



Bunker News



**A MULTIPLE
AWARD WINNING
NEWSLETTER!**

OCTOBER 2024

OFFICERS

Commandant

Joe Filice
863-245-3540

Sr. Vice Commandant

David H. Matthews
941-323-1509

Jr. Vice Commandant

Dave Hildebrand
610-804-9299

Judge Advocate

Denny Palmer
815-979-7465

Pay Master

Ron Kosey
941-812-3426

Adjutant

Bob Fields
941-504-3693

Sergeant at Arms

Matt Richards
941-524-8690

Chaplain

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Historian

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Jim Grote
941-807-2490

Submit Bunker News input to
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DESOTO DETACHMENT 588, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Website: MCL588.Org

VOTE!

The National Bylaws of the Marine Corps League state that we, "Shall not be sectarian, political, and partisan". It also says, "To fit its members for the duties of citizenship...". One of the most important duties of citizenship is voting. Ideally, elections are our opportunity to choose the best candidate to represent our interests. Unfortunately, it frequently seems that instead of choosing the best, we must choose the second worst candidate. According to Psychology Today, the number one reason why eligible voters do not vote is because they don't like the candidates or issues. Despite campaigns attempting to sell you a particular candidate, you are hiring someone to do a job. Do you want the most skilled surgeon or the one with the nicest office and cutest receptionist? It should be about policies and performance not people and personalities. Being an informed voter can be a challenge when news sources seem more interested in influencing than informing. This presidential race is unique in that we don't have to speculate about the candidate's job performance since we have seen both in action. Their visions for the country couldn't be more different. Perhaps the simplest method is to ask yourself if you, your community, the country or the world, depending on your preference, is better off now or 4 years ago. Keep in mind the typical stock market disclaimer, "Past performance is no guarantee of future results".

All elections have consequences, but this one has raised the stakes. Another excuse for not voting is the belief that the other side will cheat. If anything, that is a reason TO vote because a greater number of legitimate votes reduces the percentage and influence of any illegitimate votes. "My neighbor, uncle, gardener, dog sitter, etc. is voting for the other person and our votes will just cancel out". There are several races and issues of consequence on the ballot. It is very unlikely that all of your votes will be the opposite. Then there is the issue above about the importance of legitimate votes.



Continued on following page:

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

Continue from page 1:

Does my vote really matter? In 2020, a difference of 81,139 votes could have changed the outcome. In 2020, there were 176,933 election precincts in the United States. Less than one vote per precinct could have changed the outcome. Granted, the votes that would have made the difference were in swing states, but we are still talking about relatively few per precinct. In 2000, 154 votes in Florida made the difference in the presidential election. Depending on your point of view, that is either the beauty or the curse of the electoral college.

As Lincoln stated in his Gettysburg address, we have a "...government of the people, by the people and for the people...". That only works if "the people" express their opinions on how they wish to be governed. The 2020 election had the highest voter turnout since 1900 but it was only 66.5%. Compared to several other countries, that is a rather pitiful showing. In 2022, Equatorial Guinea topped the list at 98.4%. Singapore had 93.5%.

So much for the reasons not to vote, the number one reason TO vote is that it secures your right to complain for 4 years!

Please be sure to vote and give your neighbor, uncle, gardener or dog sitter a ride to the polls if they need one.

Semper Fi

When you next see Sandy Bradley at the Bunker or anywhere else, take time to congratulate her. She volunteered to organize, schedule and pull off this years Marine Corps League, Desoto Detachment 588's Golf Outing Event.

Sandy brought a new higher level of professionalism and organization to this event than we have seen for many years.

Sandy and her team of volunteers had dozens of gift certificates from local businesses, dozens of gift baskets, and a whole lot of silent auction items. They did a great job.

Even though this event was just two days subsequent to one of the worst natural disasters to befall our area in decades, it came off without a hitch. The only weird thing was, that after the golfing started, the rain started, and it came down hard. *But the golfers kept hitting those little balls around the big green pasture.*

[Congratulations Sandy Bradley and her team of volunteers.](#)





249th. MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

Saturday, November 9, 2024

TARA COUNTRY CLUB

6602 Drewry's Bluff

Bradenton, FL

Directions: East on S.R.70 (53rd. Ave.) Right on Tara Blvd. (last traffic light before I-75)

First right after traffic light on Drewry's Bluff. Country Club is on left ½ 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

Bourbon Glaze Salmon

Chicken Marsala

Vegetarian

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

Detach bottom portion & return by November 1

\$60.00 per person

Please send payment or in person.

Marine Corps League Desoto Detachment #588

5225 26th. St. West- Bradenton, FL 34207

Phone: (941) 301- 4598

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

First & Last Name of each attendee and Dinner Choice – Phone Contact _____

1 (_____) Check one choice - B ___ C ___ F ___ V ___

2 (_____) Check one choice - B ___ C ___ F ___ V ___

3 (_____) Check one choice - B ___ C ___ F ___ V ___

4 (_____) Check one choice - B ___ C ___ F ___ V ___

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

Italian Day at the Bunker



The competition for the bragging rights as the Italian Chef was fierce.

The food was great.



But only one chef could be awarded the wooden spoon as the winner.

Sandy Bradley took the honors.





Marine Corps League

Desoto Detachment 588

Events for OCTOBER 2024

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



October 14, 2024 - 6:00 pm at the Bunker



October 28, 2024 at 5:30 pm

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP



**OCTOBER 21, 2024
AT 6:30 PM**

Remember, the hatches (doors) are secured at exactly 1830 by the Sergeant at Arms, and no one gains entry after the click of the lock.

