



# Bunker News



**A MULTIPLE  
AWARD WINNING  
NEWSLETTER!**

**MAY 2023**

## OFFICERS

### Commandant

**Jimmy Grote**  
941-807-2490

### Sr. Vice Commandant

**Joe Filice**  
863-245-3540

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610-804-1590

### Pay Master - Vicki Mann

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**Andi Watson**  
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### Sergeant at Arms

**John Olexa** 305-322-8832

### Chaplain

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941-749-5799

### Judge Advocate

**Everett Whipple**  
678-634-7497

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### Jr. Past Commandant

**Gerry Vinopal**  
414-688-3153

Submit Bunker News input to

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or

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Or 941-504-3693

**DESOTO DETACHMENT 588, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

Website: [MCL588.Org](http://MCL588.Org)

Greetings! MAY this newsletter find you all in good spirits and good health! (See what I did there?)

This month brings us Cinco de Mayo, Star Wars Day and most importantly, Armed Forces Day. It is also a month where we say "see you soon" to many of our "snowbirds" and "half way-ers". You will be missed and we always look forward to your return. I wish everyone safe travels and good times with your northern family and friends.



This May also brings about the departure of our canteen manager, Gabby. I know so many of us have bonded with her and her presence behind the bar will be missed. I want to thank her for her 5 years of service to the organization and for the myriad projects and events she has spearheaded. She has assured me that you will still see her on the opposite side of the bar enjoying a cold one as well as continuing to support our league with the golf tournament and assistance with the ball committee. I wish her the best of luck on her future endeavors and acknowledge those are some big shoes to fill! (Seriously, she wears a size 11 shoe.) Speaking of Gabby's departure, I invite you to her Farewell Soirée on Sunday May 21st at noon. Please see a bartender to sign up to bring a shared dish and come wish her well! Hope to see you all there!

I would also like to take a moment to thank those who attended and helped prepare the space and the food to ensure Jane Ryan's celebration of life was an event her family would be proud of. Her daughter Katie did an amazing job of turning the Bunker into an homage of Janes favorite things. It was a beautiful afternoon dedicated to a beautiful friend and member who will be missed by so many.

That's it for me! I hope you know you can always call, email or approach me or any of our board members if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

**Semper Fi**  
**Jim**



## Marine Corps League

Desoto Detachment 588

5225 26<sup>th</sup> Street West, Bradenton (941-301-4598)

### Event Calendar for MAY 2023

Open to all Members, Veterans and Guests for all Special Events



5/3	1200	<b>BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/6	1200	<b>BINGO @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/6	1500	<b>BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/7	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/8	1800	<b>E-BOARD MEETING @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/10	1200	<b>BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/13	1200	<b>BINGO @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/13	1400	<b>TONY LOVRETTA'S BIRTHDAY PARTY @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/13	1500	<b>BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/14	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/15	1830	<b>GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/17	1200	<b>BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/20	1200	<b>BINGO @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/20	1400	<b>BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/21	1200	<b>FAREWELL SOIREE @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/21	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/24	1200	<b>BURGER DAY @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/25	0800	<b>ELMER STAHNKE'S FUNERAL @ NATIONAL CEMETERY.</b>
5/27	1200	<b>BINGO FOLLOWED BY BAR POKER @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/28	1500	<b>TRIVIA WITH THE WHIP @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/29	1200	<b>MEMORIAL DAY @ THE BUNKER!</b>
5/29	1730	<b>HONOR GUARD PRACTICE @ THE BUNKER!</b>



# 248<sup>th</sup>. MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

Sponsored by Marine Corps League, Detachment #588



Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. 2023

## TARA COUNTRY CLUB

6602 Drewry's Bluff  
Bradenton, Fl

Directions: East on S.R. 70 (53<sup>rd</sup>. Ave.) Right on Tara Blvd. (last traffic light before I-75)  
First right after the traffic light on Drewry's Bluff. Country Club is on left 1/2 mile.

*All invited to attend an evening of Tradition, Ceremony, Dinner, Music, and Dancing*

*Dress: Formal or Semi-Formal, all Military Uniforms Welcome*

**Cocktails 6PM - 7PM**

**Ceremony 7PM - 7:30PM**

**Dinner & Dancing 7:30PM – 11:00PM**

*Boneless Short Ribs with Demi Glaze & Fried Onion Haystack (B)*

*Bourbon Glaze Salmon (F)*

*Chicken Marsala ©*

*Vegetarian*

*Dinners include Garden Salad, Chive Whipped Potatoes, Vegetable Bouquet, Dinner Rolls (V)  
& Birthday Cake*

**Detach bottom portion & return by November 1**

\$60 Per person

Please send payment or in person:

Marine Corps League Desoto Detachment #588  
5225 26<sup>th</sup>. St. West – Bradenton, FL 34207

Amount of payment \_\_\_\_\_ (Please write Birthday Ball in memo field on check)

Credit Card – Master Card \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV # \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**First & Last Name of each attendee and Dinner Choice – Phone Contact** \_\_\_\_\_

1 ( | \_\_\_\_\_ ) Check one choice B \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ V \_\_\_

2 ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Check one choice B \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ V \_\_\_

3 ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Check one choice B \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ V \_\_\_

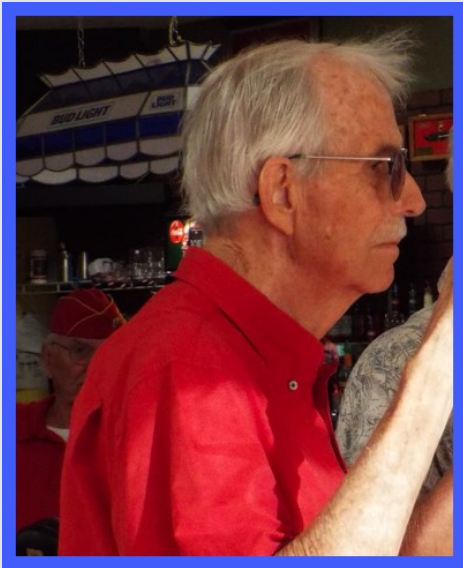
4 ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Check one choice B \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ V \_\_\_

Tables are set for 10 people – (table requests - please write one **table name** for all people to be seated at your table)

Any Questions, please contact the Marine Corps League Bunker at 941-301-4598



# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING APRIL 2023



New Associate members sworn in during this meeting were (L to R)

Bill Ryskamp, John Gutierrez and Jack Vogel .

