



Calendar of Events

**10-11 Dec – Schnucks
12-Hr Toy Drive**

**12 Dec – Happy
Slapowitz @ KC
Hall**

**13 Dec – Wreaths
Across America**

**14 Dec – Toy
Bagging @Toy Store**

**13 Jan – SEMO
Pound 330 Growl**

**17 Mar – SEMO
Pound 330 Growl**

**Coffee Friday's 0700
@ The Barracks**



Contact Us:

Cpl. Mason O. Yarbrough
Detachment 1081
The Barracks
2148 Broadway
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Web: www.mcl1081.org
Phone: 573.225.4093
Scuttlebutt Editor:
Mitch Cassell email:
mitchell.cassell2018@gmail.com

The Scuttlebutt

**Monthly Newsletter of the
Corporal Mason O. Yarbrough Detachment 1081
Commandant: Michael Woods**

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DECEMBER 2025

Message from Detachment 1081 Commandant, Mike Woods

SEMPER FI and greetings fellow Marines. To put this Christmas in perspective, remember your deployments during the holidays. In honor of those deployed and those who can no longer join us at the loving table of fellowship, I hearken back to Pres. FDR's Dec 24, 1943 message to America amid the worst war in the history of mankind and involved every American directly or indirectly. As such, we should remember FDR's message and appreciate Peace on Earth and Good Will towards ALL men. In FDR's words:



"American boys are fighting today in snow-covered mountains, in malarial jungles, on blazing deserts; they are fighting on the far stretches of the sea and above the clouds and fighting for the thing for which they struggle. I think it is best symbolized by the message that came out of Bethlehem. We ask God's blessing upon you—upon your fathers, mothers, and wives and children—all your loved ones at home. We ask that the comfort of God's grace shall be granted to those who are sick and wounded, and to those who are prisoners of war in the hands of the enemy, waiting for the day when they will again be free. And we ask that God receive and cherish those who have given their lives, and that he keep them in honor and in the grateful memory of their countrymen forever."

God bless all of you who fight our battles on this Christmas eve. God bless us all. Keep us strong in our faith, that we may fight for a better day for humankind, here and everywhere.

As a reminder, the Toys-For-Tots (T4T) campaign began 1 Oct. As usual we will have our two-day drive in support of T4T at Schnucks 10-11 December. Please support T4T as much as you are available. Happy Slapowitz will be on 12 Dec followed by Wreaths Across America on 13 Dec. I will be Master of Ceremonies for the ceremony at Bloomfield.

If you have a smart phone, I encourage you to download the MCL app and make sure you are a member of the Facebook page where we post timely updates for upcoming events, short-fuse announcements, and opportunities.

I am proud to be a member of this organization and look forward to serving with you and continuing the tradition of making our MCL Mason O. Yarbrough Detachment 1081 an ever-positive evolving organization always proud of our traditions and works.

Thank you for your continued service, pray for world peace and "Merry Christmas, Chesty, wherever you are!"

SEMPER FI

Marine Mike Woods
Commandant
Marine Corps League Detachment 1081

Senior Vice Commandant: Bob Fisher

Another Marine Corps birthday has come and gone, and without a doubt was the best one I've attended since moving to Cape Girardeau. Watching the detachment and auxiliary come together for one common goal was outstanding. The saying "teamwork makes the dream work" truly defined how this ball came together.



Not only did our detachment pull together, but we also partnered with our sister detachment in Poplar Bluff. Noticing the theme here? Teamwork. It's impossible for only a few to carry the load when an event like this requires everyone to step in where they can. Of course, we all have work, family, and other commitments, but many Marines make light work.

Great job to everyone who put in the extra time and effort so that all of us could enjoy a well-executed, memorable event. Outstanding work on the ball!

Semper Fi,

Marine Bob Fisher
Senior Vice Commandant
Marine Corps League Detachment 1081

Vacation in St. Croix



"Fisher's Last Swim"



Chaplains Corner: Jim Stroman

Critics' Thumbs Down!!

"*Religious farce*" and "*Desecration*" were among the heated barbs hurled at a new "sacred oratorio" that premiered in Dublin, Ireland in 1742. An oratorio is a musical composition, typically based on a religious narrative, and the one that provoked the firestorm of protests was Georg Friedrich Handel's "**Messiah**." It was controversial because it went straight to the heart of "sacred" religious territory. Its most infuriated critics were clergymen who objected to scripture being quoted in playhouses. Among the most heated critics was Rev. John Newton, who, following a performance of the work in 1784, fired off more than 50 sermons assailing the oratorio as a trivial amusement "*no better than a profanation of the name and truths of God*" and no less than a second "*crucifying of the Son of God*." The opposition was so persistent that "**Messiah**" was performed in an established church only once during Handel's lifetime (1758).



The story follows the rise of a Christ-like figure named al-Masih, or Arabic for "the Messiah." "**Messiah**" quotes scripture from both the Old and New Testaments. Isaiah 9:6 prophesies a child being born. Luke 2:10-11 pronounces prophesy fulfilled. John 3:16 highlights Gods love.

As we enter this Christmas season remember the Gift that God gave us – His Son, born to eventually die for our sins. As we pray in this Christmas season, pray for our First Responders, pray for our Nation's leaders, pray for our military that they may be safe. I pray for each of you daily.