Please arrive early and enjoy a beverage, swap tall tales, and enjoy the company of our membership.



with hot daws

**SATURDAYS AT 3 PM
OCT. 5, 12, 19, 26**

Graphic displays courtesy of Kim Cartano

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Marine Corps League

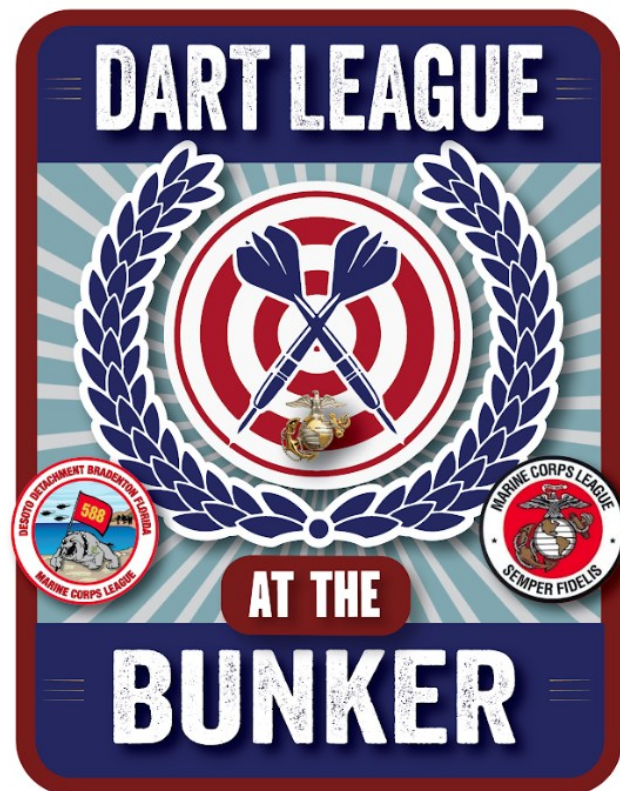
Desoto Detachment 588

Events for OCTOBER 2024

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



WEDNESDAYS AT 12 noon
OCTOBER 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

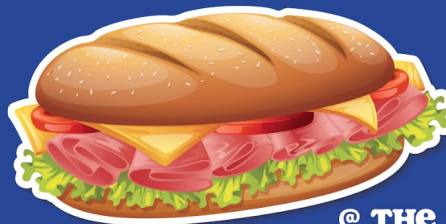


SUNDAYS • OCT 6, 13, 20, 27



FRIDAYS | 6 PM
AT THE BUNKER
OCT 4 | 11 | 18 | 25

sandwiches



@ THE BUNKER

THURSDAYS AT 12 noon
OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

GREAT EVENTS,
BE THERE FOR ALL THE FUN!
MEETINGS ARE IMPORTANT.
PLEASE COME TO THE MEETINGS.
SEE YOU AT THE BUNKER!

Graphic displays courtesy of Kim Cartano

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SEPTEMBER 2024



Marine, David Johnson, was sworn in during the meeting. He served on active duty and in the reserves. He served as a fighter pilot flying F-4 Phantoms. Welcome Aboard!



NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS BEING SWORN IN:

(Not in order) Debbie Hertenstein, Bobbie Mauro, Diane Belcher, Angy Brown, Wanda Ayers, Dean Wright, Robert Pence, Thomas Black, Brock Ayers. Welcome Aboard!

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SEPTEMBER 2024



Chris is ready for the meeting.



Vicki is trying to make that water bottle levitate through telepathic powers.



Senior Vice Dave is watching the right flank. Judge Advocate Denny has the left flank. All Secure.



Keri running the bar. Slings those Harvey Wall bangers, Singapore Slings and Red Beers.



Commandant Joe Filice explaining the history of the Challenge Coin. (or he is parting the Red Sea)



OCTOBER GUN RAFFLE @ THE BUNKER!

Glenn is at it again!

Sig Sauer 320XC-9-BXR3-RXP with Romeo 1 Pro Red Dot Sight!

2- 15 round 9mm mags!

Used, but 100% like new!



Tickets are \$10.00 each.

Only 100 Tickets will be sold!

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, October 2nd @ Noon.

These tickets will go fast, so get there early and get your chances before they are all gone.

Television Series About Marines

By John D'Alusio – Historian, MCL Detachment 588

In a previous column, I wrote about movies featuring the Marines. They included such famous flicks as *The Sands of Iwo Jima*, *Wake Island*, *Guadalcanal Diary*, and *The D.I.*

Of course, there were TV series that also involved the Marine Corps. The two most notable are *The Lieutenant* and *Gomer Pyle, USMC*. The first was a weekly sixty-minute drama, while the second was a half-hour sitcom.

The Lieutenant debuted on 14 September, 1963, on NBC and ran through 18 April, 1964, and consisted of only 29 total episodes. It was created by Gene Roddenbury, who later went on to create the original *Star Trek*.

The series starred Gary Lockwood as 2nd Lieutenant William Tiberius Rice (interestingly, William Shatner's character on *Star Trek* was named James Tiberius Kirk). The premise for the show was that Lt. Rice recently graduated the United States Naval Academy and assigned his first command, that of a rifle platoon. Rice is a young, educated idealist who still has much to learn from an older mentor, the tough Company CO Captain Raymond Rambridge (played by Robert Vaughn, later of *Man From Uncle* fame), a mustang who harbors some enmity toward the Annapolis graduate reporting to him.

Richard Anderson (later in *The Six Million Dollar Man* and *The Bionic Woman*) has a recurring role as Battalion CO, Lt. Col. Steve Hiland. The comely young blond Linda Evans (later in *The Big Valley* and *Dynasty*) played Hiland's daughter Nan in several early episodes, where her main business seems to be flirting with Lt. Rice.

The series focused primarily on Rice's various assignments as a junior officer, which often involved special details or difficult situations. Several of the later episodes featured Rice becoming an undercover investigator with military intelligence, allowing for plots and scenarios which Rice would otherwise not be involved with as a second lieutenant.

A raft of well-known guest stars appeared during the short run of the series. Some of these were Rip Torn, Leonard Nimoy (Spock on *Star Trek*), Greg Lupus (Barney on *Mission Impossible*), Majel Barrett (Nurse Chapel on *Star Trek*), Nichelle Nichols (Lt. Uhura on *Star Trek*), Walter Koenig (Chekov on *Star Trek*), Denver Pyle (*The Andy Griffith Show* and *The Dukes of Hazard*) and Vick Tayback (Owner of Mel's Diner on the sitcom *Alice*).