WELCOME ABOARD!



MARINE MIKE LAUGHING AT SOMETHING.



ADJUTANT ANDI READING THE MINUTES OF THE PAST MEETING.



# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING APRIL 2023



**THE ROOM IS BEGINNING TO FILL UP.**



**Whip getting ready to sell the 50/50 tickets!**



# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING APRIL 2023



**The Ball Committee has confirmed the 248th. Marine Corps Ball is Friday November 10th, at Tara Country Club.**

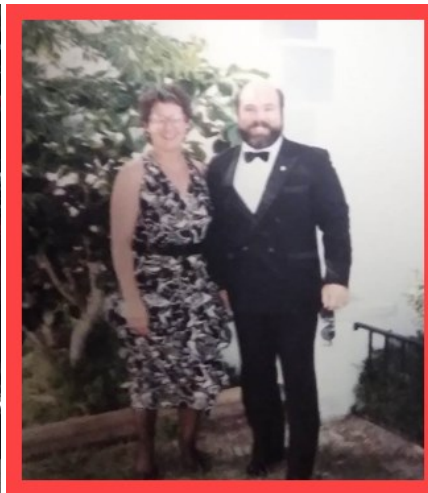


JANE RYAN 9/2/1953 – 3/8/2023



EXTRAORDINARY KINDNESS WAS HER COMMON VIRTUE

Celebration of the life of Jane Ryan @ the Bunker on April 15th.



Desoto Detachment #588, 5225 26th Street West, Bradenton, Florida 34207 (941) 301-4598  
MEETINGS ARE THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1830 Website: MCL588.Org



50  
Years

Happy anniversary

Georgetta

&

Glenn



Associate Members Georgetta & Glenn Weik celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 7th.

CONGRATULATIONS TO A AWESOME COUPLE!



Marine Corps League, Desoto Detachment #588 of Bradenton Florida rendering a final toast to our Associate Member LtCol Virgil Mellott. He was a USAF Fighter Pilot in Vietnam. He passed away this month. A great friend to us all. We had just finished rendering military honors at his Celebration of Life. Fly High Virg!



- Shelby Foote<sup>[77]</sup> — author, American Civil War historian
- Glenn Ford<sup>[2][78]</sup> — actor (*Gilda*)
- Joe Foss<sup>[79]</sup> — former Governor of South Dakota, first Commissioner of the AFL, former NRA President
- Orville Freeman<sup>[80]</sup> — 29th Governor of Minnesota
- Hayden Fry<sup>[81]</sup> — football coach, University of Iowa
- Mark Fuhrman<sup>[82]</sup> — LAPD detective who became famous during the O.J. Simpson trial



Glenn Ford

## G

- Bill Gallo<sup>[83]</sup> — cartoonist, journalist
- Christopher George<sup>[2]</sup> — actor (*The Rat Patrol*)
- Merlin German<sup>[84]</sup> — "Miracle Marine", founder of Merlin's Miracles
- Wayne Gilchrest<sup>[85]</sup> — Republican U.S. Representative from Maryland
- John Glenn<sup>[86]</sup> — astronaut, first American to orbit Earth, oldest man in space, U.S. Senator
- Scott Glenn<sup>[87]</sup> — actor (*The Right Stuff*)
- Josh Gracin<sup>[88]</sup> — country singer and American Idol contestant
- Clu Gulager<sup>[89]</sup> — actor (*The Return of the Living Dead*)

Sen. John Glenn  
as a Marine  
Colonel

## H

- Gene Hackman<sup>[2][32]</sup> — Academy Award-winning actor (*The French Connection*)
- Fred Haise<sup>[90]</sup> — NASA astronaut (Apollo 13 & Space Shuttle Enterprise)
- Nathaniel Dawayne "Nate Dogg" Hale — rapper
- Ahmard Hall<sup>[91]</sup> — NFL football player
- Hugh W. Hardy<sup>[92][93]</sup> — pioneer of the 3D seismic method
- Ernie Harwell<sup>[94]</sup> — sports journalist and Detroit Tigers broadcaster
- Gustav Hasford — author of *The Short-Timers* (basis of movie *Full Metal Jacket*) and *The Phantom Bloopers*
- Sterling Hayden<sup>[32][95]</sup> — actor (*Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*)
- Louis Hayward<sup>[96][97]</sup> — actor (*The Saint in New York*)
- Howell Heflin<sup>[98]</sup> — U.S. Senator from Alabama
- George Roy Hill<sup>[99]</sup> — Academy Award-winning director of *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* and *The Sting*
- Elroy "Crazy Legs" Hirsch<sup>[50]</sup> — football Hall of Famer
- Gil Hodges<sup>[32]</sup> — professional baseball player
- Duncan D. Hunter<sup>[100]</sup> — U.S. Congressman from California
- Douglas G. Hurley<sup>[101]</sup> — NASA astronaut



Gustav Hasford



Howell Heflin

Marines that became famous? Here are the "Fs through H's". Submitted by Dave Hildibrand

Desoto Detachment #588, 5225 26th Street West, Bradenton, Florida 34207 (941) 301-4598

MEETINGS ARE THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1830 Website: MCL588.Org



**I'm leaving for the Marines tomorrow**



USMCmemes.com

**Next Day**



# Winner of the 20 April Gun Raffle

By John D'Alusio

Apparently, the 588 membership was excited over the opportunity to win a 1911A1 pistol in the last raffle. As proof, tickets went on sale at 1200 on 4/20, and were sold out by 1700.

