through the second day of delivering Toys for Tots boxes to area businesses throughout Greater Portland with Larry Chretien, New England Division Chief of Staff, when it occurred to me that we had yet to capture a photograph for 2021. When we met up with Michelle Daniels, Operational Assistant at RLC Engineering in Falmouth, Maine and she and Larry were setting up two boxes, I cautiously asked if I could take her picture for our



Southern Maine Detachment. She paused, looked up at me with a wide grin and a sparkle in her eye and told this story:

Her nephew, Jon Burns, had *four days earlier* (October 8<sup>th</sup>) graduated from Boot Camp at Parris Island. Following in his grandfather's footsteps, Jon decided to enlist. There was no question he would

choose the Marines. Now PFC Burns, he is very

proud of this accomplishment. During boot camp, he would say how he would be graduating on the same parade deck as his grandfather and often spoke about being in some of the same buildings his grandfather had been in and enjoyed knowing he trained in the same areas and had experienced some of the same things his grandfather had experienced so many years before him.



Jon's parents are Dennis and Debbie Burns; his grandfather, Lance Corporal Michael DeSimon. Jon's twin sister, Emily, also serves in the Military and holds the rank of Second Lieutenant in the United States Army!

Jon may have grown up in New Jersey, but

Michelle has always said, "That boy was meant to live in Maine and is a Mainer at heart!" So much so, he hopes his training and experience in the Marines will provide him the qualifications needed to later become a Maine Game Warden. Michelle said, "I'm so proud of his accomplishment of becoming a United States Marine and his decision to serve his country and proudly follow in his grandfather's footsteps."

Asked about her experience with Toys for Tots, Michelle had this to say, "My Dad donated to Toys for Tots because he felt every child should feel special at Christmas. After his passing in November of 2017, we as a family made it "our" mission to carry on our dad's tradition. When I started working at RLC Engineering in 2018, it quickly became clear to me that the company respects and support the men and woman who serve our Nation as well as the communities around them. When I approached our owner, Rick Conant, about participating in the Toys for Tots campaign, he was totally on board, as were the RLC employees in their donations. This is RLC's 3rd year participating in Toys for Tots and each year the number of donations has grown."

Larry has been Southern Maine Detachment

#1324's Toys for Tots Assistant Coordinator for over six years, working with Alpha Co., 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 25<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division, Marine Corps Forces Reserve out of Brunswick, Maine. This year, Larry delivered over 160 boxes to businesses in the Greater Portland area including Portland, South



**Michelle Daniels, Larry Chretien**

Portland, Scarborough, Westbrook, Falmouth, Gorham and Windham over a three-week period in October. He and a crew of Marines and civilian helpers with a truck donated by Coldwell Banker's Agent Darren McGovern, of Portland expect to pick up in excess of 3,000 toys for distribution to Maine youngsters in time for Christmas 2021.

**by Connie Harrison**



# MAINE

## The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital

*At Maine Medical Center*



I would like to send a Thank You to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket to help support our Barbara Bush Children's Hospital raffle. New England Division National Vice Commandant David Porter accepted the wooden flag for JR who was the winner but was unable to pick up flag because he was sick. JR is the CFO for the New England Division. Also in the picture is Paul St Pierre who is my Aide-de-Camp. We will be presenting a check in the amount of \$1750.00 to the Hospital. Thank you to all who have help me succeed. You are all awesome.

Semper Fi to my Marines, Woof Woof to my Devil Dogs and a hearty THANK YOU to everyone else.





# MASSACHUSETTS

Busy Day for the Department Massachusetts this past Sunday, where Michael Hinds was sworn in as Junior Vice Commandant by Department Commandant Brian Brooks. To be followed by Department of



Massachusetts Judge Advocate Cheney sworn in his son Lance Corporal Cheney Jr. home on leave! Gotta love those generations, Ooh, Rah. Semper Fi!!



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# MASSACHUSETTS

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**Marine Corps League , Department of Massachusetts**



## **Raffle 2020–2021**

**Colt 1911 model 45 (ACP), layered in 24 kt gold plate, completely engraved frame, and slide, with a scroll design highlighted with unique classic panel bounded Ivory Scrimshaw custom grips. This is an exquisite pistol or \$1500.00. Be sure and check your State and Local regulations to be sure this firearm is legal in your State.**



**Tickets are \$20.00 each, only 500 Tickets will be sold .  
Proceeds will benefit our Veterans and scholarships programs.**

**Drawing will be conducted at the 2022 MCL National Mid–Winter in Norfolk, VA.  
A Federal Firearms License (FFL) transfer dealer is required for the transfer of firearms ownership between individuals. All FFL requirements apply. Raffle winners should either have an FFL or find an FFL dealer in their local area to receive and manage the transfer of the item for them. This typically means the raffle winner must contact your local FFL transfer dealer to make arrangements for the transfer.**



# NEW HAMPSHIRE

## AT 246, THE MARINES CELEBRATE ANOTHER BIRTHDAY & CENTURIES OF SERVICE. OO-RAH!

Happy 246th birthday, United States Marine Corps.

You've earned your special day, held each year on Nov. 10. This year's tribute occurred on Wednesday, the day before Veterans Day, at the plaza in front of the State House steps.

The birthday has been celebrated since 1921, when Marine Corps General John Lejeune introduced it as a worthy annual endeavor. It stuck, nationwide.

Marine bases and facilities across the country held similar events Wednesday. "Since that day, the Marines have distinguished themselves on many battlefields and foreign shores, in war and peace," said Lt. Col. Kevin Sullivan of Boscawen, reciting Lejeune's speech from 1921. "In memory of them, it is fitting that we as Marines should commemorate the birthday of our Corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history."

He spoke at a microphone on a wet morning. All the pieces to this courageous puzzle were there. The Color Guard, marching in place before the start, polishing its skills to remain in sync. Rows of Marines, former and present, lined up near the statue of Daniel Webster shortly before the 8 a.m. start, each blending as one in full dress uniform: blue jacket, white cap, white gloves, blue pants with red stripe on the outside, lots of medals, lots of pride.

At 8 a.m. sharp, the Marine flag was raised on a pole planted high on the State House roof, the American flag on the other side framing the dome. That's the tradition. The flag will be lowered on Friday. John Jenkins of Raymond coordinated media coverage. He's the commandant at the Department of New Hampshire Marine Corps League. The organization helps veterans, doing things like building home elevators for those who can't walk.

Jenkins served in Vietnam. Once home, he had trouble adjusting to an unwelcoming nation. He says working for the League has helped. "I internalized everything," Jenkins said, "and it took me almost 40 years to the find Marines Corps League, and now I'm blossoming and living up to being a Marine." The birthday ensures that the Marines will be thanked, appreciation shown. Especially by bikers, like those from the Leathernecks of New Hampshire. They lined up behind the Marines during the ceremony,



ny, having served in Vietnam and other areas of the world. Sullivan has seen it all. He had a walrus-like mustache. He wore colored ribbons, lots of them, on the left side of his chest, a kaleidoscope of success under fire. "If you're going to be a bear," Sullivan said, "you might as well be a grizzly, so I enlisted in the Marines Corps."