Gary Lockwood as 2nd Lt.
William T. Rice.



Linda Evans and Gary Lockwood



Robert Vaughn as Captain
Raymond Rambridge

Despite good writing, strong directing, fine acting, and a reasonably accurate representation of life in The Corps, ratings for *The Lieutenant* were rather low, resulting in the series being canceled after only one season. Back in the 1960's, a complete season was considered 26-30 episodes, with new shows debuting in late September and concluding in March or April, when they would go into summer re-runs until new episodes were broadcast the following September. A total of 29 episodes of *The Lieutenant* were filmed, with the series being non-renewed by NBC after the final episode of season 1 was in the can.

The half hour sitcom *Gomer Pyle, USMC* debuted on CBS on 25 September, 1964, and ran until 2 May, 1969. It was a spin-off the *The Andy Griffith Show*. Unlike *The Lieutenant*, the series was an immediate hit, and stayed in the top ten TV show ratings (except for the third season) for its entire run.

Jim Nabors played the same character he had made famous in *The Andy Griffith Show*. A bumbling, naïve but good-natured country bumpkin named Gomer Pyle. Aaron Ruben sensed the appeal of the Pyle character and decided that a comedy series based on Gomer joining the USMC had potential for comic gold.

Of course, Pyle had to have a nemesis, someone to play off his callow former incompetent gas-station attendant character. The actor chosen to be in that role was Frank Sutton, as Pyle's DI in boot camp, Gunnery Sgt. Vince Carter. Ronnie Schell was brought aboard to play Gomer's Marine enlisted friend Duke Slater, and Roy Stuart was cast as Corporal Chuck Boyle, Carter's good natured side-kick.

Like other comedies at the time, *Gomer Pyle* was a "deep escapist " show; it pointedly avoided political commentary. The producers wanted the show to be an oasis for those seeking harmless laughs and offered viewers a distraction from the social unrest at the time. Despite being a military-themed show and airing during the peak of the war in Vietnam, the show never mentioned the ever widening conflict. Instead, the series concentrated on "Gomer's innocent simplicity [and] Sergeant Carter's frustration and later concern for Gomer's well-being."

This formula, compounded with the popularity of rural comedies in the 1960s, made the show very popular. Frank Sutton ascribed the show's popularity to its concentration on its two main characters, and the plots being built around their respective drastic personality differences.

The series was filmed at in southern California at Camp Pendleton, Desilu Studios, and RKO Forty Acres back lot. Because the Marines believed that the show would be good for the branch's image, *Gomer Pyle* was given "total cooperation," meaning that the show was allowed unlimited access to USMC military equipment.

Half-hour comedies actually feature only 23 minutes of film, as commercials take up the other seven minutes. In 23 minutes, each week Gomer got into some sort of trouble with Gunnery Sgt. Carter screaming at him at the top of his lungs.

Originally situated in "Camp Wilson" in North Carolina, the setting was moved to the fictional "Camp Henderson" in California. In the first season, Carter was Pyle's DI, but when Gomer graduated boot camp, he was assigned to a platoon to which Carter had been given command. In this way, the two characters could continue to play off each other in a variety of bizarre scenarios.

Of course, Pyle was an inept Marine who constantly, but unmaliciously, antagonizes Carter. Sutton's character is put off by Gomer's expectation that the platoon should be a family, of which Carter is the father figure. As much as Carter wants their working relationship to be temporary, as is common in the military, Gomer expects a life-long friendship, which exasperates Carter. Due to the audience's demand for more family-oriented programming, Carter eventually revealed his softer side and became a father figure to Gomer as well as his best friend.

Jim Nabors took the role of the lead character Gomer Pyle when he was 34. After five seasons, regardless of the continually high Nielsen ratings, Nabors had had about enough of the character and the series. Born in 1930, he was approaching age 40, and it strained even sitcom credibility that a bumbling private that age remained in The Corps. Nabors eventually decided quit the series because he desired to move to something else, "reach for another rung on the ladder, either up or down."

Jim Nabors always said he had a hard time watching the opening credits, as many of the Marines he was filmed training with during that segment of the weekly introduction to the show were later killed in Vietnam.

Nabors died at his Honolulu home on November 30, 2017, aged 87.

Upon Nabors' demise, the USMC released a statement: **"Semper fi, Gomer Pyle. Rest in peace Jim Nabors, one of the few to ever be named an Honorary Marine."**



Jim Nabors, USMC DI Edwin Kues (Technical Advisor), and Frank Sutton



SATURDAY, 10.12.24
10 AM - 2 PM

Twin Rivers Sports Field
3711 Twin Rivers Trail
Parrish, FL 34219

PRESENTED BY JOHNS HOPKINS ALL CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION GUILD • LAKEWOOD RANCH BRANCH

paw *doggie photo & event day* **paw**

Join us for a day of seasonal fun, complete with fall and holiday photos and activities for your pets.
 Best of all, every moment supports the vital work of Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital.

Event Highlights

- Dress your dog in costume or holiday attire
- Fun doggie activities & games
- Delicious food trucks on-site
- Pet-friendly fun for the whole family

Every paw print counts!

SCAN FOR
EVENT DETAILS



Benefiting:



JOHNS HOPKINS
 All Children's Hospital



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**PLAY DARTS WITH US FOR THE NEXT 10 WEEKS TO QUALIFY
FOR THE OCTOBER 6th TOURNAMENT
(WITH PRIZES FOR 1ST, 2ND, 3RD PLACE)**

*Earn a point for each Sunday you play with the league
from 07.28 - 09.29. Additional points earned for 1st, 2nd, 3rd each week.
10 points needed to qualify for the tournament. All welcome each week.
Tournament with prizes will take place on October 6th at 2:00 pm
More details to come.*

JOIN US FOR THE 8TH ANNUAL

BATTLE OF THE SANGARITA SHOWDOWN

OCTOBER 4, 2024
7 PM -10 PM

MANATEE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
INSIDE THE VETERANS HALL
1402 14TH AVE. WEST • PALMETTO, FL

PRESENTED BY THE DIVISION 8 EXCHANGE CLUB

Local restaurants will compete for the title of best sangria, margarita, and appetizer at the 8th Annual Sangarita Showdown.



