



**The Pikes Peak Scuttlebutt
September 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, 19 September 2026

Breakfast \$10

Breakfast starts at 0800 Meeting Starts 0900
DAV Chapter 26 6800 Palmer Park Blvd



There will not be a guest speaker before the September meeting.



**High Country Toy Run
October 4th, 2026**



Harley Davidson Dealer. 5867 N Nevada Colorado Springs CO

High Country Toy Run collecting toys for Toys for Tots at the Pikes Peak Harley-Davidson 5867 N Nevada Ave. This is also our last major cash sales event. We will be setting it up at 0800. If you can help it would be greatly appreciated. Kickstands up at 11am The detachment cash sales will be there. Detachment Marines in dress blues will hand out ride pins.

2026 Pikes Peak Region Marine Corps Ball at the Hotel Polaris

Tickets Now On Sale. We still need to sell many more tickets!!!!



**Celebrating America's 250th Birthday with Pikes Peak Region's
251st Marine Corps Birthday Ball**

Saturday, November 7, 2026

<https://pikespeakmcl.org/2026-ball> for ball ticket purchases.

Guest of Honor: Sgt Maj Mario P. Fields, USMC (Ret)

Commandant Osa Tuck

Hello all,

I hope this finds all of you in good health and spirits. Can you believe that summer is just about over? It is amazing how fast it has gone. This month we had the MCL National convention in Indianapolis. One of our own, Russ Miller, was elected as the MCL National Commandant. CONGRATULATIONS!!! We also had the Salute to American Veterans Rally in Cripple Creek. While it was not the normal turnout we have because of weather, it was still a good event. Thanks for everyone that showed up and helped the Quartermaster.

Let's get ready for all the fun things coming up as we near the end of the year,

Coming up:

Our next detachment general meeting will be on the 19th of September followed by the Bowl-a-Thon on the 20th of September. Let's get a good showing out there.

The 4th of October will be the High Country Toy Run. The Quartermaster will be setting up cash sales and would appreciate any assistance you can give. This is the main kickoff event for TOYS for TOTS. Show up if you can!

We will follow the toy run with the Detachment meeting on the 17th of October, and then on the 24th we will have the Department of Colorado quarterly staff meeting. Everyone is invited to attend. It is at Ralston Creek Church, 6425 Wadsworth BLVD, Arvada, CO. 1100- social hour, 1200-lunch, 1300-meeting with the MODD and Fleas to follow.

7th November is the Marine Corps Ball Make sure you get your tickets and rooms. Let's make it a Ball to remember!

See you all soon!!

Commandant Osa Tuck

Paymaster Dan Wood

OK, all you REGULAR members out there this is your opportunity to get your annual dues paid so I won't have to be hounding you for several months to get your dues paid. We had the month of August off for the National convention where our illustrious leader, National MCL Commandant Russ Miller, was elected to serve us for two years, maybe three. So this is your first, and maybe only chance depending on his schedule, to congratulate him, AND pay your dues.

You LIFE members just sit back and relax, you don't need to do anything except to come to the meetings and be an encouragement to other members. Oh, and thank you for making it easy on me and coming to the meetings so we can enjoy your pleasant personalities. Seriously though, the league and detachment need your wisdom and help whenever possible so come on out and enjoy the very tasty SOS breakfast and sweets provided by the DAV Auxiliary.

Semper Fi,
Dan

Chaplain Terry Crum

Marine Corps League Family,

A busy summer comes to a close and autumn set in. Theresa and I have been away from home most of the summer and we both look forward to seeing you all at the September detachment meeting.

The annual Homeless Veterans Standdown is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at Weidner Field. This year's standdown will be very similar to last years. Our participation will be comparable to what we did last year. We will be limited to 6-8 volunteers for the standdown. Preregistration is requested. I will have additional information at the September detachment meeting.

The bereavement team has attended the funeral ceremony for many Veterans this year. This includes the funeral ceremony at Pikes Peak National Cemetery for a 33 year old Marine Veteran who took his own life earlier this year. The members of the detachment honor guard, when they attend the funeral ceremony for a Veteran, are also bereavement team members and encouraged to provide words of comfort and solidarity with the grieving family. The presence of the Marine Corps League at the funerals goes a long way in reminding families the true meaning of "Semper Fidelis". We are always welcoming new members to the bereavement team. Regular and associate members are eligible. Theresa has been a members for years.

Friday, September 11, 2026 will mark the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, which killed 2,977 people at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and on board the hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 that crash landed in Pennsylvania after passengers fought back. Most of us remember where we were and what we were doing when we learned of the attack. I am not sure what the terrorist thought they were going to gain from the attack, however, what happened was American gathered together in a unified manner not seen since the December attack on Pearl Harbor which launched WWII. The direct results of the attacks resulted in America's longest wars, Afghanistan and Iraq. America was united. Community members are invited to join a commemoration ceremony at the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in Memorial Park on Friday, Sep. 11, at 3 p.m. This not of course a Marine Corps League event; however, many of our members served during the Global War on Terrorism and large percentage of our country was deeply impacted by the events of 9/11.