He served in Vietnam in 1969 and '70, two of the bloodiest years of the war. He paused when asked to remember something, anything that might interest readers, growing emotional before downplaying his significance. "I was just an infantry platoon leader," Sullivan said, after regaining his composure. "I did a lot of walking."

He served in Okinawa, worked in NATO operations, then served during Desert Shield in Iraq. A native of Long Island, N.Y., he was working as a county emergency service police officer in Nassau County on Sept. 11, 2001. He rushed to Ground Zero to remove rubble, searching for survivors for 12 days before the operation changed, from rescue to recovery. He suffered no lung damage. Sullivan moved to Boscawen to follow his kids, who had chosen New Hampshire and other New England states to attend college. His son is a Marine too.

"So long as that spirit continues to flourish, Marines are equal to every emergency in the future," Sullivan told the gathering.

He mentioned dangerous hotspots around the world, places in which Marines have died, "From Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima to Inchon to the Korean armistice, interventions with Lebanon to the Dominican Republic, and to the opening battles of Vietnam." The Battle of Iwo Jima has always stood out, thanks to Joe Rosenthal's photo that showed Marines, still about a month from securing the island from the Japanese, straining to jab a hunk of pipe, American flag on top, into the ground. In the end, about 7,000 Marines lost their lives on that island. More than 18,000 Japanese died in the fighting.

That's just one reason why this birthday needs recognition. It's why everyone sang the "Marine's Hymn" in unison near the end of the ceremony, why a brass instrumental of "Anchors Aweigh" blasted from the speakers, and why the Marine flag was hoisted up the pole, followed by a thundering "OO-RAH!" "I guess it's the spirit that carried them through at Iwo, that carries us all through," Sullivan said. "There's a long history of that involved here."





# RHODE ISLAND

Just like all Marines, we don't celebrate our beloved Marine Corps birthday just on the 10th. Some events are before and after and that's what we did here in Rhode Island. A few of us made the trip up 95 to Boston for the Semper Fi luncheon on November 8th. Our Kent County Detachment hosted the Marine Corps Ball on the 10th. On the 19th, we were honored to attend an event for Marines only that is organized by a few Marines which has grown to



about 200 attendees.

For Veterans Day, as it has been for many years now, we provided a fire team for one of the local VFW's. In

the afternoon we held our own ceremony at the USMC monument at the RI Veterans cemetery where we lay a wreath and pay tribute to all veterans past and present. We were honored to have Terry Laskey join us on Veterans Day and lay the wreaths.

On Veterans Day, it was our privilege to spending time with 93 year Iwo Jima Marine Pat Femino. Marine Femino was a guest during the days events and said he was honored to



be there. We were just as honored to have him in attendance and speak with him.

As a Department, we decided that the Young Marines from

the Providence unit needed to be recognized for what they do in the program as well as outside of the program. We awarded the 2021 Department Young Marine of the year to YM/GySgt Christian Rutherford. This YM has a long list of accomplishments between school, wrestling, cross-country, among other areas. He is well deserving of this award and we wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors.

At the ball we gave out two well deserving



Associate Member of the Year awards. The Department awarded Carol Salisbury from Bucci-Atwood the Associate Member of the year. The Kent County Detachment's recipient was Dawn Campbell. Dawn is currently the Adjutant but also has held the position of office Chaplain for the Detachment. We are very lucky to have such dedication to the league.

Another reminder about 2022 Quad State scheduled for April 22-24. It will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick which is right off of 95 and 6 minutes from T. F. Green Airport. You can go [rimcl.org](http://rimcl.org) to register and make meal selections. There will be more info coming in regards to golfing, trip to Newport and/or Foxwoods. Stay tuned.

Happy Holidays to the New England Division!

Submitted by  
Patrick Maguire,  
Commandant,  
Department of  
Rhode Island





# VERMONT

We have been very busy putting all our resources into the Marine Corps Birthday Ball, here in Vermont. The Birthday Ball was somewhat small this year due to

pulled it off anyway. You can see the many photos here that those that did venture out into the world had a great time.

We also worked hard on the kick-off of "Toys for Kids" of Vermont program campaign for this year, which is the reason I am sore and lame due to all the muscles that I do not normally use. We are hoping for a good quantity of toys for the kids this year. "SEMPER-PH".



THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM

people still having great fear of COVID-19 but we



PDC James Chase & Wife Denise



Peter & Sally Martel



Vincent & Elaine Benvento



Matthew Melvin



John & Karen Kohler



Major Andrew Richard & Wife



Det. Commandant Daniel Bean & Wife Jennette



PDC LT. COL. Kevin Hawley & Wife Terrie



Chaplain Jay Miller & Wife Barbara



Capt. Daniel Hawley



SGT. Frank Bell





# YOUNG MARINES



Greetings Marines,

This time of the year is especially busy for all of us, including the Young Marines units within our MCL Division area. October 17 marked the 56<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Young Marines of the Marine Corps League. Our organization's official youth program was founded by the Brass City Detachment of the MCL in 1959. Several years later, in 1965, the Young Marines was approved and chartered by the MCL during its national convention as the program which exists today. Thank you to all the detachments and departments which have a special bond and interest in the YM units in your area. Your support and encouragement truly make the difference in advancing our program and young people.

This time of year is also when the YM units, battalions and the regiment begin the selection process of naming their Young Marine of the Year (YMOY). Later, the YM Divisions will select a YMOY and those six selectees, one from each division, will compete to be named the National YMOY by a national selection board. Please reach out to these entities to offer assistance if you are interested, as the process does allow for community members to be part of the selection process and board to screen eligible candidates. Units also compete to be recognized as Unit of the Year at these levels. The MCL New England Division will hold a separate selection board to recognize a Young Marine as its YMOY and make the presentation at the Quad State Convention.

Many YM units also reciprocated in supporting MCL detachments and local organizations with color guards and

YMs to set up, be part of ceremonies or escort Marines at various USMC birthday events and celebrations. YM community service and support continued through Veterans' Day, as many units were involved in parades, ceremonies and tributes to our armed service veterans and families.

The goal of the YM program is to have quality units and volunteers to facilitate opening units or growing units nationally. At this time, the states of Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire are without a YM unit. Recently, the program saw the closing of the Boston (Burlington, MA) and County Patriots (Presque Isle, ME) units do to staffing issues. If you are interested in the requirements and process for establishing a YM unit in your detachment or department area, please visit [Start a Young Marines Unit](#). I am also able to discuss the program and share insights if your detachment or department is seeking to foster or establish a unit locally.

Young Marines units are also very focused on community service opportunities in order to help the YMs meet the requirements and achievements needed to advance and to also showcase the unit achievements during the year. Please consider con-

tacting your YM units as you begin the annual work of collecting and sorting Toys For Tots!

Semper Fidelis,

Bruce Katz

MCL New England Division

Young Marines Liaison





# QUILTS OF VALOR

At the Paul C. Houghton Birthday Dinner in Plainfield Connecticut, three Marine Corps league Members received Quilts of Valor. If you don't know anything about this organization please read on. They do an amazing job and you may find you want to be a part of this Great Organization.



