



**The Pikes Peak Scuttlebutt
April 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, 18 April 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>

March Pikes Peak Detachment meeting



Guest Eric Esch and Matt Storrs



Guest Gordon Limb



Senior Vice Commandant Paul Reifke

Pikes Peak Detachment at the St Patrick's Day Parade. March 14, 2026



Commandant Osa Tuck

Hi all,

A couple of reminders:

Remember that the Rocky Mountain Division Conference is coming up, April 10th thru 12th. It is being held at the Elks Lodge #1119, 3000 Elks Drive, Las Cruces NM. 88005. The recommended hotel for Las Cruces is Holiday Inn Express, 2635 S. Valley Drive, Las Cruces NM. Russ brought this up as a way to get to the Division Conference without driving. If there are a group of you that would like to go, but would rather not drive. You all could get together, and rent a passenger van. I can hear you saying what about luggage? I will be driving down and would be happy to bring your luggage down. I will tarp it and strap it to make sure it is safe.

The MCL/MCLA Department of Colorado Convention is May 8th Thru May 10th, it is being hosted by the Union Colony Marines Detachment 1093. Links for hotel reservations and meal RSVP forms are on the Department website. The hotel is Fort Collins Hilton, 425W. Prospect Rd, Fort Collins, CO. 80526. Delegate sheet is on the front table.

FLASH FLASH

Don't forget to get your nominations for MOY and AOY in asap so they can be considered. MOY goes to Ron Carpenter, AOY goes to Donna Rae Smith.

All take care and I look forward to seeing you at the next Detachment General Meeting.

Semper Fi

Commandant Osa

Quartermaster Osa Tuck

I am sorry that I missed the last general meeting. I have all intentions of being there at the April meeting. I picked some items up for some of you members. Come see me after the meeting.

Semper Fi,

Osa

Marine Corps Family Night

The first Marine Corps Family Night at Dave & Busters was a huge success and well attended. Our goal is to bring together all of our Marines, Sailors and their families from across Colorado Springs to meet and greet, share a meal and celebrate 251 years of service to our Nation. All Marines and their families are welcome to join us at future family night events and enjoy the comradery. A portion of the night's profits that they earned from us will be donated to the Marine Corps Ball account.



Pictures of the first Marine Corps Family Night

Chaplain Terry Crum

Marine Corps League family.

So many of us are very busy now that Easter is in the rearview mirror. The Rocky Mountain Division is right around the corner and the Department of Colorado convention is shortly after that. As a result a number of us will be on the road and spending time in hotels. Be safe out there. Folks are acting like the highways are the Indy 500. Distracted driving is on the rise also. Keep your head on the swivel. Defensive driving is more important than ever.

Despite what the detachment may be involved in at the department and division levels, the mission of looking after our members of the detachment remains the same. We are the keepers of our brothers and sisters. Take a few minutes out of your busy schedule to call someone that could use a friend to talk to. Do not be surprised if the call does you as much good, as the person that you called.

A Christian song has been on my mind recently. The Servant Song. Part of the lyrics are “*Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too*”. This reminds me that we are our brother’s keeper. There are times when we need to be more humble and remember that we might need the help, too.

Pray for a military currently serving overseas. Our troops in the middle east are most in need of our thoughts and prayers. They are a reminder that freedom is not free.

May the Lord continue to bless you and your family,

Terry



Honor Guard Commander Terry Crum

Springs is in the air. The mission of the honor guard continues. We have eleven ceremonies under our belt so far. We have three more ceremonies so far this month. The members of the honor guard are outstanding. We do ceremonies at various locations in the Pikes Peak region and during any day of the week. When the need for a rifle is there, the Marines of the Pikes Peak Det. Honor Guard answer the call. Recently, Paul Ragan returned to serving on the honor guard, a short period after his knee replacement surgery. He may not be able to walk well, but he can stand in place and fire the M1 Gerand. Paul is a true motivator.

Soon I will announce the date, time and place of the annual rifle cleaning party. Annually we have a working party to clean and lubricate our rifles, thus keeping them in working order.

If you remember any of the boot camp rifle manual you learned in boot camp and can still differentiate your left foot from your right foot, you can qualify for the honor guard. The need is plenty but the harvesters are few.

Semper Fi,
Terry



The Pikes Peak Veterans Council hosted the Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony March 29th at Memorial Park. Members of the detachment attended and provided the color guard for the ceremony.