Many of our members are getting up there in age and do not get enough social time. This problem can be made worse with poor health. I encourage everyone to call or visit someone in the detachment. This morning Theresa and I visited Ken Sanguinetti at the St. Francis of Assisi Nursing home and brought him fresh baked cookies. He was very happy to have visitors. I recently learned which nursing home that Tony Tonda is living in Denver. I have asked the Marines of the Denver area to visit him, if they are able. Theresa and I will visit him next time we are in the Denver area. Theresa regularly calls some of the ladies of the detachment to see how they are doing. Theresa has spoken to Jackie Postlewait and learned that she doing well and planning to sell her house and move in with one of her daughters. Judy Carty is not as easy to get in touch with, so Theresa communicates with her sons. Judy is doing well. In the near future Theresa and I will visit Judy in person.

Please keep our members who are in sick and distress in your thoughts and prayers. We have many members with health issues, recovering from surgery, injury , or sickness. Just to highlight one member, Milt "Doc" Whitaker is recovering from back surgery.

Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

Jeremiah 17:14

For God and Country,

Terry

Honor Guard Commander Terry Crum

Patriots.

The Pikes Peak Detachment Honor Guard has continued to have a busy 2026. As of this date the honor guard has provided the rifle volley for the funeral ceremony for 34 Veterans. In addition an honor guard of seven rifles provided the rifle volley for the 2026 Salute to American Veterans Ceremony in Cripple Creek. The Pikes Peak Detachment Honor Guard for this ceremony was Terry Crum, Scott Douglass, John Huntz, Paul Ragan, Dan Wood, Larry Hathaway, Osa Tuck.

I am most indebted for the members of the honor guard that makes all of this possible.

Every honorably discharged Veteran deserves full military honors for his funeral ceremony.

Terry



Pikes Peak Detachment members at the 2026 Salute to American Veterans Rally

Web Sergeant Terry Crum

Leaguers,

I hope that you are enjoying this newsletter. The goal is get the word out about the Marine Corps League generally and the Pikes Peak Detachment specifically. In addition to this newsletter, there is the detachment website, Pikes Peak Detachment Facebook group page, and our Linked in page.

If you are having issues receiving the newsletters, Please let me know.

Semper Fi,

Terry

Pikes Peak MCL Auxiliary President Donna Rae Smith



Hello Everybody,

I pray this finds everyone well after the crazy month of August. Pikes Peak Unit was represented well at National Convention with 5 members in attendance – thank you to those who attended AND thank you to those who could not attend but told your Delegates how you wanted us to vote for you, the members. Next year's National Convention will be in Buffalo, NY August 8 through August 14, 2027.

Also, thank you to those members who came to Cripple Creek and assisted the Detachment Quartermaster with the cash sales tent. Next year's Salute to American Veterans Rally will be taking place the week after National Convention again, August 20 – 21, 2027, so please remember to keep that weekend open to help.

The Pikes Peak Unit's 2nd annual virtual Pampered Chef fundraiser ends on Monday the 31st. Thank you to those who purchased. Funds raised will benefit the Unit, Detachment programs, Toys for Tots, Young Marines, Veterans and our community.

Please remember the 1st Annual Bob & Marianne Smith Memorial Bowl-a-Thon is September 20, 2026. Registration begins at 10:30 am and bowling at 11:00 am. If you are able to assist, set-up begins at 10:00 am.

The upcoming schedule is ...

- September 19, 2026 – September monthly meeting. Elections and swearing in have been postponed until October 17, 2026.
- September 20, 2026 at 10:30 am – Bob & Marianne Smith Memorial Bowl-a-Thon
Main Event – 1180 Interquest Parkway, Colorado Springs, CO 80921
10:30 am registration, 11:00 am bowling begins
- October 4, 2026 – High Country Toy Run
Cash sales will be set up – please volunteer as a few of our Marines will be in Dress Blues handing ride pins to the riders. TOYS for TOTS!!
- October 17, 2026 – October monthly meeting. Elections and swearing in of new officers.
- October 24, 2026 – Quarterly Department of Colorado Staff Meeting
Ralston Creek Church – 6425 Wadsworth Blvd, Arvada, CO
11:00 am – social hour; 12:00 pm – lunch; 1:00 pm – meeting – MODD Fleas following meeting.