What is a Quilt of Valor? A Quilt of Valor® (QOV) is a quality, handmade quilt that is machine or hand quilted. It is awarded to a Service Member or Veteran who has been touched by war. The Quilt says unequivocally, "Thank you for your service and sacrifice in serving our nation." To use the term Quilt of Valor, Quilts of Valor or QOV, the quilt must be a specific size, must have a label with required information, it must be awarded (it is not a gift) and it must be recorded.



In our area we have been fortunate in having Jane Dougherty, wife of PDD Jack Dougherty and Cindy Guendert and I have seen them everywhere from Birthday dinners like this, car shows, fairs, and VSO events everywhere. Jane says she is retiring but I did tell her, No One Likes a quitter, but we do love quilters. Her replacement is Debra Bennett.



Pictured here are members of the Paul C. Houghton Detachment receiving their quilts. If you look at the photos there is a lot of care and work that goes into these quilts and each one is different and each one has a story as do the veterans who receive them.

Quilts of Valor Foundation began in 2003 with a dream, literally a dream. Founder Catherine Roberts' son Nat was deployed in Iraq. According to Catherine: The dream was as vivid as real life. I saw a young man sitting on the side of his bed in the middle of the night, hunched over. The permeating feeling was one of utter despair. I could see his war demons clustered around, dragging him down into an emotional gutter. Then, as if viewing a movie, I saw him in the next scene wrapped in a quilt. His

whole demeanor changed from one of despair to one of hope and well-being. The quilt had made this dramatic change.

The Message of my dream was: **Quilts = Healing.**

I have listened to the stories about how the organization came to be and how they get together and operate and perhaps one of the most important facts is how many quilts they have awarded but with great awards and deeds comes great needs. So as we say in our recruiting ads, The Marines are Looking for a Few Good People, so how about you? Jane has said many times this is not just for women, There are many male quilters and the machines they operate are power tools. I unfortunately am not a power tool person I am dangerous with tools. If I took a tool into combat I could probably do more harm than someone





# QUILTS OF VALOR MARINE FOR LIFE

with a gun. I definitely couldn't repair anything its not in my skill set. The nimblest I get is these fingers on the keys. I have a rule if I go out to start the car, if I turn the key or now push the button if it starts we are golden if not I call my wife and ask her to call one of those Mechanic type people. You are probably laughing by now but its true, I fix repair or operate nothing, but some of you are really skilled and talented and you may be sitting home with nothing to fix, this is your chance.



Do you want more information ? Their website is <https://www.qovf.org/>, You can find all of the information that you want or need either how to get involved helping to create quilts or getting a quilt awarded to a veteran in need. I have seen some of the most beautiful quilts I could imagine. They are works of art so if you have an artistic desire this could be a good fit. You will find all the contact information on this site that you need.

**Walt Benson**



Marine For Life Network (M4L) connects transitioning Marines and their family members to education resources, employment opportunities, and other Veterans services that aid in their career and life goals outside of military service. The Marine For Life Network offers Marines and family members connections to military-friendly employment, education, and other Veteran and community resources. <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/services/career/marine-for-life-network/>

Shawn Carboni

New England Division M4L Liaison  
Department of New Hampshire M4L Liaison

Granite State Detachment 542 M4L Liaison

My contact information is:

[Carbs10@yahoo.com](mailto:Carbs10@yahoo.com)

(603)203-8266

National Marine Corps League Marine For Life Contact:

David Ossian

[dossian@mcleague.org](mailto:dossian@mcleague.org)





# MARINES & MOVIES

Hello Marines, this is something new we will publish every issue until we are done, but the list is thirteen pages so we are going to be reviewing these for a while. I saw something like this in the Housatonic Detachment Newsletter, and I did some research and came up with this, so thank you Rich Daigle. The links for the movies themselves work and will take you to information about the film in Wikipedia. You will notice not all are Movies some are films created by The Marine Corps

Beginning with The Star Spangled Banner (1918), the Marines discovered the use of motion pictures. In exchange for a favorable portrayal that stimulated recruiting and gave an impressive view to the public and Congress, the Marines provided uniformed extras, locations, equipment, and technical advisers that provided their expertise to the producers. In 1926 MGM's Tell It to the Marines and Fox's What Price Glory? directed by Raoul Walsh nearly led to a court battle to see whether one studio could copyright the Marines to prevent other films from being made. Allan Dwan's Sands of Iwo Jima, starring John Wayne, is frequently cited as one of the most influential Marine films. Over the years, Camp Pendleton was dressed up to represent Central American nations, China, Pacific islands, New Zealand, and Joseph H. Lewis's Retreat, Hell! had the base covered in studio snow with their hills and roads painted white. Camp Pendleton later doubled as Vietnam in Marshall Thompson's To the Shores of Hell. When filming Battle Cry at the base in 1954, Raoul Walsh's Marine technical adviser said that he had joined the Corps after seeing What Price Glory?. United States Marine Corps Recruit Training was also depicted in Jack Webb's The D.I. and Stanley Kubrick's Full Metal Jacket that led to more enlistments to the Corps. Most recently, the Gulf and Iraq wars have become the subject of controversial films such as Jarhead and Generation Kill.

## List of films

Title	Director	Notable cast	Summary	Released	Notes
<a href="#">6th Marine Division on Okinawa</a>	United States Marine Corps		The film details the actions of the 6th Marine Division during the Battle of Okinawa, released shortly after the event.	1945	
<a href="#">All the Young Men</a>	Hall Bartlett	Sidney Poitier, Alan Ladd	The film depicts a fictional unit of Korean War Marines in 1951 and explores the recent racial integration of the Marine Corps. Sgt Towler, an African American, struggles to assert his authority over the platoon, who express their preference for the Caucasian Sgt. Kincaid.	1960	
<a href="#">Battle Cry</a>	Raoul Walsh	Van Heflin, Aldo Ray, James Whitmore, Nancy Olson	Based on the novel by Leon Uris, the film follows a group of Marines that join the 6th Marine Regiment during World War II. The communications company comes together to fight in the battles of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, and Saipan.	1955	
<a href="#">Battle for Haditha</a>	Nick Broomfield		The film is based on the Haditha killings in November 2005, where Marines killed 24 individuals, at least 15 of which were non-combatants.	2008	