CARRABBA'S
ITALIAN GRILL



BONEFISH
GRILL



MEAN BEANS
with coffee



all proceeds benefit
PARENTING
matters

scan for ticketing and sponsorship



learn more: sangaritashowdown.com

CONTACT

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rprieto@parentingmattersfl.org



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PUBLIC ENTERPRISE
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Dignity Memorial® Benefits Program

Learn about your VA Burial Benefits and
The Dignity Memorial Veteran Benefits Program
PRESENTED BY Robert Toale and Sons Celebration of Life Center

Remember the Date for this **FREE VA** and Dignity Memorial Burial Benefits Seminar!

Join your friends at this informational seminar that can bring real peace of mind to you and your family...as you learn what the government does and doesn't provide. You may be surprised at what the VA provides.

Place

Peridia Golf & Country Club
4950 Peridia Blvd E Bradenton, FL 34203

Dates

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Times

11:30 A.M. (FREE Lunch)

RSVP

To confirm and obtain directions, please call
Robert Toale & Son Celebration of Life Center
941-932-8100

Seating is limited, so please R.S.V.P. today!

We are not authorized to file an initial application for Veterans' Aid and Attendance benefits on your behalf, or to represent you before the Board of Veterans' Appeals within the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in any proceeding on any matter, including an application for such benefits. It would be illegal for us to accept a fee for preparing that application on your behalf.

This event is not sponsored by, or affiliated with, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the California Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other congressionally chartered or recognized organization of honorably discharged members of the Armed Forces of the United States, or any of their auxiliaries. None of the insurance products promoted at this sales event are endorsed by those organizations, all of which offer free advice to veterans about how to qualify and apply for benefits.

MX-12081-(12/12)

Dignity®
MEMORIAL

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

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As of Wednesday October 2, 2024 the price of hamburgers will go to \$6.00 and cheeseburgers will be \$7.00. Unfortunately our cost per case has risen thus making a price rise necessary. This is just a \$1.00 rise respectively. This is still a great deal in comparison to restaurant pricing.



To learn more,
contribute or
volunteer, visit
www.thetun.org



The Tun Tavern Legacy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to rebuild and re-establish The Tun. The foundation needs to raise **\$19 million** to complete the project. When completed, it will serve as a functioning tavern reminiscent of the colonial Philadelphia mariners' tavern that it was, serving period-influenced refreshments, food, and entertainment and offering an educational experience through exhibits, historical documents, and special events. The new location will be approximately 250 yards from the original site, in the heart of Philadelphia's "Old City" district.

Many organizations whose history began at The Tun, such as the United States Marines (1775), Pennsylvania, Freemasons (1731), St. Andrew's Society (1747), Society of St. George (1729), The Friendly, Sons of St. Patrick (1771), United States Navy (1775) are involved in reestablishing The Tun in Philadelphia to support veteran causes, Shriner's Hospitals, educational scholarships, and qualified charities. **The Tun™ is scheduled to open in November 2025**, coinciding with the Navy and Marine Corps 250th Homecoming Celebration in Philadelphia. A groundbreaking ceremony is planned for November 2024.

Marine Corps Trivia Questions (Test your knowledge)*Submitted by Kim Cartano*

1. **When was the United States Marine Corps founded?**
 - A) July 4, 1776
 - B) November 10, 1775
 - C) December 25, 1774
 - D) January 1, 1780
2. **What is the motto of the United States Marine Corps?**
 - A) "This We'll Defend"
 - B) "Honor, Courage, Commitment"
 - C) "Semper Paratus"
 - D) "Semper Fidelis"
3. **Who was the first Commandant of the Marine Corps?**
 - A) Archibald Henderson
 - B) Samuel Nicholas
 - C) John A. Lejeune
 - D) Smedley Butler
4. **Which battle is considered the Marine Corps' first major amphibious assault?**
 - A) Battle of Iwo Jima
 - B) Battle of Belleau Wood
 - C) Battle of Nassau
 - D) Battle of Guadalcanal
5. **What does the Marine Corps' "blood stripe" on the dress blue uniform trousers symbolize?**
 - A) The bloodshed by Marines in World War I
 - B) The sacrifices made at the Battle of Chapultepec
 - C) Victory at the Battle of Iwo Jima
 - D) The Marines who served in Vietnam
6. **Which Marine Corps general is known as the "Grand Old Man of the Marine Corps"?**
 - A) John A. Lejeune
 - B) Chesty Puller
 - C) Archibald Henderson
 - D) James Mattis
7. **What is the official mascot of the Marine Corps?**
 - A) German Shepherd
 - B) English Bulldog
 - C) Golden Retriever
 - D) Doberman Pinscher
8. **Which Marine earned two Medals of Honor for separate acts of heroism?**
 - A) John Basilone
 - B) Smedley Butler
 - C) Chesty Puller
 - D) Dan Daly
9. **In which war did the Marine Corps first see combat?**
 - A) World War I
 - B) The Civil War
 - C) The American Revolution
 - D) The War of 1812
10. **Which phrase is often shouted by Marines during training or in battle to express enthusiasm and pride?**
 - A) "Oorah"
 - B) "Hooah"
 - C) "Hoo-rah"
 - D) "Yo"

Answers on the following page. (Don't peek)

Any Marine who misses a question goes on mess duty for thirty days.

MEMBERSHIP NOTICE:

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. The last time fees were adjusted was 19 years ago. 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.

