



Unicoi Detachment 783  
Towns and Union County, GA

# CAMARADERIE COURIER

Editor: T.Coleman

**Issue 001**  
**April 2026**

**Unicoi Detachment**  
**#783**

## The Commandant Speaks:



Happy Easter!  
As the weather gets warmer and we start spending more time outdoors, we look forward to seeing more of one another. Spring is a good time to make an effort to spread the word of our detachment and what we are doing in our community. Even if the person isn't interested in becoming a member, maybe they may be in need of our help or maybe they would like to donate to our Vet Relief Fund. You never know!

*John Entwistle*

## Announcements

- April meeting will be April 11
- Donations for yard sale on April 25 needed. See Alton or Tammy
- Deadline to register for Annual (Dept. Convention) is April 15
- If you're interested in working at the Welcome Home Veterans Air Show in Andrews NC on April 18, see Pat Seals.
- Still working on details for car show at Meeks Park on May 1-2.



David Haag (1)  
 Tammy Coleman (5)  
 Gary Wimsett (5)  
 Darrell Barrett (20)  
 JR Fowler (25)  
 Dennis Stefanacci

**Join us at our April  
 Celebration Dinner  
 Lakeview Tavern 4/24  
 5pm**

## Sick and Distressed

David Haag - is recovering from his recent illness. Please continue to pray for him as he completes his cancer treatment.

Emily Appling had a successful procedure but will need further treatment. Keep her in your prayers.

John Howard underwent MOHS surgery and is recovering.

## Links

Detachment Facebook:

[Marine Corps League - Unicoi Detachment #783](#)

Detachment website:

<https://unicoi783mcl.org/>

Department website:

<https://mcldeptofga.org/>



## The Rockpile

On Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> members of Det. 783 gathered at the Maj. Leon Davenport Veterans Center to pay tribute to The Rockpile and the men of the 9<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment who defended it from 1966-1969. The tribute was the idea of Roger Pilcher, LtCol. U.S.M.C. RET who witnessed the bravery of the Marines during his times there. Also on hand was Det. Commandant John Entwisle, who served with the 9<sup>th</sup> Marines, India Company, and was a part of several operations around The Rockpile in 1966 and 1967. After the ceremony attendees placed rocks upon the tribute as an act of remembrance. PC: Doc Coleman

## MCL 2026 MidWinter Conference

783 members Ash Todd and Brandy Creel, along with Doc and Tammy Coleman attended this year's Mid-Winter Conference in Arlington, VA. In addition to the business sessions and a M.O.D.D. Mini-Growl, the event provided time for attendees to visit the National Museum of the Marine Corps. The historical museum is located in Triangle, VA near Marine Corps Base Quantico. It opened on November 10, 2006 and draws over 500,000 people annually.



PC: A. Coleman

## Upcoming Dates:

April 11: Meeting

April 18: Air Show

April 24: Celebration Dinner

April 25: ALA Yard Sale

## Detachment Staff

**Commandant:** John Entwisle  
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## SE Div Conference



L-R: Alton, Tammy, Brandy, Ash  
PC: Candie Brand

Members of the Marine Corps League's Southeast Division, also known as The Magnificent Seven attended the 2026 Annual Convention March 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> in Savannah, GA. Det. 783 members Ash Todd and Brandy Creel, Don and Cheryl Beck and Doc and Tammy Coleman were among the attendees. Doc Coleman and Brandy Creel were presented nominee certificates for SE DIV Marine of the Year and SE DIV Associate Member of the Year respectively. This year's convention was hosted by the Department of Georgia who did an outstanding job.

## Operation Chowhound

Operation ChowHound was the brainchild of the late PDD Jeffrey Jones, 61st Chief Devil Dog of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs. What started out as an effort to support his local no-kill shelter in North Carolina, Jones' idea quickly spread statewide, and grew into a national effort on an annual basis. The M.O.D.D. Unicoi Pound 206 supports Castoff Pet Rescue in Blairsville through monetary and dog/cat food donations. On Saturday, March 21st, members of Unicoi Detachment 783 delivered 295 lbs. of Purina One dog and cat food to Castoff as a way to pay tribute to PDD Jeffrey Jones.



JR and Derek



John, Nancy, Barbara, JR, Don, John, Melanie and Jim



## A Wink from Walt



On September 6, 2023, several members of the Unicoi Detachment attended the Funeral Mass for one of our own, Walter Scott.

Walter Scott's military service began on 5 April 1954. He was a veteran of the Korean War and served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division 11<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment. He was honorably discharged on 4 April 1957 but continued to serve in the Marine Corps Reserves.

Walt first joined our detachment 1 August 1998 and became a life member on 24 August 1998. He held every office in the detachment and served as Paymaster and Commandant twice for a total of seven years. Prior to his passing, he served as Sargent at Arms for the detachment and Poundkeeper for the MODD. And he wrote and distributed the detachment's newsletter. As a tribute to him, we will include "A Wink from Walt" in each issue of our newsletter. The subject matter may differ from issue to issue, but hopefully it will always be a reminder of Walt and what he meant to our detachment.

# Coffee & Camaraderie

MCLA



Don't forget our Monday morning Coffee & Camaraderie! We meet *every* Monday at 10am at The Blairsville Restaurant. The public is welcome to attend so bring a friend.



\*Subject to change due to holidays or weather

## Annual Convention Registration

It's not too late to register for the Department of Georgia's Annual Convention. Registration continues through April 15. You can find all the information you need as well as links for registration at <https://mcldeptofga.org/2026-department-convention/>

The agenda is jam-packed with sessions and activities. It promises to be a great time. Currently, I believe that John, Claudia, Pat, Alton, Tammy, Gunny, Ash, Brandy, Greg, Don, Cheryl and possibly Gary will be attending.



Pictured: Brandy, Claudia, Emily and Tammy at last year's Annual.

Did you know that the Marine Corps League has an Auxiliary? We do and although we haven't had a unit in Georgia, that's about to change. The Georgia Peaches are in the process of obtaining their charter. The MCLA is open to wives, widows, mothers, grandmothers, sisters, daughters, granddaughters, stepmothers, stepsisters, daughters-in-law, aunts, nieces, mothers-in-law, sisters-in-law of a current or former Marine or a US Navy FMF Corpsman or FMF Navy Chaplain, eligible to belong to the Marine Corps League and Women Marines. Women not meeting these requirements may join as associate members.

The unit will consist of members from the entire state so meetings will be held in person four times a year at the Department quarterly meetings plus at least four times by Zoom. A slate of officers will be installed in May at the Annual Convention.

If you or your family member is interested in joining, please contact Tammy.