# MARINES & MOVIES

<a href="#">Battle: Los Angeles</a>	Jonathan Liebesman	Aaron Eckhart, Ramón Rodríguez	The film follows a platoon of Marines from 2nd Battalion 5th Marines, defending against an alien invasion in Los Angeles, and eventually crack the secret to destroying command centers worldwide.	2011	
<a href="#">Born on the Fourth of July</a>	Oliver Stone	Tom Cruise	Film adaptation of the autobiography of Ron Kovic, dealing with his service in the Vietnam War, in particular his post-traumatic stress disorder and feelings of the betrayal of Vietnam veterans by the American government. Disabled shortly after friendly fire kills a young Marine, Kovic endures neglect at a VA hospital and becomes disillusioned. Being disgusted with the government, he joins Vietnam Veterans Against the War and protests at the	1989	<b>Awards:</b> 2 Oscars, 4 Golden Globes, 5 other major awards
<a href="#">The Boys in Company C</a>	Sidney J. Furie	Stan Shaw, Andrew Stevens, R. Lee Ermey	This film follows five Marines from boot camp to a tour of duty in the Vietnam War in 1968. Disheartened by futile combat, corruption, and incompetence, the five seek a way out. They are told that if they can defeat a rival soccer team, they can spend the rest of their tour playing exhibition games behind the lines.	1978	
<a href="#">Brothers</a>	Jim Sheridan	Tobey Maguire, Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman	Captain Sam Cahill (Tobey Maguire) is embarking on his fourth tour of duty, leaving behind his beloved wife (Natalie Portman) and two daughters. When Sam's Blackhawk helicopter is shot down in the mountains of Afghanistan, the worst is presumed, leaving an enormous void in the family. Despite a dark history, Sam's charismatic younger brother Tommy (Jake Gyllenhaal)	2009	<b>Awards:</b> 2 Golden Globe Nominations

**NEXT ISSUE WE WILL START WITH :** The DI, Full Metal Jacket, A Few Good Men, and More. Maybe we can come up with some other areas where Marines have dominated.

“To find us you must be good, to catch us you must be fast, to beat us you must be kidding” *Semper Fi*





# SCRATCHINGS FROM THE DOGS

## CHALLENGE, CHALLENGE CHALLENGE



The Glawackus Pound #131 Connecticut Pack, Challenges all Pounds in New England. There are a few side challenges like the loser in Connecticut will wear a ribbon with the winning Pounds Name on it, but there is no mistake here we are competing for top dog. Connecticut is doing the following. We have the new Division Patch, Myself as the Pound Keeper of Glawackus Pound bought Patches for everyone of my

Dogs in the Pound. PDD Daigle who is the Pound Keeper in Hooch Pooch gave a patch to each of his Dogs. I have asked that the money they would have paid for the patch 5.50 Bones be donated to the kennel for the Children's Hospital Goal of 100,000 big bones. We will collect these bones, and hold them with the Dog Robbers plus any donations until the Grand Growl on June 10th, when the Pound Dog Robbers will forward our Bones to the Kennel. You, all the New England Pounds are hereby Challenged to compete for TOP DOG HONORS. You are free to do this in any manner you see fit, but it comes down to how many bones you can send to the Kennel.

Here are my thoughts on this I don't know about you but I am tired of going through a Growl and turning pages, Old business, New business, Good of the Order, Announcements and proceed to closing. It used to be fun and now its another meeting. Attendance is down, recruiting is down, advancements are down. Maybe a challenge like this is the spark we need to get things going again. I told a story the other day at my Growl about one of the Dinners I went to. The MC was going through all the necessities and the last thing he said was while you are here meet someone that you do not know. Before the words were done coming out of his mouth I turned to my wife and stuck out my hand and High I'm Walt, she of course call me an asshole and I proceeded to do it to everyone at the table and when I got to the person I didn't know we were all laughing. It has to start somewhere, so you start it, bring back the fun bring back the laughs. If you are getting through a Growl and you haven't paid a fine, that's just wrong. So you are challenged, and I am determined to be the Top Dog Pound In the Division. Catch me if you can.



**Woof Woof PDD Walt Benson  
Sir Pound Keeper Glawackus Pound 131**

# ☆☆☆ AWARDS ☆☆☆ HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Arthur	Brainard	12	12/06/46
Elmer	Gendreau	12	12/11/35
Parker	Hanssen	12	
Carol	Krohn	12	12/03/40
Adam	Krzynowek	12	12/24/59
Edward	Lee Jr.	12	12/31/49
Daniel	Lutty	12	12/06/47
John	Malley	12	12/16/35
Robert	Marchese	12	12/19/35
Andrew	McKinn	12	12/03/68
Edward	Orlowski	12	12/26/25
Henry	Otte	12	
Richard	Rampone	12	12/01/41
Francis	Russell	12	12/02/48
Dennis	Taricani	12	
Caron	LeRoy	1	01/07/44
Clark	John	1	01/30/30
Connors Jr.	William	1	01/26/70
Enriquez	Robert	1	01/08/40
Fitzpatrick	Leo	1	01/04/38
Lantz	Richard	1	01/09/83
Lugo	Angel	1	01/20/38
Madigan	Charles	1	01/11/44
Mullaney	Garrell	1	01/06/47
Ostertag	Donald	1	01/10/73
Padelli	Matthew	1	01/31/48
Parker	Thomas	1	01/01/37
Rivard	Raymond	1	1/9/1934
Smith	Robert	1	01/18/48
Wilson	Marion	1	01/12/35
Wisneski	Stephen	1	

PCDD Doug Fisk and NEVCDD Cherie Monnell Presented PDD Larry Herrmann with The Past Chief Devil Dog Award given by the Past Chief Devil Dog Society to Pedigreed Devil Dogs (PDD) in recognition of their exceptional service to the Order and to their Community. This award is second only to the Kennel Dog of the Year as the most prestigious award given by the Order.

Larry is the official Kennel Jester, which I believe is his favorite position in the Dogs except for maybe Mad Dog, he was my Mad Dog when I became a PUP. He is the legal advisor to the New England Division and I don't think there is anyone in the league who doesn't know him. He advocates for Marines everywhere, going above and beyond, recognizing their accomplishments with a constant focus on what they are doing right. In recent years he advocated for the Peter P Monaco Detachment and their brilliant comeback from their almost total demise. Larry spoke of what they did often trying to spread the ideas and methods they used to grow to be used by everyone, so that we all might benefit.

Recently he was named as one of the Top One Hundred Trial Lawyers in the Country and one of the top criminal lawyers but according to Larry this award means so much more. Larry is an Advocate, a mentor, a brother and a friend.

From what I have seen and Know of Larry, he is first and always a Marine. If you ever get to a meeting or Growl early you will usually find Larry Already there and willing to talk to anyone. Then when the meeting or Growl begins Larry will always have a joke or a story to brighten your day. You deserve this Brother and I'm proud to know you.

**Walt Benson**







# HUMOR AROUND THE DIVISION



An Irishman went for an interview with one of the major blue chip computer companies.

When the interview was over the interviewer told him that all applicants had to complete a test. The interviewer took a piece of paper and drew six vertical lines in pairs of two on the paper and placed it in front of the Irishman.

"Could you please show me a clever way to make this into nine?"

After thinking for a while the Irishman took the pencil and drew a canopy of leaves on top of the three pairs of lines, and handed the paper back to the interviewer.

The interviewer looked at the drawings and said: "But that is not nine!"

"Oh yes it is", said the Irishman with a broad Irish accent, "Tree + Tree + Tree make nine!"

The interviewer handed the paper back to the Irishman and asked him to make it 99.

After thinking for a long while the Irishman scribbled up and down the trunks and handed the paper back to the interviewer.