ANSWERS TO MARINE CORPS TRIVIA QUESTIONS	
1	B) November 10, 1775 (The Marine Corps was founded at Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.)
2	D) "Semper Fidelis" (Meaning "Always Faithful," this motto has been the hallmark of Marines since 1883.)
3	B) Samuel Nicholas (Nicholas was appointed as the first Commandant in 1775.)
4	C) Battle of Nassau (The Battle of Nassau took place in 1776 when Marines conducted their first amphibious raid in the Bahamas.)
5	B) The sacrifices made at the Battle of Chapultepec (The blood stripe honors the Marines who fought and died during the Battle of Chapultepec in the Mexican American War.)
6	C) Archibald Henderson (Henderson served as Commandant for 39 years, the longest in Marine Corps history.)
7	B) English Bulldog (The official mascot is a bulldog named Chesty, named after legendary Marine Lewis "Chesty" Puller.)
8	B) Smedley Butler AND D) Dan Daly (Butler & Daly are the two Marines to receive the Medal of Honor twice.)
9	C) The American Revolution (The Marines first saw combat during the American Revolution, including the capture of Fort Nassau in 1776.)
10	A) "Oorah" (Oorah is a motivational battle cry used by Marines since the mid-20th century.)

Our snowbirds will be returning to the bunker. We are excited to welcome them back!

Here is some “trivial” information I gathered through Chat GPT about “snowbirds”.

The term "Snowbird" refers to people, typically retirees, who migrate from colder northern regions to warmer southern states like Florida during the winter months. The phenomenon of "snowbirding" has roots going back to the early 20th century, and it became popular for several reasons:

1. Climate and Tourism Development

- **Florida's Climate:** Florida's warm and sunny winter weather has always attracted people from the colder regions of the U.S., especially from the Northeast and Midwest. The combination of mild winters, beautiful beaches, and an outdoor lifestyle made it an ideal escape from snow and freezing temperatures.
- **Railroad Expansion:** In the early 1900s, the expansion of railroads, notably by Henry Flagler, opened up Florida as a winter destination for wealthy northern residents. The railroads made travel to Florida faster and more convenient, contributing to the rise of tourism.
- **Tourism Promotion:** Florida capitalized on its natural resources and began marketing itself as a vacation paradise for winter visitors. Early promotional efforts focused on the state's sunny, healthful environment and exotic appeal.

2. Post-War Boom

- **Rise of Retirement Communities:** After World War II, many retirees sought warmer climates to live out their golden years. Florida became a prime destination with its affordable land and the development of large retirement communities.
- **Increased Mobility:** The advent of modern highways (like I-95 and I-75) and the rise of affordable air travel in the mid-20th century made it easier for people to spend part of the year in Florida and the rest of the year in their northern homes.
- **Social Security and Medicare:** With the creation of Social Security and Medicare, more Americans had the financial stability to spend part of the year in a second home or in RV parks, contributing to the snowbird lifestyle.

3. Cultural Shift

- **Mobile Lifestyles:** In addition to retirees, many people with flexible work schedules or seasonal jobs began to migrate south during the winter months. This trend became especially prominent in the 1970s and 1980s, as people sought to avoid winter while still maintaining ties to their northern communities.
- **Recreational Vehicles (RVs):** The rise of RV ownership also contributed to the snowbird phenomenon, as people could travel more easily and set up temporary winter homes in Florida's numerous RV parks and resorts.

The Snowbird Legacy Today

Today, the term "Snowbird" encompasses a wide demographic, including retirees, vacation homeowners, and those with remote work capabilities. Snowbirds typically stay from late fall through early spring, returning to their northern homes when the weather warms up.

The migration has had a significant economic impact on Florida, supporting industries like hospitality, real estate, healthcare, and local businesses. It's now part of Florida's cultural identity, as the state continues to be a winter haven for people from colder climates.

Thank you & kind regards,

Kim Cartano

Goodwill
MANASOTA



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**

DD 214s

Marines who have been discharged, separated, or retired on or before 31 December 1998:

National Personnel Records Center

1 Archives Dr., St. Louis, MO

63138

(314) 801-0800; Fax: (314) 801-9195

<https://nrd.gov/resource/detail/8432677/>

[The+U.S.+National+Archives+%26+Records+Administration;](https://www.archives.gov/st-louis)

www.archives.gov/st-louis

Marines discharged/retired/separated on or after 1 January 1999:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (MMRP)-10

2008 Elliot Rd., Quantico, VA 22134-5030

(800) 268-3710; smb.manpower.mmrp-10@usmc.mil

I got myself a seniors' GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.

When you are in the Grocery Store and you see that guy or gal wearing a USMC ball cap, make sure you say "Semper Fi" to them and invite them to the Marine Corps League. It's the right thing to do.

Come to the bunker and support your Marine Corps League Detachment. If you haven't noticed, the Bunker has been busier lately. Many of our members who haven't been in for quite awhile are coming back.

