

MARINE CORPS DISBURSING ASSOCIATION

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May 2022



PRESIDENT

Happy 20th Anniversary! Our association held its first reunion 20 years ago in Branson, MO. I would like to thank the men and women who had the foresight and love for our community to step up to the plate and drive the ball over the centerfield wall. Those all-stars built a solid team we can all be proud to be a part of.

Speaking of all-star performers, I am happy to announce that we now have the capability for electronic payments for membership dues and donations through PayPal. This is a direct result of the hard work of your Adjutant, Kevin Gascon, and Webmaster, Robert Easter. They have worked diligently over the past couple of months to provide you with this convenient payment option. Bravo Zulu gentlemen!

Last but not least, please join me in congratulating the active duty Disbursers identified by the field Disbursing and Finance Offices for their outstanding performance. Congratulations Marines, well done.

I look forward to seeing each of you next year in Louisville.

Semper Fi, Bennie Helton, President benniedhelton@yahoo.com

FROM THE ADJUTANT...

2023 MCDA MEETING/REUNION

Mark your calendars, you are all invited to attend the 2023 Marine Corps Disbursing Association biennial meeting and reunion in **Louisville**, **Kentucky**, **May 21-25**, **2023**. 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. 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 and enjoy some camaraderie.

After conducting a site visit to Louisville recently for a recon of potential hotel venues, the **Hyatt Regency Hotel** came out as the winner. After meeting with the sales managers of various hotels, along with a walk-through of their facilities, the Hyatt was the better fit for our group and offers a great location downtown. The Fourth Street Live entertainment district is just steps from the front door, easy stumbling distance back to the hotel for folks like Clayton Stokley. That area is comprised of restaurants, bars and other entertainment. Within blocks of the hotel are attractions such as the Louisville Slugger Museum/Factory, Evan Williams Distillery and Muhammed Ali Center just to name a few.

Potential Tours – Louisville offers several tour options: Kentucky Derby Museum at Churchill Downs; Bourbon Distillery; Louisville Slugger Museum/Factory; Belle of Louisville Riverboat Cruise; Fort Knox/General Patton Museum and a few others.

More information to follow once the tours are solidified. As a reunion attendee, there's no requirement to attend the events, choose the ones you wish.

Reunion reservation forms and hotel booking information will be posted to our website by September/October and included in the next newsletter mailout.

ASSOCIATION EMAIL ADDRESS

An association email account has been created and listed on our website as the primary contact for association business and general inquiries. For ease of memory, the email address is: usmcdisbursers@hotmail.com. "Marine Corps Disbursing Association" will appear as the display name.

ELECTRONIC PAYMENT OPTION

As mentioned by our El Presidente, we now have the capability to accept electronic payments for membership dues and donations. A PayPal link has been embedded into our website, been tested thoroughly and is working like a fine Swiss watch.

You do <u>not</u> need a personal PayPal account to utilize the PayPal option. Debit/Credit cards can be used. An auto-generated receipt from PayPal will be sent to your email address and our association will receive an email notice of payment as well. To utilize the electronic payment option, click on the payment options tab within our website and follow the instructions.

If making a membership dues payment, a new high-speed membership card will be sent your way once payment is received. If making a tax-deductible donation payment, a thank you letter will be sent your way that will include our Federal Tax ID for your records.

Note: For Renewal Members, you do not need to complete another Membership Application Form. Your original form is on file. Email usmcdisbursers@hotmail.com if any pertinent data has changed. For New Members, you may either email the completed form or send via snail mail to the address on the form. You may also transcribe the data and send by email if you are unable to scan the document.

You will still receive a renewal notice in the mail a month prior to your membership expiration date. And for those that desire, you may still send a check or money order as your form of payment.

MEMBERSHIP

If you are not currently a member, we would like you to consider joining us. A current membership listing and application form can be found on our website, usmcdisbursers.com. The cost is only \$30.00 for a two-year membership and that comes with a high-speed MCDA membership card, your name being added to the online membership listing and directory, as well as a voice on where our reunions will be located, etc,... Being a member does not obligate you to any association duties.

MARINES HONORED

Continuing our program to recognize our active duty Marines for their professionalism in the finance field, five 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 2021 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 James Oliveri Sergeant Jacob Vela

Regional Disbursing Office-East

Gunnery Sergeant Richard Pena Sergeant Thomas LaRose

Regional Disbursing Office-Pacific

Staff Sergeant Michael Culligan Sergeant Daniel Dues

Finance Office, MCB Hawaii

Gunnery Sergeant Robert Dempsey Sergeant Curtis Guba

Finance Office, MCRD San Diego

Gunnery Sergeant Andrea Davis Sergeant Miriam Rimmey