Web Sgt Terry Crum

As always, I hope you are enjoying you time reading this newsletter. Also, thanks for taking a bit of your time out of your day to read this newsletter. Would you like to know another way to keep abreast of what the Pikes Peak Detachment is doing? Please visit the detachment website events page. <https://pikespeakmcl.org/events> . A convenient events calendar will give you all the news.

Semper Fi
Terry



Pikes Peak Det. Ladies Luncheon Thursday, April 16th at noon



The next Marine Corps League Ladies Luncheon will be on Thursday, April 16 at 12 PM. This time it will be held at a restaurant in Fountain. Several of our ladies live in Fountain, and so I feel it's important to sometimes pick a restaurant down that way.

Luncheon location: Dragon King Chinese Restaurant 6867 Mesa Ridge Pkwy, Fountain, CO

Dragon King Chinese Restaurant menu can be found here: <https://dragonkingfountain.com>



March Ladies Luncheon

Please call, text or email (cscgirl88@gmail.com / 719-237-3034) me to let me know if you will be attending. I hope to see you there!

Theresa Crum

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

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/>



Members of the Pikes Peak Det. continue to serve as guest Honor Bell tollers. Doc Whitaker tolled the Honor Bell for Marine Siegfried Moertl and John Huntz tolled the Honor Bell for Marine William Watts.

Marine Corps History – March

Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn Selected for Space Training

On April 10, 1959, Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, Jr. was named as one of the original seven Project Mercury astronauts selected for space training. All seven astronauts were volunteers and were selected by NASA out of a pool of 110 candidates, all of whom were leading military test pilots. Just under three years later, in February of 1962, Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth.

Marine Security Guard Killed in Lebanon

On April 18, 1983, more than 60 people, including 17 Americans, were killed when a car bomb exploded outside the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. Among those killed was Marine Security Guard Lance Corporal Robert McMaugh, who was later buried at Arlington National Cemetery. A further seven Marine Security Guards were wounded in the explosion.

Pikes Peak Detachment Monthly Minutes



Adjutant's Report

TOPIC: Regular Meeting Minutes
LOCATION: DAV 26
Date: 21 March 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.
Sr Vice Commandant Paul Reifke opened the meeting at 0901.

Roll Call of Officers:

Pikes Peak MCL Det 29 Officers		
Commandant	Osa Tuck	Excused
Sr. Vice Commandant	Paul Reifke	Present
Jr. Vice Commandant	John Alban	Excused
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	Excused
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:

- Gordon Limb
- Matt Storrs
- Erick Esch

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:

- Multiple guests were submitting applications for membership. The Senior Vice 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 John Huntz and the motion was seconded by Dan Wood. The motion carried and was passed.

Previous meeting minutes:

- The Senior Vice 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 Bob Bernt and the motion was seconded by Bert Stewart. The motion carried and was passed.

Correspondence:

- Dan Wood took time to read a letter from the National Commandant regarding a recommendation to be mindful of the force protection level across the Nation due to the war in Iran. Please be mindful of representing our values and traditions of the Marine Corps while exercising additional caution and situational awareness.
- The MCL CD at ENT is due for renewal and he will correspond with the Detachment board to keep the CD.

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.
- There are only seven delinquent members, which is the lowest we have had in a very long time.
- The insurance for the fire truck came due and the MCL paid Osa Tuck since the vehicle is registered in his name.
- The Senior Vice 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:

- John Huntz completed the first of two surgeries and was in attendance today.
- 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.
- Theresa Crum was cleared of all signs of cancer.
- Paul Mole recently had eye surgery and is recovering well and was in attendance today.
- Ken Sanguinetti is not leaving the house very much anymore. Hi wife Jean, recently had a fall and their children are helping to take care of them.
- Lynn Douglass is now seven weeks post-surgery following 18 hours of back surgery.
- Bonnie Rudolph had hip replacement surgery. She is home and recovering following six weeks of rehab.
- 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:

- Paul Reifke read these comments for the Commandant who was excused from the meeting.
- Rocky Mountain Division and Department Convention delegate sheets need to be mailed today. If you plan on attending either, or both, and have not signed up please do so before you leave today. The forms are on the front table.
- Department Marine of the Year nominations need to be sent to Ron Carpenter by March 30, 2026. Please email them to Ron at Rdele1@outlook.com or you can call him at 719-539-3360 with questions. MOY guidelines may be found online on the Department website at MCLCO.org
- Department Associate of the Year nominations need to be sent to Donna Rae Smith no later than March 30, 2026. Please email them to donnarae.mcl29@gmail.com. AOY guidelines may be found on the Department website at MCLCO.org.
- Osa Tuck, Donna Rae Smith, Russ Miller, Dan Wood, Kevin Taylor, Peggy Baldwin and Jennifer Lockett all attending the midwinter conference in Washington, DC.