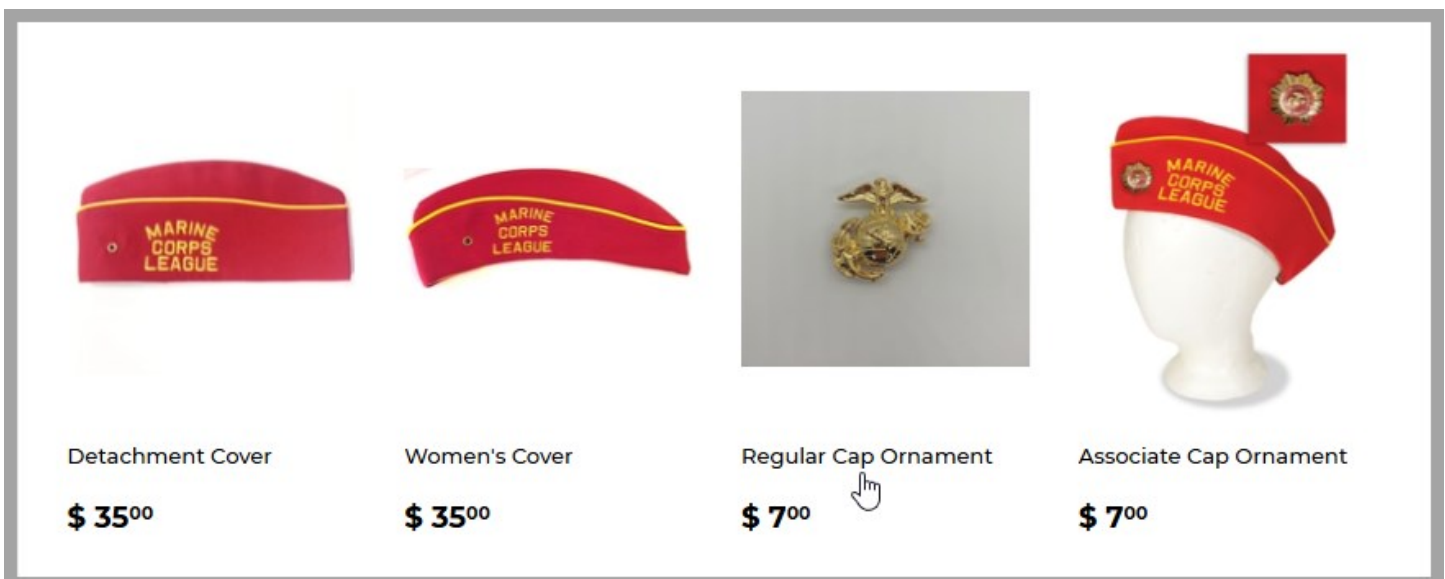


School is back in session. Give the kids a break. Don't pass the stopped school bus, don't speed through school zones.

SEMPER FI STORE

The uniform for Marine Corps League Members and Associate Members consists of the Red Cover with emblem. For Members it is the Red Cover with EGA. For Associate Members it is the Red Cover with the Sunburst Associate Member emblem. These can be purchased at the "Semper Fi" Store.

[Uniform – The Semper Fi Store \(the-semp-fi-store.myshopify.com\)](https://the-semp-fi-store.myshopify.com)



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



**Volunteer chefs
create the best
burgers in town
every Wednesday
from noon to 3 PM.
Glenn and Georgetta
handle the bar!**

KITCHEN DINETTE SET WITH 4 BLACK LEATHER ROCKING, SWIVEL, ROLLING CHAIRS. TABLE HAS ONE 17" LEAF EXTENSION. TABLE IS 42" X 42". \$250 OBO. CALL RON OR DIANE FOR QUESTIONS OR TO SEE. (941) 226-1526.



12:34

**A4 "SKYHAWK" ALSO
AFFECTIONATLY
KNOWN AS A
"SCOOTER"**

A4Skyhawk.org



*Editor's Note: If you see my wife
Debbie in the Bunker, ask her
about her days of being an A4
Pilot when she was in the Marine
Corps.*

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



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 **\$1.00 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.**
- **THE BUNKER IS OPEN TILL 2100 ON FRIDAY NIGHTS AGAIN!**

Support your Detachment.

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.

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.



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.



Commandant Joe Filice preparing the buns for our hungry members on Burger Day at the Bunker.

Remember, the Bunker Burgers are the best deal in town and even though the price is going up a buck, you can't beat it. After all these are not touched by human hands, since they are prepared by Marines.

OORRAHH!

Marine Corps Rule # 44.3

Marine Recruits shall never use the words "I" or "You" when responding to their Drill Instructors. To do so will draw the immediate ire of their Drill Instructor.



What the heck?

Senior Vice Dave Matthews is preparing for a "cage match" wrestling event; or is this some new brig for tiny people?

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:

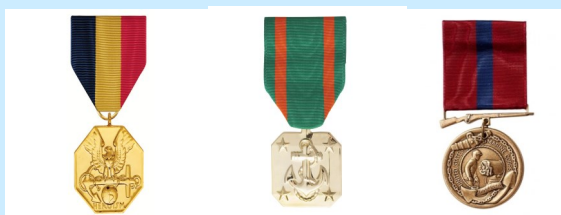
Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps
Military Awards Branch (Code MMMA)
2008 Elliot Road
Quantico, VA 22134-5030

Members and Associate Members, male or female, consider joining our Honor Guard.

We can teach you everything you need to know.

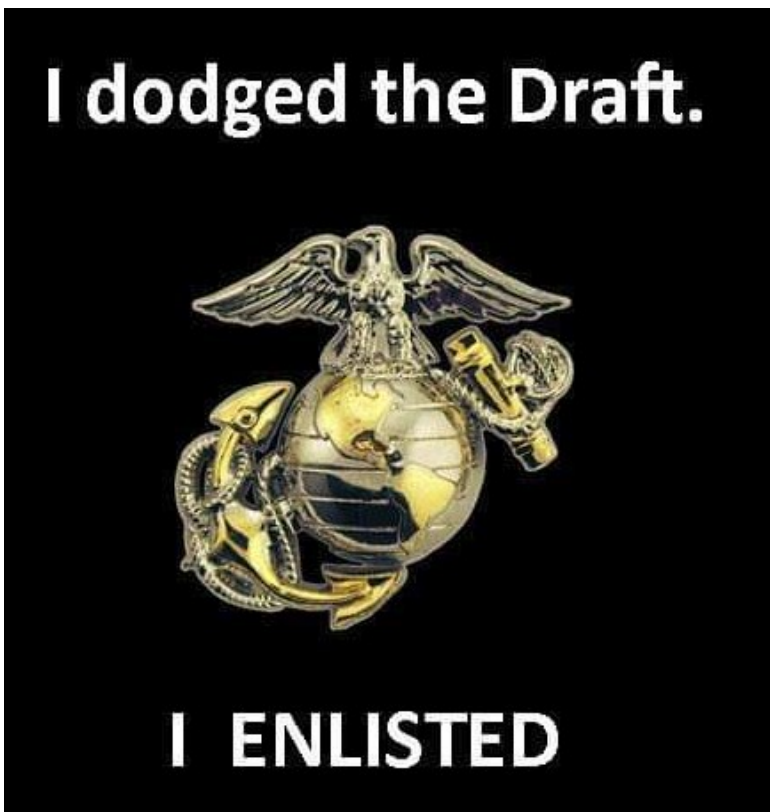
Where to write for your medals (no cost to you):

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



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

Confidential crisis chat at **VeteransCrisisLine.net**
or text to **838255**

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF SUICIDE RISK

- Thinking about hurting or killing yourself
- Looking for ways to kill yourself
- Talking about death, dying or suicide
- Self-destructive behavior such as drug abuse, weapons, etc.

