



SKUTTLEBUTT

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AND AUXILIARY



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MAY 2010

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Marines & Auxiliary Members:

MAY MEETING NOTICE

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, 6 May 2010 at 2000 Hours. This is the same time and date for the Detachment and Auxiliary.

Both meetings will be held at the American Legion, Post 351, 46146 Cass Avenue located in Utica.

The telephone number to the Post is: (586) 731-9833.

MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL

February Renewals:

Jack W. Ketelhut
Cameron M. Wojje

March Renewals:

Michael H. Burnett

May Renewals:

Donald L. Musto
John A. Polanco

Your annual membership dues of \$31.00 (checks payable to: Macomb County Detachment, MCL) should be mailed to the Adjutant/Paymaster at: 6388 Old Coach Trail, Washington, Michigan, 48094-2148 or in person at the General Membership Meeting.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

For those members that pay their membership on an annual basis, maybe you should think about Life Membership.

For the Life Membership Option: you pay one time and are a member for life. Life membership fees are based on age and are as follows:

Age Up to 35	\$500.00
Age 36 to 50	\$400.00
Age 51 to 60	\$300.00
Age 61 and up	\$150.00

With your Paid Life Membership, you will receive a metal Life Membership Card, Lapel Pin and a Certificate suitable for framing. You may select Life Membership at any time as long as you are a member in good standing (dues up-to-date).

The Detachment currently has 116 Paid Life Members. This represents 80% of our paid membership.

We have a payment plan for those that do not have the money available for a lump sum payment for Life Membership.

If you are interested in Life Membership under this plan, or have any questions, contact the Adjutant/Paymaster for details.

DETACHMENT & AUXILIARY HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MAY



John J. Bierkamp
William D. Brown
Kevin R. Brewer
Charles G. Cheap
Leonard C. Cichoski
Neil E. Freitas
Linda Huckle
Jerome N. Nadolski
Chester R. Oset
John W. Owings, III
Michael R. Panin
Gregory Pawlik
John A. Polanco
James A. Szczesny
David Trevino
Laurence G. Tucker, Jr.
Robert M. Westfall
Joseph J. Wozniak

APRIL MEETING

At the April General Membership Meeting, Marine George Wittstock won the Attendance Raffle of \$48.25. The next attendance raffle will be approximately \$8.00 (depending on the number of members present). Another good reason to attend the meetings!

The Detachment also holds a 50/50 Raffle at each meeting. The amount of winnings depends on the number of tickets sold. Tickets are priced at \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. Winning \$73.00 at the April meeting was Marine John Sych. This raffle supports the publication and mailing of this newsletter.

We had one new member accepted into the Detachment.

The Detachment donated \$400.00 to the Marine Corps League Marines Helping Marines Program. These funds are used in support of injured Marine Corps personnel and Navy FMF Corpsmen returning from the war on terror. (see the article at the right).

There were forty-four members present at the meeting.

Hope to see you at the May meeting!

NEW MEMBER REPORTING IN



At the April General Membership Meeting, the following was accepted a Member in our Detachment:

Joseph J. Wozniak

Joseph was accepted as an Associate Member.

Welcome aboard Joseph!

We hope your association with the Detachment will be a memorable one.

This brings our total membership to 154 members

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The Detachment will participate in the Sterling Heights Memorial Day Services and Parade on Monday, 31 May 2010.

Form up at 0830 at the city hall located at Dodge Park Road and Utica Road for the Memorial Services at 0900. The parade will begin forming at 0930 with step-off at 1000.

There is parking at the Junior High School just north of 16 Mile Road on Dodge Park. From there you may take a Shuttle Bus. The Shuttle Buses will be running from 0730.

We need at least four members in their Dress Blue Trousers, Marine Corps League shirt and cover for the Color Guard. The parade is approximately a mile and a half to march. All are welcome to march with the Detachment Color Guard.

After the Parade, the Detachment is invited to the American Polish Century Club for a Memorial Day Ceremony. The APCC is located at 33204 Maple Lane in Sterling Heights. To get there after the Parade, go south on Dodge Park to 15 Mile Road, turn left on 15 Mile Road and then turn right on Maple Lane (about a quarter mile). The Club is just north of 14 Mile Road on your left.

MARINES HELPING MARINES

The Marine Corps League National Program – Marines Helping Marines policy is:

- To solicit and receive donations from the Marine Corps League, Veterans Organizations and the general public.
- Funds are to be used in support of injured Marine Corps personnel and Navy FMF Corpsmen returning from the war on terror in the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts.
- Financial assistance will also be given to the family members of these wounded veterans.
- Financial support will consist of but not limited to:
 - Airline tickets and travel money to military members for emergency leave.
 - Airline tickets, hotel vouchers, restaurant vouchers, and taxi vouchers will be available to the injured veterans family members.
 - Funds will also be used in the purchase of telephone cards, health and comfort items, toilet items, and any other

items that may be needed by the injured veterans and their families.

- The Marine Corps League will make weekly visits to the hospitals to spend time with the veterans and their families and accessing their needs.
- No member of the Marines Helping Marines or the Marine Corps League will be compensated in any manner.
- No part of the net earnings of the Marines Helping Marines shall inure to the benefits of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other persons.