The all-steel pistol was a faithful reproduction of the second iteration (1911A1) of John Browning's famous single action, semi-automatic, large bore design that became the official sidearm of the US military for three quarters of a century.



The winning raffle ticket was drawn at The Bunker on the afternoon of 21 April by Gabby Wedrow Parent (who did not have the opportunity to purchase any tickets because they sold out so fast). The winner was none other than long time 588 member Glenn Weik.

This is the second time Glenn has walked off with a 1911 raffle pistol. His wife Georgetta won a previous raffle in 2017 that featured the same type of handgun. It seems that Glenn has incredible fortune for raffles that involve 1911 pistols. So, we won't be choosing one of these handguns for a future raffle unless Glenn is up in PA for a few months.

Congratulations, Glenn!!! Well played. You won a highly coveted handgun that is a replica of the famous sidearm that our military carried for 75 years.



Georgetta Weik with the Ruger .45 Caliber, Model 1911 that she won.

The next gun raffle will commence on Thursday, 15 June at 1200. What will be the prize? Heck if I know. That's seven weeks away. But if you have a predilection for a certain firearm, let me know when you are at The Bunker. I am the duty volunteer bartender on Thursdays, so you can always catch me at The Bunker that day of the week.

The exact firearm will be identified in the June newsletter, so stay tuned for the identification of the next gun be raffled off.

# Capt. Marion Carl: A Dogfight with Zeros at Midway

By John D'Alusio – Historian, MCL Detachment 588

Most everyone has heard of the Battle of Midway in early June 1942. It is often erroneously called “the turning point of the war with Japan.” That was actually the six-month long Guadalcanal campaign. But Midway resulted in the sinking of four irreplaceable Japanese Fleet Carriers (*Kaga, Akagi, Soryu, and Hiryu*) and severely blunted their feared six carrier striking force (the previous four along with *Zuikaku* and *Shokaku*) that had hit Pearl Harbor on 12/7/41 to start the conflict, to where it was no longer capable of rampaging across the Pacific, sweeping everything in its' path.

The Midway operation plan was the brainchild of Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto. The purpose of launching the attack was to lure the US carrier force out to defend Midway, where it would be destroyed by the planes of *Kido Butai* (the Japanese Carrier strike force).

Fortunately, Admiral Chester Nimitz had advanced warning of Japanese battle intentions through code breaking by Station Hypo on Oahu. As such, he ordered a condition of “fleet opposed invasion,” and sent every piece of equipment he could spare to defend Midway. This included a contingent of fighters composing seven Grumman F4F Wildcats and twenty-one obsolete Brewster Buffalo F2A-3 aircraft. They would be matched against the famous Japanese AM62 Zeros, the most feared carrier fighter in the world.

On the morning of 4 June, 1942, Marine Capt. Marion Carl (born in 1915 in Oregon) was awakened at 0300 by reveille. He was one of the lucky seven pilots to be assigned an F4F Wildcat. Just before 0600 a radio message was received from a patrolling PBY, “Many planes heading Midway.” All planes on the island (numbering over 70) were scrambled. The bombers and torpedo planes headed out to where the Japanese carrier force was steaming to attack, but the fighters had orders to protect Midway from the Japanese carrier strike aircraft.

Twenty-five US fighters were able to meet the scramble; 18 Brewsters and 7 Grummans. They gathered in divisions and headed west of Midway. Approximately 30 miles from the island, the Japanese strike force is spotted. “Tally-ho, bandits” is heard over the fighter radios.

The lead elements of the Japanese attack are Nakajima B5N “Kates” that can double as torpedo planes or horizontal bombers. For the attack against Midway, they are all armed with bombs. They are approaching at approximately 3,000 feet. The US fighters are above them and go into a wing over dive against the formation. No Japanese fighters were yet visible.

Capt. Carl was at the rear of the fighter formation and was able to see several of the Japanese Kates begin to smoke and lose altitude as a result of the hits from the Brewsters and Grummans. Carl swiveled his head and was sickened to see that the American fighters were about to be jumped by Zeros. He yelled a warning into the microphone to the other American pilots and then took a quick shot at a Nakajima with his six .50 caliber Browning M2 heavy machine guns.

There was no time to observe damage to the bomber because a Zero was closing in on Carl's 6 o'clock. Carl yanked the stick back and to the left and just caught a glimpse of the bomber he shot at streaming black smoke and falling out of formation. Carl decided he was going to use his speed to climb out of the melee and dive back into it from superior height.

The throttle of Carl's F4F was pinned to the firewall and the 1,200 HP Pratt & Whitney engine was screaming. Individual fighter combat had commenced, and Carl was shocked to see the Brewster Buffalos falling out of the sky at an appalling rate as the Zeros tore into them.



Although the F4F Wildcat was itself inferior to the Zero in climb, speed, and maneuverability, at least a pilot in a Grumman had a fighting chance against the Zeros. The Wildcats were superior in a dive, could change directions quicker than a Zero over 200 knots, were more heavily armed, and much more rugged than the fragile Zero. However, the F2A pilots were totally outclassed in all aspects of performance.

Carl reached 21,000 feet in his Wildcat and looked for the fighter melee. It was no longer visible. He did not know it at the time, but of the 12 planes in his division, nine were already destroyed and two other badly damaged. He headed back to Midway with the F4F fully operational.

The Japanese were working over both of the islands that comprised Midway Atoll (Sand and Eastern) when Carl arrived. He spotted three Zeros in a ragged line flying back and forth across the runway on Eastern Island. Carl pulled the stick to the right, increased throttled, and roared down on the trailing Zero. As the Zero's wingspan filled the gunsight, Carl commenced firing his six .50 caliber guns. The stream of fire slammed into the Zero causing pieces of the fighter to break off. The fighter corkscrewed straight into the ground. This was the second Japanese plane Carl destroyed.