- Hopelessness, feeling like there's no way out
- Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, mood swings
- Feeling like there is no reason to live
- Rage or anger
- Engaging in risky activities without thinking
- Increasing alcohol or drug abuse
- Withdrawing from family and friends

The presence of these signs requires immediate attention. Call us if you experience any of these warning signs.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs © 2/17 VHA

Our Detachment has a new website that is now up and running.

Please visit it at: MCL588.org. The website will host announcements, photos, archived newsletters, etc. So go right now and put MCL588.Org into your browser.

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, whether you rate one ribbon or a hundred ribbons.
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

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



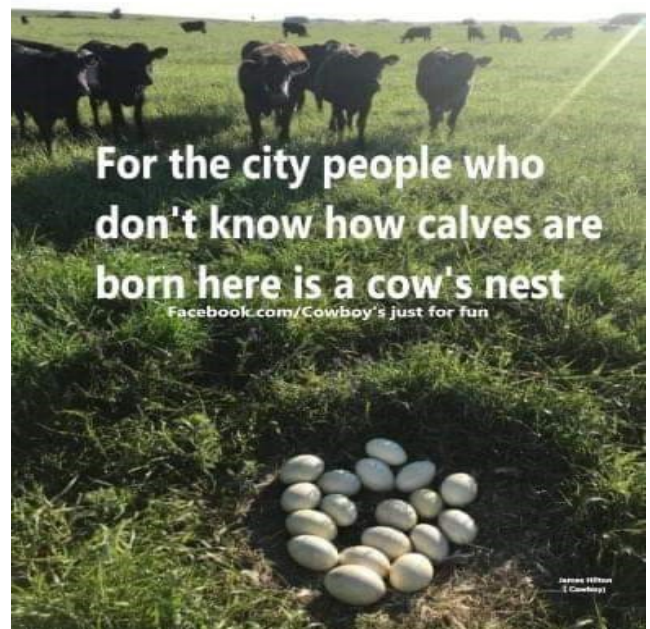
If you, or someone you know needs help, support is available 24/7. Service members and their families can call Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647, or chat at militaryonesource.mil. Service members, veterans, and their loved ones can also call the Military and Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255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

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

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION

715 Broadway St., Quantico, VA 22134
(866) 622-1775, ext. 100, Fax: (703) 640-0162
mca@mca-marines.org

- **Leatherneck Magazine**
(888) 237-7683; Fax: (703) 640-0823
leatherneck@mca-marines.org
- **Marine Corps Gazette**
(800) 336-0291, ext. 144; Fax: (703) 630-9147
gazette@mca-marines.org



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

(941) 745-3795

VETERAN'S 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.**

**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.

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

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.

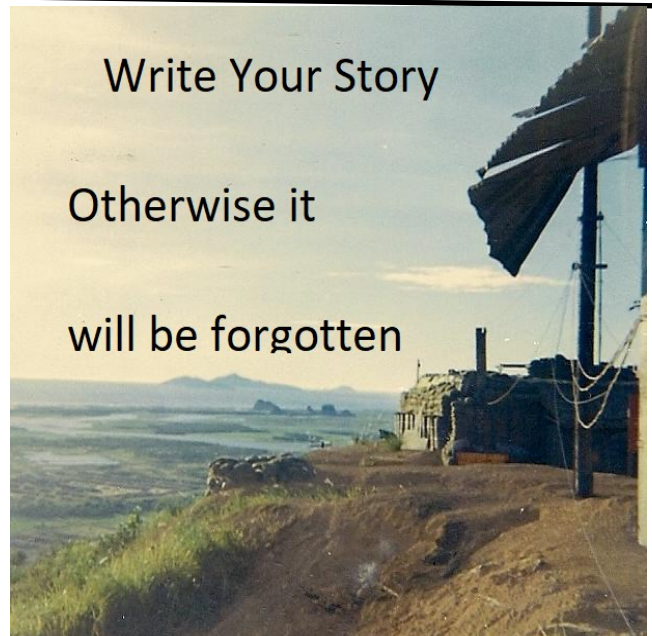
Pictures are worth a thousand words. You can write the story for a relative, friend, or ancestor. You can add to your story. We look forward to publishing your story on the blog.

Thank you for your stories.

Write Your Story

Otherwise it

will be forgotten





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 JOE INTOPPA 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 RMFields0117@gmail.com by the 25th of the month.
- ⇒ The Bunker is now open on Sundays 1100-1800 & Friday's until 2100.
- ⇒ HONOR GUARD PRACTICE COME JOIN IN, NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WELCOME. See any member for details.

***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 or pull tab cards, it is 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.

26TH ANNUAL MANATEE COUNTY STAND DOWN

Saturday, 11/02/24

8:00am – Noon

Manatee County Fairgrounds
1303 17th Street West, Palmetto

EVERYONE is invited to this FREE event!

Join us for a day of live music, fun, and food, and get connected to community resources.

- Veterans Amnesty Court • Veterans Services
- Lunch • Career Fair
- Kid Games/Activities • Eye Exams
- Medical Screenings • Showers/Hygiene Items
- Haircuts • Live Entertainment
- Raffles • Florida ID/Drivers License
- Dental Screenings • Transportation

FREE shuttle service to the Fairgrounds is available at
the Downtown Bradenton Transit Station
1301 6th Ave W, Bradenton, FL

941-747-1509 www.tpmanatee.org

Email: info@tpmanatee.org



Volunteer opportunities for our Team:

Start Time: Saturday November 2nd 2024 @8:00 AM

End Time: Saturday November 2nd 2024 @12:00 PM

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

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MARINE CORPS HISTORY IN OCTOBER

OCTOBER

1 October 1997: The first African-American female colonel in the Marine Corps was promoted to that rank during a ceremony at MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina. Colonel Gilda A. Jackson, a native of Columbus, Ohio, made Marine Corps history when she achieved the rank of colonel. She was serving as Special Projects Officer, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing at the time of her promotion.

5 October 1775: Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the 2d Continental Congress used the word "Marines" on one of the earliest known occasions, when it directed General George Washington to secure two vessels on "Continental risque and pay", and to give orders for the "proper encouragement to the Marines and seamen" to serve on the two armed ships.