The interviewer looked at the drawings and said: "But that is not ninety-nine!"

"Oh yes it is", said the Irishman, "Dirty tree + dirty tree + dirty tree make ninety-nine."

The interviewer was now a bit cheesed off so he decided to do the Irishman once and for all, therefore, he handed the paper back to the Irishman and asked him to make it 100.

After thinking for a considerably longer time the Irishman suddenly grabbed the pencil and drew a little blob on the bottom right-hand side of each three and handed the paper back to the interviewer.

The interviewer looked at the drawings and said: "But that is not 100!"

"Oh yes it most certainly is", said the Irishman with a much broader Irish accent,

"Dirty tree and a turd + dirty tree and turd + dirty tree and a turd, make a 100"



Old man Murphy and old man Sean were contemplating life when Murphy asked, "If you had to get one or the other would you rather get Parkinson's or Alzheimer's?"

"Sure, I rather have Parkinson's", replied Sean

"'Tis better to spill a couple of ounces of Jameson whiskey than to forget where you keep the bottle!"

\*\*\*\*\*

Murphy, Collins and Vella are drinking in a pub when a drunk comes in, staggers up to them, and points at Collins, shouting,

"Your mum's the best shag in town!"

Everyone expects a fight, but Collins ignores him, so the drunk wanders off and stick his nose into a pint of Guinness at the far end of the bar.

Ten minutes later, the drunk comes back, points at Collins again, and says,

"I just screwed your mum, and it was grand!"

Again Collins refuses to take the bait, and the drunk goes back to the far end of the bar.

Ten minutes later, he comes back and announces, "Your mum said it was the best thing since sliced bread!"

Finally, Collins interrupts. "Go home, Dad,... you're pissed!"

Little Tony was 9 years old and was staying with his Grandmother for a few days.

He had been playing outside with the other kids for a while when he came into the house and asked her, Grandma, what's that called when two people sleep in the same room and one is on top of the other?

She was a little taken back, but decided to tell him the truth , It's called sexual intercourse, darling.

Little Tony said Oh OK and went back outside to play with the other kids.

A few minutes later he came back in and said angrily, Grandma, it isn't called sexual intercourse . It's called Bunk Beds. And Jimmy's mom wants to talk to you.

# TAPS / MEMORIES / FAREWELL

It may seem an odd place to speak about our Birthday, but this day is steeped in traditions dating back to our beginning. At first assumption, the traditions surrounding the United States Marine Corps' Birthday may seem stuffy and full of military pageantry, pomp and circumstance. But the main event – so thoroughly baked into the system of the Marine Corps that it's written into the official manual – is the cake cutting ceremony. Done with the same respect for tradition and order as a 21 gun salute, the cake cutting was formalized in the Drill Manual in 1956 where, by tradition, the first slice of cake is given to the oldest Marine present who then hands it to the youngest Marine present, symbolizing a passing of knowledge and tradition from wisest to newest. After that, a traditional reading of Marine Corps Order 47, which created the official holiday as a mandatory celebration, followed by any format of pageantry and celebration that time allows.

However this day is considered to be the Birthday of all Marines and as it is our Birthday, it is also the Birthday of those who have moved on to their final post and therefore it is appropriate that we remember them on this day.

## CONNECTICUT

DENNIS E. HAVELEVITCH  
 JOSEPH J. BUCHHEIT  
 WILLIAM T. CONNORS  
 STANLEY OLEJAR  
 PETER J. BELEY, JR.  
 RAYMOND S. DERR  
 JOHN M. DUFFORD  
 JOHN DYSENCHUK  
 LEO H. MILEWSKI  
 MICHAEL T. SZTABA  
 CARL T. TURNING  
 CARL R. VENDITTO  
 GEORGE BAYLIS  
 SAMUEL BEAMON, SR.  
 MATTEO CARRAFA  
 EUGENE A.  
 MIGLIARO, JR  
 LEROY T. GLOVER  
 FRANCISCO  
 HERNANDEZ  
 RAYMOND H. MCNULT

RICHARD E. TOLMAN  
 HERBERT P. BROY  
 GEORGE E. JOHNSON  
 THOMAS S. ROCHE, SR  
 RONALD J. ASKIN  
 ANDY BELLIVEAU  
 TOMMY GRIFFIN  
 ROBERT J. HAWKINS  
 ALBERT R. MARTIN

## MASSACHUSETTS

JOSEPH A. BRAGALONE  
 BRUCE E. CARROLTON  
 JOHN CRISAFULLI  
 FOSTER K. CUMMINGS  
 FRANCIS P. DRISCOLL  
 CHARLES N. GILBERT

## MAINE

DONALD T. BRAWN  
 LEO A. GOULD, JR.  
 CHARLES M. JOHNSON  
 DAVID T. KIRK, SR.  
 MALCOLM A. NOYES  
 BENOIT ST. HILAIRE  
 GRADY I. THURLOW  
 ROGER J. TORRE  
 RONALD G. CATABIA  
 GEORGE H. FLAHERTY  
 HARLEY J. PERRY  
 THOMAS A. ROBINSON  
 GEORGE T. SCHOOLS

WILLIAM GOCHIS  
 WILLIAM H. LANGILL  
 SGT. JAMES J. O'BRIEN  
 WILLIAM J. SIMPSON  
 KENNETH E. VINA  
 EDWIN A. BUCKHOUT  
 RICHARD CHASE  
 RAYMOND J. CHENEY  
 GERARD L. HICKEY  
 JOHN M. KNAPIK  
 JOHN W. MAHONEY  
 JAMES J. MCDEVITT  
 BARKLEY E. MILLSAPS  
 JAMES J. MURPHY  
 LAWRENCE M. NORTON  
 ROBERT P. PEARSON  
 JAMES E. SHEA, JR.  
 WALTER J. WALSH  
 FRANK C. BONIN  
 MICHAEL T. O'ROURKE  
 BRENT L. SPURGIN  
 EARL BLOUNT  
 JOSEPH V. CAVALLARO  
 RICHARD A. CREAR  
 FORTUNATO FELIX  
 RICHARD GALLANT  
 EDWARD J. MAHAN  
 EDWARD W.  
 MICKELSON  
 LOUIS P. NAPLE, JR.  
 ROBERT C. PETERS  
 DEAN E. SCHAEFFER  
 EARL W. SKEEAN  
 ROBERT J. SMITH  
 DONALD F. WITHEE

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Frank Diekmann  
 WILLIAM C. TRAEGER  
 CHARLES A.  
 ESSENHEIMER  
 RICHARD WALKER  
 WILLIAM R. BARRY  
 LOUIS C. CRIVELLARO

WILLIAM P. GIGUERE  
 ROBERT C. KASHULINES  
 RUDOLPH R. MAYO  
 TED A. PELLETIER  
 LOUIS P. PERREAULT  
 ROMEO J. THERIAULT  
 WAYNE M. TUCKER  
 FRANK C. WISINSK  
 BOB W. BAGLEY  
 JOHN L. BALCOM  
 ALICE L. DAME  
 RICHARD C. L'HEUREUX  
 BRUCE MONTVILLE  
 KENNETH MURPHY  
 RICHARD L. MURPHY  
 FREDERICK H.  
 WHEELER  
 HOBART L. WILKINSON