Carl now concentrated on the second Zero of the enemy trio. However, his speed was now under 200 knots. The second Zero was almost in range of his deadly six-gun battery when the leading Zero pulled a sharp left turn and almost as if by wizardry, was now glued to the tail of the F4F, closing from the port quarter. The Zero was faster in level flight than the F4F by 15 mph, so Carl can't outrun this attacker. Carl decided to go after the leading Zero hoping he could shoot it down before the approaching Zero on the port quarter could get the Wildcat.

The leading Zero, unaware of Carl's approach, was barely in range, but the attacking Zero was closer. Carl saw twinkling lights on the edge of the Zero's wings. The enemy pilot had opened up with his two 20 mm cannon. The Wildcat staggered under the cannon hits, but the Grumman was a rugged bird. Carl attempted to jinx left, then right but the Zero was clinging to his tail. Suddenly, Carl saw a cumulous cloud only a thousand feet ahead. He pushed the throttle to maximum again and made for the cloud cover. He reached it just in time. Once in the milky cover, Carl chopped his throttle causing the F4F to immediately slow. The Zero pilot continued through the cloud at maximum speed.

Carl exited the cloud and spied the Zero just below and to the left of his Wildcat. He jammed the throttle to the stop, pushed the stick forward and hit left rudder, and began to close on the unsuspecting enemy pilot who so recently tried to shoot Carl down. The Zero filled the gunsight. This was going to be Carl's easiest kill of the day. However, when he triggered his guns, nothing happened. All six were jammed. He knew he wasn't out of ammo, but negative gravity had caused the six-gun battery to malfunction when it was most needed.

The Zero pilot suddenly realized the Wildcat was bearing down on him and that he was a sitting duck. He bore down on his throttle, and began to pull away back toward the Japanese carrier force. Without a working gun battery, Carl could do nothing. He decided to land on Eastern Island at the airfield. It was 0800 when he touched down on the bomb cratered field. He felt like he had been in the air for twelve hours instead of two.

Carl taxied to his fighter's revetment where he was told by his ground crew that 15 of the 25 fighter pilots didn't make it back. Carl was the tenth and last fighter pilot to return. Even worse, only two fighters were operational and able to fight again, one being Carl's Wildcat. Of the 25 that took off at 0600, 23 were destroyed or so badly damaged that they were non-operational.

The two operational Wildcats were serviced within 30 minutes and took off at 0830, now he sole fighter defense for Midway Atoll, and Carl's plane had been holed numerous times by the Zero that had gotten on his tail. However, his Pratt & Whitney 1830 R76 engine was still operating with no issues.

Little did Carl know, the Japanese strike leader had radioed back to the carrier force that another strike on Midway was necessary. This resulted in Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, in charge of *Kido Butai*, ordering another land strike. As the planes were being armed, a Japanese reconnaissance scout plane found the USS *Yorktown* (CV5). That alert caused Nagumo to tell the carrier armorers to change ordnance from a land based strike to a ship based strike. The bombs were placed aside on the hanger decks as torpedoes were being attached to the Kates, and armor piercing bombs on the Aichi D3A Val dive bombers. That was the shape of the Japanese carriers when they were attacked at 1026 by Dauntless SBD dive bombers from the *Yorktown* and *Enterprise* (CV6). The USS *Hornet* (CV8), the third American carrier present that day, did nothing to contribute to the battle except having Torpedo 8, consisting of fourteen obsolescent Douglas Devastator torpedo planes under Commander John Waldron (the only *Hornet* air commander who knew where he could find the Japanese carrier fleet), sacrifice themselves in a futile attack on *Kido Butai* (the sole survivor of Torpedo 8 was Ensign George Gay who was later rescued).

The attack on *Kido Butai* left the *Akagi*, *Kaga*, and *Soryu* burning uncontrollably. The *Hiryu* launched two air attacks that disabled the *Yorktown*, which then sunk on 6/5 courtesy of torpedoes from a Japanese submarine which had penetrated the destroyer screen established while salvage attempts were underway. But the *Hiryu* was struck by four 1,000 pound bombs from the *Enterprise* and *Yorktown* dive bombers the afternoon of 6/4, and left a useless, burning hulk.

Although Marion Carl was only able to destroy a Nakajima B5N and one Mitsubishi Zero A6M2, his efforts contributed to the Japanese strike leader calling for another attack on Midway Atoll. This ultimately resulted in the Japanese carriers being caught unawares with ordnance out in the open on the hanger decks when the US dive bombers caught them at 1026.

Marion Carl was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions at the Battle of Midway. He was in The Corps from 1938-1973. He retired from the USMC as a Major General with over 10,000 hours of flight time, passing away in 1998 at the age of 82. His final WW II tally was 18.5 enemy planes destroyed. By the end of the war, he had been awarded two Navy Crosses, five Distinguished Flying Crosses, fourteen Air Medals, and numerous combat ribbons.



Major General Marion Carl in August 1967



EDITOR'S NOTE: *Major General Carl was murdered by a home invader who was robbing his home in 1998.*



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE Life Membership dues will be increasing 1 July 2023**

MCL Life Membership dues will be increasing 1 July 2023. It was determined that the Life Membership dues have not been increased for approximately 19 years; the year 2004 was the last time that Life Membership Fees were increased at the National Convention. The MCL National Board of Trustees has been discussing this increase for many years. The following paragraph is reprinted from the MCL National Administrative Procedures:

**“Section 7050. Life Members. ... Effective 1 September 2021 the Life Membership fee shall be as established by the National Board of Trustees and shall be posted on the National Website.”**

The Life Membership is only available if the member’s annual dues have been paid and the member is in good standing. Any member desiring to pay their Life Membership Fees at the current rate, must do so and be post-marked no later than 30 June 2023. Any Life Membership payments after that date are listed above. Life Membership dues must be paid through your local detachment; submitted with the applicable member transmittal form.