6 October 1945: Major General Keller E. Rockey, Commanding General, III Amphibious Corps, accepted the surrender of 50,000 Japanese troops in North China on behalf of the Chinese Nationalist government.

8 October 1899: A force of 375 Marines under command of future Commandant George F. Elliott, attacked and captured the insurgent town of Novaleta, Luzon, Philippine Islands, and linked up with U.S. Army troops. There were 11 Marine casualties.

9 October 1917: The 8th Marines was activated at Quantico, Virginia. Although the regiment would not see combat in Europe during World War I, the officers and enlisted men of the 8th Marines participated in operations against dissidents in Haiti for over five years during the 1920s. During World War II, the regiment was assigned to the 2d Marine Division and participated in combat operations on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, and Okinawa, and earned three Presidential Unit Citations.

11 October 1951: A Marine battalion was flown by transport helicopters to a frontline combat position for the first time, when HMR-161 lifted the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, and its equipment, during Operation Bumblebee, northeast of Yanggu, Korea.

19 October 1968: Operation Maui Peak, a combined regimental-sized operation which began on 6 October, ended 11 miles northwest of An Hoa, Vietnam. More than 300 enemy were killed in the 13-day operation.

23 October 1983: At 0622 an explosive-laden truck slammed into the BLT headquarters building in Beirut, Lebanon, where more than 300 men were billeted. The massive explosion collapsed the building in seconds, and took the lives of 241 Americans—including 220 Marines. This was the highest loss of life in a single day for Marines since D-Day on Iwo Jima in 1945.

28 October 1962: An 11,000-man 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade left Camp Pendleton by sea for the Caribbean during the Cuban Missile Crisis. One week earlier, the entire 189,000-man Marine Corps had been put on alert and elements of the 1st and 2d Marine Divisions were sent to Guantanamo Bay to reinforce the defenders of the U.S. Naval Base. Other 2d Division units and squadrons from five Marine Aircraft Groups were deployed at Key West, Florida, or in Caribbean waters during the Cuban crisis.

31 October 1919: A patrol of Marines and gendarmes, led by Sergeant Herman H. Hanneken, disguised themselves as Cacos and entered the headquarters of the Haitian Caco Leader, Charlemagne Peralte, killing the bandit chief, and dispersing his followers. Sergeant Hanneken and Corporal William R. Button were each awarded the Medal of Honor.



STAFF SERGEANT WILLIAM GORDON WINDRICH

Born: MAY 14, 1921

Died: DECEMBER 2, 1950

Hometown: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



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

STAFF SERGEANT WILLIAM G. WINDRICH 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 as Platoon Sergeant of Company I, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in the vicinity of Yudam-ni, Korea, the night of 1 December 1950. Promptly organizing a squad of men when the enemy launched a sudden, vicious counterattack against the forward elements of his company's position, rendering it untenable, Staff Sergeant WINDRICH, armed with a carbine, spearheaded the assault to the top of the knoll immediately confronting the overwhelming force and, under shattering hostile automatic weapons, mortar and grenade fire, directed effective fire to hold back the attackers and cover the withdrawal of our troops to commanding ground. With seven of his men struck down during the furious action and he, himself, wounded in the head by a bursting grenade, he made his way to his company's position and, organizing a small group of volunteers, returned with them to evacuate the wounded and dying from the frozen hillside, staunchly refusing medical attention himself. Immediately redeploying the remainder of his troops, Staff Sergeant WINDRICH placed them on the left flank of the defensive sector before the enemy again attacked in force. Wounded in the leg during the bitter fight that followed, he bravely fought on with his men, shouting words of encouragement and directing their fire until the attack was repelled. Refusing evacuation although unable to stand, he still continued to direct his platoon in setting up defensive positions until, weakened by the bitter cold, excessive loss of blood and severe pain, he lapsed into unconsciousness and died. His valiant leadership, fortitude and courageous fighting spirit against tremendous odds served to inspire others to heroic endeavor in holding the objective and reflect the highest credit upon Staff Sergeant WINDRICH and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

/S/ HARRY S. TRUMAN

Editor's Note: SSgt Windrich also fought in the battle of Tarawa in World War II.



DATE: _____

Marine Corps League Application for Membership



Full Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Email Address: _____

Date of Enlistment/Commissioning: _____ Date of Discharge/Retirement/Separation: _____

Type of Application--- New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership Type--- Regular ☐ Associate ☐ Dual ☐

Have you ever been convicted of a Felony? YES ☐ NO ☐ If yes is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of the felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.

I hereby apply for membership in the DESOTO (588) Detachment, Marine Corps League and enclose \$35.00 for one year's membership.

I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the United States Marine Corps, "ON ACTIVE DUTY," for not less than ninety(90) days and earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor;*or have served or am currently serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points; or that I have served or am currently serving as a U.S. Navy FMF Sailor who has earned the FMF Device or FMF Ribbon. If discharged, I am in receipt of a DD Form 214 or a Certificate of Discharge indicating "Honorable Service". ("Honorable Service" will be defined by the last DD Form 214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received). General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable service/discharge upon request. I understand the DD Form 214 may contain information such as military awards, training, and character of service.

OATH OF MEMBERSHIP-REGULAR/ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

"I, _____, In the Presence of Almighty God, do solemnly swear, that I will uphold and defend the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America and the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League. That I take this obligation willingly and in good faith and that I will follow the directions and guidance of elected and appointed officers of the League. That I will participate and support the missions and activities of the Marine Corps League, and that I promise to govern my conduct in such a manner that I will never bring discredit upon myself, Members of the League, or the Marine Corps League, so help me God.

Sponsor (Where Applicable)

Applicant's Signature

Please locate a Detachment using the locator on The Marine Corps League National website. Upon completion submit this form and attach a copy of your last DD-214 (Service 2 or Marine 4)*, as well as any applicable fees as defined by the Detachment. If you desire to join as a Member At Large, please go to The Marine Corps League National website and apply using the online form.

*Regular Member applicants only

____ Rev.

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