## RHODE ISLAND

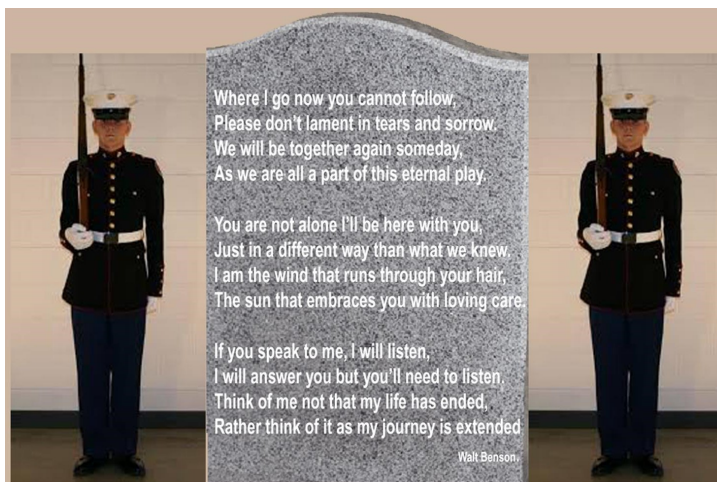
ANTHONY P. TOKARZ  
 JAMES R. LASKEY

## VERMONT

HONORA BECHARD  
 EVERETT W. CLIFFORD  
 FREDERICK J. MCMAHON  
 ROBERT H. SARGENT  
 WILLIAM E. LONEY  
 DOUGLAS D. DEVRIES  
 FRANCIS J.  
 MCLAUGHLIN  
 ALBERT A. ALEXANDER  
 JOHN F. DUFFY  
 FRED H. GORHAM  
 JAMES A. JOHNSTON  
 MARLYS A. LEMNAH  
 RUSSELL ROSS  
 RAYMOND STJOHN, SR.  
 MAURICE E.  
 WASHBURN  
 FREDERICK P. WILLET

## AFGHANASTAN BOMBING

DYLAN R. MEROLA,  
 HUNTER LOPEZ  
 KAREEM M. NIKOUI  
 DARIN T. HOOVER  
 DAEGAN W. PAGE  
 JOHANNY ROSARIO  
 PICHARDO  
 HUMBERTO A. SANCHEZ  
 DAVID L. ESPINOZA  
 JARED M. SCHMITZ  
 RYLEE J. MCCOLLUM  
 MAXTON W. SOVIAK  
 RYAN C. KNAUSS  
 NICOLE L. GEE





# TAPS / MEMORIES / FAREWELL

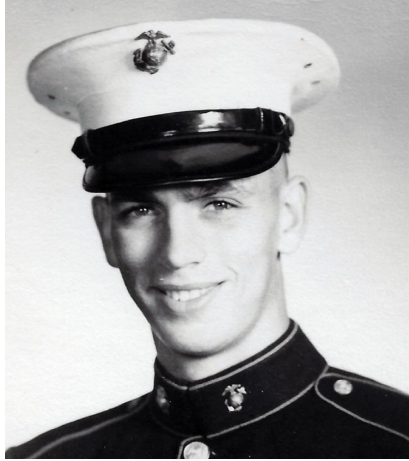
After a lengthy illness, Frank A. Diekmann, 83, of Bedford, New Hampshire, passed away on November 5, 2021. Born August 25, 1938, in Cincinnati, Ohio, he was the son of Frank and Johanna Diekmann. After graduating from Purcell High School, he served in the United States Marine Corps. Frank earned a degree from Thomas More College in Covington, KY., going to night school while working full-time at Kroger. At Kroger he met Mary Ann, to whom he was married to for 61 years.

Frank's professional career would take him (and family) around the U.S. and world in a number of executive leadership positions— Australia, England, and multiple states, including Ohio, Connecticut, Indiana, New Jersey, North Carolina and New Hampshire. He was President of Monarch Marking Australia where he was responsible for all Monarch operations in Asia; President of Worldwide Operations for the Woven Label Division of Paxar in Patterson, N.J., and president of Modutec in Manchester, N.H., where he was subsequently named President of its holding company, Crompton International in Witham, England. His career included surviving an earthquake in New Guinea.

Upon retirement, Frank was generous with his time with a variety of organizations. He was active in the Marine Corps League (Commandant of the Granite State Detachment for 2 years and Department of New Hampshire for 4 years). He was recognized as Marine of the Year for the Department of New Hampshire in 2016. Frank was also the New England Vice Chief Devil Dog for Ten Years.

Frank also volunteered for a number of other organizations including SCORE, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Society for the Preservation of New Hampshire Forests, the Governor's State Veterans Advisory Committee, Toys for Tots, Building Dreams for Marines and Honor Flight of New England.

Frank is survived by his wife Mary Ann,



who Frank loved dearly and to whom he frequently expressed his gratitude for her compassion and care as his health declined. He is also survived by his son Frank J. Diekmann and his wife, Valerie and their children, Frank A. and Hannah Diekmann, Tommy, Mickie and Natalie Nolan of Palm Coast, Florida; son Jerry Diekmann and his wife Janet, and their children, Matthew and his wife Kim and their son Andrew and Dr. Katy Diekmann of Northwest Arkansas; daughter Mary Ann Landrum and her husband

David and their children, Rob and Jason Schneider, Madeleine, Logan and Wade Landrum of Goffstown, NH; and daughter Maria Fagen and her husband KC and their children, Parker and Aubree of Tillamook, Oregon.

He was preceded in death by his sisters Dr. Rosemary Winkeljohann, OSU and Alberta Seibel.

For those who knew him, Frank will be forever remembered for making it through his entire life without any exposure to popular culture of any kind, for his affinity for John Philip Sousa marches (much to the consternation of his children), for the exacting ability to plan nationwide trips to the mile, an inability to ever pick decent donuts, and for an odd but short-lived affinity for country music line dancing.

Most of all, he will be remembered by his family for showing love not through words but always with his deeds.

The family would like to thank the staff at Villa Crest Nursing and Retirement Center for their loving care and compassion. The family wishes memorial contributions be made to Building Dreams for Marines of New Hampshire ( <https://bdfm.org/donate>).

No funeral or memorial service is immediately planned. The family will notify in the future when a service is scheduled. Assisting with arrangements is the Cremation Society of New Hampshire, Manchester. To view Frank's online trib-

ute, send condolences to his family, or for more information, visit [www.csnh.com](http://www.csnh.com).





