



GUNG HO GAZETTE

Editor: T. Coleman

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Unicoi Detachment 783
Department of Georgia

Next Department Quarterly

Tentative plans have been made for the next Department of Georgia quarterly meeting. The Business session will be held on Aug. 1 at the Fairfield Marriott in Locust Grove. All are invited to a dinner social on Friday night, July 31. A link to register for hotel rooms will be forthcoming. Other activities include a MCLA meeting Friday at 4pm, a Lunch-n-Learn following the business session and a MODD Pack Growl after that.

Coffee & Camaraderie

Join us each Monday morning at 10am for Coffee & Camaraderie! On the first Monday of each month, we will gather at Sundance Grill in Hiawassee; all other Mondays we will be at Blairsville Restaurant in the Veterans' Room. The public is welcome - membership is not a requirement.



The Commandant Speaks:



Last month, I discussed two of the key qualities of effective leaders: vision and integrity. Now, I'd like to write about a few more.

- **Empathy and Emotional Intelligence:** The best leaders understand the human element. They listen actively, recognize individual strengths and struggles, and create environments where people feel valued. Empathy doesn't mean weakness – it enables better decision-making and stronger teams.
- **Decisiveness and Adaptability:** Leaders must make timely decisions, often with incomplete information. Yet they also remain flexible enough to pivot when new data emerges. This balance between confidence and humility separates good leaders from great ones.
- **Communication:** Clarity in conveying ideas, expectations, and feedback is essential. Great leaders communicate not just with words, but through actions and presence. They tell stories that connect emotionally and explain the “why” behind initiatives.

Have you known a great leader? Did he/she exhibit any of these traits?

Your commandant,

Pat Seals

Join us July 24
for our monthly
celebration
dinner



•Crystal Gaylord (7/19)
•Bobby Jarrard (7/25)
•Renee Capo (7/24)



A Wink from Walt



1935-2023

- **July 11, 1798:** The U.S. Marine Corps was officially re-established and organized as a separate military service under the Department of the Navy when President John Adams signed an Act of Congress. Though the USMC now celebrates its birthday on November 10 (marking the 1775 founding of the Continental Marines), Marines previously celebrated the Corps' birthday on July 11 for over 100 years.
- **July 18, 1918:** The 4th Brigade of Marines launched a massive attack near Soissons, France, as part of a critical three-division counterattack against German forces during World War I.
- **July 19, 1918:** Following the heavy fighting at Vierz and Belleau Wood, Marine heroes like Pharmacist's Mate John Balch and Lt. Joel Boone braved heavy artillery and machine-gun fire to save the wounded, ultimately earning the Medal of Honor.
- **July 26, 1947:** President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947, which officially reaffirmed the USMC's status as a distinct military service and cemented its mission to seize and defend advanced naval bases.
- **July 25, 1950:** Following the outbreak of the Korean War, Marine Corps Commandant General Clifton B. Cates initiated the mobilization of the entire organized Marine Corps ground Reserve, a massive undertaking that was successfully executed in just 53 days.

Detachment Staff

Commandant: Pat Seals
halcop162@gmail.com

SVC: Greg Fisher
jarhead4ever1975@gmail.com

JVC: Gunny Triplett
coldbear55@yahoo.com

Judge Advocate: Chuck Frisk
msgt1973@gmail.com

Adjutant: Claudia Entwisle
mscah0628@gmail.com

JPC: John Entwisle
jent1948@gmail.com

Paymaster: Tammy Coleman
tcoleman0419@gmail.com

Chaplain: Richard Hoibraten
cj_20207947@outlook.com

SAA: JR Fowler
deepindac3@aol.com

Important Links

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



National website:
mcleaguelibrary.org



Department website:
mcldeptofga.org



Detachment website:
unicoi783mcl.org



Blairsville VA Clinic:
Main#: (706) 835-3980

VA Crisis Line:
Dial 988, then press 1
or Text 838255



Celebration Dinner

We held our June Celebration dinner at Mike's Seafood in Blairsville on Friday, June 26. We had an amazing turnout with 34 people. Great food shared with great people!





MCLA



The Georgia Peaches here in Union and Towns Counties have been hard at work on their community service project, For Goodness Cake. They met on May 28 and assembled 40 cake kits. The first week of June, they delivered cake kits to the Ecumenical Food Pantry and to The Hope Center Food Pantry. These kits have all the ingredients to make a birthday celebration including cake mix, frosting, candles, and decorations. This was made possible by donations to the Amazon Wishlist. If you would like to support their efforts, scan the QR code to go to the wishlist.



