



MARINE CORPS DISBURSING ASSOCIATION

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usmcdisbursers.com

April 2023



PRESIDENT

It is time to finalize plans to meet in Louisville. We are looking forward to seeing all of you there. This looks to be another great reunion with old friends gathering and an opportunity to explore the sights and sounds of Bourbon Country. Details, registration forms and a list of attendees are on our website. [See you in Louisville!](#)

Donations: As you know, through our Shelly Stokley Scholarship Fund we have had the honor of awarding over \$45,000 to help disbursing Marine family members with their educational expenses since 2006. Fundraising activities have been challenging, therefore, we mostly rely on individual donations to enable the MCDA to continue to “take care of our own”. Please consider submitting a tax-deductible donation to this worthy cause. With the establishment of an electronic payment option within our website, it is even easier now to do so. At this time, I'd like to recognize some of our folks that have donated to this worthy cause throughout the past few years.

Dave Brown, Greg Bucholtz, Florence Collins, Sean Dillon, Ernie Ernst, Paul Filla Sr., Kevin Gascon, Kathy Gaydos, Earl Gilpin, Ron Haley, Gregory Harbac, Juan Martinez Jr., Hugh McKinney, MajGen Ross Plasterer, Genaro Sanchez, Henry Snyder, Larry Soloy, Clayton Stokley, Eric Talley, Michael Thiry, Frederick Trout and Ron Verba Sr.

Thanks to all of you and to all that donate and purchase items at our reunion silent auctions! All proceeds go towards our Scholarship Fund.

Last but not least, some very sad news, the MCDA lost our former Vice President and golf tournament organizer of many years. Bruce Van Kirk passed

away on 1 March 2023. Our deepest condolences to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

Semper Fi, Bennie Helton, President

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FROM THE ADJUTANT...

2023 MCDA MEETING/REUNION

The 2023 Marine Corps Disbursing Association biennial meeting and reunion is in Louisville, Kentucky from May 21-25, 2023. Quickly approaching, it's still not too late to join us in Louisville, but time is running out. You have until **April 30, 2023** to send in your reunion registration forms and payment. You do not have to be a supporting member of the Association to join us in Louisville or to participate in any of the events.

For those that live within striking distance of Louisville by car, but can't attend the entire reunion due to other commitments, perhaps consider just attending the icebreaker/welcome reception on the 21st. Break bread, pour some drinks into the belly, bunk down for the night and depart the next morning.

We will be staying at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The daily room rate is \$149.00 plus tax for single or double occupancy and includes breakfast for two. Also, a limited number of rooms are available at the group rate for the 3-days pre/post event dates for those who plan on an extended stay. On-site parking is \$15 per day. There is no hotel airport shuttle, so those flying in will need to get a taxi or utilize a ride share company. Hotel is about an 8-min drive from the airport.

Hotel booking information can be found on the Reunion Registration Form located within our

website, usmcdisbursers.com. Reservations must be made by **April 30, 2023**.

The schedule of events was published in our November 2022 newsletter, which is posted on our website, with additional reunion info located within the 2023 Meeting and Reunion page. I encourage anyone that's on the fence about attending a reunion to speak to someone that has. It's basically a vacation and a great opportunity to renew old acquaintances. No requirement to attend the events, choose the ones you wish.

For those attending, **don't forget to bring along your item(s) for the silent auction, if desired. All proceeds go to our scholarship fund. We will also be raffling off a few free hotel room vouchers again.**

Due to the efforts of our El Presidente, Bennie Helton, our reunion T-Shirts will have an additional design on the back commemorating our 20th anniversary with the previous reunion dates/locations encircling our logo. And a special thanks to Charles Dennis for making a high-speed anniversary coffee mug for each of our attendees.

The 2025 reunion will be on the East Coast. If you have any location recommendations, please forward to our association email address; usmcdisbursers@hotmail.com. It will be voted on at our business meeting on May 24th.

RECRUITMENT EFFORT

Asking for help with recruiting new members. We've been losing more than gaining lately. Our current headcount is 194 with 7 currently MIA after several renewal letters being sent. We all know folks out there that we used to serve with. Please reach out to them through social media or other means.

Our association Facebook page has over 1,000 users in the crowd, would be nice to get a portion of them to join our ball club. Your efforts are much appreciated, I can assure you of that! A current listing of association members is posted on our website.

MARINES HONORED

Continuing our program to recognize our active duty Marines for their professionalism in the finance field, six of the Disbursing and Finance Offices identified one SNCO and one NCO that performed their duties in a superlative manner and provided significantly to the overall success of the office mission throughout the 2022 calendar year. The Association presented each selectee with a Certificate of Commendation, a Personalized Plaque for their display, and an association Bottle Opener. We are proud to recognize the following selected Marines:

Regional Disbursing Office–West

Gunnery Sergeant John Rodriguez
Sergeant James Miller Jr.

Regional Disbursing Office–East

Gunnery Sergeant Yesenia RuizDianas
Sergeant Kaylie Fox

Regional Disbursing Office–Pacific

Gunnery Sergeant Iosefa Tupolo
Corporal Ariana Moran

Finance Office, MCB Hawaii

Staff Sergeant Andrea Shorter
Corporal Deicy Diaz

Finance Office, MCRD San Diego

Staff Sergeant Amanda Sallee
Corporal Jade Talone

Finance Office, MCRD Parris Island

Staff Sergeant Brian Workman
Corporal Nicholas Gosselin

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

Just a reminder, disbursing Marine veterans, their spouse, children and grandchildren are eligible to apply for one of our Education Assistance Program scholarships. The scholarship application must be submitted by **April 30, 2023** (Postmarked). The eligibility requirements and application form can be found on our website, usmcdisbursers.com.