On behalf of the National Board of Trustees,  
Semper Fi,  
Johnny Baker  
National Commandant / CEO  
Marine Corps League



Age Group	Until 6/30/2023 // New Life Member Dues 7/1/23
0 - 35	\$500.00 // \$1,000.00
36 - 50	\$400.00 // \$800.00
51 - 64	\$300.00 // \$600.00
65 - Over	\$200.00 // \$400.00
(As of 7/1/23) 85 - Over	\$100.00

Editor’s Note: If you are planning to travel soon, check out the rates on the Marine Corps League Travel Page: <https://mcleague.hotelplanner.com/>

P. O. Box 1990  
Stafford, VA 22555-1990

Incorporated by act of Congress

703-207-9588



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**  
National Headquarters

20 April 2023

From: National Board of Trustees, Marine Corps League  
To: Marine Corps League Membership  
Re: National Board of Trustee (BOT) Action on Life Membership Fees

**National Board of Trustee (BOT) Action on Life Membership Fees**

The National Board of Trustees met on 19 April 2023 to discuss the Marine Corps League's Life Membership Fees. It was determined that the Life Membership Fees have not been increased for approximately 19 years. In the year 2004, it was the last time that Life Membership Fees were increased at the National Convention. The National Board of Trustees has been discussing this increase for many years. The following paragraph is reprinted from the National Administrative Procedures:

"Section 7050. Life Members. ... Effective 1 September 2021 the Life Membership fee shall be as established by the National Board of Trustees and shall be posted on the National Website."

The National Board of Trustees has the fiduciary responsibility for the operation and budget requirements of the Marine Corps League. After full discussions and considerations, the National Board of Trustees voted and approved the following:

Effective 1 July 2023, the Life Membership Fees will increase as per the following chart:

\$1000.00 – 35 years of age and lower  
\$ 800.00 – 36-50 years of age  
\$ 600.00 – 51-64 years of age  
\$ 400.00 – 65-84 years of age  
\$ 100.00 – 85 years of age and higher

The above Fees are only available if the member's annual dues have been paid and the member is in good standing. Any member desiring to pay their Life Membership Fees at the current rate, must do so and be post-marked no later than 30 June 2023. Any Life Membership payments after that date are listed above.

On behalf of the National Board of Trustees,

*Johnny Baker*

Johnny Baker  
National Commandant/CEO

cc: Bob Borka, National Executive Director, Marine Corps League  
National Board of Trustees  
All Departments  
All Detachments (Members)





Jim and Nancy Walker are drinking Mexico dry in San Carlos, Sonora, Mexico, back at the Bunker for cheeseburgers in July. Walkers lived in Mexico 20 years before moving to Bradenton.



Did you know that if you garden in your back yard naked, your neighbors will build you a privacy fence for absolutely no cost to you.



A New York attorney called his client, a wealthy art collector: "Saul, I have some good news and I have some bad news."

The art collector replied, "You know, I've had an awful day, Jack, so let's hear the good news first."

"Well, I met with your wife today," the lawyer said, "and she informed me that she has invested only \$5,000 in two very nice pictures that she thinks will bring somewhere between \$15 and \$20 million ... and I think she could be right."

"Holy cow! Well done!" Saul replied enthusiastically. "My wife is a brilliant business woman, isn't she? You've just made my day. Now, I know I can handle the bad news. What is it?"

"The pictures are of you and your secretary."



## Free Entrance to National Parks

Explore the outdoors. You can use your [Veteran ID Card \(VIC\)](#) to gain free access to more than 2,000 federal recreation areas, including [national parks](#), wildlife refuges, and forests. Gold Star Families and Veterans can [enjoy a variety of activities like camping, hiking, biking, and much more.](#)

### Bunker Announcements :

- **NO CHILDREN are allowed to sit at the bar.** (For legal purposes, this means anyone under the age of 18, though the label may also apply to a few unnamed grunts). Minors must sit at tables or high tops only.
- **Guests are permitted 3 visits to The Bunker.** Upon the 3rd visit, they will be required to submit a membership application before returning.
- Non-members will be assessed an additional **\$.50 surcharge** on drinks.
- When playing the dice, **3 of a kind gets a free drink** of the kind already purchased, **4 of a kind gets 2 free drinks** of the kind already purchased. Five of a kind receives the monetary amount based on the roll sequence.
- When you are going to use free drink chips to pay for your drinks, **let the bartender know before they tally your “cash out” on the computer.** If you produce the chips after they produce the “cash out” total, it causes issues. Be considerate of your volunteer bartenders and **TIP THEM WELL.**
- If you can, **pay your bar tab with cash.** We do accept credit cards, however the Bunker is charged a fee. You are welcome to use your credit card, but if you have the cash please use it.

# Support your Detachment.



**MUSINGS—SUBMITTED BY ART DEHARDT**

- 1 - I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- 2 - Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- 3 - Half the people you know are below average.
- 4 - 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- 5 - 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- 6 - A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- 7 - A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- 8 - If you want the rainbow, you got to put up with the rain.
- 9 - All those who believe in psycho kinesis, raise my hand.
- 10 - The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- 11 - I almost had a psychic girlfriend, .... But she left me before we met.
- 12 - OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- 13 - How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- 14 - If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
- 15 - Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- 16 - When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- 17 - Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- 18 - Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
- 19 - I intend to live forever ... So far, so good.
- 20 - If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
- 21 - Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- 22 - What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- 23 - My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
- 24 - Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
- 25 - If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
- 26 - A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
- 27 - Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
- 28 - The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.
- 29 - To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.
- 30 - The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.
- 31 - The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.
- 32 - The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.
- 33 - Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.
- 34 - If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
- 35 - If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?