According to the Marines Helping Marines last financial report, they used \$134,656.00 in direct support of our wounded Marines and their family members. That was 98.1% of the total collected. Their operating expenses of \$2,551.00 were for certificates, postage, bank fees and CPA/IRA fees.

If you are interested in donating to this worthy cause, visit their Web site at: www.marineshelpingmarines.org
Or you can send a donation to:



Marines Helping Marines
PO Box 141
Westminster, MD 21158

This is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Your donation may be tax deductible (ask your tax accountant).

MACOMB MONGRELS – POUND 345 MILITARY ORDER OF THE DEVIL DOGS

The next Growl of the Pound is scheduled to meet at the American Legion, Post 351 on Monday, 17 May 2010 at 1930 hours. Due to scheduling with the Post, our Growl will be held in the lower level.



The Military Order of the Devil Dogs is the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League. We are interested in quality members, not quantity. It's purposes is to provide added strength to the League, to promote camaraderie among all members, and to help make the experience of being a member of the Marine Corps League memorable in every respect.

Membership qualifications are:

- You must be a regular member of the Marine Corps League in good standing (dues up to date).
- Must be of good character and reputation (we have a little wiggle room here).
- You must have at least one (1) year in the Marine Corps League.

For those that are members of a different Pound in the Order, this is an excellent opportunity for those of you that are members and do not attend Growls because of the travel distance involved to Dearborn, Detroit and Wyandotte.

Questions may be referred to the undersigned.

Semper Woofing!
PDD 96-011 George Wittstock
Sir Pound Keeper

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The Marine Corps League National Scholarship information is now available. Please note: there is a revision in requirements this year. Those that are contemplating submitting an application must now have a minimum "B" average (or equivalent on GPA Scale). You are now required to submit a transcript for verification of your GPA with your application.

Eligibility:

- 1, Spouses, Children, Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren and Step Children of a Marine Corps League or Auxiliary member in good standing.
2. Children of Marines who have lost their lives in the line of duty.
3. Members of the Marine Corps League or Auxiliary in good standing or honorably discharged Marines in need of rehabilitation training not provided by government programs.
4. Applications must be postmarked by 1 July 2010.

To get an application and further instructions, go to National's Web site: www.mcleague.com and click on "MCL Programs" in the Main Menu.

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Eligibility

- (1) Children, Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren and Step Children of a Marine Corps League or Auxiliary member in good standing. Honorary members or their families do not qualify.
- (2) Children of Marines who have lost their lives in the line of duty.
- (3) Members of the Marine Corps League, or Auxiliary in good standing or honorably discharged Marines in need of rehabilitation training not provided by government programs. Honorary members do not qualify.

If you are interested in the Department's program, download the required forms from the Departments Web site at www.michiganmarines.org You can download the form and all information required.

Don't have internet access? In this age of electronic communication, I have yet to find anyone of school age that does not have access to the internet.

But do not procrastinate on this! There are signatures required for the application, be it Detachment (Commandant & Paymaster) or Auxiliary (President & Treasurer).

You must have the application in the Department's hands by 15 May 2010.

"The difference between death and taxes is death doesn't get worse every time Congress meets."

-- Will Rogers

AUXILIARY NEWS

I'm happy to report two of our members who were on our "Get Well List" are doing better. Loretta Balderson is continuing to improve at home from knee surgery and Grace Adragna who underwent cataract surgery, is doing well, too. Good health to both of you and you're always in our thoughts and prayers. Dolores Tonegatto is back in Michigan after spending the winter with her daughter in North Carolina, so we're looking forward to seeing her soon.

Fundraising plans are shaping up. We discussed our Marine Rose Day and tentatively scheduled that for May 22nd. Joan Pfaff is working on the location and we are looking to firm-up the details at our May meeting. We're still discussing the feasibility of a Garage Sale, so bring your ideas and thoughts on that subject to our next meeting so we can see if it's going forward or has stalled out.

League Commandant Christine Tonegatto-Salo, who is also an Auxiliary member, spoke to us about a couple of events that are of interest. The annual Carnival at the Detroit VA Hospital is scheduled for June 12th. See Christine if you are interested in helping. Also, the WWII reenactment at the St. Clair Shores Veterans Memorial Park is taking place the weekend of July 17th, more details on that will be forthcoming. Joan Pfaff was at last year's reenactment and said it was a very worthwhile event to attend.

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 6th at 2000 Hours (8:00 p.m.). See you then!

Semper Fidelis,

*Irene Spooner, President
Marine Corps League Auxiliary*

HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

This 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances of the day in several towns throughout America that had taken place in the three years since the Civil War. In fact, several Northern and Southern cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Mississippi; Macon, Georgia; Richmond, Virginia; Boalsburg, Pennsylvania; and Carbondale, Illinois.

In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day and, after World War I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May.

(Veterans Day, a day set aside to honor all veterans, living and dead, is celebrated each year on November 11.)