SCAN ME

783 members who are Georgia Peach members are J. Federico, B. Creel, P. Cousins, B. Howard, C. Entwisle, T. Coleman and N. Kunz



Yard Sale

Early on Saturday June 27, members of MCL 783 opened for business at our Community Yard Sale held at the Maj. Leon Davenport Veterans Building. Even though there were threats of bad weather, it did not materialize. We not only had yard sale items for sale, we also sold raffle tickets and had hot dogs, popcorn and nachos. Thanks to all the members who helped make it a success.



JR Fowler and C. Entwisle



T. Coleman



J. Nichols with G. Triplett and B. Herold on their way to perform Honor Guard duties.

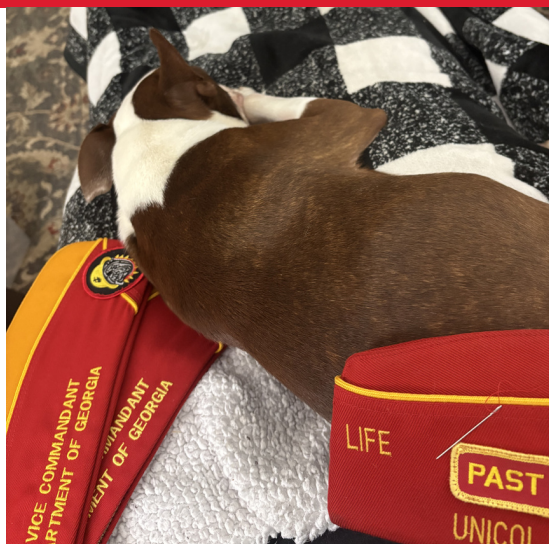
Sick and Distressed

David Haag
Roger Pilcher
Gary and Virginia Wimsett
Jack McCorkle
Richard Hoibraten
Matthew Mollohan
Forrest Reed (Jim & Melanie's son)
Jeff Lamm (passing of his mother)

Membership Anniversaries

Bobby Jarrard - 19 years
Brandy Creel - 5 years
Gunny Triplett - 3 years
Bob Haas - 1 year
Joann Haas - 1 year
Barbara Howard - 1 year
Derek Kunz - 1 year
Nancy Kunz - 1 year
BJ Roshaven - 1 year

Pet of the Month



This month's pet of the month is Jax Coleman. Jax will be 5 years old in October. He is an alumnus of Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee and was adopted at the age of 5 months by Doc and Tammy. Jax is one of four dogs in the Coleman family. As you can see, Jax likes to supervise when Mom works on MCL covers.

Announcements

Raffle Tickets

If you have raffle tickets that need to be turned in, please do so by July 3. We will be doing the drawing on July 4! If you need to turn in tickets, contact Tammy or Doc.

Late Dues

If you didn't make the June 30 deadline for paying your dues, please contact Tammy as soon as possible.

Ship's Store

If you need MCL items, check with SAA JR Fowler. We have a limited number of items available including red blazers.

Upcoming Dates

July 2.....Veterans' Social 2pm, Brasstown Manor
July 4.....AL Family Cookout 6pm, Davenport Bldg.
July 18.....Detachment Meeting, Davenport Bldg.
July 24.....Celebration Dinner, TBD
July 25.....MODD #206 Growl, Davenport Bldg.

Veterans' Social

On the first Thursday each month, at 2 pm, Brandy Creel and Ash Todd, who are members of Det. 783, host the Veterans' Social. Our detachment has joined forces with other VSOs in Towns County to present a program each month at Brasstown Manor, an assisted living facility in Hiawassee. Residents are treated to snacks and entertainment ranging from guest speakers to the Ukulele Club of the Mountains. Any members who are interested in participating see Brandy about how you can help.



A. Todd and B. Creel along with members of The Ukulele Club at June's Veterans' Social

Toys for Tots

Melanie Reed has completed training and has been approved as the new Toys for Tots Unit Coordinator. We would like to thank Wayne Roshaven for the years he and his wife, BJ, have devoted to Toys for Tots. Through their efforts, many children in our community were able to have toys under the Christmas tree. Ooh Rah!



June Detachment Meeting

Detachment 783 held their monthly detachment meeting on June 20 at the Major Leon Davenport Veterans Building. We had a full house with 34 attendees for the first meeting conducted by our new commandant, Pat Seals. A special presentation was made to our new Junior Past Commandant, John Entwisle. John was named "Sound Enforcement Officer" and was given a badge to make it official. John is tasked with keeping the noise level down at our weekly Coffee & Camaraderie.