# ALL THE BEST BIRTHDAY BALLS



**Boston Semper Fi Luncheon**



**Boston Semper Fi Luncheon Jumbotrons**



**The Commandant was Absent**



**Boston Semper Fi Luncheon The Commandants Own Drum and Bugle Corps, were outstanding!!  
But for Me Nothing beats The Sight Of These Two Flags**



**1600 Marines and their Guests  
Attended this Event**



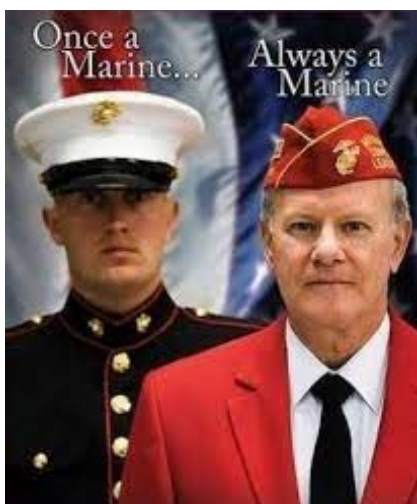
**You Can Give Your Heart To Jesus;  
But Your Ass Belongs To The Corps!!**



# DIVISION RECRUITING

In each edition I would like to share ideas from everyone in the Division as to what they are doing to recruit new members, keeping in mind we are better together than individually. The first and most important thing you will have to overcome is the objection that they belong to other VSO's.

In the last issue we discussed advertising the upcoming detachment meetings on social media and asking for new members to come join us. I would like to expand on that if I may. When I joined the League there was always a pot of coffee going and some type of treat whether it was cookies or donuts or cake. I know in the detachment I was in it was taken care of by the Auxiliary, and they are in



short supply right now, but every Marine knows how to make coffee and buy snacks. Lets add that to the invitation, refreshments will be served.

If you meet a Marine the first thing you should ask him is, Did you ever hear of the Marine Corps League? Then tell them who we are and why they should

be a part of us. Get their contact information to call them and remind them when the next meeting is being held. Get an e-mail address and add them to our Newsletter distribution. Then you can pass that email address on or better yet, you made the contact you keep the relationship going. If someone inquires about the Marine Corps League Plates make that a contact for reminders and the Newsletter. Keeping in touch with these Marines by means of Our Newsletter is a non invasive way to keep them in the loop and maybe someday they will come and join us. Everyone likes to look at pictures and pictures of what your detachment is doing helps while inviting them to be a part of it.

There is one other thing that comes to mind and that is recruiting from those serving now whether it be regular or reserve. Every year the Department of Connecticut gets an invitation to attend the Marine Corps Birthday Ball with the reserve Unit in Southington Connecticut. I'm sure other Departments get the same type of invitation but we historically do not attend. It can be for many reasons, cost, or wanting to be with our friends but this is a golden opportunity to reach out and make that con-



DO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

JOIN THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

**MARINES  
WANTED**

FIND A DETACHMENT  
[HTTPS://WWW.MCLNATIONAL.ORG/FIND-A-DETACHMENT.HTML](https://www.mclnational.org/find-a-detachment.html)



tact, that bonds, with our Brothers and Sisters in these Units. We go to many events at all different levels, so that there is a showing of Red Jackets at the Event, This should be one such event. If we don't have a volunteer to go then maybe we should sponsor someone to go and represent us there. This is a bridge we want to make stronger. So by the way of putting my money where my mouth is I will attend next years Marine Corps Ball with the local Reserve Unit no matter where it is held.

Everyone out there has a different reason why they joined the League. For me it was my boss that bugged me about it till I finally agreed to join. It took some time for me to get used to the idea and want to be here but I got there. I also realized that I wished I had found the League when I left the Marine Corps. Like everyone else when I left the Corps I was not the same as when I went in, so much had changed. When I went into the Corps I had a girlfriend, when I came out I did not. I had a good job when I went in, one I was happy with and when I came back to that job it had changed and so did I. The local bar was not the same as the E club, and your views no longer were in sync with everyone else's. So I wandered and struggled and I really could have used some contact with people that were the same as me, rather than different. So I think of what we do and how we interact it is definitely a good thing and it doesn't matter if you were in during WWII, Korea, Vietnam, The Gulf, or Afghanistan, we all share a bond of brotherhood and a similar way of thinking. If you want to belong to the VFW, or the American Legion, that's great but your home is here, and we want to bring you home.

**Walt Benson**

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# T'was The Night Before Christmas As We close The Books On 2021

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'Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the world,  
Stood the guardians of Freedom, some young and some old.

Their rifles were spotless and zeroed with care,  
Looking for the danger they know will be there.

They fear for their children at home in their beds,  
Yearning for the touch of a kiss on their heads.

And there I was, prepared for the fight,  
Wondering when the evil of war would ignite.

When out of the dust there arose such a clatter,  
I swiveled around to see what was the matter.

Outside the window I saw a huge flash,  
The air tasted rancid, of fuel and of trash.

The sound of my comrades cries in the air,  
Sent chills down my spine, to cold to bare.

When, what to my angered eyes should appear,  
But a valiant young Soldier, showing no fear!

With bullets whizzing over his head,  
I knew in a moment the bad guys were dead.

Out of the smoke, more Soldiers they came,  
Young warriors who knew that this was no game.

We deftly maneuvered, aiming to kill,  
Secretly saddened by the blood that we spill.

After the battle, on edge and so tired,  
We relive the moments each bullet was fired.

Back at the FOB, I lay down and stare,  
Thinking of all of the reasons I'm there.

Wiping my face with my own bloodied glove,  
I think of my family and all of their love.

I think of their faces with a tear in my eye,  
Glad that today was not my turn to die.

I think of America, and all of her beauty,  
Honored to serve her, it's not just my duty.

As I lay in my bed thinking of Christmas,  
I smile from the thought of the joy that it brings us.

I know you can't hear me, but I'm just out of sight,

"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."

This is a poem I wrote for all my fellow Troops!

I am proud of you all!

SSG John Spencer  
26 November 2010

We pause and look at where we have been and where we are going. We were hit by COVID and missed many events and many chances to come together. We finally got some conventions in, as well as the National Convention in Illinois, although not without a few Glitches.

However, we found that as we moved forward our focus was on the positive. At the Convention we came away with a new Award for Associate Members, which is long overdue. Some new bylaws which you should check out in the Library. We have a new focus and drive toward recruiting and an emphasis on Communications, as it will help us achieve all of our goals. We filled many open positions in our ranks which we hope will bring new enthusiasm and ideas. We have a New National Commandant who will have a tough task ahead of him as we rebuild from the setbacks we suffered as well as turning the ship around to grow new members. We said good-bye to many of our Brothers and Sisters as they have departed to their final post.

If we are to be successful we need to get back to business. Come to Meetings and don't come alone, bring a friend. Call and remind each other and car pool if you like. If you are a Dog then you should be proud the we gave \$70,000.00 to the children's hospital in Illinois. We would like to see that number grow to \$100,000.00 and we can do that. The easiest way is to get new pups to join. The second thing we can do is attend more Growls.

Lastly, one of the most important things we do in The Marine Corps League is Funeral Honors and we need more volunteers. I recently attended the funeral of a friend of mine he was a Marine but not a member of the League. His family asked for Military Honors from the funeral director. When I got to the cemetery, the National Guard was there. All three of them. They had on uniforms that looked like they came out of a seabag and they were sitting on top of headstones. The provided Honors before the ceremony, I guess no one is worth 30 minutes. They fired not in Sync and never picked up the brass, the funeral director did it later. I have never seen a MCL Rifle Squad perform a half assed ceremony but that doesn't mean others operate with that dedication. If you can please volunteer for this it is the most fulfilling job you will ever do.

