



**The Pikes Peak Scuttlebutt
May 2026 Newsletter
Pikes Peak Detachment 29
Marine Corps League**

P.O. Box 10536 Colorado Springs, CO 80932-1536
Newsletter Editor Terry Crum
<https://www.pikespeakmcl.org>



2026 Pikes Peak Detachment Officers

Commandant / Quartermaster
Senior Vice Commandant
Junior Vice Commandant
Judge Advocate
Junior Past Commandant
Adjutant

Osa Tuck
Paul Reifke
John Alban
Brandy Bejarano
Jennifer Luckett
Mark Shuster

Paymaster
Chaplain/Web Sgt
Sgt-at-Arms
MCL Aux Pikes Peak Unit
MODD Pound Keeper

Dan Wood
Terry Crum
Scott Douglass
Donna Rae Smith
PDD Russ Miller

Pikes Peaks Det. 29 Monthly Meeting

Saturday, 16 May 2026



Breakfast \$10



Breakfast starts at 0800 Meeting Starts 0900

DAV Chapter 26 6800 Palmer Park Blvd

We meet the third Saturday of every month

2026 Department of Colorado Convention

Friday May 8th to May 10th



Fort Collins Hilton
425 W Prospect Rd.

Fort Collins CO 80526

Learn more here: <https://mclco.org/2026-co-dept-convention>

April 2026 Pikes Peak Detachment Monthly meeting.



Commandant Osa Tuck

All,
Welcome to May,

A couple of reminders:

The MCL Department of Colorado Convention is scheduled for May 8th – 10th in Ft Collins Colorado. Join us if you can.

The Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony is being held on May 25th. It is at Memorial Park. Setup is at 1000 with the ceremony at 1100. If you plan to attend, bring your own chair since there are none available.

I would like to take some time and offer my gratitude for everything you all are doing. I am very impressed with the way you all have stepped up to help with all of our events, from all of the Honor Guard tasks, Honor Bell, and assisting the quartermaster with his sales events. You all are absolutely fantastic! Keep up the good work. I look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Semper Fi
Commandant Osa

Quartermaster Osa Tuck

We have a couple of events coming up and could use help. Territory Days is coming up. It is May 23rd – May 25th, in Old Colorado City. I hope to have all of the setup info at the next Detachment meeting. On May 28th, we will setup cash sales at the Main Even parking lot during the Air Force graduation.

I look forward to working with you all!

Semper Fi,
Osa

Paymaster Dan Wood

Well, here we are into May already and we're looking ahead to the new Fiscal year for MCL Det. #29. I thought I would give you all a heads up for the coming year and the most important news EVER!! Your DUES are going to be coming due in just a couple months, YAYYY!! Anyway, for all you members that prefer to pay your dues annually, at the JULY meeting it will be time to write that check, pay with a card, or even pay with an unknown commodity CASH!! Yes, I take all forms of payment so break out that Piggy Bank.

Now just to clarify, maybe you think that by paying your annual dues that money is a great income generator, it's not really. Here's an example, as a Renewal \$36 dues payer, \$20 goes to National \$10 goes to the Department, which leaves only \$6 coming to the Detachment. Usually around October the Detachment receives a payment from the LIFE membership at National, depending on how many we have as a Detachment, somewhere between \$300-450.

Now don't get me wrong, ALL income is needed but most important is how each member helps to generate said income. Helping Osa with Cash Sales events is very important to our success as a Detachment so let's all get out there and help support our Detachment in being the success we've

been these past years. I know, I'm not the Quartermaster, but I thought helping all of us to understand just how important being a contributor to the success of our Detachment is.

So, y'all stay safe and start thinking about how you can contribute to our successful Detachment.

Semper Fi,
Dan

Chaplain Terry Crum

Marine Corps League family.

Spring is upon us and life is as busy as ever. As I have always said "It beats the alternative". Associate member and Army Vietnam Veteran Mark Young suffered a pretty serious stroke in Fort Collins. He is stable right now and was transported to COS for rehab.