P. Seals, COM



J. Entwisle, JPC



MCL Members Out and About



Brunch at Huddle House after the detachment meeting. Pictured: J. Federico, A. Todd, B. Creel., D. Kunz, N. Kunz, T. Coleman, A. Coleman, P. Seals, C. Triplett, J. Entwisle, C. Entwisle, B. Howard, J. Howard.

50/50 Raffle

We will be doing our 50/50 raffle a little differently for the next few meetings. Instead of drawing a winner at the conclusion of each meeting, we will roll over the money and the tickets until September. JR has generously donated a knife with sheath that will be given to the winner in September, along with the cash winnings. We will do the drawing at our special anniversary celebration dinner on September 18. So, buy your tickets before each meeting and hold on to them until the drawing.

Our New SEO



John Entwisle was hard at work at our Monday morning Coffee & Camaraderie on June 22. He did an excellent job at helping us keep the noise level down. Here he is pictured with Commandant Pat Seals and Michael Maixner.

Uniform Code for MCL Part I

As many of you are aware, the topic of what MCL members should and should not wear is often discussed during our meetings. Most, if not all, uniform questions are addressed in Enclosure 3 which is part of the Administrative Procedures. A link for the National Administrative Procedures can be found on the Dept. of Georgia website. It addresses all the possible uniforms that a member might wear. For many members, it is probably more information than you need. In the next few newsletters, we will explore the policies that are most commonly needed.

First and foremost, we should always be mindful that our appearance reflects upon the Marine Corps and Marines everywhere. When someone sees us in public, wearing clothing that identifies us as a member of the MCL, we want to preserve the respect and dignity of both the Marine Corps League as well as the United States Marine Corps.

We will start this series of articles from the top: the Marine Corps League cover. The basic uniform of the MCL is the cover – all other parts of the uniform that we will be discussing are considered optional. The cover is considered to be the only consistent identifier for MCL members and, as such, should be worn indoors at appropriate MCL functions. **NO OTHER TYPE OF COVER MAY BE WORN AT A MARINE CORPS LEAGUE FUNCTION OR MEETING.**

On the left side of the cover, regular members should wear the EGA cover ornament; associate members should wear the starbust ornament. Members of the MODD should wear the Devil Dog patch up front on the right side of the cover. Strips identifying the department or detachment will be centered on the right side. Life members should wear a “LIFE” strip to the rear of the right side. These strips can be replaced by the same information embroidered on the cover. **NO DIVISION PINS OR OTHER PINS/ORNAMENTS ARE AUTHORIZED ON MARINE CORPS LEAGUE COVERS.**

You may notice some MCL members wearing covers with different colors. These represent department level elected or appointed staff (red covers with gold crown) or national level elected or appointed staff (gold covers). The National Commandant wears a white cover.

North Georgia Honor Guard

The North Georgia Honor Guard is composed of members from the local veteran service organizations. Several of our detachment members serve on the Guard. They perform their duties whenever requested by the family of a deceased veteran. The Honor Guard is led by Detachment member Wayne Roshaven.



783 members
pictured include:
R. Hoibraten, W.
Roshaven, B.
Herold, G.
Triplett, A. Turner



Corpsman Up!

Doc Coleman

A Very Brief History of the Caduceus

The caduceus is a staff entwined by two serpents, often with wings, with origins that trace back to ancient Mesopotamia. However, its initial symbolism did not involve medicine at all.

In Greek mythology, Hermes, the messenger of the gods, associated with travel, trade, negotiation and the boundary crossing role of intermediaries has been depicted with a caduceus which became his defining attribute, symbolizing his ability to move between worlds. In Roman mythology, Mercury, the god of commerce, communication, travelers, trickery, and financial gain, has been depicted with winged sandals, a winged helmet and the caduceus.

Over the centuries, the caduceus' design has evolved. Early forms of the caduceus show an olive branch or garlands, later interpreted as two serpents entwined in opposite directions, with wings above to signify Hermes' speed. Its association with medicine is a modern misattribution; the correct medical symbol is the Rod of Asclepius, which depicts a single serpent wrapped around a staff with no wings.

The caduceus became widely used in the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, notably by the U.S. Army Medical Corps in 1902. The U.S. Navy Medical Corps adopted the winged caduceus as its official insignia in April of 1948, replacing the long used red Geneva Cross. The shift to the caduceus came as part of a broader reorganization of the U.S. Navy's Hospital Corps. The caduceus, with its winged serpent, became the standard mark on Corpsmen's badges and uniforms, symbolizing the branch's medical mission.

