



MARINE CORPS DISBURSING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 348, Vista, CA 92085-0348

usmcdisbursers.com

Fall 2025 newsletter

President

The 2025 Reunion in Savannah was great! What a wonderful time reconnecting with friends, making new friends, touring the Prohibition Museum, Old Fort Jackson, the Georgia State Railroad Museum, taking a riverboat cruise on the Georgia Queen, watching the cannon firing at Old Fort Jackson and from the deck of the Georgia Queen. It all culminated nicely with the Memorial Dinner led by our Chaplain, Jaime Gomez. I am looking forward to the 2027 Reunion in Cheyenne, WY, yeehaw!

As you well know, volunteer power runs our association! Whether it's the day-to-day functions, scholarships, active duty award, reunion planning, setting up events, or any of the other numerous tasks, it can be challenging and can't happen without the help of so many of you pitching in. Thank you all! Your efforts make our association successful and our reunions memorable.

I would like to send a special thank you to MSgt Earl Gilpin and GySgt Florence Collins for their very generous donations to the scholarship program. These two individual donations increased our scholarship fund balance by 60%. Their generosity is much appreciated and will assist many young men and women with their scholastic expenses.

Please read on...

*Semper Fi,
Bennie*

From The Veep!

Our 2025 reunion is now in the books and was a great time. It was good to reconnect with everyone. Look forward to seeing you in Cheyenne in 2027. We're looking to have a theme night so dust off your cowboy hats and boots. Details to come as we get them hashed out and start the planning in the coming months.

We're getting ready to kick off a recruitment drive as getting new members are vital to the sustainment of our association. Do what you can to get the word out about our association and hopefully get someone to join.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at next year's reunion!

*Ooh Rah,
Charles*

News from the Adj

We recently experienced an issue with our membership tracker, and some renewal notices were sent out for members who renewed in 2024. If you received a renewal notice but believe you are current, please contact the association to resolve. Thanks for your patience and understanding!

Current membership: 199

Combat percentage: 93.4

Pending 2025 renewals: 54

MCDA BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES:

May 21, 2025, Savannah, GA

Membership approved:

Ron Verba as the new Adjutant

Omar Arbaelaez as the new Historian

Sean Dillon as the new Webmaster

Monica Barr as the new Fundraising Chair

Joshua Anwyl as the new Scholarship Chair

Continuing the Active Duty Awards Program

Cheyenne WY for the 2027 Reunion

WE REMEMBER

It is with a heavy heart we announce the passing of the following MCDA members:

Maj Frederick "Skip" Trout – 4 April 2025

Capt George R. Knipfing – 5 January 2024

(late notice received September 2025)

May they rest in peace.

Thank you!

Ron

From the Treasurer

In 2025 the association has been blessed with a significant amount of donations aimed for our scholarship fund.

Tax letters will be sent out in January 2026 for those that have donated in CY2025; in plenty of time for tax season preparation.

*Thanks,
Gary*

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Shelley Stokley Memorial Scholarship Fund offers scholarships to any disbursing Marine veteran, their spouse, children and grandchildren. Applications will be accepted from November 1st through April 30th (Postmarked). The eligibility requirements and application form can be found on our website, usmcdisbursers.com. The association has awarded \$62,200 in educational assistance since 2009.

2025 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Congratulations to the following MCDA Scholarship awardees:

Brenda Vasquez Armengol – Spouse of GySgt Brian Lathrop. She will be studying Communication Studies at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX.

Madison McCarty – Granddaughter of CWO4 Michael McCarty. She will be studying Anthropology at University of West Georgia in Carrollton, GA.

Brooklyn Soloy – Granddaughter of CWO4 Lawrence Soloy. She will be studying Marketing Management at Missouri State University, Springfield MO.

Samuel Cox – Son of Col William Cox. He will be studying Psychology at George Mason University, Fairfax VA.

ACTIVE DUTY AWARDS PROGRAM

The Active Duty Awards Program was established in 2017 to recognize active duty Marines for their professionalism and performance in the disbursing field. Since inception, ninety-one (91) Marine Noncommissioned and Staff Noncommissioned

Officers have been recognized by the MCDA for their contributions to the Disbursing occupational field.

There were no field submissions for calendar year 2024 creating a discussion topic during the business meeting at the reunion in Savannah. As a result, the program was reviewed and modified. The Board of Directors approved the changes in August 2025 and an updated LOI was sent to the field units.

The updated program significant changes are:

- One (1) awardee per DO/FO vice two (2)
- Fiscal Year awards vice Calendar Year
- Submission deadline 31 October vice 31 January.

For more information, email

usmcdisbursers@hotmail.com

2026 RECRUITMENT DRIVE

Help us grow the association! Our goal for 2026 is an 11% increase in membership.

Current members who recruit 3 or more new members between 1 January and 31 December 2026 will have the following options:

1. Waive your next renewal fee (\$30 value)
2. Waive the registration fee for the 2027 Reunion (approx. \$40 value)

Guidelines:

1. Ensure the recruiter's name is written on the membership application.
2. New member dues must be received/recorded prior to the end of the drive.
3. New member cannot be a recently expired member (past 12 months) but can be a former member.

4. Retroactive recruitment is allowed within 15 days.
 - a. Example: new member signs up on 1/1/26 but forgets to add the recruiter's name on the application. New member (or recruiter) can add recruiter name no later than 1/15/26.
 - b. Adjutant will verify recruiter if not annotated on the form.
5. The date on the application will be used to determine if recruitment is within the drive unless payment is received more than 2 weeks after the application. Then payment date or postmark on envelope will be used.
6. Current FY Active Duty Award recipients are not considered new recruits since they are provided a one-year trial membership.
7. Prior CY Active Duty Award recipients will be considered new recruits.
8. New members may not self-recruit or recruit others until after their membership is paid.

Feel free to reach out with any questions.

usmcdisbursers@hotmail.com

2027 REUNION

Planning for the 2027 biennial reunion and business meeting will begin in November 2025. If you are interested in becoming part of the planning committee or have suggestions for Cheyenne WY, let us know at usmcdisbursers@hotmail.com.