# TIME TO PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!

Dues were due on September 1st. Please pay them promptly in order to continue your membership and to be able to enjoy the benefits of the Bunker. Maybe it is time to think about a Life Membership.

If you have service connected disabilities and hold a VA Card indicating that, you can go to the Myakka State Park Rangers Office, off of State Road 72, and be issued a pass card good for free entry to all Florida State Parks.

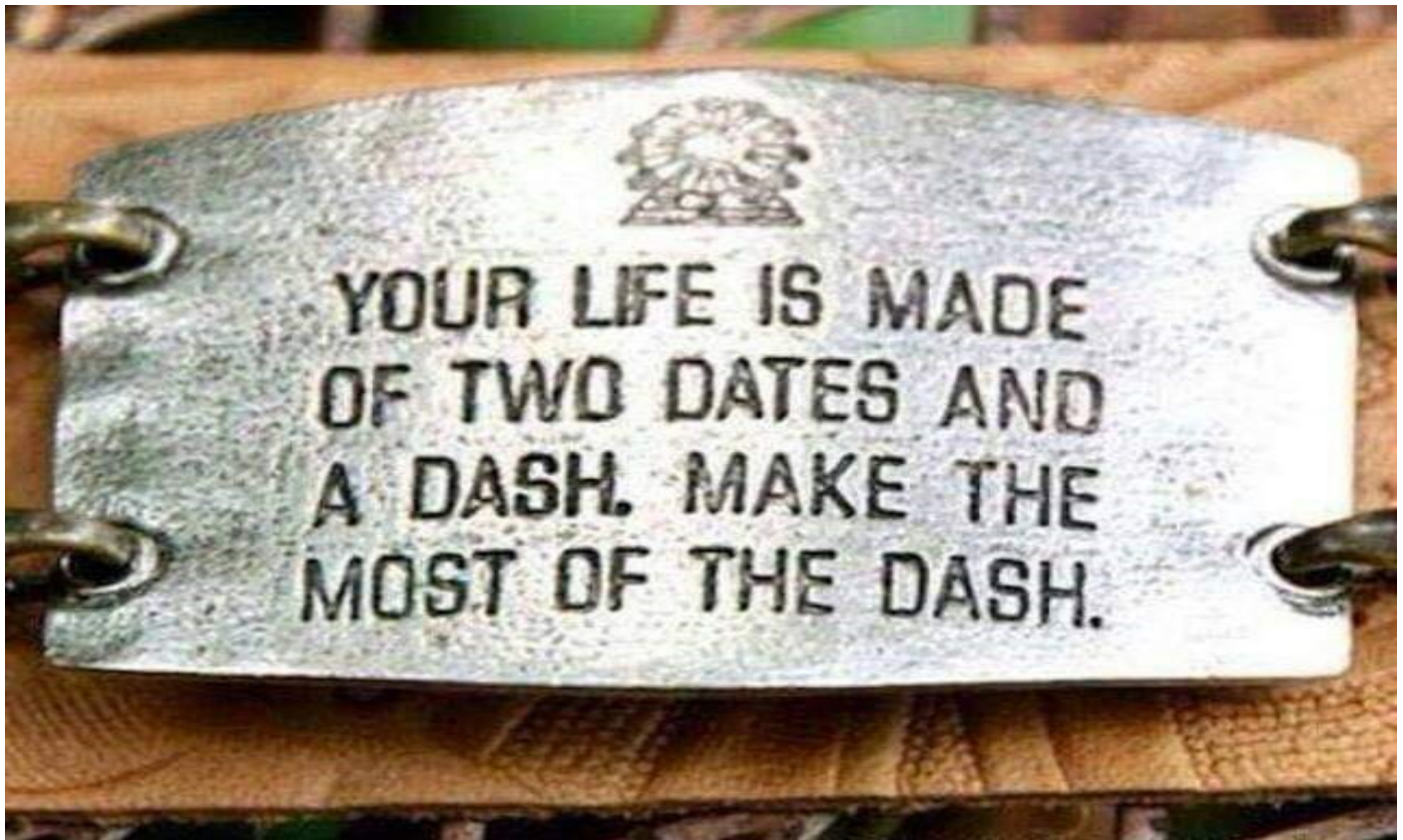


## MISSION AND PURPOSE

The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and to preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines and FMF Navy Personnel who wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.

Dedicated to supporting our local veterans and enriching our community, DeSoto Detachment #588 is the local arm of the Marine Corps League, serving the greater Bradenton/Sarasota area. Annual initiatives include Honor Guard and honors services for fallen service members, Toys for Tots drive, charity golf tournament, USMC Ball, scholarships and support for Young Marines, and other community initiatives that support or honor US Marines and their families.





**Marine Corps Rule # 44**

***MARINES WILL ALWAYS  
HAVE THEIR UNIFORMS AND  
DUECE GEAR READY FOR  
DEPLOYMENT AT A  
MOMENTS NOTICE.***

**The Desoto Detachment  
Honor Guard practice has  
been moved to the last  
Monday of each month at  
1800.**

**YOU can become a member  
of the Honor Guard, both  
Members and Associate  
Members are welcome.  
No experience necessary.**

**For more Information, contact Matt  
Richardson at the Bunker.**



## VETERANS SERVICES

Goodwill was one of the first organizations to respond to the multitude of challenges faced by veterans, their families, and the families of those who serve on active duty.

Goodwill Manasota’s Veterans Services Program focuses on providing comprehensive case management and vocational services that assist with employment and barriers to employment, while helping veterans navigate the wide array of available programs.

We are proud to have a wide variety of community partners and alliances with other local organizations committed to serving those who have served for us.