He's lost function on his right side and some speech problems. He will be in rehab now for a possible 8-10 weeks. He is at Encompass rehab 325 Parkside Dr.

John Huntz and family were recently on a Disney cruise when a number of John's health issues flared up on him. It was necessary to fly him off the cruise ship to the hospital in the Bahamas. From there he was flown home via Chicago. As you can imagine, if it could go wrong, it did.

I recently was able to get hold of Ken Sanguinetti. He is at the skilled living facility Center at Centennial. He had recently suffered a very serious stroke. If that were not bad enough his wife of over 66 years, Jean, had recently passed on. Her funeral will be Monday May 11th at 1 PM at Pikes Peak National Cemetery. Most likely Ken will be unable to attend his wife's funeral. Therefore, it would be great to get some red blazer bereavement team members there.

Ron Kachel was not at the last detachment meeting because of a mishap with a ladder in the garage. A fall off the ladder resulted in twisted ankle that really threw him for a loop. Small missteps can have big consequences on our lives.

Theresa has been keeping an eye on Judy Carty. Yesterday she and Karen George visited her at the Brookdale Senior Living. She appears to be doing well, all things considered.

Please keep the above named detachment members in your thoughts and prayers. We are all our brother's keeper. If you are at home and you happen to think about someone, maybe that is a little hint for you to reach out and contact that person. Beautiful miracles happen because of small acts of kindness.

May the Lord continue to bless you and your family,
Terry



No matter what you're going through,
help is just a click away.

Honor Guard Commander Terry Crum

Greetings motivated Marines, dedicated FMF Corpsmen, outstanding associate members, and excellent auxiliary members. As of now the honor Guard has seventeen ceremonies completed this year. Recently some of the honor guard cleaned and lubricated the detachment's twelve M1 Garand rifles. Despite the fact that we are using the rifles much more than the past, we are having fewer rifle misfires than in the past. However, because these rifles are being used so much more, the plan going forward is to clean and lubricate the rifles twice a year.

The detachment continues to have members be the guest toller for the Honor Bell. The most recent members to toll the Honor Bell are Paul Reifke and Terry Crum. Larry Hathaway is with the Honor Bell so much that I think that there is a cot for him in the back of the van.

Recently, I obtained two burial flags from the Pikes Peak National Cemetery administration office. The first one I gave to the Honor Bell for keeping in Honor Bell van and the second is with the honor guard rifles. When our honor guard performs a ceremony at a cemetery other than the national cemetery, I will have the burial flag on hand if the family fails to obtain the flag for their loved one.

Semper Fi,
Terry



Marine Corps History – May

Marines Help Evacuate New Orleans Flood Victims

On May 8, 1995, Marines from Marine Forces Reserve demonstrated the Corps' quick-response capabilities in helping evacuate more than 2,500 civilians from the New Orleans area after one of the most devastating storms in more than 200 years hit the region.

Operation Pipestone Canyon

On May 26, 1969, Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines began sweeps in the "Dodge City"/Go Noi areas southwest of Da Nang, Vietnam. 610 enemy troops, as well as 34 Marines, were killed during the operation, which ended approximately one month later, in late June



Pikes Peak MCL Auxiliary President Donna Rae Smith

Happy May Everyone –

It has been a busy couple of weeks working on the Unit's annual service hour reports so they can be turned into the MCLA Department of Colorado Secretary. I am hopeful that they will be completed in time to turn in at Department Convention on May 8th.

Speaking of service hour reports – please remember that the new year for reports began May 1, 2026, and will run through April 30, 2027. So, please start tracking your hours, mileage and money spent and remember to turn them in to me each month. THANK YOU!

The upcoming schedule is ...