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
President



MARINE CORPS BALL SILENT AUCTION

Donations are being accepted for the Pikes Peak Region 251st Marine Corps Birthday Ball Silent Auction. If you would like to donate an item, please reach out to a Pikes Peak Unit member, or call Donna at 815-973-0073. The funds for this go straight into the Ball Fund to help keep the cost of tickets down for Marine Corps League members and Active Duty E5 and below.

Thank you,
Donna Rae Smith



Pikes Peak Det. Ladies Luncheon Friday, September 18th at noon



The next Marine Corps League Ladies luncheon will be on September 18 at 12 PM. Theresa Crum will be hosting the luncheon at her house located at 7514 Wrangler Ridge Drive. Please call her at (719) 237-3034 and let her know you're coming so she can prepare enough food.

THE ROBERT & MARIANNE SMITH MEMORIAL BOWL A THON

ABOUT:

This is a fund raiser for Toys
for Tots, Young Marines,
Scholarships, veterans, &
our community.



SPONSORED BY
Marine Corps League
Auxiliary
Pike Peak Unit



WHERE:

Main Event
1180 Interquest Pkwy.
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

WHEN:

September 20, 2026
Registration starts at
10:30am
The games begin at 11am

CONTACT:
Donna Rae Smith
815-973-0073
donnarae.mcla@gmail.com



COST:

\$15 per person for 3
games of bowling & shoe
rental.
Plus raffle prizes & 50/50



Marine Corps History

Medal of Honor Citation for Marine Tony Stein

Corporal of Marines Tony Stein, who was killed in action on 1 March 1945, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry in repeated single-handed assaults against the enemy and outstanding valor in aiding wounded Marines during the initial assault on Iwo Jima, 19 February 1945.

Less than two weeks after the action in which he earned the Nation's highest award for valor, he died in combat during a mission in which he and a group of fellow Marines had volunteered to locate some enemy machine gun emplacements which were holding up the advance of his entire company.

Corporal Stein's Medal of Honor and citation were presented to his widow on 19 February 1946 during a ceremony in the office of Governor Frank Lausche of Ohio.

Tony Stein was born in Dayton, Ohio, 30 September 1921, and attended Kiser High School there. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 22 September 1942.

Following the war, his remains were returned to the United States from the 5th Division Cemetery for reinterment in his native Dayton. Dayton's only World War II recipient of the Medal of Honor, Cpl Stein was buried with full military honors on Saturday, 17 December 1948, in Calvary Cemetery following funeral services in Our Lady of the Rosary Church.



Medal of Honor Citation for Marine Tony Stein

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company A, 1st Battalion, 28th Marines, 5th Marine Division, in action against enemy Japanese forces on Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Islands, 19 February 1945. The first man of his unit to be on station after hitting the beach in the initial assault, Cpl. Stein, armed with a personally improvised aircraft-type weapon, provided rapid covering fire as the remainder of his platoon attempted to move into position. When his comrades were stalled by a concentrated machine-gun and mortar barrage, he gallantly stood upright and exposed himself to the enemy's view, thereby drawing the hostile fire to his own person and enabling him to observe the location of the furiously blazing hostile guns. Determined to neutralize the strategically placed weapons, he boldly charged the enemy pillboxes one by one and succeeded in killing 20 of the enemy during the furious singlehanded assault. Cool and courageous under the merciless hail of exploding shells and bullets which fell on all sides, he continued to deliver the fire of his skillfully improvised weapon at a tremendous rate of speed which rapidly exhausted his ammunition. Undaunted, he removed his helmet and shoes to expedite his movements and ran back to the beach for additional ammunition, making a total of eight trips under intense fire and carrying or assisting a wounded man back each time. Despite the unrelenting savagery and confusion of battle, he rendered prompt assistance to his platoon whenever the unit was in position, directing the fire of a half-track against a stubborn pillbox until he had effected the ultimate destruction of the Japanese fortification. Later in the day, although his weapon was twice shot from his hands, he personally covered the withdrawal of his platoon to the company position. Stouthearted and indomitable, Cpl. Stein, by his aggressive initiative, sound judgment, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of terrific odds, contributed materially to the fulfillment of his mission, and his outstanding valor throughout the bitter hours of conflict sustains and enhances the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.



Three members of the Pikes Peak Det. hold national offices. National Commandant Russ Miller, National Chief of Staff Mark Shuster and National Adjutant Peggy Baldwin (not shown)

WWII/Korean War/Vietnam Luncheon

Monday, September 14, 2026
(the 2nd Monday of every month)

Veterans start arriving at 1030
Guest speaker starts at 1115

Guest Speaker: Joaquina Sotomayor
Subject: The Women's Military Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery

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



Members of the Pikes Peak Detachment gathered at the recent Marine Corps family night at Dave and Busters for fun, comradeship and a great time. Money raised at the event will help support the 2026 Pikes Peak Region Marine Corps Ball. Hope to see many of you at the future Marine Corps family nights.