As we enter the new year we do so with hope and anticipation of all the good we will accomplish from our efforts. Going forward every Meeting or Growl you attend makes us stronger. Every new member or pup you bring in makes us GREATER. So to each and every one of my Brothers and Sisters out there Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Semper Fidelis!!

**Walt Benson**





2021

# December

2021



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

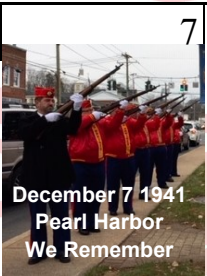
FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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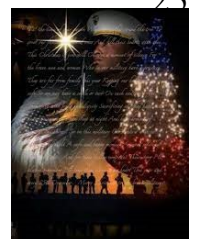
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Last Day For Pick Up



19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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26	27	28	29	30	31	
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2022

# January

2022



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						





# December

# January

# Marine Corps History



## DECEMBER

**4 December 1950:** LtCol Raymond G. Davis led his battalion into Hagaru-Ri, Korea after four days of intense fighting in the mountain passes against a numerically superior hostile force. His battalion, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, helped clear the way for the 5th and 7th Marines, and LtCol Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism.

**6 December 1928:** A small detail of Marines under Captain Maurice G. Holmes defeated Nicaraguan bandits near Chuyelite. GySgt Charles Williams was mortally wounded during the fighting. Capt Holmes was later awarded the Navy Cross for gallantry, and a posthumous award was given to GySgt Williams.

**8 December 1941:** Japanese aircraft attacked Wake Island within hours of the fateful attack on Pearl Harbor. Marines of the 1st Defense Battalion and Marine Fighting Squadron 211 resisted Japanese invasion attempts for over two weeks before finally succumbing to an overwhelming force.

**9 December 1992:** Marines of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations capable) landed in Somalia kicking off Operation Restore Hope, the largest humanitarian relief operation of its kind.

**10 December 1995:** In Bosnia, 22 Marines from Marine Corps Security Force Company, Naples, Italy were among the first American troops to arrive. They provided the security for Allied Forces Southern Europe headquartered at Sarajevo. About 2,500 NATO troops would be in place by 19 December taking on the task of peace enforcement in former Yugoslavia from the U.N.

**15 December 1948:** The Secretary of the Navy signed a "Memorandum of Agreement" with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

**19 December 1972:** The Marine detachment of the USS TICONDEROGA provided shipboard security for three U.S. astronauts, Eugene Cernan, Ronald Evans, Harrison Schmitt, and their Apollo-17 space capsule. The astronauts had successfully completed a (then) record lunar stay of more than 75 hours.

**20 December 1989:** Operation Just Cause was launched in Panama to protect American lives, restore the democratic process, preserve the integrity of the Panama Canal Treaty, and apprehend dictator General Manuel Antonio Noriega. One Marine, Corporal Garreth C. Isaak, was killed and three other were wounded during the operation.

**23 December 1941:** Japanese forces launched a predawn landing on Wake Island and Wilkes Island, while their carriers launched air strikes against Wilkes, Wake, and Peale islands in support of the landing force. After nearly 12 hours of desperate fighting, the three islands were surrendered.

**26 December 1957:** Twenty helicopters from Marine Light Helicopter Squadron 162, were rushed to Ceylon onboard the USS PRINCETON where Marines participated in the rescue and evacuation of flood victims.

## JANUARY

**10 January 1995:** The Pentagon announced that 2,600 U.S. Marines would be deployed to Somalia for Operation United Shield to assist in the final withdrawal of UN peacekeeping troops from Somalia. The decision came in response to a UN request for American protection of its peacekeeping forces serving in the war-torn African nation.

**11 January 1945:** The first elements of Marine Aircraft Group 24, commanded by Colonel Lyle H. Meyer, landed at Lingayen, Luzon, Philippine Islands, to provide close air support for Army forces. Over the next three months, MAG-24 and MAG-32 would fly a total of 8,842 combat sorties and drop more than 19,000 bombs as part of the Fifth Air Force in support of the Sixth Army.

**16 January 1991:** Operation Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm as forces of the allied coalition launched an all-out air campaign against targets in Iraq and occupied Kuwait in an effort to liberate Kuwait and enforce the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council. Overall, in the theater of operations, the coalition forces included more than 415,000 U.S. troops.

**18 January 1951:** Marines of the 1st Marine Division began mopping-up operations against guerrillas in the Pohang area, South Korea, following the Division's return from its epic battle with Communist Chinese troops at the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir.

**20 January 1968:** The second battle for Khe Sanh began when Marines from the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines attacked a North Vietnamese battalion between Hill 881 South and Hill 881 North. More than 100 of the enemy were killed.

**21 January 1918:** The 1st Aeronautical Company arrived at Ponta Delgada, Azores, for anti-submarine duty. That unit was one of the first completely equipped American aviation units to serve overseas in World War I.

**22 January 1969:** Operation Dewey Canyon, perhaps the most successful high-mobility regimental-size action of the Vietnam War, began in the A Shau/Da Krong Valleys when the 9th Marines, commanded by Colonel Robert H. Barrow, and supporting artillery were lifted from Quang Tri. By 18 March the enemy's base area had been cleared out, 1617 enemy dead had been counted, and more than 500 tons of weapons and ammunition unearthed.

**25 January 1856:** Marines and seamen from the U.S. sloop DECATUR went ashore at the village of Seattle, Washington, to protect settlers from Indian raids. The Indians launched a seven-hour attack but were driven off later that day after suffering severe losses. Incredibly, only two civilian volunteers were killed and no Marines or sailors were lost.

**27 January 1988:** About 400 Marines and sailors from the 2d Marine Division, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, and 2d Force Service Support Group deployed for the Persian Gulf. The Contingency Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) CM 2-88 would relieve Contingency MAGTF 1-88 in the volatile Persian Gulf and provide the effective landing force capability to Joint Task Force Middle East.

**29 January 1991:** The first serious ground fighting of Operation Desert Storm broke out when Iraqi troops mounted an attack into Saudi Arabia along a 40-mile front. Iraqi units centered their efforts on Khafji, a port city six miles south of the border. Saudi and Qatari troops, supported by artillery from the 1st Marine Division and attack helicopters and other allied coalition aircraft, recaptured the town two days later.



Regardless of the situation, the Marine Corps has an answer for almost everything.

**A Marines Prayer**

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family.

Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties my Country and the Marine Corps have entrusted to me. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer.

Amen

**Marine Corps League**

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**Daytona Beach Florida**

**August 15th through August 19th**

**Banquet is Friday August 19th**

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**at that price. There are 850 Rooms**

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**We Are All Recruiters**

**Bring A Friend**



What Started Here.....



**SOME PEOPLE**

spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world. The Marines don't have that problem.

Continues Here.....