**Call TODAY for this FREE service!**  
**941.355.2721 x.451**




## Common Heart Attack Warning Signs



- 1 Pain or discomfort in chest
- 2 Lightheadedness, nausea, or vomiting
- 3 Jaw, neck or back pain
- 4 Discomfort or pain in arm or shoulder
- 5 Shortness of breath

**COVID –19 ISN’T WHIPPED YET, BUT WE ARE MAKING HEADWAY.** We still need to exercise basic precautions.

**Have you gotten your COVID-19 Vaccination and boosters yet?**

**If not, why not?**

**It’s a medical issue, not a political issue, so go get your vaccination.**



## How may I get copies or information from my official military records or for those of a family member or military person I am researching?

Write:

National Personnel Records Center  
 Military Personnel Records  
 9700 Page Ave.  
 St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

The fax request number is (314) 801-9195. The Center will respond in writing by U.S. Mail. Or visit the National Personnel Records Center online at:<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.

Or you may also call at: 314-801-0800.

## How do I find out what medals and awards for which I am eligible?

Write:

Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps  
 Military Awards Branch (Code MMMA)  
 2008 Elliot Road  
 Quantico, VA 22134-5030

The Ball Committee has confirmed the  
 248th. Marine Corps Ball is Friday November 10th.  
 at Tara Country Club.

**GET YOUR TICKETS AT THE BUNKER.**



### LOCAL AGENCY THAT CAN HELP VETERANS IN NEED

**Supportive Service for Veteran Families (SSVF).** Administered by *Turning Points* in Bradenton. Contact them at 941-747-1509. They are located at **701 17th Avenue West, Bradenton Florida 34205.** Services available include: *Outreach Services, Case Management Services, Assistance Obtaining VA benefits, Assistance obtaining other Public Benefits, Rental Assistance, Utility-Fee Payment Assistance, Child Care and other Qualifying Services, and Transportation.*

Desoto Detachment #588, 5225 26th Street West, Bradenton, Florida 34207 (941) 301-4598

MEETINGS ARE THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1830 Website: MCL588.Org



If you, or someone you know needs help, support is available 24/7. Service members and their families can call Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647, or chat at [militaryonesource.mil](https://militaryonesource.mil). Service members, veterans, and their loved ones can also call the Military and Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat at [veteranscrisisline.net](https://veteranscrisisline.net), or text to 838255.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available to anyone at **1-800-273-8255**.

**STOLEN VALOR.....**Don't imposters know it is very easy to verify valorous claims in these days of Google and other search engines? There are a lot of fakers out there claiming to be something that they are not.

It is very easy to ascertain heroic status, both in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Don't be a faker. If you earned it, wear it with pride,  
if you didn't earn it go crawl back in your hole with the other worms.

For more information about these worms,

Go to:

<http://www.stolenvalor.com/index.cfm>

Or

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Victoria\\_Cross\\_recipients\\_by\\_campaign](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Victoria_Cross_recipients_by_campaign)

**IT'S OUR DUTY TO EXPOSE IMPOSTERS,**  
**BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.**



If you need help with benefits claims, contact the  
Manatee County Veteran's Service Office at

**(941) 745-3795**

## VETERANS SERVICES

Here in Manatee County, we appreciate our Veterans for their service and sacrifice and are happy to assist. You will always be treated with respect, courtesy, and compassion while at our office. Again, thank you for your service and we hope to hear from you in the near future.

Our office is committed to providing you professional assistance and guidance throughout your entire VA claim process. There is absolutely **no fee or cost** for our services or for the submission of a claim for VA benefits.

**These have been paid in full  
by your service.**

**Please keep Mike Ryan,  
Tony Rosato, Bonnie Grote,  
Gordon Lamb, and Frank  
Hartman in your thoughts  
and prayers. They are all  
experiencing significant  
health issues.**

**If you know of members  
who are sick or in distress,  
please call our Chaplain,  
Ron Schneider  
941-749-5799**



### Military Stories

We are collecting stories by and about military personnel. The stories will be posted on: [www.militarystories.us](http://www.militarystories.us)

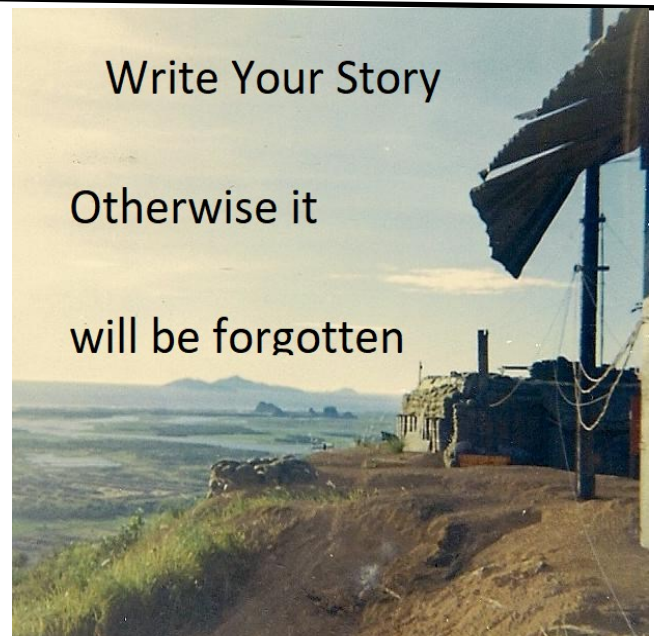
If you would like to have your story published email your story to Craig Hullinger at:

[craighullinger@gmail.com](mailto:craighullinger@gmail.com)

Your story can be long or short. The story can cover an interesting event or your entire life. You can write about yourself or a friend or relative that you would like to honor.

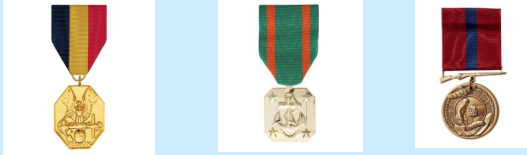
Pictures are worth a thousand words. You can write the story for a relative, friend, or ancestor. You can add to your story. We look forward to publishing your story on the blog.

Thank you for your stories.