On behalf of Linda and I, Merry Christmas. Keep Christ in Christmas, and please be safe.

Marine Jim Stroman
Chaplain
Marine Corps League Detachment 1081



Auxiliary News: NeTasha Loyd

December, the last month of the year. This month we celebrate the birth of Jesus. The month Santa visits all the good boys and girls. Naughty or Nice – which list are you on?

Toys-for-Tots is in full swing. If you would like to help or know someone that would like to please contact Darlene MacCubbin. She will need help periodically and will appreciate the volunteers.

Keep those volunteer hours coming into Darlene. Everyone has a few hours floating around.

The Auxiliary Christmas party will be held on December 18, 6 pm at Rosati's Pizza in Cape Girardeau. Anyone needing a ride please reach out. We want to see you there.

Our fundraiser for January is "**Acees Spirit Pump**" on the corner of Perryville Road and Lexington. Please spread the word and support our amazing organization!

If you have a fundraising idea, please bring it to the next meeting. All ideas are welcome to discuss.

Please keep our military and their families, near and far, in your thoughts and prayers as well as our Marine Corps League and Auxiliary members.

~~ December Birthdays ~~

Angie Bollwerk * Karen Francis * Joy Rubi

January Meal: Food – Linda Stroman
Dessert – Janice Thomas

Respectfully Submitted,



NeTasha Loyd
Secretary/Treasurer
MCL Auxiliary Unit 426



Activities & Events



HEARTLAND NEWS

MARINES CELEBRATE 250TH BIRTHDAY
DRURY PLAZA, CAPE GIRARDEAU

10:04 53°
HEARTLAND NEWS



HEARTLAND NEWS

MSGYSGT. ADAM WALKER
U.S. MARINE CORPS (RETIRED)

10:04 53°
HEARTLAND NEWS



HEARTLAND NEWS

SSGT. BRIAN BURLINGAME
COMMANDANT, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE DETACHMENT 1473

10:04 53°
HEARTLAND NEWS





KEYNOTE
MGYSGT ADAM WALKER





Veterans Day Ceremony
Freedom Corner at Capaha Park
Cape Girardeau, Missouri
11 NOV 2025





Toys -For-Tots 2025 Stuff the Truck



**Darlene greets
Fred Bird**



**Fred Bird eats
Darlene**



The Military Order of the Devil Dogs
SEMO Devil Dogs, Pound 330 Growl, Missouri Pack
Cape Girardeau, Missouri
18 November 2025



Scuttlebutt Editor: Mitch Cassell

HISTORY OF THE MARINE CORPS BALL



November 2025 marked two key milestones for the Marine Corps. First, 2025 is the 2050th anniversary of the U.S. Marine Corps. Detachment 1081 celebrated this milestone on November 8, 2025 with our brothers of Detachment 1473. 2025 also marks the 100th anniversary of the Marine Corps Ball. We all know the origins of the Marine Corps. It was founded in a bar called Tun Tavern, and Marines kept bars near and dear ever since. Though we

all celebrate the ball, most don't know its origin or history. This piece lifts the veil on that history.

The annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball is a celebration of Marine Corps history, traditions and camaraderie. And like the Corps itself, it is rooted to Philadelphia. It represents where the Marine Corps started and where it is now; while giving us a glimpse of the past, present and future. Throughout the world on 10 November, Marines celebrate the birth of their Corps – the most loyal, feared, revered, and professional fighting force the world has ever known.

In 1921, the 13th Commandant, Gen. John A. Lejeune, issued Marine Corps Order No. 47. This order summarized the history, mission, and tradition of the Corps, and directed that the order be read to all Marines each year on 10 November to honor the founding of the Marine Corps, thereby formally establishing November 10th as the Marine Corps' birthday. Soon after, Marine commands began to not only honor the birthday but also celebrate it. In 1923, informal commemorations were held at various locations. The Marine Barracks at Ft. Mifflin, PA held a formal dance. Marines at the Washington Navy Yard staged a mock battle on the parade ground. At Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Marine baseball team played a Cuban team, winning 9 to 8.

The first "formal" Birthday Ball took place in Philadelphia in 1925. Guests included the Commandant, the Secretary of War, and a host of statesmen and elected officials. Prior to the Ball, General Lejeune unveiled a memorial plaque at Tun Tavern, the birthplace of the Marine Corps. An evening of celebration took place at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel.



LtGen John A. Lejeune
13th Commandant of the
Marine Corps

Over the years the annual Birthday Ball grew, taking on a life of its own. In 1952, Commandant Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr. formalized key observances, most notably the cake-cutting which honors the passing of tradition from the oldest to the youngest Marine. Current Marine Corps policy mandates that the first piece of cake must be presented to the oldest U.S. Marine present and passed to the youngest Marine representing the passing of tradition from generation to generation. Among the many such mandates is the reading of the Commandant's birthday message to the Corps. Today, the annual Birthday Ball is a global celebration and, like the U.S. Marine Corps itself, has evolved from modest origins to the dignified function it is today. In addition to celebrating Marine Corps history and traditions, the Marine Corps Ball symbolizes the camaraderie among Marines. On 10 November, regardless of where Marines are stationed or deployed, you will always hear "Happy Birthday Marine."

Source: Military.com



Gen Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.
20th Commandant of the
Marine Corps