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 Luckett:

- Nothing significant to report.

Sgt At Arms Scott Douglass:

- Nothing significant to report.

Adjutant Mark Shuster:

- 42 members were in attendance with 3 guests.

Quartermaster Osa Tuck:

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

Honor Guard Terry Crum:

- Services will be provided on Tuesday, 24 March 2026, at 1300 for Leo Montoya, a Marine Corps Korean War Veteran.
- Services will be provided on Wednesday, 25 March 2026, at 1000 for Dilbert Fish, an Army Veteran.
- Services will be provided on Friday, 27 March 2026, at 1200 for a Marine LCpl in his twenties.

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:

- All of the toys have been moved out of the warehouse and into the storage trucks.
- 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:

- There will be a growl in April prior to the 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.
- Donna is selling raffle tickets for the MCLA Headquarters project. They are \$10 a piece. First place is \$500, second place is \$250 and third place is \$100. Last year, Osa won the \$500 prize and he was not present!!

Report of Standing Committees

Budget Donna Rae Smith:

- Nothing significant to report.

Marine Corps Ball – Mark Shuster and Donna Rae Smith:

- Donna Rae Smith
 - The contract and deposit check was turned into Hotel Polaris for the ball on Saturday, 7 November 2026. The prices have not changed, and the room rate remains the same per-diem rate.
 - Terry will be updating the website for ticket sales and room reservations will be ready in a few weeks.
 - The theme will be the ball is, "Celebrate the United States 250th Birthday and the Marine Corps' 251st Birthday".
- Mark Shuster

- Our first family night fund raising event will be at Dave and Buster's on Sunday, 27 March 2026, from 1630-1930. Please come out and support each other for this year's Marine Corps Ball and have some fun. Raffle prizes are always given out without having to pay for your ticket.

Scholarship Kittrrie Adams:

- Deadline is 1 April 2026. There is only 1 application at this time.

Unfinished Business:

- Honoring Our Veterans is being hosted by Kris and is taking place on Friday, 27 March 2026. The event is free and will include food and live music. The Pikes Peak Veterans Council is the sponsoring organization for the event. Veteran led and community powered for connection across the well-being of the community. The detachment will have an information booth at the event.
- Rocky Mountain Division Conference – April 10-12, 2026, will be held at the Elks Lodge #1119, 3000 Elks Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88005. Recommended hotel is the Hotel Las Cruces, NM, Holiday Inn Express, 2635 S. Valley Drive, Las Cruces, NM
- 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.
- Jennifer Luckett commented that Marine John Heine received notice from MCL National he was not a member. NOTE: Dan Wood and Shu looked at the Detachment roster and John Heine was properly listed as a life member of the detachment. Dan was going to speak with John after the meeting to show him proof.
 - Russ Miller made a motion to accept John as a member. The motion was seconded by Dan Wood. The motion carried and was passed.

New Business:

- Nothing significant to report.

Good of the League:

- Larry reported updates about memorial services at Ft. Carson for the Honor Bell in honor of Soldiers killed during Operation Epic Fury in Iran. Larry said the team is seeking guests to toll the bell during a ceremony. There were fifteen services last week with 10 more services taking place this week.
- The Pikes Peak Veterans Council will host an event for the Vietnam Veterans holiday at the Vietnam Memorial at 1400 on 29 March 2026. US Representatives and the COS Mayor will be attending to pay honor to all of our Vietnam Veterans and POWs from the War. The detachment will provide the color guard.
- The DAV Easter extravaganza will be on Saturday, 28 March 2026, from 1300-1600. The event will be at 1970 Waynoka Road with vendors on site.
- Dan Wood said his work as the VSO is moving along very fast and he is getting 2-8 calls per week requesting support with their claims.
- 50/50 – a total of \$177 was collected and \$88 was won by Denise Wickersheim! Congratulations Denise!

Closing Ceremony:

- Sgt At Arms Scott Douglass retired the Colors.
- Chaplain Terry Crum said the closing prayer.
- Since the Senior Vice Commandant led the meeting and the Junior Vice Commandant was excused, the Judge Advocate executed the closing actions.
- Senior Vice Commandant Paul Reifke closed the Pikes Peak Detachment 29 meeting at 0953.
- The next meeting will be held on Saturday, 18 April 2026, at 0900.

Another successful Detachment meeting.

Very Respectfully Submitted and Semper Fi,

Mark Shuster

Detachment Adjutant