- May 8 – May 10, 2026 - MCLA Department of Colorado Convention
Fort Collins, CO
- May 16, 2026 – Monthly meeting. Immediately following the Detachment meeting.
- May 23 – May 25, 2026 – Territory Days in Old Colorado City. More information will be given at the Detachment and Auxiliary meetings.
- May 25, 2026 – Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony at Memorial Park
Preparation & setup will be at 10 am. Ceremony begins at 11 am.
Please bring your own chairs as there are not chairs at the park.
- May 28, 2026 – Cash Sales will be at the Main Event parking lot during the Air Force Graduation.

Thank you everyone for all that you do for our Marines, Veterans, their families and our community! I look forward to seeing you throughout the month.

Thank you,
Donna Rae Smith

**Territory Days in Old Colorado City
May 23rd – 25th**

Sat – Sun 1000 – 1900 & Monday 1000 - 1800

The Pikes Peak Detachment cash sales will be there. We need detachment members to help man the cash sales. See Quartermaster Osa Tuck for details.

**Memorial Day Ceremony at Memorial Park
Monday May 25th
Ceremony at 1100**

Annual wreath laying ceremony in remembrance of Memorial Day.
There is no seating so bring your own chair.

**2026 MCL National Convention
August 10th-14th**

WYNDHAM INDIANAPOLIS AIRPORT HOTEL. 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241
<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/convention/>



WWII/Korean War/Vietnam Luncheon

Monday, May 11, 2026 (the 2nd Monday of every month)

Veterans start arriving at 1030 Guest speaker starts at 1115

Sarah & Russell Middle School Singers

Stetson Hills I-HOP Private dining room; 5749 Stetson Hills Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80917



**Pikes Peak Det. Ladies Luncheon
Friday, May 22 at noon**



The May Marine Corps League Ladies Luncheon will be on Friday, May 22 at noon . It will be held at the Red Robin Restaurant on the corner of North Carefree and Powers Boulevard. The address is 3770 Bloomington St, Colorado Springs, CO 80922

Please call or text me, if you plan on attending so we can get a big enough table. This past month we had 9 ladies attend!

My number is:719-237-3034

Thanks so much!
Theresa

Veterans Service Officer Dan Wood

VSO CORNER:

The below was distributed to our Detachment Address Roster, but I wanted to send it out again in case you missed the opportunity to apply. In it the VA is looking for qualified teachers and students to participate in this employment opportunity. The last paragraph has the website for you to click on and get more information or to register.

Semper Fi
Dan

The Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses 2.0 (VET TEC 2.0) program helps eligible students cover the cost of certain high technology, non-degree programs. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) released the training provider participation agreement for the VET TEC 2.0 program today. This will allow potential training providers to formally apply for approval for the VET TEC 2.0 program. The VET TEC 2.0 beneficiary application is expected to go live during June 2026, and VA is expecting to pay the first VET TEC 2.0 beneficiary During July 2026.

VA will be actively notifying potential training providers and State Approving Agency partners that the program is accepting training provider partners to encourage them to apply. [Training providers can find information about the VET TEC 2.0 program, including how to apply, on our website](#)

To further encourage and support potential training providers, VA will initially offer a weekly webinar series that will provide potential training providers with a basic overview of the program and answer their questions in real time.



VA | **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

VA.gov | Veterans Affairs

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Pikes Peak Detachment Monthly Minutes



Adjutant's Report

TOPIC: Regular Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: DAV 26

Date: 18 April 2026



Mark Shuster
Retired US Marine
Detachment Adjutant
Life Member 59784 / MODD 04-351

Sgt At Arms Scott Douglass secured the room ensuring all present were qualified to be at the regular meeting. Sgt At Arms Scott Douglass posted the Colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Terry Crum led the opening prayer. Commandant Osa Tuck opened the meeting at 0900.