**Where to write for your medals (no cost to you):**

**Navy Personnel Command  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100**



**BAR POKER  
EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON  
3:00 -5:00 PM  
AT THE BUNKER**

**Our Detachment has a new website that is now up and running. Please visit it at: [MCL588.org](http://MCL588.org). Our Adjutant has diligently put this together. The website will host announcements, photos, archived newsletters, etc. So go right now and put [MCL588.Org](http://MCL588.Org) into your browser.**



**SO THE GAME IS A SIMPLE ONE. WITH THE CAT CLUTCHED IN YOUR ARMS, YOU FIRE THE GUN, AND SEE HOW LONG YOU CAN HOLD ONTO THE CAT. THE WORLD RECORD IS 1.3 SECONDS.**



**Veterans  
Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1**





# SCUTTLEBUTT

## The Word



- ⇒ When is the last time you invited a potential member to the Bunker or to a MCL Meeting? Invite that guy or gal down the street that has the USMC decal on their car.
- ⇒ See Gabby to become a celebrity poker dealer for Bar Poker. Little to no experience required.
- ⇒ Send your photos, articles or announcements to Editor Bob Fields for inclusion in the Bunker News. Send to Jarhead@BrightHouse.com by the 25th of the month.
- ⇒ The Bunker is now open on Sundays 1100-1800.
- ⇒ HONOR GUARD PRACTICE LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1800. COME JOIN IN, NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WELCOME.

*Remember to always tip your*  
**VOLUNTEER bartenders**  
*at the Bunker very generously.*

*They are unpaid and giving up their*  
*time to keep*  
*the Bunker Running.*

**Bar Manners:** It certainly isn't mandatory, but when a member wins a large pot on dice, the stamps or pull tab cards, it is generally an accepted practice to **tip the bartender very generously, and to buy the bar a round of drinks.**  
**People who win big money and just leave a drink chip or small tip are frowned upon by all and called names that I can't put in print.**

# MARINE CORPS HISTORY IN MAY

**2 May 1946:** Marines from Treasure Island Marine Barracks, under the command of Warrant Officer Charles L. Buckner, aided in suppressing the three-day prison riot at Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. WO Buckner, a veteran of the Bougainville and Guam campaigns, ably led his force of Marines without suffering a single casualty.

**5 May 1983:** In Beirut, Lebanon, a UH-1N helicopter carrying the commander of the American peace-keeping force, Colonel James Mead, was hit by machine gun fire. The six Marines aboard escaped injury. Colonel Mead and his crew had taken off in the helicopter to investigate artillery and rocket duels between rival Syrian-backed Druze Moslem militiamen and Christian Phalangists that endangered French members of the multinational force.

**8 May 1995:** In the wake of the most devastating storm to hit the New Orleans area in more than 200 years, a group of Marines and sailors from Marine Forces Reserve demonstrated the quick response synonymous with the Navy/Marine Corps team. Within 24 hours of being called, Marines assisted in the evacuation of 2,500 civilians, and Navy corpsmen treated scores of flood victims.

**10 May 1945:** The 22d Marines, 6th Marine Division, executed a pre-dawn attack south across the Asa River Estuary and seized a bridgehead from which to continue the attack toward Naha, the capital of Okinawa.

**15 May 1862:** Corporal John Mackie, the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor, was commended for service in the USS GALENA during action against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff which blocked the James River approaches to Richmond.

**16 May 1945:** The 22d and 29th Marines continued the attack against Half Moon Hill, a day characterized by the 6th Marine Division as the "bitterest" of the Okinawa campaign. By the 18th, the famed "Shuri line" had been breached.

**22 May 1912:** First Lieutenant Alfred A. Cunningham, the first Marine officer to be assigned to "duty in connection with aviation" by Major General Commandant William P. Biddle, reported for aviation training at the Naval Aviation Camp at Annapolis, Maryland, and Marine aviation had its official beginning.

**23 May 1988:** The V-22 Osprey, the world's first production tilt-rotor aircraft, made its debut during rollout ceremonies at Bell Helicopter Textron's Arlington, Texas, facility. More than 1,000 representatives from the military, industry, and media, gathered to hear various speakers, including Gen Alfred Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps, praise the versatile rotor craft designed to meet the needs of 21st Century battlefields.

**26 May 1969:** Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines and 3d Battalion, 5th Marines began sweeps in the Dodge City/Go Noi areas southwest of Da Nang. It terminated at the end of June with 610 enemy killed in action at a cost of 34 Marines killed.

**29 May 1991:** Elements of a joint task force that included the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade departed the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Bangladesh after nearly two weeks of disaster relief operations following a devastating cyclone. The joint task force delivered tons of relief supplies using helicopters, C-130s, and landing craft in Operation Sea Angel.







**LANCE CORPORAL  
KENNETH L. WORLEY**

**Born: APRIL 27, 1948**

**Died: AUGUST 12, 1968**

**Hometown: FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO**



The **President of the United States** takes pride in presenting the **MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously** to

**LANCE CORPORAL  
KENNETH L. WORLEY  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**for service as set forth in the following CITATION:**

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Machine Gunner with Company L, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division in action against enemy forces in the Republic of Vietnam. After establishing a night ambush position in a house in the Bo Ban Hamlet of Quang Nam Province, security was set up and the remainder of the patrol members retired until their respective watch. During the early morning hours of 12 August 1968, the Marines were abruptly awakened by the platoon leader's warning that "Grenades" had landed in the house. Fully realizing the inevitable result of his actions, Lance Corporal Worley, in a valiant act of heroism instantly threw himself upon the grenade nearest him and his comrades, absorbing with his own body, the full and tremendous force of the explosion. Through his extraordinary initiative and inspiring valor in the face of almost certain death, he saved his comrades from serious injury and possible loss of life although five of his fellow Marines incurred minor wounds as the other grenades exploded. Lance Corporal Worley's gallant actions upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

/S/ RICHARD M. NIXON