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. Also, it is customary for the president or vice-president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

Armed Forces Day **"A Tradition of Heroes"**

President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

ARMED FORCES DAY HISTORY

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department -- the Department of Defense. Each of the military leagues and orders was asked to drop sponsorship of its specific service day in order to celebrate the newly announced Armed Forces Day. The Army, Navy and Air Force leagues adopted the newly formed day. The Marine Corps League declined to drop support for Marine Corps Day but supports Armed Forces Day, too.

In a speech announcing the formation of the day, President Truman "praised the work of the military services at home and across the seas" and said, "it is vital to the security of the nation and to the establishment of a desirable peace." In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation of Feb. 27, 1950, Mr. Truman stated: "Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 1950, marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress, under the National Security Act, towards the goal of readiness for any eventuality. It is the first parade of preparedness by the unified forces of our land, sea, and air defense".

The theme of the first Armed Forces Day was "Teamed for Defense." It was chosen as a means of expressing the unification of all the military forces under a single department of the government. Although this was the theme for the day, there were several other purposes for holding Armed Forces Day. It was a type of "educational program for civilians," one in which there would be an increased awareness of the Armed Forces. It was designed to expand public understanding of what type of job is performed and the role of the military in civilian life. It was a day for the military to show "state-of-the-art" equipment to the civilian population they were protecting. And it was a day to honor and acknowledge the people of the Armed Forces of the United States.

According to a New York Times article published on May 17, 1952: "This is the day on which we have the welcome opportunity to pay special tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces ... to all the individuals who are in the service of their country all over the world. Armed Forces Day won't be a matter of parades and receptions for a good many of them. They will all be in line of duty and some of them may give their lives in that duty."

The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated by parades, open houses, receptions, and air shows. In Washington D.C., 10,000 troops of all branches of the military, cadets, and

veterans marched past the President and his party. In Berlin, 1,000 U.S. troops paraded for the German citizens at Templehof Airfield. In New York City, an estimated 33,000 participants initiated Armed Forces Day "under an air cover of 250 military planes of all types." In the harbors across the country were the famed mothballed "battlegoons" of World War II, the *Missouri*, the *New Jersey*, the *North Carolina*, and the *Iowa*, all open for public inspection. Precision flying teams dominated the skies as tracking radar were exhibited on the ground. All across the country, the American people joined together to honor the Armed Forces.

FROM THE EDITOR

OK, Marines & Auxiliary, the Detachment needs your help cutting the cost of publishing this newsletter. Members with email access are requested to give it some thought to receiving this newsletter via email. All you will need Adobe Acrobat loaded on your PC. For anyone who does not currently have Adobe Reader installed on their computer - Go to the Detachment Web site and click on 'Newsletter/Calendar' - you will see an icon that says "Get Adobe Reader". Click on that and follow the instructions to [download it for free](#).

To receive the newsletter via email, send me an email (address is on the masthead of page one) - with the subject [Marine Corps League](#). In the body of the note, please type your full name and say you want to receive the newsletter via email. This is important, because most of you have your email name as something other than your name. I have to know who you are, so I can take your name off the U. S. Postal Mailing list.

This is a no 'brainer'; it's free to you and the Detachment. So take this newsletter to your PC and send the request to me before you forget!

When you receive this newsletter via email, why not send it to Marines that you know that do not belong to the Detachment. You could use this as a recruiting tool also.

As I have said in the past, your email address will not be shared with others without your permission.

On another subject, visit our Web site if you wish to contact any of the Officers of the Detachment. If they have an email address, it'll be listed there on the tab 'Trustees' along with their telephone number. Our Officers are also listed on the cover page of this newsletter with their telephone number only.

George Wittstock, PDC
Editor

A Marine may leave the Corps...

...but the Corps will NEVER

leave the Marine!

Semper Paratus!



MACOMB COUNTY DETACHMENT
 Department of Michigan
 Marine Corps League
INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS
 Mailing Address:
 6388 Old Coach Trail
 Washington, Michigan, 48094-2148

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Judge Advocate	Anthony Jablonowski, PC	(586) 558-8777
Adjutant/Paymaster	George Wittstock, PDC	(586) 781-5414
Chaplain	John Sottrel	(586) 247-7785
Sergeant at Arms	Jerry Allen	(586) 731-4651
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Honor Guard Commander	Scott Neff	(248) 798-5776
Historian	Guy Serafino	(586) 468-0307
Quartermaster	Gregory Pawlik, PC	(586) 979-2986
Service Officer	Kenneth Aune, PC	(586) 463-8890

Auxiliary Officers 2009 - 2010

President	Irene Spooner	(586) 466-5708
Senior Vice President	Loretta Balderson	(810) 392-2590
Junior Vice President	Angela Wozniak	(586) 843-6093
Judge Advocate	Joan Pfaff	(586) 263-3448
Chaplain	Dolores Tonegatto	(586) 781-6839
Treasurer	Carol Dysarczyk	(248) 681-7098
Secretary	Karen Aune	(586) 463-8890
Trustee	Grace Adragna	(586) 979-3535
Trustee	April Brozowski	(586) 413-4556

Change of Address: Send to the Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster at:
 6388 Old Coach Trail, Washington, Michigan, 48094-2148

New Address (please print):

Name _____

Street _____

City/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ email address _____