Roll Call of Officers:

Pikes Peak MCL Det 29 Officers		
Commandant	Osa Tuck	Present
Sr. Vice Commandant	Paul Reifke	Present
Jr. Vice Commandant	John Alban	Present
Judge Advocate	Brandy Bejarano	Present
Adjutant	Mark Shuster	Present
Paymaster	Dan Wood	Present
Chaplain	Terry Crum	Present
Sgt At Arms	Scott Douglass	Present
Jr. Past Commandant	Jennifer Luckett	Present
Quartermaster	Osa Tuck	Present
Web Sergeant	Terry Crum	Present

Recognition of Dignitaries:

- National Sr. Vice Commandant Russ Miller – Present
- MCL Rocky Mt. Division/Department of Colorado Chaplain Milt “Doc” Whitaker – Present
- MCL Department of Colorado Sr. Vice Commandant Terry Crum – Present
- Marine Corps League Auxiliary Department of Colorado Jr. Vice Donna Rae Smith - Present

Guests:

- Larry Lucero

Guest Speaker

- Our next guest speaker will be the El Paso County Sheriff, Joe Royball, at our meeting on Saturday, 18 July 2026. The Sheriff will speak from 0830-0900 and present us with a discussion about the current state of his office. Please remember to come early.

Applications for membership:

- Larry Lucero submitted his application for membership. The Commandant entertained a motion to accept all memberships submitted and paid for to the Detachment Paymaster following the meeting, with DD214 verification. A motion to accept was made by Steve Lucks and the motion was seconded by Joe Martinez. The motion carried and was passed.

Previous meeting minutes:

- The Commandant entertained a motion to accept the regular meeting minutes for Pikes Peak MCL Det 29 as posted in the newsletter. A motion to accept was made by Donna Rae Smith and the motion was seconded by Harry Schwartz. The motion carried and was passed.

Correspondence:

- The Detachment honor guard received a thank you and \$50 donation for the support of a memorial ceremony.
- The MCL CD at ENT was renewed at 3.75% for the next thirteen months.

Report of the Paymaster:

- Copies of the Detachment financial accounts, membership roster and monthly newsletter were available.
- Membership cards are available for pickup at the meetings. These will not be mailed out due to costs of postage.
- The Commandant entertained a motion to accept the Paymaster report pending audit. A motion to accept was made by Russ Miller and the motion was seconded by Steve Lucks. The motion carried and was passed.

Report of the Chaplain:

- Sick and in distress. Physical and mental needs of our members is important to share with others for support. If you are struggling, please communicate so we can provide you with help.
- Marianne Smith took a fall, was at the meeting and is healing well.
- Paul Molé is healing well from eye surgery.
- Ken Sanguinetti is not leaving the house very much anymore and our Chaplain will follow up with Ken.
- John Huntz continues to heal from his first surgery and is getting ready for his second surgery.
- Lynn Douglass continues to recover from back surgery.
- Please be sure to send all of your thoughts, prayers and positive energy to everyone who needs our support!!

Report of Officers**Commandant Osa Tuck:**

- The Division conference went well. Bob Borka from MCL National HQ gave a good presentation and took questions. Pikes Peak Det 29 attendees included: Osa Tuck and Donna Smith, Russ Miller, Paul and Nancy Reifke, and Terry and Theresa Crum.
- Cash sales will be set up in a room at the Department Convention in Fort Collins. Please consider helping out.
- Territory Days in Colorado City – May 23, 24 and 25. Set up is early Saturday the 23rd and tear down is Monday afternoon. We have 1 hour to tear down and be off the street Monday. Signup sheet is at the front table. Please sign up if you have not yet done so.
- Cripple Creek is August 20, 21 and 22. Set up only is the morning of August 20. Sales are open to the public on the 21st and 22nd. If you plan on helping each day and want to stay in Cripple Creek rather than drive home each day, you might want to get your hotel room reservations now, or your camp sight reservations if staying in your RV.

Sr. Vice Commandant Paul Reifke:

- Nothing significant to report.

Jr. Vice Commandant John Alban:

- Nothing significant to report.

Judge Advocate Brandy Bejarano:

- Nothing significant to report.

Jr. Past Commandant Jennifer Lockett:

- Nothing significant to report.

Sgt At Arms Scott Douglas:

- Nothing significant to report.

Adjutant Mark Shuster:

- 51 members were in attendance with 1 guest.

Quartermaster Osa Tuck:

- Territory days over Memorial Day weekend. Signup sheet is up front.

Honor Guard Terry Crum:

- There have been 13 ceremonies completed in 2026.
- PFC Victor Malchesky's ceremony was completed on Thursday, 16 April 2026. The family donated \$50 to the detachment.
- With only a 24-hour notice, the detachment executed a rifle detail for Marine Todd Sawmiller who was a Gulf War and Somalia Veteran.
- Our team provided a color guard for the Vietnam War Veterans Day ceremony in support of the Pikes Peak Veterans Council.

Webmaster Terry Crum:

- If you are not receiving emails, please check your spam or promotion folders to make sure the messages are there. If this is not happening, please contact Terry to fix this.
- The detachment now has a profile on LinkedIn so please take a look if you are already there.

Toys for Tots Russ Miller:

- Three separate checks for \$100 each were received and forwarded to National Headquarters.
- Toys for Tots needs a warehouse with 10-15,000 square feet, power, a restroom and a loading dock for this year's campaign. If you know of anything available, or you see a vacant building around town please let Russ know right away. You can send him a text with the location, pictures and points of contact. He can provide a formal request for proposal for the owners.

MODD Russ Miller:

- All MODD members please see the Dog Robber, Jennifer, to pay your bone for a stamp in your passport.
- There will be a CO Pack growl at the Department convention in May in Ft Collins. All pups will move up to devil dog at the growl.
- All regular members in good standing, who have been a member of the MCL for at least a year are welcome to join the 'fun and honor society' of the Marine Corps League – WOOF WOOF!

MCL Auxiliary

- Pikes Peak Unit will meet following the MCL meeting.
- Items are already being collected for the Marine Corps Ball silent auction. Everything raised from the silent auction goes to the annual Marine Corps Ball fund.

Report of Standing Committees

Budget Donna Rae Smith:

- Nothing significant to report.

Scholarship Kittrie Adams:

- A single application is completed for the awarding of the scholarship. Ms. Kylie Glenn is the recipient.

Marine Corps Ball – Mark Shuster and Donna Rae Smith:

- Mark Shuster
 - Our first family night at Dave and Buster’s was successful with over 40 attendees on Sunday, 27 March 2026, which raised \$180 for the Marine Corps Ball. Our next event is being planned with more information to come.
- Donna Rae Smith
 - Come to the Marine Corps Birthday ball at Hotel Polaris on Saturday, 7 November 2026. The prices have not changed, and the room rate remains the same per-diem rate.
 - Tickets for the ball and room reservations are available on the Pikes Peak Website!!
 - The theme will be the ball is, “Celebrate the United States 250th Birthday and the Marine Corps’ 251st Birthday”.

Unfinished Business:

- MCL/MCLA Department of Colorado Convention – May 8-10, 2026, hosted by Union Colony Marines Detachment 1093. Links for the hotel and meals is on the Department website. Ft Collins Hilton, 425 W Prospect Road, Ft Collins, CO 80526. The delegate sign-up sheet is on the front table for you to sign if you are attending the conference.

New Business:

- Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony will take place at Memorial Park on May 25, 2026. Be there for setup at 1000 with the service starting at 1100. Bring your own lawn chairs because no seating is available at the park.

Good of the League:

- 50/50 – a total of \$162 was collected and \$81 was won by Christopher Capotrio. Congratulations Christopher!

Closing Ceremony:

- Sgt At Arms Scott Douglass retired the Colors.
- Chaplain Terry Crum said the closing prayer.
- The Senior Vice Commandant executed the closing actions.
- Commandant Osa Tuck closed the Pikes Peak Detachment 29 meeting at 0939.
- The next meeting will be held on Saturday, 16 May 2026, at 0900.

Another successful Detachment meeting.

Very Respectfully Submitted and Semper Fi,

Mark Shuster

Mark Shuster
Retired US Marine
Detachment Adjutant
Life Member 59784 / MODD 04-351